

LESSON 9 OF 11

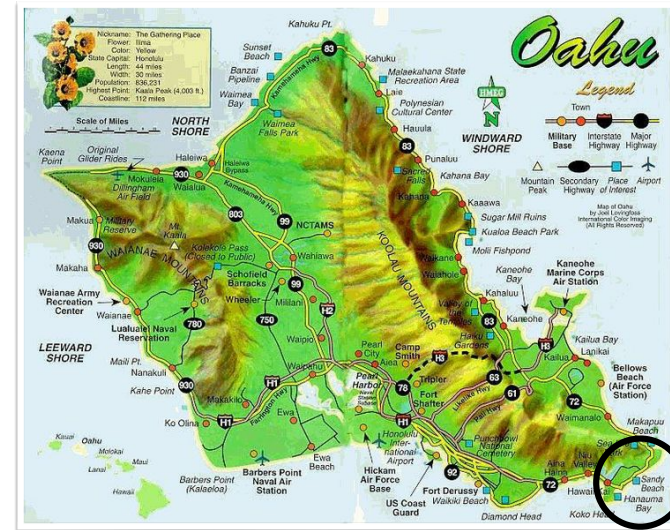
Will you open your heart and mind to receive revelation through others—especially the living prophet?



Dieter F. Uchtdorf loves and knows airplanes



Peter Brooks knows and loves Hawaii



Sandy Beach



Sandy Beach, Oahu, Hawaii



Sandy Beach looks like a post card of beauty.



Sandy Beach has warm, deep sandy beaches.



Sandy Beach is known as “break-neck” beach.



The waves are heavy and break in shallow water.



“No swimming. If in doubt, don’t go out.”



The sign says:
DANGEROUS SHORE BREAK
Water breaks in shallow water
Serious injuries could occur, even in shallow surf
IF IN DOUBT, DON'T GO OUT



Strong Current
Dangerous Shore Break
High Surf
Sharp Coral



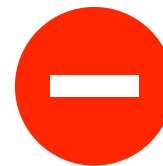
Strong Current
No Swimming
Dangerous Shore Break



:28

Sandy Beach, Oahu, Hawaii

Why I tell my Lehi friends to NOT get in the water at Sandy Beach:

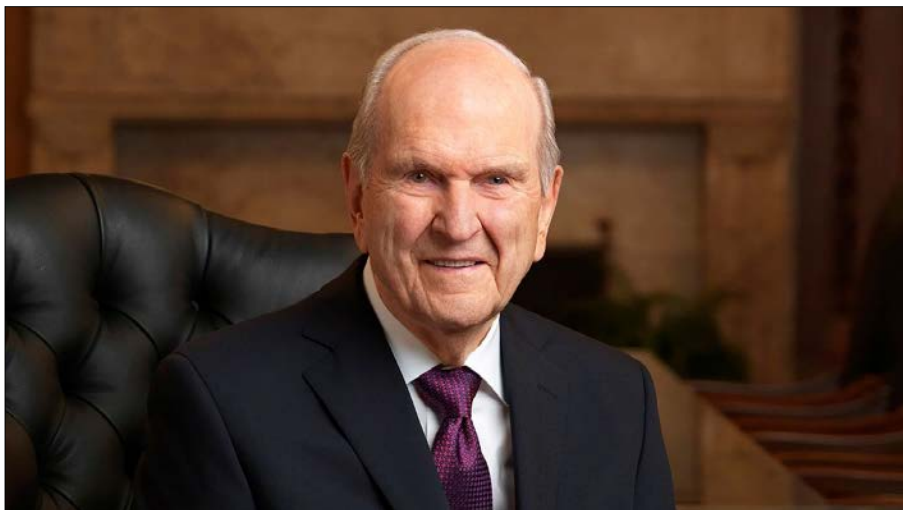


- Personal experience
- Underwater sharp lava rock
- Strong undertow
- Posted signs
- Trained lifeguards
- Reports of past injuries
- Statistics about spinal cord injuries

God answers
prayers through
you and other
“oracles”

“Whether by mine
own voice or by the
voice of my servants,
it is the same.”

D&C 1:38



Servant: Prophet



Servant: First Presidency



Servant: Quorum of the Twelve



Servant: General Authorities



Servant: Area Authorities



Servant: Stake Presidency



Servant: Bishopric



In 2017, Jean B. Bingham, the new general president of the Relief Society of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, spoke at the United Nations in New York City Thursday on the Church's humanitarian efforts during a faith-based "Focus on Faith" panel discussion.

Servant: Relief Society Presidency



Servant: Elder's Quorum Presidency



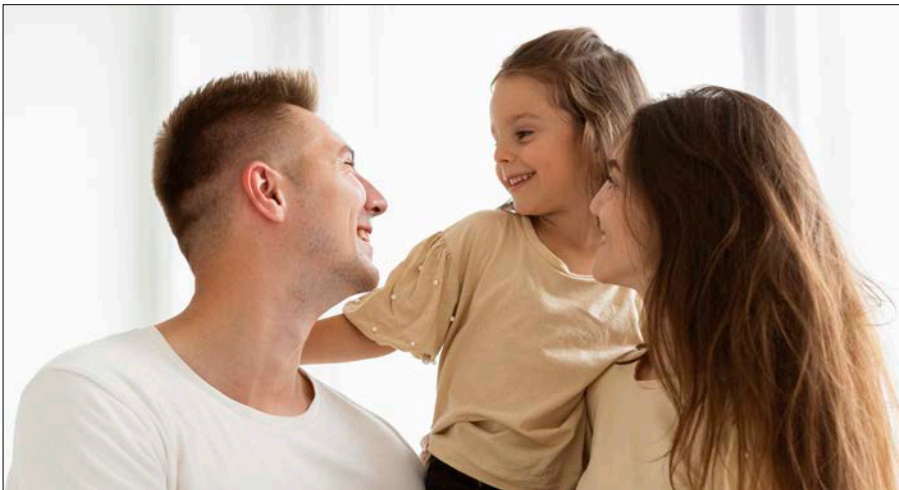
Servant: Ministering Sisters



Servant: Ministering Brothers



Servant: Spouse



"...yea, even babes did open their mouths and utter marvelous things..." (3 Nephi 26:16)

Servant: Child



Balaam's Donkey "And the ass said unto Balaam, Am not I thine ass, upon which thou hast ridden ever since I was thine unto this day? was I ever wont to do so unto thee? And he said, Nay." (Numbers 22:21-30)

Servant: Animal



We have our Heavenly Father's assurance that He will hear and answer our prayers. The answers may come through the voice and wisdom of trusted friends and family, the scriptures, and the words of prophets. (Dieter F. Uchtdorf, "Waiting on the Road to Damascus," April 2011)



"It has been my experience that some of the most powerful promptings we receive are not only for our own benefit but also for the benefit of others. If we are thinking only of ourselves, we may miss some of the most powerful spiritual experiences and profound revelations of our lives." (Dieter F. Uchtdorf, "Waiting on the Road to Damascus," April 2011)



"God does notice us, and he watches over us. But it is usually through another person that he meets our needs."

— Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Spencer W. Kimball (2006), 82

"God does notice us, and he watches over us. But it is usually through another person that he meets our needs."

— Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Spencer W. Kimball (2006), 82



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

Tell me of a time when you prayed for revelation, and the answer came through another person.

God sends people to help you.



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

Why are we sometimes reluctant to listen to others?

God puts revelation in front of you.



A ship had been lost at sea for days, its crew desperate for fresh water to drink. Their supplies were gone, and they were on the brink of death.

One day, through the thick fog, they saw another ship in the distance. They sent a distress signal, pleading for water.

To their surprise, the response came back: "Cast down your bucket where you are."



Thinking this must be a mistake, they signaled again: "We are dying of thirst! Please, send fresh water!"

Again, the reply came: "Cast down your bucket where you are."





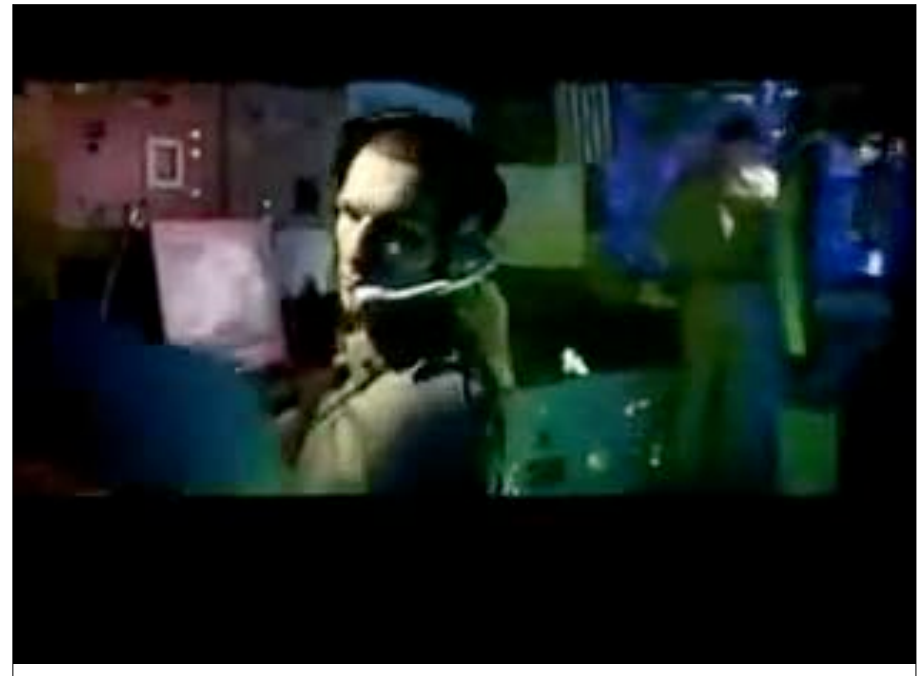
The desperate crew finally obeyed, lowering a bucket into the water. When they pulled it up, they discovered it was fresh water! They had unknowingly been at the mouth of a great river, surrounded by an abundant supply of the very thing they had been seeking.



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

Tell me of a time when you accepted guidance even though it did not seem sensible or possible.

God hopes you will put away your pride.



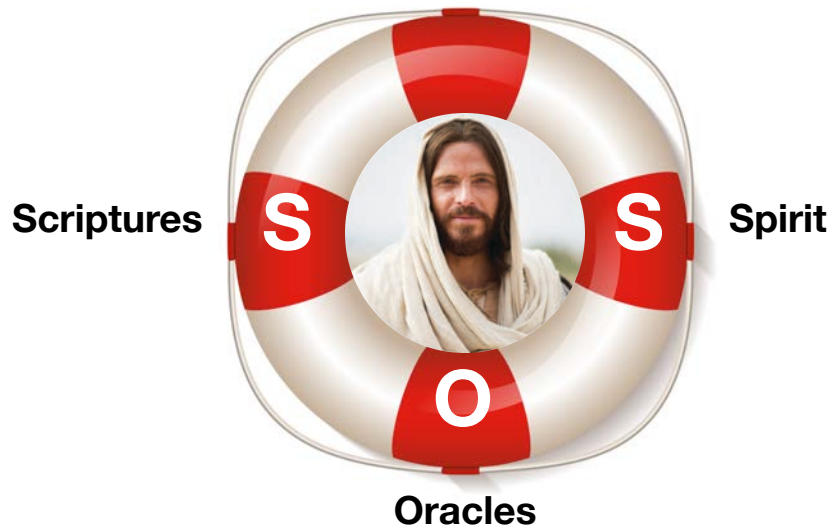


LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

Why do some people resist advice from those in authority or those who know more?

Revelation usually comes through

S.O.S.



How to receive revelation



**Have faith in Christ.
Make Him your foundation.**



Jesus Christ

Turn to the Word



Scriptures

Holy Bible • Book of Mormon • D&C • PofGP

Scriptures

Holy Bible • Book of Mormon • D&C • PofGP

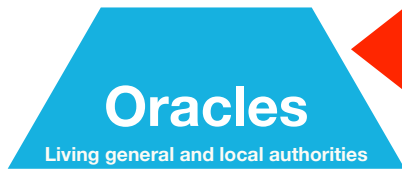


Scriptures

Holy Bible • Book of Mormon • D&C • PofGP



Jesus Christ



← Present



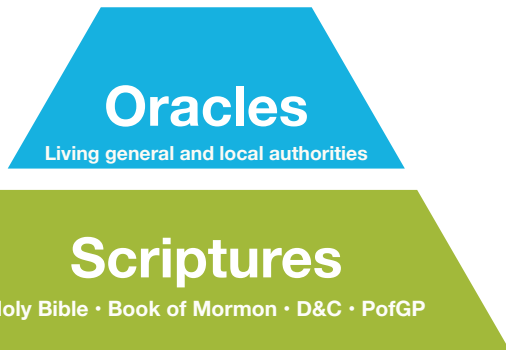
Listen to the Prophets



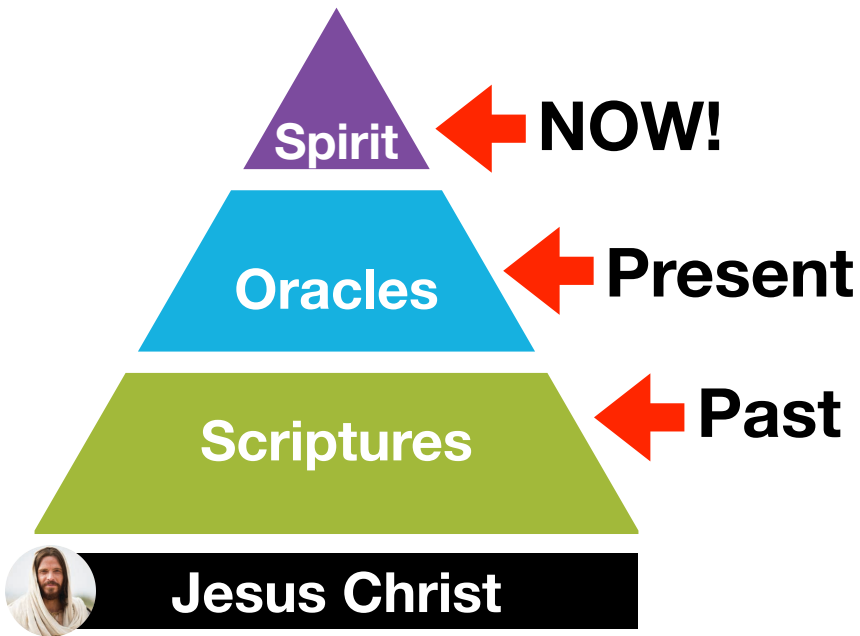
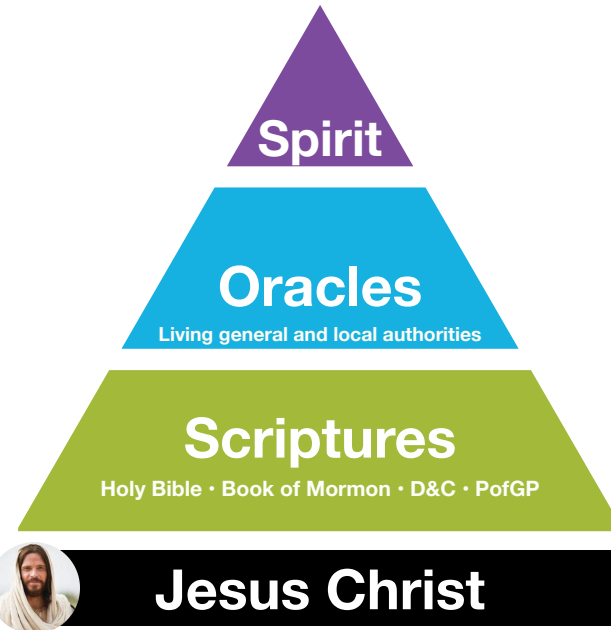
← Present



Jesus Christ



Follow the Spirit



Apostle Marriner W. Merrill said:
“The Bible is a good thing,
the Book of Mormon is a good
thing, and the Book of Doctrine
and Covenants is a good thing.
They are the words of the Lord.
**But I say that the living oracles
of the Church are worth more
than all of them.”**

Marriner W. Merrill, General Conference Oct. 1897.



“If we could have but one of them, give me the living oracles of the Priesthood for my guidance. Of course, it is proper and a good thing to have it all, because the living oracles of the Church work in harmony with what is written, and their counsel will not come in conflict with the words of the Lord in former ages” (Marriner W. Merrill in Conference Report, Oct. 1897, 6.).



“But the conditions of mankind change. The counsel that was suitable for the Saints forty years ago may not be so suitable today. Hence the importance of having in our midst the living oracles of God to guide us day by day in the performance of our labors”

Marriner W. Merrill in Conference Report, Oct. 1897, 6

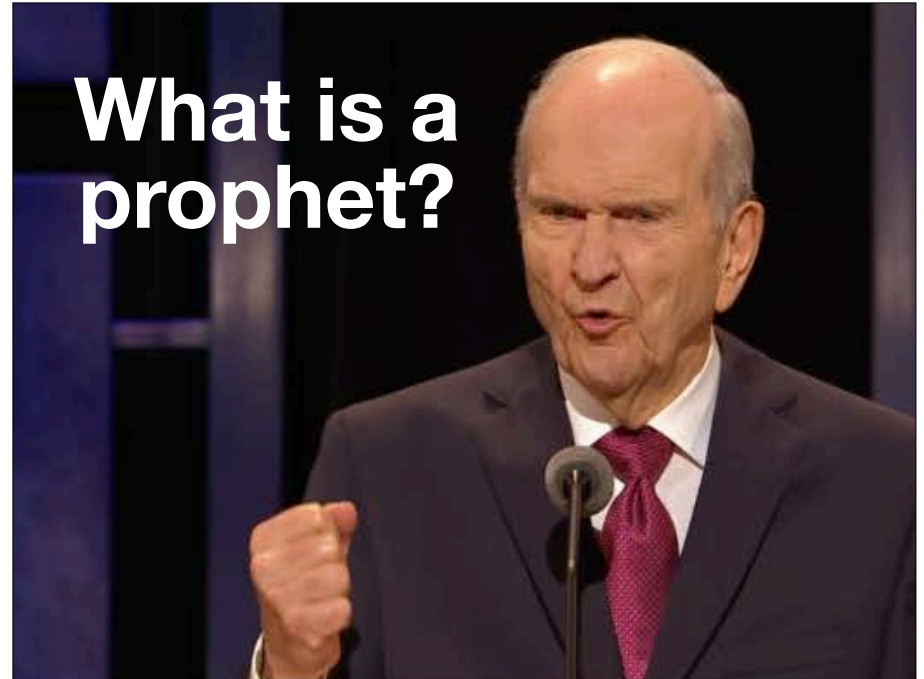
**God speaks to His
head oracle, the
living prophet**

“Surely the Lord God will do nothing, until he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.”

Amos 3:7 (JST)

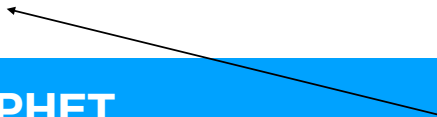
Prophets are three things: prophets, seers, revelators

What is a prophet?



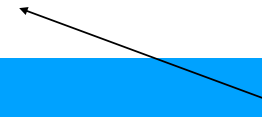
The prophets give us past truths the Lord wants us to remember

PROPHET
Teacher of known truth



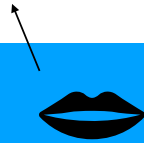
The prophets remind us of the commandments

PROPHET
Teacher of known truth



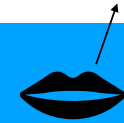
The prophets quote other prophets
from scriptures

PROPHET
Teacher of known truth



The prophets repeat the same
messages in different ways

PROPHET
Teacher of known truth



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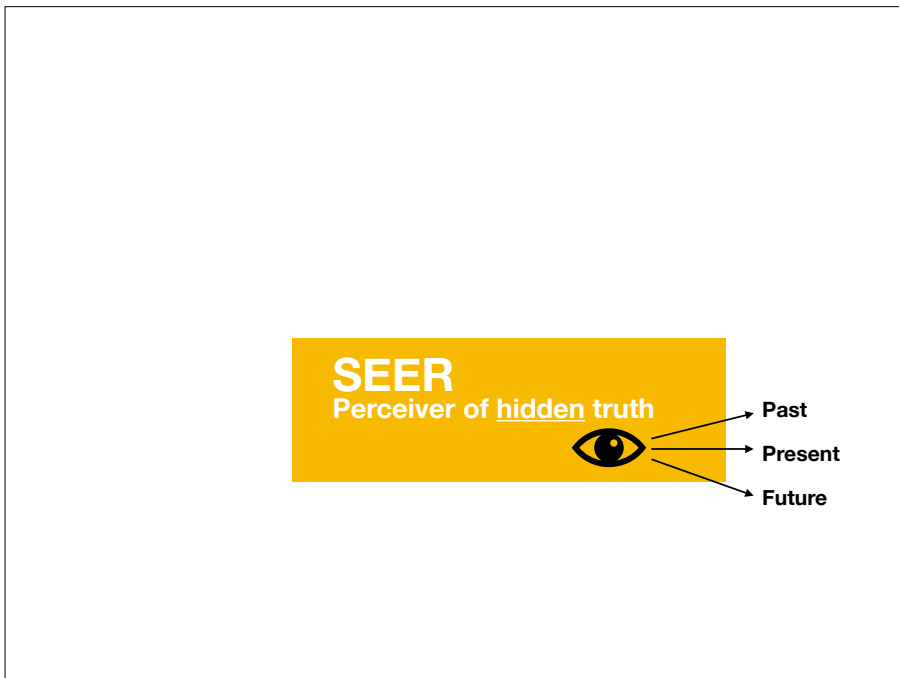
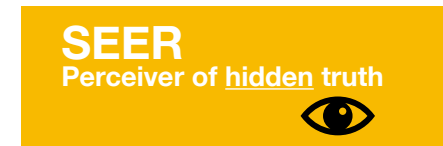
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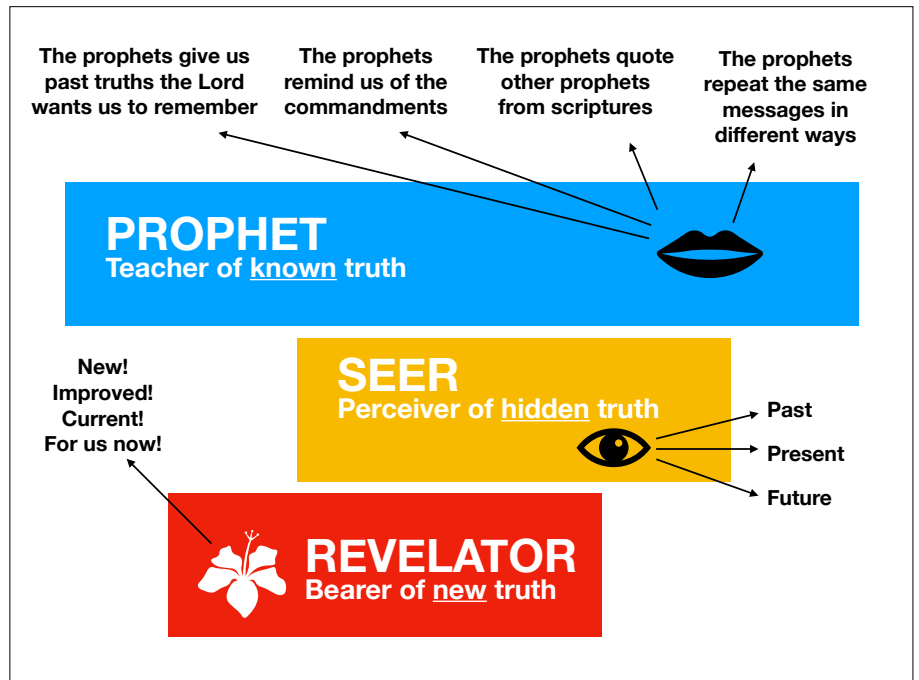
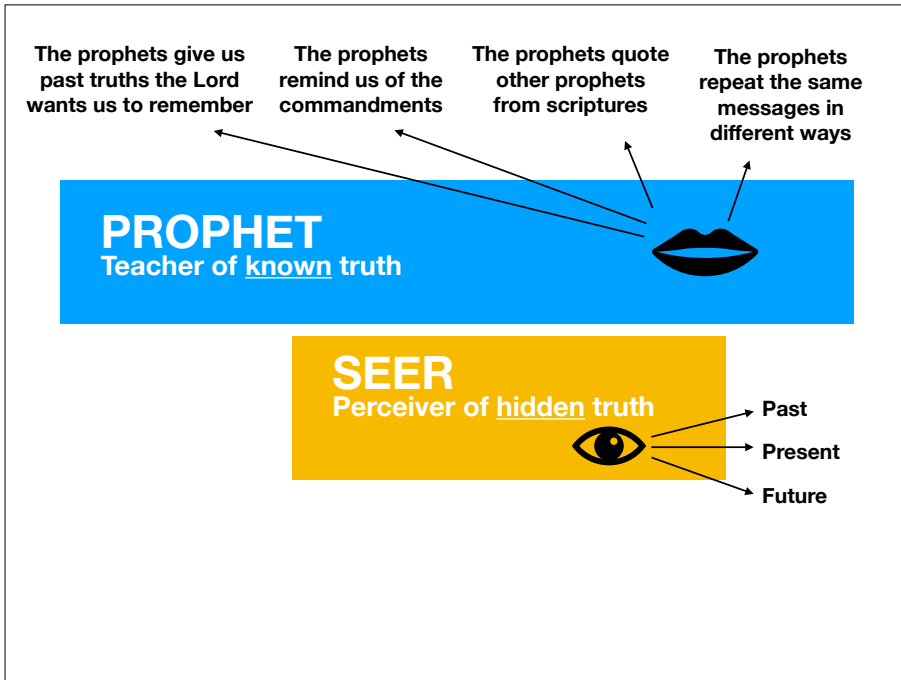
“And if my people will hearken unto
my voice, and unto the voice of my
servants whom I have appointed to
lead my people, behold, verily I say
unto you, they shall not be moved
out of their place.”

D&C 124:45–46



“...a seer is greater than a prophet...a seer can know of things which are past, and also of things which are to come, and by them shall all things be revealed...”

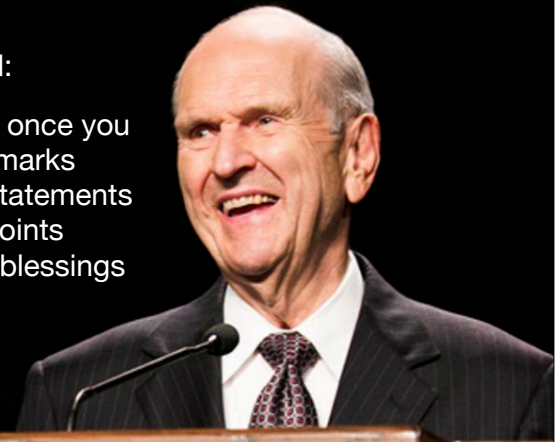
Mosiah 8:17–18



You will be
BLESSED for
obeying

Russell M. Nelson said:

“My experience is that once you stop putting question marks behind the prophet’s statements and put exclamation points instead, and do it, the blessings just pour.”



In Lane Johnson, “Russell M. Nelson: A Study in Obedience,” Ensign, Aug. 1982, 24.



Sometimes the prophets say things you do not want to hear, or things you disagree with, or things you have a hard time accepting.



Sometimes the prophet is

EXPLICIT

Something stated clearly and in detail, leaving no room for confusion or doubt.

Totally black and white

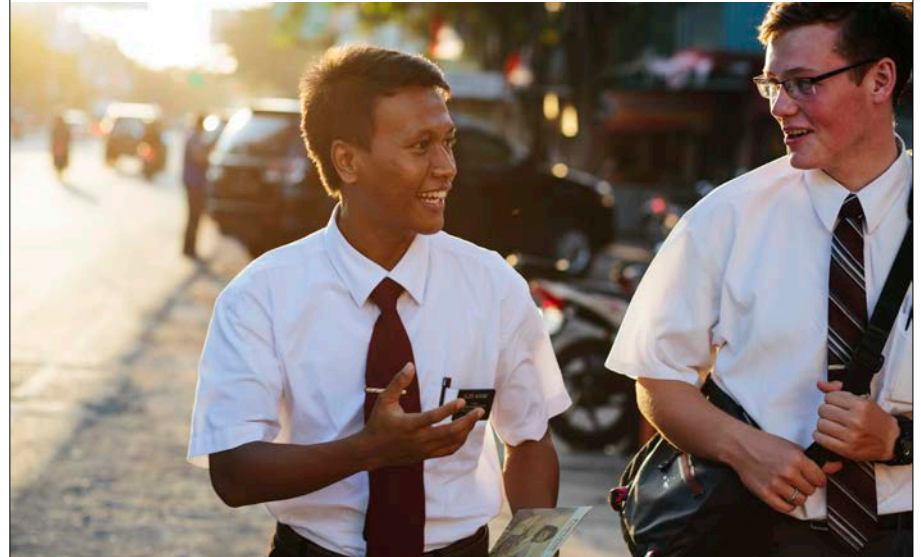


Sometimes the prophet is

IMPLICIT

Something implied though not plainly expressed.

In April 2022, President Nelson said “the Lord has asked every worthy, able young man to prepare for and serve a mission.”



In April 2022, while addressing young women, President Nelson stated: “For you young and able sisters, a mission is also a powerful but optional opportunity.”



On January 19, 2021, the First Presidency said: “...the Church urges its members, employees, and missionaries to be good global citizens and help quell the pandemic by safeguarding themselves and others through immunization.”



On August 12, 2021 the First Presidency said: “To limit exposure to these viruses, we urge the use of face masks in public meetings whenever social distancing is not possible.”



In October 2018, President Nelson emphasized the importance of using the Church’s full name stating, “To remove the Lord’s name from the Lord’s Church is a major victory for Satan.”



In October 2023, Elder Wakolo quoted President Nelson who said, “I express gratitude for our senior missionaries. They are young in spirit, wise, and willing to work.”



In October 2000, Gordon B. Hinckley said, “Likewise the piercing of the body for multiple rings in the ears, in the nose, even in the tongue. Can they possibly think that is beautiful? We do not, however, take any position ‘on the minimal piercing of the ears by women for one pair of earrings’ — one pair.”





LET'S TALK ABOUT IT
How has your life been blessed by following the counsel of the prophets?



As the least of those who have been sustained by you to witness the guidance of this Church firsthand, I say with all the fervor of my soul that never in my personal or professional life have I ever associated with any group who are so *in touch*, who know so profoundly the issues facing us, who look so deeply into the old, stay so open to the new, and weigh so carefully, thoughtfully, and prayerfully everything in between. I testify that the grasp this body of men and women have of moral and societal issues exceeds that of any think tank or brain trust of comparable endeavor of which I know anywhere on the earth. I bear personal witness of how thoroughly good they are, of how hard they work, and how humbly they live. It is no trivial matter for this Church to declare to the world prophecy, seership, and revelation, but we do declare it. It is true light shining in a dark world, and it shines from these proceedings. (Jeffrey R. Holland, October 2006)



TO DO

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

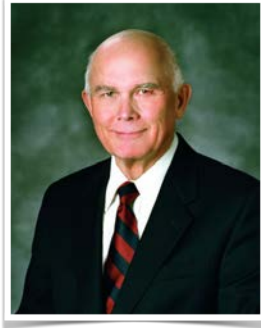
**Download a PDF
of all these slides**



These slides will be posted on the website after class.



www.iloveinstitute.com



STUDY THIS TALK

“Revelation” By Dallin H. Oaks
BYU Devotional, September 29, 1981
Internet search: scripture reading and
revelation oaks

<https://speeches.byu.edu/talks/dallin-h-oaks/revelation/>



STUDY THIS TALK

“Waiting on the Road to Damascus”
By Dieter F. Uchtdorf
General Conference April 2011



NEXT CLASS

March 20



CLASS 10 OF 11:
Why does it sometimes take
dedicated prayer and fasting to
receive revelation?

Additional Learning Materials

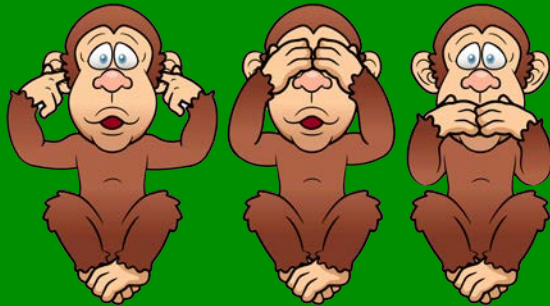
Checklist



Is the person giving me this counsel good or evil?
ASK THESE QUESTIONS

14

Fundamentals in
Following the
Prophet



**Why do you ignore
the prophet?**



**Are you taking advice
from “blind guides”?**

Checklist



Is the person giving me this counsel good or evil?
ASK THESE QUESTIONS

1. Who Did This Come From?

- Is this person a leader, teacher, friend, or someone I trust?
- Does this person have a history of giving wise, inspired counsel?



“By their fruits ye shall know them.” – Matthew 7:20

2. Does this person have the right to receive revelation for me?

- Is this person my bishop, stake president, or a prophet?
- Am I seeking personal revelation rather than waiting for someone else to tell me what to do?



“Whether by mine own voice or by the voice of my servants, it is the same.” – D&C 1:38

3. Does this align with the scriptures and teachings of the prophets?

- Does this advice contradict the scriptures or modern revelation?
- Would a prophet or apostle agree with this counsel?



**“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.”
– 2 Timothy 3:16**

4. What is the intent of this person?

- Is this advice given in love, kindness, and righteousness?
- Is this person trying to help me draw closer to Christ, or do they have other motives?



**“For the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.”
– 1 Samuel 16:7**

5. How do I feel when I receive this advice?

- Do I feel peace, light, and clarity?
- Or do I feel confusion or fear?



**“God is not the author of confusion, but of peace.”
– 1 Corinthians 14:33**

6. Has more than one person given me this advice?

- Have multiple trusted people given me similar counsel?
- Is this message being repeated in different ways—scriptures, talks, lessons, or personal impressions?



“In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established.” – 2 Corinthians 13:1

7. Is the Spirit confirming that this comes from God?

- Have I prayed and asked God if this is right?
- Does the Holy Ghost confirm this as true?



**“If ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost.”
– Moroni 10:4**

14
Fundamentals in
Following the
Prophet



“As a prophet reveals the truth it divides the people. The honest in heart heed his words, but the unrighteous either ignore the prophet or fight him. When the prophet points out the sins of the world, the worldly either want to close the mouth of the prophet or else act as if the prophet didn’t exist, rather than repent of their sins. Popularity is never a test of truth. Many a prophet has been killed or cast out. As we come closer to the Lord’s second coming, you can expect that as the people of the world become more wicked, the prophet will be less popular with them.”

“Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet” by President Ezra Taft Benson, Of the Quorum of the Twelve (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University)



“To help you pass the crucial tests which lie ahead, I am going to give you today several aspects of a grand key which, if you will honor, will crown you with God’s glory and bring you out victorious in spite of Satan’s fury.

Here then is the grand key—Follow the prophet—and here are *fourteen fundamentals in following the prophet*, the President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.”

“Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet” by President Ezra Taft Benson, Of the Quorum of the Twelve (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University)

1

First: The prophet is the only man who speaks for the Lord in everything.

D&C 132:7 “...whom I have appointed on the earth to hold this power (and I have appointed unto my servant Joseph to hold this power in the last days, and there is never but one on the earth at a time on whom this power and the keys of this priesthood are conferred), are of no efficacy, virtue, or force in and after the resurrection from the dead; for all contracts that are not made unto this end have an end when men are dead.”

“Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet” by President Ezra Taft Benson, Of the Quorum of the Twelve (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University)

2

Second: The living prophet is more vital to us than the Standard Works.



“Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet” by President Ezra Taft Benson, Of the Quorum of the Twelve (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University)

3

Third: The living prophet is more important to us than a dead prophet.

“...the most important prophet so far as you and I are concerned is the one living in our day and age to whom the Lord is currently revealing His will for us. Therefore the most important reading we can do is any of the words of the prophet contained each month in our Church Magazines. Our instructions about what we should do for each six months are found in the General Conference addresses which are printed in the Church magazine. Beware of those who would set up the dead prophets against the living prophets, for the living prophets always take precedence.”

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4

Fourth: The prophet will never lead the Church astray.

Marion G. Romney said: “I remember years ago when I was a bishop I had President Heber J. Grant talk to our ward. After the meeting I drove him home ... Standing by me, he put his arm over my shoulder and said: ‘My boy, you always keep your eye on the President of the Church and if he ever tells you to do anything, and it is wrong, and you do it, the Lord will bless you for it.’ Then with a twinkle in his eye, he said, ‘But you don’t need to worry. The Lord will never let his mouthpiece lead the people astray.’” (Conference Report, October 1960, p. 78.)

“Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet” by President Ezra Taft Benson, Of the Quorum of the Twelve (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University)

5

Fifth: The prophet is not required to have any particular earthly training or diplomas to speak on any subject or act on any matter at any time.

“Sometimes there are those who feel their earthly knowledge on a certain subject is superior to the heavenly knowledge which God gives to his prophet on the same subject. They feel the prophet must have the same earthly credentials or training which they have had before they will accept anything the prophet has to say that might contradict their earthly schooling. How much earthly schooling did Joseph Smith have? Yet he gave revelations on all kinds of subjects. We haven’t yet had a prophet who earned a doctorate degree in any subject. We encourage earthly knowledge in many areas, but remember if there is ever a conflict between earthly knowledge and the words of the prophet, you stand with the prophet and you’ll be blessed and time will show you have done the right thing.”

“Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet” by President Ezra Taft Benson, Of the Quorum of the Twelve (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University)

5

Sixth: The prophet does not have to say “Thus saith the Lord” to give us scripture.

Sometimes there are those who argue about words. They might say the prophet gave us counsel but that we are not obliged to follow it unless he says it is a commandment. But the Lord says of the Prophet, “Thou shalt give heed unto all his *words* and *commandments* which he shall give unto you.” (D&C 21:4.)

“Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet” by President Ezra Taft Benson, Of the Quorum of the Twelve (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University)

7

Seventh: The prophet tells us what we need to know, not always what we want to know.

President Harold B. Lee said: “You may not like what comes from the authority of the Church. It may conflict with your political views. It may contradict your social views. It may interfere with some of your social life ... Your safety and ours depends upon whether or not we follow ... Let’s keep our eye on the President of the Church.” (Conference Report, October 1970, p. 152–153.)

“Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet” by President Ezra Taft Benson, Of the Quorum of the Twelve (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University)

8

Eighth: The Prophet is not limited by men’s reasoning.

Would it seem reasonable to an eye doctor to be told to heal a blind man by spitting in the dirt, making clay and applying it to the man’s eyes and then telling him to wash in a contaminated pool? Yet this is precisely the course that Jesus took with one man, and he was healed. (See John 9:6–7.) Does it seem reasonable to cure leprosy by telling a man to wash seven times in a particular river, yet this is precisely what the prophet Elisha told a leper to do, and he was healed. (See 2 Kings 5 and Isaiah 55:8–9.)

“Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet” by President Ezra Taft Benson, Of the Quorum of the Twelve (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University)

9

Ninth: The prophet can receive revelation on any matter—temporal or spiritual.

Said Brigham Young: “Some of the leading men in Kirtland were much opposed to Joseph the Prophet, meddling with temporal affairs ... In a public meeting of the Saints, I said, ‘Ye Elders of Israel, ... will some of you draw the line of demarcation, between the spiritual and temporal in the kingdom of God, so that I may understand it?’ Not one of them could do it ... I defy any man on earth to point out the path a Prophet of God should walk in, or point out his duty, and just how far he must go, in dictating temporal or spiritual things. Temporal and spiritual things are inseparably connected, and ever will be.” (*Journal of Discourses*, 10:363–64.)

“Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet” by President Ezra Taft Benson, Of the Quorum of the Twelve (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University)

10

Tenth: The prophet may well advise on civic matters.

When a people are righteous, they want the best to lead them in government. Alma was the head of the Church and of the government in the Book of Mormon; Joseph Smith was mayor of Nauvoo and Brigham Young was governor of Utah. Isaiah was deeply involved in giving counsel on political matters and of his words the Lord himself said, “Great are the words of Isaiah.” (3 Ne. 23:1.)

“Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet” by President Ezra Taft Benson, Of the Quorum of the Twelve (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University)

11

Eleventh: The two groups who have the greatest difficulty in following the prophet are the proud who are learned and the proud who are rich.

The learned may feel the prophet is only inspired when he agrees with them, otherwise the prophet is just giving his opinion—speaking as a man. The rich may feel they have no need to take counsel of a lowly prophet.

"Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet" by President Ezra Taft Benson, Of the Quorum of the Twelve (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University)

12

Twelfth: The prophet will not necessarily be popular with the world or the worldly.

As a prophet reveals the truth it divides the people. The honest in heart heed his words but the unrighteous either ignore the prophet or fight him. When the prophet points out the sins of the world, the worldly either want to close the mouth of the prophet, or else act as if the prophet didn't exist, rather than repent of their sins. Popularity is never a test of truth. Many a prophet has been killed or cast out. As we come closer to the Lord's second coming you can expect that as the people of the world become more wicked, the prophet will be less popular with them.

"Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet" by President Ezra Taft Benson, Of the Quorum of the Twelve (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University)

13

Thirteenth: The prophet and his counselors make up the First Presidency—The highest quorum in the Church.

In the Doctrine and Covenants the Lord refers to the First Presidency as "the highest council of the Church" (D&C 107:80) and says "whosoever receiveth me, receiveth those, the First Presidency, whom I have sent ..." (D&C 112:20).

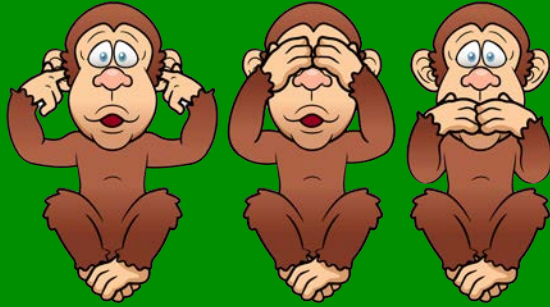
"Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet" by President Ezra Taft Benson, Of the Quorum of the Twelve (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University)

14

Fourteenth: The prophet and the presidency—the living prophet and the First Presidency—follow them and be blessed—reject them and suffer.

"The story is told in the early days of the Church—particularly, I think, at Kirtland, Ohio—where some of the leading brethren in the presiding councils of the Church met secretly and tried to scheme as to how they could get rid of the Prophet Joseph's leadership. They made the mistake of inviting Brigham Young to one of these secret meetings. He rebuked them, after he had heard the purpose of their meeting. This is part of what he said: 'You cannot destroy the appointment of a prophet of God, but you can cut the thread that binds you to the prophet of God, and sink yourselves to hell.'" (Conference Report, April 1963, p. 81.)

"Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet" by President Ezra Taft Benson, Of the Quorum of the Twelve (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University)



Why do you ignore the prophet?

PROUD

You derive great satisfaction from your own achievements and do not think you need the counsel from anyone else, including the prophet.



DISOBEDIENT

You flat out choose not to obey the explicit commands or implicit suggestions of the prophet.



SELECTIVELY OBEDIENT

You pick and choose which advice you will obey from the prophet.

ANTI-AUTHORITY

You are against anything from the anyone in church government, including the prophet.



MISINFORMED

You have received false or inaccurate information from someone else and you value that information more than was the prophet has said.



UNIFORMED

You are unaware of what the prophet has said because you do not study the Liahona or the talks from General Conference.



FEARFUL

You are afraid to follow the prophet's counsel for because it may cause pain or threat to your current lifestyle.



EGOCENTRIC

You think of only yourself, without regard for others, including the Lord's mouthpiece. If the prophet's words do not benefit you personally and immediately, you brush him off.



OFFENDED

You feel upset, annoyed, or resentful when the prophet tells you what to do.



UNCOMFORTABLE

The prophet's words make you feel discomfort. You know he's right, but his words distress you.



CULTIST

You have misplaced or excessive admiration for a particular person, thing, news source or social media post—instead of simply following the prophet.



LEARNED

You think you are smarter than the prophet in certain areas. Or any area that does not have to do with spirituality.



LAZY

You are unwilling to work or use your energy to do what the prophet suggests. You refuse to “experiment” (Alma 32) on his words.



RECKLESS

You do not think about or care about the consequences of disobeying the prophet. You do not believe the scriptures that promise blessings for obedience and cursings for disobedience.



SWAYED

You are easily persuaded by the what you find on the Internet or in social media, even though the prophet has given you direct advice that is the exact opposite of what you find in the world.



RICH

Because you have money, you think you do not need to listen to the prophet.



EASY

You were expecting something more difficult from the prophet.



MARK

You look beyond the mark when the counsel is right in front of you.



SOCIAL MEDIA

You trust social media more than you trust the prophet.



POLITICS

You are more loyal to your political party than you are the prophet.



Are you taking advice from “blind guides”?

Do you get offended when someone calls you out and exposes your evil doings?

“Behold ye are worse than they; for as the Lord liveth, if a prophet come among you and declareth unto you the word of the Lord, which testifieth of your sins and iniquities, **ye are angry with him, and cast him out** and seek all manner of ways to destroy him; yea, you will say that he is a false prophet, and that he is a sinner, and of the devil, because he testifieth that your deeds are evil” (Helaman 13:26).

Do you prefer people who say things that agree with your distorted views?

“But behold, if a man shall come among you and shall say: Do this, and there is no iniquity; do that and ye shall not suffer; yea, he will say: Walk after the pride of your own hearts; yea, walk after the pride of your eyes, and do whatsoever your heart desireth—and if a man shall come among you and say this, ye will receive him, and say that he is a prophet” (Helaman 13:27).

Do you support those who do not find fault with you?

“Yea, ye will lift him up, and ye will give unto him of your substance; ye will give unto him of your gold, and of your silver, and ye will clothe him with costly apparel; and because he speaketh flattering words unto you, and he saith that all is well, then ye will not find fault with him” (Helaman 13:28)

What are some real-life examples of “blind guides”?

“O ye wicked and ye perverse generation; ye hardened and ye stiffnecked people, how long will ye suppose that the Lord will suffer you? **Yea, how long will ye suffer yourselves to be led by foolish and blind guides?** Yea, how long will ye choose darkness rather than light?” (Helaman 13:29)

Two Parables

The ship captain and the lighthouse

A naval battleship was navigating through foggy, treacherous waters at night when the watchman spotted a light in the distance. The ship's captain, worried about a collision, signaled the other vessel:

"This is the captain of a U.S. Navy ship. Alter your course 10 degrees to the north to avoid a collision."

To the captain's surprise, the reply came: "No, you alter your course 10 degrees to the south."

Annoyed, the captain responded: "I am a captain of the United States Navy! I command you to alter your course immediately!"

The reply came back: "I am a seaman second class. You must alter your course."

Now furious, the captain sent his final warning: "This is a battleship! I order you to change your course!"

The final reply came: "This is a lighthouse. Your move."

Realizing his mistake, the captain immediately changed course to avoid disaster.

The man waiting for God when others show up

A man found himself trapped in a deep hole. He prayed and asked God to save him.

1 A man walked by and offered to help him out of the hole. The trapped man said, "No, thanks! I'm waiting for God to save me."

2 A second person came by and offered to help. Again, the trapped man refused, saying, "No, thanks! I'm waiting for God to save me." The second person left.

3 A third person came and offered help. Once more, the trapped man declined, insisting, "God will save me." The third person left.

Eventually, the man died. When he got to heaven, he asked God, "Lord, why didn't You save me?" God replied, "I sent you three people to help you, but you refused each one."