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## LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by dailyherald - 2006/08/23 22:04

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I was saddened when I read the letter from Louis Wilkins, "LDS people fail to show Baptists religious tolerance."

Our family lived out of Utah for several years where our being LDS made us the minority.

Read more...

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Phantom Cat - 2006/08/25 08:09

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As an LDS person, I agree. I have heard several LDS Church leaders warn members to not have holier than thou attitudes.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by telcoman - 2006/08/25 08:13

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Vlad Tepes wrote:

As an LDS person, I agree. I have heard several LDS Church leaders warn members to not have holier than thou attitudes.

You heard it and got the message. The problem is, the people they're really talking to are listinging and thinking to themselves, "I wonder who's doing that?"

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Carpediem - 2006/08/25 08:21

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Vlad Tepes wrote:

As an LDS person, I agree. I have heard several LDS Church leaders warn members to not have holier than thou attitudes.

As an exLDS person, I also agree. I know that the LDS leaders have counseled against this kind of attitude, but have to wonder just how serious they are. Seems that if they were truly serious about it, they would take some steps to try to change that attitude. How about including some religious diversity lessons in the lesson manuals for the youth? How about a joint LDS/Baptist summer picnic? How about a bishop/pastor swap with the Presbyterians with a Q&A session for the members of each congregation? I think that there are positive steps that could be taken, other than just pontificating about it twice a year at General Conference. Like the old saying goes: "Talk Is Cheap."

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by crossroad - 2006/08/25 08:32

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How about including some religious diversity lessons in the lesson manuals for the youth?

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probably just living their lives and trying to survive on an average of 28k per year with huge families to support. give'em a break!

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by ericmiami - 2006/08/25 08:37

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Posted by crossroad - 2006/08/25 08:44

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Are you actually trying to engage in discussion Eric? Rather than useless blathering and one liners?

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by gopherus - 2006/08/25 08:55

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by ericmiami - 2006/08/25 09:55

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Are you actually trying to engage in discussion Eric? Rather than useless blathering and one liners?

No, I'm just making fun of your stupid remarks.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by aramyna - 2006/08/25 10:48

There are people everywhere that are rude and intolerant of others (just read this forum for a while). Anyone who behaves this way is out of line in my opinion. Of course, we all probably fall into this category on occasion-the difference is if we remain there or attempt to do better next time.

Being intolerant of other faiths is not exclusive to LDS people here. Other faiths are just as intolerant of the LDS people. Everyone should just get over themselves and try to find commonalities rather than always focusing on what is different.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Tori - 2006/08/25 11:01

It begins in Sunbeams. Unfortunately, the children are taught at a very young age that by being Mormon, they are right and everybody else is wrong. The Church their family belongs to is the ONLY TRUE church, all of the others are false. They stand up at the pulpit at 4 yrs. of age and everybody thinks it's so cute as their mother whispers in their ear their testimony they are suppose to say where they proclaim that they "know the church is true, that Joseph Smith was a prophet, that Pres. Hinckley is a prophet today", etc, etc. It's a subtle but it's a form of brainwashing teaching elitism at a very young age.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by gopherus - 2006/08/25 12:05

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Posted by crossroad - 2006/08/25 15:59

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No , I think I will address the democrats on the poverty issue. A family might actually be able to live on 28k per year if it wasn't for overtaxation to support worthless government programs as well as massive Gov spending to drive up inflation. Also massive taxation and import tariffs on small business so they cannot afford to pay healthcare for their employees.

I will start there. :)

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How about ending it there? Why don't you go fix your leaky toilet or put new batteries in the talking bass on your wall?

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by politics4me - 2006/08/25 16:38

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You've got to remember that in any religion there are those people that do not "Live their religion". That is every where you go. When I lived in Virginia, I was treated badly by a Baptist. When I lived in Washington State I was ridiculed for being a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints by a Seventh Day Adventist.

But I know all people aren't like this. I have some friends that are Baptist that are really cool, I have friends that are Catholic, that do live what they believe. As members of the Church we need to remember to live as we believe, and be friendly to those who are not memebers. But it needs to work the same both ways, not just one way.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by gopherus - 2006/08/25 17:06

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I will start there. :)

I think you've forgotten who the spenders are. Talk to mister 1 veto. You might wish to address the huge tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans and the war in Iraq. If you are worried about inflation you might want to look at the same issues and the monstrous national debt that has resulted from those coinciding but counteractive policies. You might also wish to deal with those who've failed to lower prescription drug prices through price controls or an even more simple method, a ban on television marketing that eats up more money than research. I think you'll find that your boys are responsible for more than their share of the poverty issue. Good thing is they know they can keep you there and still get your vote by playing the fear card and the God card, thought they don't really believe in either.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by occams\_norelco - 2006/08/25 18:34

As much as this might strike the evangelical among us (those who feel that they must share their religion with others ... not just evangelical Christians) as odd, showing other faiths tolerance is quite simple. If your faith isn't the yardstick by which you judge everyone around you, tolerance is never an issue.

I find it easy to associate both with people of faith and with people who have none, mostly because I don't associate with people who judge based on which churchhouse I go to.

It is easy to get along with people of all faiths, as long as those people aren't busy telling me what I'm missing by not joining their particular club.

True tolerance includes accepting that someone else may not believe what you do. The more we practice this tolerance, the more civil our society will be, and we may be able to move past the constant sectarian bickering that is so often found here.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Phantom Cat - 2006/08/25 18:38

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Tori wrote:

It begins in Sunbeams. Unfortunately, the children are taught at a very young age that by being Mormon, they are right and everybody else is wrong. The Church their family belongs to is the ONLY TRUE church, all of the others are false. They stand up at the pulpit at 4 yrs. of age and everybody thinks it's so cute as their mother whispers in their ear their testimony they are suppose to say where they proclaim that they "know the church is true, that Joseph Smith was a prophet, that Pres. Hinckley is a prophet today", etc, etc. It's a subtle but it's a form of brainwashing teaching elitism at a very young age.

A person can believe that their religion is right/they belong to the only true church without looking down their noses at others. We all have to be careful. I know many fine people of faith (LDS and otherwise) who do not agree with other faiths, but who show respect (recognizing the good they see in other faiths and allowing others to choose to worship God as they see fit).

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

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I'm really sorry you feel that way.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Wren - 2006/08/26 04:55

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Jarek wrote:

Tori wrote:

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I'm really sorry you feel that way.

The LDS, though they certainly engage in the technique, are far from the only ones who do it.

UPC, Church of Christ, certain SBC congregations I have known, RC, and others do the same thing in their own way.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Tori - 2006/08/26 09:23

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I'm sure you are right about that Wren. Maybe it's unavoidable by a religion that believes they have the only truth. It's just when I think about growing up in the LDS Church, IN Provo Utah, I have memories of truly believing at a very young age that it would be better for everyone if they were Mormons. I remember thinking that I was so lucky that I was born in the Mormon Church. My parents didn't teach me to feel better then the very few non-LDS kids that lived here, but I learned it in subtle ways at Primary for sure. It is taught that Mormon's are the only TRUE church, and everybody is wrong. I was told by a MIA Leader that the Catholic Church was evil. I specifically remember that well.

My point being, wouldn't it a nice thing for these kids to stand up at the pulpit on Fast Sunday and say things like, " I love my family, and I want to love other people like Jesus wants us to", instead of "I know the Church is True", which already at that young age, beginning an elitist, better then others, mind set.

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I guess that's one way of putting it. :D

'Inspiring' these young children, whose brains are like little sponges, is critical. I so wish I could go back when my kids were babies and re-teach them. I'm trying to play catch-up now and re-program them to have love without conditions to everybody. I always thought I was teaching them that. I always thought they were gleaned that from Primary, and YW's

also. I was wrong.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Tori - 2006/08/26 09:45

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What you say is true. However, in the LDS faith, the very nature of it's belief causes a person to automatically 'look down their noses' (so to speak) at a non-LDS person because they want to help them see the light. Have the truth. Make sure they (the non LDS) have all the tools to get back with their Heavenly Father. It's just how Mormon's think. To them, respect means showing 'tolerance'. That's a big difference from truly respecting and loving someone and their beliefs.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by BishopRick - 2006/08/26 11:37

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VERY well said, Tori. Up front, I will say that I'm sure this happens to a degree in many other religions...but this is Utah Co., and I think we can dialogue and help all of us really see what can be done to bridge this critical gap.

First of all, I think it is helpful to understand a concept of psychology that the best way to ascertain a person's true beliefs, attitudes, and intentions is by the results in their lives...not by what they say. Yes, talk is cheap, and it is also a process to utilize the human denial system. There is constant evidence on this forum of many who proclaim tolerance and equality, then out of the same "mouth" comes bigotry and lobbying to pass laws keeping humans unequal.

Kit Kat talks frequently of her Lutheran good friend...and I believe her sincere claims of respect for her. Because of her approach to some of the crazy debates here, I'm quite certain she has an attitude of respect and unconditional love and acceptance of all people (although she, like me, struggles with the rudeness and idiocy of some posters -- but that is not based on race, religion, or sexual preference -- just stupidity!). We need more Mormons like her.

By "results," I mean, how do we handle experiences and relationships with those different than we are? Do we approach them with an attitude of "I am better, or know more truth about heaven, or I am more chosen than that person, so I will respond accordingly." Perhaps it is the rules one person has for their kids' associating with other kids that are different. The results will show that attitude. The person's friends, their discussions about people, and their choice of social events will indicate their attitude.

Yes, the issue is forefront in General Conference, and I choose to be optimistic that it is, and will continue to help LDS members get past long-held prejudices, bigotry, and intolerance that has clearly been a part of the LDS culture since its inception. Of course other religions need to do the same, but "we" can't change them, we can only change ourselves...and the justification of "well, others do it too" reminds me of the immature arguments that kids make. Let's all grow up and take responsibility for ourselves individually and make this place more accepting of ALL people!

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by ericmiami - 2006/08/26 12:19

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Okay, I'll try.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by James - 2006/08/26 12:44

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Remember Gandhi was unable to put down what makes large families. With that said, adaption in my mind is one of the ultimate gifts known to the human race.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Tori - 2006/08/26 15:56

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Jarek wrote:

Tori wrote:

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I'm really sorry you feel that way.

Sorry? Do you really feel sorry FOR me? Seriously, you don't need to feel sorry. Although, I don't believe that is what you meant. More like, "I'm sorry, but you are wrong". It is OK, for you to feel that way as it is OK for me to feel the way I do. The things I posted are from MY experience and MY perception. That's all.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by BishopRick - 2006/08/26 17:07

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In theory I think this is correct. Call me nit-picky, but I think there might be a smidgen of a difference between "tolerance" and "respect." In that perfect world, wouldn't we like to see each of us "respect" one another, rather than just "tolerate?"

I can try to tolerate my son's rap music, but I'm quite certain I will never respect (most of) it. But I do respect my Mormon, Buddhist, Jewish, Christian, Native American, and Hindu friends. I would like to become acquainted with some mainstream Muslims, as I understand that they have a similar belief to most other world religions, contrary to what we see in the media. I REALLY DO respect their beliefs and lifestyle...and don't feel the need to change them or be changed BY them. I think that is a key component of true "respect."

I believe that it takes concerted effort to get outside of one's comfort zone and interact with "different" people...a challenge at first, but the rewards are an increased amount of love for humanity.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/26 21:47

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And the Bible says: "Train up a child in the way that he should go and he will never depart from it."

Would you have it otherwise, Tori?

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/26 21:54

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How about including some religious diversity lessons in the lesson manuals for the youth?

chills) I always get leary when I here about proposed "diversity" indoctrination classes. I think most LDS people are probably just living their lives and trying to survive on an average of 28k per year with huge families to support. give'em a break!

So you are anti-family, crossroad?

Not at all. But I am Anti- 28k per year for families to try and live on.

Are you actually trying to engage in discussion Eric? Rather than useless blathering and one liners?

I'm anti-huge families that were not formed in part by adoption, but I'll support you on your anti-poverty crusade should

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you wish to go. Might want to engage the Republican party in this one, they seem the most interested in keeping families in poverty and withholding affordable health care for them (perhaps including some birth control info for the next generation).

No , I think I will address the democrats on the poverty issue. A family might actually be able to live on 28k per year if it wasn't for overtaxation to support worthless government programs as well as massive Gov spending to drive up inflation. Also massive taxation and import tariffs on small business so they cannot afford to pay healthcare for their employees.

I will start there. :)

I think you've forgotten who the spenders are. Talk to mister 1 veto. You might wish to address the huge tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans and the war in Iraq. If you are worried about inflation you might want to look at the same issues and the monstrous national debt that has resulted from those coinciding but counteractive policies. You might also wish to deal with those who've failed to lower prescription drug prices through price controls or an even more simple method, a ban on television marketing that eats up more money than research. I think you'll find that your boys are responsible for more than their share of the poverty issue. Good thing is they know they can keep you there and still get your vote by playing the fear card and the God card, thought they don't really believe in either.

Crossroad, you might want to try Communism which is what gopherus is suggesting.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by gopherus - 2006/08/27 00:32

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gopherus wrote:

crossroad wrote:

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by emmyloohoo - 2006/08/27 07:22

BishopRick wrote:

Vlad Tepes wrote:

Tori wrote:

It begins in Sunbeams. Unfortunately, the children are taught at a very young age that by being Mormon, they are right and everybody else is wrong. The Church their family belongs to is the ONLY TRUE church, all of the others are false. They stand up at the pulpit at 4 yrs. of age and everybody thinks it's so cute as their mother whispers in their ear their testimony they are suppose to say where they proclaim that they "know the church is true, that Joseph Smith was a prophet, that Pres. Hinckley is a prophet today", etc, etc. It's a subtle but it's a form of brainwashing teaching elitism at a very young age.

A person can believe that their religion is right/they belong to the only true church without looking down their noses at others. We all have to be careful. I know many fine people of faith (LDS and otherwise) who do not agree with other faiths, but who show respect (recognizing the good they see in other faiths and allowing others to choose to worship God as they see fit).

In theory I think this is correct. Call me nit-picky, but I think there might be a smidgen of a difference between "tolerance" and "respect." In that perfect world, wouldn't we like to see each of us "respect" one another, rather than just "tolerate?"

I can try to tolerate my son's rap music, but I'm quite certain I will never respect (most of) it. But I do respect my Mormon, Buddhist, Jewish, Christian, Native American, and Hindu friends. I would like to become acquainted with some mainstream Muslims, as I understand that they have a similar belief to most other world religions, contrary to what we see in the media. I REALLY DO respect their beliefs and lifestyle...and don't feel the need to change them or be changed BY them. I think that is a key component of true "respect."

I believe that it takes concerted effort to get outside of one's comfort zone and interact with "different" people...a challenge at first, but the rewards are an increased amount of love for humanity.

I would like to say that 1. I am LDS and 2. I believe it is the parents responsibility to teach tolerance and respect. I had the opportunity at a very young age to live outside of Utah Valley in England. I don't know why but I feel it broadened my horizons. As a young adult I was an au pair (nanny) in Switzerland. The family I worked for were catholic. We had many discussions about religion and values and I came to understand that just as I beleive in my religion they beleive in theirs. They are wonderful people and I really love them! Then when I was a little older I got to volunteer for the winter olympics. I ended up being assigned to the olympic village. I was in protocol and I met some very amazing people. The Reverend France Davis - he is a kind and gentle man. Pamamla Atkinson what an amazing difference she is making in the world. Bishop Tanner-Irish - she is brilliant and kind. I had a rare opportunity to meet and work with these amazing people. I respect them and their religion or mine has nothing to do with anything. I worked closely with people from all walks of life and I was richly blessed by that. As a result I am trying to teach my children to view people as Christ would-love all people for who they are not if they are LDS or not. Hopefully I can make a difference in the intolerance I see by

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/27 10:30

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gopherus wrote:

wrz wrote:

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by BishopRick - 2006/08/27 12:16

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BishopRick wrote:

Vlad Tepes wrote:

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Exactly! I can read in your post that you see the benefits of diversity -- and you will bless your children by passing this passion on to them. I applaud you for your approach!  
:)

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Wren - 2006/08/27 12:41

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wrz wrote:

gopherus wrote:

wrz wrote:

gopherus wrote:

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Oh, my -- he turns tax break for the wealthy into taking from the rich and give to the poor.

Podjo, you better read more carefully from now on.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by PoetryNOcean - 2006/08/27 17:50

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Wren wrote:

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Podjo, you better read more carefully from now on.

There's an old story, Wren. A group of 10 people walk into a restaurant to have dinner. It was a wonderful affair. At the end, the maitre'd announced to the table that each member of the dinner party would receive a bill according to their income and tax status. 5 of the party got bills for \$0 dollars. They were in the lower income groups. 1 got one for 4% of the bill, the next for 9% and the next for 12%. The final two split the remaining 75%. Funny, it's the same with the tax system of this country. The people who pay 75 percent of the tax revenues to the government comprise 25% of the population. 50% pay less than 3% of the total. Check the numbers if you wish, but when we "give to the rich" we, in actuality, stop taking as much from the engine that makes our economy run. You've never gotten a job from a poor man, and you never will.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/27 17:53

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Wren wrote:

wrz wrote:

gopherus wrote:

wrz wrote:

gopherus wrote:

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"...a ban on television marketing that eats up more money than research." - Control speech = Communism.

Oh, my -- he turns tax break for the wealthy into taking from the rich and give to the poor.

Let's walk through this carefully since you're so mentally challenged...

The wealthy pay the lion's share of the taxes, in gross and as a percentage of income. That's taking from the rich. And where does most of our tax dollars go? For welfare... to the poor.

And since the wealthy pay the loin's share of taxes and a tax break is in the offing, the wealthy should have the right to participate. Would you deny them that?

=====

## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/27 18:20

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Wren wrote:

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Good example, poet.

Let's extend it a bit. Suppose the Maitre'd found that the group had been overcharged and was due a refund. So he suggested handing back the refund in the same ratio that was paid in.

The poor who paid nothing said, "you can't do that. We deserve a refund too. Our meal cost money. You should give the us a refund as well, perhaps in the ratio of the cost of the meals." So that's what the maitre'd did. Everybody got a refund.

Then, as they were leaving the restaurant, the poor who paid noting for the meal started mumbling under their breaths to each other "wait a minute, those rich people got a fund. They don't deserve a refund. They're rich." And they mumbled all the way home and on into the next day. And they're still mumbling. They were obsessed with the fact that the rich got a refund.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Wren - 2006/08/27 20:01

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The story doesn't reflect the logic of the earlier comments.

However, I do believe where much has been given much is required.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Wren - 2006/08/27 20:03

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wrz wrote:

Wren wrote:

wrz wrote:

gopherus wrote:

wrz wrote:

gopherus wrote:

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And since the wealthy pay the loin's share of taxes and a tax break is in the offing, the wealthy should have the right to participate. Would you deny them that?

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"...tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans..." - Take from the rich and give to the poor = Communism.

Let's try it one more time. How is a tax break for the wealthiest the same as communism>

Look at the statement in quotes, compare it to the comment immediately after it, think about it, then explain it to me: logically.

=====

## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/27 20:04

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Wren wrote:

However, I do believe where much has been given much is required.

Much was not given. It was earned.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Wren - 2006/08/27 20:05

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wrz wrote:

PoetryNOcean wrote:

Wren wrote:

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Once again

How is a tax break the same as communism?

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/27 20:09

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wrz wrote:

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gopherus wrote:

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Seems you question tax breaks for the rich. Think of it in those terms and maybe it will come to you.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/27 20:15

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PoetryNOcean wrote:

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Once again

How is a tax break the same as communism?

No, Wren. It's your mentality of no tax breaks for the wealthy that is a communistic mentality. Go Lenin!

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by ohmeowzer - 2006/08/27 21:55

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religion is a man made thing. we are all different and therefore we have different religions. i am LDS and have a strong testimony .. i love the church and what it stands for. my nieces and nephews are jewish and they are great kids ( there are 10 of them ) .they do alot of good for the poor and homeless esp for the poor children. i have not tried to convert them .. why? because i respect them and think they are fine just the way they are. their father is jewish and mother LDS and they were brought up not to drink or smoke and have high moral standards. i am sure Heavenly Father will not care what religion they are but what kind of lives they lead and their service to others. i love them and feel they will grow up to be a benefit to society. i am proud to be LDS and would never give up my religion .. i do accept people for who they are and how they treat other people. i have 4 kids and they accept their cousins and their religion without a bad word to them. everyone has value whether you be baptist, jewish, or an alien with purple and pink polka dots..

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Tennerifa - 2006/08/27 23:24

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ohmeowzer wrote:

region is a man made thing. we are all different and therefore we have different regions. i am LDS and have a strong testimony .. ilove the church and what it stands for.my nieces and nephews are jewish and they are great kids ( there are 10 of them ) .they do alot of good for the poor and homeless esp for the poor children. i have not tried to convert them .. why? because i respect them and think they are fine just the way they are.their father is jewish and mother LDS and they were brought up not to drink or smoke and have high moral standards. i am sure Heavenly Father will not care what region they are but what kind of lives they lead and their service to others. i love them and feel they will grow up to be a benefit to society. i am proud to be LDS and would never give up my region .. i do accept people for who they are and how they treat other people. i have 4 kids and they accept their cousins and their region without a bad word to them. everyone has value wether you be baptist, jewish,or an alien with purple and pink polka dots..

What about one of the facets of the three fold mission of the church, namely "proclaiming the gospel?" What about "every member a missionary?" What about "missionary moments" in priesthood meeting? Actually I applaud your attitude, but how do you reconcile it with what the church teaches about gaining converts?

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Wren - 2006/08/28 04:45

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wrz wrote:

Wren wrote:

However, I do believe where much has been given much is required.

Much was not given. It was earned.

Since you are active LDS (as you have stated elsewhere), I counsel you to follow King Benjamin's advice in Mosiah about taking care of the poor. It is not your duty to question 'why?' but 'to do.'

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Wren - 2006/08/28 04:48

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wrz wrote:

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PoetryNOcean wrote:

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Oh, my -- he turns tax break for the wealthy into taking from the rich and give to the poor.

Podjo, you better read more carefully from now on.

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There's an old story, Wren. A group of 10 people walk into a restaurant to have dinner. It was a wonderful affair. At the end, the maitre'd announced to the table that each member of the dinner party would receive a bill according to their income and tax status. 5 of the party got bills for \$0 dollars. They were in the lower income groups. 1 got one for 4% of the bill, the next for 9% and the next for 12%. The final two split the remaining 75%. Funny, it's the same with the tax system of this country. The people who pay 75 percent of the tax revenues to the government comprise 25% of the population. 50% pay less than 3% of the total. Check the numbers if you wish, but when we "give to the rich" we, in actuality, stop taking as much from the engine that makes our economy run. You've never gotten a job from a poor man, and you never will.

Good example, poet.

Let's extend it a bit. Suppose the Maitre'd found that the group had been overcharged and was due a refund. So he suggested handing back the refund in the same ratio that was paid in.

The poor who paid nothing said, "you can't do that. We deserve a refund too. Our meal cost money. You should give the us a refund as well, perhaps in the ratio of the cost of the meals." So that's what the maitre'd did. Everybody got a refund.

Then, as they were leaving the restaurant, the poor who paid noting for the meal started mumbling under their breaths to each other "wait a minute, those rich people got a fund. They don't deserve a refund. They're rich." And they mumbled all the way home and on into the next day. And they're still mumbling. They were obsessed with the fact that the rich got a refund.

Once again

How is a tax break the same as communism?

No, Wren. It's your mentality of no tax breaks for the wealthy that is a communistic mentality. Go Lenin!

WRZ, you are confusing me with someone else.

I did not say I was against tax breaks for the wealthy.

What I did say was that the illogic that tax breaks for the wealthy equates to communism is illogical.

Stay on track, please.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Wren - 2006/08/28 04:49

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Tennerifa wrote:

ohmeowzer wrote:

reglion is a man made thing. we are all different and therefore we have different regions. i am LDS and have a strong testimony .. ilove the church and what it stands for.my nieces and nephews are jewish and they are great kids ( there are 10 of them ) .they do alot of good for the poor and homeless esp for the poor children. i have not tried to convert them .. why? because i respect them and think they are fine just the way they are.their father is jewish and mother LDS and they were brought up not to drink or smoke and have high moral standards. i am sure Heavenly Father will not care what reglion they are but what kind of lives they lead and their service to others. i love them and feel they will grow up to be a benefit to society. i am proud to be LDS and would never give up my reglion .. i do accept people for who they are and how they treat other people. i have 4 kids and they accept their cousins and their reglion without a bad word to them. everyone has value wether you be baptist, jewish,or an alien with purple and pink polka dots..

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Evangelicals have the same quandry with the Great Commission to witness to the world.

When does fulfilling "every member a missionary" or the Great Commission actually lead to harm than good?

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Tennerifa - 2006/08/28 05:17

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Wren wrote:

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Evangelicals have the same quandry with the Great Commission to witness to the world.

When does fulfilling "every member a missionary" or the Great Commission actually lead to harm than good?

I never said it leads to harm. In replying to omeowzer, who states tht he/she has a strong testimony of the LDS religion, which has as one of its main tenets the conversion of others to that faith, he/she states that they have not tried to convert the Jewish nieces/nephews to the LDS faith. My question is the discrepancy between what the church teaches, and his/her lack of attempts at conversion, given his/her strong testimony of the LDS Church.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Tennerifa - 2006/08/28 06:06

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Wren wrote:

wrz wrote:

Wren wrote:

However, I do believe where much has been given much is required.

Much was not given. It was earned.

Since you are active LDS (as you have stated elsewhere), I counsel you to follow King Benjamin's advice in Mosiah about taking care of the poor. It is not your duty to question 'why?' but 'to do.'

Yes Wren, you are correct. WRZ is active LDS. He tries to put up a facade of being a disinterested, outside observer, but truth be known, not only does he "sustain the brethren," I strongly suspect that he is building a shrine to Joseph Smith down in his basement, next to the fireplace.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by KitKat - 2006/08/28 08:33

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BishopRick wrote:

Tori wrote:

Wren wrote:

Jarek wrote:

Tori wrote:

It begins in Sunbeams. Unfortunately, the children are taught at a very young age that by being Mormon, they are right and everybody else is wrong. The Church their family belongs to is the ONLY TRUE church, all of the others are false. They stand up at the pulpit at 4 yrs. of age and everybody thinks it's so cute as their mother whispers in their ear their testimony they are suppose to say where they proclaim that they "know the church is true, that Joseph Smith was a prophet, that Pres. Hinckley is a prophet today", etc, etc. It's a subtle but it's a form of brainwashing teaching elitism at a very young age.

I'm really sorry you feel that way.

The LDS, though they certainly engage in the technique, are far from the only ones who do it.

UPC, Church of Christ, certain SBC congregations I have known, RC, and others do the same thing in their own way.

I'm sure you are right about that Wren. Maybe it's unavoidable by a religion that believes they have the only truth. It's just when I think about growing up in the LDS Church, IN Provo Utah, I have memories of truly believing at a very young age that it would be better for everyone if they were Mormons. I remember thinking that I was so lucky that I was born in the Mormon Church. My parents didn't teach me to feel better then the very few non-LDS kids that lived here, but I learned it in subtle ways at Primary for sure. It is taught that Mormon's are the only TRUE church, and everybody is wrong. I was told by a MIA Leader that the Catholic Church was evil. I specifically remember that well.

My point being, wouldn't it a nice thing for these kids to stand up at the pulpit on Fast Sunday and say things like, " I love my family, and I want to love other people like Jesus wants us to", instead of "I know the Church is True", which already at that young age, beginning an elitist, better then others, mind set.

VERY well said, Tori. Up front, I will say that I'm sure this happens to a degree in many other religions...but this is Utah Co., and I think we can dialogue and help all of us really see what can be done to bridge this critical gap.

First of all, I think it is helpful to understand a concept of psychology that the best way to ascertain a person's true beliefs, attitudes, and intentions is by the results in their lives...not by what they say. Yes, talk is cheap, and it is also a process to utilize the human denial system. There is constant evidence on this forum of many who proclaim tolerance and equality, then out of the same "mouth" comes bigotry and lobbying to pass laws keeping humans unequal.

Kit Kat talks frequently of her Lutheran good friend...and I believe her sincere claims of respect for her. Because of her approach to some of the crazy debates here, I'm quite certain she has an attitude of respect and unconditional love and acceptance of all people (although she, like me, struggles with the rudeness and idiocy of some posters -- but that is not based on race, religion, or sexual preference -- just stupidity!). We need more Mormons like her.

By "results," I mean, how do we handle experiences and relationships with those different than we are? Do we approach them with an attitude of "I am better, or know more truth about heaven, or I am more chosen than that person, so I will respond accordingly." Perhaps it is the rules one person has for their kids' associating with other kids that are different. The results will show that attitude. The person's friends, their discussions about people, and their choice of social events will indicate their attitude.

Yes, the issue is forefront in General Conference, and I choose to be optimistic that it is, and will continue to help LDS members get past long-held prejudices, bigotry, and intolerance that has clearly been a part of the LDS culture since its inception. Of course other religions need to do the same, but "we" can't change them, we can only change ourselves...and the justification of "well, others do it too" reminds me of the immature arguments that kids make. Let's all grow up and take responsibility for ourselves individually and make this place more accepting of ALL people!

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Well said, BishopRick.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Decaf - 2006/08/28 08:43

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Carpe Diem wrote:

Vlad Tepes wrote:

As an LDS person, I agree. I have heard several LDS Church leaders warn members to not have holier than thou attitudes.

As an exLDS person, I also agree. I know that the LDS leaders have counseled against this kind of attitude, but have to wonder just how serious they are. Seems that if they were truly serious about it, they would take some steps to try to change that attitude. How about including some religious diversity lessons in the lesson manuals for the youth? How about a joint LDS/Baptist summer picnic? How about a bishop/pastor swap with the Presbyterians with a Q&A session for the members of each congregation? I think that there are positive steps that could be taken, other than just pontificating about it twice a year at General Conference. Like the old saying goes: "Talk Is Cheap."

Why waste time with fragmented doctrines when you already have the complete truth?

No, the church is doing what it's supposed to be doing. It's preparing the way for the second coming of Jesus Christ. I think your joint religion program would work great with the Catholics, though. Why don't you give them a ring?

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/28 08:52

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Wren wrote:

wrz wrote:

Wren wrote:

However, I do believe where much has been given much is required.

Much was not given. It was earned.

Since you are active LDS (as you have stated elsewhere)...

More lies. I have never stated such a thing.

I counsel you to follow King Benjamin's advice in Mosiah about taking care of the poor. It is not your duty to question 'why?' but 'to do.'

I counsel you to take the advise of the bible where it says: "Let your conversations by yea, yea, nay, nay."

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by James - 2006/08/28 09:07

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ohmeowzer wrote:

religion is a man made thing. we are all different and therefore we have different religions. i am LDS and have a strong testimony .. i love the church and what it stands for. my nieces and nephews are jewish and they are great kids ( there are 10 of them ) .they do a lot of good for the poor and homeless esp for the poor children. i have not tried to convert them .. why? because i respect them and think they are fine just the way they are. their father is jewish and mother LDS and they were brought up not to drink or smoke and have high moral standards. i am sure Heavenly Father will not care what religion they are but what kind of lives they lead and their service to others. i love them and feel they will grow up to be a benefit to society. i am proud to be LDS and would never give up my religion .. i do accept people for who they are and how they treat other people. i have 4 kids and they accept their cousins and their religion without a bad word to them. everyone has value whether you be baptist, jewish, or an alien with purple and pink polka dots..

ohmeowzer,

You are a credit to your church, family and the human race. God Speed.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/28 09:33

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Wren wrote:

wrz wrote:

Wren wrote:

wrz wrote:

PoetryNOcean wrote:

Wren wrote:

Oh, my -- he turns tax break for the wealthy into taking from the rich and give to the poor.

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Good example, poet.

Let's extend it a bit. Suppose the Maitre'd found that the group had been overcharged and was due a refund. So he suggested handing back the refund in the same ratio that was paid in.

The poor who paid nothing said, "you can't do that. We deserve a refund too. Our meal cost money. You should give the us a refund as well, perhaps in the ratio of the cost of the meals." So that's what the maitre'd did. Everybody got a refund.

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Once again

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How is a tax break the same as communism?

No, Wren. It's your mentality of no tax breaks for the wealthy that is a communistic mentality. Go Lenin!

WRZ, you are confusing me with someone else?

I doubt it. You have a special brand of ineptitude.

I did not say I was against tax breaks for the wealthy.

OK. So, now's the time to clear that up for us. Are you in favor of tax breaks for the wealthy? In other words, across the board tax breaks that includes everyone who pays taxes, including the wealthy.

What I did say was that the illogic that tax breaks for the wealthy equates to communism is illogical.

So, are you saying that tax breaks for the wealthy are OK but illogic, and that the whole thing, including equating the wealthy with communism is illogical?

Stay on track, please.

Your convolutions present a challenge.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/28 09:48

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Tennerifa wrote:

Wren wrote:

wrz wrote:

Wren wrote:

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Yes Wren, you are correct. WRZ is active LDS.

Would you like to guess again?

He tries to put up a facade of being a disinterested, outside observer...

I am the defender of anyone who is castigated by the use of lies, half truths, and innuendos. I also happen to know something about Mormon Church history, through intensive, independent study.

..but truth be known, not only does he "sustain the brethren," I strongly suspect that he is building a shrine to Joseph Smith down in his basement, next to the fireplace.

I'm building a pair of end tables in my garage. Is that the same thing?

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

KitKat wrote:

BishopRick wrote:

Tori wrote:

Wren wrote:

Jarek wrote:

Tori wrote:

It begins in Sunbeams. Unfortunately, the children are taught at a very young age that by being Mormon, they are right and everybody else is wrong. The Church their family belongs to is the ONLY TRUE church, all of the others are false. They stand up at the pulpit at 4 yrs. of age and everybody thinks it's so cute as their mother whispers in their ear their testimony they are suppose to say where they proclaim that they "know the church is true, that Joseph Smith was a prophet, that Pres. Hinckley is a prophet today", etc, etc. It's a subtle but it's a form of brainwashing teaching elitism at a very young age.

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grow up and take responsibility for ourselves individually and make this place more accepting of ALL people!

Well said, BishopRick.

Well said, KitKat.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by KitKat - 2006/08/28 10:04

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wrz wrote:

KitKat wrote:

BishopRick wrote:

Tori wrote:

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Jarek wrote:

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Well said, BishopRick.

Well said, KitKat.

Now wrz, are you trying to be funny? Since it's Monday, and I'm not a Monday person, I'm not sure what to think.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by HalfABrain - 2006/08/28 11:30

BishopRick wrote:

Yes, the issue is forefront in General Conference, and I choose to be optimistic that it is, and will continue to help LDS members get past long-held prejudices, bigotry, and intolerance that has clearly been a part of the LDS culture since its inception...

Yes, this ripping up of flyers really pales in comparison to some things that happened in early church history. These days you don't get members of the church presidency making fiery speeches about how God is going to drive out the current wicked inhabitants of the land so that the saints can establish Zion. Now THAT would be something you could really cry "intolerance" about. I think the saints have come a long way in the tolerance department. Sounds like there's still room for improvement, though.

You have to be careful here to make sure you're not guilty of a double standard. Are you for free speech or against it? Is it OK to exercise your free speech by passing out flyers, but not OK to exercise your free speech by ripping them up? Or is it intolerance?

To take it a step further, is it intolerance to exercise your free speech by protesting people handing out flyers by ripping them up, but OK to protest President Bush making a speech to the American Legion by carrying signs and making noise?

Or is it just intolerance if you don't agree with the message? Hmmmm.

=====

## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by BishopRick - 2006/08/28 12:31

HalfABrain wrote:

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Good points!

=====

## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by gopherus - 2006/08/28 13:16

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/28 15:54

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gopherus wrote:

HalfABrain wrote:

BishopRick wrote:

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The enemy has found our Achilles heel: A two party system and a liberal press.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by gopherus - 2006/08/28 15:56

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wrz wrote:

gopherus wrote:

HalfABrain wrote:

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Perhaps we'll learn not to get into wars such as these.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/28 16:00

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gopherus wrote:

wrz wrote:

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HalfABrain wrote:

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Perhaps we'll learn not to get into wars such as these.

Such as what?

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Wren - 2006/08/28 16:25

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wrz wrote:

gopherus wrote:

HalfABrain wrote:

BishopRick wrote:

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And I might add a neo-con ideology in the administration that refuses to come to grip with the reality of the Middle East.

And if you don't like a two-party system and the liberal (free) press, what would you put in its place?

I'm not gaming here, WRZ. I recognize the seriousness of your statement, and I am honestly asking what would you suggest instead?

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/28 20:33

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I agree that prejudices, bigotry and tolerance are something that many people need to "get past". I have never heard these "preached" by the leadership in the Church. And it certainly is not "part of the culture" of any ward I have attended. That doesn't mean there haven't been any individuals that are that way. It just isn't part of the guidance or culture that I have been associated with. Quite the opposite, actually.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/29 00:21

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Wren wrote:

wrz wrote:

gopherus wrote:

HalfABrain wrote:

BishopRick wrote:

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The reality has been "come to grips with." The reality is that the middle east is full of terrorists who want to kill Israelis and Americans. Whose published goals are to convert or kill the infidels around the world (that would include you and your family, in case you're interested).

The two journalists who were just released are examples of what's to come. They were forced to convert to Islam so they could live and be turned loose. Had they not converted, their heads would, by now, be severed.

We need to fight Muslim terrorists sooner or later. And hopefully on their own soil, not ours. That's the reality.

And if you don't like a two-party system and the liberal (free) press, what would you put in its place?

I'm not gaming here, WRZ. I recognize the seriousness of your statement, and I am honestly asking what would you suggest instead?

I didn't say I didn't like the two party system.

What we need are both parties pulling together in a time of war. Getting behind the duly elected president and pulling with him, not against him. Pulling against him gets us stalemated and all to gain a political advantage. We need to put politics aside and fight and win a war.

What we need instead of a liberal media is a media that will pull together as a nation in times of war. We don't need more of Dan Rather who will dig up and spew lies just to sell his product and/or to push a political agenda.

Will we get either? No. We are, as the terrorists leaders and others have stated, a "paper tiger." The world has seen it once and it will see it again in Iraq. And all are taking notes.

We may have a superior Military but our enemy has a winning military. They have figured us out. They will never engage in the type of war that we could win. They're too smart. They will stick to their game plan and while doing it, stick it to us.

What a naive people we are. We squander our birthright for a mess of pottage.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by Tennerifa - 2006/08/29 01:27

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Decaf wrote:

Carpe Diem wrote:

Vlad Tepes wrote:

As an LDS person, I agree. I have heard several LDS Church leaders warn members to not have holier than thou attitudes.

As an exLDS person, I also agree. I know that the LDS leaders have counseled against this kind of attitude, but have to wonder just how serious they are. Seems that if they were truly serious about it, they would take some steps to try to change that attitude. How about including some religious diversity lessons in the lesson manuals for the youth? How about a joint LDS/Baptist summer picnic? How about a bishop/pastor swap with the Presbyterians with a Q&A session for the members of each congregation? I think that there are positive steps that could be taken, other than just pontificating about it twice a year at General Conference.  
Like the old saying goes: "Talk Is Cheap."

Why waste time with fragmented doctrines when you already have the complete truth?

No, the church is doing what it's supposed to be doing. It's preparing the way for the second coming of Jesus Christ. I think your joint religion program would work great with the Catholics, though. Why don't you give them a ring?

Testify Brother Decaf, testify! Can I get a "praise the Lord" here? Hallelujah! Don't wear out your knuckles thumping that B of M.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by occams\_norelco - 2006/08/30 00:44

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Decaf wrote:

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Thank you for a perfect example of the subject. I can only assume you did that on purpose, as any other option would make my head hurt.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by disgusted - 2006/08/30 02:55

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can't we all just get along ::)

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by ericmiami - 2006/08/30 08:21

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WRZ:

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I agree with you on this absolutely. That is exactly why we were doomed from the start when we went into Iraq. No way out from day one. Mission Accomplished?

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by JayeG - 2006/08/31 15:23

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ericmiami wrote:

crossroad wrote:

ericmiami wrote:

crossroad wrote:

How about including some religious diversity lessons in the lesson manuals for the youth?

chills) I always get leary when I here about proposed "diversity" indoctrination classes. I think most LDS people are probably just living their lives and trying to survive on an average of 28k per year with huge families to support. give'em a break!

So you are anti-family, crossroad?

Not at all. But I am Anti- 28k per year for families to try and live on.

Are you actually trying to engage in discussion Eric? Rather than useless blathering and one liners?

No, I'm just making fun of your stupid remarks.

How tolerant of you Eric...and how mature in your actions.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by JayeG - 2006/08/31 15:31

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Tori wrote:

It begins in Sunbeams. Unfortunately, the children are taught at a very young age that by being Mormon, they are right and everybody else is wrong. The Church their family belongs to is the ONLY TRUE church, all of the others are false. They stand up at the pulpit at 4 yrs. of age and everybody thinks it's so cute as their mother whispers in their ear their testimony they are suppose to say where they proclaim that they "know the church is true, that Joseph Smith was a prophet, that Pres. Hinckley is a prophet today", etc, etc. It's a subtle but it's a form of brainwashing teaching elitism at a very young age.

It happens in Catholic Catechism as well.

And it happens in other Christian faiths as well. I have spoken of my son's experiences at an Assembly of God private 'Christian school'.

When his homeroom teacher disclosed to the class that my son was a Mormon and three other boys were Catholics. And these 'sweet little Christian children' followed the boys around on the playground, throwing rocks at them and calling my son a 'little Mormon bastard', and the Catholic boys 'Cat-lickers'...and taunting them that they were going to hell.

And Muslim children learn it at their mother's knees as small children, and from the Imams in their schools and mosques.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by JayeG - 2006/08/31 15:41

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wrz wrote:

Wren wrote:

However, I do believe where much has been given much is required.

Much was not given. It was earned.

A-FLIPPIN'-MEN!!!

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by JayeG - 2006/08/31 15:54

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Wren wrote:

wrz wrote:

Wren wrote:

However, I do believe where much has been given much is required.

Much was not given. It was earned.

Since you are active LDS (as you have stated elsewhere), I counsel you to follow King Benjamin's advice in Mosiah about taking care of the poor. It is not your duty to question 'why?' but 'to do.'

Just HOW does one go about 'taking care of the poor' Wren?

Does a poor man who cannot even manage to adequately provide for his family have anything left to give toward 'taking care of the poor'?

I am a small business owner. I have worked my butt off for over 24 years. I have almost been taxed right out of business on more than one occasion.

How can I do more to help the poor? If I received a decent break when it comes to taxes...I could hire more employees.

Instead of giving anywhere from five to ten more men each a fish, (so to speak) I could teach them how to fish, provide them each with a rod and a line, and they would each be able to provide for their families.

In turn, these additional men would increase the number of jobs I could contract, and I would make more money, and be able to afford to hire even more men...and so on and so forth.

And the more money I made...the more I would have to work with to assist in taking care of the poor.

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## Re: LDS people need to show other faiths tolerance

Posted by anonymous - 2006/08/31 17:25

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ericmiami wrote:

WRZ:  
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I agree with you on this absolutely. That is exactly why we were doomed from the start when we went into Iraq. No way out from day one. Mission Accomplished?

There is a way to get "Mission Accomplished." Get the news media and the liberals on America's winning of the war side.

How do we do that? That's where leadership comes in. That's what they pay leaders big bucks for. To figure these kinds of things out.

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