

Temple Training Meeting
Los Angeles Temple
December 13, 1997, 4:00 p.m.

Pres. Glen Walker, Temple President

The responsibility of the Temple Presidency begins at the door. Too many people only come to the temple once. All people must have a chance to be taught the gospel. We have done temple work for only 0.02% of those who have lived on the earth. "If we don't get our people to the temple, we are no better than any other denomination." Stake presidencies must lead by example when it comes to temple attendance.

Within 6 months after the church stopped tracking temple attendance by stake, temple attendance dropped 12%. In the next few months, the number of sealings and own endowments dropped 18%. Anyone divorced or disciplined cannot serve as ordinance workers for 5 years. Temple baptism nights for new converts have been expanded and will be further expanded, if necessary. Stake Presidencies should give members a goal card for temple attendance at temple recommend interviews. These forms can be obtained at the temple.

Elder John B. Dickson, First Counselor in Area Presidency

Reminded us that a member of each Stake Presidency in the North America West Area was meeting concurrently in the Los Angeles, Oakland and San Diego temples. D&C 46:2. Asked that we extend his thanks to our spouses who support us. We must obtain a vision of the work; this is our first responsibility. Second, we must share that vision in councils. It can then be passed on to quorum and auxiliary presidencies. Third, we must insure that we are all united in this vision of temple work.

D&C 84:19-22. To see the face of God, we must have these ordinances. Temple attendance at the Los Angeles temple has dropped nearly 50% since 1989 (showed statistics). Even if you factor in the San Diego temple, attendance is still dropping. The Area Presidency is very concerned about this trend. Just since 1993, we've gone from 194,111 to 164,457 deceased endowments. What would be a reasonable goal for 1998? The group agreed upon 200,000. This breaks down to 50,000 deceased endowments each quarter. We have 75 stakes in our temple district. If each recommend holder did just one endowment more than last year, we would be there easily. How are we going to get there?

- Bishops inform stake presidency about those who have let their recommends lapse—presidency should interview them.
- Get a good ward temple committee together and get them involved in temple trips.
- Call more ordinance workers in each stake—they become cheer leaders for temple work. The wards with the highest number of temple workers have the highest temple statistics, in general.

- We must get converts and less active members to the temple for baptisms. If a new convert can do temple baptisms within a couple months after baptism, retention goes from 40% to 80%.
- Take a friend or two each time you go to the temple.
- Do multiple sessions when you go to the temple.
- Family history-centered temple trips with family names.
- Do an endowment each time you go to the temple for a sealing.
- Stake and ward temple excursions.
- Increase home teaching—this is essential! If home teaching increases, temple attendance will increase.
- Stake Presidency PPIs with bishops need to happen each month until temple attendance and home teaching improve. Home teaching needs to be in the 80% range.

Elder John E. Dickson, First Counselor in Area Presidency

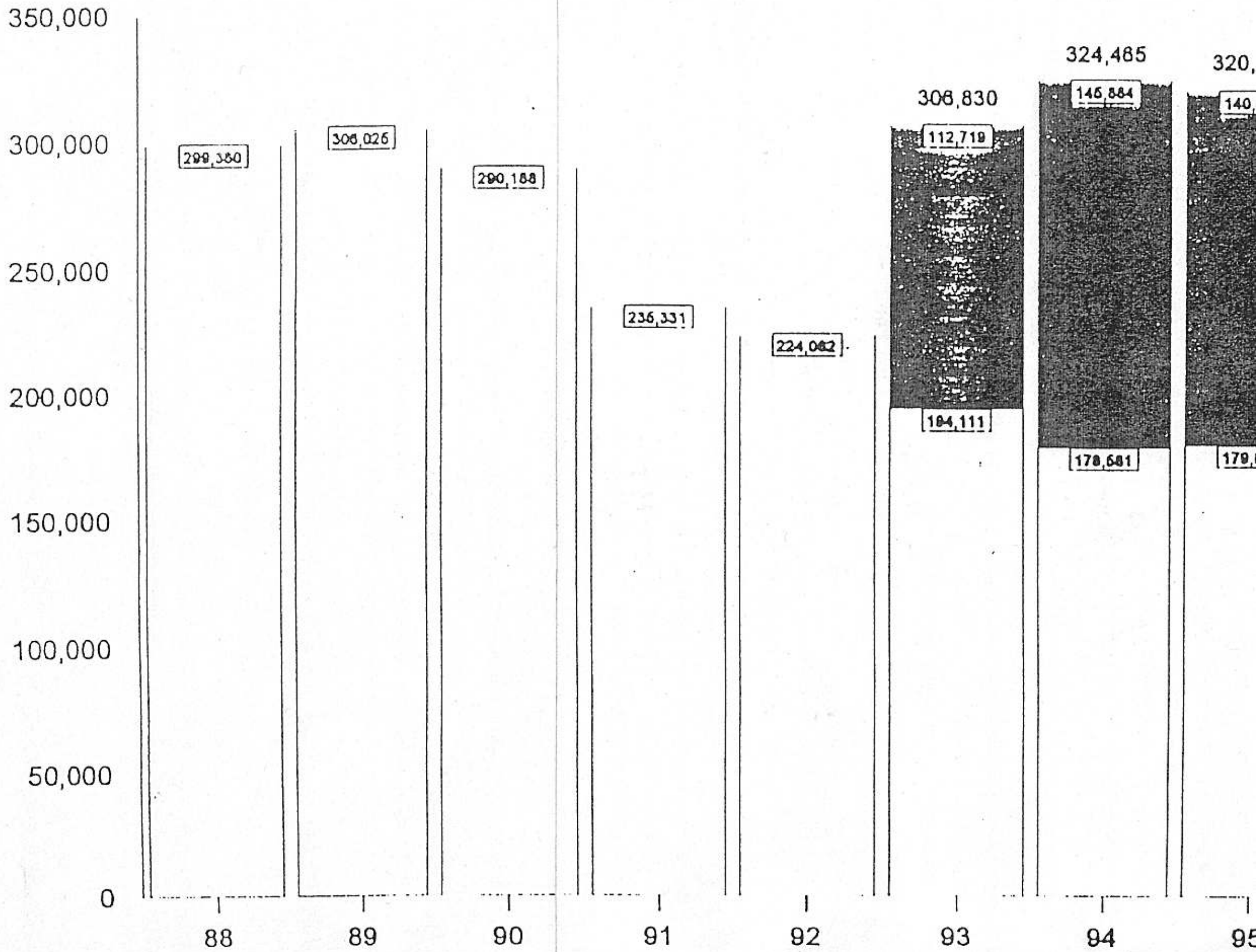
Remember us that a member of each stake presidency in the South America West Area was meeting consistently in the Los Angeles, Oakland and San Diego temples. We want to maintain that we extend our thanks to our spouses who support us. We want to maintain a vision of the work, this is our first responsibility. Second, we must share the vision in our homes. It cannot be passed on to our children and grandchildren. Third, we must insure that we are all united in our vision of temple work.

DA 8-19-22. To see the face of God, we must have these ordinances. Temple attendance at the Los Angeles temple has dropped nearly 50% since 1979 (shown statistics). Even if you factor in the San Diego temple, attendance is still dropping. The Area Presidency is very concerned about this trend. Last year 100,000 went from 134,111 to 104,447 decreased endowments. What would be a reasonable goal for 1983? The group agreed upon 200,000. This means down to 50,000 decreased endowments each quarter. We have 75 stakes in our temple district. If each recommended holder did just one endowment more than last year, we would be there exactly. How are we going to get there?

- Bishops inform stake presidency about those who have let their recommendations lapse—presidency should interview them.
- Get a good ward temple committee to gather and get them involved in temple trips.
- Call more ordinance workers in each stake—they become cheap leaders for temple work. The wards with the highest number of temple workers have the highest temple attendance in general.

San Diego & Los Angeles Comparison

Deceased Endowments - San Diego
 Deceased Endowments - Los Angeles



Note: 1987 Numbers are forecast through year end.