

“Ponder these things in your hearts.....”

In the Book of Mormon, Jesus shared these words with the “more righteous” as he completed a day of ministry in their midst at Zarahemla in the Book of Mormon. *As you continue to make preparation for the upcoming Odessa Hills Reunion, I would like to invite you to search the scriptures and come prepared in all things to **first**, Worship in spirit and in truth. **Second**, recognize our need to repent and tear down the strongholds of sin in our lives. **Third**, repent and come before God to seek forgiveness individually and as a people. And **last**, to enjoy the fellowship and joy that comes from the closeness of reunion with each other.*

The best worship experiences typically are in response to the heart’s preparation. As we enjoy April showers and May flowers, please commit one day of fasting and pondering deep the mercy of God and your current relationship with Him. Ponder the tenderness in the tone of His voice and the assurance He gives us of the things for which we hope!

Given the pace of our current world, being still is sometimes a challenge. Accept the challenge and put down the technology and **Be Still**. As you become still, (quiet inside and out), ponder the overwhelming, never ending, deep love of God in your life and the stewardship of sharing that love with our neighbors.

Last of all, as you show up at Odessa Hills, there will be several opportunities for our minds to be drawn away from the goal of worship. Such as: schedule issues, KP duties, etc.... We each must guard our hearts and minds to not allow murmuring or complaining to hijack the spiritual growth He desires in each of our lives.

The accompanying information will assist in your preparation relative to schedules, menus, daily themes and the speakers who will be sharing throughout the week. Thank you for choosing to spend a week of your Summer pondering these things within your heart.

Steve and Rachelle Kropp