FROM THE FIRST PRESIDENCY

The Power of a Priesthood Blessing



By President Russell M. Nelson

Many years ago, I went to a meeting with other doctors in a little town in Mexico. One night, one of the doctors suddenly became very ill.

Many doctors were there. But we didn't have the equipment we needed to help the man who was sick. The nearest hospital was more than 100 miles (160 km) away. It was night, and no planes could fly. We thought he might die. What could we do?

The sick doctor whispered and asked for a priesthood blessing. I put my hands on his head. I felt the Holy Ghost tell me that the sick doctor would get better. He would live and return safely to his home. I gave him this blessing in the name of the Lord.

The next morning, the doctor was much better. A few days later, he was able to go home. We thanked the Lord for this most remarkable blessing.

The lesson we learned was simple: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5). We experienced this ourselves. We knew it was true.

It is also true that God is in charge. Not all blessings are answered the way we prefer. We need only to increase our faith in Him.

> Adapted from "Neither Trust in the Arm of Flesh" (Brigham Young University commencement speech, Apr. 23, 2009), speeches.byu.edu.