



OCTOBER 2026 GENERAL CONFERENCE · SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Jesus Christ Is the Great Deliverer!

Elder Kevin J. Hathaway · General Authority Seventy

Words to remember

- *“To Kenzie and all who wait for divine deliverance, I testify that the Lord is not delayed, distracted, or derelict in His deliverance. He has not forgotten you. He does not take joy in your suffering.”*
- *“Some miracles are immediate, some come after long waiting, and some await the Resurrection.”*

In Elder Kevin J. Hathaway's own words, from the talk.

Elder Kevin J. Hathaway began with questions: “Have you ever felt left out, wondered if you were enough, lost someone you loved, faced illness, experienced family difficulties, or carried a burden no one else could see?” His message was that Jesus Christ delivers the righteous from these and every other affliction of mortality.

Jesus descended below all things and suffered pains, afflictions, and temptations of every kind, so He understands our suffering and knows how to help us. Elder Hathaway said, “His deliverance is certain; the question for most righteous followers is not if He will deliver but how and when He will do so.”

His own family learned this suddenly. As they drove in two cars to begin serving as mission leaders, two large tires came loose from a semi-truck in a construction zone and struck both cars at high speed. The airbags went off, the cars were destroyed, and the family was stranded by the road, wondering why this happened when they had left everything to serve. In that moment the Spirit brought peace: everything would be all right. They weren't rescued instantly, but that assurance gave them hope. With help from many people, they started their mission on time and without serious injury.

Elder Hathaway said this shows a pattern of deliverance in the scriptures:

1. Opposition comes to everyone and can bring hard questions and strong feelings. Joseph Smith cried out in Liberty Jail, “O God, where art thou?” Helaman's stripling warriors felt grief and fear. Elder Hathaway said these feelings are not sin or weakness. They are a moment when we choose whether to turn toward Jesus.
2. Sincere seeking brings assurance. We turn to God through prayer, fasting, and scripture study. Alma's people in bondage cried mightily to God, and King Darius fasted all night while Daniel was in

the lions' den. As we keep our covenants, the Savior visits us in our afflictions.

Here Elder Hathaway told about Sister Kenzie Brinkerhoff. On her last preparation day before going home from her mission, her father, Kelly, called to say he loved her, was proud of her, and couldn't wait to hug her. That night he was killed in a car accident. Weeping, she asked, "President, how could this happen when I was one week away from hugging my dad?" Weeks later she told Elder Hathaway, "The past few weeks have been the most awful and the most sacred time in my life. I have never clung so tightly to my covenants. I know that Jesus knows what this feels like, and He will heal me."

3. Christ's grace helps us endure. It doesn't remove the pain, but it is an enabling power that gives us strength beyond our own, so we can "cheerfully do all things that lie in our power" and then wait for God's help.

4. Deliverance comes in the Savior's time and way. Elder Hathaway testified that the Lord is not delayed, distracted, or derelict in His deliverance. He said, "He has not forgotten you. He does not take joy in your suffering." Lessons learned while waiting can bring growth an earlier rescue might not.

What about when it seems too late? Jairus was told his daughter had died. But Jesus said, "Be not afraid, only believe," and raised her from death. Elder Hathaway quoted Elder Patrick Kearon: "Jesus specializes in the seemingly impossible." Some miracles come right away, some after long waiting, and some in the next life. He ended with the Lord's promise: "I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick."

Scripture to look up: Alma 7:11–12. Jesus Christ took upon Himself our pains and afflictions so He knows how to help and deliver us.

Let's talk about it

What did this talk teach us about the Savior? What is one small thing our family can do this week?

Kid-friendly summary in our own words · Read or watch the full talk: [churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/2026/10/16hathaway](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/2026/10/16hathaway).