Doctrine and Covenants 28

Revelation in the Church

Prepare to study by listening to a hymn or song and saying a prayer. Create a note for this lesson in your seminary notebook. As you study, write any questions you have and look for answers.

In 1830, Hiram Page claimed to receive revelations for the Church through a special stone. Some Church members, including Oliver Cowdery, believed him. The Lord revealed truths about the order of revelation in the Church In response. This lesson can help you understand the order and organization the Savior uses to reveal His will in His Church.

Study the Scriptures

Hiram Page was a man who embraced the gospel. He was also selected as one of the Eight Witnesses to the Book of Mormon. Hiram was the center of a situation that caused Joseph Smith to turn to the Lord for help.

Read this passage from "All Things Must Be Done in Order" from *Revelations in Context*. Look for what confused Hiram Page and some members of the early Church. Joseph's answer from God is recorded in Doctrine and Covenants 28.

Read Doctrine and Covenants 28:1–8, 11–13, and look for truths the Lord taught Oliver about revelation. (Note that the revelations in verse 8 applied to Oliver's calling to preach to the Lamanites; for more information see "A Mission to the Lamanites" in Revelations in Context in the Church History section of Gospel Library.)

Make a list of the truths about revelation you discovered. Write them in your own words. Next to each truth, write a one-sentence explanation of why you think that truth is important.

Complete the following activities.

Satan's imitations

Read the statement from the talk "O That Cunning Plan of the Evil One," from President M. Russell Ballard (1928–2023).

Hiram Page and Oliver Cowdery were fooled by Satan's imitation of a revelation from God.

Record at least three ways Satan tries to deceive us about revelations from God. Be as specific as you can. If possible, match each one with a truth about revelation that you recorded earlier.

God's framework for personal revelation

Read the statement from the talk "A Framework for Personal Revelation," Elder Dale G. Renlund of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. As you read, make a list in your study journal of the elements Elder Renlund mentions as the framework for personal revelation.

Use the truths about revelation you recorded earlier to help you decide if the following situations represent true revelations from God. Record your answers (True or False) along with the verse or verses from section 28 that apply.

1. _____ The prophet encourages the entire Church to attend the temple. (verse _____)
2. _____ A concerned group of members boldly teaches that God wants the Church to make changes to doctrine or to alter a policy about a difficult issue. (verse _____)
3. _____ A member believes the Lord has revealed to him what the bishop should do in their ward. (verse _____)
4. _____ A young woman's mother tells her she doesn't feel good about a certain choice the young woman is making. (verse _____)

Now What?

Record your thoughts to the following questions.

- How might understanding the order the Lord uses for His revelations be a blessing to you?

- When has the Lord blessed you or someone you know through revelation to a prophet, stake or ward leader, or parent?

- When have you or someone you know received revelation from the Lord to bless those you were called to minister or serve?

- When have you been blessed by revelation from the Lord just for you?

Reflect and Connect

Share with me something you learned from this lesson. You could share:

- Something you recorded from the “Now What?” section above.
- One of the truths about receiving revelation from section 28 of the Doctrine and Covenants. Include how you feel that truth will be the most helpful to you.
- Any questions this lesson raised for you, how you are going to try to find answers to your questions, and how your class can help.
- Anything else from this lesson that inspires you to be a better disciple of Jesus Christ.