

By the Gift and Power of God

1. The following is taken from a Facebook post by President Dieter F. Uchtdorf of the First Presidency. He had been asked “Do you really believe that Joseph Smith translated with seer stones? How would something like this be possible?”
2. Carefully read President Uchtdorf’s response.

“I answer, ‘Yes! That is exactly what I believe.’ This was done as Joseph said: by the gift and power of God.

“In reality, most of us use a kind of ‘seer stone’ every day. My mobile phone is like a ‘seer stone.’ I can get the collected knowledge of the world through a few little inputs. I can take a photo or a video with my phone and share it with family on the other side of our planet. I can even translate anything into or from many different languages!

“If I can do this with my phone, if human beings can do this with their phones or other devices, who are we to say that God could not help Joseph Smith, the Prophet of the Restoration, with his translation work? If it is possible for me to access the knowledge of the world through my phone, who can question that seer stones are impossible for God?

“Many religions have objects, places, and events that are sacred to them. We respect the sacred beliefs of other religions and hope to be respected for our own beliefs and what is sacred to us. We should never be arrogant, but rather polite and humble. We still should have a natural confidence, because this is the Church of Jesus Christ (Dieter F. Uchtdorf’s Facebook page, post from June 21, 2016, [facebook.com/lds.dieter.f.uchtdorf](https://www.facebook.com/lds.dieter.f.uchtdorf)).

3. Discuss the following question as a group: What principles of acquiring spiritual knowledge did President Uchtdorf demonstrate? How did he demonstrate these principles?

