



THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE PROPHET JOSEPH SMITH
IN THE OHIO (1830-1838)



Windows of Heaven by David Lindsley (the Prophet Joseph Smith (center) assists Joseph and Brigham Young (top) with window installation in the Kirtland Temple. Oliver Cowdery (left) and Sidney Rigdon (right) assisted in the temple's preparations.

Preface

While serving a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, as directors of the New Zealand Temple Visitors' Centre, the idea of a series of Readers' Theater presentations emerged as a way to entice more people to come to the Centre. The year 2005 was special because it was the 200th anniversary of the birth of the Prophet Joseph Smith. Though many things had been written previously about the life of the Prophet and the history of the Church, we had a desire to show his life in the context of his family and friends. There was a tremendous sense of loyalty to Joseph from the members of his family, so the things which he experienced were felt by them all. Joseph also attracted many close friends who sacrificed greatly for the cause of Zion. Thus Joseph felt a depth of pain when some of these friends turned against him.

Five periods were selected from Joseph's life wherein the Smith family stayed together with determination to be united. This series of productions are titled,

1. The New York / Pennsylvania Period, 1826 – 1830
2. "In the Ohio," 1830 – 1838
3. Missouri, 1838 – 1839
4. Nauvoo the Beautiful, 1840 – 1843
5. The Martyrdom and Aftermath, 1843 – 1846

The first production begins with the courtship of Joseph and Emma, and the coming forth of the Book of Mormon. However, the significant earlier events of Joseph's life are also brought out as they are described to future converts. The final production ends two years after Joseph's death with the forced departure of the Saints from Nauvoo. This provides interesting insights into the trials and decisions of Joseph's family and friends.

All of the music was selected from the early and current LDS Hymnbooks with particular emphasis on the hymns of the Restoration written by contemporaries of the Prophet Joseph. The lyrics selected by these composers lend a first-hand testimony to the truth and poignancy of the events depicted in the script. Twelve Helpful Hints for Directors are included to assist those who may want to use this material in similar theatrical productions.

These five productions, lasting one to one-and-a-half hours each, are an expression of our testimony of the Restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ by the latter-day prophet, Joseph Smith, and of the courage demonstrated by the faithful Saints of that era.

Douglas M. Scribner and Cecile J. Scribner

Twelve Helpful Hints for Directors

1. In General: A “Readers’ Theater” is meant to be enjoyable and occasionally humorous as well as poignant and inspirational. The audience is involved by having some actors seated among them and by singing selected verses along with the cast. Though on risers, the cast should be at floor level and not on an elevated stage.
2. In Particular: Though some actors may choose to memorize their parts, this is not required. Each participant should have a black folder with plastic inserts to hold the entire script and copies of the music. The cast should hold their books open and follow the script with occasional glances, though their attention is focused on those speaking or singing.
3. Casting: Since this Readers’ Theater is a testimony of the Restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, choose the actors based on their faith and enthusiasm rather than their dramatic experience. The ages are given so those selected can be approximately the correct age for their part. All cultures and nationalities should be included if available.
4. Music: The words of many of the hymns selected were written by eye witnesses of the Restoration. Thus the “Restoration Singers” must sing with enthusiasm; they do not need to blend like a choir. Go to the Church Website, lds.org/music, to get large copies of each hymn. If necessary, have them automatically transposed to the key you desire before printing them. Try to find musicians to play all of the instruments specified, but the pianist is the most important, as this instrument sets the pace for the entire production.
5. Costumes: Costumes of the period add a degree of credibility to the productions. These need not be fancy. Second-hand clothing stores are a good place to shop for old style dresses, hats, coats, vests and ties. Make-up requirements are minimal, though this can be used beneficially for a few key parts.
6. Sound System: This is the most critical part of the production. It is essential that the audience hear and understand every word of the script. Traveling microphones are ideal, but they are expensive. Each scene has the participants relocate so they can be close to a microphone stand, but they must be encouraged to speak directly into the microphone or *their voices will be lost*.
7. Lighting: Fancy stage lighting is not required. If the performance area can be well lit and the faces of the cast seen clearly, this is all that really matters. The lights over the audience can be dim, but not too dark because actors occasionally enter through the audience in mid-performance.
8. Sets and Props: In general, sets are not required. However, a backdrop behind the performers can add clarity to the surroundings. A few props may help convey the message, but it is usually best to leave this to the imagination of the audience. The most essential and helpful props are a collection of stools of various heights where the actors can sit when not performing.
9. Blocking Diagrams: These are critically important. Once you know the combination of risers, steps, boxes and ramps which you intend to use, make a drawing of this layout for each scene and mark where every person is to be standing or seated. Also indicate any movement they are to make within that scene. Each participant needs a copy of the blocking diagrams as well as the script and music.
10. Rehearsals: Each part of this Readers’ Theater is only one to one-and-a-half hours long. Six two-hour rehearsals should be sufficient if everyone attends. Allow for a six week rehearsal schedule with individual catch-up coaching if needed. The final Dress Rehearsal should include an audience

so the performers can get used to audience interaction. Invite families with young children to attend the dress rehearsal, where it won't matter if they make a little noise.

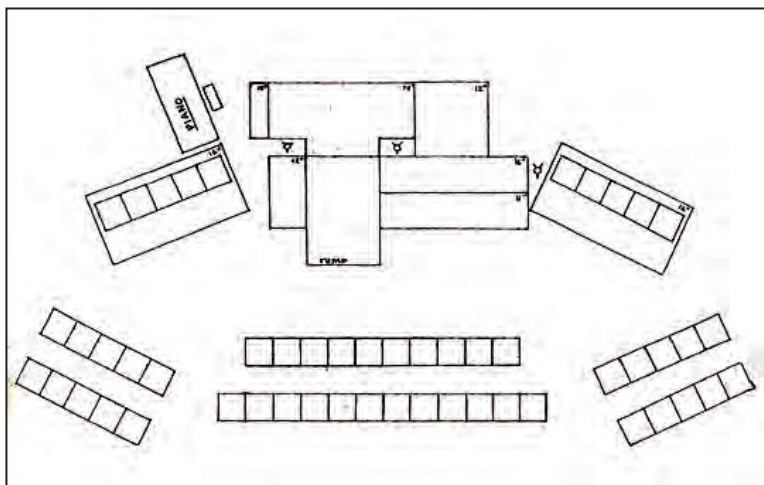
11. Printed Programs: It is worth the expense of printing a high quality program. This should include a brief synopsis of the production and the names of all the performers together with the part which each one portrays. A picture may also be appropriate. The most important part is the words to those verses of the hymns that you want the audience to sing, so they will participate.

12. Seek the Spirit: If each rehearsal begins with a prayer and some brief testimonies, the cast will become unified and this production will be a spiritual experience for them and their audience. In each performance, open with a prayer and ask the audience to withhold their applause until after a pre-assigned closing prayer is given. Then encourage the cast to mingle with the audience and talk about the experience. Use the missionaries when available for greeting and even participating.

Stage Layout (example)

In this example, the small squares represent chairs. The first two rows of audience seating are shown with aisles so cast members can enter and leave during the production. There are several occasions where this happens including the beginning of each production. Some cast members will come up out of the audience during the performance. The ten chairs on the stage could be cast members or for added Restoration Singers (all the participants are part of the Restoration Singers). These are placed on sixteen inch high risers so they can be seen while seated. The center of the stage could be a ramp leading from floor level to the rear risers. Stools can be of varying heights and are used for actors to use when not speaking. Three boom type microphone stands are shown, but a total of about eight microphones are needed if the mixer will accommodate that many inputs. Musicians can be on a lower platform at the rear so they are heard but do not detract from the audience focus on those

speaking. The piano needs to be heard but can reside behind the singers.



Once the stage layout is complete, make "Blocking Diagrams" using the layout sketch and indicate where each person is positioned. Make one of these for every scene and distribute them with the script to cast members.

*“The Family and Friends of the
Prophet Joseph Smith”*

Part 2: In The Ohio, 1830-1838

A Readers’ Theater by Douglas and Cecile Scribner

First presented by the New Zealand Temple Visitors’ Centre – June 2005

In Celebration of the 200th Birthday of Joseph Smith, Jr.

Also presented in Santa Rosa, California (September 2008) and
Elk Ridge, Utah (February 2010)

Cast of Characters (age):

Joseph Smith (25)	Frederick G. Williams (43)
Emma Smith (26)	Captain
Lucy Mack Smith (55)	Mary Bailey Smith (27)
Father Smith (59)	Jerusha Bardon Smith (29)
William Smith (19)	Calvin Stoddard (28)
Hyrum Smith (30)	Lucy Smith (10)
Sophronia Smith Stoddard (27)	Persecutors
Samuel Smith (22)	Restoration Singers and Townspeople
Oliver Cowdery (24)	Piano
Parley P. Pratt (22)	Flute
Sidney Rigdon (37)	Violin
Brigham Young (21)	Trumpet
Edward Partridge (37)	Trombone
William McLellin (24)	Harmonica
	About one hour and fifteen minutes in length

This was a period of time in the history of the Latter-day Saints that was full of persecutions, sorrow, growth, missionary work, apostasy, trials, temple-building, and some of the most glorious manifestations ever given to man. It included Zion’s Camp, which was an army of men formed in Ohio to go to Missouri and reclaim lands and property that were unlawfully taken away from the Saints. Zion’s Camp was a great spiritual experience for some, and for others it was a time of testing and undesired patience. In six short years the Smith Family came to the Ohio, grew, prospered and were spiritually blessed, and then rejected by closest of friends, and finally, because of persecution, were forced to flee.

Scene 1 (Oliver and Parley's Mission to Lamanites and the Ohio)

EVERYONE: "Glorious Things Are Sung of Zion," page 48, written by William W. Phelps ¹
(As Piano, trombone and flute start to play this, the actors walk in from the back—Joseph and Emma arrive first. The others are shaking hands with people as they are coming up) No Trumpet first verse)

(1) (Sung by Joseph and Emma) *Glorious things are sung of Zion, Enoch's city seen of old,
Where the righteous, being perfect, Walked with god in streets of gold.
Love and virtue, faith and wisdom, Grace and gifts were all combined.
As himself each loved his neighbor; All were one in heart and mind.*

(2) (Everyone) *Then the tow'rs of Zion glittered like the sun in yonder skies
And the wicked stood and trembled, Filled with wonder and surprise.
Then their faith and works were perfect; Lo, they followed their great Head!
So the city went to heaven, and the world said, "Zion's fled!"*

(4) (Everyone & Audience) *When the Lord returns with Zion,
And we hear the watchman cry,
Then we'll surely be united, and we'll all see eye to eye.
Then we'll mingle with the angels, and the Lord will bless his own.
Then the earth will be as Eden, And we'll know as we are known.*

Joseph Smith: Welcome to our home here in Fayette, New York. My name is Joseph Smith. Emma and I love to sing the songs of Zion, and to have our close friends and all of you join us. As you remember the last time we were together, the Church was organized here just a short time ago.

Emma: Oh, Joseph, I wish Zion could be here—close to our families.

Joseph Smith: Zion will always be where the pure in heart dwell. Perhaps the Lord has another place for the Saints to gather.

Sophronia: (to audience) My name is Sophronia Smith Stoddard. I don't believe you met me before, but I am Joseph's older sister. I was married to Calvin Stoddard in 1827. But now it is 1830 and I am 27 years old, and Joseph, my little brother, is 25. Hyrum is 30 years old, going on 31. He's been married since 1826, four years now, to Jerusha Barden. I was one of the first people baptized into the Church, along with my brother Samuel and Mother. (stays standing)

Lucy: My name is Lucy Smith. I was named after my mother, and I'm Joseph's youngest sister.

Mother Smith: (to audience) I'm so happy to see so many of you here again. I hope you all remember me. I'm Joseph Smith's mother, Lucy Mack Smith. Much has happened since we were last together in Harmony, PA in 1830. Father, why don't you help me tell these fine people how the Saints managed to end up in the Ohio. (standing)

Father: (to audience) Well, first of all, our son Joseph received a revelation from the Lord that they were to leave Harmony where the mobs had gathered and where he was arrested. He was acquitted of this warrant, but nevertheless, angry men gathered and Joseph's legal counsel in court, a Mr. Reed helped him escape the mob. It was time to move on. Joseph and Emma moved to Fayette, New York near the Whitmer Farm. ² (stays standing)

Mother Smith: That's right—right near where the Church was organized in April 1830. Six months after the organization of the Church a most wonderful event occurred. My son received revelations concerning missionary work.

Joseph: (to Oliver) Oliver, the Lord has called you and Parley Pratt, Zeba Peterson and Peter Whitmer, Jr. to go on a mission. (stays where he is—Oliver and Parley stand)

Oliver: What has the Lord told me, Joseph?

Joseph: He said, *“I have given Oliver power to build up my church among the Lamanites.”*

Oliver: The Lamanites in Missouri are 1500 miles away!! Joseph, this is amazing. It's exciting. Of course, I will go!

Parley P. Pratt: Did the Lord have anything more to say to me?

Joseph: Oh yes. There are promised blessings for all of you. *“And now concerning my servant Parley P. Pratt, behold I say unto him that as I live, I will that he shall declare my Gospel and learn of me, and be meek and lowly of heart.”* And to you all the Lord said, *“I myself will go with them and be in their midst. . . and I will bless them.”*³

Parley: Those are powerful promises, Joseph.

Joseph: Yes, they are. Brethren, the hour of your mission has come. The Lord has promised that your tongues shall be loosed, and you shall declare glad tidings of great joy unto this generation.

Mother Smith: (to audience) We knew that these men couldn't leave without sufficient clothing. Even Emma helped us. Her health was depleted at this time. She was pregnant with twins and became very ill for four weeks.

Sophronia: Mother, the sisters have been working day and night to help make clothing for the missionaries. Since winter is coming, we've had to use mostly raw material to make the clothing.

Father: (to audience) The men were ready to go by the end of October 1830 and were gone for four months.

Parley: (walks towards front) The news of our coming was soon noised abroad, and the news of the discovery of the Book of Mormon and the marvelous events connected with it. This spread through Kirtland, Ohio and the region round about. The people thronged us day and night. . .⁴

Oliver: (walks towards front) The people here are ready, Parley. The only problem is we've had no time for rest and retirement. We've just been here three weeks and already over 120 souls have been baptized. I can feel the Lord is with us. . . what blessings we have been given! Just as Joseph promised us. . .

Parley: We need to proceed on to Missouri, but it's hard to leave when the people right here are so receptive. They need leadership. How can we leave them?

Oliver: I've written a letter to Joseph and he is sending John Whitmer to hold the Saints together here so we can proceed onward. *(Both Parley and Oliver go back and sit on stools)*

Edward Partridge: *(to audience)* Well, hello everyone. It feels wonderful to be among the Saints again. I was in Ohio when the missionaries came and preached to us. I want you to meet my friend, Sidney Rigdon, who also heard the preaching.

Sidney Rigdon: Yes, greetings to you all. (shakes hands with anybody) We did hear the preaching, but neither of us was baptized immediately. We traveled to New York to meet this prophet Joseph Smith. We heard him preach on the night of the 10th of December 1830. My friend Edward was baptized the very next day. And Me? I was stubborn—it took me three more days before I decided to join the church.⁵

Joseph: Sidney, I wonder if you would retire with me and pray for the Saints in the Ohio. John Whitmer has written me—he needs help in regulating the affairs there.

(Both men kneel in prayer.) Flute plays first half of "When Faith Endures" page 128.

Father Smith: They did receive an answer. The Lord said, "A commandment I give unto the church, that it is expedient in me that they should assemble together at the Ohio. . ." ⁶

Joseph: *(Gets up from prayer—Sidney walks down step)* Sidney, do you know what this means? We have three branches of the Church, but now we must pull everyone together and move further West.

Sidney: The Lord will be with us, Joseph, I know.

Mother Smith: Emma, why don't you stay back with me, and go to the Ohio later. Your health is so fragile.

Emma: Mother, I know I will be okay. I must go with my husband.

Mother Smith: *(to audience)* Joseph and Emma arrived in Kirtland, pulled by horses in a sleigh, on or about the first of Feb 1831. Emma was seven months pregnant with twins, making the trip in the dead of winter.⁷

Father Smith: Well, Mother, it seems as though we will never see these parts again. What do you suppose is waiting for us in the Ohio?

Mother Smith: Father, if the Lord has commanded us, well then, it must be so

Song: "When Faith Endures," page 128, written by Naomi W. Randall. ⁸

(First two lines Woman soloist(singers hum)— joined by all singers third line - Soloist last line) (PVF)

(Soloist) I will not doubt, I will not fear; God's love and strength are always near.

His promised gift helps me to find An inner strength and peace of mind.

(All singers) (We) give the Father willingly (Our) trust, (our) prayers, humility.

(Soloist) His Spirit guides; his love assures That fear departs when faith endures.

Time Passing and Scene Changing Music: *(perhaps a continuation of "When Faith Endures" (PV)*

Scene 2 (Leaving for the Ohio, loss of twins, Gather of the Family in Ohio)

William: Well, hello to all of you! I don't believe we've met as yet. I'm William, Joseph's younger brother. The year is now 1831 and I'm 21. I'm not a kid anymore, but I'm not sure the rest of the family know that!!

Mother Smith: William, Father has left for the Ohio with Joseph. We will follow, but not yet. We're needed here in the Church. You are young, but you can help.

William: (to audience) See—just like I said! **(to mother)** Mother, there are divisions among the people. I hear people talking about Joseph all the time.

Townsperson: I believed Joseph was a prophet, but moving my whole family isn't right. I think he's made this revelation up.

Townsperson: The Lord certainly wouldn't require this of us.

Another: I agree. I'm beginning to think that Joseph has invented this idea to deceive us that in the end he might get gain. I'm not going to take my family from their home.⁹

Young girl: Mother, I don't want to leave my friends.

Townsperson: I believed the Church, but now. . . I don't know.

Townsperson: I've talked to my family---we're just not going to go. That's it!

Mother Smith: My young son William became a man just overnight. He was an inspired teacher. He was working to unite the Saints following the commandment to move to the Ohio.

William: Mother, my work among these people has made me feel good and useful. I've now called on every family here. I have prayed with every family, and I refuse to leave their homes until every member of the family over eight years of age prays vocally. Some of them don't want to pray vocally.

Mother Smith: What you're doing is good, William. Praying will make their hearts right in the sight of the Lord.

Joseph: Edward Partridge—It's good to have you as a member of the Church. You will be a great leader. The Lord has revealed that your heart is pure. You are like Nathaniel of old—a man in whom there is no guile.

Edward Partridge: I will assist you in any way I can, Joseph.

Joseph: The Lord has great need of you. You are to be called as the First Bishop of the Church. Your job is to assist the members in their temporal needs. In fact, you are being asked to give everything, *“to leave your merchandise and spend all your time in the labors of the church.”*¹⁰

Edward Partridge: Joseph, I think that will be the easy part. There's already great need among the new members of the Church. I think I'll have my hands full.

Joseph: You certainly will. We all have work to do in strengthening these new members. I've spent much of my time assuring them of the reality of the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. There is a need to establish a Zion people. Our missionaries, Oliver, Parley and the others, have helped the church become stronger every day.

Edward: But Joseph, what about your own physical needs. What about Emma? You're living in a strange place, not even in a home you can call your own. Those babies will soon be here.

Joseph: Every day she is haunted by the memory of the loss of our first child.

Mother Smith: Emma's worst fear was confirmed when, on the 30th of April 1831, while staying in a stranger's home in Kirtland, Ohio, she was delivered of twins, Thadeus and Louisa, both of whom died within a few hours.

Father Smith: I gave Emma a blessing. As I laid hands upon her head, the Lord put the words into my mouth, "*Dear Emma, thou has seen much sorrow because the Lord has taken from thee three of thy children: in this thou art not to be blamed for He knows thy pure desires to raise up a family.*"¹¹

Emma: Joseph, I feel so desolate. I want children—I need living children. I need them now. What am I to do? Oh Joseph, I'm out of strength. I am empty.

Singers: "Come, ye Disconsolate," page 115, written by Thomas Moore.¹² (PV)

*(Women's Quartette) Come, ye disconsolate, where'er ye languish;
Come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel.
Here bring your wounded hearts; here tell your anguish.
Earth has no sorrow that heav'n cannot heal.*

*(All) Joy of the desolate, Light of the straying,
Hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure!
Here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying,
Earth has no sorrow that heav'n cannot cure.*

Joseph: I am also empty, but somehow I know that the Lord will provide. For some reason, the Lord has required great sacrifice from us, Emma—and more especially from you. But even with all this, I know he loves you.

Emma: I, too, feel that he loves me, but my emptiness is overpowering.

Joseph: A strange feeling has come over me—I feel that the Lord is with us. The new converts over in Orange, Ohio—remember them? John and Julia Murdock? She too gave birth to twins, just yesterday, but Julia couldn't hold on to her own life. She died this morning. Do you realize Emma, that John has been left with five motherless children?

Emma: Oh, Joseph, do you think. . . do you think it would be possible to ask John if we could adopt his two little babies, and raise them in righteousness? Please won't you ask him, I beg of you. . .

Father Smith: In the Lord's wisdom, he provided a way to fill Emma and Joseph's emptiness. Brother Murdock felt it was a good idea for his two babies to be raised by the Prophet and his wife. In a way, it would be a blessing to him as well as to them and relieve the pain of both families. *(To Emma)* Emma, have you picked out names for the little ones?¹³

Emma: Yes, Father. The little boy will be named Joseph Murdock Smith, and I will call my little girl “Julia.”

(Another spot):

William: Mother, I have everything packed. Lucy, have you got your packing finished?

Little Lucy: Don Carlos helped me pack, and we’re ready, William.

William: It will be good to see Father and Joseph again. We’ll be ready to leave in just a few hours.

Mother Smith: I’m anxious to be with them and to see the twins. Such sorrow Joseph and Emma have faced—and now such joy! I long to hold those babies, sing to them and rock them in my arms. Yes, I’m ready to leave.

William: Our trip won’t be easy. The weather doesn’t look good. It doesn’t seem like a very gentle Spring this year.

William: *(Continuing to audience as Lucy and Mother walk up to Father Smith)* It was a long and tedious passage. We faced many storms, cold winds and rains, but at length we arrived somewhere near Kirtland. Catherine’s husband and I went by foot to find where Joseph and Emma were living. We soon discovered their place of residence.

Mother Smith: It was with great joy in our hearts that we met them, conversed with them face to face, and they very gladly received us and bade us welcome. And there was Father. What joy to press the warm hand that I now held within my own, and to rest my head upon that affectionate breast for support!

Father Smith: *(As he and Sophronia mention the names of family members, they move on to form a “picture” of the family)* Catherine had just been married to Wilkins Salisbury in January of this year, 1831.

Sophronia: Look Father, Mother—Hyrum and Jerusha have arrived as well—And Samuel!

William: Come on Little Lucy—You can tell everyone how brave you were on the trip.

Little Lucy: Oh, Father, I was scared many times.

Father: Yes, I want to hear all about it. Our complete family was together in Ohio in May of that year—William and Samuel, Catharine and Wilkins, Hyrum and Jerusha, Sophronia and Calvin, Don Carlos and Little Lucy. With the adoption of the twins our family had now grown to nineteen souls—all now living in the vicinity of Kirtland.

Edward Partridge: *(As Singers are standing)* The summer of 1831 was a brief moment of happiness for the Smith Family. They were reunited once again. When Joseph’s mother arrived on the 12th of May, Emma brought in the adopted twins and explained how these choice newborn children had now become part of the family.

Singers: “**There is Beauty All Around,**” page 294, written by John Hugh McNaughton.¹⁴

(All Women sing the first verse—while men hum) (PV – Trombone joins when everyone sings)

*There is beauty all around When There's love at home
There is joy in ev'ry sound When there's love at home
Peace and plenty here abide Smiling sweet on ev'ry side
Time doth softly, sweetly glide When there's love at home
(Everyone) Love at home, Love at home, There is joy in ev'ry sound when there's love at home.*

*(All men- PVT) In the cottage there is joy When there's love at home;
Hate and envy ne'er annoy When there's love at home
Roses bloom beneath our feet; All the earth's a garden sweet
Making life a bliss complete When there's love at home. (Everyone on chorus)*

*(Everyone, including audience) Kindly heaven smiles above When there's love at home
All the world is filled with love When there's love at home
Sweeter sings the brooklet by; Brighter beams the azure sky
Oh, there's One who smiles on high when there's love at home.
Love at home, Love at home, Oh there's One who smiles on high when there's love at home.*

Time passing and Scene Changing music: perhaps continuation of "Love at Home."

Scene 3 (Oliver and Parley's account of Mission, William's account of trip to The Ohio)

Edward Partridge: In June of 1831 the first General Conference in Kirtland was held. It seemed that there was a great concern with the growing number of converts.

Oliver: Well, William, our mission to the Lamanites turned out a little differently than we had planned. You did a wonderful job of uniting the Saints after we left—now a good share of them are here in Kirtland.

William: Tell me about your mission, Oliver.

Oliver: It was about 1500 miles from where we started, and we had performed most of the journey on foot, through a wilderness country, in the worst season of the year. During those four months, if you can imagine, we preached the Gospel to tens of thousands of Gentiles and two nations of Indians; baptizing, confirming and organizing many hundreds of people into churches of Latter-day Saints.

Parley: I believe I want to add to this story, William. Oliver left out a few details. For hundreds of miles there was no beaten road. Houses were few and far between; and the bleak northwest wind always blowing in our faces with a keenness that would almost take the skin off the face. We carried on our backs our changes of clothing, several books, and cornbread and raw pork. We often ate our frozen bread and pork by the way.

Oliver: That's right, William—it was the best four months of our lives!

William: Hmm, I can hardly wait to go myself. That's right. I really mean that. Just think of all those people who heard the Gospel!

Oliver: What about you, William? What was your trip like when you left New York and came to the Ohio?

William: As you can guess, Mother was in charge! Everyone in the company agreed that they should do just as she said. She really was magnificent as she spoke to the company of saints: “Now, brothers and sisters, we have set out just as father Lehi did to travel, by the commandment of the Lord. . .”

Mother Smith: *(then Mother Smith continues his sentence. They both speak about five words together, then William stops and Lucy continues)* “. . . by the commandment of the Lord, to a land that he will show us if we are faithful. I want you all to be solemn and lift your hearts to God in prayer continually, that we may be prospered. And for the present, let the sisters take seats on one side of the boat and the brethren on the other, and we will sing a hymn.” *(Singers stay where they are in seats)*

“Jesus, Lover of my Soul,” page 102, written by Charles Wesley.¹⁵
(Played by Flute or harmonica-give a short introduction)

(Everyone. plus audience, Mother Smith leading) **Jesus, lover of my soul, Let me to thy bosom fly.**
While the nearer waters roll. While the tempest still is high.
(Everyone hums and Flute continues to play third line-but slowly while the following is spoken)

William: Just as we started singing, the captain said, *(Say the next line with Captain)*

Captain: *(someone from singers)* “Do, for Heaven’s sake, come here and take the helm and let me go, for I must hear that singing!”

(Everyone) **Safe into the haven guide, Oh, receive my soul at last.**

Parley: Lucy is quite a woman—a true mother of a Prophet! Tell us more, William.

William: I wish you could’ve heard her. She was magnificent! Taking charge of the children, when the mothers refused to watch them close enough. Preaching the Gospel at every landing. But there was a moment I shall never forget. We were stopped on our journey because of ice in the harbor, and Mother said, “Now, brethren and sisters, if you will all of you raise your desires to heaven that the ice may be broken before us. . .”

Mother Smith: *(Say this with William)* “. . . heaven that the ice may be broken before us, and we be set at liberty to go on our way, as sure as the Lord lives, it shall be done.”¹⁶

Oliver: Yes, and what happened?

William: At that moment a noise was heard like bursting thunder. *(Piano do something here – continue through next two lines)* The captain cried out,

Captain: “Every man to his post,” *(goes back to seat)*

William: . . . and the ice parted, leaving barely a pathway for the boat that was so narrow that, as the boat passed through, the buckets were torn with a crash from the waterwheel. . . we had barely passed through the avenue, when the ice closed together again.

Oliver: Ah, a Moses Moment.

Joseph: Well, Brethren, I see you're ready to continue in service. Your good missionary work has left us with quite a problem. We've got members of the church all the way into Missouri thanks to all your efforts—but the Lord does not intend to leave them without assistance.

Oliver: What has the Lord revealed, Joseph?

Joseph: Well for one thing, the next General Conference will be held in Missouri. The Lord has directed Sidney Rigdon and me to leave immediately for Jackson County, Missouri. I will ask twenty-six more Elders to also go to Missouri. All of us will go by different routes that we might preach and baptize along the way.

Father Smith: (to audience) Joseph continued to tell them what the Lord had said, "*Yea, verily I say, let all take their journey unto one place, in their several courses, and one man shall not build upon another's foundation, neither journey in another's track.*"¹⁷

William: I would like to go, Joseph.

Joseph: Ah, William, my little brother. (*William gives looks of dismay*) Not this time, William. You're needed here. You seem to know how to hold the Saints together. But Samuel and Hyrum will be going. (*Turn to Parley and Oliver*) And Parley and Oliver, I need you to go again.

Parley: What is our purpose this time, Joseph?

Joseph: The Lord has revealed that this land is to become a place of our inheritance.

Time Passing Music "Ye Who Are Called To Labor"- PVT – whole song once during scene change

Scene 4 (McClellin's conversion, Brethren to Missouri then return, Lucy Missionary Work)

Song: "Ye Who are Called To Labor," page 321, written by Mary Judd Page.¹⁸ (PVT)

ALL MEN—sing with energy and zest

(1) Ye who are called to labor and minister for God

Blest with the royal priesthood, appointed by his word

To preach among the nations the news of gospel grace

And publish on the mountains salvation, truth, and peace

Edward Partridge: Some of the missionaries were delayed in their departure because of selfishness and greed. The Lord always had an answer for us—a way to teach our brethren the principles of heaven. He said, "*Wo unto you rich men, that will not give your substance to the poor, for your riches will canker your souls... Wo unto you poor men, whose hearts are not broken, whose spirits are not contrite, . . . whose eyes are full of greediness.*"

*(2) (Men) Oh, let not vain ambition nor worldly glory stain
Your minds so pure and holy, acquit yourselves like men.
While lifting up your voices like trumpets long and loud,
Say to the slum'ring nation; "Prepare to meet your God!"*

Samuel Smith: Brother Cahoon and I traveled together. On our way to Missouri we called at a town and went into a large store and met the clerk. *(to McLellin)* Excuse me, sir, but do you have any preaching evenings in this town?

McLellin: Yes, we do, when any preacher comes along. What is your name, son?

Samuel: I'm Elder Samuel Harrison Smith, the brother of a Prophet!

McLellin: Really!? And just what denomination do you belong to?

Samuel: We are Latter-day Saints. And what is your name, brother?

McLellin: William McLellin. Nice to meet you. Can you preach? I would like to hear you, for that is a denomination that I have never heard of, and if you will preach, I will get a house and light it up and call the people together in good season.

Samuel: I would be glad for the opportunity.

McLellin: After the evening is over, I'd like you to stay.

Samuel: We would like to, but we will have to refuse. Our directions are to go forward without any further delay other than to warn the people as we pass.

McLellin: When night came I was unable to sleep, for I thought that I ought to have gone with them, as I had an excellent horse, and I could have assisted them much on their journey. This worked upon my mind, so that I determined to set out after them the next morning, cost what it might. My employer gave his consent, so in the morning I set out in pursuit of my new acquaintances. I did not overtake them, but I pursued my route in the same direction until I came to Jackson County, Missouri, where I was baptised. *(McLellin joins in singing)*

*(3)(Men) Then cease from all light speeches, lightmindedness and pride
Pray always without ceasing and in the truth abide
The comforter will teach you, his richest blessings send
Your Savior will be with you Forever to the end.
(Piano) Sitting down Music while singers go back)*

Edward Partridge: Much happened while those missionaries were gone.

Joseph: The meeting of our brethren here in Jackson County was a glorious one and moistened with many tears. But our reflections were great. We had come from a highly cultivated society in the east, and now we were looking into the vast wilderness of those who sat in darkness. These people were nearly a century behind the times—they roamed the land without the benefit of civilization.

Samuel: When will the wilderness blossom like a rose, Joseph? When will Zion be built up in her glory, and where will the Temple stand unto which all nations shall come in the last days?

Hyrum: (Coming forward) That's a question we all would like to know the answer to, Samuel. Excuse me, while I introduce myself to these good people. I'm Hyrum, Joseph's older brother. It's good to be here with you tonight, and it was good to be in Jackson County, Missouri. Once we had collected in Jackson, we dedicated the spot for the temple on August 3, 1831. The scene was solemn and impressive. Here, on that obscure summer day, on a small plot of land in a frontier wilderness, and unknown to the world, the small beginning was laid for the city of God which will someday become the envy of all nations.¹⁹

Edward Partridge: The prophet sent for me to bring my own family to Zion, so we could purchase and distribute parcels of land for the saints to have for their inheritance. The Saints were to live the Law of Consecration, and the Lord specifically asked Martin Harris to set an example in this.

Mother Smith: Joseph, Oliver and Sidney Rigdon arrived back in Kirtland, Ohio in August of 1831—they had been gone for two months.

Father Smith: Mother wasn't idle during this time, as you can imagine. She sought out to do her own missionary work. When the elders left for Missouri, she accompanied Joseph, Hyrum and Samuel to Detroit, Michigan. She visited the widow of her own brother Stephen Mack. Her name was Temperance. Temperance accepted Lucy's testimony, was baptized and joined with the Saints.

Mother Smith: Temperance will be a good member of the Church, Father.

Sophronia: (to audience) With Joseph home again, he and Emma had to leave the home they were staying in. Their own home was being built as a second story over the Newel K. Whitney store, but it wasn't finished yet.

Emma: Sophronia, the Johnsons are kind wonderful people. They've taken us in and seem to love us and our children as their own family. I miss my own dear mother and father, but living with this older couple is soothing to my heart.

Sidney: (gets up from seat) I moved next to the Johnson house as well because I was acting as scribe to Joseph at this time. Many revelations came to him while he was in this old farm house. But mostly we were working on the inspired version of the Bible.

Father Smith: While Sidney and Joseph were working on the inspired version of the bible, a glorious vision from Heaven was shown them.

Emma: Can you just imagine what this was like?

Joseph: *"By the power of the Spirit our eyes were opened and our understandings were enlightened, so as to see and understand the things of God.*

Sidney: *And we beheld the glory of the Son, on the right hand of the Father. . .*

Joseph: *And now, after the many testimonies which have been given of him, this is the testimony, last of all which we give of him:*

Joseph and Sidney: *That He LIVES!*

Sidney: *For we saw him, even on the right hand of God; and we heard the voice bearing record that he is the only Begotten of the Father.*

Joseph: *That by him, and through him, and of him, the worlds are and were created, and the inhabitants thereof are begotten sons and daughters unto God.”²⁰*

Time passing and Scene Changing music: *“School Thy Feelings” Page 336 (PVT – play chorus) Everyone stay standing once in place)*

Scene 5 (Tar and feathering of Joseph and Sidney, Baby Joseph’s death, Birth of Joseph Smith III)

Hyrum: *“In spite of our obedience, trials and tribulations came our way. Disasters and tribulation are not always for the punishment of the wicked, but often for the sanctification of the righteous. . .Into each of our lives come golden moments of adversity.*

Sophronia: *This painful friend breaks our hearts, drops us to our knees, and makes us realize we are nothing without our Lord and Savior. Ultimately, this strange friend, adversity, leads us straight into the outstretched arms of the Savior.” (quote from Glenn Pace)*

Song: *“School Thy Feelings,” page 336, written by Charles W. Penrose.²¹ (PVT)*

*(Everyone) (3) Should affliction’s acrid vial Burst o’er thy unsheltered head,
School thy feelings to the trial; Half its bitterness hath fled.
Art thou falsely, basely, slandered? Does the world begin to frown?
Gauge thy wrath by wisdom’s standard; Keep thy rising anger down.*

*School thy feelings, O my brother; Train thy warm, impulsive soul.
Do not its emotions smother, But let wisdom’s voice control. (Singers go back to seats)*

Mother Smith: **(to Father)** I’ve been concerned about Joseph, Emma and the children. The local newspapers are filling up again with a lot of false accusations. Who do you think is spreading these lies?

Father: Everyone seems to know that the lies are coming from some of the Johnson children. I hear that they have resented the intrusion of Joseph and Emma into their home. Mother, I’m worried too—the feeling in the town is bad.

(Unnerving music under this)

Persecutor: Come on men, Joe and Sidney are at my home now. What do you say?

Man from Singers: Who do they think they are—moving in and taking over your house like that?

Persecutor: Why don’t they get a real job and their own house.

Persecutor: Says he a prophet. **Another Persecutor:** People say he’s a fraud. **Another Persecutor:** A false prophet, that’s what he is.

Man from Singers: I say, Let’s give them a night to remember—

Persecutor: “A night of terror,” that’s what I’m thinkin’.

Persecutor: I'm with you—we're nearly there. Let's leave the tar and feathers out here and drag them out. Some of you wait here, while we go in and get 'em.

Persecutor: Come on boys, let's go get 'em. **Persecutor:** We'll go over to that house and get Sidney.

(Immediate mood change while persecutors freeze)

Emma: Joseph, it's good we brought the babies in bed with us. The nights are cold, and they've had a hard time keeping warm—especially since they've started with the measles. I'm worried about them.

Joseph: (sitting) It's nearly midnight, but I think they're sleeping soundly now. **(Stands up)** Emma, there's a noise outside. Be still—can you hear it?

Man from Singers: There's the intruders. We'll get Joe Smith.—you others go after Sidney!

Emma: (Stands) "Murder! Murder" Please, someone—help us!! ²² **(Stays standing)**

Jerusha, Sophronia and others from singers also yell things like: "Please help us," "No, stop," "Save him," etc.-- **also add more unnerving music)**

(Everyone on stage either look at, lean towards, or reach towards Joseph or Sydney. Persecutors pull them down and lean over them with arms raised up as if to strike – Then everyone freezes when Sophronia and Lucy describe the scene) Music ends here

Sophronia: Those terrible men pulled the warm covers from the bed and dragged my brother out into the cold night where he was savagely clawed and beaten, poisoned and tarred and feathered. One tried to tar up his mouth, but he twisted his head so they could not. All his clothes were torn off except his shirt collar.

Mother Smith: Another tried to force a vial of poison in him, but it cracked on Joseph's tooth. One man fell on top of him and scratched his body with his nails like a mad cat. Then they left my son, there on the ground.

(Now everyone comes out of their freeze and persecutors go back down aisles to seats – only need three or four persecutors—all the others are imagined)

Hyrum: Joseph pulled the tar from his lips so he could breathe better then made his way back to the house. When he entered the house the tar made him look like he was covered with blood, and when Emma saw him she fainted. **(Emma sits down on chair)**

Samuel: His friends spent the night in scraping and removing the tar, and washing and cleansing his body so that by morning he was ready to be clothed again. This was a Sabbath morning, and the people were assembled at the usual hour of worship. Joseph preached to the congregation as usual, and in the afternoon of the same day baptized three individuals. ²³

Singers: (PV) Chorus of "School Thy Feelings" (sung quite slowly, like trying to keep control)

**School thy feelings, O my brother; Train thy warm impulsive soul.
Do not its emotions smother, But let wisdom's voice control.
(All stay standing. Afterwards face Joseph and Emma)**

Joseph: Emma, how is little our little Joseph Murdock? He seems to have caught a cold.

Emma: I'm worried Joseph. With the measles and all that exposure to the cold night air, and now this severe cold, he seems to grow weaker every day. Is Sidney any better?

Joseph: He's been delirious ever since the mobbing. When they dragged him from the house, they had ahold of his heels so he couldn't raise his head from the rough, frozen ground. His head has been lacerated exceedingly, but he's improving now. Our biggest worry is for our little Joseph Murdock.

Emma: Joseph, how much will the Lord require of us? Please don't let Him take our little Joseph from us.

Mother Smith: Little Joseph died on Friday the 30th of March 1832. He was only eleven months old. Some consider this little grandson of mine the first martyr of this dispensation.

“Be Still my Soul,” page 124, written by Katharina von Schlegel, music by Jean Sebelius. ²⁴ (PV)
(Sung by a quartette- all others still facing Joseph and Emma)

*Be still, my soul: The Lord is on thy side; With patience bear thy cross of grief or pain
Leave to thy God to order and provide; In ev'ry change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: Thy best, thy heav'nly Friend Thru thorny ways leads to a joyful end.*

(Everyone—now face front)

*Be still, my soul: The hour is hast'ning on When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: When change and tears are past, All safe and blessed we shall meet at last. (stay standing)*

Mother Smith: *(Walks up to Joseph and Emma)* At the time of little Joseph's death, Emma was already pregnant again. On 6 November 1832 Joseph returned to Kirtland thinking he had plenty of time before the baby was born.

Joseph: I was wrong, Mother. The baby beat me here by two hours. There's a lot of joy in our home right now at the safe arrival of our healthy son.

Little Lucy: What's his name, Joseph?

Joseph: Joseph Smith the Third. Named after his grandfather, of course.

Mother Smith: He will be a special boy if he is at all like you or Father. I'm proud of the work you are doing, Joseph. And I'm proud of this new grandson you have given me.

(Song: Everyone—sung with much hope and brightness)

*Be still, my soul: Thy God doth undertake To guide the future as he has the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: The waves and winds still know His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.*

Time Passing and Scene Changing Music: “Praise to the Man” (All instruments) Play verse only

Scene 6 (Persecution in Jackson County, Missouri, Tar and feathering of Edward Partridge)

Hyrum: Mid 1832 through 1833 was a period of relative calm and prosperity for our family and other church members in Kirtland. Joseph and Emma at last had their own home. It was spacious in the top floor of the Whitney store.

Emma: I could finally focus on raising my two children and providing a pleasant home.

Hyrum: During the spring and summer of 1833, our brother Joseph devoted much of his time to translating the Bible, teaching at the School of the Prophets, and beginning construction on the Kirtland Temple.

Sidney: So much was happening during these days. In the fall of 1833 Joseph and I went to Upper Canada. This is just one of fourteen missions that Joseph undertook during the Kirtland era.

Samuel: Remember a while ago, when you all met Brigham Young? It was my privilege to teach him the Gospel. And he shared it with Heber C. Kimball. They both arrived in Kirtland from New York.

Hyrum: They soon became close friends of our family, and particularly Joseph.

Samuel: Oliver Cowdery, my brother William and I all were married during this period of time.

Parley: Even though we were experiencing relative calm in Kirtland, this same time between 1833-1834 was a period of persecution and sorrow for the saints in Missouri.

(Unnerving music under this)

Persecutor: Those Mormons are growing strong in numbers.

Persecutor: They'll gain economic power if we let them.

Persecutor: And political control—that's what they'll do next. **Persecutor:** We need to stop them.

Man from Singers: I think we should drive them out. How many people are behind us?

Persecutor: There's a lot. **Persecutor:** We can do it. **Persecutor:** Let's drive the Mormons out!

Persecutor: Yeah, let's drive them out!

Edward Partridge: Run to safety everyone. There's a mob gathering *(To the mob)* Please, gentlemen, listen to me. Stop, please. If you abuse me right now, you will abuse an innocent person. I am willing to suffer for the sake of Christ. Saints of God have always suffered persecution. But you can't make these people leave the county. They have purchased land—they belong here.²⁵

(Unnerving Music)

Man from Singers: Tar and feather him. Burn the printing press! *(Others from stage and singers: "We need help," "When will this end?" "Not my family again" "No, stop them." Etc. All freeze again. This time the mobbers don't go up all the way, but freeze where they are as Edward Partridge holds his arm up to his face as if to shield them off).*

Oliver: The mobbing continued without letup until all the church members were forcefully expelled from Jackson County.

Samuel: When they were driven out they had to leave everything—their homes, their belongings. The mobs were ruthless

William: (*Unfreeze, but don't sit,--Mob leaves*) On the 24th of February Joseph received a revelation that he was to create an army to go to Missouri and negotiate for the return of the property that the Church had purchased and given to the members as their stewardship.

Sidney: The Lord revealed to Joseph that the Saints should bear this affliction patiently and revile not against the mobs, neither should they seek revenge—and if so, they shall be rewarded .

(Everyone up from seats and all face Joseph when he speaks)

Joseph: “Your prayers have entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. . .all things wherewith you have been afflicted shall work together for your good, and to my name’s glory, saith the Lord.” (D&C 98:23)

Fourth Verse of School They Feelings: Page 336 (*Everyone—sing with great conviction, face Joseph*) (PV)

(Two Women – everyone hum)

*Rest thyself on this assurance: Time’s a friend to innocence,
And the patient, calm endurance Wins respect and aids defense.*

(Add other women – men hum)

*Noblest minds have finest feelings; Quiv’ring strings a breath can move;
And the gospel’s sweet revealings Tune them with the key of love (now, turn to audience)*

(This is big, loud and full—Add Men, Add trombone)

*School thy feelings, O my brother; Train thy warm, impulsive soul.
Do not its emotions smother, But let wisdom’s voice control.*

Time Passing & Scene Changing Music “Behold a Royal Army” p.251 —Only the chorus— (PVT)

Scene 7 (Zion’s Camp)

Oliver: Zion’s Camp was the name given to this army of saints who marched to redeem Zion in Jackson County, Missouri.. Over 207 men made the 1,000 mile march to Missouri

Parley: Included in the camp were several members of the Smith Family, including Joseph, his brothers Hyrum and William. Most of these men left with the willingness to give their lives if necessary

Sidney: Men like Heber C. Kimball said, “I took leave of my wife and children and friends, not knowing whether I would see them again in the flesh.” Well, Brigham, have you decided to go on this march?

Brigham Young: Sidney, I wish I could tell you the majesty of Joseph as he asked me and my brother Joseph to go. He said, “Brother Brigham and Brother Joseph, if you will go with me in the camp to Missouri and keep my counsel, I promise you, in the name of the Almighty that I will lead you there and back again, and not hair of your heads shall be harmed.”²⁶

Sidney: And so you agreed to go?

Brigham: Yes, we agreed to participate, and the three of us clasped hands in confirmation of this promise.

Sidney: How will Joseph organize the camp?

Brigham: He's already done it. He divided it into companies of tens and fifties and instructed each group to elect a captain. In fact, it will be organized "*according to the ancient order of Israel.*" And what you about you, Sidney. Will you be going?

Sidney: Joseph has asked Oliver and me to stay here in Kirtland and supervise the ongoing construction of the temple and to direct the affairs of the Church here. But our prayers will be with you.

Brigham: (to audience) Unlike most armies, Zion's Camp placed great emphasis upon spirituality. We began and ended the days with prayer, and on Sundays we rested, held meetings and partook of the sacrament.

Hyrum: Brigham, I think these people should know that the camp was more a test of endurance and faith, than of actual conflict. Our biggest problem was quarreling and contention.

Joseph: Men, if you do not humble yourselves before the Lord and become united, you will meet with a scourge.

Frederick G. Williams: Joseph we've come to get the land back for our brethren. We're ready to fight these Missourians.

Joseph: The only purpose of Zion's Camp is to help our brethren be reinstated on their lands. It is not our intent to injure anyone.

Hyrum: Joseph, some Missourians have just ridden into the camp. You better come.

Missourian: Here's a warning to you Mormons. Listen well.

Another Missourian: There are 400 men who have gathered and will gather again in the morning and will utterly destroy all of you.

Missourian: That's right! I can promise that before morning, you will all be destroyed.

Hyrum: What are we to do, Joseph?

McLellin: Joseph, let them come. We're ready to fight. (*Frederick Williams agrees—others yell out, "Yes" "Yes, let them come"*)

Joseph: Hold your gunfire men. I've approached the Lord in prayer. Stand still and see the salvation of God.

Brigham: A few minutes after the Missourians left, a small black cloud appeared in the clear western sky. It moved eastward, unrolling like a scroll, filling the heavens with darkness. Suddenly there was a storm so intense that Zion's Camp abandoned their tents. ²⁷ (*erie music*)

Joseph: Boys, there is some meaning to this. God is in this storm. *(thundering type music on piano)*

Hyrum: During this time the whole canopy of the wide horizon was in one complete blaze with terrifying claps of thunder.

Joseph: It seemed as if the mandate of vengeance had gone forth from the God of battles, to protect His servants from the destruction of their enemies. *(music continues)*

Missourian: I see that there is an Almighty power that protects this people.

Missourian: Our army of 400 has fled. *(music continues)*

Brigham: Again, our enemy was not those 400 Missourians. Some of the men had battles within themselves. They wanted to fight, but Joseph received a revelation that this was not the time to reclaim the land..

(no music)

Joseph: The Lord said, “*I have heard their prayers, and will accept their offering; and it is expedient in me that they should be brought thus far for a trial of their faith.*”²⁸

Brigham: The Lord’s command not to do battle was the final trial of their faith. Disappointed and angry, many apostatized. And the promised scourge came upon the camp—

Parley: Cholera broke out. The epidemic spread. Sixty-eight people, including Joseph, his brothers William and Hyrum were stricken by the disease, and fourteen members of the camp died.

Hyrum: (to audience) Joseph and I were scarcely able to stand upon our feet. We feared that we should die in this western wilderness so far from our families, without even the privilege of blessing our children or giving them one word of parting counsel. Joseph, what shall we do? Must we be cut off from the face of the earth by this horrid curse?

Joseph: Let us pray and ask God to remove the cramp and other distress and restore us to health, that we may return to our families.

Hyrum: The heavens seemed sealed against us. The universe was still. We appealed to God again and again, taking turns in prayer. *(Both men pray, Lucy, Sophronia and Emma are also in prayer during song)*

“ I Need Thee Every Hour,” page334, written by Annie S. Hawks.²⁹

(Male solo) (PV) I Need thee every hour, most gracious Lord,

No tender voice like thine Can peace afford

(Duet – two men) I need thee, oh, I need thee; Every hour I need thee

Oh, Bless me now, my Savior, I come to thee

Hyrum: (as he gets up from prayer) Joseph, we shall return, for I have seen an open vision. Mother was on her knees asking God in tears to spare our lives, that she may behold us again in the flesh.

Everyone Sings: Chorus of “I Need Thee Every Hour” *(stay seated while singing this)*

Mother Smith: There was great rejoicing when my sons all returned home.

Joseph: "Oh, my mother, how often have your prayers been a means of assisting us when the shadows of death encompassed us!"

Brigham: Six months after our experience I met Joseph and he said, (*joined by Joseph*) "I have seen those men who died of the cholera in our camp; and the Lord knows, if I get a mansion as bright as theirs, I ask no more." After he related this to me, he wept and for some time could not speak.³⁰

Time passing & Scene Changing music "Press Forward Saints" # 81 (PVFT) (once through before singing starts)

Scene 8 (Birth of Frederick, Joseph's vision of the future, Big Apostasy)

"Press Forward Saints," page 81, written by Marvin K. Gardner.³¹ (all instruments)

This is a big song! Don't hold back--EVERYONE

*Press forward, Saints, with steadfast faith in Christ,
With hope's bright flame a light in heart and mind,
With love of God and love of all mankind. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Press forward, feasting on the word of Christ. Receive his name, rejoicing in his might.
Come unto God; find everlasting light. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*(Audience) Press on, enduring in the ways of Christ. His love proclaim thru days of mortal strife.
Thus saith our God: "Ye have eternal life!" Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

(sitting down music)

Father Smith: Zion's Camp was a test of Faith. But not everyone was disappointed in the outcome. Wilford Woodruff recorded, "*The Prophet gave us our instructions every day. . . it was a great school for us to be led by a Prophet of God a thousand miles through cities, towns, villages, and through the wilderness.*"³²

Mother Smith: Every day is a gift with my family. Even with all the trials that seemed to beset the church, my family continued to grow in numbers and accomplishments.

Samuel: That's right, Mother, it was quite an accomplishment for me to persuade Mary Bailey to marry me in August 1834—the same month Joseph and Hyrum returned from Zion's Camp.

Mother Smith: And just imagine this--just one year later my little Don Carlos married Agnes Coolbrith. He was only nineteen years old.

Emma: Eliza Snow lived in our home as a tutor for our children. This gave me time to complete and publish the hymnbook for the Church.

William: The year 1836 was the apex of happiness and spiritual manifestations. On the 27th of March the Kirtland Temple was dedicated. Angels were present that day. It was a great outpouring of the Spirit.

Sophronia: I will forever remember this beautiful season of our lives. The Kirtland Temple was built through great personal efforts and sacrifice by the Saints. Because of this, the Lord poured out blessings. It is possible that there will never be another era in the history of the Church when more Latter-day Saints beheld visions and witnessed other unusual spiritual manifestations than they did at the time of dedication of this temple and in the week that followed.

Hyrum: The veil was removed from the eyes of many people. Many times, it was as if there were no veil at all. Many keys of the restoration were restored. Truly the *“hearts of the fathers were turned to the children, and the children to the fathers.”*³³

Mother Smith: The climax of the day was the dedicatory prayer offered by my son Joseph. After the prayer, the choir sang a song which was written especially for the dedication by Brother Phelps.

“The Spirit of God Like a Fire is Burning,” page 2, written by William W. Phelps and sung at Kirtland Temple Dedication in 1836. (PV)

(Little Lucy and/or another singer)

*The spirit of God like a fire is burning! The latter-day glory begins to come forth;
The visions and blessings of old are returning, and angels are coming to visit the earth.*

(All - Chorus) We'll sing and we'll shout with the armies of heaven,

Hosanna, hosanna to God and the Lamb!

Let glory to them in the highest be given, Henceforth and forever, Amen and Amen.

(Everyone-add trombone and/or trumpet)

(2) The Lord is extending the Saints' understanding, Restoring their judges and all as at first.

The Knowledge and power of God are expanding; The veil o'er the earth is beginning to burst

(chorus)

(Audience join in)

(3) We'll call in our solemn assemblies in spirit, to spread forth the kingdom of heaven abroad

That we through our faith may begin to inherit the visions and blessing and glories of God. (chorus)

Joseph: Shortly after those marvelous events took place, Emma gave birth to another son. He was born on June 20, 1836 and was named Frederick Granger Williams Smith after my close friend and counselor in the First Presidency. Frederick, please stand and let these good people know who you are (*a man from the choir stands*)

Frederick Williams: Happy to be here among all you good folks!

Father: As Hyrum said, it didn't seem to be in God's plan, for Joseph to ever be free of trials. He and Martin Harris went to Salem, Massachusetts to try and find solutions to the large debts that the church had incurred in building the temple and caring for homeless saints. Joseph, you seem to be troubled

Joseph: Father, the Lord has given me a vision of future events. The vision lasted until I besought the Lord to take it from me. I was shown things that are very painful for me to contemplate. I must meet with the brethren immediately.

Father: The brethren gathered, and Joseph rehearsed to them what the Lord had revealed to him. Joseph was unusually solemn.

(All brethren stand when Joseph says, "Brethren. . .")

Joseph: "Brethren, We are now nearly as happy as we can be on earth, for we have accomplished more than we had any reason to anticipate when we began. . . One would not suppose that anything could occur that would break up our friendship for each other or distress us in the least. . ."

Sidney: What is it Joseph? You don't seem to be yourself right now.

Joseph: Brethren, beware, for I tell you in the name of the Lord, that there is an evil in this very congregation which, if it is not repented of, will result in making one-third of you who are here this day, so much my enemies that you will have a desire to take my life. . .³⁴

Sidney: Impossible!

Hyrum: But Joseph, you are the Prophet. You know we will all follow you.

Parley P. Pratt: Yes, yes—nothing can take away our good fellowship.

Brigham: I pray it will not be me. I could never go against you, Joseph.

Sidney: Nor I.

Frederick Williams: Our friendship is secure. I could never fall away. Never!

Joseph: Brethren, how I wish it were all true.

Oliver: We have shared so much together. I will always be by your side, Joseph. Nothing could dissuade me. You know that.

Mother Smith: 1837 brought great sadness in the Church.

Hyrum: It was caused by selfishness and greed. Joseph had set up a bank to try and help with the debt the Church had incurred—it was created from private investors. But enemies of the church obtained enough notes to create a "run" on the bank. After only eleven months of existence the bank was forced to close its doors.

Father: More than 200 members who were investors lost nearly everything they had put into it. The entire United States suffered from a financial crash that same year called the "Panic of 1837."

Sidney: Never was the proverb more true, "*Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.*"³⁵

Oliver: Joseph, how have you let this happen to us? It matters not that other banks have folded as well. You are a prophet—and yet our money is gone! What have you done to us?

Emma: As the saints drank in the love and spirit of the world, the Spirit of the Lord withdrew from their hearts, and they were filled with pride and hatred toward those who maintained their integrity.³⁶

Hyrum: Apostasy was everywhere—even among those who had been Joseph’s closest friends. Frederick G. Williams was not only Joseph’s counselor, but he was also President of the Bank and Justice of the Peace. However, unknown to Frederick, some of the bank officers were guilty of theft and fraud. Joseph Smith went to Frederick, asking for a warrant to search for the missing money.

Frederick Williams: I flatly refuse this warrant, Joseph.

Joseph: Frederick, I insist upon a warrant, for if you will give me one, I can get the money, and if you do not, I will break you of your office.

Frederick: Well, “break” it is then, and we will strike hands upon it. *(strike hands by putting arm forward, hand facing down)*

Joseph: Very well, from henceforth I drop you from my quorum, in the name of the Lord.

Frederick: *(full of wrath)* Amen! *(Turns his back from audience)* (Page 336 of LMS book)

Father: Even Oliver Cowdery was affected by the spirit of apostasy. He was excommunicated on 12 April 1838 for persecuting the brethren and defaming my son, our Prophet Joseph. *(Oliver turns his back from audience)*

Samuel: Not only Oliver, but David Whitmer, Martin Harris, and six of the twelve apostles. *(McLellin and a few others of the singers turn their backs from audience)*

“Ye Simple Souls Who Stray,” page 118, written by Charles Wesley and Evan Stephens. ³⁷

*(Women with men humming) Ye simple souls who stray Far from the path of peace
That lonely, unfrequented way To life and happiness
Why will ye folly love, And throng the downward road,
And hate the wisdom from above, And mock the sons of God.*

Sophronia: We suffered many other personal tragedies as well. My husband Calvin Stoddard died, leaving me a widow at age thirty-three. *(Calvin turns his back from audience)*

Hyrum: Another calamity happened that wrung our hearts with more than common grief. While I was on a mission to Missouri in 1837, my wife Jerusha was taken sick, and, after an illness of two weeks, died. *(Jerusha turns her back from audience)*

Sidney: Early in 1838 the prophet and his family had to flee for their own safety

Emma: My husband was placed in a box and taken out of town on an ox cart. *(As Joseph sits down on step with head bowed)* He then mounted a horse and rode west with Sidney Rigdon. The children and I went a different route and met Joseph on the road to Missouri. *(sit down low with Joseph)*

Mother Smith: *(Comes forward to Centre Mike—while everyone else in the cast bows their heads as if in prayer)* Dear Father in Heaven. Will you ask more of us? What more can we give? We have built this beautiful Temple, we have felt thy Spirit. We have seen Angels. But Father in Heaven, we have buried our loved ones. And now we have to flee for safety, even from those whom we have loved. Our closest friends have deserted us. Oh, please, please bring us some hope, some peace.

**(2) High tenor: Madness and misery Ye count our life beneath,
And nothing great or good can see Or glorious in our death
But thru the Holy Ghost We witness better things
For he whose blood is all our boast Has made us priests and kings**

**(3) (Everyone—those with backs turned, turn to face audience. Joseph also is standing, facing audience) Riches unsearchable In Jesus' love we know
And pleasures springing from the well Of life our souls o'er flow
As we seek heav'nly bliss, Angels our steps attend
And God himself our Father is, and Jesus is our Friend**

NOTES:

1. *Hymns of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*, (Hereafter referred to as *LDS Hymns*), #48, words by William W. Phelps (1792 – 1872).
2. *The Revised and Enhanced History of Joseph Smith by His Mother*, Edited by Scot and Maurine Proctor, (Hereafter referred to as *JS History by Mother Smith*), p. 234.
3. *Doctrine and Covenants* (Hereafter referred to as *D&C*), Sections 30 – 33.
4. *Autobiography of Parley P. Pratt*, p. 48.
5. *JS History by Mother Smith*, Proctor, p. 248 – 255.
6. *D&C* 37: 3.
7. *JS History by Mother Smith*, Proctor, p. 256.
8. *LDS Hymns* #128, words by Naomi W. Randall (1908 – 2001).
9. *Origins*, Porter, p. 311 – 312.
10. *D&C* 41: 9.
11. *Reflections of Emma*, Buddy Youngreen, p. 13.
12. *LDS Hymns*, #115, words by Thomas Moore (1779 – 1852).
13. *JS History by Mother Smith*, Proctor, p. 277.
14. *LDS Hymns*, #318, words by John H. McNaughton (1829 – 1891).
15. *LDS Hymns*, #102, words by Charles Wesley (1707 – 1788).
16. *JS History by Mother Smith*, Proctor, p. 269.
17. *D&C* 52: 33.
18. *LDS Hymns*, #321, words by Mary Judd Page (1818 – 1907).
19. *JS History by Mother Smith*, Proctor, p. 279 – 287.
20. *D&C* 76: 12 – 24.
21. *LDS Hymns*, #336, words by Charles W. Penrose (1832 – 1925).
22. *Reflections of Emma*, Buddy Youngreen, p. 14.
23. *JS History by Mother Smith*, Proctor, p. 301 – 302.
24. *LDS Hymns*, #124, words by Katharina von Schlegel (b. 1697), translated by Jane Borthwick (1813 – 1897).
25. *History of the Church Vol. 1*, Joseph Smith Jr., p. 390 – 391.
26. *History of Brigham Young*, *Millennial Star*, July 18, 1863, p. 455.
27. *Church History in the Fulness of Times*, Institute of Religion, p. 148.
28. *D&C* 105: 19.
29. *LDS Hymns*, #334, words by Annie S. Hawks (1835 – 1918).
30. *JS History by Mother Smith*, Proctor, p. 319 – 320.
31. *LDS Hymns*, #81, words by Marvin K. Gardner (b. 1952).
32. *Wilford Woodruff: History of His Life and Labors*, Matthias F. Cowley, p. 40.
33. *D&C* 110: 15.
34. *JS History by Mother Smith*, Proctor, p. 335.
35. *Proverbs* 16: 18.
36. *History of the Church Vol. 2*, p. 487 – 488.
37. *LDS Hymns*, #118, words by Charles Wesley.



The Whole Cast in Christus Room - Opening Number



Mother Smith - Jane Mann



Back: Sidney Rigdon - Russell MGregor, Brigham Young - Ewart Ward, Parley P. Pratt - Alonzo Mason, Captain - Daniel He, William McLellin - Steven Drown, Edward Partridge - Michael Read, Frederick G. Williams - Graham Read, Oliver Cowdery - Ryan Thomsen



Joseph and Emma Smith - Freddy Beijerling and Pania Symon



Restoration Singer and Harmonica - Roger Hamon



Sidney Rigdon, Samuel Smith - Ben Hague, Calvin Stoddard - Eddie Owen, William Smith - Willard Sunnex (front)



Father Smith - Raynold Gaastra



Hyrum Smith - Te Rangi Hau Gilbert, Sophronia Smith Stoddard - Rachel Paea



Sweet Mary Bailey - Ma Yue

**NEW
ZEALAND
2005**



Little Lucy - Serena Dimitrov



"When Faith Endures" - InAudience: Brother Tangaroa and Sister McKay



Oliver Cowdery and Joseph Smith



Sovaia Delaibatiki

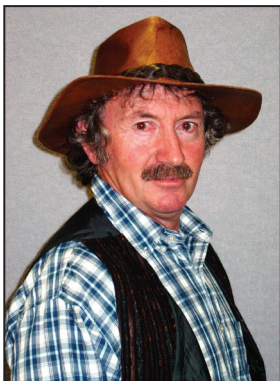
**NEW
ZEALAND
2005**



Samuel Smith and Joseph Smith



Samuel Smith (Ben Hague) and McLellan (Steve Drown)



Persecutor - Peter Oosthoek



Hemaima Tate - piano



Sister Belnap and Sister Merkeley, Elder Whitney (trumpet)



Missionaries - Flutes, William Smith
- Ian Artinger, Mother Smith - Donna
Smith, Little Lucy - Bella Scribner



Sophronia Smith Stoddard - Sarah Morrison, Calvin Stoddard - Bill Manners, Jerusha Bardon
Smith - Wendy Busch, Hyrum Smith - Jeff Wentzel, Emma and Joseph Smith - Sally and Kyle
Holzer, William Smith - Ian Artinger, Samuel Smith - Jarrod Lewis, Mary Bailey Smith - Lindsay
Hoppe, Center: Little Lucy - Bella Scribner, Mother and Father Smith - Donna and Ray Smith



Persecutors: Jack Reisner, Jeff LaDow, John Nickerson, Bryant Whiting



Joseph and Emma Smith



Captain and Tenor Soloist -
George McCrea



William McLellin -
Ben Eckles, Friend
of Mormons - Doug
Scribner, Sidney
Rigdon - Dave
Blackham, Oliver
Cowdery - Dave
Stockton, Frederick
G. Williams - Sean
Busch, Front: Edward
Partridge - Allen
Christenson, Brigham
Young - Roger Harris,
Parley P. Pratt -
David Morrison

**SANTA ROSA,
CALIFORNIA
AUGUST 2007**



Brigham Young - Roger Harris, Sophronia - Sarah Morrison, Joseph Smith - Kyle Holzer



Bishop Freebairn - trumpet, Wendy Busch (Jerusha Bardon Smith), Christianne Jones, Kerry Ann McArtney



**SANTA ROSA,
CALIFORNIA
AUGUST 2008**



Sally and Kyle Holzer as Emma and Joseph Smith



Wendy Busch as Jerusha Bardon Smith



Back: Christine Haydock (piano), Kristen Sanchez, Bishop Freebairn (trumpet), Christianne Jones, Kirsten Skabelund (violin), George McCrea (soloist) Middle: Bryant Whiting, Heather Cullen, Stephanie Blackham, Front: Cecile Scribner (director), Barbara Legro, Kerry Ann McArtney



Parley P. Pratt - David Morrison, Oliver Cowdery - David Stockton



Jessika Weeks, Carol Jones, Sharon Winch, Ann Brough, Lauren Peterson, Sara Fitzgerald, surrounding Jack Mason



Mother and Father Smith - Sue Peterson and John Calcote



Geoff Groberg as Hyrum Smith

Ken Baguley, Ileen Dykstra, Melissa Draper (piano), Onna Oliver, Cecile Scribner (director), Chris Crippen



Onna Oliver as Sophronia and Glen Oliver as William McLellin

**ELK RIDGE,
UTAH
FEBRUARY
2010**



John Calcote as Father Smith



William McLellin - Glen Oliver, Parley P. Pratt - Russell Shipp, Frederick G. Williams - Bronson Oeser



Jeffery Crippen, Kelson Eliot, Derrek Johnson, Ken Christensen, Jeffrey Roylance, Doug Scribner



Russ and Barb Adamson as Joseph and Emma Smith



Sophronia Smith Stoddard - Onna Oliver, Calvin Stoddard - Chris Crippen, Mary Bailey Smith - Jessica Weeks, Samuel Smith - Scott Wintch, Barb and Russ Adamson as Emma and Joseph Smith, Hyrum Smith - Geoff Groberg - Hyrum Smith, Little Lucy - Lauren Eppley, Jerusha Bardon Smith - Lauren Peterson, William Smith - Seth Mason, Mother Smith - Sue Peterson, Father Smith - John Calcote



**ELK RIDGE,
UTAH
FEBRUARY
2010**

Seth Mason
as William
Smith

Joseph and
Emma Smith

Sidney
Rigdon -
Scot Bell,
Hyrum
Smith
- Geoff
Groberg



Jessica Weeks
as Sweet
Mary Bailey,
Shawn Eliot
as Brigham
Young



Sidney Rigdon - Scot Bell, Parley P. Pratt - Russell Shipp, Frederick G. Williams - Bronson Oeser, Oliver Cowdery - Chad Christensen, William McLellan - Glen Oliver, Brigham Young - Shawn Eliot, Edward Partridge - Randy Jones, Captain - Neil Dykstra



Glen Oliver, Bronson Oeser, Ann Brough, Jeffrey Roylance, Jeffery Crippen