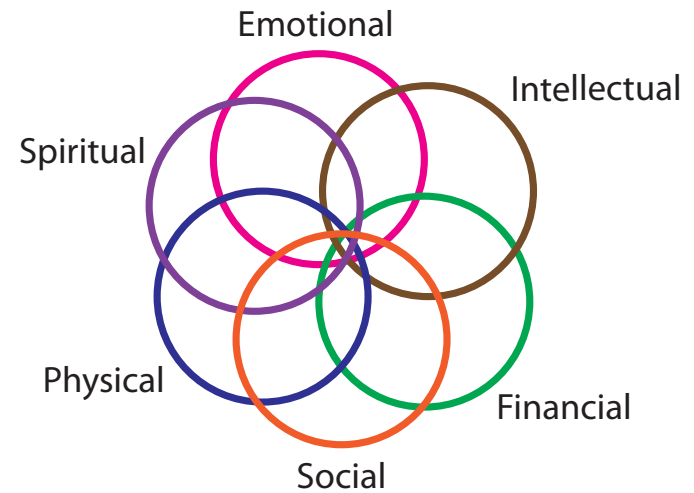


LESSON 4 OF 11

Will you develop spiritual self-reliance so you can better receive personal revelation?

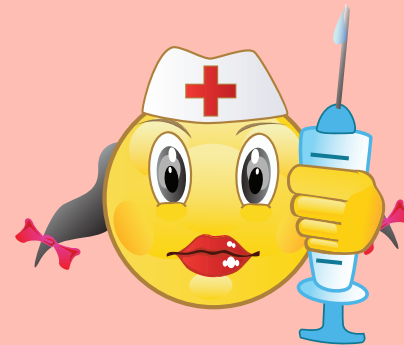


Your life has several facets.



Spiritual

(Godhead)



Physical

(Your body)



Intellectual

(Knowledge)



Emotional

(Your feelings)



Social

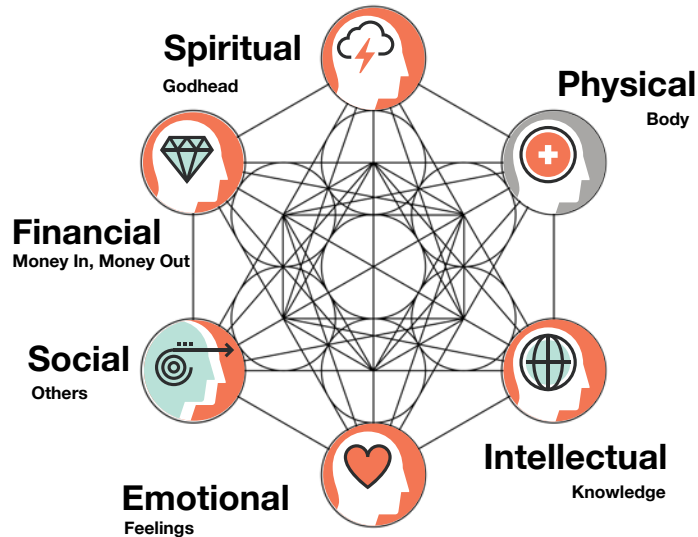
(Relationships)



Financial

(Money in, money out)

Your life is interrelated.



TODAY'S CHALLENGE:
Will you develop spiritual self-reliance so you can better receive personal revelation?



Elder Clark Gilbert said:
“We are preparing students to survive spiritually in an increasingly challenging season. Spiritual survival will depend on the ability to recognize the direction of the Holy Ghost.”

Clark G. Gilbert, 2025 seminary and Institute annual training broadcast, Thursday, January 23, 2025.



“But in coming days, it will not be possible to survive spiritually without the guiding, directing, comforting, and constant influence of the Holy Ghost. My beloved brothers and sisters, I plead with you to **increase your spiritual capacity to receive revelation**” (Russell M. Nelson, April 2018).

Here is the contradiction



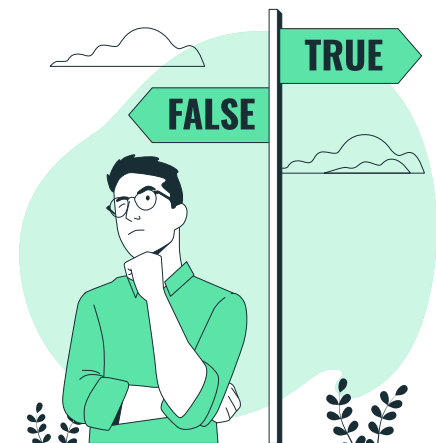
On one hand, we are to “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding” (Proverb 3:5).



On the other hand, we are to “do many things of their own free will” (D&C 58:27)

MISCONCEPTIONS

A view or opinion that is incorrect because based on faulty thinking or understanding



MISCONCEPTIONS

If you are living worthily, you can receive clear direction for every question of life.



MISCONCEPTIONS

After you finish praying, the first thought that comes into your mind will be from the Lord.



MISCONCEPTIONS

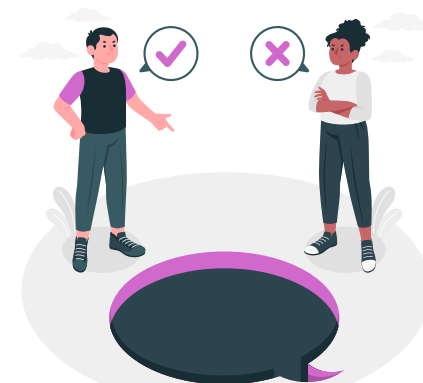
As a gospel teacher, you do not need to prepare a lesson in advance. If you are in tune with the Spirit, you simply wait for the Spirit to put words into your mind. “For it shall be given you in the very hour, yea, in the very moment, what ye shall say.”

D&C 100:6



MISCONCEPTIONS

When it comes to solving important questions, you don’t need to act until you receive a clear answer from God.



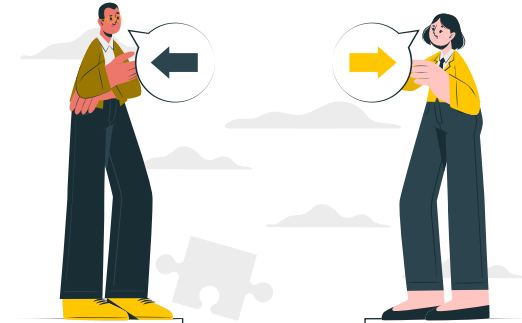
MISCONCEPTIONS

When you feel the Spirit, you will cry.



MISCONCEPTIONS

In the sacrament prayer on the bread, it says that the Spirit will “always” be with you. Thus, you can expect the Lord to guide you in all that you do.



TODAY'S FOCUS:
Developing spiritual self-reliance



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT
What is spiritual
self-reliance?



“[A person may have] a strong desire to be led by the Spirit of the Lord but who unwisely extends that desire to the point of wanting to be led in all things. A desire to be led by the Lord is a strength, but it needs to be accompanied by an understanding that our **Heavenly Father leaves many decisions for our personal choices.**”

Dallin H. Oaks, Ensign, October 1994, pages 13–14



“Revelations from God—the teachings and directions of the Spirit—are not constant. We believe in continuing revelation, not continuous revelation. **We are often left to work out problems without the dictation or specific direction of the Spirit.** That is part of the experience we must have in mortality.”

Dallin H. Oaks, Ensign, March 1997, page 14

LEADERS & MINISTRY

Worldwide devotional: Elder Uchtdorf counsels young adults on making decisions with God’s help

Use agency, and God will give ‘just enough guidance to keep moving in the right direction — without limiting your growth or opportunities to exercise faith’



February 2, 2025

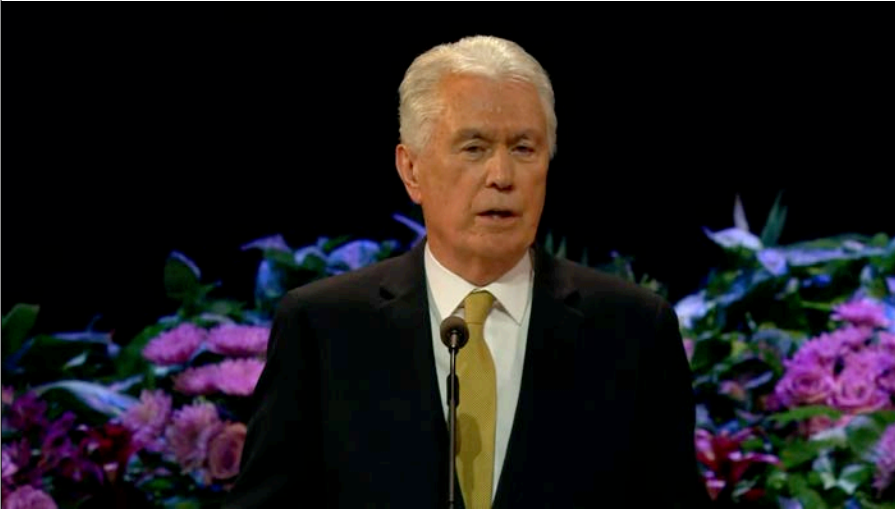
Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Worldwide Devotional for Young Adults, February 2, 2025



You want God to guide your life. But sometimes the Lord does not give you detailed answers to your questions. And some things just do not matter to the Lord. What does it mean to “stay within the fundamental covenants and principles of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ” when seeking personal revelation?

1:23:54

1/8



There are times when God has a specific path He wants you to follow. Conversely, there are times when there are multiple right answers. Why is it important to “live by God’s eternal truths” when seeking personal revelation?

1:4:37

2/8

Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet to Stephen Burnett:

Verily, thus saith the Lord unto you my servant Stephen Burnett: Go ye, go ye into the world and preach the gospel to every creature that cometh under the sound of your voice.

And inasmuch as you desire a companion, I will give unto you my servant Eden Smith.

D&C 80:1–2

Wherefore, go ye and preach my gospel, whether to the **north** or to the **south**, to the **east** or to the **west**, **it mattereth not, for ye cannot go amiss.**

Therefore, declare the things which ye have heard, and verily believe, and know to be true.

Behold, this is the will of him who hath called you, your Redeemer, even Jesus Christ. Amen.

D&C 80:3–5



When making decisions, why don’t some things matter to the Lord? Why would He admonish you to be faithful?

1:25:11

3/8

Heading to Section 60 of the D&C

On this occasion the elders who had traveled to Jackson County and participated in the dedication of the land and the temple site desired to know what they were to do.

“But, verily, I will speak unto you concerning your journey unto the land from whence you came. Let there be a craft made, or bought, as seemeth you good, **it mattereth not unto me**, and take your journey speedily for the place which is called St. Louis.”

D&C 60:5

Four days later, while the men were traveling down the Missouri River towards St. Louis, Joseph Smith received a similar revelation.

“Wherefore, let those concerning whom I have spoken, that should take their journey in haste — again I say unto you, let them take their journey in haste. **And it mattereth not unto me**, after a little, if it so be that they fill their mission, whether they go by water or by land; let this be as it is made known unto them **according to their judgments hereafter.**”

D&C 61:21–22

“And then you may return to bear record, yea, even altogether, or two by two, as seemeth you good, **it mattereth not unto me; only be faithful**, and declare glad tidings unto the inhabitants of the earth, or among the congregations of the wicked. These things remain with you to do according to judgment and the directions of the Spirit.”

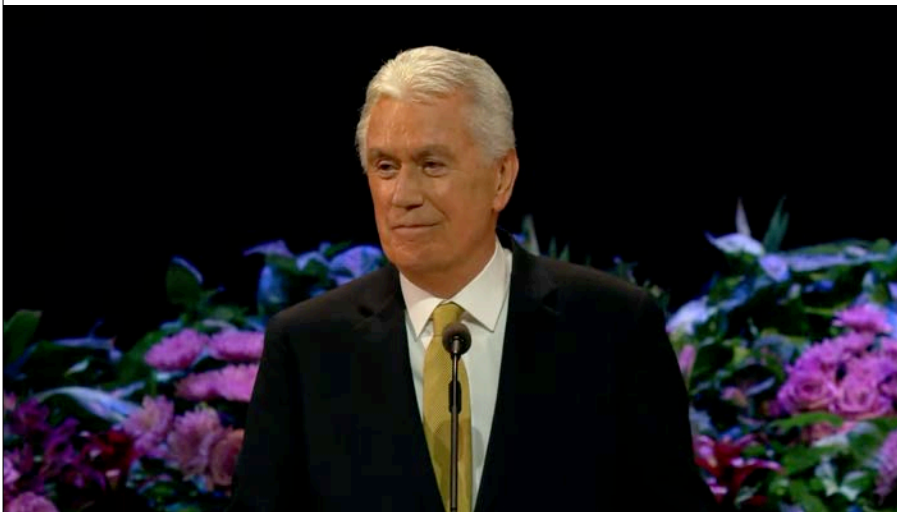
D&C 62:5,8



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

When making decisions, why don't some things matter to the Lord? Why would He admonish you to be faithful?

Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Worldwide Devotional for Young Adults, February 2, 2025

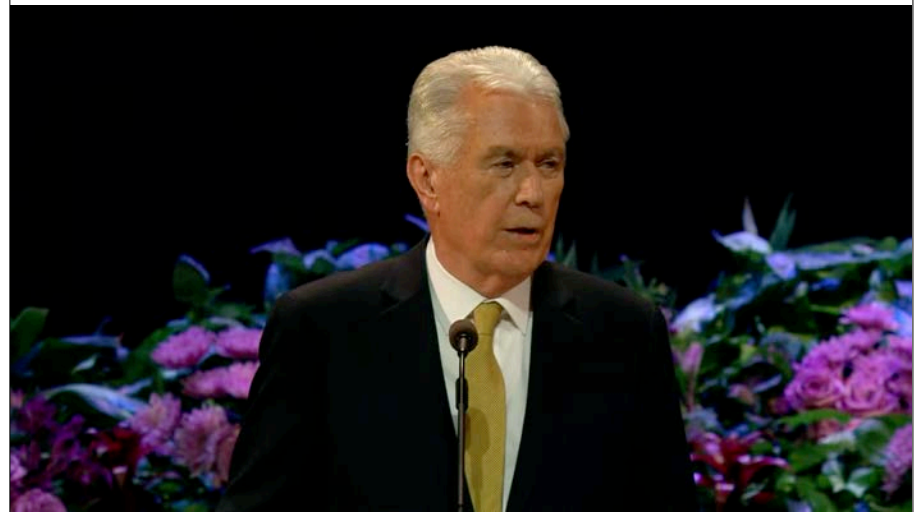


Do you want a detailed itinerary for your life's journey? Do you really want to be directed in every detail? Do you really want the “cheat” codes? Why doesn't the Lord direct you in every detail of your life?

1:25:37

4/8

Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Worldwide Devotional for Young Adults, February 2, 2025



You know the plan of salvation. How do you properly use both your brain and heart in your decision making?

1:26:15

5/8

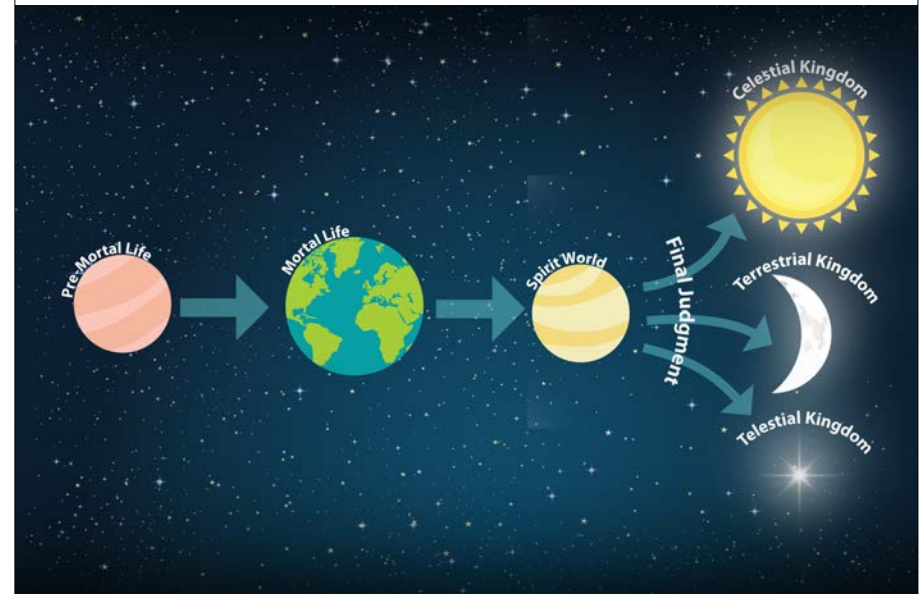
The Lord expects us to do our part in receiving revelation:

“Behold, you have not understood; you have supposed that I would give it unto you, when you took no thought save it was to ask me.

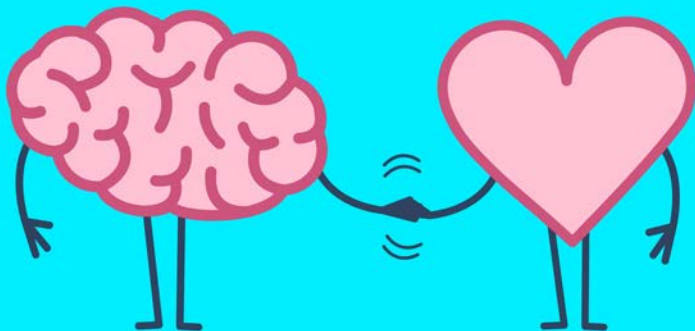
“But, behold, I say unto you, that you must study it out in your mind; then you must ask me if it be right, and if it is right I will cause that your bosom shall burn within you; therefore, you shall feel that it is right.”

D&C 9:7-9

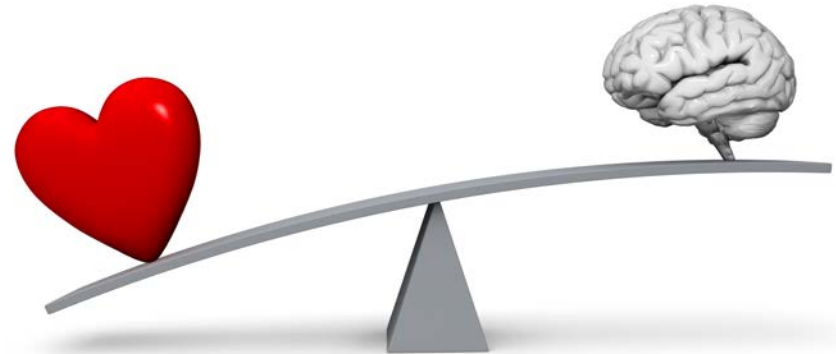
The Lord has given us the big picture, the plan of salvation.



He has given us a brain and a heart.



Sometimes we should listen to our heart.



Sometimes we should listen to our brain.



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

You know the plan of salvation.
How do you properly use both
your brain and heart in your
decision making?

Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Worldwide Devotional for Young Adults, February 2, 2025



God has given you commandments, covenants, and counsel from your leaders. Plus, He has given you the gift of the Holy Ghost and moral agency. How do these things work together when seeking personal revelation?

1:29:11

6/8

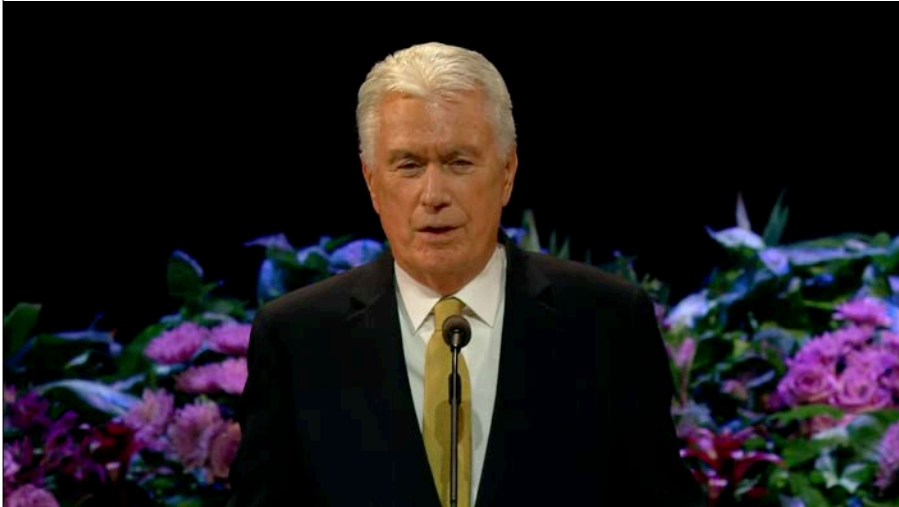
Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Worldwide Devotional for Young Adults, February 2, 2025



You used your brain and heart. You felt you made the best choice. What should you do when you make wrong decisions?

1:29:42

7/8



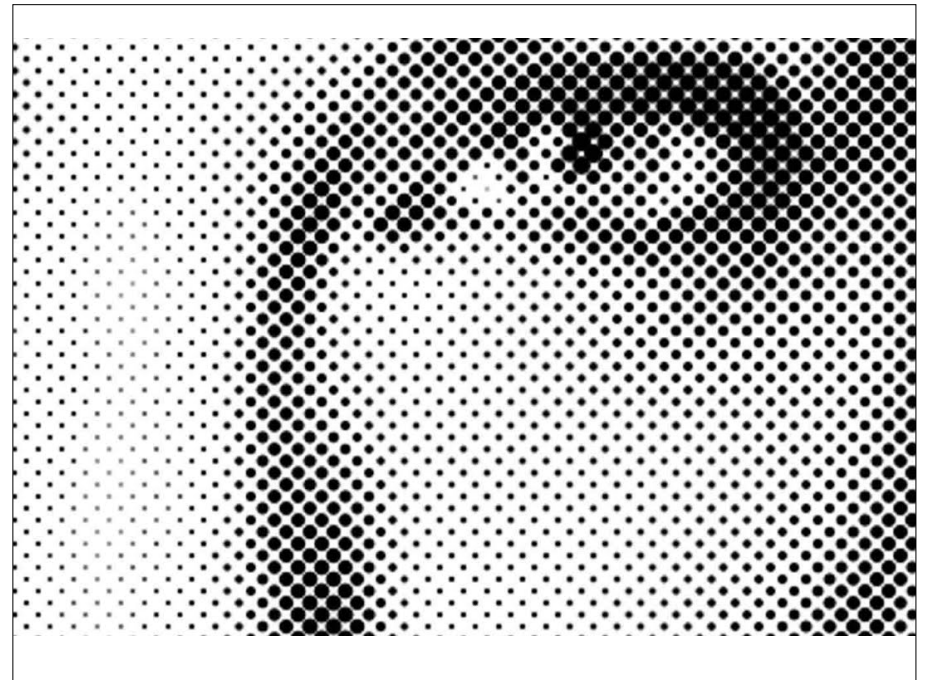
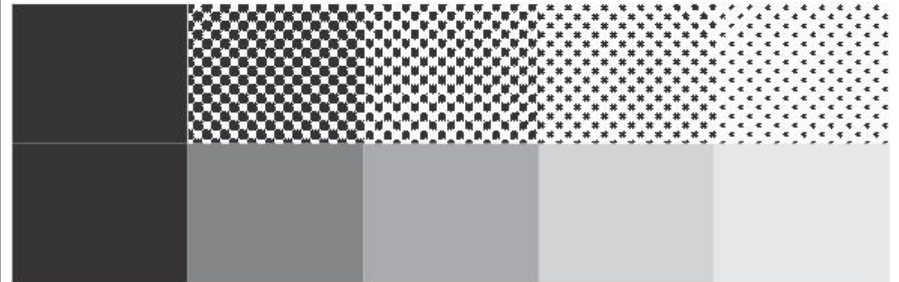
Why shouldn't you worry if you feel the Lord has abandoned you and to let you make your own decisions?

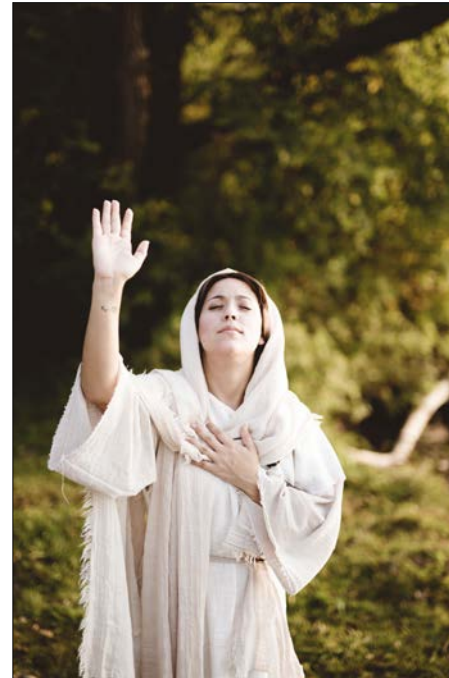
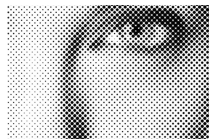
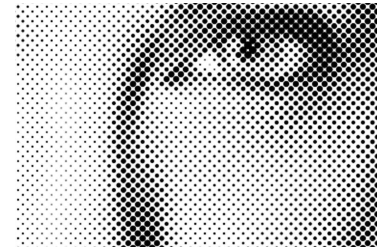
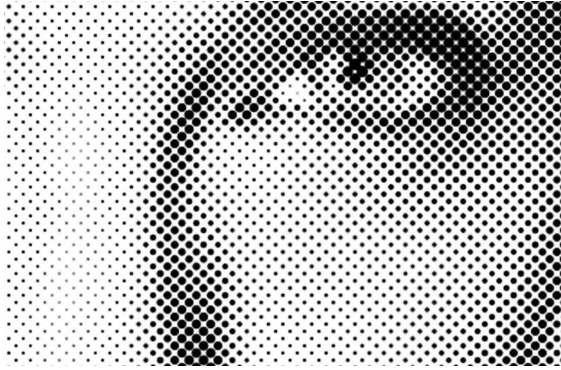
1:20:28

8/8

How the dots connect to give you the big picture.

100% 60% 40% 20% 10%



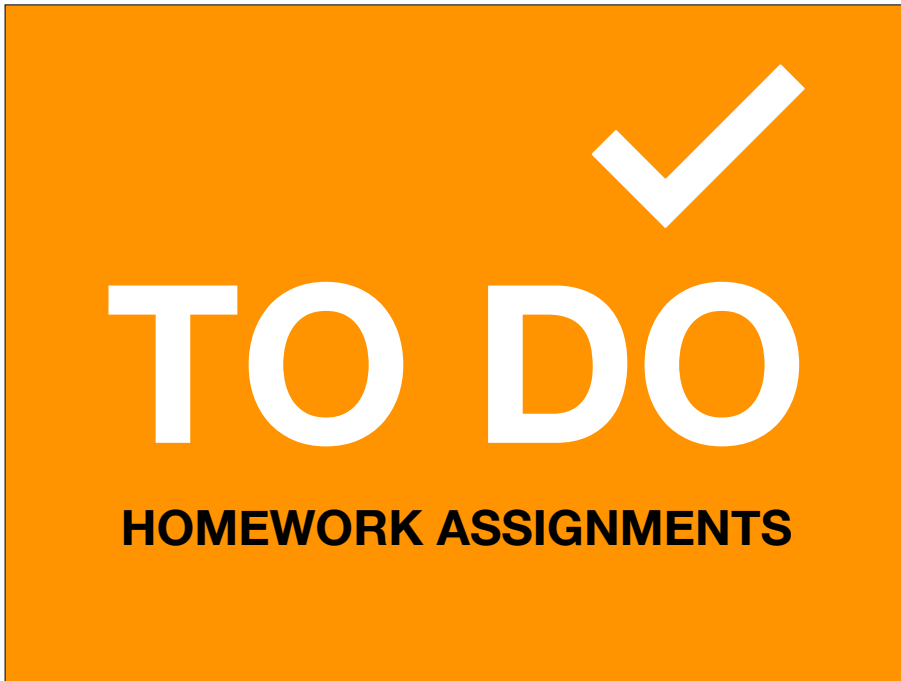


Personal Spiritual Preparation is Essential

The wise virgins took responsibility for their own preparation by bringing extra oil.

Spiritual self-reliance means developing your own testimony, faith, and relationship with God rather than depending on others to sustain you.

What are some ways you can “gather oil” in your spiritual lives today?



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LEADERS & MINISTRY

Elder and Sister Uchtdorf to give Worldwide Devotional for Young Adults

Young adults ages 18-35 are invited to attend the broadcast, available Feb. 2 in the Americas and Feb. 9 in other areas

9 Jan 2025, 3:03 p.m. MST

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Tabernacle Organ Virtuoso Performance Series

The organists at Temple Square are thrilled to announce the next concert in the Organ Virtuoso Concert series.

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Series

The organists at Temple Square are thrilled to announce the next concert in the Organ Virtuoso Concert series.

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Global Broadcasts

Concerts | 7 Feb 2025, 7:30-8:30 p.m. (MST)

Tabernacle Organ Virtuoso Performance Series

The organists at Temple Square are thrilled to announce the next concert in the Organ Virtuoso Concert series.

Devotional | 15 Feb 2025, 10:00-11:00 a.m. (MST)

Friend to Friend: Sharing Jesus's Love Through Service

This episode shares stories from children around the world who have gathered to share the love of Jesus through service, with messages from Elder David A. Bednar and the Primary General

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February 13



CLASS 5 OF 11:

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disinformation, malformation,
propaganda, and fake news?