

Eagle Mountain, Utah

Silver Lake Stake

Adult Institute Class

Repentance and Forgiveness

4 February 2021

*“Increasing our Faith
in Jesus Christ”*



The Power to Repent

“...We rediscovered the fact that repentance is a dead and useless principle unless it is preceded by faith in Jesus Christ.”

(Ensign, April 1986, “Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee,” Todd A. Britsch)

“[Faith in] Christ is the power behind all repentance”

(Elder Holland, *However Long and Hard the Road*, 85).

“We need a strong faith in Christ to be able to repent”

(Pres. Uctdorf, “Point of Safe Return,” *Ensign*, May 2007, 100).



Hebrews 11:3

Faith of God

Jacob 4:6

Faith of Power

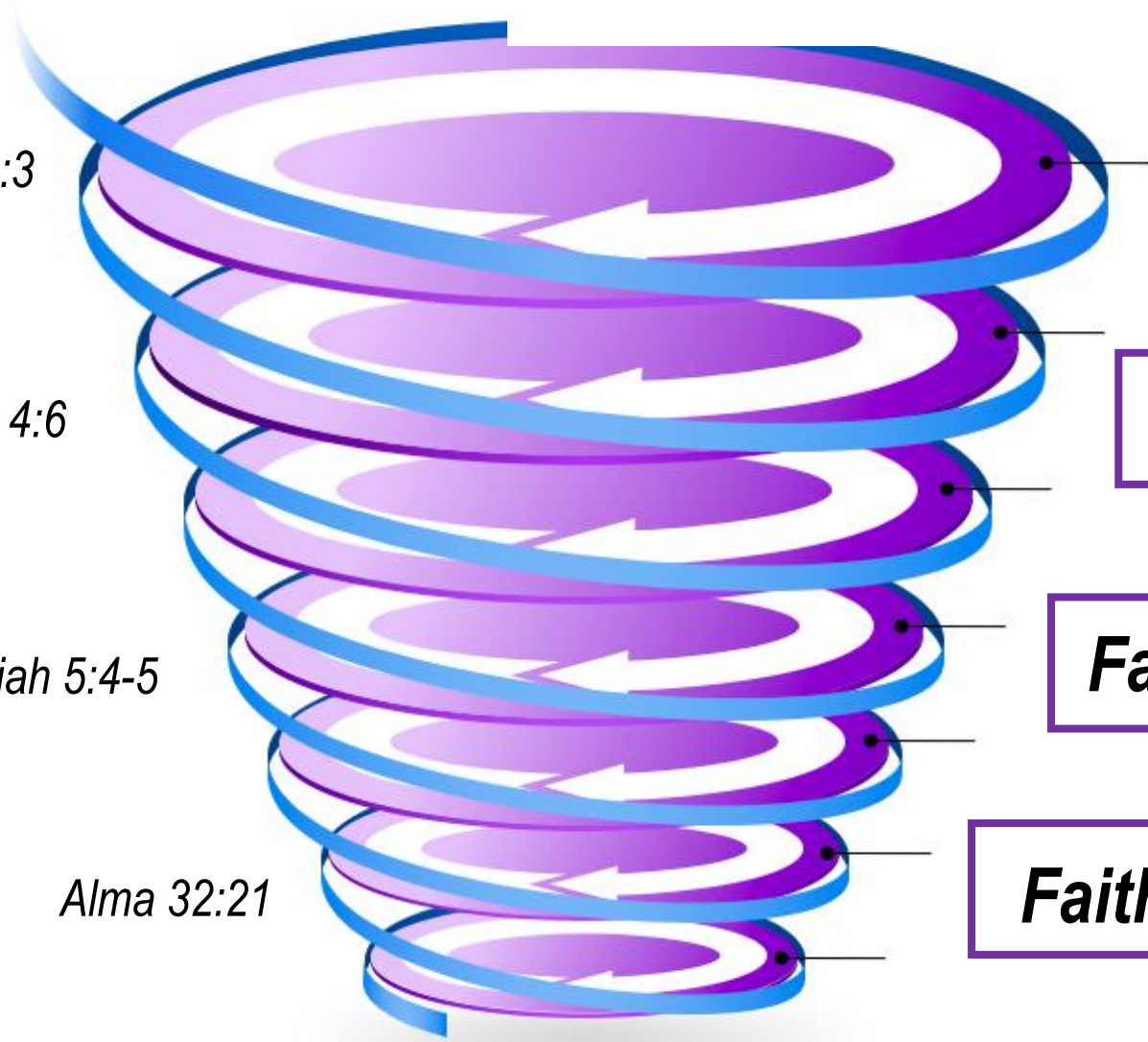
Mosiah 5:4-5

Faith of Action

Alma 32:21

Faith of Hope

THE PROCESS OF FAITH



Hebrews 11:3

Faith of God

Sinless and
Perfected

Jacob 4:6

Faith of Power

Forgiven and
Converted

Mosiah 5:4-5

Faith of Action

Repent

Alma 32:21

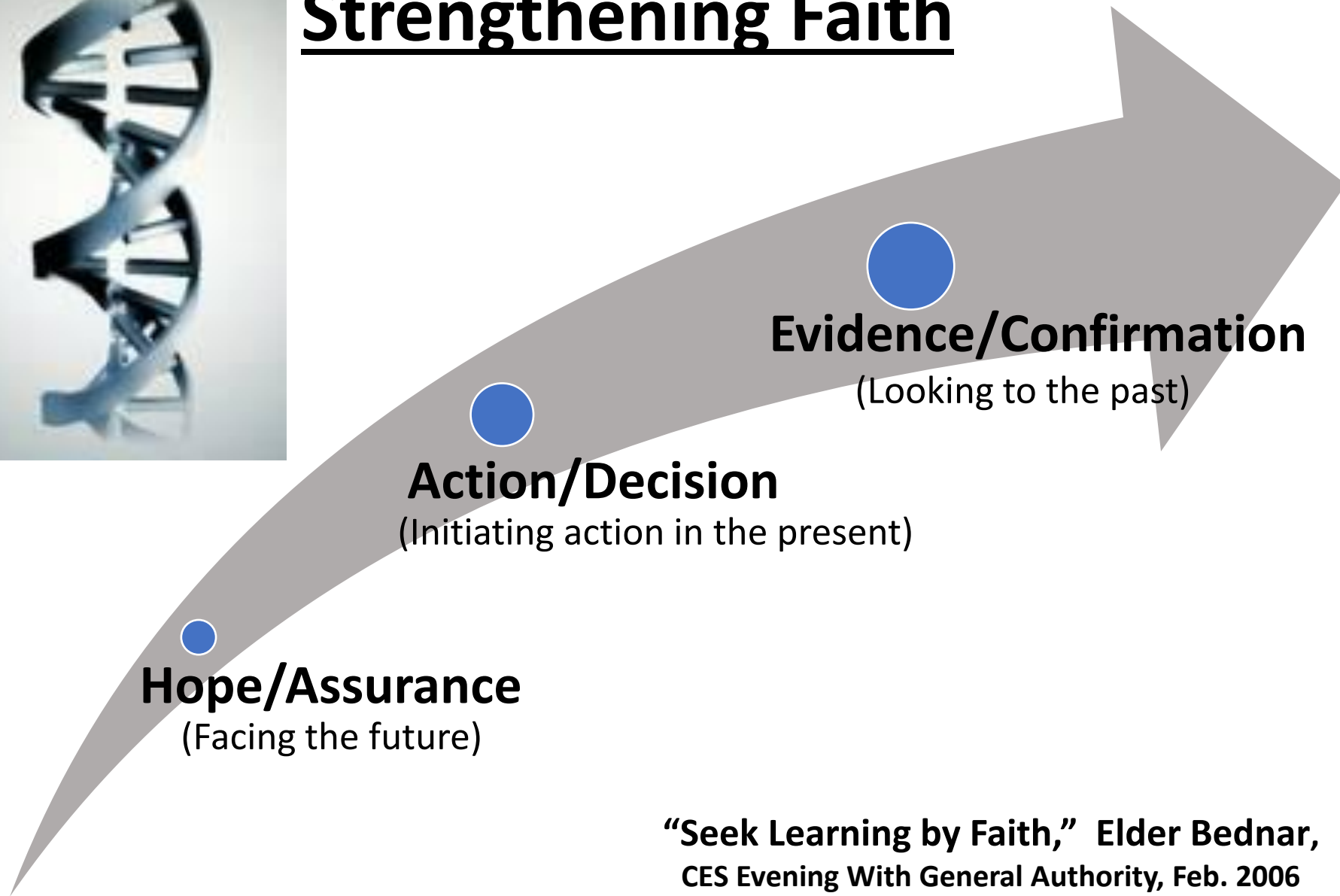
Faith of Hope

Believe in Christ
and His Atonement

THE PROCESS OF FAITH IN CHRIST



Strengthening Faith



“Seek Learning by Faith,” Elder Bednar,
CES Evening With General Authority, Feb. 2006

Faith in Christ can be described as developing in three phases:

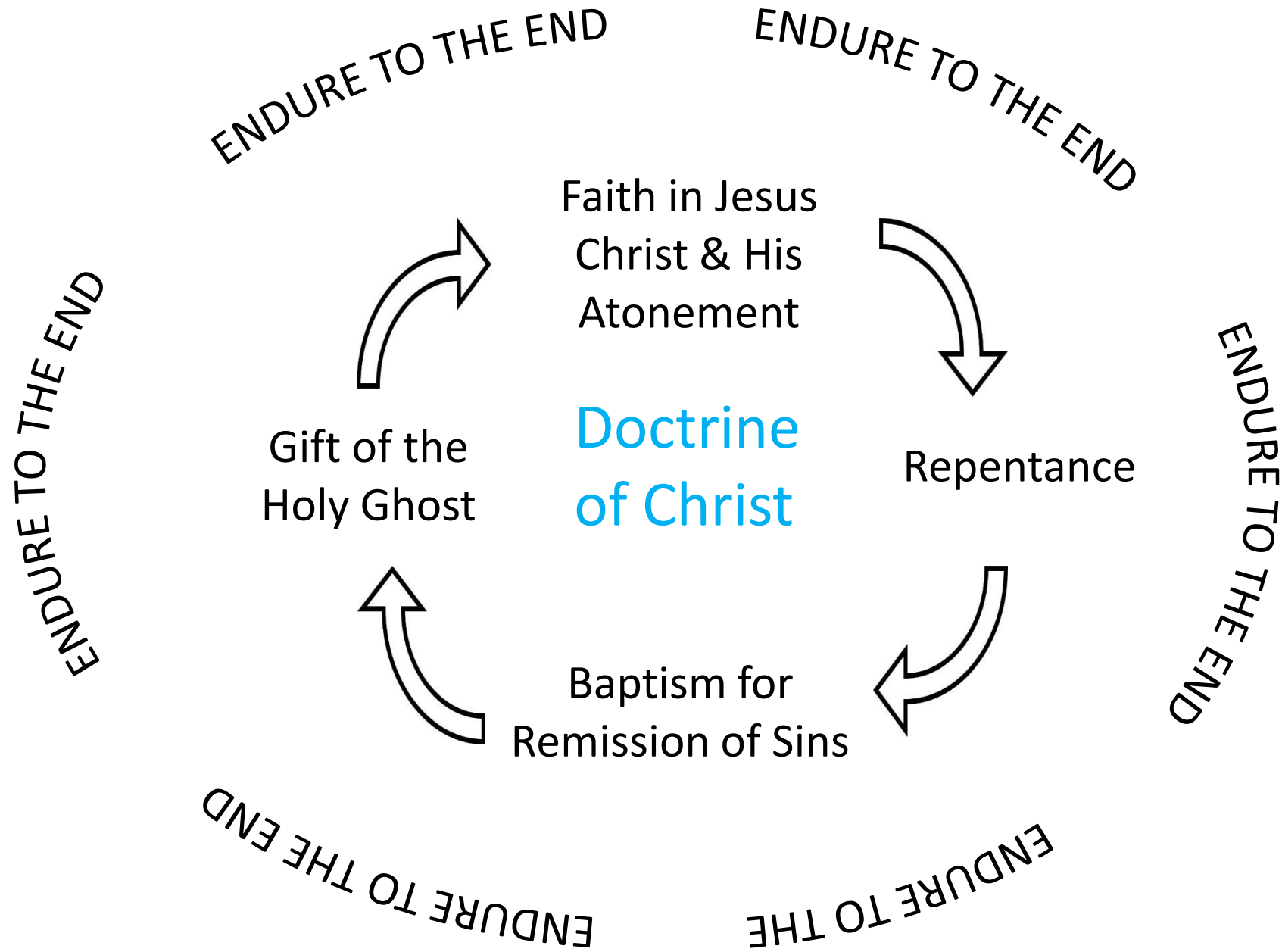
Phase One (assurance) : Believing Christ (Hel. 14:13)

Phase Two (action) : Following Christ (Moroni 7:3,48)

Phase Three (evidence): Relying upon Christ (2 Ne. 31:19)

*And this is what it means to
be “Perfect in Christ.”*

(Moroni 10:32-33)



How do we obtain and strengthen our faith in Jesus Christ?

From the Lectures on Faith

Three things are necessary, in order that any rational and intelligent being may exercise faith in [Christ] unto life and salvation. (3:4)

- 3:5 The idea that He actually exists, [was born, lived, died, and lives again]. (Lecture 2)
- 3:6 A correct idea of His character, perfections, and attributes. (Lectures 3-5)
- 3:7 An actual knowledge that the course of life you are pursuing is according to His will. (Lecture 6)

**“Faith is not simply to know God
could do something.**

Faith is to know He will!”

Elder Henry B. Eyring, CES Conference on the Book of Mormon, 14 August 2001

Because you know Him and His will!

*How does this relate to faith in Jesus Christ,
repentance, and knowing when you are forgiven?*

If you know the character and will of Christ you know He is willing and anxious to forgive. Therefore, it is not so critical to know when you are forgiven. Because you know He will forgive, if you remain faithful, it is as though you have already been forgiven. Powerful faith is sometimes seeing an event before it happens, and acting on it as if it had already occurred. For example, the ancients saw the Atonement of Christ before He was born and acted on it in faith by repenting and receiving forgiveness (see Mosiah 16:6).



*When his soul has
been made an
offering for sin he
shall see his seed.*

Mosiah 15:10

Through sacrifice Christ came to
know us, really know us,
and through sacrifice
we come to know Him.

“A religion that does not require the sacrifice of all things never has power sufficient to produce the faith necessary unto life and salvation; for, from the first existence of man, the faith necessary unto the enjoyment of life and salvation never could be obtained without the sacrifice of all earthly things.”

(Lectures on Faith, pp. 58–60)

Luke 17:5

And the apostles said unto
the Lord, Increase our
faith.

Faith in Christ
vs.
Faith in the name of Christ



The **faith of power in Christ** is more than knowing about Jesus Christ. It is **knowing Christ—knowing His *attributes, character, and perfections***. It is understanding His relationship with us, and where we stand in relationship to Him.











