

Sent on behalf of the stake presidency by Rod Schmidt, stake clerk.

Dear Willow Creek Stake Members,

Last weekend we enjoyed another inspiring general conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. How blessed we are to be led by living Prophets and Apostles.

We met as a stake presidency this past Thursday and talked about what stood out to us from the general conference talks. While it's safe to say that there wasn't a talk that we didn't enjoy, some of the themes and messages that had more impact for us include:

- The emphasis on the home as an important place for learning, nurturing, preparation, and qualifying for the Spirit.
- Even with all the recent policy changes, our focus shouldn't be on policy adjustments, but on living the pure and simple Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- The importance of the sacrament each week and how the change to the two-hour church block isn't just for more home time, but is also to reduce the complexity of our meetings and to focus more on the sacrament.
- Our need for daily repentance and improvement.
- The importance of looking for the good in others and preserving relationships.
- Our never-ending task of lifting others.
- The need to live our lives in such a way that we can feel the Spirit.
- Understanding that there are times when the Lord's purpose has Him respond to our prayers in a different way than what we request.

We invite you to purposely think about and talk with others about what stood out to you from the conference messages. Over the next few months, we also invite you to read/re-read, or listen/re-listen to the talks. The messages given were created for us, specifically considering the times in which we live. As we pay closer attention to these inspired talks, the Lord will bless us for it.

We love you and appreciate our association with you.

Sandy Utah Willow Creek Stake Presidency

Joseph Staples President

Alan Matheson First Counselor

Davis Smith Second Counselor