### "Gift of the Holy Ghost" Youth Fireside – 10-09-2005

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#### LOST IN JEFFERSON PARK

### **Greatest Gift**

- What is the best/greatest gift you ever received?
- Joseph Fielding Smith:

"There is nothing more important in the lives of members of the Church than to have the gift of the Holy Ghost (Answers to Gospel Questions, Vol 2, pg 113, The teachings of Church Authorities)

<u>Wilford Woodruff:</u>

"You may have the administration of angels, you may see many miracles; you may see many wonders in the earth; but I claim that the gift of the Holy Ghost is the greatest gift that can be bestowed upon man." (Discourses of Wilford Woodruff, pg 5)

• Harold B Lee:

"And every baptized member of the Church, who lives worthy of it, may have the greatest of all gifts that can come to mankind, the gift of the Holy Ghost, by which the Lord reveals all that is necessary to make in completeness a dispensation of the gospel" (Teachings of Harold B Lee, Chapter 1)

# The Holy Ghost

- Third member of the Godhead
- Personage of Spirit (D&C 130)
- Holy Ghost as a personage of Spirit and gift of the Holy Ghost are separate
- Sometimes Holy Ghost is referred to as "The Spirit"

# Light of Christ

- Sometimes called the Spirit of Christ or the Spirit of God
- LED LIGHT
- "giveth light to every man that cometh into the world" (D&C 84:46)
- This is the light "which is in all things, which giveth life to all things" (D&C 88:13).
- The prophet Mormon taught that "the Spirit of Christ is given to every man, that he may know good from evil" (Moro. 7:16; see also Moro. 7:19; 2 Ne. 2:5; Hel. 14:31)
- The Light of Christ enlightens and gives understanding to all men (see D&C 88:11).

## Manifestations of Holy Ghost

- In contrast, a manifestation of the Holy Ghost is more focused
- HEAD LIGHT
- This manifestation is given to acquaint sincere seekers with the truth about the Lord and his gospel
  - For example, the prophet Moroni promises that when we study the Book of Mormon and seek to know whether it is true, sincerely and with real intent, God will "manifest" the truth of it unto us, "by the power of the Holy Ghost" (Moro. 10:4)
  - Moroni also records this promise from the Risen Lord: "He that believeth these things which I have spoken, him will I visit with the manifestations of my Spirit, and he shall know and bear record. For because of my Spirit he shall know that these things are true" (Ether 4:11).
- These manifestations are available to everyone
  - The Book of Mormon declares that the Savior "manifesteth himself unto all those who believe in him, by the power of the Holy Ghost; yea, unto every nation, kindred, tongue, and people" (2 Ne. 26:13)

# Gift of the Holy Ghost

- The gift of the Holy Ghost is more comprehensive
- MAG LIGHT
- The gift of the Holy Ghost includes the right to constant companionship, that we may "always have his Spirit to be with [us]" (D&C 20:77)
  - What does that mean?
    - One way to look at it is an extra portion of the Spirit
      - Testimony
      - Sanctification (cleansing)
      - Revelation
      - Healing
      - Prophecy
      - Be edified
      - Be comforted
    - Examples
      - FOUND IN JEFFERSON PARK
      - Fools gold

#### **Conditioned upon worthiness**

- Worthiness & how it relates
  - The blessings available through the gift of the Holy Ghost are conditioned upon worthiness
    - "The Spirit of the Lord doth not dwell in unholy temples" (Hel. 4:24; see also Mosiah 2:36-37; 1 Cor. 3:16-17)
    - Even though we have a right to His constant companionship, the Spirit of the Lord will dwell only with us when we keep the commandments
    - He will withdraw when we offend him by profanity, uncleanliness, disobedience, rebellion, or other serious sins

## A most precious gift

- You too may be lost one day...
- A most precious gift The most precious gift
- live worthy of it
- Use it
- listen to it