Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Ian Holm\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **SG Section 45**

What are some of the “*false reports and foolish stories*…*published and circulated*” in our day that people circulate in an attempt to “*prevent people from investigating the work or embracing the faith*”?

There are definitely people spreading misinformation about the church on places like social media. That can be a big reason why people are turned away from the church. There is also a lot of things that are becoming more common in modern society, like drugs and sexual relationships that are things that we don’t believe in as a church. Viewing the commandments as restrictive or boring can be another reason why people don’t joint the church.

If you had to choose five gospel principles found in five scriptures from section 45 that you believe would help a person maintain faith in the restored gospel of Jesus Christ while being exposed to false reports and foolish stories that undermine faith, what would they be and why? (references & explanations expected)

1. In verse 57 it says “For they that are wise and have received the [truth](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/45?lang=eng#note57a), and have taken the Holy Spirit for their [guide](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/45?lang=eng#note57b), and have not been deceived.” I think this is a good reminder that if we have received a prompting from the holy ghost, that is something that you can count on being true. If it comes from god, then your testimony is something that we can count on as truth.
2. In verse 16 it says “And I will show it plainly as I showed it unto my [disciples](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/45?lang=eng#note16a) as I stood before them in the flesh.” This shows that god will show us truth in a plain manner. If something seems complex or like it doesn’t make sense, then it’s probably not from god.
3. Verse 10 says “Wherefore, come ye unto it, and with him that cometh I will [reason](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/45?lang=eng#note10a) as with men in days of old, and I will show unto you my strong reasoning.” It’s important to make sure that we reason with god when determining what’s true. If we only rely on what people say, then it’s much harder to know what is really the truth. Involving god in our decisions will help us make the right ones.
4. Verse 15 says “Wherefore, hearken and I will reason with you, and I will [speak](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/45?lang=eng#note15a) unto you and prophesy, as unto men in days of old.” It’s good to remember that if we talk to god, he will show us the truth, just like he did back then. If we have doubts, it’s important to talk about them with the lord instead of just people who are trying to convince you something is wrong.
5. Verse 29 says “But they [receive](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/45?lang=eng#note29a) it not; for they perceive not the light, and they turn their [hearts](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/45?lang=eng#note29b) from me because of the [precepts](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/45?lang=eng#note29c) of men.” It can be really easy to ignore the lord’s light when we have people telling us that what we believe is wrong. It’s good to make sure that we don’t ignore the lord when making any decisions about our faith.

Questions

1. What were people saying about Joseph Smith and the church that prompted this revelation?
2. Why is there so much about the second coming and what will happen then in this section, as well as the stuff about dealing with false reports?