



# MORMONISM

## MAJOR BELIEFS

### God

- God was once a man who has progressed to godhood. The Trinity is rejected and the Father is superior.

### Jesus Christ

- Jesus is the firstborn spirit-child of the heavenly Father and a heavenly mother. He is a secondary god who does not possess deity in himself but only progressed to deity in the spirit world.

### Source of Authority

- The Book of Mormon is the highest authority, but there are other secondary sources as well.

### Human Nature

- At its core, humanity is basically good but needs an example to follow.

### Basic Human Problem

- This life is a test that God the Father designed for us in our “pre-existence” to see if we really loved him.

### Solution to Basic Human Problem

- We are saved by grace and human effort.

### Afterlife

- There are three different levels of paradise: celestial, terrestrial, and telestial.

## WHEN SHARING THE GOSPEL

- 1 Look for ways to serve them.
- 2 Define key theological terms.
- 3 Focus on the person of Christ.

## QUICK FACTS

- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints are also known as Mormons or the LDS.
- Joseph Smith founded the LDS in 1830 based on visions he claimed to have received from the angel Moroni.
- The LDS claims to be the “restored” church, as the true church was lost following the time of the apostles.
- Everyone will be resurrected unto immortal life in a heavenly kingdom.
- There are over 16 million members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints across the world.

## READING

Corey Miller, Lynn Wilder, Vince Eccles, and Latayne Scott, *Leaving Mormonism: Why Four Scholars Changed their Minds*

Andrew Jackson, *Mormonism Explained: What Latter-Day Saints Teach and Practice*