

Doctrine and Covenants 30–36, Part 1

"Proclaim My Gospel"

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.

Just a few months after the Church was officially organized, the Savior instructed several new members to serve missions. Despite their recent acceptance and limited understanding of the restored gospel, the Lord called these men to proclaim His gospel with the "voice of a trump" ([Doctrine and Covenants 30:9](#)). This lesson can help you understand some of the Savior's reasons for commanding us to preach His gospel.

Study the Scriptures

Read the [statement from his talk "Preaching the Gospel of Peace,"](#) from President Russell M. Nelson.

Today I reaffirm strongly that the Lord has asked every worthy, able young man to prepare for and serve a mission. For Latter-day Saint young men, missionary service is a priesthood responsibility. You young men have been reserved for this time when the promised gathering of Israel is taking place. As you serve missions, you play a pivotal role in this unprecedented event!

For you young and able sisters, a mission is also a powerful, but optional, opportunity. We love sister missionaries and welcome them wholeheartedly. What you contribute to this work is magnificent! Pray to know if the Lord would have you serve a mission, and the Holy Ghost will respond to your heart and mind.

Dear young friends, you are each vital to the Lord. He has held you in reserve until now to help gather Israel. Your decision to serve a mission, whether a proselyting or a service mission, will bless you and many others. We also welcome senior couples to serve when their circumstances permit. Their efforts are simply irreplaceable.

All missionaries teach and testify of the Savior. The spiritual darkness in the world makes the light of Jesus Christ needed more than ever. Everyone deserves the chance to know about the restored gospel of Jesus Christ. Every person deserves to know where they can find the hope and peace that "[pass] all understanding."

After the organization of the Church, the Lord called several men to serve missions. Peter Whitmer Jr., John Whitmer, Thomas B. Marsh, Parley P. Pratt, and Ziba Peterson all accepted a call to serve. Ezra Thayer, Northrop Sweet, Orson Pratt, Sidney Rigdon, and Edward Partridge did too. The baptism for some of these men had happened only one month before the call to serve came.

Preaching the Savior's gospel is not only a duty of full-time missionaries. It is also a responsibility shared by all members of the Church. As you study, look for truths that teach you why the Lord wants you to share His gospel.

Imagine your bishop or branch president is aware of what you have been studying in seminary. He invites you to give a five minute talk in sacrament meeting titled "Three Truths about Why the Lord Wants Us to Share His Gospel."

Complete the following to help you study as you prepare your talk.

Thomas B. Marsh

Read about Thomas B. Marsh in Revelations in Context to learn more about his conversion. [Doctrine and Covenants 31](#) was a revelation given especially to him.

Read [Doctrine and Covenants 31:1–5](#). Mark truths that could help you understand why the Savior asks us to share His gospel.

Record your thoughts on the following to help you prepare your talk:

- Why do you think Jesus Christ referred to His gospel as "glad tidings of great joy"? ([verse 3](#)). How does the Savior's gospel bring you joy?

- What did you learn from Thomas B. Marsh’s story about why the Lord wants you to share the gospel?

Ezra Thayer and Northrop Sweet

Doctrine and Covenants 33 was given to both Ezra Thayer and Northrop Sweet. Little is known about Northrop’s conversion. But you can read about Ezra’s conversion in *Revelations in Context*.

Read **Doctrine and Covenants 33:1–7, 10–12**. Mark truths that could help you understand why the Savior asks us to share His gospel.

Record your thoughts on the following to help you prepare your talk:

- Why might the Lord want His gospel declared with a loud voice like “the sound of a trump”? ([verse 2](#)).

- What did you learn from this revelation to Ezra Thayer and Northrop Sweet about why the Lord wants you to share the gospel?

Orson Pratt

Doctrine and Covenants 34 is a revelation from the Lord to Orson Pratt. Read about Orson’s conversion in *Revelations in Context*.

Read **Doctrine and Covenants 34:1–7**. Mark truths that could help you understand why the Savior asks us to share His gospel.

Record your thoughts on the following to help you prepare your talk:

- Why do you think we are “more blessed” ([verse 5](#)) for being called to preach the Savior’s gospel than we are for simply believing in it?

- What did you learn from the words to Orson Pratt about why the Lord wants you to share the gospel?

Now What?

Write your talk. Remember, your bishop or branch president wants you to share three truths you learned about why the Lord desires His gospel to be shared.

1. Use what you learned from the Lord's revelations you studied.
2. If you need additional resources, use the following:
 - [General conference](#)
 - [Topics and Questions: "Missionary Work"](#)
 - Preach My Gospel
3. Share your talk with a friend or family member.
