

## The Priesthood of God

### PURPOSE

To help listeners understand that only worthy priesthood holders have access to priesthood power

### MATERIALS

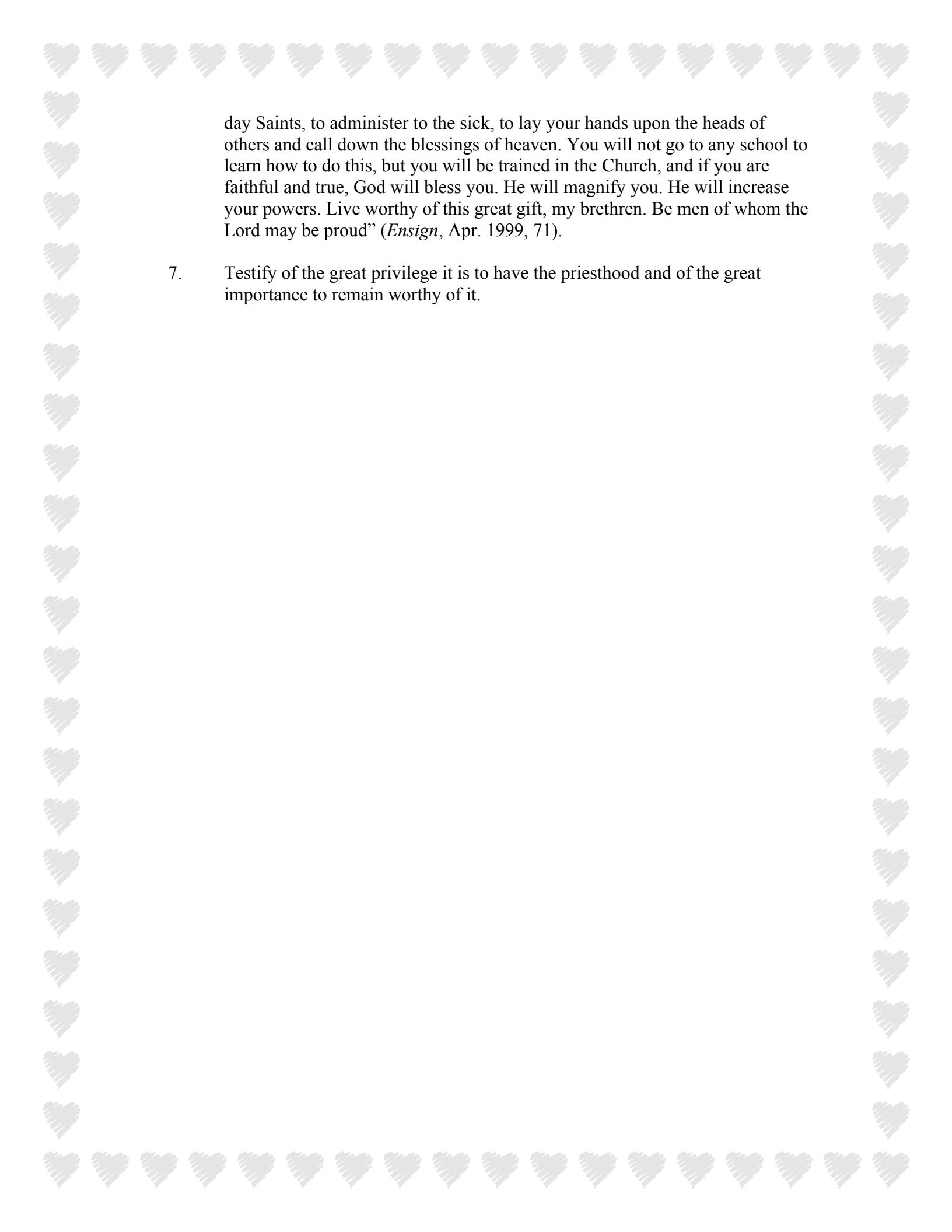
- A credit card or a picture of a credit card
- A card about the same size as the credit card that reads, “Priesthood”



### LESSON IDEAS

1. Hold up the credit card and ask:
  - a. “What is this?”
  - b. “What is it used for?”
  - c. “What does a person have to do to get one?”
  - d. “Is it possible to have a credit card that doesn’t work?”
2. Help listeners understand that a credit card is only valid if someone has money in the bank account.
3. Hold up the card that reads, “Priesthood”. Ask:
  - a. “What is the priesthood?” (the authority to act in the name of God)
  - b. “What is it used for?”
  - c. “What does a person have to do to obtain it?”
  - d. “Is it possible to have the priesthood but have no power?”
4. Compare the credit card to the priesthood:
  - a. We don’t actually hold the money when we hold a credit card. If we have money in the bank we hold the authority to gain access to the money.
  - b. We don’t actually hold the power of God when we hold the priesthood. We hold the authority to gain access to His power.
  - c. Only those who have ‘credit’ with our Heavenly Father have access to His power.
5. Read D&C 121:34-37. Discuss the things a priesthood holder could do to deny him access to our Father’s power.
6. You may want to share the following quote by President Gordon B. Hinckley:

“You men who hold the priesthood of God, live up to that priesthood. You have something more precious than anything else on earth. It is the power, it is the opportunity, it is the authority to speak in the name of God the Lord, even the Savior of the world, to hold office in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-



day Saints, to administer to the sick, to lay your hands upon the heads of others and call down the blessings of heaven. You will not go to any school to learn how to do this, but you will be trained in the Church, and if you are faithful and true, God will bless you. He will magnify you. He will increase your powers. Live worthy of this great gift, my brethren. Be men of whom the Lord may be proud” (*Ensign*, Apr. 1999, 71).

7. Testify of the great privilege it is to have the priesthood and of the great importance to remain worthy of it.