

Building Connections  
of Love and Trust:  
How to Bless Loved Ones Who  
Leave the Covenant Path

Adam & Michelle Treadwell

# “Not all who wander are lost”

Bilbo Baggins' poem “The Riddle of Strider”

J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Fellowship of the Ring* (Lord of the Rings series)



# “Not all who wander are lost”

Jesus Christ (Lord of all the Earth)



3 Nephi 20:29

D&C 10:65

Moses 1:39

Jeremiah 23:3

Ezekiel 20:34

Matthew 20:1-15

3 Nephi 10:6

D&C 29:2

Isaiah 43:5

Jeremiah 31:8-10

Ezekiel 36:24

Luke 15:4-7

3 Nephi 17:4

D&C 50:4

Isaiah 49:21

Jeremiah 32:37

John 3:16-17

Luke 15:8-10

3 Nephi 20:18

D&C 133:67

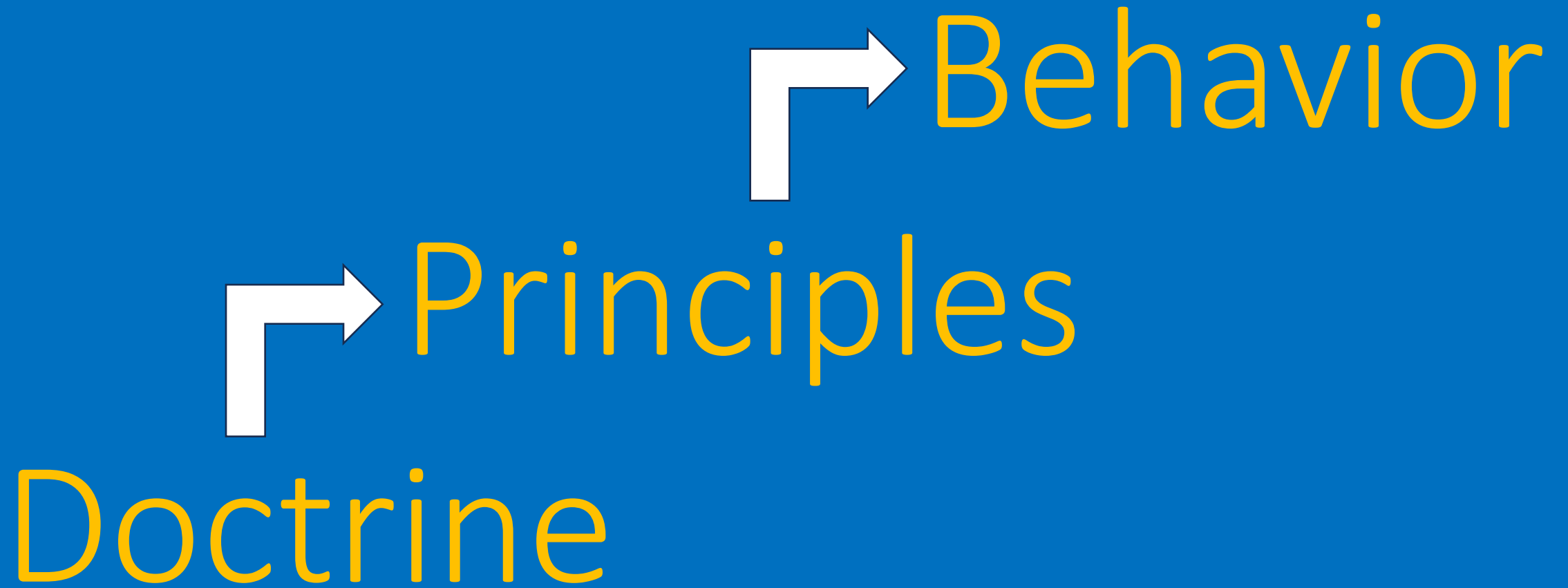
Isaiah 56:8

Micah 2:12

John 15:13

Luke 15:11-24

Painting by Minerva Teichert



## OBJECTIVE

Build a ship that is  
sea-worthy

- Floats
- Steerable



Photo from the New Jersey Forest Service historical archives

# 1) LAWS OF PHYSICS

- Buoyancy
- Lift / Bernoulli's Principle
- Displacement
- Gravity
- Vector subtraction
- Fluid mechanics
- Aerodynamics
- Newtonian force: mass, velocity, momentum, acceleration



Photo from the New Jersey Forest Service historical archives

## 2) TOOLS

- Builder's clamp
- Frame-up diorama
- Caulking irons
- Mallet/hammer
- Trunnel die
- Work horse
- Block plane
- Moulding plane
- Slicks
- Peavey
- Handsaw
- Windlass bearing
- Auger



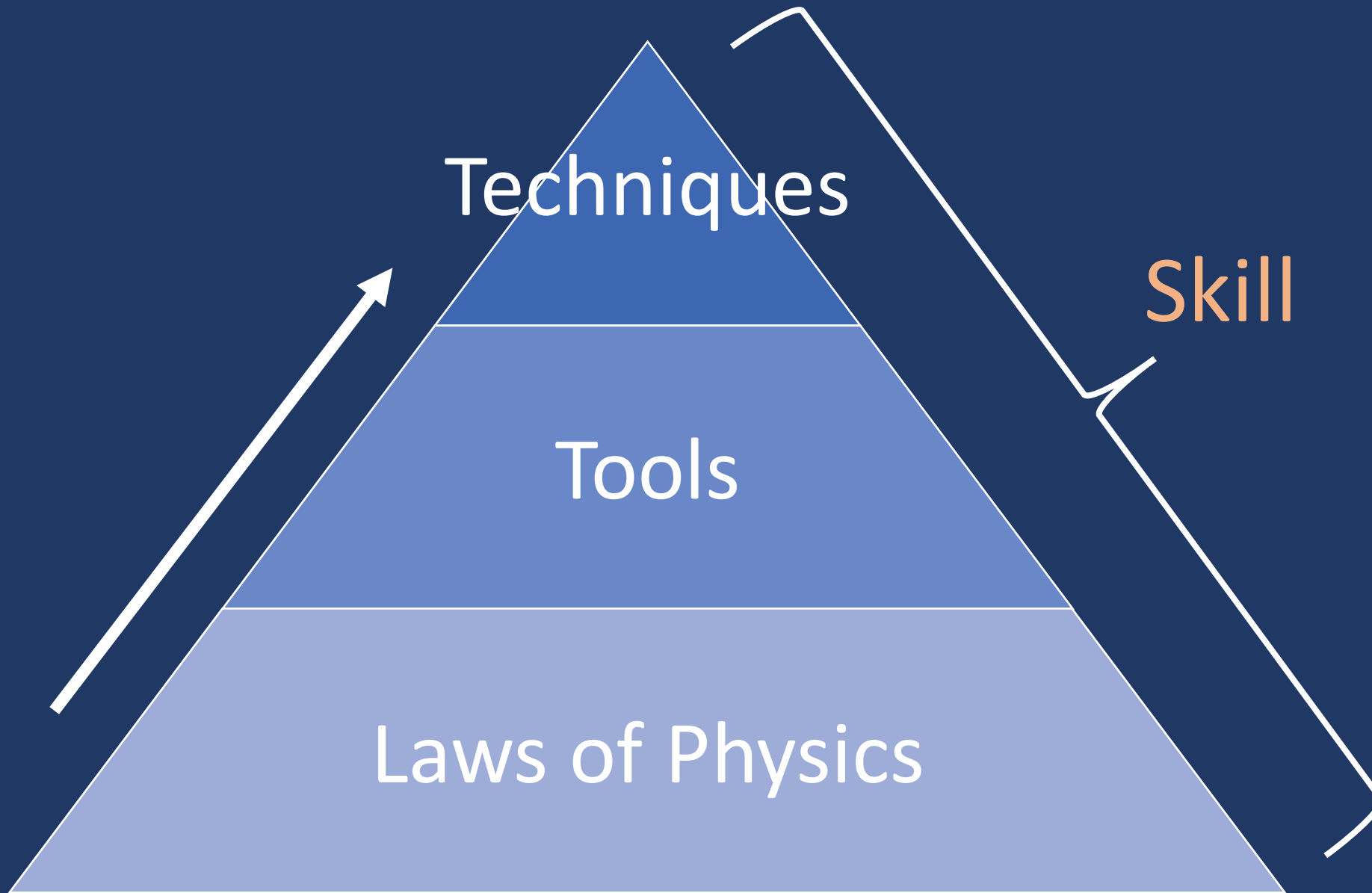
Photo from the New Jersey Forest Service historical archives

### 3) TECHNIQUES

- The ways in which the builder uses the different tools to accomplish the various tasks



Photo from the New Jersey Forest Service historical archives



Knowing how and when to use the right tools to achieve the most optimal results that are in harmony with the laws of physics

## Building and Sailing a Boat

Laws of Physics

Tools

Techniques

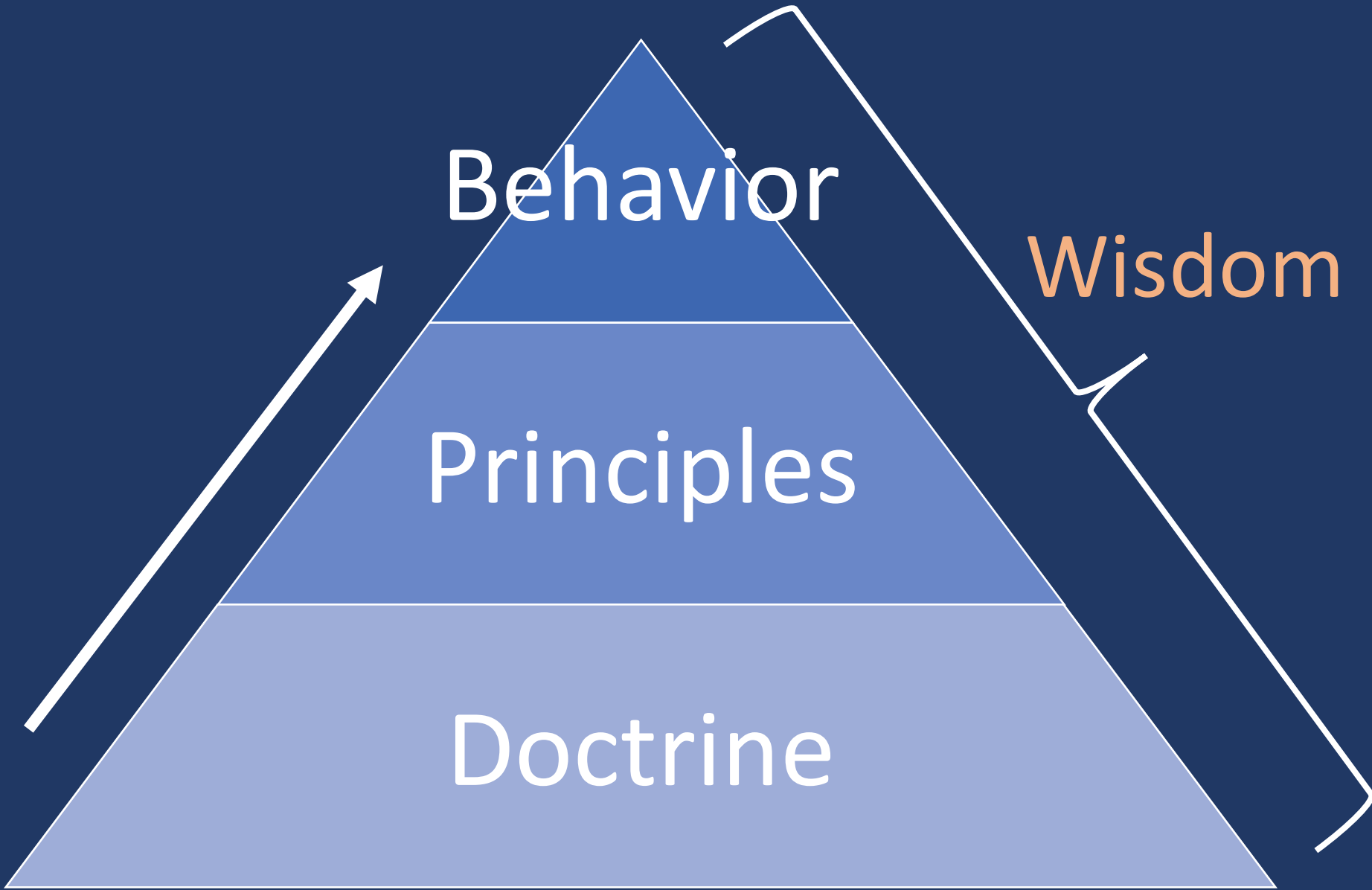


## Building Relationships of Love and Trust

Doctrine

Principles

Behaviors



Knowing how and when to use divine principles to achieve the most optimal results that are in harmony with eternal doctrine

# What Is (Core) Doctrine?

Sacred truths related to

1. God
2. Our relationship to Him
3. His plan for our salvation and exaltation



Revealed  
from God

Unchanging

Applicable to  
everyone

God reveals His word and will through prophets

God has prepared a plan for our exaltation

We can become like God

The ordinances of exaltation are received in the temple

Joseph Smith is the prophet of the Restoration

Jesus Christ is our Savior

Priesthood authority is necessary to administer gospel ordinances

The first principles and ordinances of the gospel are faith in Christ, repentance, baptism by immersion, laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost

Through the Atonement of Christ, all mankind can be saved

Christ has restored His gospel, priesthood, and church in the Last Days

God is our Father and Creator

Through the Atonement of Christ, all mankind will be resurrected

The Holy Ghost bears witness of truth

Families are eternal

The Church is the vehicle by which we receive the ordinances of salvation

No unclean thing can dwell in the presence of God

Through repentance and making and keeping covenants, we can return to God's presence

“True *doctrine*, understood, changes attitudes and *behavior*. The study of the *doctrine* of the gospel will improve *behavior* quicker than a study of *behavior* will improve *behavior*. ... That is why we stress for forcefully the study of the *doctrine* of the gospel.”

Pres. Boyd K. Packer



How do these truths influence the way we think about and engage with others?



## Key Points of Doctrine

God is our loving Father and has a plan for our eternal happiness

Christ *alone* is our Savior

Christ's atonement creates a safe space for us to practice (a.k.a., repentance)

Making and keeping sacred covenants is how we connect ourselves to the Holy Ghost and the atoning power of Christ

Love = law/truth + empathy/compassion

# Key Principles

- Faith
- Prayer
- Justice
- Humor
- Agency
- Integrity
- Patience
- Empathy
- Kindness
- Gratitude
- Discipline
- Work
- Mercy
- Honesty
- Diligence
- Meekness
- Forgiveness
- Repentance
- Compassion
- Temperance
- Responsibility
- *And many more*





Beware!



Building Connections of  
Love & Trust

Eight Lessons Learned

1) God is the ultimate  
Parent (Leader, Mentor, Minister, Friend, Etc.)



## 2) Emulate God in all our relationships



Painting by Jorge Cocco

“What manner of [parent, sibling, friend, minister, leader, etc.] ought ye to be? ... even as I am.”

# 3) Maintain our own spiritual footing

Stay at home



Cling to the Iron Rod

Remain on solid ground



Keep our covenants

4) Temper our expectations



## 5) Prayer: “Ask not amiss”



“Yea, I know that God will give liberally to him that asketh. Yea, my God will give me, **if I ask not amiss**; therefore I will lift up my voice unto thee; yea, I will cry unto thee, my God, the rock of my righteousness. Behold, my voice shall forever ascend up unto thee, my rock and mine everlasting God.” (2 Nephi 4:35)

## 6) Counsel with others



# 7) Invite the Holy Ghost

3

**“The Holy Ghost ... will show unto you all things what ye should do.” (2 Nephi 32:5)**



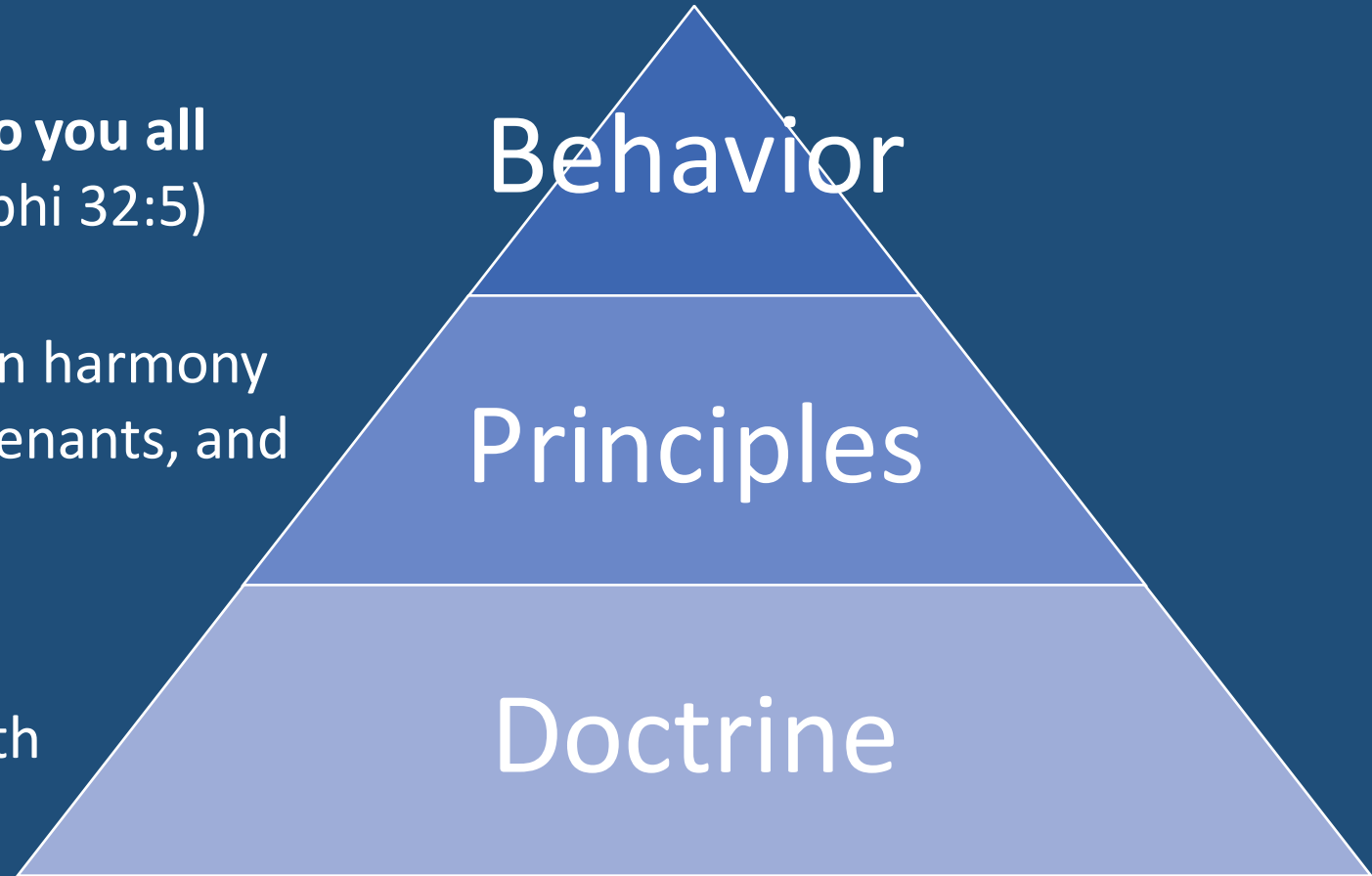
2

Live principles that will keep you in harmony with truth, connected to your covenants, and worthy of God’s guidance



1

Study and understand eternal truth



The Holy Ghost will show unto you all things what you should do

“And their ministering was conducted by parents/friends/church leaders/etc. after the manner of the workings of the Spirit, and by the power of the Holy Ghost; for as the power of the Holy Ghost led them whether to preach, or to exhort, or to pray, or to supplicate, or to sing, or to talk, or to play Yahtzee, or to eat ice cream together, even so it was done.”

- Moroni 6:9 (*Adam Treadwell Translation*)

8)



Be of good cheer!

# Favorite Resources

*The Everlasting  
Covenant*

President Russell M. Nelson

General Conference  
October 2022

*The Family:  
A Proclamation  
to the World*

*Seeing God's Family  
through the Overview Lens*

Sister Tamara W. Runia

General Conference  
October 2023

*The Answer Is  
the Doctrine*

Elder David A. Bednar

MTC Address  
November 9, 2010

*Come Follow Me – Enos:  
'My Soul Hungered'*

Jared Halverson

Unshaken Podcast, Book of  
Mormon Lessons (2024)