

Dear Family,

February 7, 1984

Last Sunday Charlotte, the kids and I were the speakers in sacrament meeting. Hannah spoke first. We had prepared some pictures of different things like trees, animals, birds, the sun, the earth, and people. She said Jesus created the earth. Jesus made the sun, ect. It was a darling talk. She closed by bearing her testimony. Of course Charlotte gave her the pictures individually and helped her with her testimony. For Hannah it was a very positive experience. Sarah spoke next. She gave a short talk on the first Article of faith. She memorized and gave the first Article word perfect. She also gave a brief description of what the Article means. Again this was a very positive experience. We had practiced with both children all week. Now, both kids want to speak every week in church. Charlotte gets most of the credit for their success.

The Sunday we spoke was actually Jan. 29th. Charlotte spoke on the first Article of Faith as a follow up on Sarah. She explained why it is important to understand the character of God. Charlotte also described a few of His Characteristics.

I was the final speaker. I spoke on the Laws of Sacrifice and Suffering. Most of my remarks centered on verse 7 of lecture six from Lectures on Faith. In part it reads, "... a religion that does not require the sacrifice of all things never has power sufficient to produce the faith necessary unto life and salvation; for, from the first existence of man the faith necessary unto the enjoyment of life and salvation never could be obtained without the sacrifice of all earthly things. It was through this sacrifice, and this only that God has ordained that men should enjoy eternal life; and it is through the medium of the sacrifice of all earthly things that men do actually know that they are doing the things that are well and pleasing in the sight of God." Then I gave several examples from the scriptures of men who gained faith and eternal life through sacrifice. Alma 24:18-27 the people of Anti-Nephi-Lehi sacrificed their very lives. Hebrews chapter 11 gives a long list of people who obtained faith through various trials. They obtained their faith only after sacrifice. Furthermore all sacrifice is performed as a similitude of all the sacrifices of the Savior (Moses 5: 6-8). Through our suffering we can also become more like the Savior. In Heb. 5:8-10 we learn that Christ "learned obedience by the things which he suffered;". Are we able to learn obedience through our suffering? If we can then we will be able to appreciate a little better what Christ did for us. This is the law of suffering. Compare D&C 122:5-9 and see if this is not so.

Charlotte has been swimming every morning from 6AM until 7 AM. She has been doing it for about three weeks now. She says she is getting better and stronger. I stay at home (hopefully asleep) with the kids. I am still on swing shift and get home just after one AM.

Love you all,

PS. Can you believe that I really typed this.

Byron, Charlotte

BYW

& Kids

*P.S. Thanks for the genealogy sheets
Sherlene!*

Dear Family - This is it for the Hallman's this month. She been too busy to get it off earlier & type the letter. I'm unable to continue doing the Hallman's. If one of you wants to pick it up - Great! Otherwise, let's forget it. Maybe we could take turns with it. We're all fine here - had a nice visit with Mom & Dad. Marty's playing B-Ball again, kids are healthy. Love, Ly