

Reflection and Synthesis Report

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Week #: 09

# Instructions

In the table provided below, you will complete your reflection and synthesis responses for this week. Be sure to complete each Response section. When referencing scripture or other materials, only include a brief or abbreviated summary along with the citation as these cannot be included in the required word count. When you have completed the document, save it to your computer and follow the instructions in your course to submit the assignment to your instructor.

1. **Did you complete all the assigned reading for the week? [Yes ⃝ or No ⃝]**

| 1. **Article of Faith** | Please identify the Article of Faith studied this week |
| --- | --- |
| Response: Article 8 | |
| 1. **Explanation of Key Events and Scriptures** | Demonstrate your comprehension of fundamental truths of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ, and your ability to use the scriptures to teach them. Be sure to include specific scripture references from the assigned readings.  Scenario: Imagine you have been asked by a family member or friend to share what you believe about the truths and events you studied this week. Share in your own words several insights as though you are really trying to teach someone. Include at least three scripture references to support the truths you teach (you may reference them, but there is no need to quote them). Share your testimony as you would when teaching someone.  Your response will be evaluated by the following criteria:   1. **200–300 words in length** (please include your word count at the bottom of the section). 2. **Include at least 3 scripture references from the assigned readings**. |
| Response: I love the bible. The Old Testament stories of the Children of Israel and their experiences with God, and the teachings of Jesus Christ and His apostles have helped grow my faith. We believe that the Bible is the word of God as long as it’s correctly translated. The biggest problem, in my opinion, with the bible is that it ends. God has given us more. He tells Nephi this when He says “Wherefore, because that ye have a Bible ye need not suppose that it contains all my [words](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/bofm/2-ne/29?lang=eng#note10a); neither [need](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/bofm/2-ne/29?lang=eng#note10b) ye suppose that I have not caused more to be written.” (2 Nephi 29:10) The Bible alone does not contain the fullness of the principles of the gospel. It takes the Bible and the Book of Mormon. “And again, the [elders](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/42?lang=eng#note12a), priests and teachers of this church shall [teach](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/42?lang=eng#note12b) the principles of my gospel, which are in the Bible and the [Book of Mormon](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/42?lang=eng#note12c), in the which is the [fulness](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/42?lang=eng#note12d) of the [gospel](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/42?lang=eng#note12e).” (D&C 42:12) People believe that revelation has stopped, and that’s why there’s no more scripture after the bible. God refutes this as He speaks to Joseph Smith. “For verily I say unto you, that great things await you;” (D&C 45:62)  **Word Count: 205** | |
| 1. **Synthesis: Personal Relevance and Application to the Real World** | There are many serious challenges people encounter on a daily basis that are consequences of living in a fallen world. The gospel truths taught in the Articles of Faith have tremendous power to help people find answers, rise above problems, or simply feel God's love and concern for them again.  Each week you will choose an issue (below) and think deeply about how the truths in that week’s Article of Faith can offer hope to those who are experiencing the problem. If you have another issue that particularly interests you, then choose your own:  abortion  abuse/bullying  addiction  depression  divorce  domestic violence  energy/environmental issues  violence  gambling  genocide  international terrorism  materialism  natural disasters  pornography  unemployment  poverty  racial strife/hatred  religious intolerance/persecution  threats to religious liberty  same-sex marriage  suicide  Scenario: Imagine you are speaking to someone who has experienced or has concerns about the issue you have chosen. What would you share from the doctrine and fundamental truths that you have studied this past week to help that person? Include why you think these truths and doctrine are helpful and what they have meant to you. Be encouraging with the truths you know.  **Write a response in at least 300-450 words** **and list your word count at the end of your response.** |
| 1. **The world problem/issue I chose this week is:** Religious Intolerance   Response: Too often, on my mission and after, I have been nigh-unto yelled at for the different things I believe. A lot of times, I got angry and that’s not good. As I’ve grown up, and gotten so much less angry, I’ve thought about the things that people got after us for. Someone once got mad at me for believing in the 3 Kingdoms of Glory. Another got mad at me for believing that Jesus Christ and Satan are brothers. A lady yelled at me for believing we could ever be like God. I have read the Book of Mormon every day since my mission, and I realized that a lot of the events of the Plan of Salvation are taught in the Bible! Romans 8:16 says “The Spirit [itself] bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ”. Isaiah speaks this line. “How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!” (Isaiah 14:12) And the only times in the canon scriptures are in the Bible, and the Doctrine and Covenants. The Book of Mormon teaches the importance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and how to live it. The Bible solidifies that testimony. They go hand in hand, and I love it. A way to think about this in a math perspective. There are an infinite amount of ways to draw a line through a single point. That’s a lot of lines! Now, in math, there is only one way to draw a line between two dots. Now, think about the Book of Mormon and the Bible. You can find many interpretations of the Bible. You can only find one interpretation of the Bible in accordance with the Book of Mormon.  **Word Count: 311** | |