

Lesson 4

Doctrine and Covenants 93–96

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 assignment 1 as well as any two of the other assignments:

1. Doctrine and Covenants 93. Gaining a Knowledge of the Truth

- a. As you read Doctrine and Covenants 93:1, list the actions you must take to prepare to see the face of the Lord. Write a few sentences explaining how the actions you listed are essential to becoming like the Savior.
- b. Write a paragraph that summarizes what you learn from Doctrine and Covenants 93:2–20 about Jesus Christ in the pre-earth life and in mortality. Write a few sentences explaining how these verses give you hope in your eternal progress.
- c. Read the institute student manual commentary “D&C 93:6–18: What Is the ‘Record of John?’” (page 217). Who are the two “Johns” mentioned in these verses who kept a record of the Savior’s ministry? When will we receive the fulness of their records?
- d. Read Doctrine and Covenants 93:19–20 and the accompanying commentary in the student manual “What Is Worship and How Should Man Worship the Lord?” (pages 218–19). Then write answers to the following questions:
 - For what reason was this revelation given?
 - How does worshipping the Lord not only demonstrate your devotion to Him but also help you become like Him?
- e. After you have studied Doctrine and Covenants 93:21–32, read the student manual commentary “D&C 93:30: Absolute Truth Is Independent and Understood Only by the Spirit” (pages 220–21). Then write a paragraph that describes the relationship between obedience, fulness of truth, intelligence, and light. Include in your paragraph how your personal efforts influence your ability to understand spiritual truths.
- f. How does Doctrine and Covenants 76:50–62 help define what is meant by the “church of the Firstborn” in Doctrine and Covenants 93:22? (see also student manual commentary “D&C 78:21: The Church of the Firstborn” (page 173).
- g. Study Doctrine and Covenants 93:33–39. Then read the student manual commentaries “D&C 93:33: ‘Man Is Spirit. The Elements Are Eternal,’” “D&C 93:36–37: ‘The Glory of God Is Intelligence,’” and “D&C 93:39–40: How Can We Counter Satan’s Efforts to Take Away Light and Truth?” (pages 221–22). Then write answers to the following questions:
 - What is the purpose for the spirit body and the physical body?
 - What does it mean to receive the glory of God?
 - How can you protect yourself against Satan’s efforts to take away light and truth?
- h. Doctrine and Covenants 93:40–50 contains chastening from the Lord to Frederick G. Williams, Sidney Rigdon, Joseph Smith, and Newel K. Whitney concerning their families. Compare these verses with Mosiah 4:14–15 and Doctrine and Covenants 68:25–28. From what you read in these verses, create a list of actions that the Lord would have righteous parents take to “bring up [their] children in light and truth” (D&C 93:40).

2. Doctrine and Covenants 94. Three Buildings

- a. Read Doctrine and Covenants 94:1–7, 10–12. Also read the student manual commentaries “D&C 94:1–2: What Pattern Had the Lord Given for the City of the Stake of Kirtland?” and “D&C 94:3–12: Instructions for Erecting Buildings for the Work of the Kingdom” (page 223). Then write answers to the following questions:
 - In addition to the temple, what other buildings were the Saints commanded to build?
 - How did those buildings reflect the needs of the Church at that time?
 - How do Church buildings constructed in our day reflect current needs?
 - What can you do to help all Church buildings remain holy and undefiled?
- b. After you have studied Doctrine and Covenants 94:8–9 and the corresponding entry in the student manual commentary, “How Must One Prepare to Enter the Lord’s House?” (page 223), write a short paragraph about the responsibility you have to the Lord, yourself, and others to be worthy when you enter the Lord’s house.

3. Doctrine and Covenants 95. The Blessings of the Lord’s House

- a. Study Doctrine and Covenants 95:1–2 and the accompanying student manual commentary, “How Is Chastening a Sign of Love?” (page 224). In writing, identify how Doctrine and Covenants 95:1 demonstrates that when the Lord chastens us, He is demonstrating His love.

- b. Read Doctrine and Covenants 95:3–6 and the student manual commentary “D&C 95:3: What Was the Saints’ ‘Grievous Sin’?” (pages 224–25). Write a paragraph explaining how this failure was a “grievous sin.” Include in your paragraph an explanation of how serious a sin you think it is to not attend the temple, if not building it was so serious.
- c. Read Doctrine and Covenants 95:8–17 and answer the following questions:
 - What instructions did the Lord give for the construction of the temple?
 - Which purposes for the first temple of this dispensation were the same as the purposes for our temples today? Which purposes were different?
 - How has the temple caused you to feel “power from on high”? (verse 8).

4. Doctrine and Covenants 96. Strengthening the Stakes of Zion

- a. Read Doctrine and Covenants 96:1 and the student manual commentary “D&C 96:1: ‘This Stake That I Have Set for the Strength of Zion Should Be Made Strong’” (page 227). Explain in a few sentences the symbolism behind the expression “stake of Zion.”
- b. Read Doctrine and Covenants 96:2–5 concerning Newel K. Whitney, and read Doctrine and Covenants 96:6–9 concerning John Johnson. Then answer the following questions:
 - What responsibilities were each of these men given that would strengthen their stake of Zion?
 - What can you do to strengthen your stake of Zion?