

Spiritual Parallels to LDS Principles For Sunday Lesson or Mountain Top Ceremony

1. Mountains - Holy Places of God

- a. I Nephi 11:1 - Nephi is caught away in spirit to high mountain.
- b. I Nephi 17:7 - Nephi is commanded to get into mountain to speak with Lord.
- c. I Nephi 18:3 - Nephi goes into mountains often to pray.
- d. Ether 3 & 4 - The Brother of Jared speaks with the Lord upon a mountain.
- e. D & C 17:1 - Urim and Thummim given to Brother of Jared on mountain.
- f. Moses 1:1 - Moses is caught up into mountain.
- g. Moses 1:1-2, 42 - God speaks to Moses on mountain.
- h. Mountains are physically closer to where God dwells, very clean places, secluded places, and take great effort to reach.
- i. Temples today are called the Mountain of the Lord.

2. Light - Light is what mirrors reflect to give a signal.

- a. 3 Nephi 12:16 - Let your light so shine, others can see your good works.
- b. D & C 86:11 - The Lord's servants to be light unto Gentiles
- c. D & C 103:9 - Saints sent to be Light unto the world
- d. I Nephi 17:3 - The Lord will be your Light in the wilderness.
- e. Light is a symbol of knowledge, truth and righteousness.
- f. Area covered by mirror flash is large and has tremendous range.
- g. Brilliance of mirror flash - Brilliance of God's Personal Being. Relate to Joseph Smith's first vision and his description of God.

3. Ensign unto the Nations - Flag or banner (Example to the world)

- a. 2 Nephi 11:12 - The Lord will lift up an Ensign to the Nations.
- b. D & C 64:42 - Zion to be an Ensign unto people.
- c. Hymn - High on the Mountain Top (See lyrics)

4. Visual and audio signaling - Prayer

- a. The Team's outgoing signal is like a prayer to God. The return signal is like God answering our prayers.
- b. In order for the communication to be effective, the sender must be aimed properly (focused). In order to see the signal, the Team must be looking in that direction to see the light. Sometimes we are looking in a different direction and miss the signal (or answer to prayer). Sometimes we can't see the signal because the haze covers it.

5. Climb to Highest Peak - Goal Attainment

6. Team Work, Priesthood Brotherhood, and Cooperative Effort

7. "On-Target" - Obedience to the Lord's commandments allows us to be in tune with the prompting of our Heavenly Father. We are in line with the Lord's desires and programs.

8. Using a mirror to reflect some of the sun's light is symbolic of our using

the Priesthood to reflect God's power to do well in the world.

9. The larger the mirror, the further the signal can be seen. The stronger our testimonies are, the more people we can influence for good.

"Let Your Light Shine"

At a spectacular lookout point at Beaver Varsity Scout High Adventure Base, in Central Utah, an older Scout Leader recalled to his boys the following account.

"I remember as a boy scout, in 1926, climbing high above tree-line to the top of that distant peak right there, Mt. Delano, in a similar Operation, much like Operation "On-Target!" It was our nation's Sesquicentennial Celebration of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence, then 150 years ago!"

"Someone conceived of the idea of symbolically spanning the message of independence across our great land by assigning groups (mostly Boy Scout Troops I suppose) to peaks and vantage points in a long line all across the United States from Boston to Los Angeles. Then after dark, at an appointed time, a bonfire would be started in Boston and as soon as it was seen by the next troop, they'd light theirs, and so on."

"I remember carrying my share, a 4 foot length of telephone pole to the top. Why, we made our fire so big that the boys on Timpanogas saw ours so brightly that they lit theirs before those on Mount Nebo in between even got theirs started!"

"I've often thought about that. If we let our light shine so brightly, perhaps our good example will make up for others who maybe are a little slow of doing what they ought to be doing."

"Rise Above the Rest"

The story is told of King Louis XIV's son, the prince, who was kidnapped by a band of evil revolutionists. They took the lad and over many months exposed him to every conceivable vice. They tempted him with sumptuous, rich foods and with wine, and liquor. Their language was filthy and profane. They told him dirty stories to pollute his young mind. They tempted him by making women of loose moral character available for his every desire. There was nothing that the mind of man can conceive, which these men were no prepared to indulge him.

Many months passed, he never compromised one standard. They were baffled and astonished. They said, "Why? Why have you not taken advantage of all these luxuries, food, liquor, loose women, etc?" He stood before them fair and tall, head erect and replied; "I cannot do what you ask, for I was born to be a king."

You young men were born to be kings and gods. Always rise above the rest; walk in high places stand on holy ground and walk uprightly before the Lord.