Since most of the other sections for this lesson repeat what we find in section 4, I will focus my questions on it.

**Doctrine and Covenants 4**

**Verse 1:** What is the marvelous work that is about to come forth? The use of the word *about* suggests that, at the time this revelation was given (February 1829), it had not yet come forth. When do you think it either did or will?

Notice that this verse is repeated in D&C 6:1, 11:1, 12:1, and 14:1, and it is paraphrased in D&C 18:44. It also appears in the JST version of Isaiah 29:26 (Isaiah 29:14 KJV), and it occurs regularly in the Book of Mormon (eight times). What does the word *marvelous* mean in this context?

**Verse 2:** The literal meaning of *embark* is “to get on board [a ship].” What does that word suggest here?

The phrase “heart, might, mind, and strength” occurs only here. But other combinations of these words are frequent. See, for example, Deuteronomy 6:5; 28:65; 1 Samuel 2:35; 2 Kings 23:25; 1 Chronicles 28:9; Job 9:4; Psalms 38:10; 73:26; 84:5; Daniel 5:20; Matthew 22:37; Mark 12:30, 33; Luke 10:27; 2 Nephi 1:21; Mosiah 7:33; and Ether 4:15.
Does looking at other uses of the phrase suggest anything about how to understand it here?

**Verse 3:** Why is having the desire to serve God enough to make us called to the work? To what does “the work” refer here?

**Verse 4:** Why is the work of the gospel often compared to reaping a field? How does the image in this section compare to other, related images in the scriptures? For example, how does it compare to the parable of the sower (Mark 4:3–8) or the parable of the seed growing secretly (Mark 4:26–29)? What does salvation mean in this verse?

D&C 88:15 says that the spirit and the body of man are the soul. Is that the definition that applies here? If so, what does this verse promise?

**Verse 5:** Why does this verse speak of both charity and love? In other scriptures, don’t the two mean the same? Are they distinct things here, or is the Lord repeating the same thing in different ways to emphasize it?

What does it mean to have one’s eye single to the glory of God? When is my eye not single to his glory? Compare this qualification with the promise made in D&C 88:67. What does the word single mean in this context? Compare this to Matthew 6:22 (Luke 11:34), where the Lord says that if our eye is single, then our whole body will be filled with light. Does single mean the same in both cases?

The Greek word translated “single” in the New Testament could also be translated either “healthy” or “pure,” but it is difficult to understand what “pure to the glory of God” or
“healthy to the glory of God” might mean. Does that mean that the passage in Matthew is irrelevant to explaining the meaning of this verse?

Does Mormon 8:15 give us a definition of what “eye single to the glory of God” means, or does it give us an example of what it means?

**Verse 6:** Why do you think the Doctrine and Covenants implicitly refers to these verses in 2 Peter 1:5–9 so often? Look at this comparison of the two lists:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2 Peter</th>
<th>D&amp;C 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faith</td>
<td>Faith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge</td>
<td>Virtue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperance</td>
<td>Knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patience</td>
<td>Temperance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Godliness</td>
<td>Patience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brotherly kindness</td>
<td>Brotherly kindness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charity</td>
<td>Godliness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Humility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diligence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What does that comparison tell us about the qualifications for the work and about the goal of the work? Do you see any significance in the change of order (*brotherly kindness* and *godliness* are reversed)?

Why might *humility* and *diligence* have been added in the Doctrine and Covenants revelation?
Here are some alternate translations of the Greek words of 2 Peter:

- virtue = excellence
- knowledge = knowledge of what really is
- temperance = self-discipline
- patience = steadfastness, endurance
- godliness = holiness, piety
- brotherly kindness = brotherly love
- charity = love, good will

Are any of these meanings also helpful in understanding the admonition of the Doctrine and Covenants?

**Verse 7:** How do you square this verse with the fact that all of us have had the experience of asking and not receiving what we asked for?

What does it mean to knock and to have it opened? In other words, what is promised and how do we obtain that promise?

The word *amen* means something like “so let it be” and signifies agreement. Why does a revelation from the Lord end with that word?