

Lucy Used Her Spiritual Gifts

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Like Lucy Mack Smith, each of us can receive revelation. We all have unique spiritual gifts that can bless our families and the Church.

It was October 1838, and Lucy Mack Smith grasped the hands of her sons Hyrum and Joseph before her sons were taken away. Government leaders had ordered the Saints to leave the area. Several Church leaders had been arrested by soldiers, and an illegal court martial ordered them to be shot. Lucy wondered if she would ever see her sons alive again.

What could possibly help a mother endure a trial like this? Years later, Lucy would look back on this time and recall that she was strengthened by a message of comfort received “by the gift of prophecy”: “Let your heart be comforted concerning your children; they shall not [be] harmed by their enemies.”¹

This experience gave Lucy and her family feelings of “consolation, that surpassed all earthly comfort.”

The Smiths and many other Latter-day Saint families were driven out of Missouri. After finding refuge in the neighboring state of Illinois, Lucy and



Joseph Smith Sr. tried to find information about their sons but found no answers. The Spirit again spoke peace to Lucy’s soul, telling her that Hyrum and Joseph would arrive the following evening.

Bishop Edward Partridge, who was with Lucy when she received this revelation, expressed doubt: “I have always believed you before; but I cannot see any prospect of this prophecy being fulfilled; but if it is so I will never dispute your word again.”

Asleep that evening, Lucy saw a vision of her weak and hungry sons traveling over the prairie. Lucy got ready for them to come home—and they did indeed arrive the next day. They described a journey that matched exactly what she had seen. After that, Bishop Partridge said that

he would forever acknowledge Lucy “to be a true propheticess.” ■

NOTE

1. Quotations are found in “Lucy Mack Smith, History (1845),” 281, 290–91, josephsmithpapers.org.

As the mother of the Prophet Joseph, Lucy was an eyewitness of the Restoration. Read more about her in the digital edition of this issue in the Gospel Library app and at liahona.ChurchofJesusChrist.org.

SCRIPTURE CONNECTION: GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

Acts 2:17–18

1 Corinthians 14:1

Revelation 19:10

Doctrine and Covenants 46:10–26

Articles of Faith 1:7