



“Seek Ye Earnestly the Best Gifts”

Show Notes

Podcast General Description:

Follow Him: A *Come, Follow Me* Podcast with Hank Smith & John Bytheway

Do you ever feel that preparing for your weekly *Come, Follow Me* lesson falls short? Join hosts Hank Smith and John Bytheway as they interview experts to make your study for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' *Come, Follow Me* course not only enjoyable but original and educational. If you are looking for resources to make your study fresh, faithful, and fun--no matter your age--then join us every Sunday.

Podcast Episode 19 Description:

Part 1:

Have you ever felt everything you tried was going wrong? In these sections of the Doctrine and Covenants, the Fantastic Four (Parley, Ziba, Oliver, and Peter) are called on a mission that may have seemed like a failure but was instrumental in creating a worldwide church. Join Hank and John with Dr. Ron Bartholomew as they discuss how the Church is open to all, how God doesn't have any favorites, and why we all have spiritual gifts (and what they may look like).

Part 2:

We return to discuss why spiritual gifts are given to every person, regardless of Church membership. And our valiant heroes (men and women) wonder if shaking, rolling, and other dramatic acts are from God. We discuss how God blesses us to rise to the challenges placed before us, and Dr. Bartholomew shares a powerful testimony of his love of the Gospel and the Lord, even with his Parkinson's Disease diagnosis.

Timecode:

Part 1

- *00:00* Introduction to the Podcast
- *00:40* Introduction of Dr. Ron Bartholomew
- *02:38* Sections 46-48 Overview
- *07:59* Joseph Smith Works on the New Translation of the Bible
- *08:34* Allow All into Sacrament Meetings
- *12:20* Spiritual Gifts are Given to Avoid Deceit
- *14:27* The First Gift is Knowing Jesus Lives
- *17:57* The Gift to Believe the Testimony of Others
- *22:26* More Spiritual Gifts Discussed
- *27:18* We Have Gifts to Bless Others
- *28:27* Some Callings Come With Specific Gifts
- *31:41* Appreciate Others Because They Will Receive Gifts as They Serve
- *32:18* John Tells Story of Becoming Primary Chorister
- *35:48* Defining Diversity of Operations as a Gift
- *40:54* The Gift of Wisdom
- *44:02* The Difference Between Wisdom and Knowledge
- *44:34* End of Part I

Part 2

- *00:00* Welcome to Part II
- *00:07* List of Additional Spiritual Gifts
- *02:22* Marvin J Ashton Listed Additional Gifts to Bless Others
- *03:40* President Holds All Spiritual Gifts
- *04:38* How Bishop's Use the Gift of Discernment
- *08:43* Sustaining Bishops and Edward Partridge as First Bishop
- *10:35* Ask For Gifts to Strengthen Others and Our Own Weaknesses
- *14:23* How the Lord Has Blessed Groups With Specific Gifts
- *16:25* John Whitmer Called as Church Historian
- *19:00* The Lord Encourages Early Saints, Even Those That Leave
- *21:02* Dr. Bartholomew's Testimony (and His Parkinson's Diagnosis)
- *21:35* The Importance of Records
- *28:48* Section 48 and Where the Saints Will Eventually Reside
- *32:34* Saints Were Valiant in Kirtland Knowing It Was Temporary
- *35:31* We Come From Goodly Pioneers
- *39:16* Dr. Bartholomew's Testimony
- *45:00* End of Part II

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Biographical Information:



Ronald E. Bartholomew currently serves as an instructor at the Orem University Institute of Religion, where he teaches Christian history, LDS Church history, and courses on the standard works of the LDS Church. He received a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from Brigham Young University and a doctorate in sociology of education from the University of Buckingham in London, England.

He has published scholarly articles in academic journals in the United States and Europe and has written several chapters in various published volumes. His research interests include nineteenth-century missionary work in Victorian England as well as assorted topics in ancient scripture and Church history. He and his wife, Kristen, have seven children and eight grandchildren.

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