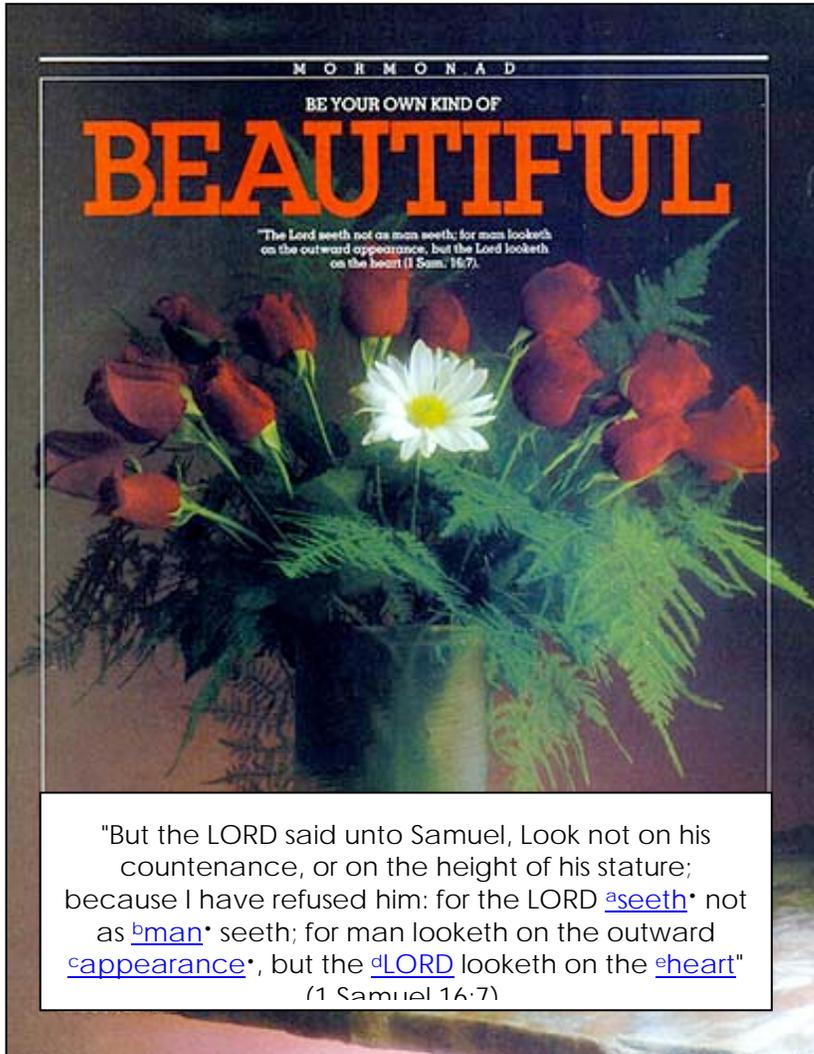


## Divine Worth

"The work of the world is not done by intellectual geniuses. It is done by men [and women] of ordinary capacity who use their abilities in an extraordinary manner" (Elder Gordon B. Hinckley in Conference Report, Oct. 1972, 107; or *Ensign*, Jan. 1973, 92).



- 1) One experience that helped me to recognize my own divine worth is . . .
- 2) How does our sense of divine worth affect our choices?
- 3) One thing I will do this week to strengthen others' sense of divine worth is . . .

Elder Dallin H. Oaks taught: We should seek after spiritual gifts. They can lead us to God. They can shield us from the power of the adversary. They can compensate for our inadequacies and repair our imperfections. Almost a century ago President George Q. Cannon of the First Presidency taught the Saints:

"If any of us are imperfect, it is our duty to pray for the gift that will make us perfect. . . . No man ought to say, 'Oh, I cannot help this; it is my nature.' He is not justified in it, for the reason that God has promised to give strength to correct these things, and to give gifts that will eradicate them. If a man lacks wisdom, it is his duty to ask God for wisdom. The same with everything else. That is the design of God concerning His Church. He wants His Saints to be perfected in the truth. For this purpose He gives these gifts, and bestows them upon those who seek after them, in order that they may be a perfect people upon the face of the earth." (*Millennial Star*, Apr. 1894 p. 260)

Mortal men and women are endowed with marvelous abilities and potential. But however great these mortal powers may be, they are only a shadow of those powers that can be claimed through a linkage with the Holy Spirit.

I hope you do not say to yourself that these words about a companionship with the Spirit are for someone else, not you. God is no respecter of persons. His blessings and gifts are not reserved for a precious few. It matters not whether you are an Apostle or a deacon, a Relief Society officer or a Primary teacher. All of us have the promise of gifts of the Spirit if we place ourselves in a position to claim them" (Carlos E. Asay, First Quorum of the Seventy, "The Companionship of the Holy Ghost," *Ensign*, Apr. 1988, p. 15).