



*I am convinced, both in theory and from experience, that it is possible to find truth and to find God—truth that matters and a God who is personal, captivating, and a trustworthy and accessible model. I believe the quest must start in hope, which I define as an active desire that this universe we live in is a meaningful and potent one. Such hope includes an energetic yearning for immortality—for meaningful, individual life after death—and also some willingness to accept the responsibilities that such potential life implies, such as eternal marriage and continual repentance and preparation to meet God.*



*Church involvement teaches us compassion and patience as well as courage and discipline. It makes us responsible for the personal and marital, the physical and spiritual welfare of people we may not already love (may even heartily dislike), and thus we learn to love them. It stretches and challenges us, even when we are disappointed and exasperated, in ways we would not otherwise choose to be stretched and challenged. Thus, it gives us a chance to be made better than we may have chosen to be - but need and ultimately want to be.*

*Dialogues With Myself: Personal Essays on Mormon Experience.*  
Midvale, Utah: Orion Books,  
1984, page 5



*It seems that all of us must go  
through some kind of  
Gethsemane, some version of  
Abraham's test in which he  
was asked to give up his  
beloved son and his most  
cherished moral beliefs in order  
to know God.*

*The Quality of Mercy. "On Finding  
Truth and God" Salt Lake City:  
Bookcraft, 1992. page 123*

