

## Engaging Gospel Doctrine (**Episode 222**)

### LESSON 48: MORONI 7-8, 10

*“Come unto Christ”*

Hook	In a fitting conclusion to the Book of Mormon, Mormon and Moroni speak of love, faith, hope, spiritual gifts and goodness in theologically rich chapters.
Goal	
Overview	7: Moroni shares Mormon’s words to Church members about good and evil, faith, hope, and charity 8: Letter from Mormon to Moroni about infant baptism 10: Moroni’s farewell and exhortation
Main Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faith, hope, and above all charity (7:20-48)</li> <li>• Spiritual gifts (10:8-18; cf. 1 Cor. 12:3-11; D&amp;C 46:11-26)</li> <li>• Moroni’s promise (close reading of 10:3-7); see blog quote below</li> <li>• Baptism of children (Moroni 8: , also see Vatican Commission)</li> <li>• Good and evil (7:3-19); cf. linked TED talks on decision making</li> </ul>
Other Comments/ Discussion Starters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moroni’s final exhortation and perhaps the end of his life (10:1-2, 34)</li> <li>• Jehovah (10:34)</li> <li>• Vocation (7:2; 8:2)</li> </ul>
Concluding Points	

#### Charity

1 Cor. 13: 3-8, 12-13	Moroni 7:44-47
<p>3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed <i>the poor</i>, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.</p> <p>4 Charity suffereth long, <i>and</i> is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,</p> <p>5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;</p> <p>6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;</p>	<p>44 If so, his faith and hope is vain, for none is acceptable before God, save the meek and lowly in heart; and if a man be meek and lowly in heart, and confesses by the power of the Holy Ghost that Jesus is the Christ, he must needs have charity; for if he have not charity he is nothing; wherefore he must needs have charity.</p> <p>45 And charity suffereth long, and is kind, and envieth not, and is not puffed up, seeketh not her own, is not</p>

<p>7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.</p> <p>8 Charity never faileth: but whether <i>there be</i> prophecies, they shall fail; whether <i>there be</i> tongues, they shall cease; whether <i>there be</i> knowledge, it shall vanish away.</p> <p>12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.</p> <p>13 And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these <i>is</i> charity.</p>	<p>easily provoked, thinketh no evil, and rejoiceth not in iniquity but rejoiceth in the truth, beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.</p> <p>46 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, if ye have not charity, ye are nothing, for charity never faileth. Wherefore, cleave unto charity, which is the greatest of all, for all things must fail—</p> <p>47 But charity is the pure love of Christ, and it endureth forever; and whoso is found possessed of it at the last day, it shall be well with him.</p>
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### Spiritual Gifts

1 Cor. 12: 3-11	Moroni 10: 8-18	D&C 46: 11-26
<p>3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and <i>that</i> no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.</p> <p>4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.</p> <p>5 And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.</p> <p>6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.</p> <p>7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.</p> <p>8 For to one is given by</p>	<p>8 And again, I exhort you, my brethren, that ye deny not the gifts of God, for they are many; and they come from the same God. And there are different ways that these gifts are administered; but it is the same God who worketh all in all; and they are given by the manifestations of the Spirit of God unto men, to profit them.</p> <p>9 For behold, to one is given by the Spirit of God, that he may teach the word of wisdom;</p> <p>10 And to another, that he may teach the word of</p>	<p>11 For all have not every gift given unto them; for there are many gifts, and to every man is given a gift by the Spirit of God.</p> <p>12 To some is given one, and to some is given another, that all may be profited thereby.</p> <p>13 To some it is given by the Holy Ghost to know that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that he was crucified for the sins of the world.</p> <p>14 To others it is given to believe on their words, that they also might have eternal life if they continue</p>

<p>the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;</p> <p>9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;</p> <p>10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another <i>divers</i> kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:</p> <p>11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.</p> <p>(unfortunately the Greek can't distinguish between the man or Spirit to determine the referent of "he will")</p>	<p>knowledge by the same Spirit;</p> <p>11 And to another, exceedingly great faith; and to another, the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;</p> <p>12 And again, to another, that he may work mighty miracles;</p> <p>13 And again, to another, that he may prophesy concerning all things;</p> <p>14 And again, to another, the beholding of angels and ministering spirits;</p> <p>15 And again, to another, all kinds of tongues;</p> <p>16 And again, to another, the interpretation of languages and of <i>divers</i> kinds of tongues.</p> <p>17 And all these gifts come by the Spirit of Christ; and they come unto every man severally, according as he will.</p> <p>18 And I would exhort you, my beloved brethren, that ye remember that every good gift cometh of Christ.</p>	<p>faithful.</p> <p>15 And again, to some it is given by the Holy Ghost to know the differences of administration, as it will be pleasing unto the same Lord, according as the Lord will, suiting his mercies according to the conditions of the children of men.</p> <p>16 And again, it is given by the Holy Ghost to some to know the diversities of operations, whether they be of God, that the manifestations of the Spirit may be given to every man to profit withal.</p> <p>17 And again, verily I say unto you, to some is given, by the Spirit of God, the word of wisdom.</p> <p>18 To another is given the word of knowledge, that all may be taught to be wise and to have knowledge.</p> <p>19 And again, to some it is given to have faith to be healed;</p> <p>20 And to others it is given to have faith to heal.</p> <p>21 And again, to some is given the working of miracles;</p> <p>22 And to others it is given to prophesy;</p> <p>23 And to others</p>
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		<p>the discerning of spirits.  24 And again, it is given to some to speak with tongues;  25 And to another is given the interpretation of tongues.  26 And all these gifts come from God, for the benefit of the children of God.</p>
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Moroni’s promise: A blog post very much worth reading, taken from a talk by a member of a California Stake Presidency: <http://geoffsn.blogspot.com/2012/08/russell-hancock-on-testimony-and-church.html>

“For most of my life, especially while praying, this is something that led to the sense that I was alone, and led me to feel like I was a second class Mormon--second rate because I couldn’t accomplish this sensory, infallible encounter with the Holy Ghost. I thought that there was something wrong with me... [Even on my mission] it didn’t happen. That manifestation that was promised in Moroni eluded me. So this was a crisis point for me and I actually felt like if I was going to be true and have integrity then I should probably confess these things to my leadership, to my mission president, and also to my parents. So I actually wrote a letter home to my parents saying that I felt I was a fraud: I loved the church, but that I didn’t know it was true through this encounter with the Holy Ghost.

Instantly, back comes a letter from my mother. You have to know my mother to fully appreciate this. She doesn’t suffer fools. She can be very stern. So back comes her letter, and she says “Rusty, enough of this nonsense. This is pure foolishness. Stop this at once. Stop praying with your knees, start praying with your feet.” And that was a sweet relief for me. It was complete and total liberation. I took her advice and decided “I’m going to stop doing this thing. I’m going to stop holding a gun to the Lord’s head and insisting on a sign. I’m just going to live my life as if the gospel is true.”

So you must understand: what I did upon reading that letter, was that I made a wager. *I decided to bet my entire life that the gospel was true.* I decided I would wager my life that the church is everything it claims it is and live out my life accordingly. So that is what I’ve done and what I continue to do... Knowledge for me has not arrived because it was beckoned, or because I said ‘give me a revelation.’ For me it has come in ways I can barely describe, and never on command, and I’m not even sure that they’re sensory or palpable. But I can tell you brethren and sisters that I somehow crossed a threshold into an area that I think we can call something more approaching knowledge. When I speak with conviction about our church it’s not merely with hope and with faith but with something that is

approaching knowledge. That I can tell you. But it's never come on my terms and never come to me on my timetable." (then he talks about the "gift to believe on others words")

Vatican Commission on infant baptism (2007)

"Our conclusion is that the many factors that we have considered ... give serious theological and liturgical grounds for hope that unbaptized infants who die will be saved and enjoy the beatific vision...We emphasize that these are reasons for prayerful hope, rather than grounds for sure knowledge," (41 page document after years of study)

<http://www.catholicnews.com/data/stories/cns/0702216.htm>

Dan Ariely, Good, Evil, and Decision Making

[http://www.ted.com/talks/dan\\_ariely\\_asks\\_are\\_we\\_in\\_control\\_of\\_our\\_own\\_decisions.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/dan_ariely_asks_are_we_in_control_of_our_own_decisions.html)

Barry Schwartz, The Paradox of Choice

[http://www.ted.com/talks/barry\\_schwartz\\_on\\_the\\_paradox\\_of\\_choice.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/barry_schwartz_on_the_paradox_of_choice.html)

Barry Schwartz, Our Loss of Wisdom

[http://www.ted.com/talks/barry\\_schwartz\\_on\\_our\\_loss\\_of\\_wisdom.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/barry_schwartz_on_our_loss_of_wisdom.html)