

A religious illustration depicting Jesus Christ on the right, with his hands outstretched in a gesture of blessing or teaching. He has a beard and is wearing a white robe with a blue sash. In the center and left, a group of men in traditional robes are looking towards him. One man in the foreground, wearing a brown and blue robe, has a surprised or reverent expression. The background is a bright, hazy, golden-yellow light, suggesting a divine or heavenly atmosphere.

The Great Commission

This gospel of the Kingdom shall be Preached in all the World

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The Great Commission

The Gospel Principles

The entire universe and everything contained in it was and is created to bear witness of the truth that God is and that we (i.e., mankind) are the object of God's never-failing love. From the very beginning, God has desperately tried to share Himself and His love with all mankind. We know this because of Jesus Christ. In sacrificing His Only Begotten Son, the Father has shared His hope for us. In particular, He hopes that we might see the price of our sin in the cross and the cause of our joy in the resurrection, and thereby turn our hearts and our lives toward Him that we might receive eternal life.

Jesus is God's invitation to us to come home to Him, as well as our example so that we might see what's required to have an abundant life. As the Father sent the Son to bear witness of the Gospel [John 18:37], so Jesus sent His apostles to do the same [John 20:21]. Jesus has extended that same great commission to us in our day, saying:

Matthew 28:17 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 18 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; 19 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, unto the end of the world. Amen.

Mark 16:14 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 15 He that believeth and is baptized, shall be saved; but he that believeth not, shall be damned.

This is God's great and marvelous work, that His children might come home to Him. However, how can they come home unless they believe? How can they believe unless they have heard the message? How can they hear the message unless one shares it? [Romans 10:8-18]. What is the message? Please read from Section 76:4g-l:

*4g And **this is the gospel**, the glad tidings which the voice out of the heavens bore record unto us, that he came into the world, even Jesus to be crucified for the world, and to bear the sins of the world, and to sanctify the world, and to cleanse it from all unrighteousness; 4h that through him all might be saved, whom the Father had put into his power, and made by him; who glorifies the Father, and saves all the works of his hands, except those sons of perdition, who deny the Son after the Father has revealed him; 4i wherefore he saves all except them.*

God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into the world to abolish death and to bring life and immortality to light through the Gospel [2 Timothy 1:10]. He commissions you, whether man, woman, or child, to do the same [Sec 38:9c-e, Sec 4].

PLEASE READ: How to use the Booklet

This booklet is not meant to be a delivery system for the Gospel, or to dictate how one might share the message, but rather to highlight the core principles of the Gospel. For example, while every human body is unique, we are still comprised of the same core systems. We all have a skeletal system, a muscular system, etc. Even though we cannot live without those systems, every person's body is different.

The same concept is true when considering the great commission. Though we all tend to share the Gospel in a different way, as we all have different experiences and testimonies, the principles of the Gospel do not change. The purpose of this booklet is not to say that one delivery system is better than another, but to ensure that we're all sharing the same message. Thus, we have highlighted twelve core Gospel principles as shown below.

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|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Who is God? | 7. Zion |
| 2. The Fall of Man | 8. The Church and Authority |
| 3. Redemption through Christ | 9. Reconciliation |
| 4. Agency and Intelligence (A&I) | 10. Stewardship |
| 5. The Doctrine of Christ | 11. Restoration |
| 6. The Kingdom of God | 12. Eternal Life |

For each principle, we will discuss in general terms:

- What it is
- Why it matters
- What's required (this will only be used in relevant sections)
- Scripture references, and
- Questions for the reader

This booklet contains both KJV and restored gospel scriptures so that you can change your approach depending on who you are sharing with. Not everyone we share with will be at the same level of knowledge or understanding, hence we have tiered the principles accordingly. Tier one is for those who have little to no knowledge of God, while tier five is for those who have a solid grasp of what God requires for us to enter into His Kingdom.

The Tiers

- Tier One: Who is God?
- Tier Two: The Fall of Man, Redemption through Christ, A&I
- Tier Three: The Doctrine of Christ, the Kingdom, Zion
- Tier Four: The Church & Authority, Reconciliation, Stewardship
- Tier Five: Eternal life, the Restoration

The principles and tiers are not meant to be prescriptive or inflexible, meaning they do not have to follow a chronological order, nor is a person limited to these tiers or the scriptures contained herein. Our hope is that each person might study this booklet, include their own scriptures and testimonies for each corresponding principle, and create their own method

of delivery. In so doing, we believe that you will become more inspired and passionate to share the Gospel.

Please note that this booklet is meant to be vague. We do not share everything that could be said about a particular principle on purpose, as each of us will share these principles differently. Instead, we hope that one could go through this booklet and answer these basic questions about the gospel.

1. Who is God?
2. Why should we believe in Him?
3. How does He communicate with us?
4. What does He say we should do?
5. What are His promises?

Ultimately, it's imperative that we allow God to lead us as Philip did with the eunuch [Acts 8:26-38], as Ananias did with Paul [Acts 9:10-18] and as Paul did with the Macedonians [Acts 16:6-10]. We must allow the Holy Spirit to direct us as we are sharing the Gospel just as these men did.

The Principles: Tier One

1. Who is God?

In order to first build a relationship with God, we must first know who He is. Without this understanding, we will not desire to seek Him. In other words, we must find that "why factor." People need to know that God loves them, and in order to believe or accept this, they need to know what God *has* done for them and what He *will* do for them. They must be enticed to seek.

What is it?

God is love [1 John 4:8-10]. Love is not something that God does, it is who He is. He has shown this through His Son, Jesus Christ, and through the Holy Ghost. In this, we see that God is three-in-one, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.

Why does it matter?

Jesus defined eternal life and it's requirements by saying, "And this is life eternal, that they might *know* thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent [John 17:3]." God is willing to share Himself and His promises with us, if we are willing to receive, but to receive, we must know who He is, who His Son is, and who His Holy Spirit is.

Scripture References

Please note that there are many scriptures on this principle, we have only presented a few here. It's important that we limit the number of scriptures we use when witnessing for the sake of time. Moreover, we do not want to overwhelm those whom we are sharing with, so be sure to pick out those verses which best explain each principle. Feel free to use some or none of these references, or some of your own.

Also note, while some references in the KJV will be identical to the IV, others will have distinct differences, whether it be verse number or even in verbiage and clarity. Be sure to study them prior to sharing so you know what those differences are.

The Father

Restored Gospel (IV)	KJV	Description
Exo 3:14	Exo 3:14	God is
John 1:1-5	John 1:1-5	God created all things through Christ
John 3:16-21	John 3:16-21	God is love, He sent Jesus to save, He is light and truth
2 Peter 1:1-8	2 Peter 1:1-8	Attributes of God

The Son

Restored Gospel (IV)	KJV	Description
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John 1:1-14	John 1:1-14	The Son was in the beginning with God, He is the Word, He is the life and light of the world
Heb 1:3, Col 1:15	Heb 1:3, Col 1:15	The image of the invisible God
1 Ne 3:193	Luke 2:10-11, 2 Tim 1:8-10	Savior
Gen 7:59	Rev 19:11-19, Phs 2:5-11	Lord, King
John 15:12-15	John 15:12-15	Friend

The Holy Ghost

Restored Gospel (IV)	KJV	Description
Gen 6:64, 3 Ne 5:33-38, Sec 42:5d	John 15:26	The Holy Ghost is the record of heaven, bears witness of the Father and the Son
Sec 83:7c, Moro 7:14	John 1:9-12, Job 33:4	Spirit is given to every person
John 14:26, John 15:26, John 16:7-14, Sec 39:2b	John 14:26, John 15:26, John 16:7-14	The Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Truth, the Comforter
Gal 5:16-25	Gal 5:16-25	The fruit of the Spirit

Questions for the Reader

1. How might you share about who God is both with and without using scripture?
2. How do you know God is real?
3. Why do you believe in Him?
4. Why should someone else believe in Him?

The Principles: Tier Two

2. The Fall of Man

All of us were separated from the presence of God, both spiritually and temporally, through Adam and Eve’s transgression in the Garden of Eden. We have all fallen from the image that God and Jesus made us in. We are all broken in some way.

What is it?

All men became lost and fallen through the sin of our first parents, and so “by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin, and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.” [Romans 5:12]. In other words, the fall occurred because of transgression. “Adam fell that men might be, and men are that they might have joy [2 Nephi 1:115].” Because of this fall, we are born into this present world.

Why does it matter?

We are all born into a fallen world and because of this, sin will eventually conceive in our hearts [Gen 6:57]. While there’s nothing we can ever do to earn our way back into God’s presence, God has provided a way for us through His Son, Jesus Christ. God is a provider and a deliverer. He’s not pointing the finger at His creation, but instead extending His hand of salvation.

Scripture References

Book	Reference
KJV	Gen 3; Rom 5:10-21; Rom 3:22-26
IV	Gen 3-4; Gen 6:49-65; Rom 5:10-21; Rom 3:22-26
BoM	2 Nephi 1:66-71, 115-118, 2 Nephi 6, Alma 19:82-111
D&C	Sec 28

Questions for the reader

1. What brought Adam and Eve to partake of the fruit (list out the progression of events)? How might that apply to us today?
2. What was the consequence of Adam and Eve's transgression?
3. Could we ever know joy if Adam and Eve did not fall?
4. Did God provide a way for us to return?

3. Redemption through Jesus Christ

Death reigns over all of us because of that original transgression, but through Jesus Christ we have been given victory over death and a promise of the Kingdom.

What is it?

Can you find scripture references and testimonies to verify the following definitions?

Redeem means “to purchase back; to ransom; to liberate or rescue from captivity or bondage, or from any obligation or liability to suffer or to be forfeited, by paying an equivalent. To repurchase what has been sold; to regain possession of a thing alienated, by repaying the value of it to the possessor.”

Redemption means “repurchase of captured goods or prisoners... deliverance from bondage, distress, or from liability to any evil or forfeiture, either by money, labor or other means.”

Mercy means “That benevolence, mildness or tenderness of heart which disposes a person to overlook injuries, or to treat an offender better than he deserves; the disposition that tempers justice, and induces an injured person to forgive trespasses and injuries, and to forbear punishment, or inflict less than law or justice will warrant...Pity; compassion manifested towards a person in distress...the act of sparing, or the forbearance of a violent act expected.”

Grace means “Favor; good will; kindness; disposition to oblige another...Appropriately, the free unmerited love and favor of God, the spring and source of all the benefits men receive from him.”

Why does it matter?

No person, save for Jesus Christ, has ever lived a sinless life, and because of this, the justice of God requires that we be cut off from His presence forever. The only way to appease the demands of justice is through the plan of mercy, which plan could only occur if an atonement was made on our behalf. Jesus Christ is this infinite atonement, and without Him, we would be forever subject to the devil. Never able to rise again because there is nothing we could ever do to pay back our debt, our debt of sin.

Instead, Jesus Christ paid the ransom for our sin on the cross, and through His resurrection, He has broken the bands of death. “Wherefore, redemption cometh in and through the Holy Messiah: for He is full of grace and truth... [2 Nephi 1:71].”

Remember that even after we reconcile ourselves to God by entering into a covenant with Him, “that it is only in and through the grace of God that you are saved. Wherefore, may God raise you from death, by the power of the resurrection, and also from everlasting death, by the power of the atonement, That ye may be received into the eternal kingdom of God, that ye may praise him through grace divine. Amen. [2 Nephi 7:42-44].”

Scripture References

Book	Reference
KJV	1 Cor 15:21-22, Heb 2:14-18; 1 John 4:8-10; 1 John 2:1-6; Acts 4:10-12; Col 1:12-14; 1 Pet 1:3-5; Rom 6:1-15
IV	Same verses as above. Be sure to check for differences
BoM	2 Nephi 1:71-93, 115-118; Mos 8:51-65, 70-83; Alma 16:207-218; Alma 19:82-111
D&C	Sec 28:1a, 12; Sec 85:4a-b

Questions for the reader

1. What would happen to us if Jesus never came?
2. Is there anything required for us to be redeemed from the grave?
3. Is there anything required for us to be redeemed from our sin?
4. What is the great plan of redemption?

4. Agency and Intelligence

Agency and Intelligence are two of the most precious gifts God has ever given to us. The fact that God has given us these gifts helps us to better understand His character and His love.

What is it?

Agency is “the quality of moving or of exerting power; the state of being in action... The office of an agent...” While intelligence means “to understand.” In other words, God has given us the ability to understand the choices that lay before us and the ability to make decisions for ourselves based on that understanding.

Why does it matter?

God does not desire robots or slaves, but rather He desires a people who are able to act for themselves outside of His influence. In other words, just as a parent yearns for their children to be able to make their own decisions, so to does our God. He does not want to force us to choose Him, but rather that we might choose Him because we love Him.

However, because of this fact, people are able to choose either good or evil, and thus hurt and pain has entered into the world. People sometimes ask why God allows bad things to happen. The answer is that He must in order for us to have our agency. Sadly, not everyone will choose to follow Him or His Son.

Lastly, God does not desire for us to dwell in darkness or ignorance. For how could we ever make a choice if we did not understand first that we had one to begin with? God wants to empower us through our intelligence, meaning

our ability to see the choices that we have. He wants us to be knowledgeable and informed.

Scripture References

Book	Reference
KJV	1 Pet 1:2, Mat 23:37; Josh 24:15
IV	Gen 6:57-58, Gen 7:39-40
BoM	2 Ne 1:66-128
D&C	Sec 90:5

Questions for the reader

1. Why is it important to God that we have agency and intelligence?
2. What does this tell us about God's character?
3. Why does God allow evil in the world?
4. What does God want us to do with our agency?

The Principles: Tier Three

5. The Doctrine of Christ

The purpose of the Gospel is to make us whole and complete in Jesus Christ, and to open the way for us to both enter into the Kingdom and to endure unto the end.

What is it?

In Hebrews 6:1-3, we find the six fundamental principles of Christ's doctrine, which are:

1. Repentance from dead works, meaning to turn around or turn back to the Lord. This requires us to confess and forsake [Pro 28:13, Sec 58:9c], as well as to forgive others [Mat 5:25-26; Sec 64:2b-e]. Repentance is a gift of mercy [Alma 14:29-47].

2. Faith toward God, which means to have a lively hope in Him because of the evidence we have received, which in turn brings about a change in heart so that we might follow after Jesus.
3. Baptisms, meaning baptism of the water and baptism of the Spirit. This is how we enter into the Kingdom and take upon us the name of Christ. This is how we covenant with God.
4. Laying on of hands, meaning the conferring or confirming of the Holy Ghost through the ordinances of: (a) baby blessing, (b) baptism of the Spirit or confirmation, (c) ordination to priesthood, (d) laying on of hands for spiritual and physical healing, and (e) patriarchal blessing.
5. Resurrection of the dead. Through Jesus Christ, we have victory over death. This means that every single person will be raised from the grave at some point in time, whether they be good or evil.
6. Eternal judgment. Through our resurrection, we will all be brought back into the presence of God to be judged according to our works, meaning how we have lived according to the Gospel.

Why does it matter?

Twice the author of the Hebrew letter states that we will go on to perfection through these six principles if God permits, or allows, us to do so. In this essence, the word perfection means completeness or, “so that nothing requisite is wanting.” This is God’s plan for us. He wants to make us complete, whole, perfect, wanting nothing. He wants to restore us back into the perfect image of God. He will permit this work to be done in us if we are willing to obey His principles and to submit our heart and spirit to Him.

Scripture References

1. Repentance

Book	Reference
KJV	Isa 1:17-18; Pro 28:13; Mar 1:14-15; Act 2:38, 3:19
IV	Mar 1:12-13, the rest are the same as above
BoM	Alma 3:57, Alma 7:13, 46, Alma 9:27, 2 Nephi 12:78, Mos 2:31, 3 Nephi 4:58

D&C	Sec 58:9c, Sec 64:2b-e
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2. Faith

Book	Reference
KJV	Heb 11:1-2, Jas 1:22-24, Jas 2:14-18, 23-25, 1 Pet 1:3-9
IV	Same as above, though there will be differences in verbiage
BoM	Eth 5:6-22, Mos 2:12-17, Al 16:139-173
D&C	Lectures of Faith 1:11c-e

3. Baptisms

Book	Reference
KJV	Mat 3:13-17, John 3:1-8, Act 2:37-38, Rom 6:1-15, 1 Pet 3:20-21
IV	Gen 6:51-53, 60-63, Mat 3:41-46, the rest are the same as above
BoM	2 Ne 13, Al 5:24-28
D&C	Sec 16:16d; Sec 17:5, 7, 21

4. Laying on of Hands

Book	Reference
KJV	(a) Mat 18:10-11; (b) Act 8:12, 14-17; (c) Act 6:1-6, Ac 13:2-3; (d) Jas 5:14-15, Mar 6:5, 13
IV	Same as above, though there will be some differences.
BoM	(a) Mos 1:114, 3 Ne 8:23; (b) Moro 2:1-2; (c) Moro 3:1-3; (d) Mor 4:87; (e) 2 Ne 1:52-62, 2 Ne 3:6-23
D&C	(a) Sec 17:19-20; etc.

5. Resurrection of the dead

Book	Reference
KJV	Job 19:23-27, Psa 49:15, John 5:24-29, John 11:25-26, 1 Cor 15:1-22
IV	Same as above, though the verbiage will be different.
BoM	Mos 8:51-54, 9:29, Al 9:40-43, Al 19:28-57
D&C	Sec 85:4a-b

6. Eternal Judgment

Book	Reference
KJV	Ecc 12:13-14, Rom 2:1-11, 14:10-12, 1 Cor 3:10-17, 2 Cor 5:10, Heb 9:27, Rev 20:12-14
IV	Same as above
BoM	1 Ne 4:52-63, 2 Ne 6:31-37, 88-93, 2 Ne 11:4, Al 19:66-70

Questions for the reader

1. What does it mean to be perfect?
2. How can these six principles make us perfect?
3. How has Jesus shown these principles in His own body?
4. What then is the Gospel?

6. The Kingdom of God

Jesus' core message is this, "Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God; and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent ye, and believe the gospel [Mark 1:12-13; read also Mat 4:16 and Mat 7:9]."

What is it?

"For the Kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost [Rom 14:17]." God desires for us to have a right relationship with Him, to be at peace with Him, and to obtain joy through Him. Wherever these three things are present, there is the Kingdom of God on earth also. All of these things occur through the Holy Spirit.

Why does it matter?

It is true that Jesus came to die for our sins, but *He lived* to show us the Kingdom of God [Luke 4:43]. The following list highlights how important Jesus viewed the gospel of the Kingdom:

- Jesus was sent to preach the Kingdom [Luke 4:43, 8:1]

- Jesus called others to preach the Kingdom [Luke 9:1-2, 6; 10:1, 8-9]
- Jesus taught them to pray for the Kingdom [Luke 11:1-2]
- Jesus taught them to seek for the Kingdom [Luke 12:34-35]
- Jesus taught the Kingdom after His resurrection [Acts 1:1-3]
- Priesthood preaches the Kingdom [Acts 8:14; 14:21-23; 28:30-31]

The only way for the Kingdom of Heaven to come is for the Kingdom of God to go forth [Sec 65:1], and we are called to prepare the way.

What's required?

Jesus taught that we cannot see or enter into the Kingdom without making a covenant [Alma 5:24-28], without being born again [John 3:1-8, Mos 11:187-188].

- God only covenants with those who repent and believe [2 Ne 12:78]
- We receive God's name through the baptismal covenant [Mos 3:1-13, Mos 9:39-41]
- He promises to make us new [2 Cor 5:14-21, Mos 11:188, Eth 6:9, Sec 63:13c]
- Change in heart [Col 2:6-10, 12 and Col 3:1-17, 1 Cor 6:9-11, Alma 3:23-25, 29, 46, Hel 5:96]
- To share the message [Sec 28:2a-b, 32:1c-2, 39:5, 52:15d, 105:11]

Questions for the reader

1. What is the Kingdom?
2. How does one enter it?
3. After we enter the Kingdom, are we done?
4. Why does the Father want to give us His Kingdom? How does this relate to holiness?

7. Zion, God's Kingdom on Earth

The Lord desires a city set on a hill that will glorify Him. A place where Jesus Christ will return to reign on earth for a thousand years.

What is it?

Jesus told the disciples that there would come a day when the nations of the earth would be distressed with perplexity, that iniquity would abound, and the hearts of men would fail them because of fear [Matthew 24, Mark 13, Luke 17, Luke 21], and that these would be signs of His return. The prophet Isaiah also told us that earth would one day become covered in darkness because of sin [Isaiah 60:2].

Truly, we live in such a day. The world is filled with sin, hatred, pain, and brokenness. However, God promised us a physical Kingdom of God, a city called Zion [Isa 60:1-2, 14], which would be a place of refuge, safety, and healing [Isaiah 2:2-4, Isaiah 11:6-9].

Zion is not only a city, but it is also a spiritual condition, one that we could have even now [Sec 140:5c]. The place is Independence, Missouri [Sec 57:1], the condition is to have one heart and one mind in Jesus Christ, to dwell in righteousness, and to have no poor among us [Gen 7:23].

Why does it matter?

Zion is one of the most beautiful promises that God has ever given to us. Zion is an anchor of hope for a dying world, as well as a vision for us to strive for and a window into the future that God has in store for His people. God knows that without a vision, we will not be able to endure the temptations and trials of life, and that through the responsibility of great tasks, we are able to remain steadfast and focused.

When God delivered Israel out of Egypt, He presented before them a glorious future because He knew that they would always desire to turn backward to world they had just left. In particular, He promised them a land, a nation, and a blessing that through them would all the families of the earth be blessed.

God has done the same for us today. He has delivered us from death and from sin, and promised us eternal life with Him [a land], Zion [a nation], and that through the testimony of His people, all the earth will know of the life

and immortality that God has for them through the Gospel [a blessing]. In particular, that the world might see that there is a better way to live, one that is centered upon the Lord Jesus Christ.

Scripture References

Book	Reference
KJV	Isa 62:10-12, Isa 65:20-25, Dan 2:44-45, Mat 6:10, Heb 11:8-16
IV	Gen 7, Gen 9:17-23
BoM	1 Ne 3:187-188, 1 Ne 7, 3 Ne 9:64-10:25
D&C	Sec 12:3, 23:4a, 29:3c, 68:4, 83:1, 98:6-8, 100:3, 102:2, 108

Questions for the reader

1. What is Zion to you?
2. How might you share Zion with someone both inside and outside our faith?
3. What is the spiritual condition of Zion?
4. What are the waste places of Zion and how do we build them up?

The Principles: Tier Four

8. The Church and Authority

There is one body, or in other words one Church, and Jesus Christ is the head and chief cornerstone. God chooses those to represent Him and minister in Christ's stead.

What is it?

According to Thayer, the Greek word for "Church" (ekklēsia) literally translates to, "(1) a gathering of citizens called out from their homes into some public place, an assembly... 2) in a Christian sense: an assembly of Christians gathered for worship in a religious meeting." [Emphasis added]. The Greek word for Church is also a derivative of the word kaleō, which means "to call aloud, utter in a loud voice; to invite." [Emphasis added]. In other words, the Church, in its simplest form, is a call or invitation for

Christians to assemble in one body, for as Jesus said, “Be one; and if you are not one, ye are not mine [Sec 38:6a].”

The Church is not meant to simply be an institution or a collection of quorums, but rather God intends it to be a living entity, comprised of men and women who have made a covenant with Him to walk in a newness of life. In this way, the Church is more than a building, a set of rules, or an organization of programs. It is an assembly of God’s children, the government of the God’s Kingdom, the Bride of Jesus Christ, and it has a holy calling, a great and marvelous work. It does not belong to man, but to God for the purpose that His voice might be heard, that His name might be glorified, and that He might be known in all the earth.

God restored His Church and gave it authority to speak in His name. And for this purpose, the Lord has given His people, even the weak and simple, the fullness of His everlasting gospel, not to hide it under a bushel, but to proclaim the truth concerning the power of God’s redeeming love and to declare the calamity that is coming upon the inhabitants of the earth.

Why does it matter?

The Church of God is vitality important in our walk with Christ and the building of His Kingdom, for we cannot endure the crosses of this life without each other. Whether that cross be anxiety, brokenness, depression, discouragement, doubt, loneliness, persecution, etc. We need the love and support of our brothers and sisters as Apostle Paul counseled the saints at Galatia. For he exhorted them to restore one another in the spirit of meekness if they saw a brother or sister falling into a transgression or a fault, writing, “Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ [Read Gal 6:1-2].”

The Lord has admonished the Church throughout the scriptures to consider one another, to receive one another in fellowship, to provoke each other to love and good works, to not forsake one another, to assemble together often, to break bread with each other, to exhort one another to seek God and His Kingdom. God designed the Church to be the instrument that unites

the citizens of His Kingdom together under the Lord Jesus Christ. God gave each ordinance, as well as the various gifts, talents, and duties of each member, to the Church with this in mind.

Scripture References

The Church

Book	Reference
KJV	Mat 16:17-18, Act 2:41-47, 16:4-5, Gal 6:1-2, Eph 1:19-23, 2:13-22, 4:1-16, Heb 10:23-26, 1 Pet 2:1-5
IV	Same as above, except Mat 16:16-20
D&C	Sec 17, Sec 42, Sec 104

Authority

Book	Reference
KJV	Mat 16:19, John 15:16, Act 8:14-17, Act 14:21-23, 1 Cor 12:27-29, Eph 4:11-15, Heb 5:4-5 (Exo 4:14-16, 27-30; 40:1, 12-15)
IV	Mat 16:19-20, 1 Cor 12:27-31
BoM	Alma 4:1, Moroni 3:13
D&C	Sec 42:4-5

Priesthood Offices

The priesthood offices are (1) deacon, (2), teacher, (3) priest, (4) elder, (5) seventy, (6) high priest, (7) Evangelist-Patriarch, (8) Bishop, (9) apostle, (10) prophet.

Book	Reference
KJV	(1) 1 Tim 3:8-13, (2) 1 Cor 12:27-28, Eph 4:11, (3) Act 6:7, (4) Act 14:23, (5) Luke 10:1-2, 18, (6) Heb 5, 7:11, (7) Eph 4:11, (8) Phs 1:1, Tit 1:7-9, (9) Mat 10:2, (10) 1 Cor 12:27-28, Eph 2:20
IV	Same as above
BoM	(6) Alma 9:69-10:15
D&C	(1) Sec 17:11; 83:22; 120:2; 122:9, (2) 17:11; 83:22 120:2; 122:9, (3) 17:10, 18, 22; 83:22; 120:2, 122:9, (4) 17:8-9, 17-19, 42:12d, 22; 83:22; 120:2; 122:7-9, (5) 104:13; 107:44c; 120:10; 122:7-9; 124:5,

(6) 17:10, 17, 19; 68:2-3; 83:22; 99; 120:2, 9; 122:7-9; 123:15-16, (7) 17:17, 19; 38:8; 42:9, 19, 22; 51:1-5; 58:4; 68:2; 72:3-5; 104:32-33; 106:1, (8) 17:8-9, 17-19; 42:22; 125:3-4, 13; 126:3, (9) 17:11a-b, 17-19; 104:12, 17; 107:44c; 122:7-9, (10) 17:10, 17-19; 104:35, 42; 122:7-9
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Questions for the reader

1. What is the Church and its' mission? Why is it important?
2. Why does authority matter? How do you tell if someone has it?
3. What is the purpose of the priesthood?
4. What is the duty of a member?

9. Reconciliation

God granted authority to His Church to fulfill the commission to establish His righteousness on the earth, but how can we establish right relations with Him if we don't have right relations with our fellow brothers and sisters?

What is it?

Reconciliation is the means or tool by which two parties are able to come back into union with one another. God has already completed His part of the equation by sending His Only Begotten Son to pay the ransom for our transgressions (i.e., grace). The only thing that God requires us to do in this process is to enter into a covenant with Him and to repent by confessing and forsaking our old way of life and forgiving those who have trespassed against us. In so doing, God promises to make us new and to reconcile us to Him as we read in 2 Corinthians 5:14-21.

Why does it matter?

Reconciliation is an important component in building up God's Kingdom. For how can we come unto God with a sacrifice of a broken heart and a contrite spirit, meaning a heart that is humble and penitent and a spirit that is crushed and poor, if we are not first reconciled with our brothers and sisters?

Jesus said, “if ye shall come unto me, or shall desire to come unto me, or if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee, Leave thou thy gift before the altar, and go thy way unto thy brother, and *first be reconciled* to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift [Matthew 5:25-26].”

Thankfully, God has given us the ministry of reconciliation because He knows that when people come together, even when they do so under the covenant of Christ, we can sometimes give offense and take offense, which would prevent the Church from being able to offer up their sacraments to the Lord. God gave us the process of reconciliation as a way for us to overcome our differences and disagreements and to knit our hearts together in unity and in love.

What’s required?

The process of reconciliation is as follows:

1. Before we partake of the sacrament, we must first examine ourselves to see if we have angst with a brother or sister. [Matthew 5:25-26]
2. If a member has trespassed against another, or if they know someone has trespassed against them, then they must go to that individual alone in order to reconcile. [Matthew 18:15]
3. If there is no reconciliation, then they must bring a witness with them. [Matthew 18:16; Sec 42:23a]. However, this witness ought to be a teacher, and if they cannot find a teacher, then a deacon. [Rules of Order, Sec.158:3]. It’s imperative that the witness only hear the grievance in the presence of the other party and not before then.
4. If there is no reconciliation, then that individual can go before the presiding officer [Matthew 18:17] who will then direct the teacher or teachers to labor diligently with the offending party in effort to bring reconciliation. The teacher specifically has this responsibility as described in Sec 17:11.

5. If there is no reconciliation, then that individual can call an Elders' Court [Sec 42:23]. However, no Court should act unless the proper labor has been performed as outlined above and in General Conference Resolution No. 608. To learn more about the Elders' Court, study pages 108-124 in Gomer T. Griffith's *The Interpreter*.

It should be noted that some branches will handle this process differently as some will not allow for an Elders' Court. Moreover, once the Church is fully organized, the processes of reconciliation may also include a Bishop's Court [Sec 104:32-33] and a High Council [Sec 99, 104:35]. Go deeper by studying pages 108-134 in *The Interpreter*.

Questions for the reader

1. What is reconciliation with God? What's required?
2. What is reconciliation with others? What's required?
3. Why is the ministry of reconciliation important?

10. Stewardship

Once we have become enlightened with the testimony of Jesus it becomes our responsibility to stand fast in the Gospel and to live accordingly. This is our reasonable response to God's call, or our stewardship.

What is it?

A steward is "a man employed in great families to manage the domestic concerns, superintend the other servants, collect the rents or income, keep the accounts, etc." Stewardship is not ownership. We do not own anything as everything belongs to God, even our soul.

Stewardship is not simply a financial principle, but more importantly it includes how we respond to the sacrifice that God made for us. The testimony of Jesus reveals that God, not man, is the center of the universe. In fact, the only reason that we live at all is because God first made us, and not only did He make us, but He also bought us with the price of His Son [Mos 1:52-61]. As Pontius Pilate asked the Jews in Matthew 27:23, so does

God ask us today, “What shall I do with Jesus, which is called Christ?”
Everything after is our stewardship, which includes our:

- Soul
- Time/Labor
- Testimony of Christ
- Tithe
- Gifts and talents

Why does it matter?

God will hold us accountable as stewards over everything which He has placed into our care. For example, in regards to finances, God told us in Sec 64:5a, “...for he that is tithed shall not be burned (at his coming)...” More importantly however, God teaches His people responsibility through the principle of stewardship, and taking responsibility is key in our walk with Christ. The Kingdom is founded upon responsibility, as both Paul and Moroni told the saints, “work out your own salvation with fear and trembling [Phs 2:12, Mor 4:93].” Only *you* can work out your own salvation. You must take responsibility for this, no one else can do it for you. Thus, stewardship is essential for the Kingdom.

What’s required?

The only way that we can be a just steward is if we first acknowledge that nothing we have is ours. This is the very essence of stewardship. For how can you be a steward unless someone else places something into your care? Otherwise we would call it *ownership*.

As stewards, God commands us particularly to give our tithe, meaning ten percent [Lev 27:32; Heb 7:2, 4], to Him. There are two main views concerning tithing.

- First, that we should pay tithing to God after we have first paid for our necessary living expenses. This view, which is based on our surplus, stems from Genesis 14:17-24, in which Abraham paid tithing to Melchisdek of all the spoils that remained after having

first lived off those spoils and providing a portion of them to his companions.

- Second, that we should pay tithing on everything that we receive not just our surplus. This view comes from the understanding that everything belongs to God, as well as from Hebrews 7:2, which reads, “To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part *of all.*”

Whether or not you follow the first or second viewpoint does not matter so much as that you strive to give God His tithe with a broken and sincere heart. We would encourage you to study this matter out in the scriptures, and couple your study with both prayer and fasting [Alma 12:1-5]. Which method do you feel God is calling you to?

Ultimately, Zion cannot be sanctified if we do not abide by this law [Sec 106:1-2]. We are to pay our tithing annually for the purpose of:

1. The building of mine house
2. Laying the foundation of Zion
3. The priesthood
4. Debt of the Church

Sadly, in the broken state of the Church, we are somewhat limited in what we are able to do as we do not have a bishop over the Church. Today, many use the offertory as a means to pay their tithe, but this was originally meant to be a time to accept free will offerings. Free will offerings are simply offerings outside and beyond of our tithe. In the scripture references section below, we also have some information regarding the law of consecration and the storehouse.

Scripture References

Tithing

Book	Reference
KJV	Gen 14:17-24
IV	Gen 14:17-24, Deut 12:5-6, Deut 14:28-29
BoM	Alma 10

D&C	Sec 106:1-2, Sec 129:8, Sec 130:7
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The Law of Consecration and the Storehouse

God gave the law of total consecration to the Church on February 9, 1831, in the presence of twelve elders who had assembled at Kirtland, Ohio, in harmony with the Lord’s instruction that they gather together that they might receive the law which was to govern the Church [Sec 41:1b].

Members were to consecrate all their properties by laying them down before the bishop in a covenant or deed with the Church. The bishop, with the help of counselors, would then give back that portion of the member’s property which was needful for their family. The remainder would go to the storehouse. The storehouse was for:

- The poor and needy, including widows and orphans [Sec 82:2]
- Purchasing lands
- Building up of New Jerusalem
- To support the families of the priesthood while they are out on mission

Book	Reference
KJV	Gen 41
D&C	42:8-11, 19-20; 51; 58:7; 70:2-3; 72:3; 82:2

Questions for the reader

1. What is stewardship? What does it mean to be a steward?
2. What does God require of us?
3. What does God own and why?

The Principles: Tier Five

11. The Restoration

The discussion of Restoration typically focuses on the organizational and authority aspect of the Church, and while these are definitely important, it’s

critical to think of the Restoration in terms of the Restored Gospel. It's good for individuals to have a foundation in Church History, but we must not lose sight of the significance of the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, and the Inspired Version, which God brought forth through the Restoration of His Church.

What is it?

The Restoration is so much more than just the Church, it's God's pursuit to restore us back into His image. To do so, God first seeks to develop a deep intimacy with us. This level of intimacy however requires us to truly know Him, and to truly know Him we first need the fullness of the Gospel. The fullness of the Gospel is the vehicle in which we are best able to build our relationship with God.

Sadly, the Gospel that God founded His Church upon during the life and ministry of the Master was altered, thereby clouding our knowledge of God and at the same time obscuring our personal relationship with Him. Thus, the Lord restored His Gospel through the prophet, Joseph Smith, Jr., that we might know His plan concerning those things which are coming upon the earth [read Sec 1:4].

Why does it matter?

It's important to realize that God has never stopped wanting to speak to us. He wants us to know "the things whereof He had appointed" to us [read Alma 9:38-56]. God does not want us to be ignorant, He wants to empower us with knowledge. In particular, He wants to empower us with the knowledge of His everlasting covenant, which is basically this, "If you will keep my commandments, embrace the truth, and choose me, I will choose you." The everlasting covenant is God's promise to us of eternal life with Him.

As we read in the title page of the Book of Mormon, God brought forth the Restored Gospel so that we might know the covenants of the Lord. "And for this cause, that men might be partakers of the glories which were to be

revealed [i.e., eternal life], the Lord sent forth the fullness of His Gospel, His everlasting covenant, reasoning in plainness and simplicity, to prepare the weak for those things which are coming on the earth [Sec 108:11a].” The fullness of the Gospel includes the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, and the Inspired Version [read Sec 32:3d-e].

Scripture References

Church History

Read Joseph Smith’s story from Church History, Volume I, pg. 6-22.

The Book of Mormon

The Lord promised Isaiah that a book would come forth in a day when the people would draw near unto Him with their words but not their hearts. God also told Isaiah when He would proceed to do this work and what it would entail, saying, “Is it not yet a very little while [this is a point of reference], and **Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field**, and the fruitful field shall be esteemed as a forest? And in **that day** shall the deaf hear the **words of the book**, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity, and out of darkness...” [Isaiah 29:29-30 (KJV Isa 29:17-18)].

History explains that Lebanon remained a desert for centuries until the former and latter rains [Jer 3:1-6] returned around the early nineteenth century. The people there developed a way to irrigate the land, which caused it to become a fruitful land once again. The following is an excerpt from an article published in the *National Tribune* in 1889, Mr. F. G. Carpenter said:

At the present the Jews are coming here by the hundreds...a half century ago [1839] there were only 32 Jewish families in all Jerusalem, and the number in Palestine was only 3,000. Now [1889] there are nearly 50,000 in the Holy Land.

In 1830, there were very few Jews living in Palestine, and the country itself was desolate. However, by 1889, there were 50,000 Jews, and another

61,541 returned in 1935. The restoration of the Jews involved more than just people, but it involved the land as well.

At the time that the Book of Mormon was published in 1830, Palestine was still an unproductive wilderness. However, something in the land began to change shortly thereafter. Please read the following from a book published in 1935, Mr. George T. B. Davis stated: [Roy Weldon, *Other Sheep*, Price Publishing Company (1954), 80-81]

*The change that has taken place in Palestine...is almost unbelievable, and well nigh beggars description. Swamp lands have been reclaimed, and have given place to waving fields of grain. Sandy wastes have been turned into beautiful orange groves. Desert places have been turned into a veritable garden of Eden. Indeed it is quite probable that such a sudden change from a waste wilderness to a land blossoming as the rose has never before been witnessed in the history of the world. [George T. B. Davis, *Rebuilding Palestine According to Prophecy*, page 16]*

The point of reference given in the prophecy found in Isaiah [Isa 29:29-30] was that not long after the sealed book came forth, Lebanon would again become a fruitful field.

- Through both the Scriptures and history, we know that at some point the former and latter rains ceased and did not return until the mid-1800's.
- Moreover, we know that the first copies of the Book of Mormon were printed in 1830.

The question then becomes, what other sealed book came forth during this time frame, which marked the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy? The answer is none. If we believe in the Scriptures, then we must also acknowledge that the sealed book has come forth, for the sign of its coming has already occurred. The truth is there is only one book that claims to be this sealed record, the Book of Mormon.

Questions for the reader

1. What restoration does God want to do?
2. How does God communicate with us? Does He still speak today?
3. What is the restored gospel? Why is it important?
4. What is the purpose of the Book of Mormon?
5. What are other verses or means to prove the Book of Mormon?

12. Eternal Life

Every soul, both good and evil, will be judged according to their works in this life and will receive the wages of whom they have listed to obey. The greatest gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

What is it?

Jesus Christ defined eternal life as a condition, or a quality of life [Sec 6:3c], rather than simply a length of time. Saying, “And this is life eternal, that they might **know** thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent [John 17:3].”

Why does it matter?

Eternal life is God’s great and marvelous work “for this is my work and my glory, to bring to pass the immortality, and the eternal life of man [Sec 22:23b].” God’s work is to make us immortal, which He has done through Jesus Christ. His glory however is eternal life. Please read the following testimony from Elder Tom Mitchell, given at Oak Grove Restoration Branch on December 8, 2021:

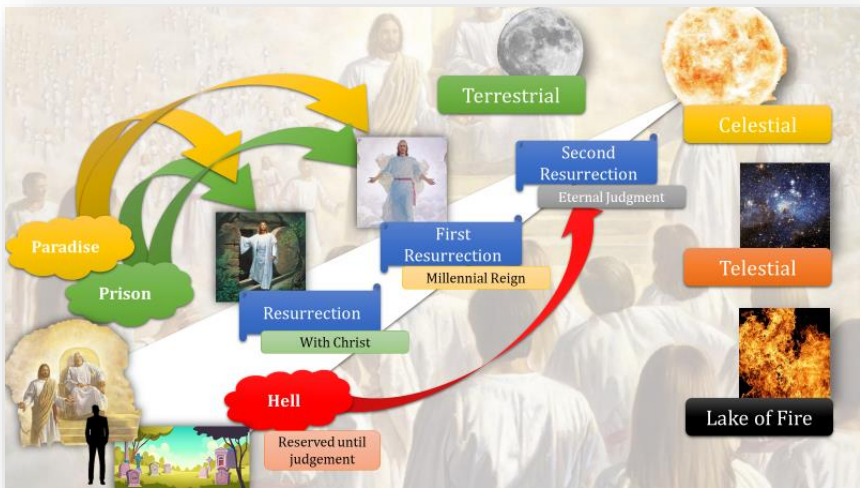
Toward evening after a long time of reading and sending messages, Eric (Odida) asked me a question out of the blue, “What is the Great and Marvelous Work?”

The answer came immediately from inside without any thought...not from me but in that dialogue as the Spirit moves...I said to the effect, “It’s not the Book of Mormon, the restoration of the church, or priesthood authority, as crucial as they all are.

They're the tools of a Father who longs for His children to come home—all of His covenant children—even the ones we don't like.

We have long worshipped the church and the fullness of the gospel with all of its beauty, as wonderful and needed as they are, but they are but methods of gathering His sons and daughters home. Even to my small mind this revelation came with profound simplicity and truth.

Scripture References



Order of events from left to right

Description	References
1. The body goes to earth and the spirit returns to God, where we are placed until our resurrection.	Ecc 12:7, Alma 19:42-43
2. There's a space of time between our death and our resurrection	Alma 19:33-39, 56-58
3. The spirits of those who are righteous are received into Paradise, while those who were disobedient go	Paradise: Luke 23:43-44, Rev 7:13-17, Al 19:44. Prison:

to hell. Note: some view prison as a separate place than hell, while others view it as a level of hell.	Gen 7:43-45, 62-64, Sec 85:28, 1 Pet 3:18-20, 4:6. Hell: Psa 9:17, Psa 55:15, 2 Pet 2:4; Deut 32:22
4. The graves were opened and many arose with Jesus Christ during His resurrection, while the wicked remained in hell.	Mat 27:55-57, Heb 2:14-15
5. The first resurrection, or the resurrection of the just occurs with the return of Jesus in glory.	Mos 8:55-59, Al 19:50-54
6. Jesus will reign on earth for a thousand years, while the rest of the dead will remain in hell.	Rev 20:2-6, Gen 7:70-73, 1 Ne 7:55-62
7. When people begin again to deny God, the Lord will spare the earth for a little season.	Sec 28:6a-b, Rev 20:7-10,
8. Those who have done evil will come forth in the second resurrection, or the resurrection of the unjust, and there will be a great battle.	Rev 20:13, 2 Ne 6:27-29, Sec 85:35c-f
9. Then comes final judgement. We are judged by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Christ 2. The Word 3. Our Works 	(1) Psa 96:13, John 5:22; (2) John 12:48, 2 Ne 11:41-42; (3) Mat 16:30, Rev 22:12, 2 Cor 5:10
10. The resurrected soul will receive either one of four rewards: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lake of Fire 2. Celestial Glory 3. Terrestrial Glory 4. Telestial Glory 	Sec 85:4-8, 1 Cor 15:40-42 (1) Mat 13:17-18, Rev 20:10, 14-15, 21:8, Sec 76:4; (2) Mat 13:21, Sec 76:5; (3) Mat 13:20, Sec 76:6; (4) Mat 13:19, Sec 76:7

Questions for the reader

1. What exactly is eternal life?
2. What is God's great and marvelous work?
3. What is the difference between the glories?
4. How are we saved? How are we judged?

Conclusion

Again, remember that this booklet is meant to be vague. We do not share everything that could be said about a particular principle on purpose, as each of us will share these principles differently. Instead, we hope that one could go through this booklet and answer these basic questions about the gospel.

1. Who is God?
2. Why should we believe in Him?
3. How does He communicate with us?
4. What does He say we should do?
5. What are His promises?

Our hope is that each person might study this booklet, include their own scriptures and testimonies for each corresponding principle, and create their own method of delivery. In so doing, we believe that you will become more inspired and passionate to share the Gospel.

God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into the world to abolish death and to bring life and immortality to light through the Gospel [2 Timothy 1:10]. He commissions you, whether man, woman, or child, to do the same [Sec 38:9c-e, Sec 4].