

President Nelson April 2024

Quote #1 (privileges)

Quote A – That dedicatory prayer, which was received by revelation, teaches that the temple is “a house of prayer, a house of fasting, a house of faith, a house of learning, a house of glory, a house of order, a house of God.”

“This list of attributes is much more than a description of a temple. It is a promise about what will happen to those who serve and worship in the house of the Lord. They can expect to receive answers to prayer, personal revelation, greater faith, strength, comfort, increased knowledge, and increased power.”

Possible discussion questions: Which promise stands out to you today? (If they say, “all of them,” say, “Okay, let’s pick one and talk about it.”) Does anyone have a comment on any one of these? Why are they essential today and in the coming days?

Quote B – Time in the temple will help you to think celestial and to catch a vision of who you really are, who you can become, and the kind of life you can have forever. Regular temple worship will enhance the way you see yourself and how you fit into God’s magnificent plan. I promise you that.”

Possible discussion questions: Which of these blessings especially stands out to you today? (If they say, “all of them,” say, “Okay, let’s pick one and talk about it.”) Does anyone have a comment on any of these?

Quote C – We are also promised that in the temple, we may “receive a fulness of the Holy Ghost.” Imagine what that promise means in terms of having the heavens open for each earnest seeker of eternal truth.”

Possible discussion question: Is it possible to have more powerful and more frequent experiences with the inspiration of the Holy Ghost?

Quote D – We are instructed that all who worship in the temple will have the power of God and angels having “charge over them.” How much does it increase your confidence to know that, as an endowed woman or man armed with the power of God, you do not have to face life alone? What courage does it give you to know that angels really will help you”?

Possible discussion question: What helps you to have faith in these extraordinary promises?

Quote E – Finally, we are promised that “no combination of wickedness” will prevail over those who worship in the house of the Lord. Understanding the spiritual privileges made possible in the temple is vital to each of us today.”

Possible discussion questions: What does the word vital mean? When President Nelson said understanding spiritual privileges found in the temple is vital, what does he mean? vital: crucial, critical, imperative, necessary

End of Quote #1 - Possible discussion questions: What are some gospel-taught habits that make your life better? Is life better with prayer and scriptures? Is life better as a peacemaker? How do you feel about life when your spiritual habits are in order? President Nelson names three things that are affected eternally by our choices in life. What are they? (where you live eternally, what glory of body you will have eternally, and whom you will live with eternally) Why does that matter to you?

Quote #2 (promises)

Possible engagement tool: Tell your class President Nelson added promises of his own about the temple.

“My dear brothers and sisters, here is my promise. Nothing will help you more to hold fast to the iron rod than worshipping in the temple as regularly as your circumstances permit. Nothing will protect you more as you encounter the world’s mists of darkness. Nothing will bolster your testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ and His Atonement or help you understand God’s magnificent plan more. Nothing will soothe your spirit more during times of pain. Nothing will open the heavens more. Nothing!”

Possible discussion questions: These are profound, powerful teachings about the temple. Which one of President Nelson’s promises stands out for you today? Why?

Quote #3 (D&C 109)

“Joseph Smith’s dedicatory prayer of the Kirtland Temple is a tutorial about how the temple spiritually empowers you and me to meet the challenges of life

in these last days. I encourage you to study that prayer, recorded in Doctrine and Covenants section 109.”

Pair 1

Verse: For behold, I have accepted this house, and my name shall be here; and I will manifest myself to my people in mercy in this house. (Doctrine and Covenants 109:7)

President Nelson: This significant promise applies to every dedicated temple today. I invite you to ponder what the Lord’s promise means for you personally.

Possible discussion questions: What is the Savior’s promise to us? What does this promise mean to you? Have you ever felt the Lord’s tender mercies while at the temple? Would anyone like to share? According to the Doctrine and Covenants and President Nelson, how much does the Savior prioritize temples?

Pair 2

Verse: 29 Abraham received all things, whatsoever he received, by revelation and commandment, by my word, saith the Lord, and hath entered into his exaltation and sitteth upon his throne.

30 Abraham received promises concerning his seed, and of the fruit of his loins—from whose loins ye are, namely, my servant Joseph—which were to continue so long as they were in the world; and as touching Abraham and his seed, out of the world they should continue; both in the world and out of the world should they continue as innumerable as the stars; or, if ye were to count the sand upon the seashore ye could not number them. (Doctrine and Covenants 109:29–30)

President Nelson: The temple is the gateway to the greatest blessings God has in store for each of us, for the temple is the only place on earth where we may receive all of the blessings promised to Abraham.

Possible discussion questions: What do we learn about where Abraham is right now? (Accept all reasonable answers – Abraham is exalted and sits on a throne; his posterity is innumerable) If we are to receive all the blessings of Abraham, what blessings might we receive too? President Nelson describes the temple as

a gateway—how would you use that idea to encourage a friend who was hesitant to go to the temple?

Quote #4 (keys)

“Then in the Kirtland Temple in 1836, the conferral of these three additional priesthood keys—namely, keys of the gathering of Israel, keys of the gospel of Abraham, and keys of the sealing power—was essential. These keys authorized Joseph Smith—and all succeeding Presidents of the Lord’s Church—to gather Israel on both sides of the veil, to bless all covenant children with the blessings of Abraham, to place a ratifying seal on priesthood ordinances and covenants, and to seal families eternally.

“The power of these priesthood keys is infinite and breathtaking.

“Consider how your life would be different if priesthood keys had not been restored to the earth. Without priesthood keys, you could not be endowed with the power of God. Without priesthood keys, the Church could serve only as a significant teaching and humanitarian organization but not much more.”

Footnote 14: “When the Lord told Joseph Smith that this dispensation is the time when “nothing shall be withheld” (Doctrine and Covenants 121:28), it was because these priesthood keys had been returned to the earth.”

Possible discussion questions: What are the three keys that were added? (the gathering of Israel, the gospel of Abraham (see quote #3) and the sealing power.) How important is it to understand these keys and their significance to our lives? How does it feel to live in a dispensation and time when “nothing will be withheld”? Why does President Nelson call these priesthood keys a gift we should rejoice in? What would happen to the Church if it did not have these keys?