Other than for its historical interest, of what value is section 136 to us?

**Verse 4:** Verse 2 spoke of a covenant to keep the commandments and statutes of God. That is fairly easy to understand. But what does it mean to walk in the ordinances of the Lord?

**Verses 5–10:** Were you to describe the principles implicit in the organization described here, what would you say?

**Verse 18:** What is Zion, as the word is used here? What does it mean to redeem Zion? (For other scriptures that talk of Zion’s redemption, see Psalm 74:2; Isaiah 1:27; D&C 84:99, 100; 100:13; 101:43, 75; 103:1, 13, 15, 18, 29; 105:9, 13, 34; 109:51; and 113:8.)

**Verse 19:** What does it mean to build oneself up? What’s wrong with doing that? How do we seek to build ourselves up? How can we avoid doing so?

Is the phrase “seek to build himself up” parallel to “seeketh not my counsel”? Why would someone who seeks to build himself up be powerless? What folly would be manifest? How?

**Verse 20:** By beginning with the word seek, this verse is obviously connected to the previous one. How do you understand that connection?
“Seek ye” doesn’t have an object. What should we seek?

Why are the instructions about keeping promises, borrowing, and so forth, in this verse and the verses that follow, particularly important to the Saints as they leave Nauvoo?

**Verses 21–22:** What does the word *vain* mean? In what ways do we take the Lord’s name in vain? What reason does the Lord give that we shouldn’t take his name in vain?

Why is it important to us that he is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? Why is it important that he led the children of Israel out of Israel?

What does it mean that the Lord has stretched out his arm to save Israel in the last days? (See other uses of the phrase “stretched out arm” in Exodus 6:6; Deuteronomy 4:34; 5:15; 7:19; 9:29; 11:2; 1 Kings 8:42; 2 Kings 17:36; 2 Chronicles 6:32; Psalm 136:12; Jeremiah 32:17, 21; Ezekiel 20:33–34; Alma 20:20; and D&C 103:17; 121:33.)

**Verses 28–29:** What might these verses say to us?

**Verse 37:** To what does “these things” refer?

How does our present impurity explain why we shouldn’t marvel?

How might the promise of this verse have been a comfort to the Nauvoo Saints? How might it be a comfort to us?

Why might the Lord say, “keep my words” rather than “keep my commandments”? Do the words given, from Adam to Abraham, to Moses, to Jesus, to Joseph Smith, include more than the commandments? If so, what? If so, how do we keep his words?