As with many of the lessons studied when we study the Doctrine and Covenants, the focus of this particular lesson is on the history of the early Church.

As always, however, these study questions are not specifically directed at the lesson, but at the scriptures used in the lesson. Though true for the materials for all the lessons, it is more obvious in this case: the questions may help you with parts of class discussion, but they are not designed to supply all of the material for a lesson. These are scripture study notes rather than lesson preparation notes.

**Doctrine and Covenants 48**

*Verse 2:* What does it mean to keep the commandments “in death”? What does it mean to be faithful in tribulation? Why is a person’s reward greater if he or she has been faithful in tribulation? Does that mean that our rewards are concomitant with the suffering we have experienced? If so, doesn’t that suggest that we should seek suffering? If not, what is the relation between suffering and reward?
Verse 3: Does the first clause suggest that there will be a time when we will be able to behold the design of God with our natural eyes?

Verse 4: Does “after much tribulation come the blessings” mean that we can expect tribulation before blessings or that we can expect blessings if we have tribulation? What is the difference between those two? How does the meaning of each change our outlook on tribulation?

Doctrine and Covenants 64

Verse 33: What kinds of weariness do we experience in well-doing? For example, what makes a Relief Society president or a bishop weary? A visiting teacher or home teacher? How can one avoid or overcome that kind of weariness?

It is not difficult to see how “out of small things proceedeth that which is great” describes the Restoration. What other kinds of applications might it have?

Verse 34: What does heart mean in most scripture? Does it have that same meaning here?

Why must our hearts be willing as well as obedient? Is there a difference? If I do what is commanded but not with a willing heart, am I genuinely obedient? Is Moroni 7:6–10 relevant?

What did it mean to the early Saints to eat the good of the land? Does it mean the same thing to us? How is that metaphor significant?
Doctrine and Covenants 82

Verse 10: What is it that binds the Lord when we obey, our obedience or his character? To what is he bound? What promise do we have if we obey?

Doctrine and Covenants 93

Verse 1: What does it mean to forsake sins? Can we do this one at a time, or does it require something different, forsaking sin as well as individual sins?

What does it mean to call on the name of Jesus? How do we do so? For what do we call when we call on him?

Is it significant that he speaks of obeying his voice rather than his commandments?

What is the significance of seeing his face? Won’t everyone see it, at least at the judgment? What is the significance of knowing that he is?

Doctrine and Covenants 130

Verse 19: Is this verse speaking of knowledge in general or of knowledge of salvation? How are diligence and obedience relevant to gaining knowledge? What advantage in the hereafter is being referred to?

Verses 20–21: How do we square this verse with scriptures such as Matthew 5:44–45:

Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may
be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

Are verse 19, on the one hand, and verses 20–21, on the other, scriptures on the same theme, or do they take up different topics?