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*Living Scriptures*  
STREAMING

## Church Leadership

Doctrine and Covenants 106-108

### Objectives:

- Learn about the organization of the Church and the different duties of each office of the priesthood.

### Reinforces Principles of:

- Priesthood
- Church Leadership

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## Reverence Time

**Song:** "The Sixth Article of Faith" Children's Songbook, page 126

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/music/library/childrens-songbook/the-sixth-article-of-faith>

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**Scripture:** Doctrine & Covenants 107:84

"Thus, none shall be exempted from the justice and the laws of God, that all things may be done in order and in solemnity before him, and according to truth and righteousness."

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**Video:** Watch this week's clip from the Living Scriptures Streaming Library. Find the clip at <https://www.livingscriptures.com/fhe-lesson-leadership>

### Lesson

#### Summary:

In section 107, the Lord gives instructions on the organization of the leadership of the Church and explains the responsibilities of priesthood holders. The leadership is organized into quorums such as the First Presidency, the Twelve Apostles, and the quorums of the Seventy. These leaders are called to preach the gospel and meet together to make decisions in righteousness, holiness, and meekness. Each office of the priesthood has certain duties and responsibilities.

The priesthood was given to Adam, who ordained many of his descendants. Section 107 tells of a gathering where Adam met with his family and gave them his last blessing. Sections 106 and 108 give guidance to Warren A. Cowdery and Lyman Sherman to help them to fulfill their priesthood callings.

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#### Quote:

*"Ultimately, all keys of the priesthood are held by the Lord Jesus Christ, whose priesthood it is. He is the one who determines what keys are delegated to mortals and how those keys will be used." Dallin H. Oaks*

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#### Questions:

Why do you think the Lord organized the leadership of the Church into quorums?

What responsibilities does the Lord give to priesthood leaders?

How is the Church today organized like it was in ancient times?

**Description:** The keys of the priesthood are spiritual keys that we can not see — given to worthy priesthood holders by the laying on of hands. Play the PRIESTHOOD KEYS GAME to learn about how the priesthood and a few of the priesthood keys work together.

**What you need:**

- A copy of the “Priesthood Keys” activity, scissors, glue, paper punch, and a metal ring (may substitute a strand of ribbon, yarn, or a twist tie), pencils, paper.

**Preparation:**

1. Print out the artwork.
2. Fold along dotted lines, careful to line up paper edges and glue together.
3. Cut out keys. Use paper punch to make hole in each key.
4. Cut out cards.

**Activity:**

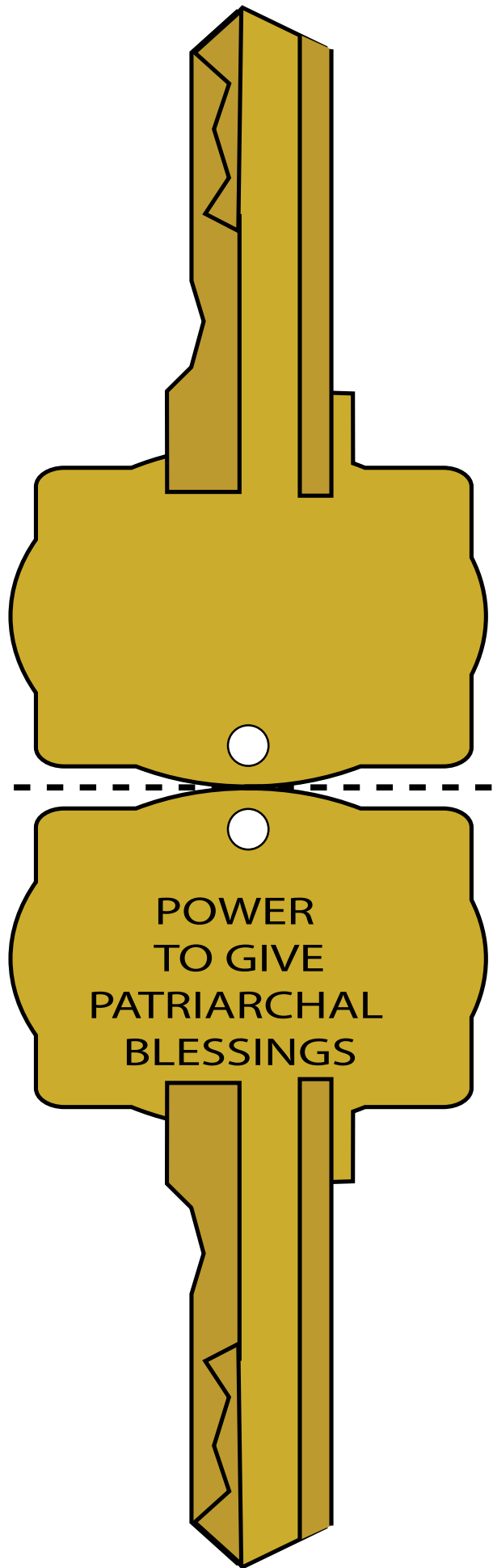
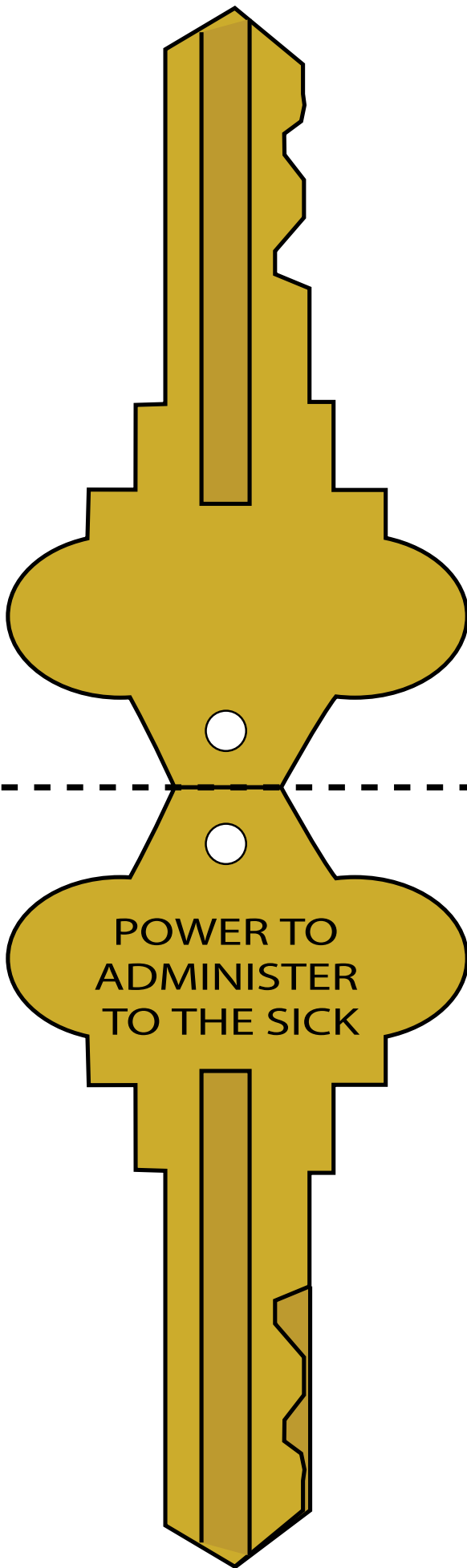
Ask: What do we need to unlock our house door? (A key.) If someone doesn't have a key, how else can they appropriately get in the house? (Someone who has a key can either give them a key or give them permission to enter.)

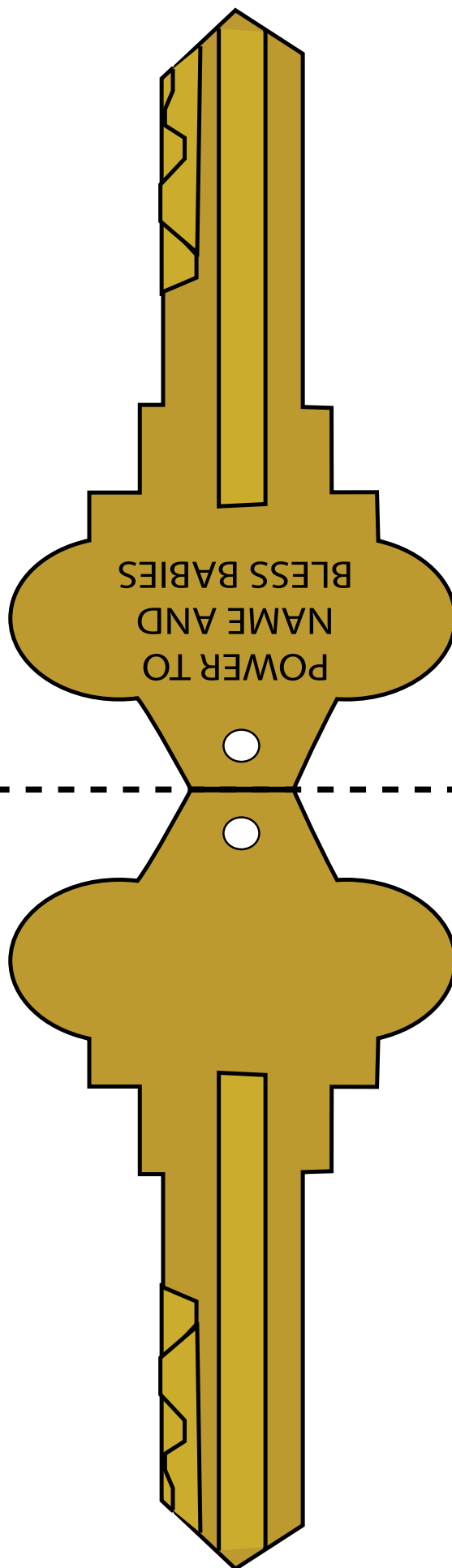
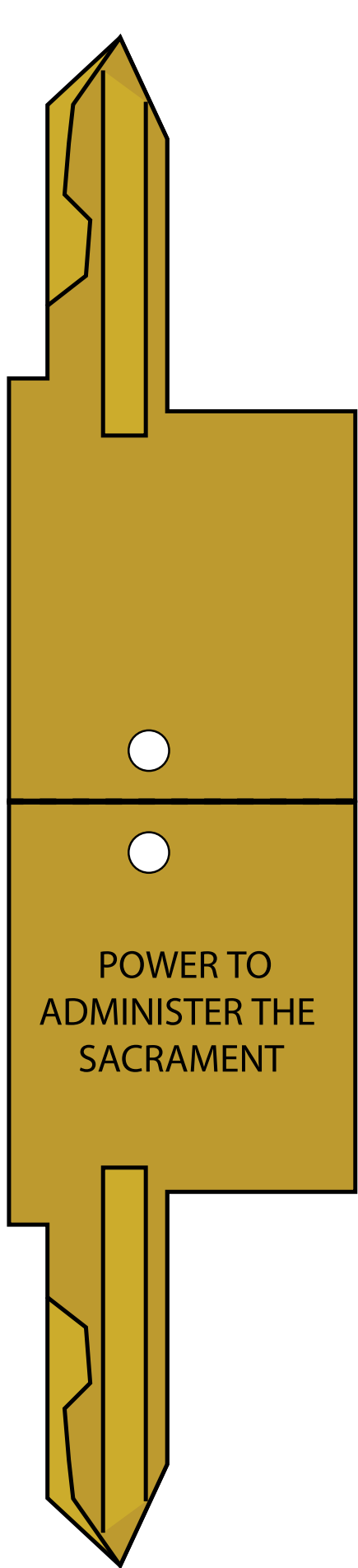
Explain: This is the same with the priesthood and the priesthood keys. A worthy priesthood holder can not use the power and authority of God to perform the many different ordinances unless he holds that particular priesthood key or has permission to use that power from the priesthood member who holds that key.

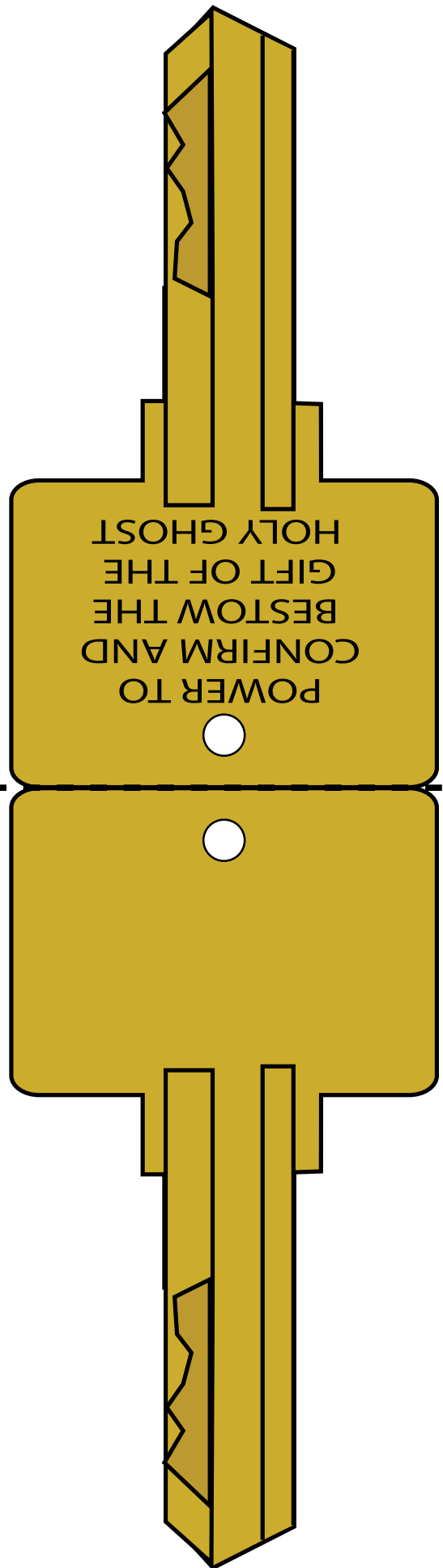
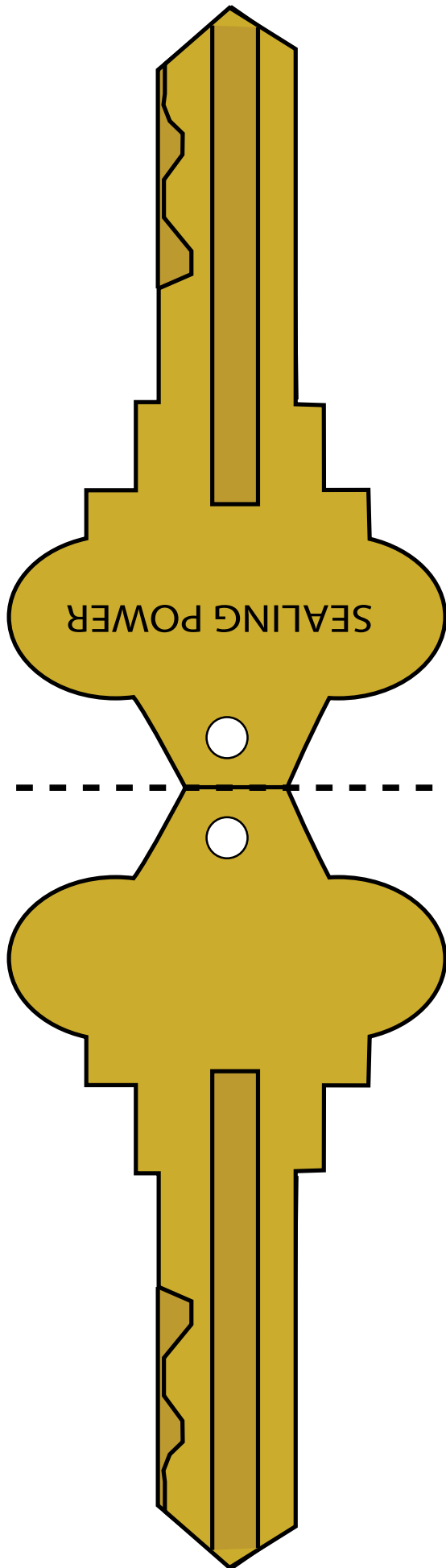
The keys of the priesthood are spiritual keys we cannot see. They are given to worthy priesthood holders by the laying on of hands. Jesus Christ holds all of these keys and he bestowed them on His 12 apostles. Ancient prophets and apostles came back to earth and restored these same keys to Joseph Smith. Each President of the Church has received these same keys. There are many, many different priesthood keys. The Prophet and Apostles hold “all” the priesthood keys, but the Prophet and President of the Church is the only man on earth who has the power to use “all” of the priesthood keys.

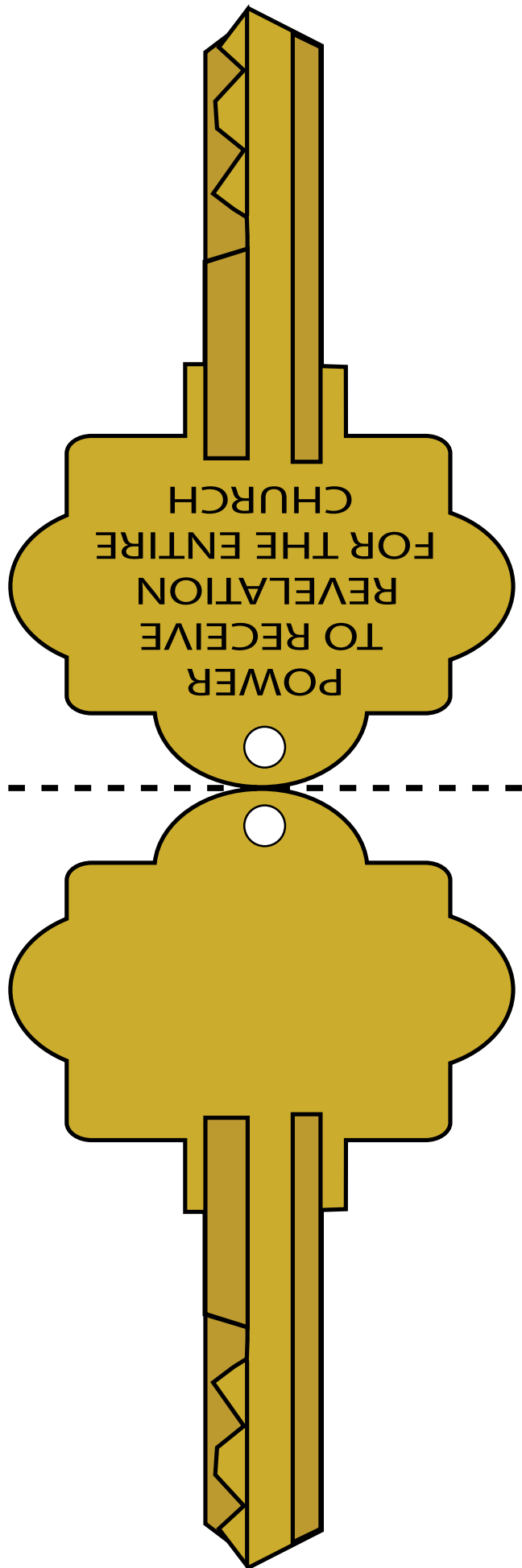
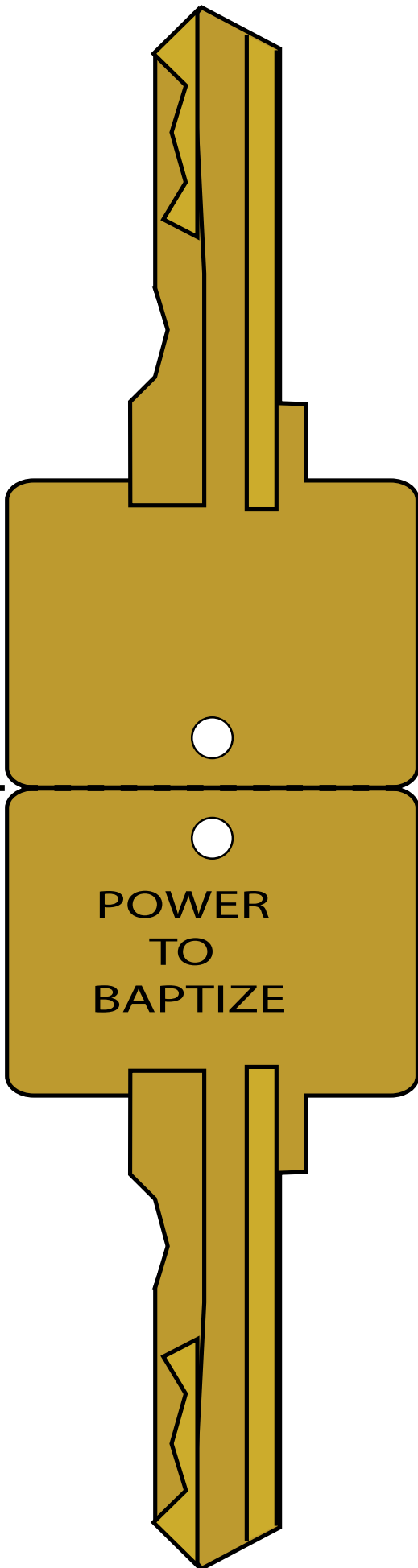
Play the game and learn about how the priesthood and a few of the priesthood keys work together.

- 1 - Divide into two (as evenly as possible) educationally-balanced groups.
- 2 - Place the keys face up in a row, and the cards face down in a pile on the table.
- 3 - Each group takes turns drawing a card, reading about the priesthood key and answering the questions. Score 1 point for each correct answer and 2 points for Bonus question.
- 4 - After answering questions, place the corresponding key on the ring.









## **POWER TO ADMINISTER THE SACRAMENT**

The Bishop/Branch President holds the keys for administering the sacrament in our ward/branch.

1. To whom does he generally give permission to bless the sacrament? (Priests in the Aaronic Priesthood.)
2. To whom does he generally give permission to pass the sacrament? (Deacons in the Aaronic Priesthood.)
3. Who else has the authority to bless the sacrament under the Bishop's direction? (All worthy Melchizedek Priesthood holders.)
4. Who else has the authority to pass the sacrament under the Bishop's direction? (All Aaronic and Melchizedek Priesthood holders.)

Bonus Question: Name one other office in the Aaronic Priesthood who can pass the sacrament. (Teacher or priest.)

## **POWER TO GIVE PATRIARCHAL BLESSINGS**

The Stake Patriarch holds the keys to give patriarchal blessings for our stake.

1. What is a patriarchal blessing? (Personal counsel and blessings from the Lord.)
2. Do you have to be a worthy, baptized member of the church before you can receive your patriarchal blessing? (Yes.)
3. Before you can go to the Patriarch to receive your patriarchal blessing you must first receive a recommend. Who gives you this recommend? (Your bishop or branch president.)
4. Do you need to strive to live worthily in order to receive the promises given you in your patriarchal blessing? (Yes.)

Bonus Question:  
Who was the first Patriarch? (Adam.)

## **POWER TO BAPTIZE**

The Bishop/Branch President holds the keys for baptizing in our ward/branch.

1. What office in the Aaronic Priesthood has the authority to baptize? (Priest.)
2. Who must a priest receive permission to baptize from? (The Bishop/Branch President who holds the keys.)
3. To be baptized like Jesus a person must be completely covered by water. What is this called? (Baptism by immersion.)
4. How old do you need to be to be baptized? (8-years-old.)

Bonus Question: The keys to baptism were taken from the earth after Jesus' apostles were no longer living on the earth. Who restored these keys to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery? (John the Baptist.)

## **POWER TO CONFIRM AND BESTOW THE GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST**

The Bishop/Branch President holds the keys for confirming and bestowing the Gift of the Holy Ghost in our ward/branch.

1. What priesthood does a worthy male member of the church need to hold to gain permission from the Bishop/Branch President to perform confirmations and bestow the Holy Ghost? (Melchizedek.)
2. How does the Melchizedek Priesthood give us the gift of the Holy Ghost? (By the Laying on of Hands.)
3. Do you have to be baptized before you can receive the Holy Ghost? (Yes.)
4. Receiving the Holy Ghost is sometimes called Baptism by What? (Fire.)

Bonus Question: What other name is given to the Holy Ghost? (The Comforter.)



## SEALING POWER

"Nothing is regarded with more sacred contemplation by those who know the significance of this authority. Nothing is more closely held. There are relatively few men who hold this sealing power upon the earth at any given time—in each temple are brethren who have been given the sealing power. No one can get it except from the prophet, seer and revelator and President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or from those he has delegated to give it to others." *Endowed from on High: Temple Preparation Seminar Teacher's Manual* © 2007 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.

1. What does it mean to be sealed? (That you can be a family together forever.)
2. Where are the sealing ordinances performed? (In the temple.)
3. What does it mean to be "born in the covenant"? (Children born to parents who have been sealed in the temple.)
4. Can you be sealed to your family even if you are not "born in the covenant"? (Yes. You can go to the temple and be sealed for eternity.)

Bonus Question: Who was the ancient prophet who restored the keys of sealing power to the Prophet Joseph Smith in the Kirtland temple? (Elija.)

## POWER TO ADMINISTER TO THE SICK

Just as Jesus blessed the sick, faithful Melchizedek Priesthood holders hold the keys to administer to the sick.

1. When a faithful Melchizedek Priesthood holder administers to the sick, are they always healed? (No.)
2. Why? (These blessings are limited by the will our Heavenly Father.)
3. Even though a faithful Melchizedek Priesthood holder can't promise healing can they always bring comfort? (Yes, if the person receiving the blessing has faith and believes.)
4. Administering to the sick consists of two parts. What are they? (Anointing with consecrated oil and sealing the anointing with a blessing.)

Bonus Question: What is consecrated oil? Pure olive oil that has been consecrated (given a special blessing) by two members of the Melchizedek Priesthood.

## POWER TO BLESS AND NAME BABIES

The Bishop/Branch President holds the keys for blessing and naming of infants. The name given is then put on the records of the church.

1. What priesthood does a man need to hold before he can get permission from the Bishop/Branch President to give a babies blessing? (Melchizedek Priesthood.)
2. When a baby is given a name and a blessing the men stand in a circle. Do all of the men need to hold the Melchizedek priesthood? (Yes.)
3. Where are babies usually given their name and blessing? (Sacrament meeting.)
4. Does a baby have to be given their name and blessing in Sacrament Meeting? (No. But the Bishop/Branch President has to give their permission to have it done elsewhere.)

Bonus Question: Name three things that a baby might be blessed with. (Answers may include, but not limited to, health, mission, temple marriage, following parents' guidance, being a good example to others, etc.)

## POWER TO RECEIVE REVELATION FOR THE ENTIRE CHURCH

The Prophet and President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the only person on the earth who holds the keys to receive revelation for the entire Church.

1. Why is the President of the Church, the only one who can receive revelation for the Church? (So that there will be order and others can not deceive us.)
2. When the Prophet & President of the Church gives us revelation, who is he speaking for? (Heavenly Father.)
3. Because the President/Prophet is speaking to us from Heavenly Father is it important to listen? (Yes.)
4. Even though we can't receive revelation for the church, can we receive personal revelation for ourselves? (Yes.)

Bonus Question: What promise has the Lord given us about the teachings of our Prophet? (That He will not allow him to lead us astray.)

**Prep Time:** 2 minutes  
**Cook Time:** 2-3 minutes  
**Cool Time:** 60 minutes



**Ingredients:** 1 (14 oz.) can sweetened condensed milk  
1/2 cup creamy peanut butter  
1 (10 oz.) package white chocolate chips  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

**Instructions:** Mix sweetened condensed milk and peanut butter in a microwave-safe bowl. Heat in microwave oven for 2-3 minutes (until bubbly, but not boiling). Stir in white chocolate chips and vanilla until smooth.

Spread evenly into wax paper lined 9-inch square pan. Cover and chill for at least 1 hour. Turn onto cutting board; peel off paper. Cut into squares.

Treat time: Give each family member 1 or 2 squares. Mold squares into key shapes. Store any uneaten portions in the refrigerator.