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What is Mormon religion? In P.S.#20 we noted a few opinions of the religion's leaders and common members, from overblown admiration, to uncertainty and rejection. Although addressed primarily to women and children, the following messages from the religion's October 2015 semi-annual conference accurately affirm universal, underlying doctrines of Mormon religion—and its appealing religious life for millions.

PROCREATION IS "THE PLAN," BRINGING OUR SPIRIT SIBLINGS FROM HEAVEN TO EARTH

"Our bodies are sacred gifts from our Heavenly Father. They are personal temples. As we keep them clean and pure, we can be worthy to help our Heavenly Father create bodies for His beloved spirit children."

Citing the late president of the Mormon church's Quorum of the Twelve Apostles: "...the commandment to multiply and replenish the earth...is essential...and is the source of human happiness. Through the righteous exercise of this [creative] power, we may come close to our Father in Heaven and experience a fulness of joy, even godhood. The power of procreation is not an incidental part of the plan; it is the plan."

—"Worthy of Our Promised Blessings"

Linda S. Reeves, member of the General Presidency of the Mormon church's Relief Society

GOD'S GIFT: AT BIRTH, A DIVINE NATURE

- Every person is a spirit son or daughter of heavenly parents from long before Creation. Our divine nature is the Father's loving gift, a share of His divinity.
- "We come to this earth to nurture and discover the seeds of divine nature that are within us."
- "Our divine nature comes from God. It was established in an existence that preceded our birth and will continue on into eternity."
- •Our "divine nature is refined and magnified by the effort we make to draw nearer to our Father and His Son."
- "Once we begin to see the divinity in ourselves, we can see it in others."
- "The divine nature within us ignites our desire to reach out to others and prompts us to act. Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ can help.... Could the Lord be asking us, 'What can be done for this daughter, this brother, this father, or this friend?'"
 - The Spirit communicates with the divine nature of a doubter, bringing peace.
 - •The Mormon prophet's words resonate with our divine nature and give us strength to follow.
 - Weekly sacrament breathes hope into the divinity within us.
- "As you seek to discover the depth of the divine nature that lies within you, you will begin to further magnify your precious gift. Let it guide you to become His daughter, walking the path back to Him—where we will be 'restored to that God who gave [us] breath.' In the name of Jesus Christ, amen."

FOR CHRISTIANS: THAT MORMON YOU KNOW

Mormons invoke the name of Jesus Christ and our Father in heaven. They speak of forgiveness. salvation, righteous living. So, what's the problem?

A Mormon may be happy, or not. Nevertheless Mormons commonly labor to demonstrate their personal worthiness to God and church leaders—and to you, too.

A Mormon might never have heard that salvation, eternal life, the Holy Spirit are God's gifts, unearned, undeserved—the message of the Bible, not latter-day Mormon prophets and their new scriptures.