Trust in the Lord

In 1969, a young adult living in Leicester, England, encountered missionaries from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He initially resisted their message, but eventually began meeting with them. After three months of intense investigation, he awoke one morning with a conviction that the Church was true.

He was eager to share his newfound testimony with the elders. Before he could do so, they informed him that he would be ineligible to receive the priesthood as a Church member because of his mixed-race heritage, which included ancestors of black African descent.

One day, he was speaking with a close friend about his experiences with the missionaries and began teaching his friend about the Prophet Joseph Smith. He recalled, "As I told that story, I just came alive and something took over and I just radiated."

The experience reaffirmed his testimony, but his concerns about the priesthood restriction remained. As he prayed for further understanding, this message came to him: "You don't have to understand everything about my gospel before you commit yourself to it. Why don't you show your faith by accepting what you've heard and commit the rest into my hands?"

Comforted by the message, he prayerfully responded, "Yes, Lord, I will. I will take it in faith. And thank you, by the way, thank you." Two months later, he was baptized and became a faithful member of the Church.

In 1975, three years before the revelation on the priesthood, he expressed his belief in a just God, writing that he accepted the restriction "in faith, without any reservation." He added, "I am just grateful that the Lord's priesthood is once again upon the earth, with all its attendant blessings, authority, and responsibility. It matters less to me who has it and who hasn't, but much more how it is utilised."

In 1978, he learned of the revelation extending the priesthood to all worthy men (see Official Declaration 2).

"Once [he] returned home, he and [his wife] talked all through the night about what the news would mean for their family. The change was monumental. The next morning, [he] was ordained a priest in the Aaronic Priesthood. Two months later, he was ordained a Seventy and was made the senior member of the stake Seventy's quorum. And two months after that, [he and his spouse] were sealed in the London England Temple, along with their four children" (Elizabeth Maki, "I Will Take It in Faith,"history.ChurchofJesusChrist.org).

