

## EPISODE 30 • PART I

Dr. Matthew C. Godfrey



*D&C 81-83*

*“Where Much is Given Much is Required”*

### Show Notes

#### Podcast General Description:

Follow Him: A *Come, Follow Me* Podcast with Hank Smith & John Bytheway

Do you ever feel that preparing for your weekly *Come, Follow Me* lesson falls short? Join hosts Hank Smith and John Bytheway as they interview experts to make your study for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' *Come, Follow Me* course not only enjoyable but original and educational. If you are looking for resources to make your study fresh, faithful, and fun--no matter your age--then join us every Sunday.

#### Podcast Episode Description:

##### Part 1:

Do you ever struggle to identify with those in the scriptures? In Section 81, we see Frederick G. William's name but originally the revelation listed Jesse Gause's name (but he didn't serve faithfully and was replaced with Williams). Dr. Matthew Godfrey explains how the revelations can be used and applied to Saints today, regardless of the names in the scriptures. These sections may seem brief but Dr. Godfrey expounds on the historical backgrounds that make these sections soon to be some of your favorites as they discuss service, ministering, and how the Lord qualifies those whom He calls.

##### Part 2:

Have you ever felt offended on behalf of someone else? Joseph Smith and Edward Partridge have a serious disagreement yet reconcile. Ezra Booth remains bitter, long after Joseph and Edward forgive one another. Dr. Godfrey continues to expound upon the history of these sections, the applications of forgiveness, reconciliation, service, and how quick the Lord is to forgive.

## Timecode:

### Part 1

- 00:00 Welcome to follow HIM with Hank Smith and John Bytheway
- 01:25 Introduction of Dr. Matthew Godfrey
- 04:55 Discussion of historical sources online and the book *Know Brother Joseph: New Perspectives on Joseph Smith's Life*
- 09:23 Backgrounds to Sections 81-83
- 12:02 The men in charge of the Literary Firm (the publication of the Book of Commandments)
- 17:12 Ezra Booth's history of joining and leaving the Church
- 19:51 Trials and their effect on Section 76
- 23:46 The effects of persecution on Joseph and Sidney Rigdon's families
- 29:49 Hyrum Smith's daughter Mary dies
- 34:05 Why Section 81's background was about Jesse Gause but changed to Frederick G. Williams
- 36:14 High Priesthood organized. Jesse Gause excommunicated
- 41:03 Frederick G. Williams background and discussion of Priesthood keys
- 45:36 Williams is told to pray vocally and discussion of callings and qualifications
- 49:57 The Saints sometimes have to choose between good and better and the crucial role of service
- 54:13 Stories about the Lord being aware of His children and often prayers are answered through simple acts of service
- 58:38 End of Part I
  
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### Part 2:

- 00:00 Welcome to Part II
- 00:07 Background to Section 82, including the Young and Kimball families joining the Church
- 04:43 Heber C. Kimball is told that millions will know the gospel because of his influence
- 07:02 Background to Section 82 and description of its four main parts
- 10:22 Beginning of Section 82 refers to forgiveness, part because of conflict between Joseph and Edward Partridge (and Sidney Rigdon and Ezra Booth)
- 11:27 The members of the United Firm are called
- 17:22 Discussion of repentance and if sins return when a person reoffends
- 23:43 How the United Firm is to work in Zion and Kirtland

- 32:30 The United Firm is dissolved about a year after the Quorum of the Twelve is called
- 33:42 The storehouses are to take care of those Saints who need assistance
- 37:00 Section 83 addresses property ownership for part-member families, widows, etc.
- 41:01 How the Lord wants the Saints to take care of widows and orphans (single parents, etc)
- 47:16 A person's membership and relationship to the Church doesn't change how the Lord feels about that person
- 48:25 Dr. Godfrey's experiences and personal life have affected his relationship in the Church, to God, and with Joseph Smith and the Saints
- 53:44 End of Part II

## Sources:

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Copy and paste this onto the end of your assignment (tip: click it once to select all)

By the way, before handing over your paper, don't forget to check your grammar.

[Click here to revise your grammar for free.](#)

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## Biographical Information:



Matthew C. Godfrey was managing historian of The Joseph Smith Papers and co-editor of volumes in the Documents series when this was written. He holds a PhD in American and public history from Washington State University. Before joining the project, he

worked for eight years at Historical Research Associates, a historical and archaeological consulting firm headquartered in Missoula, Montana, serving as president of the company from 2008 to 2010. He is the author of *Religion, Politics, and Sugar: The Mormon Church, the Federal Government, and the Utah-Idaho Sugar Company, 1907-1921*, which was a co-winner of the Mormon History Association's Smith-Pettit Award for Best First Book. He has also published articles in *Agricultural History* and *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* and has presented papers at conferences of the Mormon History Association, the National Council on Public History, the American Society for Environmental History, and the Western History Association, among other organizations.

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