



# The Gospel Doctrine Class



Doctrine & Covenants - Lesson 41

Every Member A Missionary

*“Behold, I sent you out to testify and warn the people, and it becometh every man who hath been warned to warn his neighbor.” (D&C 88:81)*

D&C 1:4–5, 30; 65; 88:81; 109:72–74

*A study of this lesson inspire us to participate in taking the gospel to all the world and to strengthen new converts.*

Joseph Smith: "No unhallowed hand can stop the work from progressing; persecutions may rage, mobs may combine, armies may assemble, calumny may defame, but the truth of God will go forth boldly, nobly, and independent, till it has penetrated every continent, visited every clime, swept every country, and sounded in every ear, till the purposes of God shall be accomplished, and the Great Jehovah shall say the work is done." (History of the Church, 4:540)

Brigham Young: "The Gospel must be preached to the world, that the wicked may be left without excuse." (Discourses of Brigham Young, p319)

Harold B. Lee: "It is our responsibility to give all other men the opportunity of hearing and receiving that gospel if they desire, in order to gain that testimony, without which we know they cannot achieve life's greatest purpose." (Teachings of Harold B. Lee, p594)

Ezra Taft Benson: "Why does the Mormon Church continue to send missionaries out into the world, particularly to Christian countries?' May I read the words of the First Presidency of this Church, uttered from this very pulpit, in which they gave answer to this question. 'It is our duty, divinely imposed, to continue urgently and militantly to carry forward our missionary work. We must continue to call missionaries and send them out to preach the gospel, which was never more needed than now, which is the only remedy for the tragic ills that now afflict the world, and which alone can bring peace and brotherly love back amongst the peoples of the earth.'

"This is not a matter of our own choosing. It is not something that has been devised by man. The Lord has made it clear to us, my brethren, that the responsibility is ours, as holders of the priesthood, to carry this message of the restored gospel to the people of the world." (Teachings of Ezra Taft Benson, pp180-181)

President Spencer W. Kimball: "When I ask for more missionaries, I am not asking for more testimony-barren or unworthy missionaries. I am asking that we start earlier and train our missionaries better in every branch and every ward in the world.

... Young people [should] understand that it is a great privilege to go on a mission and that they must be physically well, mentally well, spiritually well, and that 'the Lord cannot look upon sin with the least degree of allowance' [D&C 1:31]." (Ensign, Oct 1974, p7)

President Spencer W. Kimball: "My brothers and sisters, I call upon you to organize yourselves and your families and bring the gospel to your neighbors and your friends.

"Remember the slogan President David O. McKay gave us, 'Every member a missionary.'

"This is your privilege. This is your duty. This is a command from the presidency of the Church and from your Lord. Listen to the Lord's command: 'Behold, I sent you out to testify and warn the people, and it becometh every man [every man!] who hath been warned to warn his neighbor. Therefore, they are left without excuse, and their sins are upon their own heads.' (D&C 88:81-82.)

"Each of us is responsible to bear witness of the gospel truths that we have been given. We all have relatives, neighbors, friends, and fellow workmen, and it is our responsibility to pass the truths of the gospel on to them, by example as well as by precept.

"We say to our friends of the world, we love and admire you. We are grateful for your resolve to be righteous in an increasingly wicked world. Bring all that you have that is good and wholesome with you, and let us add to all that you have, that which we have-the fullness of the gospel and the even greater blessings that can follow unto you through membership in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints! ...

"We believe that there are many good men and women in all the parties, in all the churches and denominations, who are kept from the truth by just not knowing where it is found.

"We would ask that you select a family, some family in your neighborhood, that you have considerable, high regard for, and then invite them to your home. Show them how to hold home evenings; teach them the gospel. There isn't anyone here that can't teach the gospel, and if there is, there are missionaries available. ... If you can't think of anything else you can say, 'I know that God lives.' That's the greatest testimony in the world. And you don't need to have a thousand reasons for doing it." (Teachings of Spencer W. Kimball, pp551-552)

## Next Week's Reading Assignment

D&C 1:38; 68:1–4; 84:109–10; 107:25, 34, 93–98; 132:8;  
Official Declaration 2 (pages 293–94 in the D&C);  
Our Heritage, pages 117–19, 125–27

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