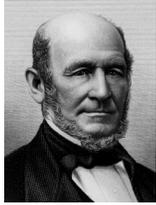


# Handout 1: Facing “Poverty and Distress”

President Heber C. Kimball (1801–68) of the First Presidency, who was then serving as a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, wrote about his return to Kirtland following his mission to the eastern United States:



“When I got to Kirtland the brethren were engaged in building the house of the Lord. . . . The church was in a state of poverty and distress, in consequence of which it appeared almost impossible that the commandment [to build the temple] could be fulfilled” (“Extract from the Journal of Elder Heber C. Kimball,” *Times and Seasons*, Jan. 15, 1845, 771).

In January 1835, Church member John Tanner arrived in Kirtland from New York. He came because of a prompting he received:

“He received an impression by dream or vision of the night, that he was needed and must go immediately to the Church in the West. . . .

“On his arrival in Kirtland, he learned that at the time he received the impression that he must move immediately to the Church, the Prophet Joseph and some of the brethren had met in prayer-meeting and asked the Lord to send them a brother or some brethren with means to assist them to lift the mortgage on the farm upon which the temple was being built.

“The day after his arrival in Kirtland, . . . [he was] informed that the mortgage of the before mentioned farm was about to be foreclosed. Whereupon he loaned the prophet two thousand dollars and took his note on interest, with which amount the farm was redeemed” (“Sketch of an Elder’s Life,” *Scraps of Biography* (1883), 12; see also *Our Heritage: A Brief History of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints* [1996], 34).

- In what ways does this account illustrate the principle taught in Doctrine and Covenants 95:11?

