

My thoughts #11

April 23, 2023

We have had quite a week. Easter was wonderful. It started with an Easter program at church in which all the primary children sang "Gethsemane." It was precious! Gethsemane is a beautiful song. Here is the link below:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=L5GDACBubAE&pp=ygUJR2V0aHNIYW1l>

We came home and the children did a reenactment of the last week of the Savior's life and His resurrection. Rayden was Jesus and came forth out of the tomb showing the palms of his hands. He is precious.



It was a VERY simplified version, they were adorable and Mary was very happy Jesus was resurrected!



That night Brody and Leidy left for a trip to Columbia. I took care of the girls while they were gone. At 4 am I woke up the girls and we headed to the airport to fly to Texas to visit my sister Jennifer for the week. I was hoping taking Unity out of her environment would help her while her mother was gone. It did! Texas was a lot of fun.



The girls had a great time. Aunt Jennifer has a trampoline and two daughters Kate 9 and Claire 13. They were so sweet and played with the girls. AND of course there is Jacque, their extremely spoiled cat! Jacque rules the house. He never is in want of anything. He is greeted as an old friend each and every time anyone enters the house, even if they have just been gone a few minutes... its ridiculous and wonderful at the same time that a creature could be loved this much.



Unity had her suspicions right from the beginning that Jacque actually could be a naughty cat and he proved her point as he would swipe at her when he thought no one was looking...lol



Leidy had a wonderful trip visiting her family. It's been 10 years since she has seen many of them. She spent the week with both grandmas and lots of aunts, uncles and cousins. Leidy has wanted to learn more about her family's Genealogy and learn who some of her ancestors are. Leidy's biological father was killed when she was 2 years old. Later her mother remarried. Her biological grandmother is friends with Leidy's grandmother. They have been friends for many, many years.

We have worked on our family pedigree/ history for many years. Before me, my mother and aunt did a lot of work. We have traced our ancestors back many, many generations. Leidy only knows her grandmothers names. No birthdates or full names of her grandpas etc so Brody had a family pedigree chart printed to show her family how incomplete it is without them. He asked for

stories and names of as many people that everyone could remember. They took pictures of Leidy with all her uncles, aunts and cousins and wrote down all dates that they could. Brody took pictures of their pictures to have a record to show their posterity.



Biological Uncle



Aunts that helped so much with Geneolgy.

They had many names and dates. They loved the pedigree chart Brody had and wanted to give as much information to help with Leidy's side of the family.

Elder Russell M Nelson has taught that the Spirit of Elijah is "a manifestation of the Holy Ghost bearing witness of the divine nature of the family." This distinctive influence of the Holy Ghost draws people to identify, document, and cherish their ancestors and family members- both past and present.

Old Testament
Malachi 4:5-6

5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord:

6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I collect and smite the earth with a curse.

Elder Bednar explained Elijah's calling in a talk called "The hearts of the children shall turn." He said, "Elijah was an Old Testament prophet through whom mighty miracles were performed. He sealed the heavens, and no rain fell in ancient Israel for 3 1/2 years. He multiplied a widow's meal and oil. He raised a young boy from the dead, and he called down fire from heaven in a challenge to the prophets of Baal."

Elijah held the sealing power of the Melchizedek Priesthood. We believe that through this power we can be sealed to our families forever. It is this authority that binds on earth and in heaven. We believe this priesthood power was returned to the earth, given to the prophet Joseph Smith in the 1800's and has since been passed down to present time.

I love my Savior, Jesus Christ. I am so grateful for Him. I am amazed at His love for us. My family is so precious to me. I want to be with them always.

Love, Leslie



