

**CAN YOU HELP THEM WHEN CHRISTIAN FRIENDS  
OR FAMILY ARE ATTRACTED TO MORMONISM?**

- What do you say when a young person comes home from college for Christmas and says in casual conversation that the Mormons seem to be “more Christian” than Christians, and likes to attend their meetings? “It’s fun to be with them, but they really take their faith seriously, too. They pray and study their scriptures. They dress modestly—and I really like that.”
- Is it too late when romance overwhelms a Christian who dates or hopes to marry a Mormon? They may say, “We have a good Christian relationship; I already feel at home with my friend’s family.” What can you say?
- What about a shut-in woman who expresses appreciation for “those wonderful Christian boys” who stop by every few days to chat and help around the house? A member of your church, she is nevertheless unaware or unconcerned that the “boys” are “elders,” Mormon missionaries, hoping to baptize her into membership in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She keeps some of their literature at hand and looks at it often, because she likes the pictures and comforting words.
- Christians can appreciate their Mormon neighbors, and their children can become close friends. What would you suggest when Christians or their children are invited to attend the baptism of an 8-year-old neighbor/friend at the nearby Mormon church?
- Should you interject observations or warnings about doctrine when Christians watch PBS broadcasts of Christmas-season specials produced by the Mormon church? The professional music and dance programs often feature prominent performers, but contain little, if any, suggestion of the unique, unorthodox doctrines of Mormonism. Should Christians enjoy the programs, anyway?
- Now and then a Christian might say, “Who am I to judge Mormons? They say they are Christians, and from what I can see they do a pretty good job of it. Sure, they have different teachings, but

don’t all churches have their own beliefs?” Is that good enough? Are the differences all that important—and what are they anyway?

- What would you do if Mormon missionaries offer to teach you or a Christian friend to pray? What if they offer to pray for you or with you—or if they suggest that you lead them in prayer?
- What is a healthy Christian response when a Mormon invites other women to her home for a weekly study of scripture?

**WHAT DO YOU SAY WHEN A MORMON SPEAKS  
AND SINGS THE WORDS OF CHRISTIAN FAITH?**

• **What do you say** when Mormons sing “[Come, Thou Fount](#),” for example? Or “[Holy, Holy, Holy](#)”?

**COMMENTS:** ••Mormons only rarely refer to the blood of Christ, as in the first hymn (which, incidentally, is not in the church’s official hymnal) but frequently speak of “the Atonement,” for which Christ bled and died. But, as seen [here](#) on the church’s web site, Mormons believe that the Atonement is not “fully effective” without Mormon baptism and other ordinances, and “striving” to obey commandments and “become like Him.” ••Nor is the second hymn in the church’s hymnal. When they do sing it, Mormons avoid affirmation of the Trinity (“God in three Persons”) by substituting other words in the refrain.

• **What can you say** when a Mormon reads from the Book of Mormon: “...we talk of Christ, we rejoice in Christ, we preach of Christ...that our children may know to what source they may look...”? Or: “...Jesus is the Christ, the Eternal God...”? Or words seemingly affirming belief in the Trinity?

**COMMENTS:** ••The Mormon church attributes such statements to Christian prophets in the Americas hundreds of years B.C.—an unlikely possibility “revealed” in the unlikely Book of Mormon. ••Those “prophets” also wrote: “...it is by grace that we are saved, after all we can do,” a thought echoed [here](#) by a modern Mormon “prophet”: “To gain eternal life, we need both grace and works.”

**SUGGESTION: BE ALERT, PROACTIVE**

People often are attracted to Mormonism by music, romance, or its “Christian-ness.” Conversion may be a sudden, private, emotional experience followed in short order with baptism by Mormon missionaries.

If they miss the cues, pastors, family, and friends can be too late to stem a slide into Mormonism.