

December 17, 2006

Dear Circle Sisters and Friends,

Today's sermon was on finding favor with God. In I Samuel 15:22 it is written "...Behold to obey is better than sacrifice..."

Personally, I have always felt that obedience is one of the most important teachings of The Church of Jesus Christ. In the beginning of our spiritual journey when we obey the Gospel, repent of our sins and are baptized, we find favor with God.

Jesus left his holy throne to be born in a manger, obedient to the will of His father, fully knowing what was required of Him and the sacrifices to be made. Jesus found favor with God. At his baptism, we all recall the marvelous words from Matthew 3:17 in which God tells of his favor with Jesus when he speaks from heaven "...This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased".

As we approach this season of joy and remembrance of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, let each of us think about what we might do to find favor with God.

- Have we visited the sick?
- Have we encouraged the down trodden?
- Have we given of our substance to the poor?
- Have we accepted thankless jobs to assist The Church?
- Have we done all that we can to promote the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

If you aren't using all of your talents to promote the Kingdom of God, ask God what He expects, I promise you He will tell you or show you!

God Bless you during this marvelous season when we remember God's sacrifice for our sakes!

*Sis. Karen*