



The Purpose of Relief Society

to “prepare women for the blessings of eternal life,”

... says Linda K. Burton, Relief Society General President.¹ It is through faith, family, and relief that we engage in our “vital part in the work.”²

Carole M. Stephens, first counselor in the Relief Society general presidency, Relief Society “is a temporal and spiritual work,”

“That is what the women did in the Savior’s day, and that is what we continue to do.”

As we look to our pioneer sisters in Nauvoo, Illinois, who gathered in Sarah Kimball’s home in 1842 to form their own organization, we see God’s plan for bringing Relief Society into being and in line with the priesthood. After Eliza R. Snow wrote a constitution, the Prophet Joseph Smith reviewed it. He realized that the Church was not fully organized until the women were organized. He said that the Lord accepted their offering but that there was something better. *“I will organize the women under the priesthood after the pattern of the priesthood,”* he said.⁴

“The Relief Society was not just another group of women trying to do good in the world. It was different. It was *‘something better’* because it was organized under priesthood authority. Its organization was a necessary step in the unfolding of God’s work on earth.”⁵

Silence
has many meanings.
Some, sad.
Some simply neglect,
ambivalence,
enmity.
which in itself
is sad.
Some
the happy busyness
of peace
and comfort
of family
and friends.
Some,
an uncertainty
of belonging
of circumstance
of change.
Heaven is sometimes
silent
to allow earth
its song.

~ MSK



RAINDROPS
ARE THE
PERFECT
LULLABY

