

## iChoose to Remember

In the Church we are taught that the Lord speaks through Prophets. He said, “Whether by my own voice or by the voice of my servants, it is the same” (Doctrine and Covenants 1:38). When we receive council from the Prophets, we are to treat it as the voice of the Lord and obey. Sometimes, the way may seem dark and dreary. Follow the Prophet. As Moses lead the children of Israel through the wilderness, when they suffered for want of food, the Lord provided them Manna. Follow the Prophet.

The following was submitted by Karina Miner (7<sup>th</sup> Grade):

“When has there been a time when the Saints have trusted in God and been disappointed? Never; inasmuch as we have done our part, the Almighty has never failed to do his and fulfill his promises.”

These are words of wisdom from my hero, Charles C. Rich. He is my Great-great-great-great grandpa. Charles was an apostle when Brigham Young was the prophet of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

When Charles had a family of his own, he led the main body of saints across the plains to Salt Lake City, Utah, following Brigham Young’s advanced party. Two years after their arrival, Brigham Young called Charles to be in the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.

After he had been living in Salt Lake City for quite some time, Brigham Young assigned him and a group of saints to settle in Bear Lake Valley. Before the snow came, they thought it was going to be a great harvest. But they were mistaken. The winter came in July, their crops died, and Bear Lake froze over! With death and hunger persecuting the saints, the leaders of the settlement, including Charles, met together.

In the meeting, the men declared that they should leave and find a place with warmer winters. When Charles heard this, he boldly declared, “Brethren, in the fall of 1863 President Young called me into his office and said, ‘Brother Rich, I want you to go up to Bear Lake Valley and see if it can be opened for settlement; and if it can, I want that you should take company there and settle it.’ . . . There have been many hardships that I admit. . . and these we have shared together. . . If you want to go somewhere else that is your right, and I do not want to deprive you of it. If you are of a mind to leave here, my blessing will go with you. But I must stay here, even if I stay alone. President Young called me here, and here I will remain till he releases me and gives me leave to go.”

Charles convinced many of the saints to stay and fulfill the word of the Lord. Later in the year, the Lord blessed them with overflowing rivers from all the melted snow. This blessing demonstrates this quote, “When has there been a time when the Saints have trusted in God and been disappointed? Never; inasmuch as we have done our part, the Almighty has never failed to do his and fulfill his promises.”

I chose to write this piece and remember Charles C. Rich because of his faith in the Lord and his bravery to do what he was commanded to do, even when it risked his life and popularity. I will follow his example by taking self-initiative to do what is right instead of going with the flow.

--Karina Miner, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Please follow Karina's example and submit your favorite family history story to me so that I can share it in an iChoose to Remember post. Email your story to me at [joshcrockett0101@gmail.com](mailto:joshcrockett0101@gmail.com). I hope to get more stories than I can use! Feel free to explain the gospel principle your story demonstrates or to just send it to me on its own.