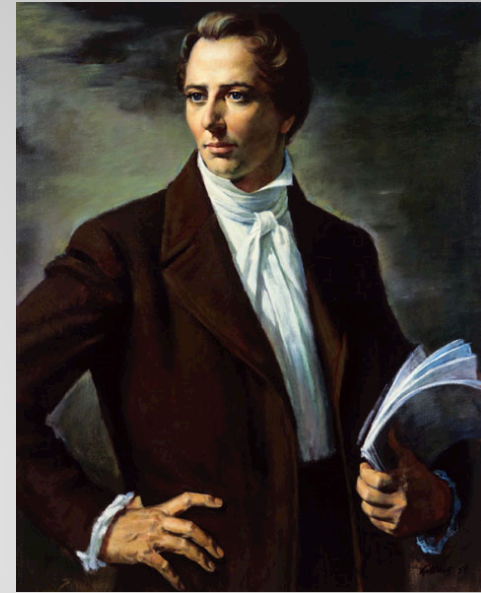


# The Founding of the LDS Church

- In New York, Joseph Smith organized the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS Church) **April 6<sup>th</sup> 1830**.
- Many people did not believe Joseph Smith and **Persecuted** (mistreated because of a beliefs) **him and his followers**
- Others listened to his message and started a new life with **“The Mormons”**.
- Thousands of **converts** (people who changed their religious beliefs) **joined the church**





Due to Persecution, The Church moved from **Fayette, New York** to **Kirtland, Ohio** and **Independence, Missouri** in 1831

- The gathering continued in Ohio and Missouri, but some of the same old problems arose. Soon mobs drove the people from Ohio.

- Things got so bad in Missouri that **Governor Boggs** gave an **extermination order**. He said that all the Mormons must leave or be killed.



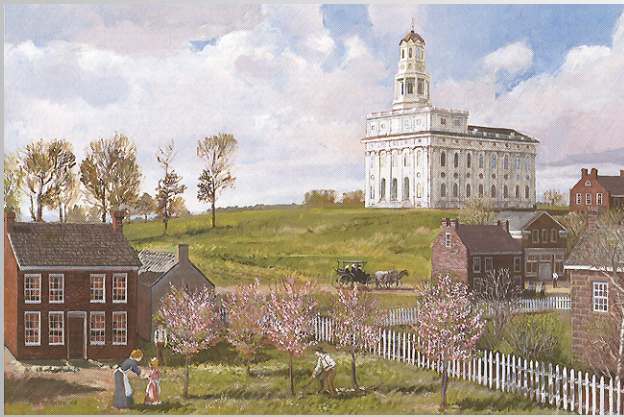
# Conflict and Misunderstanding

- 6 Reasons The Mormons often faced persecution
  - **Religion**: The Mormons told others that their church was God's **only true church**...This upset people of other religions, who said Joseph Smith made up the things he was saying
  - **Polygamy**: A man might be married to more than one wife. That way of living seemed very wrong to other people
  - **Politics**: The Mormons often outnumbered their neighbors. In elections, the Mormons usually voted for the same people making them more politically powerful than their neighbors.
  - Political views on Slavery: At least early on were Anti-Slave
  - **Economic Collective**: Mormons lived a cooperative lifestyle which meant gave what they had to the Church for the good of the group, and this gave the church a lot of power.



From Ohio and Missouri, the Saints moved to Illinois where they founded a new city they called **Nauvoo**, which means *beautiful*.

# Nauvoo, Illinois



"The place was literally a wilderness. The land was mostly covered with trees and bushes, and much of it was so wet that it was with the utmost difficulty that a footman could get through, and totally impossible for teams. Commerce was unhealthy, very few could live there; but believing that it might become a healthy place by the blessing of heaven to the saints, and no more eligible place presenting itself, I considered it wisdom to make an attempt to build up a city" (Joseph Smith quoted in B.H. Roberts, *A Comprehensive History of the Church*, 2:9).

- In Nauvoo, the same problems arose. While Joseph Smith was under arrest, a mob attacked the prison and shot and killed Joseph and his brother, Hyrum.
- The rest of the Mormons were told to leave Nauvoo in the middle of the winter.
- It was so cold that year that the Mississippi River froze solid.



# Brigham Young

- Led the Mormons after Joseph Smith was killed.
- Referred to as the “Great Colonizer”



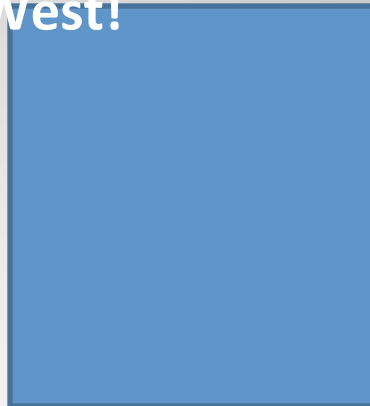


# Choice #1

Stay in Nauvoo



Go West!



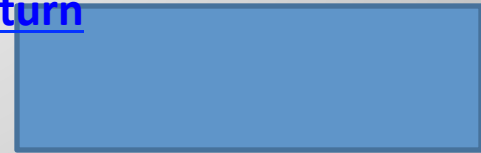
- You can try to stick it out and see if things calm down. You are nervous about moving everything *again*.
- Going west is a hassle, but you believe in your leaders and want to find a place where you won't be attacked by mobs.

# Choice #1: Wrong! ☹️

- If you stay, your houses, barns and businesses are burned to the ground.
- You are tarred and feathered for your beliefs.
- You have no money, no friends, no protection.

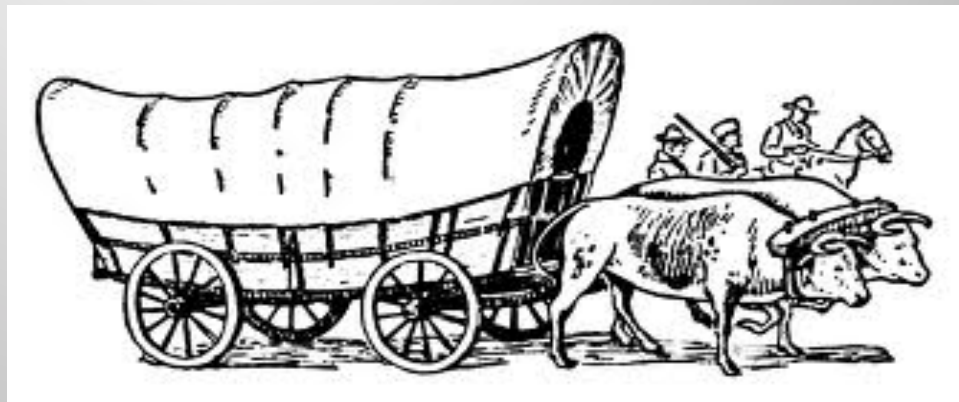


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# Choice #1: Correct! 😊

- You decide to move with the other Mormon pioneers. You have to give up your comfortable home you have just built in Nauvoo.
- You have to sell what you can to get enough money to buy enough supplies for the journey.
- Your wagon can only hold 2,000 lbs, but you have to rebuild your entire life. What are you going to take?



# Supply List

Food	Pounds
------	--------

flour	150	Tools	Lbs.
tea	10		
salt	50	axe	15
sugar	50		
coffee	100	shovel	12
bacon	40		
dried fruit	100	hatchet	9
dried beans	100		
cornmeal	10	hammer	7
split peas	100		
oatmeal	8	hoe	3
vinegar	25		
pickles	50	anvil	150
dried beef	25		
salt pork	5	grinding stone	75
assorted spices	5		
barrel of water	350	animal trap	15
vegetables	5		
		rope	4

Personal Items	Pounds
doll	2
jump rope	1
marbles	1
family Bible	2
books	2
hunting knife	1
bag of clothes	40
fiddle	2
snowshoes	8
rifle	10
pistol	7
first aid kit	3

Household Goods	Pounds
coffee grinder	5
rug	40
bedding	20
mirror	40
dutch oven	70
butter churn	40
table and 4 chairs	200
piano	900
organ	2000
baby cradle	75
wooden bucket	10
bedpan	2
butter mold	1
rocking chair	50
pitcher and bowl	5
cooking stove	700
cooking utensils	2
stool	10
spinning wheel	80
lantern	4
clock	1
10 candles	1
set of dishes	40

# Reflection

- Explain why you chose to bring along 3 things from your list.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

# Mormon Battalion

- In 1846 The United States went to war with Mexico.
  - The Mormons sent a group of soldiers to help fight in the war
  - The soldier's pay helped buy needed supplies for their trip west.



# Traveling By Sea

- In New York, **Samuel Brannan** advertised for passengers for a five month sea voyage to San Francisco Bay

- Started a Mormon settlement there and become rich during the gold rush



# Early Spring of 1847

- Brigham Young led a company from Winter Quarters
- The group prepared the way for thousands of other pioneers that would soon follow.





# Test Fate (roll the dice)

1. Safe journey 😊
2. Successful Hunt; Gain Venison 😊 😊
3. Sickness or blisters 😞
4. Half of your perishable supplies spoil 😞😞
5. Hit bad winter snows, slows your journey 😞😞
6. Angry Mob Kills one member of your company 😞😞😞



The 300 miles from Nauvoo to Winter Quarters included some of the hardest experiences of the whole trek.

- "[I] went through the City— where, nine weeks ago there was not a foot path, or a Cow track, now may be seen hundreds of houses, and hundreds in different stages of completion—impossible to distinguish the rich from the poor. The Streets are wide and regular and every prospect of a large City being raised up here" (Thomas Bullock, as quoted in Richard E. Bennett, *Mormons at the Missouri, 1846-1852: "And Should We Die . . . "* [1987], 80-81).

## Winter Quarters, Iowa



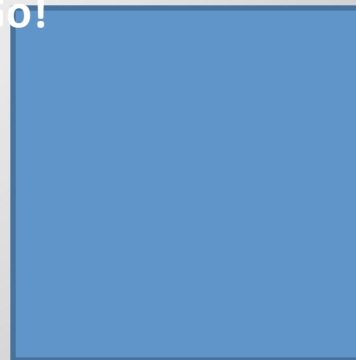
# Choice #2

- You are sick and tired from the 300 mile trek. You don't want to go on any longer and figure that settling in Winter Quarters is just as good as any other place.
- You can continue to move on. Things are rough now, but you don't want to be stuck in Iowa forever.

Stay



Go!



# Choice #2: Wrong! ☹️

Since you've decided to stay, you only experienced sickness and disease. You and your family experience scurvy, consumption, chills and fevers and many of your family members die.

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- "Winter [1846–1847] found me bed-ridden, destitute, in a wretched hovel which was built upon a hillside; the season was one of constant rain; the situation of the hovel and its openness, gave free access to piercing winds and water flowed over the dirt floor, converting it into mud two or three inches deep; no wood but what my little ones picked up around the fences, so green it filled the room with smoke; the rain dropping and wetting the bed which I was powerless to leave" (Margaret Phelps, as quoted in Richard E. Bennett, *Mormons at the Missouri, 1846-1852: "And Should We Die . . . "* [1987], 79–

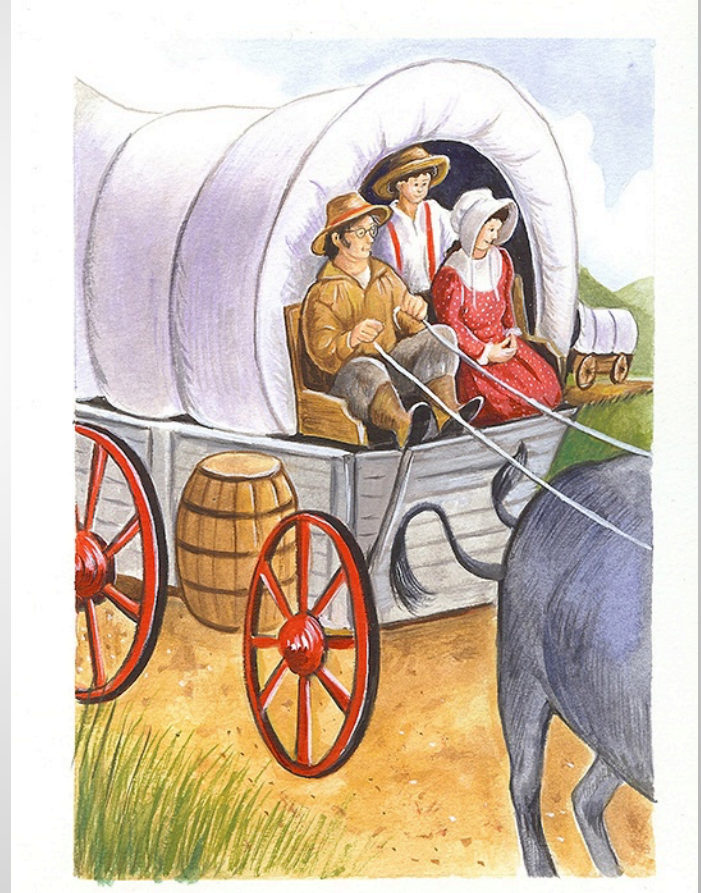
# Choice #2: Correct! 😊

- You spend the winter of 1846-1847 at Winter Quarters and get out of there as soon as it is spring. You leave crops and houses for Saints who will come after you. Your next destination is the Platte River, Nebraska



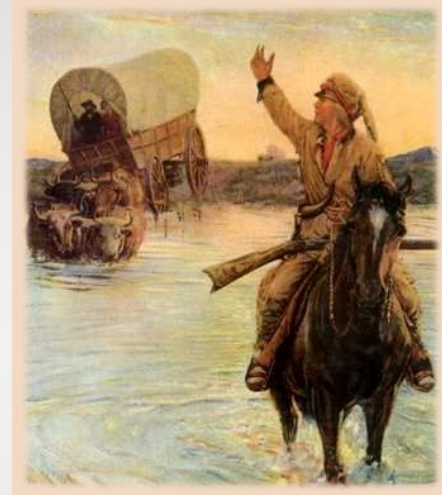
# A Day on the Trail

- The wagons were pulled by oxen, mules or horses and had few passenger
- The people that could walk did so.
- Children played games such as marbles, checkers, and tag.



# Crossing Rivers

- It could take as many as **two** days to get all the wagons and animals across a river
- They made **log rafts** to get their wagons over rivers





# A Day on the Trail

- Each morning pioneers gathered firewood or “**buffalo chips**”
- Breakfast was usually soda biscuits or cornmeal johnnycakes
- The pioneers rarely drank plain water since it was usually muddy or polluted.



# Test Fate

1. Safe journey 😊
2. Trade for Fresh Buffalo Meat 😊 😊
3. Sickness or blisters 😞
4. Half of your perishable supplies spoil 😞😞
5. Hit bad winter snows, slows your journey 😞😞
6. Indian Attack kills one of your members 😞😞😞

# Buffalo

- **Fresh meat was always a welcome change from the bacon, bread and beans pioneers ate on the trail**
- **Some people traveling on the Oregon Trail killed the buffalo for sport, but Brigham Young did not allow the Mormons to do that since more of them were coming on the trail each year**



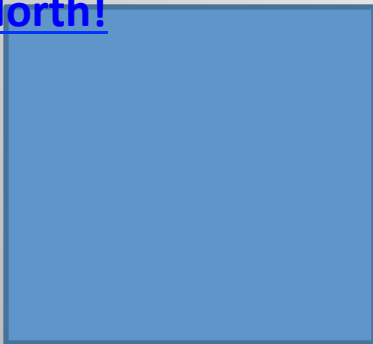
# **Trouble on the Trail**

- ❑ The heat, cold, dust, bad water, unusual food, accidents, insects, snake bites, and poor sanitation sometimes caused health problems.**
- ❑ The Pioneers usually stayed away from Indian villages, but offered gifts if they did meet each other.**
- ❑ Sometimes horses were stolen or the Indians would burn the prairie grass.**

# Choice #3: Platte River, Nebraska

- You can go on the north side of the river, to avoid other pioneers headed west to Oregon and California. You've also heard it's healthier on the northern side.
- You can choose to follow the south side of the river. It's the one that everyone headed west uses, so it's well marked.

Go North!



Go South!



# Choice #3: Wrong! ☹️

- **Following the south side of the river means that you are constantly competing with other pioneers for food, fuel and space. Former mob members find you on the south side and burn your wagon and steal your oxen.**



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# Choice #3: Correct! 😊

- You follow the North side of the Platte River and avoid any unpleasant confrontations with other pioneers. You make your way to Chimney Rock in Western Nebraska.



# Chimney Rock, Nebraska



- "The Mormon corral presents a lively, interesting scene. Three hundred men, women and children grouped within the space occupied by the encircled wagons very naturally making it so. A few of the families have small tents that are put up both inside and outside the corral; the rest sleeping either in their wagons or under them. The whole outfit is divided into messes of convenient size, and, as soon as camp is located, the first thing to do is to start the fires; those whose duty it is to provide fuel foraging around in every direction for 'chips,' sage brush, or any other material available, and soon forty or fifty bright little fires are twinkling inside and outside the corral, with coffee pots, frying pans, and bake ovens filling the air with appetizing incense...as one approaches nearer there is usually the sound of revelry. In every Mormon train there are usually some musicians, for they seem to be very fond of song and dance, and as soon as the camp work is done the younger element gather in groups and 'trip the light fantastic toe' with as much vim as if they had not had a twenty mile march that day" (*The Diaries of William Henry Jackson: Frontier Photographer*, ed. LeRoy R. Hafen and Ann W. Hafen [1959], 64–65).



# Mormon Pioneers Come to Utah

- Their trail along the northern side of the Platte River came to be known as the Mormon Trail.
- The Oregon Trail ran along the southern side of the same river.





THE WESTWARD MOVEMENT OF THE CHURCH

# Test Fate

1. Safe journey 😊
2. Find an Apple Tree 😊 😊
3. Sickness or blisters 😞
4. Half of your perishable supplies spoil 😞😞
5. Indians Burn Grass Ahead of you 😞😞
6. Heat Exhaustion kills one of your members  
😞😞😞

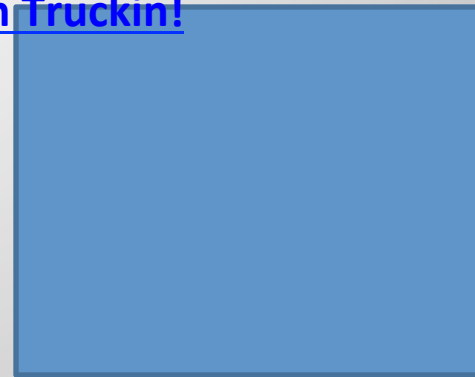
# Choice #4: Fort Bridger, Wyoming

- You can choose to rest and restock at the famous mountain man's fort.
- You can decide to push forward to Salt Lake City. It's only a 100 more miles to the west.

Rest and Restock



Keep on Truckin!



# Choice #4: Wrong! ☹️



Return



- By pushing on ahead, you and your team are too exhausted to make the last attempt over the Wasatch Mountains and through Emigration Canyon. You die, exhausted, barely within reach of you destination.

# Choice #4: Correct! 😊



By choosing to rest, restock and relax, you get the chance to meet the most famous mountain man, Jim Bridger, and get some much needed info about your new home, the Salt Lake Valley.

- "Next day camped on Hams Fork, then to Blacks Fork [and] from the[re] to Fort Bridger. Old Jim Bridger and his trappers gave us a hearty welcome to our company. He is the oldest trapper in the mountains and can tell some wonderful stories"

*(Frontiersman: Abner Blackburn's Narrative, ed. Will Bagley, [1992], 61).*

# The Rocky Mountains

- The pioneers crossed the Sweetwater River and then began to travel through the Rocky Mountains
- The final 116 miles after Fort Bridger were the most difficult.





THE WESTWARD MOVEMENT OF THE CHURCH



# Test Fate

1. Safe journey 😊
2. Fresh Buffalo Meat 😊 😊
3. Quicker than expected Journey 😊 😊 😊
4. Half of your perishable supplies spoil 😞
5. Indian Attack kills one member 😞 😞
6. Stuck in the Mountains During Winter 😞 😞 😞

# Into the Valley

- **Orson Pratt and Erastus Snow, who had been sent ahead as scouts, emerged from the mouth of a narrow canyon on July 22, 1847, becoming the first Latter-day Saints to set foot in their new home.**



# Salt Lake Valley, Utah

- You've made it!
- In the words of Pulitzer Prize-winning author and historian Wallace Stegner, the Latter-day Saints "were one of the principal forces in the settlement of the West" (*The Gathering of Zion: The Story of the Mormon Trail* [1964], 7).



- **As I walked away from the bower, I turned and looked back. There were more people...than I had seen since I left the Missouri River. Where did they come from? How did they get here? I pinched myself to make sure that I was not dreaming. I have seen tables set for probably 100 or more, but here were tables for thousands. But the greatest marvel is how they could, in so short a time, produce in a desert, the variety of food stuffs with which the tables were spread. Men do not gather vegetables from sage brushes or cereals from cactus. The seeds, the tubers, the roots, the fowls, the pigs, the sheep, the cows, everything from which this abundance was produced had to all be transported a thousand miles or more over such roads as we have traveled. Even then, how could they in so short a time with so small a beginning, have produced so much. It seems incredible. I take off my hat to those who planned and executed it" (Diary of John H. Benson, May–Sept. 1849, typescript, Family and Church History Department Archives, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 48–51).**

