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Book of Mormon Gems of Truth: Lesson 48

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Abstract: Monthly Book of Mormon lessons for adult women (Relief Society). Each month a verse of Book of Mormon scripture is presented with accompanying quotes from General Authorities and writers of the Church.

ye would remember how merciful the Lord hath been unto the children of men, from the creation of Adam even down until the time that ye shall receive these things, and ponder it in your hearts.

And when ye shall receive these things, I would exhort you that ye would ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not true; and if ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost (Moroni 10:2-4).

Now that we have completed six years of study of The Book of Mormon, the real questions which confront us are:

1. What are we going to do about the wise and workable principles which this great book contains?
2. If we lack a testimony, do we have the faith and desire to put Moroni's promise to the test?
3. Have our testimonies really grown as a result of our study?

For those of us who can honestly give right answers to these questions, then this great book will have fulfilled its purpose in our lives. It will have brought peace and comfort to our souls and rich blessings into our lives, and we shall hope to be numbered among those of whom Alma speaks:

For the names of the righteous shall be written in the book of life, and unto them will I grant an inheritance at my right hand . . . (Alma 5:58).

Questions on the Lesson

1. Did the reading of The Book of Mormon increase your faith in God? Have some of the sisters express their feelings in this regard.
2. What characters in The Book of Mormon have been most impressive to you? Why?
3. What difference does it make whether we accept Jesus Christ as a great moral teacher or as the Only Begotten Son of God?

Visiting Teacher Messages— Book of Mormon Gems of Truth

Lesson 48—"And When Ye Shall Receive These Things, I Would Exhort You That Ye Would Ask God, the Eternal Father, in the Name of Christ, If These Things Are Not True; and If Ye Shall Ask With a Sincere Heart, With Real Intent, Having Faith in Christ, He Will Manifest the Truth of It Unto You, by the Power of the Holy Ghost" (Moroni 10:4).

Leone O. Jacobs

For Tuesday, May 7, 1957

Objective: To point out that Moroni's promise is certain of fulfillment if prescribed conditions are met.

THIS promise made by Moroni to all who will read The Book of Mormon is unique. No other book carries with it such a guarantee. It is an invitation to all the world to learn of the truthfulness of The

Book of Mormon and to test its validity. Thousands have made this test and proved the guarantee to be as purported. Yet some have read this sacred scripture and not received a testimony of its truth. Why? Because one or more of the conditions required in the promise was lacking. The heart may not have been truly sincere, the intent not real, or faith in Christ may have been weak, otherwise the result would have been to convince the investigator of the truth of The Book of Mormon given through the power of the Holy Ghost.

When a chemist makes an experiment in the laboratory, he knows that certain specifications are necessary. Each step must be followed precisely and each ingredient must be added in the required amount, or the desired result will not be obtained. But if every ingredient outlined in the formula is mixed as directed, then the result will always be successful. Moreover, no true student of science attempts an experiment without an unbiased, open attitude of mind.

So it is with the formula prescribed by Moroni to discover the truthfulness of The Book of Mor-

mon. This experiment calls for the exercise of faith as the book is read, the exercise of sincerity, and a great desire to know the truth, otherwise the Holy Ghost cannot operate in behalf of the one who reads it.

Some readers of The Book of Mormon promise to try the experiment, but they feel sure beforehand that it cannot possibly be true. And so they begin the experiment with doubt in their minds. This is not the right spirit of approach. Hope and faith and an open mind are necessary for all great discoveries, material as well as spiritual.

We who have read this divine book and already had the promise fulfilled, rejoice in our testimony. It rings true to our hearts and our minds, and we are indeed grateful for this "New Witness for Christ." With each rereading, the truths contained therein are made more plain, and one is persuaded to seek more diligently after the Lord.

It is quite fitting that we close this series of messages with this unique promise, which has been instrumental in bringing great numbers of souls to a knowledge of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Reunion

Eunice J. Miles

Your deep-blue eyes, pain-free and young,
 Alive with eagerness and laughter,
 Hold hope and wonder far beyond my knowing.
 We seem worlds apart!
 The years stretching between us
 Cannot be spanned by living speech.
 But when in childish grief,
 You quickly run sobbing into my arms,
 Then, in your tear-stained face,
 I see the tiny girl I used to be.