

## FROM THE PULPIT

# God is alive and wants to find you

**By Brad Bryant**  
FOR THE PANTAGRAPH

**G**od is not dead! Our relationship with God can be dead, but God has not departed.

Healthy relationships are intentionally created and maintained. Friendships, marriage and family relationships each require time, energy and giving. Those who choose not to invest wonder why the relationship struggles.

God-relationships are the same! God placed you in this time and place. God longs for your presence, attention and to communicate with you. Many blessings await those who choose to create that relationship.

God always communicates: Adam; Moses; Abraham. Jesus was “God with us.” The Bible’s book of Acts recorded the ongoing “acts” of God through the apostles and God’s Spirit.

God did not stop speaking just because humans decided to stop recording his activity and “closed” our Christian Bible. Today, God’s ongoing messages are recorded in the “Doctrine and Covenants.” Text and audio copies of recent revelations are linked here: <http://bit.ly/HomeBCMC>. I’ll share four short verses from section 163 (2007):

2a. Jesus Christ, the embodiment of God’s shalom, invites all people to come and receive divine peace in the midst of the difficult

questions and struggles of life. Follow Christ in the way that leads to God’s peace and discover the blessings of all of the dimensions of salvation.

3c. There are subtle, yet powerful, influences in the world, some even claiming to represent Christ, that seek to divide people and nations to accomplish their destructive aims. That which seeks to harden one human heart against another by constructing walls of fear and prejudice is not of God...

10a. Collectively and individually, you are loved with an everlasting love that delights in each faithful step taken. God yearns to draw you close so that wounds may be healed, emptiness filled

and hope strengthened.

b. Do not turn away in pride, fear or guilt from the One who seeks only the best for you and your loved ones. Come before your Eternal Creator with open minds and hearts and discover the blessings of the gospel anew. Be vulnerable to divine grace.

Take steps today toward experiencing that “everlasting love.”

Remember: God loves you and wants you to find him. Find a church family that helps you meet the “living, loving God,” who knows you personally and wants to be your “partner” in this life.

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