



Lesson 19: The Saints Are Taught to Recognize Good and Evil

Purpose

- **To teach the children how to recognize and seek the true gifts of the Spirit and not be deceived by evil.**

**OUR OPENING
PRAYER WILL BE
GIVEN BY**



(Enter Name Here)



Play Money



This money is counterfeit, an imitation of the real thing.



Which would you rather have—this imitation item or the real thing?



Imitations are often of poorer quality or less value than the real things they imitate.



Satan is a counterfeiter.



He tries to deceive us with bad imitations of good things Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ have given us.



He does this because he wants us to follow him instead of Heavenly Father and Jesus.

Here are some examples of Things of God and
Satan's Imitations.

Things of God

Uplifting music or
movies



Satan's Imitations

Degrading music or
movies

Scriptures and
good books



Bad books

Love between
husband and
wife



Immorality

Doing our best



Trying to be better
than everyone else

- Satan tries to convince us that his imitations are just as good as or even better than the things of God.
- While it may be easy to tell the difference between the imitation item and the real item, some of Satan's imitations are more difficult to distinguish.
- In today's lesson we will learn how to recognize some of Satan's imitations to avoid being deceived.



■ Lesson 19: The Saints Are Taught to Recognize Good and Evil

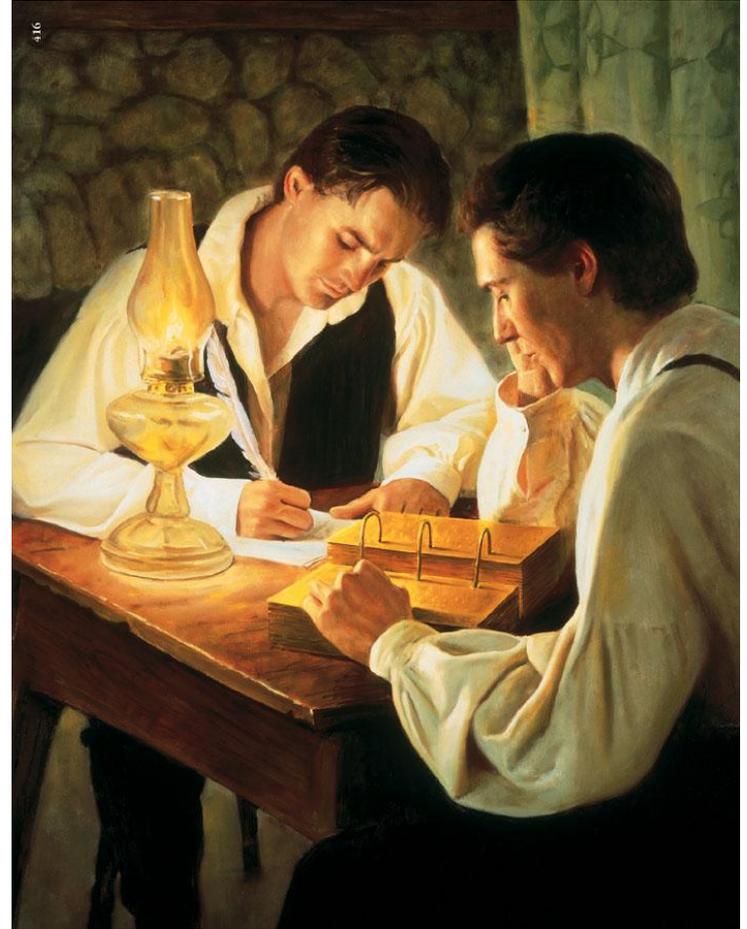
Satan Can Imitate Miracles and Spiritual Gifts

- In the early days of the Church, members experienced many miracles.
- These miracles came about because of spiritual gifts that the Lord gave to Church members.
- Some examples of these spiritual gifts are:

The Prophet Joseph Smith and the Three Witnesses seeing the angel Moroni;



The Prophet being able to translate the Book of Mormon into English from reformed Egyptian, a language he did not know

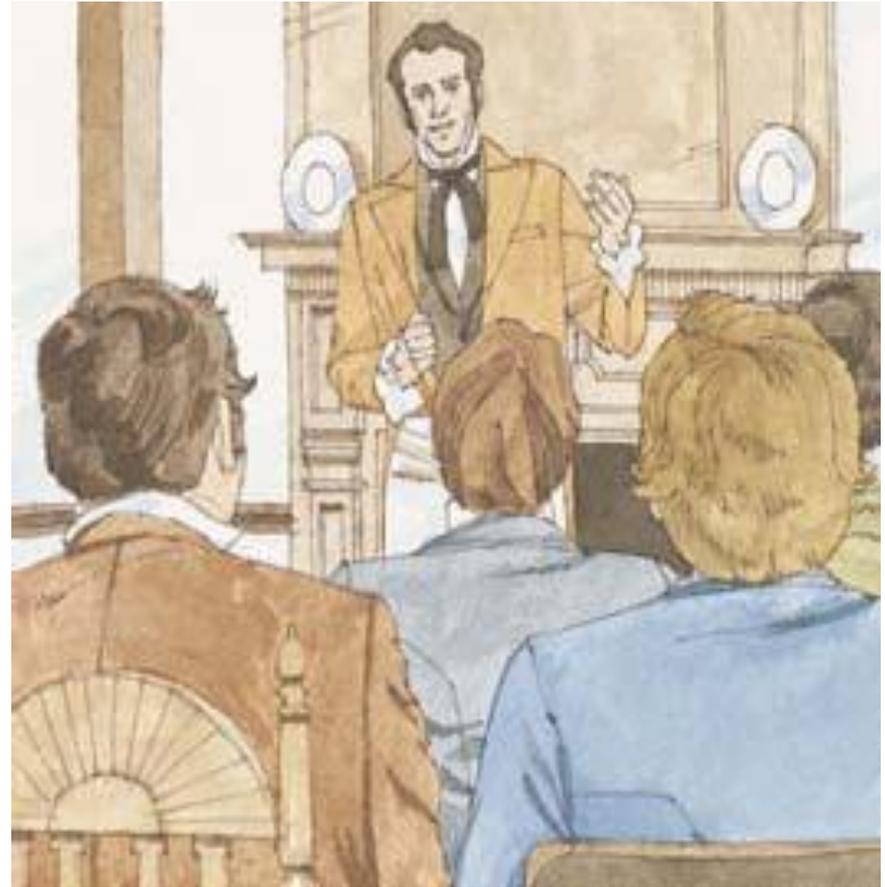


- The revelations given by the Lord on how the Church should be established and how its members should live.

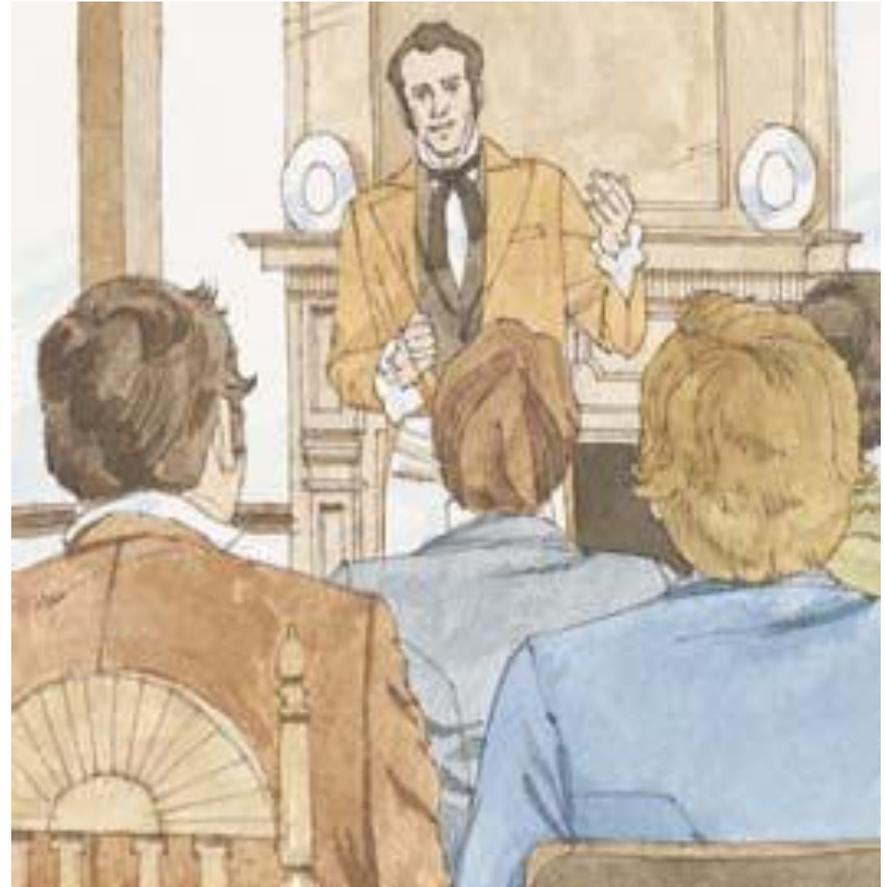


Taken from the June 2008 New Era Magazine, pg. 39 By Joseph Brickey at Sugardoodle.net

- Many members did not personally experience any miracles, but they were blessed with the spiritual gift of believing in other people's experiences.



- Spiritual gifts from the Lord strengthened the Church members and led many people to join the Church.



- A Methodist preacher named Ezra Booth came to Kirtland in the spring of 1831 with a group of people including John Johnson and his wife, Elsa.



- Elsa Johnson could not raise her arm because it was partially paralyzed.
- As these people talked with Joseph Smith, one of them asked if anyone on earth could heal Elsa's arm.



- Later the Prophet took Elsa's hand in his and quietly said, "Woman, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ I command thee to be whole."
- To everyone's amazement, Elsa Johnson then raised her arm.
- The next day she hung her wash on the clothesline without pain for the first time in over six years *(History of the Church, 1:215–16).*



This miracle led Ezra Booth and some members of the Johnson family to join the Church.

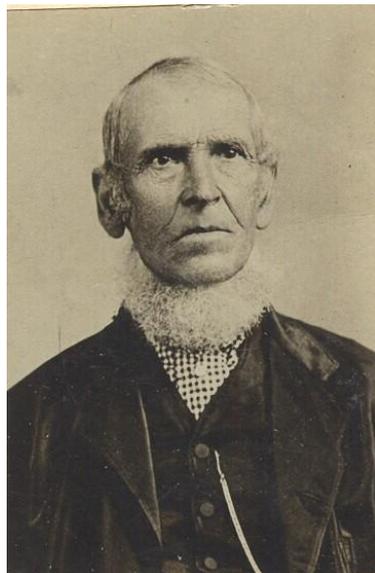
- Satan did not like to see the Church growing, and he worked hard to stop the growth.

- One of his methods was to imitate the spiritual gifts given to members of the Church by the Lord.

- He did this so he could deceive people and lead them away from the Church.



- During the first year after the Church was organized, some people claimed to have received revelations for the Church, just as the Prophet did.



**Remember Hiram Page
and the seer stone?**

http://aranglen.tripod.com/OurFamilyHistory/hpage_mbrewer.html

- Other people claimed to have seen visions or had other strange things happen to them.

- Parley P. Pratt observed that some people would get terrible expressions on their faces and seem to faint.



- Others would twist their bodies or have cramps and convulsions.
- Others claimed to have visions and revelations that did not agree with the teachings and spirit of the gospel.

- Although some people had received revelations and visions from the Lord, Parley P. Pratt and other Church leaders felt that the strange happenings they observed were **not** from the Lord.

- **They asked Joseph Smith to inquire of the Lord concerning these events. The answer Joseph received from the Lord in May 1831 is found in Doctrine and Covenants 50.**

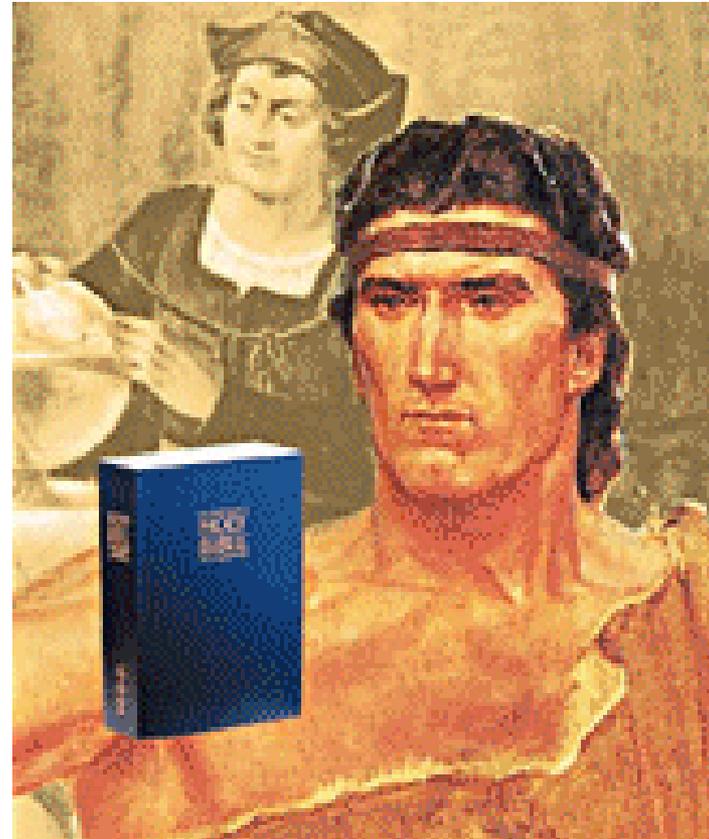


How to Distinguish False Spiritual Gifts from True Ones

- In [Doctrine and Covenants 50:1-9](#), the Lord explains that false spiritual gifts do exist and that they come from Satan.
- Why do you think Satan uses these counterfeit gifts?

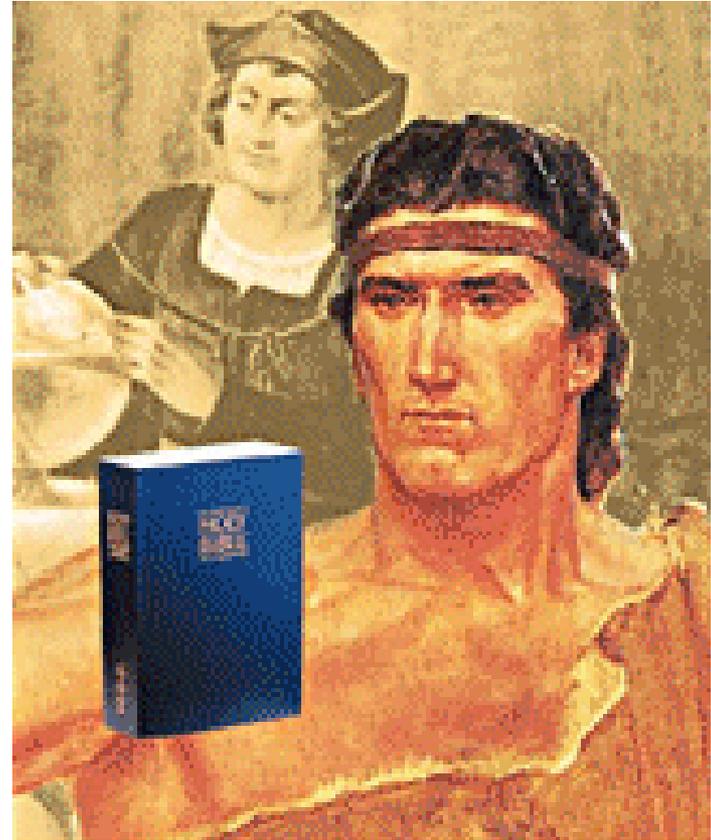
How do members of the Church distinguish between true and false spiritual gifts?

([Doctrine and Covenants 50:17–24, 31](#) and [Moroni 7:15–17](#))



From about.com:latter-day saints

False spiritual gifts lead us away from Christ, while true spiritual gifts lead us to believe in Christ and help us want to follow him.



From about.com:latter-day saints

We Can Receive True Spiritual Gifts

- The Lord gave Doctrine and Covenants 46, a revelation about true spiritual gifts, a few months before he revealed Doctrine and Covenants 50.
- He warned the early members of the Church about Satan's counterfeit gifts and then described some of the true spiritual gifts members of the Church may.

- All of the spiritual gifts described in Doctrine and Covenants 46 are available to members of the Church today.



Taken from the Nursery Manual, "Behold Your Little Ones", Lesson 8
at sugardoodle.net

[Go to Video](#)

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- Joseph Smith received many revelations that taught about the Holy Ghost.
- The Holy Ghost is a Spirit who helps Heavenly Father and Jesus.

■ **The Holy Ghost does not have a body of flesh and bones.**

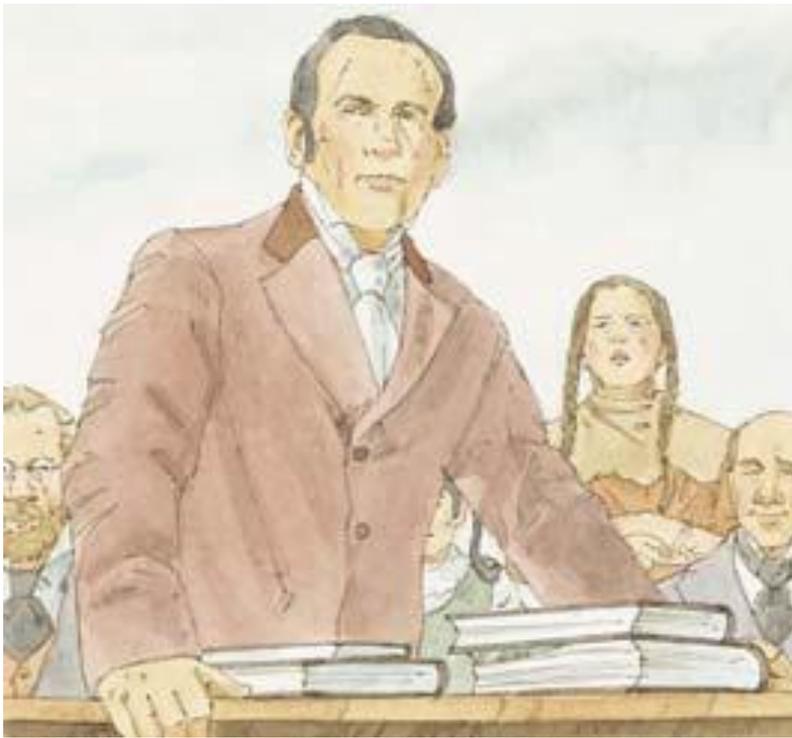




- Through the power of the Holy Ghost, God gives special gifts to members of the Church. These are called gifts of the Spirit, or spiritual gifts.
- Each Saint has at least one spiritual gift.

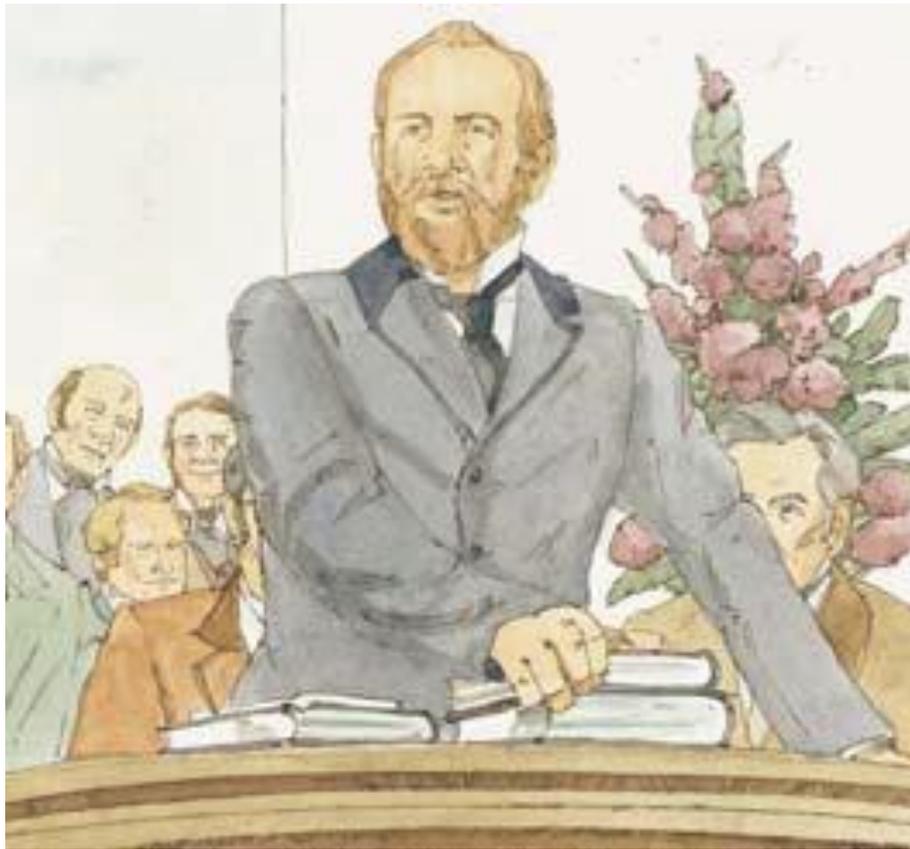


- Church members should learn about their gifts and use them to help each other.
- Jesus told Joseph Smith what some of these gifts are.



- Some Saints are given the gift of knowing that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
- They know He died for us.

■ **Other Saints are given the gift to recognize and believe the true testimonies of other people about Jesus.**

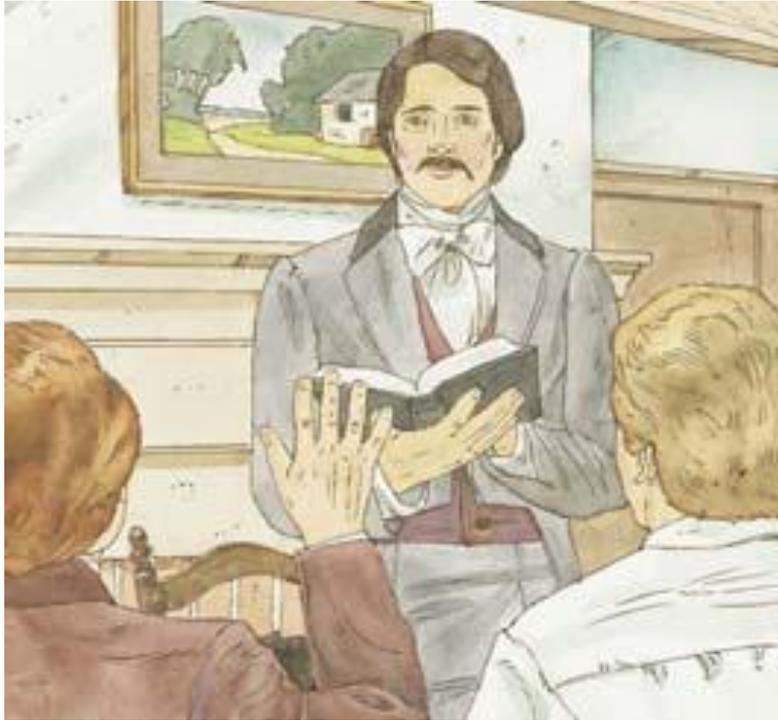


Some Saints are given the gift to be leaders.

- Some Saints are given the gift to know the difference between righteous and wicked spirits.
- Righteous spirits are sent by God and make us feel good.



- **Wicked spirits are sent by Satan and bring a bad feeling.**



- Some Saints are given the gift of wisdom.
- This gift helps them make good choices and properly use the knowledge Heavenly Father gives them.
- Some Saints are given the gift of knowledge.
- Those who have this gift are to teach others and help them make wise choices.



- Some Saints are given the gift of faith to be healed.
- Others are given the gift to heal sick people.
- The Holy Ghost gives some Saints the gift to do miracles.
- Miracles show the power of God.

Some Saints are given the gift to speak languages they do not know.





- Some Saints are given the gift of prophecy.

- This gift helps them know and understand things that have happened in the past, things that are happening now, and things that will happen in the future.

- Some Saints are given many gifts.
- All Saints should use their gifts to serve and bless others.



- The bishop can know what gifts each Saint has.
- He knows who will be good teachers.

■ He knows which Saints love God and obey the commandments.



- Righteous Saints should work and pray to be given the gifts they need.
- All of these gifts come from God.



To Review

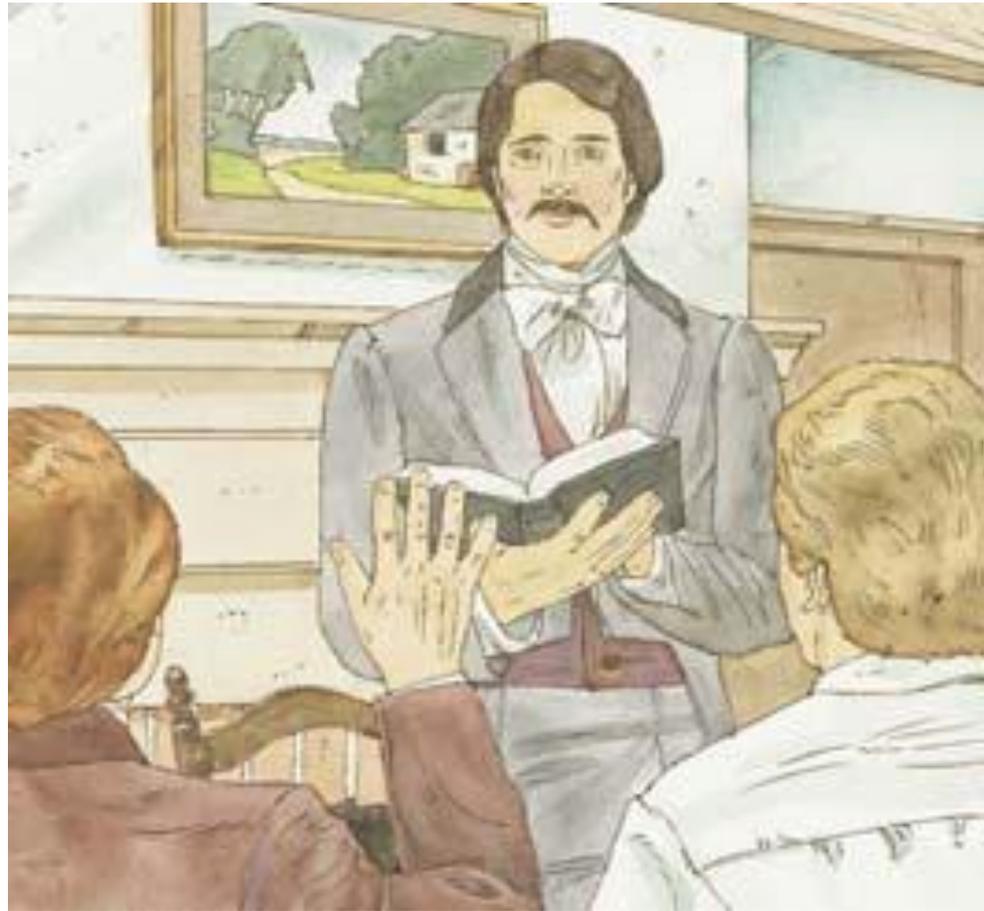
- We are all given at least one spiritual gift.
- We may have been given more than one spiritual gift.

The spiritual gifts:

1. To know that Jesus Christ is the Son of God
2. to believe on their words
3. to know the differences of administration
4. word of wisdom
5. the word of knowledge
6. to have faith to be healed
7. to have faith to heal
8. the working of miracles
9. to prophesy
10. the discerning of spirits
11. to speak with tongues
12. the interpretation of tongues

To Review

Spiritual gifts are given to righteous people and are to be used to help others.



DISCUSSION TIME

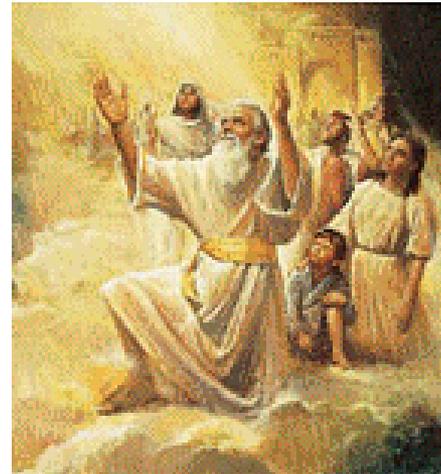
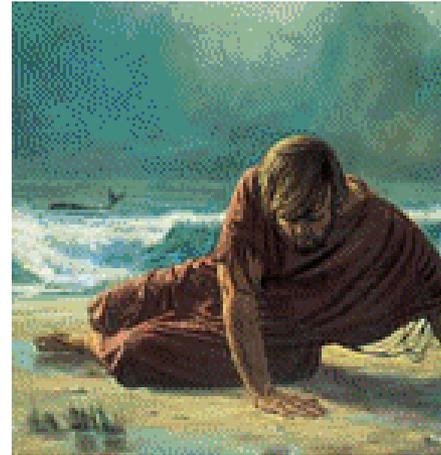
- Where do false spiritual gifts come from? ([D&C 50:2–3.](#))
- How might Satan’s imitations of the gifts of God sometimes confuse people?
- Why does Satan want to deceive us?



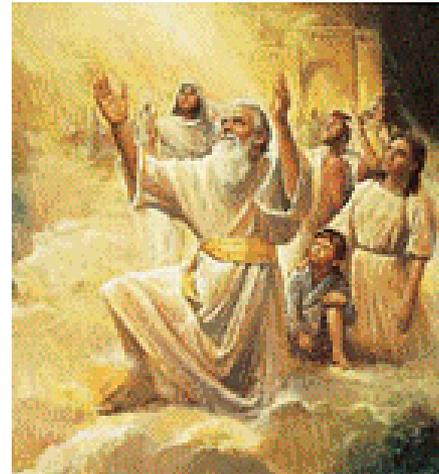
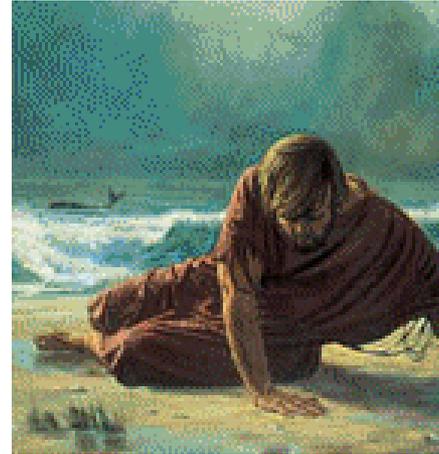
- What do righteous members of the Church have to help them recognize false spiritual gifts? ([D&C 50:17.](#))
- How does the Holy Ghost help us know what things are right?



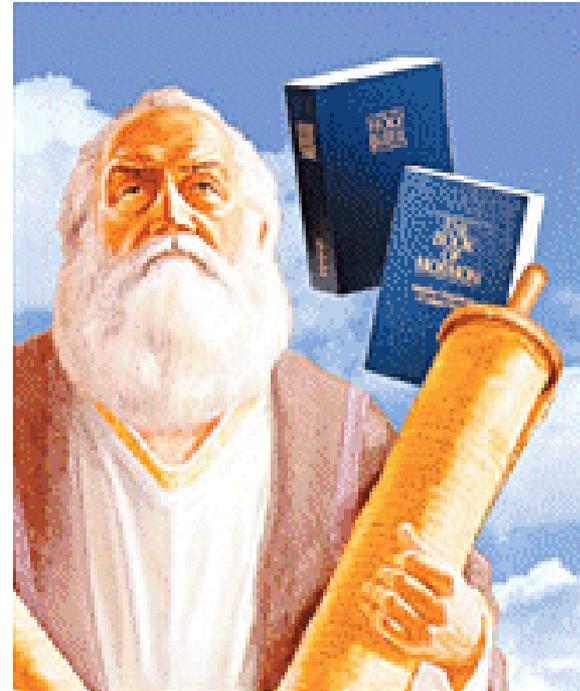
- How can we know if what we are seeing or hearing is from God? ([Moroni 7:15–17](#); [D&C 50:23–24](#).)



- Something that edifies makes us feel uplifted and makes us want to improve.
- Things that are from God make us want to follow Christ and be better people.
- Things that are from Satan have a bad influence and try to lead us to disobey the commandments.

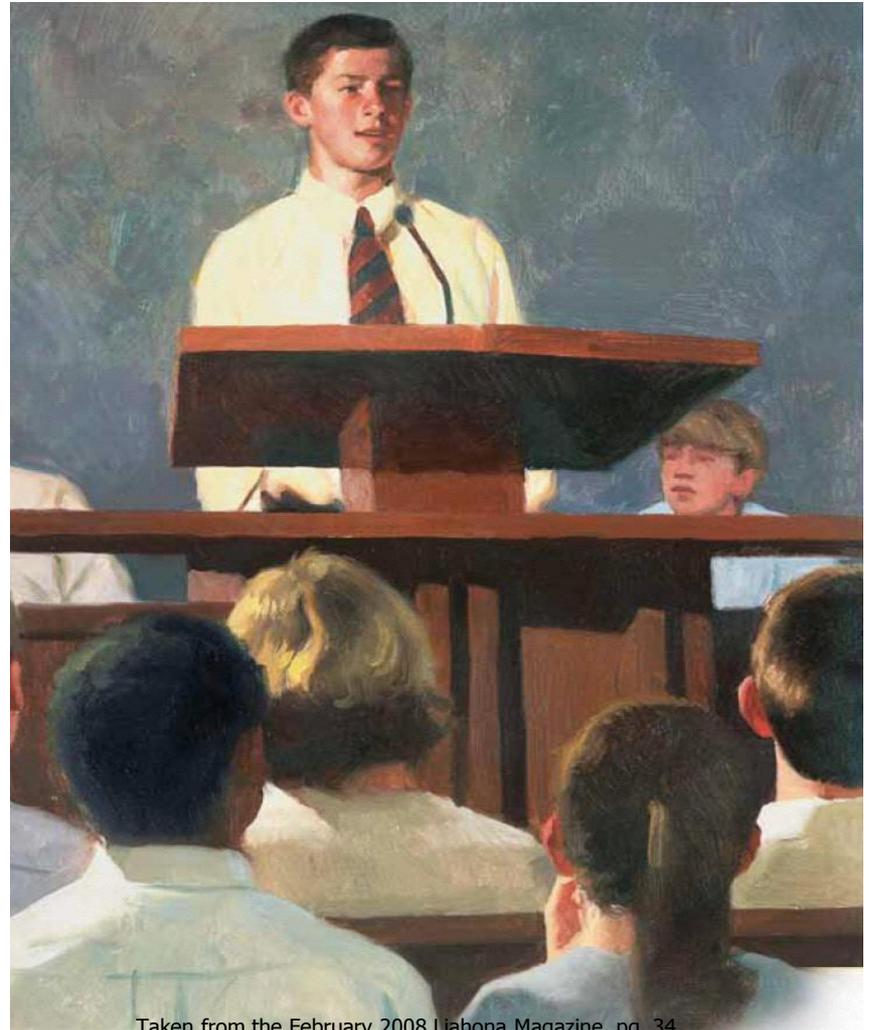


- If we are having difficulty knowing if something is from God, what can we do? ([D&C 46:7; 50:31;](#))
- Why does God give us spiritual gifts? ([D&C 46:8–9, 26.](#))
- Why doesn't everyone receive the same spiritual gifts? ([D&C 46:11–12.](#))



From about.com: latter-day saints

- What are some of the true spiritual gifts we can receive? ([D&C 46:13–25](#))
- How can the gift to believe the testimonies of others be helpful?



Taken from the February 2008 Liahona Magazine, pg. 34



- To help you understand the gift to believe the testimonies of others, let's read the following quotation by Harold B. Lee, the eleventh President of the Church:



- “If you have doubts, you listen to those of us who are bearing you a strong testimony.
- ... If you haven’t [a testimony], then you hold onto mine until you get and develop one for yourself”

(Harold B. Lee, the eleventh President of the Church: Qualities of Leadership [address to the Latter-day Saint Student Association, Aug. 1970], p. 8).

- Whose testimonies can you rely on as you strengthen your own?
- Each of you needs to develop your own testimony of the truthfulness of the gospel, but while you are working on your own testimony you can believe in the testimonies of Church leaders, your parents, your teachers, and other Church members you respect and trust.



- How can we strengthen each other by sharing our testimonies in fast and testimony meeting?



- How should we seek for spiritual gifts? ([D&C 46:8–9.](#))
- What should we do when we receive a spiritual gift? ([D&C 46:32.](#))
- To keep these gifts what must we do? ([D&C 46:33.](#))



- What spiritual gifts have you witnessed in your life and in the lives of those around you?



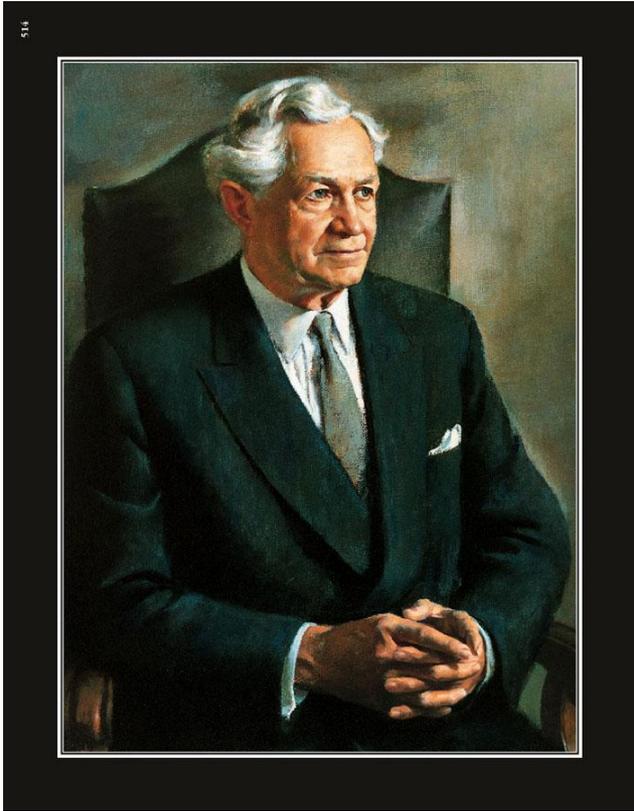
The next slide reviews the spiritual gifts---

- The spiritual gifts:

1. To know that Jesus Christ is the Son of God
2. to believe on their words
3. to know the differences of administration
4. word of wisdom
5. the word of knowledge
6. to have faith to be healed
7. to have faith to heal
8. the working of miracles
9. to prophesy
- 10.the discerning of spirits
- 11.to speak with tongues
- 12.the interpretation of tongues

The gift of tongues

- In 1921 Elder David O. McKay, a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles who would later become President of the Church, went to New Zealand for a Church conference.
- He was to give a talk to a group of Maori people, but he did not speak the Maori language, and they did not speak English.



The gift of tongues



- At the beginning of his talk Elder McKay told the people that he wished he could talk to them in their own language, but since he could not, he would ask the Lord to give them the gift of interpretation of tongues so that they would be able to understand him.

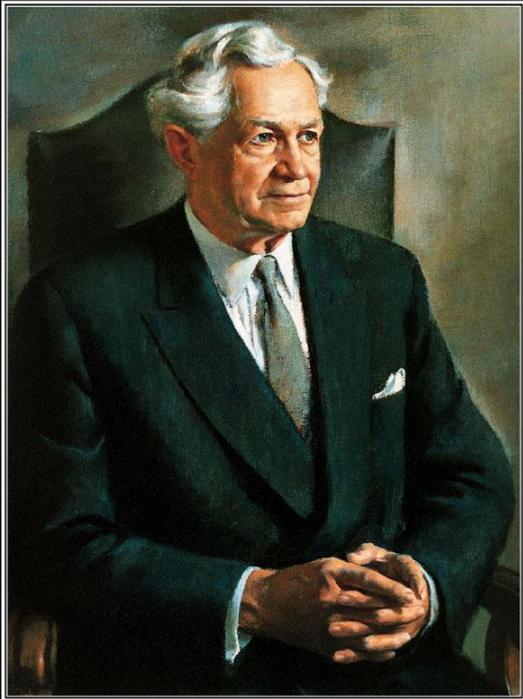
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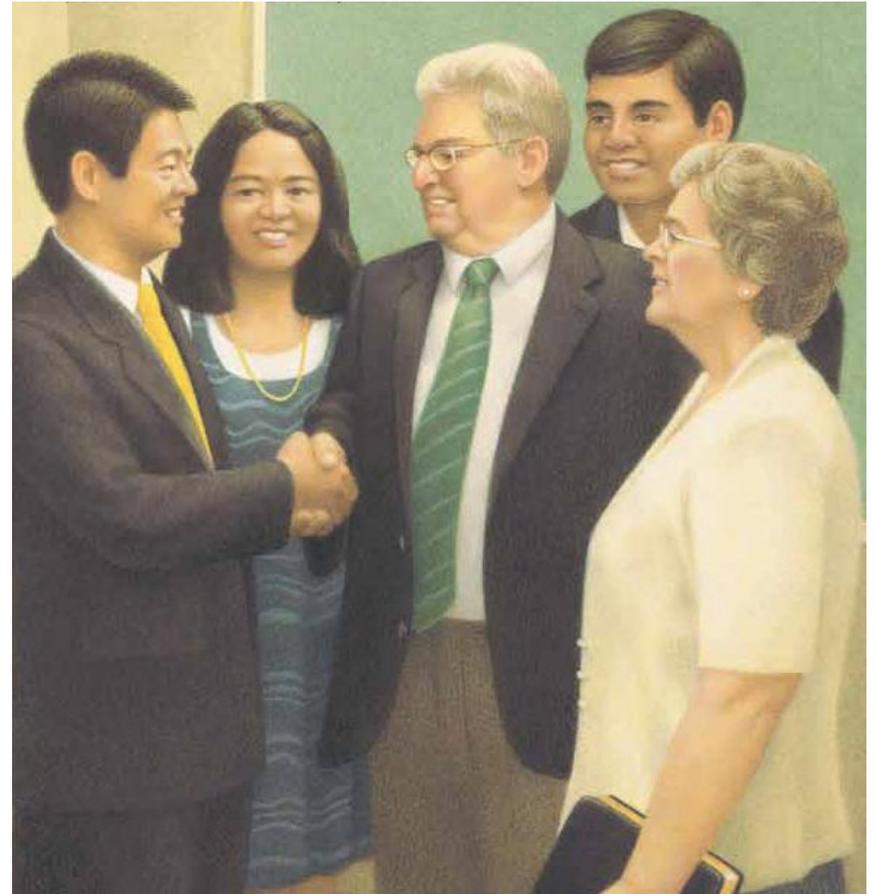
- Elder McKay told the people that even if they could not understand his exact words, they would be able to feel the Spirit and know that his words were inspired by the Lord.
- Elder McKay then began to give his talk with the help of an interpreter.

The gift of tongues

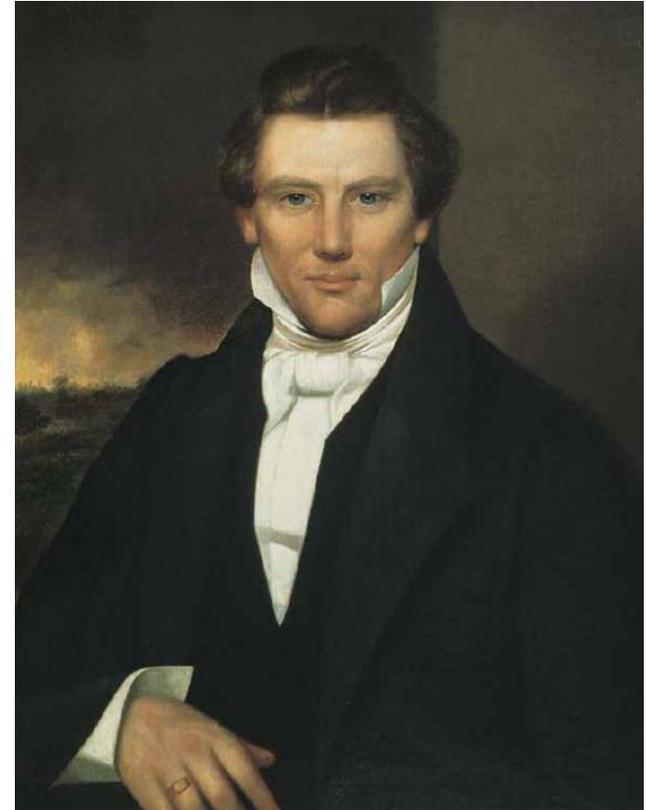
- Elder McKay would talk for a moment in English, and then the interpreter would repeat his words in Maori so the audience could understand.
- Suddenly people throughout the audience started calling to the interpreter to stop talking and sit down. They could understand Elder McKay themselves and did not need the interpreter anymore.



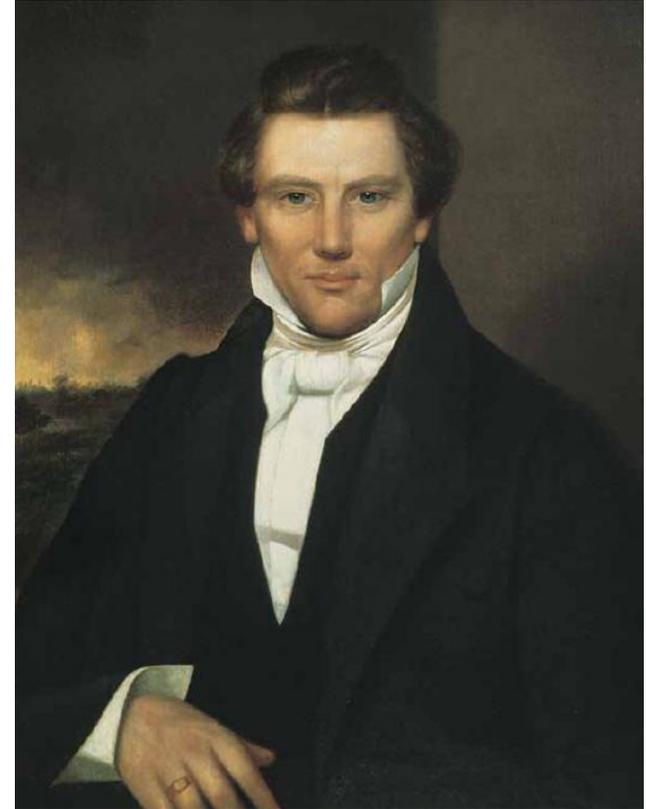
- Even though the people in the audience did not understand English, the Lord blessed them with the gift of interpretation of tongues and they were able to understand everything Elder McKay said in his talk.



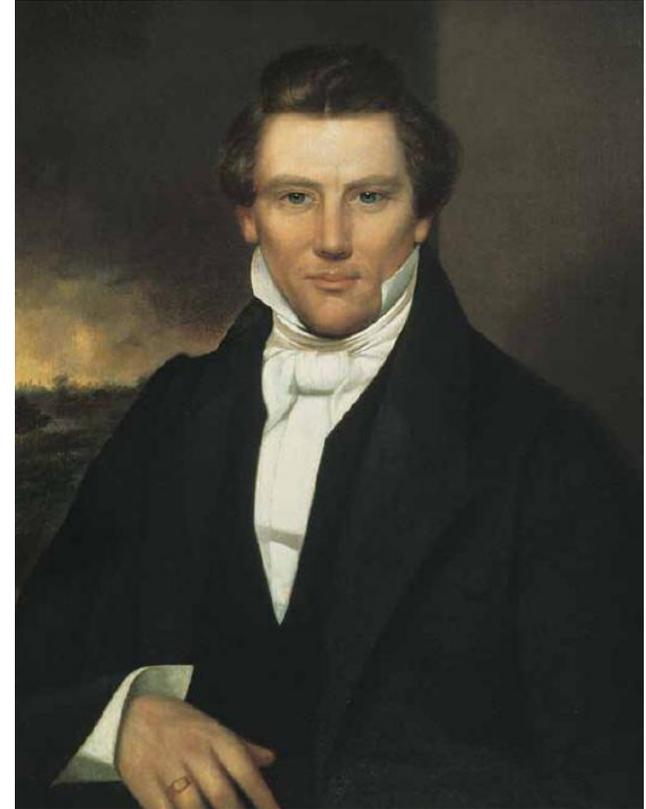
- The Prophet Joseph Smith was once invited to preach the gospel to a group of American Indians.
- The Indians could not understand English and the Prophet could not speak the Indians' language, so the Prophet paid a special government agent to translate his words into the Indian language.



- The Prophet spoke for a few minutes, and the agent interpreted his words for the Indians.
- When the Indians showed anger at the message, the Lord helped the Prophet know that the agent was not telling the Indians the right words.
- He was telling lies in order to make the Indians angry.

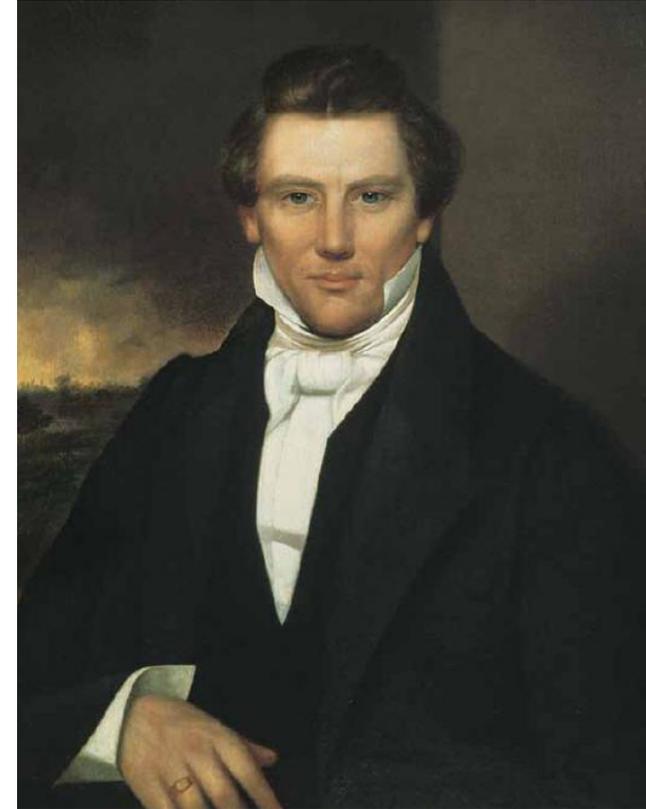


- The Prophet moved the agent aside and preached a sermon to the Indians without the help of an interpreter.
- Although they did not speak the same language, the Indians understood every word the Prophet said in the sermon.

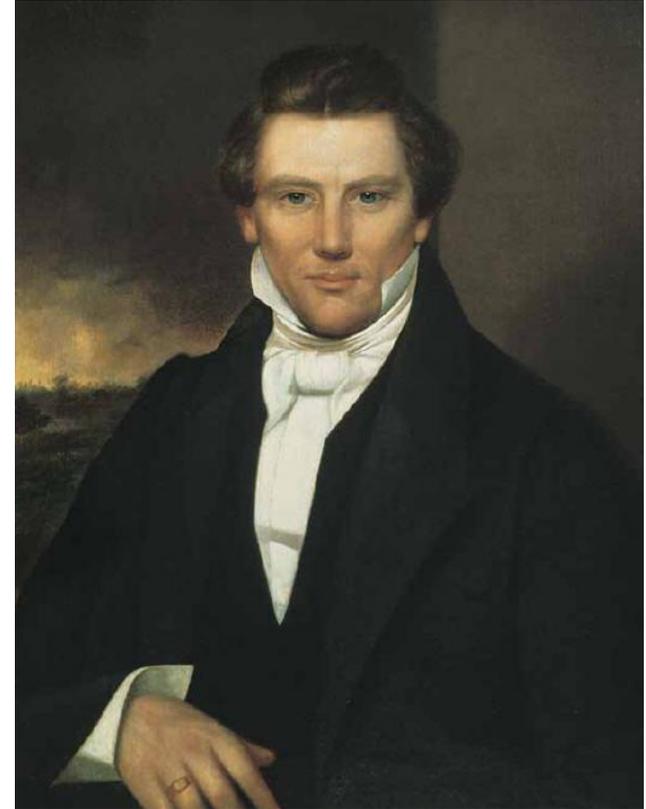


- The Lord blessed the Indians with the gift of interpretation of tongues so that they could understand what the Prophet was telling them.

(See E. Cecil McGavin, *The Historical Background of the Doctrine and Covenants* [Salt Lake City: Paragon Printing Co., 1949], p. 156.)

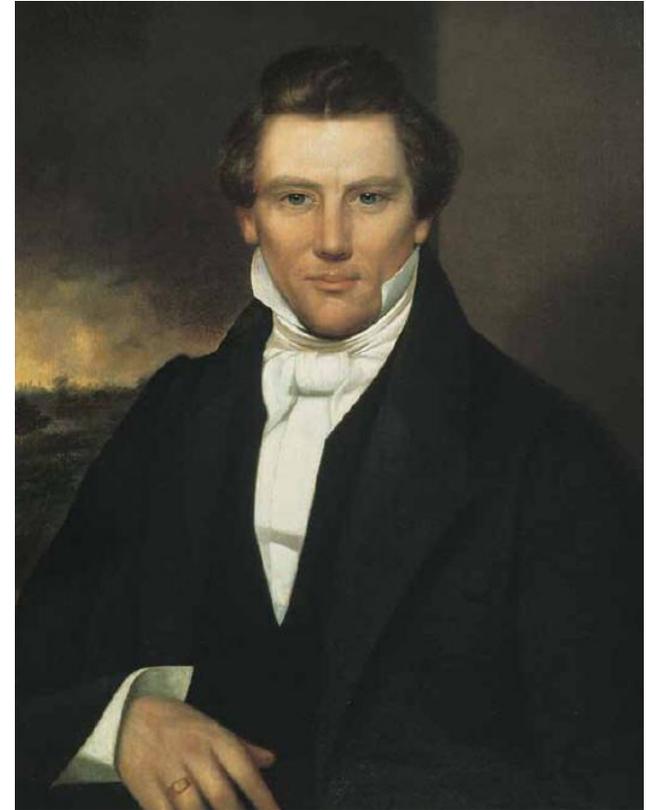


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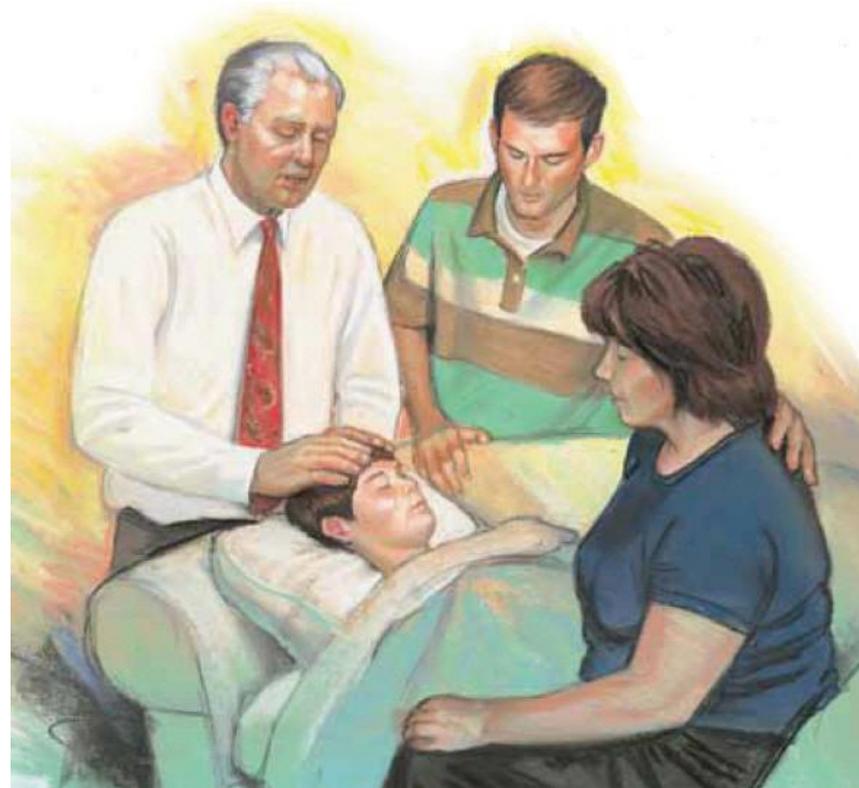


The gifts of faith to heal and faith to be healed:

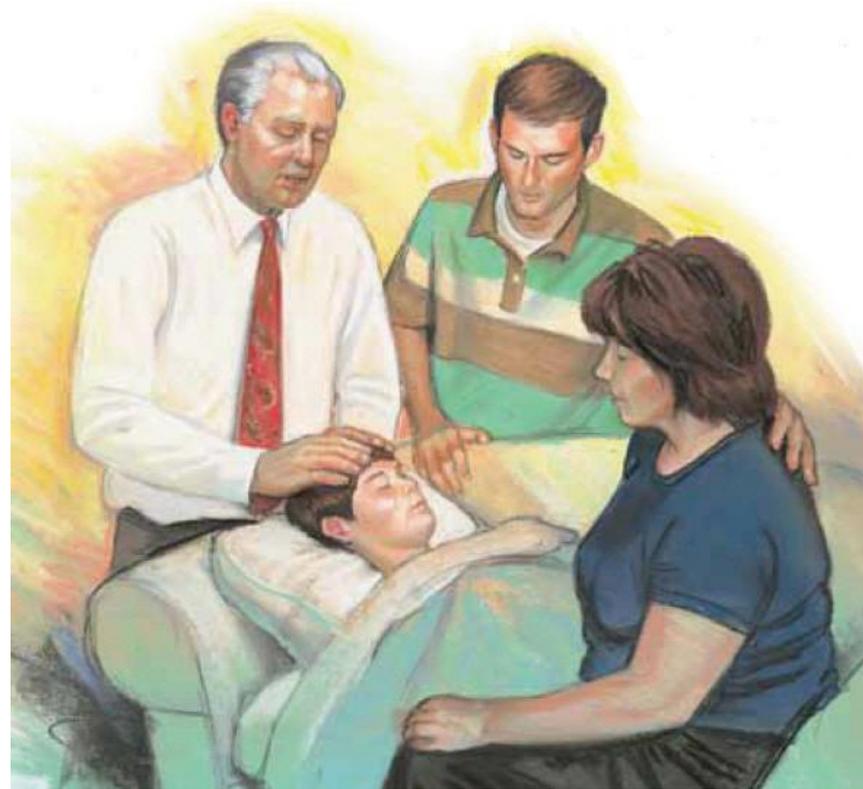
- John Shumway of Orem, Utah, was riding his bicycle to a Scout meeting when he was struck by a car and received serious head injuries.
- He was taken to a hospital, where the doctor told John's family that there was little chance that John would survive, and that if he did live he would have severe brain damage.



- Several priesthood holders, including John's father and his bishop, laid their hands on John's head to give him a blessing.



- The bishop felt prompted to bless John that he would be healed. After the blessing, delicate surgery was performed on John's brain.
- John survived the surgery but was unconscious for many days.



- Randy, a friend who was with John when the accident happened, prayed constantly for John.
- When the ward held a special fast, Randy participated, praying sincerely for John to recover.
- That same day at church, John's father told Randy that John had regained consciousness.
- Randy received a strong testimony of the power of fasting and prayer when John later told him that he felt Randy's faith had helped him wake up.

- John had more surgery and spent much time recovering, but eventually his health was restored.
- To the amazement of his doctors, he was able to play basketball, learn to drive a car, become an Eagle Scout, graduate from high school, and prepare for a mission.

■ **Because of the faith of many people, John was healed.**



- Although John was healed, sometimes people are not healed even though they have great faith.
- Heavenly Father knows what is best for each of us and answers our prayers accordingly.

Seventh article of faith

We believe in the gift of tongues,
prophecy, revelation, visions,
healing, interpretation of
tongues, and so forth.



Testimony

- I want to testify to you of the importance of seeking the gifts of the Spirit.
- I want to encourage you to stay close to the Lord and pray often so that you will be able to distinguish between true and false spiritual gifts.

**OUR CLOSING
PRAYER WILL BE
GIVEN BY**



(Enter Name Here)

THE END

Doctrine and Covenants 50:1–9

- 1 Hearken, O ye elders of my church, and give ear to the voice of the living God; and attend to the words of wisdom which shall be given unto you, according as ye have asked and are agreed as touching the church, and the spirits which have gone abroad in the earth.
- 2 Behold, verily I say unto you, that there are many spirits which are false spirits, which have gone forth in the earth, deceiving the world.

Doctrine and Covenants 50:1–9

- 3 And also Satan hath sought to deceive you, that he might overthrow you.
- 4 Behold, I, the Lord, have looked upon you, and have seen abominations in the church that profess my name.
- 5 But blessed are they who are faithful and endure, whether in life or in death, for they shall inherit eternal life.

Doctrine and Covenants 50:1–9

- 6 But wo unto them that are deceivers and hypocrites, for, thus saith the Lord, I will bring them to judgment.
- 7 Behold, verily I say unto you, there are hypocrites among you, who have deceived some, which has given the adversary power; but behold such shall be reclaimed;

Doctrine and Covenants 50:1–9

- 8 But the hypocrites shall be detected and shall be cut off, either in life or in death, even as I will; and wo unto them who are cut off from my church, for the same are overcome of the world.
- 9 Wherefore, let every man beware lest he do that which is not in truth and righteousness before me.

Doctrine and Covenants 50:17–24, 31

- 17 Verily I say unto you, he that is ordained of me and sent forth to preach the word of truth by the Comforter, in the Spirit of truth, doth he preach it by the Spirit of truth or some other way?
- 18 And if it be by some other way it is not of God.
- 19 And again, he that receiveth the word of truth, doth he receive it by the Spirit of truth or some other way?

Doctrine and Covenants 50:17–24, 31

- 20 If it be some other way it is not of God.
- 21 Therefore, why is it that ye cannot understand and know, that he that receiveth the word by the Spirit of truth receiveth it as it is preached by the Spirit of truth?
- 22 Wherefore, he that preacheth and he that receiveth, understand one another, and both are edified and rejoice together.

Doctrine and Covenants 50:17–24, 31

- 23 And that which doth not edify is not of God, and is darkness.
- 24 That which is of God is light; and he that receiveth light, and continueth in God, receiveth more light; and that light groweth brighter and brighter until the perfect day.

Doctrine and Covenants 50:17–24, 31

- 31 Wherefore, it shall come to pass, that if you behold a spirit manifested that you cannot understand, and you receive not that spirit, ye shall ask of the Father in the name of Jesus; and if he give not unto you that spirit, then you may know that it is not of God.

Moroni 7:15–17

- 15 For behold, my brethren, it is given unto you to judge, that ye may know good from evil; and the way to judge is as plain, that ye may know with a perfect knowledge, as the daylight is from the dark night.

Moroni 7:15–17

- 16 For behold, the Spirit of Christ is given to every man, that he may know good from evil; wherefore, I show unto you the way to judge; for every thing which inviteth to do good, and to persuade to believe in Christ, is sent forth by the power and gift of Christ; wherefore ye may know with a perfect knowledge it is of God.

Moroni 7:15–17

- 17 But whatsoever thing persuadeth men to do evil, and believe not in Christ, and deny him, and serve not God, then ye may know with a perfect knowledge it is of the devil; for after this manner doth the devil work, for he persuadeth no man to do good, no, not one; neither do his angels; neither do they who subject themselves unto him.

D&C 50:2–3

- 2 Behold, verily I say unto you, that there are many spirits which are false spirits, which have gone forth in the earth, deceiving the world.
- 3 And also Satan hath sought to deceive you, that he might overthrow you.

D&C 50:17

- 17 Verily I say unto you, he that is ordained of me and sent forth to preach the word of truth by the Comforter, in the Spirit of truth, doth he preach it by the Spirit of truth or some other way?

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D&C 50:23–24

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- 24 That which is of God is light; and he that receiveth light, and continueth in God, receiveth more light; and that light groweth brighter and brighter until the perfect day.

Doctrine and Covenants 50:23

- 23 And that which doth not edify is not of God, and is darkness.

D&C 46:7; 50:31

- 7 But ye are commanded in all things to ask of God, who giveth liberally; and that which the Spirit testifies unto you even so I would that ye should do in all holiness of heart, walking uprightly before me, considering the end of your salvation, doing all things with prayer and thanksgiving, that ye may not be seduced by evil spirits, or doctrines of devils, or the commandments of men; for some are of men, and others of devils.

D&C 46:7; 50:31

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D&C 46:8–9, 26

- 8 Wherefore, beware lest ye are deceived; and that ye may not be deceived seek ye earnestly the best gifts, always remembering for what they are given;
- 9 For verily I say unto you, they are given for the benefit of those who love me and keep all my commandments, and him that seeketh so to do; that all may be benefited that seek or that ask of me, that ask and not for a sign that they may consume it upon their lusts.
- 26 And all these gifts come from God, for the benefit of the children of God.

D&C 46:11–12

- 11 For all have not every gift given unto them; for there are many gifts, and to every man is given a gift by the Spirit of God.
- 12 To some is given one, and to some is given another, that all may be profited thereby.

D&C 46:13–25

- 13 To some it is given by the Holy Ghost to know that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that he was crucified for the sins of the world.
- 14 To others it is given to believe on their words, that they also might have eternal life if they continue faithful.

D&C 46:13–25

- 15 And again, to some it is given by the Holy Ghost to know the differences of administration, as it will be pleasing unto the same Lord, according as the Lord will, suiting his mercies according to the conditions of the children of men.

D&C 46:13–25

- 16 And again, it is given by the Holy Ghost to some to know the diversities of operations, whether they be of God, that the manifestations of the Spirit may be given to every man to profit withal.
- 17 And again, verily I say unto you, to some is given, by the Spirit of God, the word of wisdom.

D&C 46:13–25

- 18 To another is given the word of knowledge, that all may be taught to be wise and to have knowledge.
- 19 And again, to some it is given to have faith to be healed;
- 20 And to others it is given to have faith to heal.
- 21 And again, to some is given the working of miracles;

D&C 46:13–25

- 22 And to others it is given to prophesy;
- 23 And to others the discerning of spirits.
- 24 And again, it is given to some to speak with tongues;
- 25 And to another is given the interpretation of tongues.

D&C 46:14

- 14 To others it is given to believe on their words, that they also might have eternal life if they continue faithful.

D&C 46:8–9

- 8 Wherefore, beware lest ye are deceived; and that ye may not be deceived seek ye earnestly the best gifts, always remembering for what they are given;
- 9 For verily I say unto you, they are given for the benefit of those who love me and keep all my commandments, and him that seeketh so to do; that all may be benefited that seek or that ask of me, that ask and not for a sign that they may consume it upon their lusts.

D&C 46:32

- 32 And ye must give thanks unto God in the Spirit for whatsoever blessing ye are blessed with.

D&C 46:33

- 33 And ye must practice virtue and holiness before me continually. Even so. Amen.