

Behind the Lens

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English Subtitles



Carling Bernell Taylor
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*Missionary Service
The Gospel of Jesus Christ
Gratitude*

About This Story

Life behind the lens while recording Faith Stories provides a very different view of the world and those who live in it. Bernell shares some of the gems from his Faith Chaser journey in Africa and Canada, and gives us a peek behind the curtain of what's to come.

My name is Carling Bernell Taylor, and today I'd like to share my faith story.

As a child, I was raised in a family with a strict father and an active mother. Our whole family was active in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, so I simply assumed everything I had been taught was true.

It wasn't until I was fifteen years old that I came to know for myself, through careful reading of the Book of Mormon and sincere prayer, I received an answer I could not deny. It was the first time in my life that I felt the Spirit speak to both my heart and my mind in such a clear way. From that day forward, even though I haven't done everything perfectly, I have always known the Church is true.

I later served a mission in the Texas North Mission, married my queen, RaNae Barney Taylor, and together we raised six children.

Life has not been perfect. Life is a struggle for everyone, and it has been for us as well. I've been an entrepreneur most of my life, always thinking of new ideas. While I was able to provide well for our family, I also experienced failures, disappointments, challenges, and

heartaches along the way.

Today, I testify that I know the Church is true. I know Jesus Christ is the Savior. I know Joseph Smith is the Prophet of the Restoration. I know the Book of Mormon is true. Along with the Bible, it has brought me closer to my Heavenly Father and to Jesus Christ than any other book.

I'd like to spend a few minutes describing what it has felt like to sit behind the camera and listen to the faith stories of people from all over the world.

We never expected this journey. We began by recording a few stories while serving in Uganda. Later, when we were called to the Canada Winnipeg Mission, we recorded a few more. Then our mission president challenged us to record the stories throughout the mission—in each person's native language, translate them into English subtitles, and share them with others.

During those eighteen months, we traveled more than twenty-two thousand miles and recorded faith stories from people representing forty-two countries and thirty-two different languages.

Sometimes I sat behind the camera without understanding a single word that was being spoken. We would ask a question, and they would answer in their native language. Even though I couldn't understand their words, I could feel the Holy Ghost bearing witness that what they were saying was true.

Later, as we translated those testimonies into English, we came to understand what had been said. By the way, the gift of tongues is real.

One of the greatest lessons I learned was that we truly are all brothers and sisters under the same Heavenly Father. It didn't matter where people came from, what language they spoke, or what nation they represented. As I listened to their testimonies, many of my own prejudices simply disappeared.

Hearing about the heartaches, trials, and challenges people have endured softened my heart toward others. It strengthened my testimony of the Savior. And perhaps most of all, we witnessed real miracles shared by ordinary people from every part of the world.

These weren't professional speakers or polished presenters. They were simply honest people bearing witness of what they knew. Through the power of the Holy Ghost, their words sank deep into our hearts.

I wish everyone could experience sitting behind the lens, asking thoughtful questions, and then quietly listening to another person's testimony. It has changed my life.

The most important thing I can say to you is this: have the

courage to open your mouth and say what you really believe.

Whether your faith is strong, whether you have questions, or whether you're struggling with doubts, have the courage to speak. When you do, you'll often discover something about yourself because your words will leave your mouth, travel around the room, come back into your own ears, and teach you something you may never have realized before.

After we completed our mission in Canada in November 2025, we thought this chapter of our lives was finished. Even though we no longer wear missionary name tags, I've come to realize the mission isn't over. There are still many faith stories waiting to be gathered, preserved, and shared.

So if you have a story to tell, I hope you'll have the courage to open your mouth and speak.

I close by saying once again that I know my Savior lives. I know Jesus is the Christ. I am deeply grateful for the privilege of bearing witness of Him. Serving this mission with my queen by my side has brought us closer together, and it has brought us closer to our Savior.

I say these things in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.