**Study Guide 1**

**Unit 1: The Restoration of the New and Everlasting Covenant**

**Understanding LDS Doctrine**

**D&C 1:17-22; 14:9-10; 22:1; 132:6-7**

**Articles 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4**

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Instructions: The purpose of the study guide is to direct your course of study of the Foundations of the Restoration, and assist you to focus on important salient points of your reading and study. The study guides are due on Learning Suite each class period by **8:59 am**. Your upload should only include the questions with your answers highlighted in yellow.

**People to know (Go to JosephSmithPapers.org and search under Reference and People):**

**Places to know (Look at the Maps in your Scriptures):**

**Scripture Reading:**

**D&C 1:17-22; 14:9-10; 22:1; 132:6-7**

1. The purpose of the establishment of the kingdom of God on earth is to prepare for what great future event?
   1. To prepare us for future calamities and the second coming of Jesus Christ
2. After reading these quick scriptures, why do you personally think it’s important that Christ has given us this New and Everlasting Covenant?
   1. I think its important because it is the covenant we make to receive the fulness of joy and glory that God has.
3. With the required topical study of these scriptures, name two things that stood out to you about either Jesus Christ, Joseph Smith, the Book of Mormon, or anything else contained in these verses (maybe share some connections you hadn’t made before, or just share your favorite things that you were reminded of)
   1. Only 1 person at a time on this earth is authorized to hold all priesthood keys
   2. God uses the weak things of the world to break down the mighty and proud.

**1.1 “The New and Everlasting Covenant” by Marcus Nash**

1. Those who enter the new and everlasting covenant and endure to end faithfully will receive (list the five blessing received)?
   1. receive the fulness of the glory of God
   2. enjoy the power of godliness in time and eternity
   3. be exalted
   4. enjoy eternal marriage and increase
   5. become gods
2. What was your favorite part of this article? Why?
   1. My favorite part of it was his detailed explanation of eternal life. In the church we use the phrase “eternal life” often to denote “heaven” or the “celestial kingdom” but we don’t often discuss all that it entails. Although there is much yet to be revealed on this, I like how Elder Nash dives into the specifics of how Eternal Life is the kind of life God lives in every sense of the word.

**1.2 “Come Join With Us” by President Uchtdorf**

1. Why are Elder Uchtdorf’s words here about “Questions” and “Faith” important for everyone to understand?
   1. We are all susceptible to having doubts and questions. The spiritual man does not doubt and understands God’s ways, but the natural man tends to find reasons to doubt. When we find ourselves in doubt it is important to follow Elder Uchtdorf’s counsel and continue forward seeking further light as opposed to just sitting in the darkness. If we don’t put in faith and effort towards understanding then we will become trapped in doubt.

**Miscellaneous-IMPORTANT**

1. With that in mind, what Mormon Doctrines do you have trouble understanding, feel confused about, or would really like to better understand? Make a list of your top 3 below (this will be important later).
   1. Blacks and the Priesthood
   2. Polygamy
   3. Translation of the Book of Abraham

**1.3 The Doctrine of Christ by Elder Todd Christofferson**

1. Why are members of our Church confused about our doctrine?
   1. They might dwell on something said by one general authority at one point in time and think it is doctrine.
   2. We are a living church with continuing revelation and members might get attached to old revelation and have a hard time accepting new revelation
2. Who is the source of our doctrine?
   1. God
3. How does the Jesus Christ reveal his will and doctrine to prophet, seers, and revelators?
   1. He may speak by His own voice
   2. or by the voice of the Holy Spirit
   3. He may direct Himself to His servants individually
   4. or acting in council
4. Who in the Church leadership has the preview and right to announce and interpret doctrine for the entire Church?
   1. The Quorum of the 12 Apostles and the first presidency, with the prophet having the final say.

**1.4 Approaching Mormon Doctrine LDS Newsroom**

1. Why is it that not all statements by Church leaders past or present does not necessarily constitute doctrine?
   1. Doctrine is decided by the first presidency and the quorum of the 12 apostles and is found in our standard works. Because our general authorities are not perfect, we can’t expect everything they say to be correct. However, we can trust that God guides them when they speak as a council, or speaking about commonly established matters.
2. What publications can a church members turn to read the official doctrines of the LDS Church?
   1. The Bible
   2. The Book of Mormon
   3. The Pearl of Great Price
   4. The Doctrine and Covenants
3. What is the core fundamental doctrine of our Church as stated by Joseph Smith?
   1. “The fundamental principles of our religion are the testimony of the Apostles and Prophets, concerning Jesus Christ, that He died, was buried, and rose again the third day, and ascended into heaven; and all other things which pertain to our religion are only appendages to it”