

Good afternoon, brothers and sisters. It's good to be with you again on this Sabbath afternoon. In the late 1970's I was introduced to a person who introduced me to a product that was made in a man's garage in Tempe, AZ. It was a water filter device called Blondel Water Filters, and was supposed to have been developed through Nasa Space Technology. I became intrigued, and went to a meeting that he held in his converted garage that had room for about 15 different chairs. I took one of the water filters home and tried it, and it worked marvelously. It made the water taste so good that I figured if all I had to do to sell this was to hook it up on peoples' faucet, leave it with them for 2 days, let them taste the water, let them be the judge, and then come back and pick up the check, which is what I did. Over a period of 4 years, I had tremendous success with this company, and became their top distributor/sales person. I traveled all throughout the U.S. and in Canada, and traveled in corporate jets, and rode around in a Rolls Royce, and limousines, and all kinds of cars. They had a car program, and I was the top distributor for 4 years, and I made a LOT of money! One of the things that was my responsibility was to train new distributors in this company in how to have success. Our textbook for that training was a book written by Napoleon Hill called, Think and Grow Rich. In that book, the main statement, the take-off statement was: *whatever the goal of man, whatever the man can see and believe, it can achieve*. One of the ways we taught people to have success was through goal setting and I remember that I had my eye set on a new corvette. It was part of their car program, and in order to get that corvette, I had to break my own existing sales record. So, what I did was to go down to a car dealer, and I saw that car on their showroom floor, and I got in there, behind the wheel, and had someone take a picture of me behind the wheel, with my smiling face. I could see myself driving it down the street, and I did everything I could, while on the showroom floor, to set up a way for me to visualize that automobile being mine. I took those pictures, and I plastered all around my house, on my bathroom mirror, and I visualized for about 3 months, me owning that car. An interesting thing happened. Sales picked up and within 3 months they had a car presentation program, and that very car that I had sat behind the wheel of, was brought and presented to me in a great big rally where hundreds of people came and that car was given to me and I got to keep the keys, and I sat down in that, started it up, and I experienced kind of a let-down after I had gotten the car. It's hard to understand, but I had already gotten that car long before that night. I had already, in my mind, owned that car, had driven it, had spent a lot of time in that car--in my mind. So, when the time came when I actually had the keys to the car, and was presented with the car, it was kind of a let-down. Well, I have to tell you, I got over that real quick! None the less, it was an interesting experience. Every level of success in that company, I was able to move through, and always was at the top, because I was able to visualize myself in possession of the goal. I remember thinking that Napoleon Hill would visualize himself in meetings of the goal. I remember thinking that Napoleon Hill visualized himself in board meetings, corporate meetings, with Andrew Carnegie and Henry Ford. Both men were dead at this time, but he knew enough about them that he could bring those two, in his mind, and visualize them counseling him, and become a part of his partnership, in order to develop the success that he did, over the years.

Why am I telling you this story? Because, at the time I was living this story, I didn't understand doctrinal principles that are at work here. Let's go to The Pearl of Great Price, to Moses 3: *4 And now, behold, I say unto you, that these are the generations of the heaven and of the earth, when they were created, in the day that I, the Lord God, made the heaven and the earth, 5 And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew. (This part right here) For I, the Lord God, created all things, of which I have spoken, spiritually, before they were naturally upon the face of the earth.*

That's what we want to talk about right now. Everything that God does, he does first, spiritually. Then secondly, he does physically. Notice that he says, "*I, the Lord God, created all things, of which I have spoken spiritually, before they were naturally upon the face of the earth.*" 'ALL THINGS' is the point we are making. We are seeking for the great mysteries of Godliness, to have experiences that have been written in the scriptures by the ancients. We are seeking to have those same experiences in our day, knowing that God is no respecter of persons, and that everything that you can read about in the scriptures: every visitation, every highlight that is mentioned, can be experienced by us, in this life. Or, otherwise, God is a respecter of persons. We know that he isn't. In him, there is no shadow of changing or variableness. The core of our lessons over the last few weeks have focused on our being able to seek for and obtain the "face of God", while in the flesh. If you are like me, you have a pre-conceived notion, based on your experiences, on how that should be done. I'd like to just share with you, at this point, in my progress, I'm learning that that is an impediment for these very things to happen. Our pre-conceived notions on how, when and where these things should take place, can be the very barrier that keeps them from happening. The pre-conceived notion could be the main central part of walls of unbelief that keep us from obtaining these promised blessings. While I was in MO last week I heard a little phrase that I hadn't heard before. It says, "Let go and let God." I pondered on that and I wondered if we don't seek to force our feelings, our thoughts, our ideas on God, and in doing that, we limit what He can do with us. For example, as I've contemplated and thought about receiving the Second Comforter in my life, invariably, I can see myself on my knees, in my bedroom, all alone, and have Jesus come through the ceiling, through the wall, or through the door, and appear to me in my bedroom. And, after a period of time that can measure even into years, these things don't happen the way I had them pre-conceived, and I've become discouraged and consider giving up, and lose the opportunity for

these blessings. We've talked about that before, and decided that at least part of that is that our physical body veils us from spiritual realities and truths. We have to step out of that veil, in order to see things in the spirit. I'd like to go over to Moses 1 in POGP. Moses sees God face to face and talks with him as one man talks with another. Then, the Lord withdraws. Let's go to vs. 9: *And the presence of God withdrew from Moses, that his glory was not upon Moses; and Moses was left unto himself. And as he was left unto himself, he fell unto the earth. 10 And it came to pass that it was for the space of many hours before Moses did again receive his natural strength like unto man; and he said unto himself: Now, for this cause I know that man is nothing, which thing I never had supposed. (Now, this part right here.) 11 But now mine own eyes have beheld God; (Now, he's going to explain what he means by that.) but not my natural (eyes), but my spiritual eyes, for my natural eyes could not have beheld; for I should have withered and died in his presence; but his glory was upon me; and I beheld his face, for I was transfigured before him.*

Notice that the experience of Moses speaking with God face to face takes place with his spiritual eyes and not through his physical eyes. I guess the question comes up, "What does it mean to be able to see with the eye of the spirit?" Notice that one of the things that has to take place for that to happen is, you must be transfigured. The very word 'transfigured' means 'changed'. This is a change that takes place through the power of the Holy Ghost, that enables you to enter into his presence. Now, the secret to being able to see God with the eye of the Spirit is given to us right in the very first chapters of the book of 1 Nephi. Nephi, here, is desiring to see the vision that his father saw, that we call the vision of the tree of life. Let's look at Chapter 10:17: *And it came to pass after I, Nephi, having heard all the words of my father, concerning the things which he saw in a vision, (we call it the vision of the tree of life) and also the things which he spake by the power of the Holy Ghost, which power he received by faith on the Son of God—and the Son of God was the Messiah who should come—(here we go) I, Nephi, was desirous also that I might (three things here) see, and hear, and know of these things, (and I might add one more thing: handle) by the power of the Holy Ghost, which is the gift of God unto all those who diligently seek him, as well in times of old as in the time that he should manifest himself unto the children of men. (I would like to say that is a veiled reference to each individual receiving for them self, in the flesh, the Second Comforter, to have an encounter with Christ.) 18 For he is the same yesterday, today, and forever; and the way is prepared for all men (To see what? To see God in this life) from the foundation of the world, if it so be that they repent and come unto him. (Watch this in vs. 19) For he that diligently seeketh shall find; and the mysteries of God shall be unfolded unto them, by the power of the Holy Ghost, as well in these times as in times of old, and as well in times of old as in times to come; wherefore, the course of the Lord is one eternal round.*

Notice that we are referred to being able to have these experiences of seeing, hearing, knowing and handling, by the power of the Holy Ghost. There's your key. And notice up in vs. 19 it comes out and says, "*and the mysteries of God shall be unfolded unto them, by the power of the Holy Ghost*". Being able to see with the eye of the Spirit is a gift that is given to you "by the power of the Holy Ghost". Now, go to Chapter 11:1. Watch this: *For it came to pass after I had desired to know (So, here's the first step in the whole process to see with the eye of the Spirit.) the things that my father had seen (1), and (2) believing that the Lord was able to make them known unto me, as I sat (3) pondering in mine heart (now, this is the part you want to watch) I was caught away in the Spirit of the Lord, yea, into an exceedingly high mountain, which I never had before seen, and upon which I never had before set my foot.*

Now, the question comes up: "Does that mean that you have to be physically transported from point A to point B, or can you be taken there in the Spirit by the power of the Holy Ghost, and your body still be where it was when you begin the process of desiring, believing and pondering, and yet you can be caught away in the spirit and be taken upon a high mountain in which you had never before seen, and upon which you had never set foot?" That's the point we want to talk about. Is it possible for you to be taken in the spirit while your body is still where it was when you begin the process, and see and hear and know and handle and touch something in the spirit. I guess the question that comes up, every time these visions happen, where was that person who was beholding that vision physically, when the vision unfolds? As I am being mentored by persons who have had this experience, and by the spirit, and by the power of the Holy Ghost, I'm more and more coming to find out that, what we think of as reality in this world, is not the real world. We've mentioned this before a little bit. We're in a 3-dimensional world here, and seldom do we get into a fourth dimension. Yet, there are people who have had sacred experiences that come back and say that there are as many as 12 dimensions, layered upon each other. We only experience 3 here, while in the flesh. What we think will happen as we seek for these greater blessings and the thought of how it should be, will take you away from the experience, so that you'll die and never experience it.

Go to D&C 88. This, again, is a primary scripture of seeing the face of God. Let's look at vs. 67, and here it is again, here's this statement: *And if your eye be single to my glory; (Now remember, we're thinking about seeing things with the spiritual eye, not the natural eye, like Moses did.) your whole bodies shall be filled with light, (I think that's a ponderable statement. I think there's a great mystery in there. If we can train ourselves to spiritually see things with a spiritual eye, the result will be an infusion of light called 'everlasting burnings'. I look at those burnings as 'glory'. If we experience him, and are taken to where he is, you're going to need to be changed and transfigured for a number of reasons, in order to have that encounter. That's not to say that he can't come into this world, and that you can't encounter him flesh to flesh. As I'm reading the scriptures, I'm seeing some things differently that I've never seen before.) and there shall be no darkness in you; and that*

body which is filled with light comprehendeth all things.

Let's look at vs. 68: *Therefore, sanctify yourselves that your minds become single to God, and the days will come that you shall see him; for he will unveil his face unto you, and it shall be (Here's your key.) in his own time, and in his own way, and according to his own will.*

That's the part for today's lesson that you want to triple underline. See, if we try to determine how this is going to happen, it probably won't happen. We have to 'let go and let God'. We're dealing with things here that humans, even the best of us who are spiritually accomplished, can barely comprehend. Why would we want to detail out in our mind how God is going to do things with us, when we barely understand this world, our own physical bodies, and our own existence, and be instructed from on high? At best, our knowledge and experience is limited. It seems to me like we ought to be slow to have pre-conceived notions on HOW he's going to do what he wants to do with us. We need to 'let go and let God', trust him, and have faith in him, and let him unwind it to us as he will, in his own time, in his own way, and according to his own will.

Let's go to Ether 12, and continue this train of thought, and see if we can uncover some more. This is Moroni speaking about the brother of Jared, and the experience that the brother of Jared had with the Lord. Vs. 19: *And there were many whose faith was so exceedingly strong, even before Christ came, who could not be kept from within the veil, (This part right here.) but truly saw with their eyes (This is what we're trying to do. I'm going to present to you that they are seeing with the eye of faith.) the things which they had beheld with an eye of faith, and they were glad.*

This seems to indicate that you have to visualize some things in your mind before the Lord actually opens up the reality of it to you. I want to see the appearance of the Lord Jesus Christ to the Nephite people, as recorded in 3 Nephi 11. If I want to see that for myself, which the B of M tells me that I can, and Nephi certainly testifies of this, and Joseph Smith said that the Lord hath not shown anything to Joseph, or revealed anything to Joseph, but what he will reveal to the Twelve or even the least of the LDS. They may behold all things, as soon as they are able to bear it. So, there's the invitation. The door is open. There is nothing that has happened in the past, or for that matter, that is coming in the future, that you can't see, if you find the key to unlock the process. I believe the key is here in vs. 19, but you have to see, first of all, with the eye of faith. So, if I want to see 3 Nephi 11 and the appearance of the Lord, I need to visualize in my mind and try to get a mental picture of that, based on what I've read in the scriptures, and art work that I've seen, or what I've heard from other people's experiences, I try to bring that image up in my mind, visualize it, and in the process of doing that, the Lord can catch me up in the Spirit, and take me to a place where I can see that unfold as it actually took place. So, again it says, "*who could not be kept from within the veil, but truly saw with their eyes the things which they had beheld with an eye of faith*". You're going to have to come out of the veil. We talked about the body being the physical veil. If we're taken out of that, your body still stays where it is, but you're taken out. This seems to fit in with what Nephi said, "I was caught up". Paul also says, "I was caught up". See, you're taken out of the body veil and see what actually took place, and are glad. You see it with your spiritual eyes what you first behold with the eye of faith. That eye of faith is visualizing something to a degree, and with such faith, that you know that the Lord will take what it is that you're visualizing, and let you see and experience the actual event. But it begins, first of all, with seeing with the eye of faith. Don't you find it interesting that in the word visualization is also the beginnings of the word visions--to be able to see things. A vision is real. In a vision you will see things that are just as tactile as if you were in a body. The point is, it's just as real. Just because you're not sitting here in a 3-dimensional world experiencing these things through the natural senses, doesn't mean that they are any less real. This is what I'm learning. So, I'm training myself now in terms of seeing with the eye of faith, being caught up, visualizing things, and in the process of this, the Lord takes me and shows me the actual event. See, these things are hidden from us. We talked once before; it's like celestial gaming. It's a game of hide and seek. Look at Ether 12:20: *And behold, we have seen in this record that one of these was the brother of Jared; for so great was his faith in God, that when God put forth his finger he could not hide it from the sight of the brother of Jared, because of his word which he had spoken unto him, which word he had obtained by faith.*

We talked a little bit about that in another lesson. We are seeking something that's hidden. You've seen in the scriptures where God says, 'I will come out of my hiding place', and in another place, 'seek me and ye shall find me'. I find it interesting that our childhood game in this world is 'hide and seek'.

Let's go to 3 Nephi 11 and I'll show you something else. What makes this so difficult for us to do is that we have lost, to a great measure as adults, the ability to imagine things. Now, I'm going to speak for me, I found out that at this point of my life, I don't have much of an imagination. It seems that the older I get, my imagination seems to fade with time. We lose our ability to imagine things. So, with the eye of faith, which opens up the door to visions, which puts us in a place where things are experienced in a more reality, spiritually, than things we actually see in this world. I want to emphasize that those people who have been taken into the spirit, have experiences such as this: This is a person who has the 2nd Comforter experience, and describes being able to see with the eye of faith. This results in a heightened sense of awareness. You can see in all directions as you choose. You can see up close, or panoramic. You can see through, up, down, around or all around. Colors are more pronounced or indescribable. This is how people describe being able to see with the eye of faith. I remember reading in Spencer's book, and if you'll remember that all of Spencer's visions took place while he was out of body. In other words, he died. His spirit came out from behind the veil, which is the physical body. In fact, as he was standing in the spirit, he would look down at his veil, lying lifeless on a stretcher or on a gurney, bed or in a hospital, and he describes all the

things that took place around him. He was able to walk through objects. He could sit on a couch and know how many cow hides made up that couch. He saw things in the spirit that are absolutely impossible to see while you are in the flesh.

Let's take a look at more scriptures. Let's go to Alma 5:15. Here, we talk about this 'eye of faith' again. This is a great tie-in with Ether 12. 15. *Do ye exercise faith in the redemption of him who created you?* (This part right here.) *Do you look forward with an eye of faith, and view* (the word view is also tied with the word vision) *this mortal body raised in immortality, and this corruption raised in incorruption, to stand before God to be judged according to the deeds which have been done in the mortal body?* 16 *I say unto you, (Look here.) can you imagine to yourselves that ye hear the voice of the Lord,* (That goes back to Ether 12, that you first of all, see things through the eye of faith--through visualization, and then the Lord takes you to the next level, where you actually behold those things, and then, as a result, you're glad. But, the beholding can be an extension of seeing with the eye of faith. Beholding with the eye of faith is the beginning of a vision. A vision is as real as anything you will experience in the flesh.) *saying unto you, in that day: Come unto me ye blessed, for behold, your works have been the works of righteousness upon the face of the earth?* 16 *I say unto you, can you imagine to yourselves that ye hear the voice of the Lord, saying unto you, in that day: Come unto me ye blessed, for behold, your works have been the works of righteousness upon the face of the earth?* 17 *Or do ye imagine to yourselves that ye can lie unto the Lord in that day, and say—Lord, our works have been righteous works upon the face of the earth—and that he will save you?* (Here we go again.) 18 *Or otherwise, can ye imagine yourselves brought before the tribunal of God with your souls filled with guilt and remorse, having a remembrance of all your guilt, yea, a perfect remembrance of all your wickedness, yea, a remembrance that ye have set at defiance the commandments of God?*

I would say, "Can you imagine yourself standing before the resurrected Christ?" I have to help me visualize this, with a picture I especially feel drawn to. When I want to move into that area of starting to visualize what he looks like, I picture this in my mind. I will gaze upon it. I don't just glance, but I will sit and gaze upon that. I'll look at the facial expression. I'll look at his eyes. I'll look at his nose, and his ears. I'll look at his hair and his beard. I'll look at the clothing that he's wearing in this picture. I begin to see with the eye of faith. I begin to visualize knowing, and here's what I'm discovering, knowing that the next step to that is for the Lord to usher me in to a vision, where I actually encounter the Lord. See, here's the part. We think that if we see him in a vision, that that's not a 2nd Comforter experience. I've thought that for all my years. This is just something I'm learning now. But what I'm realizing is that encountering him in a vision is every bit as real as tactile. In that vision, when you are brought into his presence and he comes up and embraces you, in a vision, here's the part now, we have to get past this thinking, because in this vision, you will feel the warmth of his body. In this vision, you will feel his breathing, as his body inhales and exhales. In that vision, you will feel his cheek against your cheek. And, if you are blessed to have him kiss you, you will feel that kiss, a holy kiss, from the resurrected Savior. He will invite you, in that vision, to become a witness of his physical, resurrected body, and you will see the marks of the prints of the nails in his body, and it will be more real, in that experience, than if you were to see him in the flesh, and he were to condescend in his physical body to come into the telestial world. I believe that the experience in a vision is as real, if not more real, than what would take place if he were to walk into your room and you would see him. This is what I'm starting to learn.

Let's look at another scripture. Let's go to Alma 32:33,40. This is the great story about the experiment with the seed, but notice what it says: *And now, behold, because ye have tried the experiment, and planted the seed, and it swelleth and sprouteth, and beginneth to grow, ye must needs know that the seed is good.* 40 *And thus, (Here we go.) if ye will not nourish the word, (How do you nourish the word?) looking forward with an eye of faith* (There's your key.) *to the fruit thereof, (And what's the fruit we're talking about? It's seeking and finding Christ in this world. And then, after you have found him, have him introduce you and present you to Father and to Mother.) ye can never pluck of the fruit of the tree of life.*

If you don't look forward with an eye of faith, to the fruit thereof, you'll never pluck of the fruit. 41 *But if ye will nourish the word, yea, nourish the tree as it beginneth to grow, by your faith with great diligence, and with patience, (this part) looking forward to the fruit thereof, it shall take root; and behold it shall be a tree springing up unto everlasting life.*

Again, back to Moroni in Ether 12:18. Now, think about all this. 18 *And neither at any time hath any wrought miracles until after their faith; wherefore they first believed in the Son of God.* 19 *And there were many whose faith was so exceedingly strong, even before Christ came, who could not be kept from within the veil, but truly saw with their eyes the things which they had beheld with an eye of faith, and they were glad.*

So, I'm learning some new things here. I'm grateful for these podcasts because what this has done is put me in touch with people who are loving and caring, and are willing to share with me the things that they've learned, and the things that have taken them to that point, being willing to share that with me, in order that I may look forward, with an eye of faith, to the fruit, and partake of that fruit, and enjoy that experience.

Now, I want to go back to 3 Nephi 11. We left that for just a minute, but I haven't forgotten it. There is other criteria that I have found out that is necessary. I have found out that any time the Lord says something multiple times within a few verses, it's probably something we should pay attention to. They are having a 2nd Comforter experience here. You've got 2500 people here, who are seeing the resurrected Lord. He says this: 37 *And again I say unto you, ye must repent, and become as a little child, and be baptized in my name, or ye can in nowise receive these things.*

Becoming as a little child is a key, secret ingredient, to seeing the face of God, while still in mortality. Look at vs. 38.

He repeats this again. *38 And again I say unto you, ye must repent, and be baptized in my name, and become as a little child, or ye can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God.*

Let's go to Mark 10:13 in the N.T. *And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: (Over in Luke, the companion scripture to this says, "they brought infants unto him that he should touch them".) and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. 14 But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. 15 Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.* (Now, when you have the 2nd C. experience, you are entering into the Kingdom of God. You are entering into the Kingdom of Heaven. Wherever God is, wherever you find him, wherever he takes you to him, or wherever he comes to you, what you're experiencing there is the Kingdom of Heaven. You can't encounter God, and not encounter the Kingdom of God or Heaven, to a degree. So, what is it about little children that the Lord says is so necessary in order for you to obtain this marvelous experience? I know one thing that little children have, is that they are stubborn. They don't give up. In fact, it doesn't take very long for a child to learn how to get what they want from their parents. They just pester them! I don't know about you, but I know that with my kids, they would say, "Dad, can I do this?" and I'd say "No." And, they'd say, "Dad, can I do this?" and same answer... and finally, out of just being tired of it, especially when I was a younger dad and didn't know better, I'd find myself giving in, just to get them off my back. In Luke 18:1-8, there is a parable about a widow woman who pesters a judge with her pleadings, her importunings. Interesting word. You may want to look up the word importune. It's a word that God uses over in the D&C and the N.T. Finally, because of her crying and persistence, the judge finally relents and gives in. So, little children are persistent. They will continue to harass their parents, until eventually, parents give in to their requests. Joseph Smith said, "Weary the Lord until he blesses you." He also said, "Approach the Throne of Grace boldly." So, I think we have to take a look at that, and not give up. If you're like me, after an attempt or two at entering into a visionary state, or seeking to have the ministering of angels when or how you think it should happen, you have a tendency to give up. I'm finding out that I give up too easily. I am too easily discouraged, and little children are not. They also have a different outlook on the world. They are curious, believing, trusting, and open to new ideas.

Here is another scripture we want to look at, that talks about little children, in Matthew 18:1-5. Let's take a look at this. *1 At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? 2 And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, 3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. (This part right here.) 4 Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, (Here's the key within the key.) the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5 And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.*

The quality the Lord mentions here, specifically, is humility. I believe that being humble is being 'teachable'. Other synonyms might be impressionable, lowly, malleable, moldable, susceptible, thirsty for knowledge, trainable, unpretentious and willing. All of these are attributes of little children. Here's another one. Little kids are asking questions all the time. They just ask, ask, ask. The big question is WHY? The older we get, the more we move away from that. We lose that attribute of a little child. Little children will knock until the door is opened.

Here's one more scripture. Go to Luke 11:9. *And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. 10 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. 11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? 12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?*

I had someone, this past week, call and ask about the importance of mentors. If we're supposed to seek and ask for the Holy Spirit, and you've heard me teach that you go to the source and get your answers from the source, instead of drinking water down through the cow pasture, then, what is the place for a mentor in that? Well, I'm mentored in just about every step along the way. Most of what I have learned in the gathering of information has been from mentors. I have not personally, yet, met one of my spiritual mentors. I've either been mentored or tutored over the internet, over the phone, or on email. Every one of my mentors have been strangers. Every one of them. What's magnificent and fascinating to me is that if you set your foot on this path of seeking after the mysteries of God, and seeking to have the heavens opened and call down the powers of heaven upon your head, the Lord is aware of your desires and what you're trying to do, and your footsteps along the path, and he's going to provide people in your life, and information, at the time when you're needing it the most. He's watching you. He knows what you're doing. He's going to custom make, tailor make and customize a tutorial, that Neal Maxwell used to call it, he's going to customize it for you, and you're going to receive it at the time, and in a place, and from the person that can most help you move forward along the path. Now where the Holy Ghost and the Holy Spirit comes in is that as you're gathering information from your mentors, it's your responsibility to 'try' the spirits. Remember, we talked about this in the past. You don't just assume information just because it comes to you and seems to answer your question. You better make sure your information is coming to you from the right source. So, make sure that you take that information you're receiving, from whomever, take it to the Lord, and seek for confirmation through personal revelation, to have the Holy Ghost

confirm to you and testify that the information they you're receiving from your mentor is Godly, and is truth. Any other way, it's going to be a precarious position for you to be in, and you can be susceptible to deception while we're in the world. So, you have to very careful with this. So, be grateful for mentors/messengers, which is just another word for angels. I look at my mentors the same as I do angels. They have got me information that I needed, at the time I needed it, and in a way that I needed it. I've taken that information to the Lord, had it confirmed, and I look upon their messages as coming from messengers, true messengers.

If you ever have a chance to serve a mission in a developing country, and you see people come out of the world and into the church, and enjoy the blessings of a spiritual witness, a testimony of the Holy Ghost, to see them come to Priesthood, to see them go to the temple, when you leave that mission field, those people look upon these missionaries as angels. There is no difference in the way they view the missionaries than the way they would view a messenger from beyond the veil. It's with the same love and acceptance and awe, and they say the same words, "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of those who publish good tidings, glad tidings of peace." Whether mortal or immortal, whether spirit, translated or resurrected, you still 'try' the spirits, and make sure that their message is coming from the Godly source.

Well, let me wrap up tonight's lesson a little bit. Here's a statement from *Words of Joseph Smith*, talking about seeing with the eye of faith. This is a little known quote. Here's what Joseph said, "All things whatsoever God has in his infinite wisdom has seen fit and proper to reveal to us, while we are dwelling in mortality, in regard to our mortal bodies, (Look at this.) are revealed to us in the abstract and independent of affinity of this mortal tabernacle. But, they are revealed as though we had no bodies at all." Interesting that. (He repeats that quote.) See, there's more evidence that when God wants to have an encounter with us, it may not be so much him coming to us, as us being taken to him; your spirit ascending to him. What does this mean? It means that unless Jesus condescends to come down to earth, in the flesh, we must go to him in the spirit. How do we do that? Visualization. Think of those scriptures we talked about in Alma: imagining and seeing with the eye of faith. As we begin to do that, and press forward, that process of seeing with the eye of faith, can take us to where he is, and you can have a very real experience, where you can not only see, but you can hear, you can smell, perceive and understand, and handle, as though you were in the body.

I share with you, in closing, again, the words of a person who I know has had their Second Comforter experience, and the process we have talked about tonight of seeing with the eye of faith he says this, "When you begin to crack open the door and see with the eye of faith, expect things to blur, and then to focus. Expect to see glimpses, followed by black-outs, or disappearing images. Keep talking and focusing with the Lord. Don't phase out because you think it's your imagination. Trust yourself. Trust the Lord, and push forward. Keep chasing the Lord all the way to the courts of heaven. Don't give up. Don't get negative. Hold on to the images you see and keep revisiting them until they expand and lead to another. At first, you will feel like a person trying to focus, who hasn't slept for days. You're tethered to the flesh, and until you completely let go, and focus on the Lord, and what he is showing you, it will seem a little disconnected. Remember the Savior's words: 'Peace be still'.

Over the past year that we've been doing the podcasts, I've had several of you who have had Second Comforter experiences, but you weren't quite sure, and you think you saw them in the spirit, therefore, you questioned whether you had had this experience. Let me just lay your mind to rest at this point. You did have a Second Comforter experience. Remember, that we in this world think this is reality, when in reality, the spirit realm is the real world. This world, and the celestial world, behind the veil, or within the veil, is illusionary and limited to only a few dimensions. Where God dwells, there are many many more dimensions. Time and space are irrelevant to him. When you are taken into his presence and you view these things, and experience these things through a "vision", it is no less real than if he were to come into this world and appear to you in your bedroom, or in the way that we generally see that happening. May the Lord bless us to seek after these things. Keep an open mind. Don't have a pre-conceived notion on how this should happen. Go into this with the faith of a little child, trusting in the Lord. Let go, and let God. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.