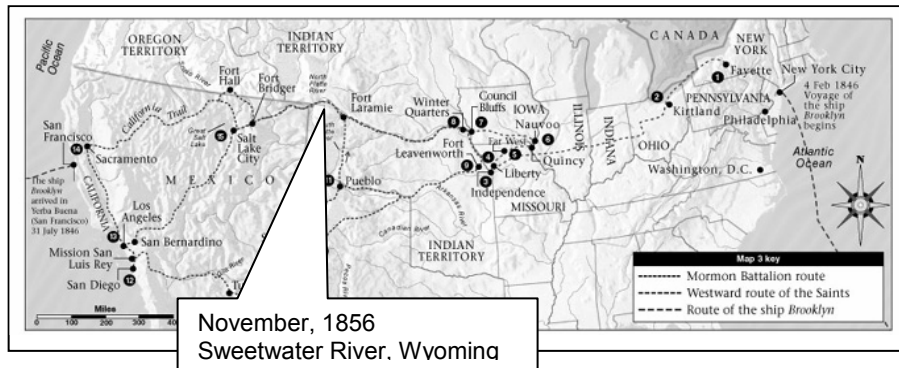


SUPPLEMENT #5

Westward trails map



SUPPLEMENT #6

Thomas S. Monson

“I am grateful that those days of pioneering are behind us. I am thankful that we do not have brethren and sisters stranded in the snow, freezing and dying, while trying to get to this, their Zion in the mountains. But there are people, not a few, whose circumstances are desperate and who cry out for help and relief.

“There are so many who are hungry and destitute across this world who need help. ... Ours is a great and solemn duty to reach out and help them, to lift them, to feed them if they are hungry, to nurture their spirits if they thirst for truth and righteousness.

“There are so many young people who wander aimlessly and walk the tragic trail of drugs, gangs, immorality, and the whole brood of ills that accompany these things. There are widows who long for friendly voices and that spirit of anxious concern which speaks of love. There are those who were once warm in the faith, but whose faith has grown cold. Many of them wish to come back but do not know quite how to do it. They need friendly hands reaching out to them. With a little effort, many of them can be brought back to feast again at the table of the Lord.

“My brethren and sisters, I would hope, I would pray that each of us ... would resolve to seek those who need help, who are in desperate and difficult circumstances, and lift them in the spirit of love into the embrace of the Church, where strong hands and loving hearts will warm them, comfort them, sustain them, and put them on the way of happy and productive lives”
(Gen Conf, Oct. 1996).

LESSON 35 by Dennis Roberts

A Mission of Saving

(Objective: help members see that the gospel is a message of rescue)

Welcome

President Gordon B. Hinckley said: “Stories of the beleaguered Saints and of their suffering and death will be repeated again and again. Stories of their rescue need to be repeated again and again. They speak of the very essence of the gospel of Jesus Christ”
(Gen Conf, Oct. 1996).

“I will never get over being thankful to them; I hope you never get over being thankful to them. I hope that we will always remember them. Let us read again and again, and read to our children or our children’s children, the accounts of those who suffered so much”
(Church News, 31 July 1999, 5).

1- President Young guided rescue of handcart companies

- Supplement #1 President Hinckley
- Have you been in a situation where you needed to be rescued?
- Supplement #2 President Hinckley
- How did the efforts of someone to help you change your life?

2- The Savior rescues us through His atoning sacrifices

- In what ways do we need to be rescued by the Savior?

3- As Latter-Day Saints, we are to rescue those in need

- Supplement #5 Westward Trails Map
- Supplement #3 President Thomas S. Monson
- Video “Tried in All Things”
- PowerPoint Sweetwater Rescue “Go Bring Them In”
- Supplement #4 President Thomas S. Monson
- D&C 4:3-7 What qualities help us rescue those in need?
- D&C 52:40 What can we do to help the poor and needy?
- D&C 81:5-6 How might this apply spiritually and physically?
- D&C 138:58 How do we rescue through temple work?

How does this apply to me?

Supplement #6 President Thomas S. Monson

What can we do **today** to help someone who is in need of rescue?

Next Lesson

Lesson 36 / Study Guide page 19 / “The Desert Shall Blossom as the Rose”

LESSON 35 SUPPLEMENTS *by Dennis Roberts*

SUPPLEMENT #1 President Hinckley

“I take you back to the general conference of October 1856. On Saturday of that conference, Franklin D. Richards and a handful of associates arrived in the valley. They had traveled from Winter Quarters with strong teams and light wagons and had been able to make good time. Brother Richards immediately sought out President Young. He reported that there were hundreds of men, women, and children scattered over the long trail. . . . They were in desperate trouble. Winter had come early. Snow-laden winds were howling across the highlands. . . . Our people were hungry; their carts and their wagons were breaking down; their oxen dying. The people themselves were dying. All of them would perish unless they were rescued.

“I think President Young did not sleep that night. I think visions of those destitute, freezing, dying people paraded through his mind. **The next morning** he came to the old Tabernacle which stood on this square. He said to the people:

“ ‘I will now give this people the subject and the text for the Elders who may speak. . . . It is this. . . . Many of our brethren and sisters are on the plains with handcarts, and probably many are now seven hundred miles from this place, and they must be brought here, we must send assistance to them. The text will be, “to get them here.” . . .

“ ‘That is my religion; that is the dictation of the Holy Ghost that I possess. It is to save the people. . . .

“ ‘I shall call upon the Bishops **this day**. I shall not wait until tomorrow, nor until the next day, for 60 good mule teams and 12 or 15 wagons. I do not want to send oxen. I want good horses and mules. They are in this Territory, and we must have them. Also 12 tons of flour and 40 good teamsters, besides those that drive the teams. . . .

“ ‘I will tell you all that your faith, religion, and profession of religion, will never save one soul of you in the Celestial Kingdom of our God, unless you carry out just such principles as I am now teaching you. *Go and bring in those people now on the plains*’ (in LeRoy R. Hafen and Ann W. Hafen, *Handcarts to Zion* [1960], 120–21).

“**That afternoon**, food, bedding, and clothing in great quantities were assembled by the women. **The next morning**, horses were shod and wagons were repaired and loaded. **The following morning**, . . . 16 mule teams pulled out and headed eastward. By the end of October there were 250 teams on the road to give relief”

(Gen Conf, Oct. 1996.).

SUPPLEMENT #2 President Hinckley

“It was in . . . desperate and terrible circumstances—hungry, exhausted, their clothes thin and ragged—that [the handcart companies] were found by the rescue party. As the rescuers appeared on the western horizon breaking a trail through the snow, they seemed as angels of mercy. And indeed they were. The beleaguered emigrants shouted for joy, some of them. Others, too weak to shout, simply wept and wept and wept.

“There was now food to eat and some warmer clothing. But the suffering was not over, nor would it ever end in mortality. Limbs had been frozen, and the gangrenous flesh sloughed off from the bones.

“The carts were abandoned, and the survivors were crowded into the wagons of the rescuers. The long rough journey of three hundred, four hundred, even five hundred miles between them and this valley was especially slow and tedious because of the storms. On November 30, 104 wagons, loaded with suffering human cargo, came into the Salt Lake Valley. Word of their expected arrival had preceded them. It was Sunday, and again the Saints were gathered in the Tabernacle. Brigham Young stood before the congregation and said:

“ ‘As soon as this meeting is dismissed I want the brethren and sisters to repair to their homes. . . .

“ ‘The afternoon meeting will be omitted, for I wish the sisters to . . . prepare to give those who have just arrived a mouthful of something to eat, and to wash them and nurse them. . . .

“ ‘Some you will find with their feet frozen to their ankles; some are frozen to their knees and some have their hands frosted . . . ; we want you to receive them as your own children, and to have the same feeling for them’

(General Conf, Oct. 1991).

SUPPLEMENT #3 Thomas S. Monson

“Let us for a moment join Captain Edward Martin and the handcart company he led. While we will not feel the pangs of hunger which they felt or experience the bitter cold that penetrated their weary bodies, we will emerge from our visit with a better appreciation of hardship borne, courage demonstrated, and faith fulfilled. We will witness with tear-filled eyes a dramatic answer to the question ‘Am I my brother’s keeper?’

SUPPLEMENT #4 Thomas S. Monson

“Our service to others may not be so dramatic, but we can bolster human spirits, clothe cold bodies, feed hungry people, comfort grieving hearts, and lift to new heights precious souls”

(General Conf, Apr. 1990).

LESSON 35 *by Dennis Roberts*

A Mission of Saving

We live in a time when the word rescue is being used in the headlines constantly.

(Objective: help members see that the gospel is a message of rescue)

Welcome

President Gordon B. Hinckley said: “Stories of the beleaguered Saints and of their suffering and death will be repeated again and again. Stories of their rescue need to be repeated again and again. They speak of the very essence of the gospel of Jesus Christ” (Gen Conf, Oct. 1996).

“I will never get over being thankful to them; I hope you never get over being thankful to them. I hope that we will always remember them. Let us read again and again, and read to our children or our children’s children, the accounts of those who suffered so much” (Church News, 31 July 1999, 5).

1- President Young guided rescue of handcart companies

- a. Supplement #1 President Hinckley ----- How soon did Brigham Young react to the needs and organize relief?
- b. Have you been in a situation where you needed to be rescued? ----- How long do we wait when prompted to call or visit someone?
- c. Supplement #2 President Hinckley ----- Did Brigham Young ever say, “They left too late, they deserve this.”?
- d. How did the efforts of someone to help you change your life? ----- Can we turn away others in need when we all need help?

2- The Savior rescues us through His atoning sacrifices

- a. In what ways do we need to be rescued by the Savior? ----- What must we do to fully receive his offer of rescue?

3- As Latter-Day Saints, we are to rescue those in need

- a. Supplement #5 Westward Trails Map -----
- b. Supplement #3 President Thomas S. Monson -----
- c. Video “Tried in All Things” -----
- d. PowerPoint Sweetwater Rescue “Go Bring Them In” -----
- e. Supplement #4 President Thomas S. Monson -----
- f. D&C 4:3-7 What qualities help us rescue those in need? ----- Faith, hope, charity, and love, etc (a long list of godly qualities)
- g. D&C 52:40 What can we do to help the poor and needy? ----- No matter what our circumstances, we can find those worse off.
- h. D&C 81:5-6 How might this apply spiritually and physically? ----- We must help those who have physical AND spiritual needs
- i. D&C 138:58 How do we rescue through temple work? ----- The dead who repent still need our rescuing efforts to gain salvation

We all need to be rescued and we all are in positions to rescue others. None should feel they are alone in their times of need.

How does this apply to me?

Supplement #6 President Thomas S. Monson
What can we do *today* to help someone who is in need of rescue?

Why?
Why does the Lord allow His Saints to suffer so much?

Next Lesson

Lesson 36 / Study Guide page 19 / “The Desert Shall Blossom as the Rose”