



MAY — SIXTH CROSSING



Wherefore, ye must press forward with a steadfastness in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope, and a love of God and of all men. Wherefore, if ye shall press forward, feasting upon the word of Christ, and endure to the end, behold, thus saith the Father: Ye shall have eternal life. ~2 Nephi 31:20

✓ MAY CHECKLIST

- 🧢 Begin gathering my hat & clothing—see Trek clothing guide & Packing List
 - Choose my Trek socks
 - Walk in my Trek shoes & socks to break them in 🦶
 - Prayerfully choose one pioneer to trek for—one of my ancestors or a [pioneer](#) from church history ❤️
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✓ LEARN ABOUT SIXTH CROSSING

- Watch [Three Pioneer Boys](#)
- Read 2 [pioneer stories](#) about Sixth Crossing
- Read this brief history:

On October 19, members of the Willie handcart company were living on twice-reduced rations. They faced a 16½-mile journey to reach their next stop—the sixth crossing of the Sweetwater River. Four advance riders from the George Grant relief company encountered the Willie company and told them rescue wagons were only a day or two behind them.

The advance riders kept heading east to look for the Martin, Hunt, and Hodgetts companies while the reinvigorated Willie company pushed west. The Willie company arrived at the sixth crossing after 10 p.m. that night. They awoke the next morning to a dreary sight, with snow at least four inches deep and still falling.

Worried about the snowstorm and lack of food, Captain James Willie and Joseph Elder left the company at 10 a.m. on October 20 to search for the rescue company farther west on the trail. They found the rescuers 25 miles away. The next morning, they retraced their steps with the relief company.

Most of the Willie company had been without food, other than a little meat, since crackers had been distributed on October 19. When Captain Willie and the relief party arrived at the Willie camp, the joy was unrestrained. Rescuers said they could hear shouts from the handcart Saints when they were still a mile away. Members of the handcart company could hear the squeaking of the wagons as they came through the snow before they could see them.

The rescuers gave flour, potatoes, and onions to the starving people. They distributed bedding, clothes, and shoes donated by Saints in the Utah Territory. The food, supplies, and the rescuers gave the handcart company hope.

 **QUESTIONS TO PONDER**

- Would I have helped?
- Who has helped me this week?
- Who can I help this week?
- What do I feel as I learn about my ancestors and pioneers?
- What is one way I will walk with the Savior this week?