

Handout 2: A Priesthood Blessing

During his stay in Greenville, the Prophet Joseph Smith may have been poisoned in some manner. One night he began vomiting so violently that his jaw became dislocated. Joseph pushed his jaw back in place with his hands and quickly made his way over to Bishop Newel K. Whitney's bed. Newel gave Joseph a priesthood blessing, and Joseph was healed instantly. (See *Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Joseph Smith* [2007], 240.) Joseph Smith's history includes the following statement of gratitude: "Thanks be to my Heavenly Father for his interference in my behalf at this critical moment, in the name of Jesus Christ; Amen" (Manuscript History of the Church, vol. A-1, p. 215, josephsmithpapers.org; capitalization standardized).

- What can we learn from this account about Joseph Smith's relationship with God?
- When have you felt Heavenly Father intervene to help you in critical moments?

