



Type: Magazine Article

Book of Mormon Gems of Truth: Lesson Previews for 1951-1952

Author(s): Leone O. Jacobs

Source: *Relief Society Magazine*, Vol. 38, No. 7 (July 1951), pp. 481-482

Published by: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Abstract: Preview for monthly Book of Mormon lessons, which would include a scripture from the Book of Mormon accompanied by insights from General Authorities and writers of the Church.

Visiting Teacher Messages

Book of Mormon Gems of Truth

Preview of Lessons for 1951-52

Leone O. Jacobs

BOOK of Mormon Gems of Truth" is the title of a new series of Visiting Teacher Messages for the year 1951-52. As the theology course is a study of the Book of Mormon, we feel it will be very profitable and that increased spirituality will result if the Visiting Teacher Messages are also centered around this volume of scripture. With this in mind we have selected choice quotations from the Book of Mormon to be used as messages to the homes of Latter-day Saints.

As we analyze these quotations they become clearer and take on added meaning and significance. They also have definite, practical application in our lives. The aim of these messages is that our Latter-day Saint families may be inspired to more fully live up to the instruction and counsel contained therein. Visiting teachers have an excellent opportunity of discussing these topics informally in the homes with the sisters of the Church; and when there is an exchange of ideas under such conditions, much of lasting value may be gained.

The eight lesson titles and objectives for 1951-52 are as follows:

Lesson 1. "And behold, I tell you these things that ye may learn wisdom; that ye may learn that when ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only in the service of your God" (Mosiah 2:17).

Objective: To show that service to the Lord and service to our fellow men are synonymous.

Lesson 2. "Remember that my Spirit will not always strive with man" (Ether 2:15).

Objective: To point out that only by living the Lord's commandments can we be sure of the presence of the spirit.

Lesson 3. "Feast upon the words of Christ; for behold, the words of Christ will tell you all things what ye should do" (II Nephi 32:3).

Objective: To emphasize that in the words of our Savior we have the perfect pattern of life.

Lesson 4. "Look unto God with firmness of mind, and pray unto him with exceeding faith, and he will console you in your afflictions . . ." (Jacob 3:1).

Objective: To remind us that God is ever willing to comfort us in trial.

Lesson 5. "There is nothing which is good save it comes from the Lord; and that which is evil cometh from the devil" (Omni 25).

Objective: To show that it is not just to hold God accountable for the wicked state of the world.

Lesson 6. "Now it is better that a man should be judged of God than of man, for the judgments of God are always just, but the judgments

of man are not always just" (Mosiah 29:12).

Objective: To show that we should refrain from judging each other.

Lesson 7. "I have none other object save it be the everlasting welfare of your souls" (II Nephi 2:30).

Objective: To help us appreciate the fact that there are many people who

are interested in our everlasting welfare.

Lesson 8. "He that will not believe my words will not believe me—that I am" (Ether 4:12).

Objective: To show that when one truly accepts Jesus Christ, he accepts his words as well.

Visiting Teacher Messages

Book of Mormon Gems of Truth

Lesson 1—"And Behold, I Tell You These Things That Ye May Learn Wisdom; That Ye May Learn That When Ye Are in the Service of Your Fellow Beings Ye Are Only in the Service of Your God" (Mosiah 2:17).

Leone O. Jacobs

For Tuesday, October 2, 1951

Objective: To show that service to the Lord and service to our fellow men are synonymous.

OFTTIMES we unconsciously make a distinction between serving the Lord and serving our fellow men, when, in reality, they are one and the same. We think of attending our meetings, paying tithing, saying our prayers, and fulfilling assignments in Church positions as belonging to the service of the Lord, while, on the other hand, tending the baby of a tired mother, encouraging a despondent widow, taking some delicacy to an invalid across the street, appear to us as simply being a good neighbor. We mistakenly feel that service to the Lord is in a different category, that it is on a loftier plane, being removed from our contacts with mere human beings in the mundane affairs of daily living. Why cannot we see that service rendered to our neighbors and associates is of the

selfsame fabric as service to God? He has told us this is so.

We might make a comparison. As parents we know our feelings when someone befriends our child who is in difficulty. We feel as grateful as though he had befriended us, do we not? Perhaps even more grateful. If some kind friend gives encouragement, inspiration, or wise counsel to our child, it means the same to us, his parents, as though we had been the recipients of that much-needed assistance. So it is with our Heavenly Father. When one of us befriends another of his children, it is the same as though we rendered that service unto him. The more we do to bring joy and righteousness into the lives of his children, our brothers and sisters, the more we lift each other up the ladder toward per-