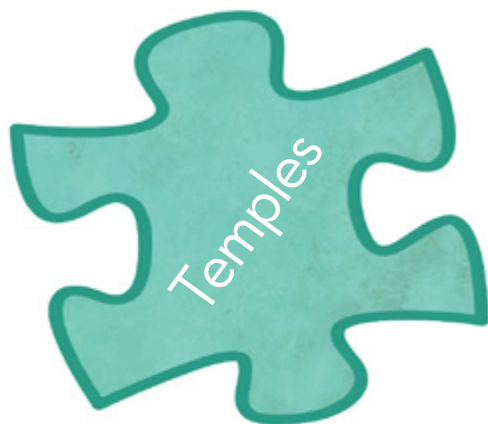


# The Restoration Puzzle



What does the word Restoration mean?

**By Heidi Poelman**

(Based on a true story)

*"For I have conferred upon you the keys and power of the priesthood, wherein I restore all things" (D&C 132:45).*

On the way home from church, Anna remembered the little slip of paper her teacher had given her. "Mom, guess what! I'm giving a talk in Primary next Sunday."

"That's great," Mom said. "On what?"

"I have to talk about the Restoration. But I'm not sure what that is."

"Restoration means that God brought back, or restored, everything He wants His Church to have," Mom said. "Through the Prophet Joseph Smith, He brought back temples, the priesthood, baptism, and the gift of the Holy Ghost. Without the Restoration, we wouldn't have the Church!"

Anna nodded. "I guess that makes sense. But I don't think I can explain it like you did."

"Hey, I have an idea," Mom said as they got home. "Come with me."

Anna followed Mom to the family room. They had started a puzzle last night, and the pieces were still spread out on a small table.

"Think of the gospel like a puzzle." Mom picked up a piece. "Many pieces of the picture were on the earth

at different times. But after Jesus and the Apostles died, many gospel truths were lost or changed. Those pieces of truth needed to be brought back."

"So then what happened?" Anna shuffled some of the loose pieces.

"Many years later God called a young farm boy to bring the pieces back and put them together like when Jesus was on the earth. Who do you think that was?"

"Joseph Smith!" Anna said, smiling. "I think I'm starting to get it." She and Mom talked more about Joseph Smith and the different pieces of the gospel that God brought back through him.

The rest of the week, Anna wrote and practiced her talk. She prayed to Heavenly Father that she could be brave and share her message in Primary.

On Sunday, when it was time for Anna's talk, she stood up, took a deep breath, and held up a puzzle on a board so everyone could see. All the pieces were together in the puzzle.

"A long time ago, many of the important pieces of the gospel were on the earth. When Jesus and His Apostles died, some pieces got lost." Anna took some pieces out of the puzzle and set them down. "Then Heavenly Father and Jesus called Joseph Smith as a prophet to bring back the missing pieces of the gospel.



This is called the Restoration.” She picked up a puzzle piece to show the Primary. On the back were the words “Priesthood power.”

Then Anna showed the rest of the pieces. She read the back of each piece before she put it in its spot in the puzzle. “A living prophet . . . twelve Apostles . . . temple work for eternal families . . . baptism by immersion . . . laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

Anna showed the finished puzzle. “Now we have all the pieces of the gospel. That means

we can see the big picture of how we can be happy and live with Heavenly Father again someday. I am grateful for the Restoration. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.” ♦

The author lives in Utah, USA.



**“Joseph Smith . . . was the instrument in God’s hands in bringing forth sacred scripture, lost doctrine, and the restoration of the priesthood.”**

Elder Neil L. Andersen of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

“Joseph Smith,” *Ensign*, Nov. 2014, 28.