

2025-03-30 Elder Vaughn Cornish
Sermon - "Even If You Have Not Chosen Me, I Have Chosen You"
Sermon Study Notes

Clickable Time Stamps

[**09:06**](#) **Family Worship and Song Service** - Brenetta Bird

[**31:54**](#) **Praise Reports** - Elder Ivan Bird

[**43:35**](#) **Welcome** - Elder Scott Eastin

[**48:22**](#) **Special Music - "Make Me A Servant Medley"** - Rachael Mohler

[**51:40**](#) **Call To Worship** - Elder Scott Eastin

[**01:04:00**](#) **Sermon - "Even If You Have Not Chosen Me, I Have Chosen You"** - Elder Vaughn Cornish

[**01:20:57**](#) **Special Music - "Give My Thy Heart"** - Margaret Fountain and Madelyn Clark

[**01:23:37**](#) **Ordination of Ed Mason to the Office of Elder** - Elder Vaughn Cornish assisted by Elder Jack Hagensen

[**01:25:20**](#) **Ordination of Andrew Neill to the Office of Elder** - Seventy Richard Neill assisted by Elder Peter Cornish

[**01:33:06**](#) **Special Music - "A Clare Benediction"** - Robin Neill

Summary

Elder Vaughn Cornish discusses the significant responsibilities of two men who are about to be ordained into the office of Elder within the Church of Jesus Christ. Vaughn emphasizes the belief that these individuals have not chosen their path themselves, but have been chosen by the Lord, who ordains them to bring forth spiritual fruit and assist others in knowing Christ. Vaughn highlights the origin of priesthood authority dating back to Adam, as well as the importance of utilizing the gifts given by God for the benefit of others in the faith. Vaughn stresses the continuous walk with the Lord, utilizing the Spirit, and supporting one's leadership within the Church. He also touches upon the seriousness of the commitment involved in receiving the priesthood and living in alignment with God's will, mentioning obligations to uplift one another and spreading God's love. Overall, Vaughn conveys a call to support the ordained men in their new roles while highlighting the responsibilities of the congregation in fostering a supportive and spiritual environment.

Highlights

1. **Divine Selection:** Vaughn asserts that the men being ordained have not chosen this path themselves but have been chosen by the Lord for service.

2. **Gifts and Responsibilities:** The talents and gifts given by the Lord must be utilized to benefit church members and non-members alike.
3. **Historical Authority:** The priesthood authority is traced back to biblical figures, especially Adam, underscoring the continuity of divine hand in the church's organization.
4. **Support and Upliftment:** The congregation is encouraged to actively support the newly ordained Elders in their spirituality and ministry.
5. **Personal Commitment:** Emphasizes that personal commitment to God and the Church is essential for both Elders and the congregation.
6. **Conduits of Love:** The ordained men are seen as conduits through which the love of God should flow to others.
7. **Responsibility of the Congregation:** Members must remain vigilant, prepared, and responsive to serve those in need of Christ's ministry.

Key Insights

1. **The Doctrine of Divine Calling:** The statement "ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you" highlights an essential Christian doctrine that stresses divine sovereignty in ministry. This underscores that spiritual leadership is not self-appointed but rather divinely orchestrated. Those ordained have a sacred duty to fulfill divine will, leading others toward Christ and exemplifying faith through their actions.
2. **Utilizing Talents for Service:** The Lord grants spiritual gifts and talents not for the individual's glory but for collective benefit. Elders, upon ordination, must actively seek to expand and utilize these gifts; this not only benefits the congregation but also contributes positively to the broader community. The importance of continuous growth and stewardship of these gifts cannot be overstated.
3. **Historical Precedence of Priesthood:** Tracing priesthood authority back to biblical figures such as Adam lends credence to the legitimacy of church governance. This historical connection demonstrates the longstanding tradition within the Church of Jesus Christ and affirms the expectation for practitioners to honor and maintain the principles established by those who came before them.
4. **Collective Responsibility:** Vaughn's teaching stresses a communal effort in ministry where not only the Elders but each member of the congregation has a role to play. The call for mutual support cultivates a family-like bond within the church,

reinforcing the idea that love and support are integral for spiritual growth and effectiveness in ministering to others.

5. **Listening to the Spirit:** The ability to receive and act upon the guidance of the Holy Spirit is reiterated as imperative for both leaders and members. Maintaining an open-hearted and humble disposition ensures the Spirit can guide actions, offering wisdom and clarity in fulfilling God's will. This emphasizes the significance of personal spirituality in church life.
6. **Preparing for Growth:** The forewarning about future congregational growth and the necessity for preparedness indicates an awareness of an impending spiritual awakening or influx into the church. The necessity for preparation, both spiritually and practically, suggests a proactive mindset that encourages ongoing education, prayer, and communal engagement to meet the challenges and opportunities ahead.
7. **Covenant and Accountability:** The notion of entering a covenant relationship with God as a priesthood holder introduces an element of accountability. The expectation that recipients of the priesthood will uphold their commitments highlights the serious nature of this relationship. This covenant influences behavior and decisions, providing a moral framework for conducting themselves both within the church and beyond.

In conclusion, Vaughn emphasizes the weight of responsibility that accompanies ordination in the Church, the divine authority and historical context of priesthood, and the collective roles of both leaders and members in fostering a spiritual community. Vaughn calls for ongoing spiritual growth, support for ecclesiastical leadership, and the embodiment of God's love in active ministry. Each member's involvement, fueled by personal commitment to the Spirit, is essential for achieving the collective mission of the Church.