

Lesson 12

Doctrine and Covenants 129–132

The following assignments include various learning activities, such as questions, lists, essays, charts, comparisons, contrasts, and surveys. To receive credit for this lesson, you must complete the number of assignments indicated below and submit them to your institute instructor or administrator. You may submit your work either electronically or on paper, handwritten or typed.

Each lesson should take approximately 60–90 minutes to complete, the same amount of time you would typically spend in a weekly institute class. Since reading the scripture block listed in the lesson heading is expected of all institute students prior to class, the estimated time for each assignment does not include the time you need to spend reading the scripture block.

Complete assignments 1–3, or complete assignment 4:

1. Doctrine and Covenants 129. Determining If Administrations Are from God

- a. Read the institute student manual “Historical Background” for Doctrine and Covenants 129 (page 319). Then in your own words, write a sentence or two to explain the nature of each of the following kinds of beings. You may want to consult the student manual commentaries (pages 320–21) for assistance.

- Angels who are resurrected personages
- Spirits of just men made perfect
- The devil (or spirits that followed him) as an angel of light

- b. Write a paragraph that explains how offering to shake the hand of a messenger will reveal his true nature. Include what Doctrine and Covenants 129 contains concerning how each kind of messenger will respond.

- c. Most of the Lord’s and Satan’s attempts to influence us do not come in the form of a visitation from a messenger. From your personal knowledge and from what you have learned from the Doctrine and Covenants, write a few sentences to explain what spiritual activities you can do to increase your sensitivity to the Lord’s Spirit and safeguard yourself against being deceived by the devil.

2. Doctrine and Covenants 130. Items of Instruction

- a. Read the student manual “Historical Background” for Doctrine and Covenants 130 (page 321). Then write answers to the following questions:

- How was this revelation connected to Orson Hyde?
- What characteristics are needed for an individual to willingly accept correction?

- b. Doctrine and Covenants 130 contains various items of instruction, not all of which relate directly with each other. The section can be divided into the following scripture blocks:

- Verses 1–2
- Verse 3
- Verses 4–11
- Verses 12–13
- Verses 14–17
- Verses 18–19
- Verses 20–21
- Verses 22–23

Choose any two of these scripture blocks and write a brief paragraph for each that includes the following information:

- A summary of the doctrine taught in the verses.
- An explanation of how understanding that doctrine contributes to a testimony of the Prophet Joseph Smith and the restored gospel.
- An example of how you can apply the doctrine in your life or to your understanding of the plan of salvation.

3. Doctrine and Covenants 131. Exaltation and the More Sure Word of Prophecy

- a. Write a few sentences that summarize Doctrine and Covenants 131:1–4 in your own words. Be sure to include the requirement for obtaining the highest degree of glory.

- b. Read the student manual commentary “D&C 131:4: What Is Eternal Increase?” (pages

325–26). Explain in writing what the phrase “he cannot have an increase” means.

- c. Read Doctrine and Covenants 131:5 and the accompanying student manual commentary, “What Is ‘the More Sure Word of Prophecy’?” (page 326). Then write answers to the following questions:

- What attributes characterize an individual who has received “the more sure word of prophecy”?
- How can understanding “the more sure word of prophecy” inspire you to live more righteously?

4. Doctrine and Covenants 132. Eternal Marriage

- a. In preparation for studying Doctrine and Covenants 132, read the “Historical Background” in the student manual (page 327). Then write a sentence or two to explain why verses 1–33 are more relevant for us today than the remaining verses in the section.

- b. Read Doctrine and Covenants 132:1–6 and the student manual commentaries “D&C 132:3–6: ‘If Ye Abide Not That Covenant, Then Are Ye Damned’” and “D&C 132:4: Will Those Who Do Not Have the Opportunity to Marry in This Life Be Damned?” (pages 327–28). Then write responses to the following:

- What is the meaning of “the new and everlasting covenant”? (verse 6).
- Explain in a few sentences why those who understand this law must abide by it to progress eternally.
- How can an individual who does not have the opportunity to marry in mortality claim the blessings of “the new and everlasting covenant”?

- c. Read Doctrine and Covenants 132:7–14 and the student manual commentary “D&C 132:7: What Does It Mean to Be ‘Sealed by the Holy Spirit of Promise’?” (pages 328–29). Write a paragraph that explains what the Holy Spirit of Promise has to do with marriage and every ordinance in the Church. In your paragraph, also explain what a married couple would need to do to have their marriage “sealed by the Holy Spirit of Promise.”

- d. Read Doctrine and Covenants 132:15–18. Then answer the following question:

- What is the situation described in Doctrine and Covenants 132:15–17 that would lead to a marriage lasting only for mortality?

- e. Study Doctrine and Covenants 132:7, 19; then make a list of requirements for a marriage to last through the eternities. Make another list of the promises made to those who meet the requirements of an eternal marriage.

- f. Read Doctrine and Covenants 132:19–25 and the student manual commentary “D&C 132:19–22: How Does an Individual Obtain a Fulness of God’s Glory?” (pages 329–30). Then write a paragraph that explains in your own words the eternal possibilities that await those who righteously enter into and live according to “the new and everlasting covenant” of eternal marriage.

- g. Read Doctrine and Covenants 132:26–27 and the corresponding entry in the student manual commentary, “Does Marriage in the Temple Assure One of Exaltation, No Matter How One Lives?” (pages 330–31). Then write responses to the following:

- Explain how an individual who is keeping his or her temple covenants would feel a greater desire to repent, rather than thinking that the sealing covenant excuses him or her from repentance.
- How can these verses provide encouragement to you when you make mistakes, even after having entered into sacred covenants?

- h. Read Doctrine and Covenants 132:28–33 and the student manual commentary “D&C 132:29–33: ‘Go Ye, Therefore, and Do the Works of Abraham’” (pages 332–33). Then write answers to the following questions:

- How does Doctrine and Covenants 132:29 help you understand what “the works of Abraham” are?
- How are those who enter into the covenants of the gospel a fulfillment of the promises God made to Abraham?
- What must you do to receive those same promises?