



Joseph Smith—History 1:15–20

The First Vision

Context

As a young man in 1820, Joseph Smith studied and prayed to know which church to join.

Doctrine or Principle

God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, appeared to Joseph Smith in response to his prayer.

Application

Why is it important for you to know that Joseph Smith saw the Father and the Son? What have you done to receive a testimony of this event?



D&C 1:37–38

Jesus Christ’s words shall all be fulfilled.

Context

The Lord revealed section 1 as a preface to the other revelations in the Doctrine and Covenants and warned all people of His coming judgments.

Doctrine or Principle

The prophecies and promises spoken by the voice of Jesus Christ or His servants will all be fulfilled.

Application

Do you listen to the voice of the apostles and prophets as though they are speaking for Jesus Christ?



D&C 6:36

Look unto Christ in every thought.

Context

Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery were given this revelation while translating the Book of Mormon.

Doctrine or Principle

As we look to Jesus Christ, we can overcome doubt and fear.

Application

When faced with doubts and fears, how will you look to Jesus Christ to help you overcome them?



D&C 8:2–3

Revelation comes to your mind and heart.

Context

The Lord taught Oliver Cowdery how he could receive and recognize revelation by asking in faith.

Doctrine or Principle

The Holy Ghost reveals truth to our minds and hearts.

Application

When has the Lord communicated to you through the Holy Ghost? What are some things you can do to invite such communication?



D&C 10:5

Pray always.

Context

After Martin Harris lost 116 pages of the Book of Mormon manuscript, the Lord taught Joseph Smith one way to overcome the designs of Satan.

Doctrine or Principle

If we pray always, God will help us conquer Satan and his servants.

Application

How can you improve your prayers to help you better overcome temptation?



D&C 13:1

The Aaronic Priesthood was restored.

Context

As Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery prayed to know about authority to baptize, John the Baptist appeared and conferred the Aaronic Priesthood upon them.

Doctrine or Principle

The Aaronic Priesthood holds the keys of the ministering of angels, and of the gospel of repentance, and of baptism by immersion for the remission of sins.

Application

How can your life be blessed by the Aaronic Priesthood?



D&C 18:10–11

The worth of souls is great.

Context

After describing the need for all people to repent, the Lord called Oliver Cowdery and David Whitmer to teach repentance to others.

Doctrine or Principle

An evidence of each soul’s great worth to God is that Jesus Christ took upon Himself the pains of all mankind.

Application

How does knowing that Jesus Christ atoned for you help you understand your worth in the sight of God?



D&C 18:15–16

Great joy comes from bringing souls unto Jesus Christ.

Context

The Lord taught Oliver Cowdery and David Whitmer about the worth of souls and called them to teach repentance to others.

Doctrine or Principle

As we help others come unto Jesus Christ, we experience great joy.

Application

What can you do to bring someone closer to Jesus Christ?



D&C 19:16–19

Jesus Christ suffered for all of us.

Context

After teaching about the Day of Judgment and testifying of His atoning sacrifice, the Lord commanded Martin Harris to repent of his sins.

Doctrine or Principle

Jesus Christ suffered for the sins of all mankind so that we would not have to suffer for our sins if we would repent.

Application

How can learning about the Savior’s suffering help you desire to repent? What sins do you need to repent of?



D&C 19:23

Learn of the Savior, and listen to His words.

Context

Martin Harris was commanded to repent, sell a portion of his land so that the Book of Mormon could be published, and seek the Lord.

Doctrine or Principle

We are blessed with peace as we listen to the Savior and follow Him.

Application

Set a goal to improve in each of the areas mentioned in D&C 19:23.



SCRIPTURE
M A S T E R Y

D&C 89:18–21

Blessings of the Word of Wisdom

Context

After instructing the Saints to avoid harmful substances and to partake of those that are healthy, the Lord promised blessings for obedience.

Doctrine or Principle

If we will obey the Word of Wisdom, we will receive blessings of health, treasures of knowledge, strength, and protection.

Application

How have you been blessed for obeying the Word of Wisdom? What are the effects of disobedience to this commandment? Is there something you could do to more fully obey the Word of Wisdom?



SCRIPTURE
M A S T E R Y

D&C 107:8

The Melchizedek Priesthood administers in spiritual things.

Context

The Lord revealed that the Melchizedek Priesthood is called after a great high priest from ancient days. The Lord described the offices and duties of the priesthood.

Doctrine or Principle

The Melchizedek Priesthood is the greater priesthood and administers in spiritual things.

Application

How have you been blessed from the service of those who hold the Melchizedek Priesthood?



SCRIPTURE
M A S T E R Y

D&C 121:36, 41–42

The principles of righteousness give power to the priesthood.

Context

In a letter from Liberty Jail, Joseph Smith recorded the Lord's words of comfort to the righteous and the consequences that would come to priesthood holders who had been unrighteous.

Doctrine or Principle

The power of the priesthood can only be controlled on the principles of righteousness.

Application

How have priesthood holders that you know demonstrated the characteristics in D&C 121? How can remembering these characteristics help you as you interact with others?



SCRIPTURE
M A S T E R Y

D&C 130:22–23

The Father and Son have bodies of flesh and bones.

Context

Responding to questions, Joseph Smith clarified and expounded several points of doctrine.

Doctrine or Principle

The Father and the Son have physical bodies of flesh and bone, and the Holy Ghost is a personage of spirit.

Application

Find additional scriptures that you could use to teach someone that the members of the Godhead are three separate beings.



SCRIPTURE
M A S T E R Y

D&C 131:1–4

The new and everlasting covenant of marriage

Context

While visiting Saints in Ramus, Illinois, Joseph Smith taught the importance of celestial marriage.

Doctrine or Principle

To obtain exaltation in the highest degree of the celestial kingdom, we must enter into the new and everlasting covenant of marriage.

Application

How can you prepare to receive the blessings of marriage in the covenant?



SEMINARIES AND
INSTITUTES OF RELIGION

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

5 ^aPray always, that you may come off ^bconqueror; yea, that you may conquer Satan, and that you may ^cescape the hands of the servants of Satan that do uphold his work.

2 Yea, behold, I will ^atell you in your mind and in your ^bheart, by the ^cHoly Ghost, which shall come upon you and which shall dwell in your heart.

3 Now, behold, this is the spirit of revelation; behold, this is the spirit by which Moses ^abrought the children of Israel through the Red Sea on dry ground.

36 ^aLook unto me in every ^bthought; ^cdoubt not, fear not.

37 ^aSearch these ^bcommandments, for they are true and ^cfaithful, and the prophecies and ^dpromises which are in them shall all be fulfilled.

38 What I the Lord have spoken, I have spoken, and I excuse not myself; and though the heavens and the earth pass away, my ^aword shall not pass away, but shall all be ^bfulfilled, whether by mine own ^cvoice or by the ^dvoice of my ^eservants, it is the ^fsame.

17 It no sooner appeared than I found myself ^adelivered from the enemy which held me bound. When the light rested upon me I ^bsaw two ^cPersonages, whose brightness and ^dglory defy all description, ^estanding above me in the air. One of them spake unto me, calling me by name and said, pointing to the other—*This is My ^fBeloved ^gSon. Hear Him!*

18 My object in going to ^ainquire of the Lord was to know which of all the sects was right, that I might know which to join.

19 I was answered that I must join none of them, for they were all ^awrong; and the Personage who addressed me said that all their creeds were an abomination in his sight; that those ^bprofessors were all ^ccorrupt; that: ^d“they ^edraw near to me with their lips, but their ^fhearts are far from me, they teach for doctrines the ^gcommandments of men, having a form of godliness, but they deny the ^hpower thereof.”

23 ^aLearn of me, and listen to my words; ^bwalk in the ^cmeekness of my Spirit, and you shall have ^dpeace in me.

16 For behold, I, God, have ^asuffered these things for all, that they might not ^bsuffer if they would ^crepent;

17 But if they would not repent they must ^asuffer even as I;

18 Which ^asuffering caused myself, even God, the greatest of all, to tremble because of pain, and to bleed at every pore, and to suffer both body and spirit—and would that I might ^bnot drink the bitter cup, and shrink—

19 Nevertheless, glory be to the Father, and I partook and ^afinished my preparations unto the children of men.

15 And if it so be that you should labor all your days in crying repentance unto this people, and bring, save it be one ^asoul unto me, how great shall be your joy with him in the kingdom of my Father!

16 And now, if your joy will be great with one soul that you have brought unto me into the ^akingdom of my Father, how great will be your ^bjoy if you should bring many ^csouls unto me!

10 Remember the ^aworth of ^bsouls is great in the sight of God;

11 For, behold, the Lord your ^aRedeemer suffered ^bdeath in the flesh; wherefore he ^csuffered the ^dpain of all men, that all men might repent and ^ecome unto him.

UPON you my fellow servants, in the name of Messiah I ^aconfer the ^bPriesthood of Aaron, which holds the ^ckeys of the ministering of ^dangels, and of the gospel of ^erepentance, and of ^fbaptism by immersion for the remission of sins; and this shall never be taken again from the earth, until the sons of ^gLevi do offer again an offering unto the Lord in ^hrighteousness.

IN the ^acelestial glory there are three ^bheavens or degrees;

2 And in order to obtain the ^ahighest, a man must enter into this ^border of the ^cpriesthood [meaning the new and ^deverlasting covenant of ^emarriage];

3 And if he does not, he cannot obtain it.

4 He may enter into the other, but that is the end of his kingdom; he cannot have an ^aincrease.

22 The ^aFather has a ^bbody of flesh and bones as tangible as man's; the Son also; but the Holy Ghost has not a body of flesh and bones, but is a personage of ^cSpirit. Were it not so, the Holy Ghost could not ^d dwell in us.

23 A man may receive the ^aHoly Ghost, and it may descend upon him and not ^btarry with him.

36 That the ^arights of the priesthood are inseparably connected with the powers of heaven, and that the powers of heaven cannot be ^bcontrolled nor handled only upon the ^cprinciples of righteousness.

41 No ^apower or influence can or ought to be maintained by virtue of the ^bpriesthood, only by ^cpersuasion, by ^dlong-suffering, by gentleness and meekness, and by love unfeigned;

42 By ^akindness, and pure ^bknowledge, which shall greatly enlarge the ^csoul without ^dhypocrisy, and without ^eguile—

8 The ^aMelchizedek Priesthood holds the right of presidency, and has power and ^bauthority over all the offices in the church in all ages of the world, to administer in spiritual things.

18 And all saints who remember to keep and do these sayings, walking in obedience to the commandments, ^ashall receive ^bhealth in their navel and marrow to their bones;

19 And shall ^afind ^bwisdom and great ^ctreasures of ^dknowledge, even hidden treasures;

20 And shall ^arun and not be ^bweary, and shall walk and not faint.

21 And I, the Lord, give unto them a promise, that the ^adestroying angel shall ^bpass by them, as the children of Israel, and not slay them. Amen.