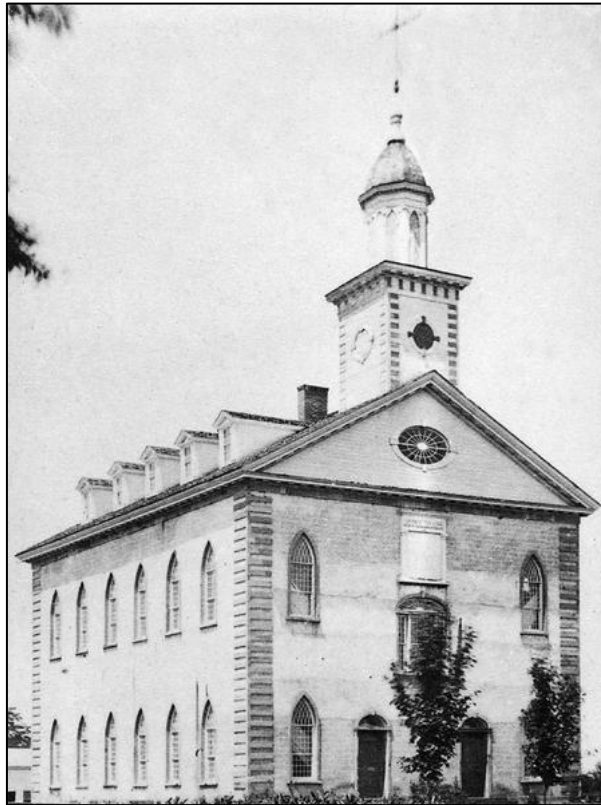


## Joseph Knight Family Connections to the 2025 Come Follow Me Lessons

### Doctrine and Covenants 109-110



Exterior of the House of the Lord, Kirtland, Ohio. Stereograph, W. A. Faze, circa 1875. (Courtesy Community of Christ)

### **Newel Knight's experiences in building the Kirtland Temple and attending the Temple Dedication**

Newel Knight wrote about his experience in Kirtland working on the temple and the temple dedication:<sup>1</sup>

“On the 26<sup>th</sup>, a Hebrew School was opened for the benefit of the Elders, Prof. Seixas teacher. I did not attend the school as my labor was very much needed on the House. Brother Joseph said it would be better for me to labor there than to go to school. The Elders came from every quarter to attend the school, to labor on the House, and to be instructed more perfectly in the ways of the Lord, and the word of the Lord grew and the Saints waxed strong in the New and Everlasting Covenant.

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<sup>1</sup> Newel Knight Journal, Allen Typescript, p. 54.

For some time all things seemed to move well, notwithstanding our enemies had resolved that the House should not be reared, they have not been able to stope its progress, and at this time the Lord does not suffer them to gain any advantage over his Saints. From time to time, we receive such instructions from President Smith as is calculated to enlarge the souls, expand the mind and prepare the Elders to receive knowledge of things of salvation which he from time to time brings forth to us.

For considerable time I do not know that anything special transpired with me personally. About the middle of February Lydia was taken quite sick for two weeks, but soon regained her health and was able to resume her usual duties.

On March 27, 1836 the lower room of the temple was dedicated. The room was filled and the several quorums of the Priesthood appointed to their proper seats. During the opening prayer by President S. Rigdon, Pres. F. G. Williams saw an angel seat himself between father Joseph Smith and himself. He bore testimony of this before all the congregation, and when he described the dress and personal appearance of the holy visitor brother Joseph said it was Christ himself. This was to me a satisfaction to know that the Lord did come into the House we have labored so diligently to build to his name, and that he had accepted it of his servants. After the congregation had voted to sustain the several authorities of the Church, President Joseph Smith offered up the following prayer: See Doctrine and Covenants Section 109.<sup>2</sup>

After this prayer, many great blessings were poured out upon the congregation and cries of Hosanna resounded through the House. In the evening the different Quorums of the Priesthood met and President Joseph Smith in talking said that the first one who should open his mouth should prophesy. Brother George A. Smith arose, and began to prophesy, when a noise like the sound of a mighty rushing wind was heard to fill the Temple, and all the congregation arose as one, being moved upon by an invisible power. Some spoke in tongues and others prophesied, and some saw glorious visions, and the Temple was filled with angels of which brother Joseph bore testimony, a bright light like a pillar of fire rested upon the Temple, and people around came running thinking the building was on fire and were astonished when they saw what was transpiring. The meeting was dismissed at 11 o'clock P.M.

Meetings were held on the following two days and the same ceremonies attended to that all may enjoy equal blessings from the Lord.

On the following Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> whilst in meeting after the sacrament was administered, brother Joseph retired to his seat, with brother O. Cowdery, when the veil was dropped, and then engaged in secret prayer. On rising they both saw the Lord standing upon the breastwork of the pulpit, with a paved work of pure gold under his feet and his countenance

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<sup>2</sup> When Newel's journal was written, either Newel himself or perhaps his wife who recopied Newel's loose notes and papers, reference was made to sections of the Doctrine and Covenants as a shortcut for copying the words into the journal.

shining above the brightness of the sun. And he said unto them: see Doctrine and Covenants Section 110 starting verse 4.

It was indeed a glorious meeting and the Lord bestowed upon us the richness of his love.

On the 29<sup>th</sup>, I began making preparations to return to Clay County, Missouri having filled the mission and received the endowment for which I had been called to come to Kirtland.

April 10<sup>th</sup>, I went to the Prophet's house, where father Smith resided, to have Lydia receive her patriarchal blessing under his hands. After father Smith had blessed Lydia we had a social interview with Pres. Smith and family, and then went into the House of the Lord and retired to a secret chamber where for the last time in that house we offered up our prayers to God, and then retired to our lodging.

This is a sabbath day long to be remembered by me, and may the Lord preserve us henceforth and the Holy spirit guide and enlighten our understanding, that we may be preserved from evils of every kind, and increase in the knowledge of the things of salvation, that we may in the end of our probation receive an inheritance with the sanctified and be crowned even with celestial glory."