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Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The enclosed CD has been three years in the making. It contains all of the Gospel Doctrine lessons for all four years. It is given as a gift to each of you to assist you in your personal study of the scriptures and of the Gospel Doctrine classes taught each Sunday. My goal in this endeavor is to provide a tool in your study of the gospel of Jesus Christ. This work, however, in no way is considered to be a complete study of the Gospel Doctrine lessons, but is here presented only as a starting point for your study of the lessons. Also, this is a supplement to the Gospel Doctrine lessons and should not be used in place of them. Many references, questions, scriptures, etc. that are found in the Gospel Doctrine lessons have not been incorporated into this work, since they are already available to those who study the lessons from the lesson manuals.

This work has been done using the “Word” software. That will allow to change any of the lessons for your own personal use. If you want to add your own scriptures and quotes, you may do so. If you want to delete certain material, you may do that also. This is for your use to assist you in your study of the gospel. Also, the files are in “pdf” format which are a more secure format which might be better to read. Use either one.

Anthony W. Ivins, a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles said: “There is no reason in the world why each member of the Church should not have a thorough understanding of the principles of the Gospel, of the order of the Church, and the government of the Church, so that none need be led astray by any wind of doctrine, or notion, that prevails among the children of men, which may come to their attention. If we are firmly grounded in the faith and built upon the rock, we will know the truth, the truth which will make us free.” (Conference Report, October 1918, p. 53-54.)

“President Spencer W. Kimball once pled: ‘Stake presidents, bishops, and branch presidents, please take a particular interest in improving the quality of teaching in the Church. ... I fear,’ he said, ‘that all too often many of our members come to church, sit through a class or a meeting, and ... then return home having been largely [uninspired]. It is especially unfortunate when this happens at a time ... of stress, temptation, or crisis [in their life]. We all need to be touched and nurtured by the Spirit,’ he said, ‘and effective teaching is one of the most important ways this can happen. We often do vigorous work,’ President Kimball concluded, ‘to get members to come to Church but then do not adequately watch over what they receive when they do come.’ On this subject President Hinckley himself has said, ‘Effective teaching is the very essence of leadership in the Church.’ May I repeat that. ‘Effective teaching is the very essence of leadership in the Church. Eternal life,’ President Hinckley continued, ‘will come only as men and women are taught with such effectiveness that they change and discipline their lives. They cannot be coerced into righteousness or into heaven. They must be led, and that means teaching.’” (“A Teacher Come from God,” Ensign, May 1998, 25-26)

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Some may ask why I have put this together in such an unusual format. When I was the Gospel Doctrine teacher in our ward, I would study the lessons in such a way as to anticipate any questions that might come up during the Sunday School discussion. I would bring books with me to class with quotes from the Church General Authorities to support any comments made in class of the doctrine taught. It became very difficult to haul all of those books each Sunday to Church, so I decided to incorporate all the quotes I wanted to bring directly on the lesson materials. So I put the scriptures that would be discussed in class, plus all of the quotes I wanted to incorporate, directly on the paper that I used to teach from. As is often the case, the teacher gets more out of the lesson than the student. That has been true with me. There is more in each lesson than can be taught in a 40 minute Gospel Doctrine class. I hope you are edified by each lesson.

I have not included every quote by every General Authority or commentator on any given scripture. I have only included those quotes that were important to me or that I thought were interesting.

This method of teaching with all the associated quotes was taught to me by a wonderful Institute Director and Stake President of the Yuba City Stake, President Lowell Tingey. His teaching style and methods were so inspiring to me, that I have always used it since in my teaching as well. That is why there are so many quotes embedded directly within the scriptures used in each Gospel Doctrine lesson.

These lessons incorporate all of the Joseph Smith Translation of the Bible. When any cross-referencing of other related scriptures have been used, they have been included in their entirety so that you won't have to look them up yourself. I have also colored coded the texts for various purposes. Those items in purple are taken from the JST. Also, any scriptures that have had ~~strike-throughs~~ in them were changes that were made in the JST. Items in blue are direct quotes from Church leaders and others. The cross-referencing of scriptures are in green. Quotes taken from the Bible Dictionary or from references at the bottom of the scripture page are in orange. Other quote paraphrasings or just other insights are in yellow. And those scriptures that are marked in red are those that were important to me and were highlighted so that I could find them easily while teaching the lesson. Dark blue references were used to for special purposes in the lesson.

These lessons should not be considered as a substitute for your own person scripture study. Each lesson took me about 10 to 20 hours each. The following books and references were used for the lessons presented:

- Old Testament:
 - Old Testament Gospel Doctrine Teacher's Manual
 - Studies in Scripture, Volumes 3 and 4, Edited by Kent Jackson and Robert Millet
 - Latter-day Commentary on the Old Testament, Ed J. Pinegar and Richard J. Allen
 - The Old Testament with the Joseph Smith Translation, compiled by Julie M. Hite, Steven J. Hite, and R. Tom Melville

- Old Testament Supplemental Study Materials, Daniel Rona
- Old Testament Student Manual, Genesis-2 Samuel
- Old Testament Student Manual, 1 Kings-Malachi
- Understanding Isaiah, Donald W. Parry, Jay A. Parry, Tina M. Peterson
- Isaiah Made Easier, David J. Ridges
- Joseph Smith's Commentary on the Bible, Compiled and edited by Kent P. Jackson
- Doctrinal Commentary on the Pearl of Great Price, Hyrum L. Andrus
- The Bible History, Old Testament by Alfred Edersheim

- New Testament:
 - New Testament Gospel Doctrine Teacher's Manual
 - Doctrinal New Testament Commentary, Three Volumes, Bruce R. McConkie
 - Jesus the Christ, James E. Talmage
 - The Mortal Messiah, Three Volumes, Bruce R. McConkie
 - Studies in Scripture, Volumes 5 and 6, Edited by Kent Jackson and Robert Millet
 - Gethsemane, Andrew Skinner
 - Understanding the Book of Revelation, Jay A. Parry, Donald W. Parry
 - Joseph Smith's Commentary on the Bible, Compiled and edited by Kent P. Jackson
 - The New Testament with the Joseph Smith Translation, compiled by Julie M. Hite, Steven J. Hite
 - New Testament Supplemental Study Materials, Daniel Rona
 - Guide to the Life of Christ, Richard Lloyd Anderson
 - The Life and Teachings of Jesus and His Apostles

- Book of Mormon:
 - Book of Mormon Gospel Doctrine Teacher's Manual
 - Book of Mormon Student Manual
 - Book of Mormon Reference Companion
 - Studies in Scripture, Volumes 7 and 8, Edited by Kent Jackson and Robert Millet
 - Doctrinal Commentary on the Book of Mormon, 4 Volumes, Joseph Fielding McConkie and Robert Millet
 - Teachings of the Book of Mormon, 4 Volumes, Hugh Nibley

- Doctrine and Covenants:
 - Doctrine and Covenants Gospel Doctrine Teacher's Manual
 - Studies in Scripture, Volume 1, Edited by Kent Jackson and Robert Millet
 - Revelations of the Restoration, Joseph Fielding McConkie, Craig Ostler
 - Doctrine and Covenants Student Manual
 - Latter-day Prophets and the Doctrine and Covenants, 4 Volumes, Compiled by Roy W. Doxey

- A Commentary of the Doctrine and Covenants, 3 Volumes, Stephen E. Robinson and H. Dean Garrett
- Doctrinal Commentary on the Pearl of Great Price, Hyrum L. Andrus
- Other References:
 - Internet – BYUBroadcasting.org
 - Internet – LDS-Living.com
 - Internet – GospelDoctrine.com
 - Internet – MeridianMagazine.com
 - Mormon Doctrine, Bruce R. McConkie
 - Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, Compiled by Joseph Fielding Smith

Disclaimer: These lessons are not approved by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and are not to be considered official Church doctrine. Although every attempt has been made to make each lesson doctrinally sound, they have not been approved by the Church. I take full responsibility for the content of these lessons. Also, I have not been perfect with regards to punctuation. I have not always put quotes signs around quotes, but have used the color coding scheme to be used as a substitute for quotation marks. I am also sure that the way references are used has not been perfect, either. In some cases I just refer to a source book by a one word description rather than by its title. This was done to save space and reduce the amount typing.

These lessons can be used anyway you want. You may make copies and distribute them to whoever you'd like. The only thing I would ask is that you don't receive any money for them. Since they came to you freely, they should be distributed freely, too.

I hope you enjoy using these lessons in your own personal scripture study and that they strengthen your personal testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ and the truthfulness of His gospel and of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Very truly yours,

Brad W. Constantine