Great Salt Lake City

February 6th 1855

Curtis Williams, Esqr.

Pittsburg, Penn.

Sir.

Your note of Dec. 11th reached me on the 5th inst. making enquiries in relation to the necessary qualifications for becoming a member of our Church. You also mention that you were personally acquainted with our beloved Prophet, Joseph Smith, and believe his mission divine.

It occurs to me rather singular that being so acquainted you should still remain ignorant of the "necessary qualifications" requisite to become a Saint. However to tell you in a word, and answer your question, it consists simply in honesty and obedience.

Having received the Gospel it is incumbent upon us to follow its precepts, and <not> by our negligence and inattention grieve away the Spirit of light and truth <the Holy Spirit> even of our God, ~~the great Spirit,~~ and be left in doubt and darkness.

Since the martyrdom of our Prophet, Joseph, but few Elders have been appointed to labor in the U. S., but now we have Elder Erastus Snow in St. Louis, Elder John Ta ylor in New York, City, each of whom are publishing a paper, also Elder Orson Spencer in Cincinnati

[To any of?] these brethren you may safely apply, and who will be able to direct you in the way of life and salvation

Praying that you may continue to walk in the light of truth

I am in haste

Your Friend & Brother In the Gospel

Brigham Young