

Teacher's Supplement - To Be Highly Favored of the Lord

Section 1

Describe and Define Highly Favored Of The Lord

1. Break participants into groups of 3-4 people.
2. Pass out copies of "Descriptions of Highly Favored" (**See Materials**).
3. Give participants 10 minutes to identify and describe ways the Nephites are highly favored.
4. Re- group and share findings.
 - a. Create a list in outline form on the board. (See Example below)
 - b. If more time is needed, divide lesson into two sessions. Save information on the board for future session.

Example: How the Lord Favors the Nephites

- A. **Great knowledge of**
 - a. Goodness of God
 - i. according to desires, faith, prayers
 - b. Mysteries of God
 - i. things past
 - ii. things present
 - iii. things future
- B. **Visited by Spirit of God**
 - a. Conversed with angels
 - b. Spoken unto by the voice of the Lord
 - c. Spirit of prophecy
 - d. Spirit of revelation
- C. **Many gifts**
 - a. Speaking with tongues
 - b. Preaching
 - c. Holy Ghost
 - d. Translation
- D. **Delivered of God**
 - a. Out of the land of Jerusalem
 - b. Saved from famine
 - c. Saved from sickness
 - d. Saved from all manner of diseases
 - e. Waxed strong in battle
 - f. Brought out of bondage
 - g. Kept and preserved
- E. **Prospered**
 - a. Rich in all manner of things

Section 2

Relate God's Plan for Relationships to Being Highly Favored

Examples: God's Plan and What He Values:

- **His creation** (Genesis 1:31, Isaiah 11:9)
- **Peaceful, loving relationships** (Mosiah 23:15, Matthew 5:22-25, 44-45, 22:37, 2 Corinthians 5:19)
- **Equality** (2 Nephi 26:33, Mosiah 23:7)
- **Freedom/liberty** (2 Nephi 2:27, 10:11)
- **Honor and worship** (Exodus 20:1-7)
- **Compassion** (Mosiah 4:26; 18-8-9)
- **His word** (2 Nephi 27: 11,14, 29:11,13,14)
- **Truth** (Mosiah 23:14, Proverbs 6:16,19)
- _____

Section 3

Analyze and Personalize Conference Revelations

Facts about Daniel

- heart for God
- prayed three times a day.
- was loyal to God's laws.
- was favored by the jail keeper.
- was spared from the Lions' mouths.
- was given visions, dreams, interpretation of dreams, and visitation of angels
- _____

“God’s Grace and Mercy in a Canceled Trip”

The following example of God’s protection is taken from an article that appeared in the July 2007 issue of the Gospel News, by Evangelist Anthony Ricci:

On Wednesday May 16, 2007, Evangelists John Genaro, Nephi DeMercurio, George Kovacic, and I left our respective homes and planned to meet in Newark, New Jersey for our connecting flight to Delhi, India; for our trip to West Bengal and Sikkim, India; and Kathmandu, Nepal. Earlier that morning Brother George and I spoke by phone.... Both of us stated to each other that this trip had a different feel to it, that something felt amiss. We could not pinpoint it, but we both felt something was not right and we just prayed it would not be a safety issue. We put ourselves and the trip into God’s hands.

When each of us arrived at our respective airports of origin, we were informed flights were canceled and delayed because of a severe storm that hit the East Coast and shut down the Newark airport....

Because of the delay, the brothers attempted unsuccessfully to change flights from within India.)

We knelt in prayer that God would open doors for us to complete this trip; but if not, that He would make it plain that He was closing the doors.... We prayed again for direction and all felt, that as we prayed, God had closed the doors and made it plain to us. We agreed to cancel the trip....

I cannot explain the feeling of emptiness and exasperation I felt, but at the same time felt a comfort that God had made His intentions known. Our next goal was to get back home....

On Friday, after a five-hour delay from a 3:15 pm. departing flight, I made it back home. Before going to bed, a great depression hit me that the trip was actually canceled, and I began to weep and petition God as to why this would happen. I was given the following dream:

I dreamed I saw a jeep and the right side was crumpled and caved in, as if in a terrible accident. There was a man that appeared to be Indian or Nepali – I did not recognize him – he was pointing at the jeep and pointing out the damage. I saw Bro. Madan. He looked very disheveled and was speaking very fast trying to tell me what happened.... He finally sat down on the ground and put his face in his hands weeping and just spoke Nepali. The dream then ended.

When I awoke, I related to my wife that God had truly spared us from a tragedy on this trip. I went to check my e-mail and was greeted by a U.S. Warden Message from the U.S. Consulate in India of a blast that happened on Friday, May 18 at a mosque in Hyderabad, warning American Citizens of retaliation throughout the whole country of India. I went to see whether this attack would affect West Bengal. I searched a news engine and found the West Bengal Inspector General of Police had put the province of West Bengal on HIGH ALERT and district stations were restricting travel to and from West Bengal. The Province of West Bengal was on Full Security alert. (This is where we would have been.) God had protected us!

I still wanted to see the meaning of my dream. I found that Eastern Nepal (by the Indian border) had suffered through earthquakes for three days, starting on Wednesday, May 16. Beginning at 10 a.m. to the time of the report, 15 quakes had hit. I then found a news article about a jeep traveling on the road we would have taken...(The jeep) was knocked off the road, down the mountain by falling boulders, killing those who were on board....When I saw the pictures of the jeep – the right side was crumpled and caved in – I realized it was just like the dream! I would say that the aftershocks of the earthquakes affected (that) area and (led to) the falling boulders. I knew then and there what God had spared us from, spared our families from, and spared the work from. BLESSED BE HIS HOLY NAME!

“A Thanksgiving Experience of Sister Helen Campitelle” (Detroit Michigan)

This experience appears in A History of the Church of Jesus Christ, by William H. Cadman, p. 183.

It was in the year 1928. My husband was out of work because of sickness. As it was the night before Thanksgiving, my children wanted me to go to the store to buy food for a Thanksgiving dinner. I did not have any food in the house except beans. I told my children I was very sorry that I was unable to make a dinner for them as their father was out of work, and they would have the beans which I had in the house. It was seven o'clock in the evening and my children were discouraged.

I told them not to be discouraged as the Lord could bless us just the same with beans. At seven-thirty we heard someone knocking and my oldest daughter, Rose, went to answer the door. She found a man there, and he asked for Mrs. Campitelle. While my daughter was talking to him, she saw a white car in front of the door. He said to me, “Mrs. Campitelle, what is the reason you don't want to give a Thanksgiving dinner to your children?” I told him the truth, that I wanted to but as my husband was out of work, I was unable to do so.

He looked at my face and smiled. Then he said, “Mrs. Campitelle, I have brought a Thanksgiving dinner for your children.”

He then went into the car (which I did not see), and brought out all kinds of groceries: Fruit which looked like it had just been picked, fresh dressed chicken, which was still warm, and many other things.

When I saw all the groceries and food he had brought I asked him his name and address as I wanted to remember him for what he had done for us. But he said “Mrs. Campitelle, you don't need my name or address now.” He looked at my children and said, “You have wonderful children and a wonderful family.” Then he left.

The next day at dinnertime, all the food was prepared, and we were seated around the table. Brother and Sister Framolin were with us. While Brother Framolin was asking the blessing on the food, he saw the same man come in and stand near the table; and he said, “I fed my people in the time of Moses and I will feed them today, too.”

We all felt the presence of God with us so that we could hardly eat the food because of the great blessings.

Every time I testify of this experience, the Lord is my witness.

**Suggestions/Scriptures for Further Study/
Exploration/ Extension of Topic**

Future lessons:

Extension of Topic (future lessons):

➤ **Our Values**

Study Our Values in depth.

<http://thechurchofjesuschrist.org/about/mission-beliefs>

Gospel Blog articles may be used as springboard for discussion on Out Values.

<http://thechurchofjesuschrist.org/blog/category/church-values>

() - denotes date article was posted:

- Faith (1/2/2020)
- Empathy (1/6/2020)
- Leadership (1/7/2020)
- Honor (1/9/2020)
- Congruence (1/13/2020)
- Unity 1/14/2020)
- Righteousness (1/16/2020)
- Hope (1/20/2020)
- Rights and Respect (1/21/2020)
- Duty (1/23/2020)
- Love and Charity (1/27/2020)
- Responsibility (1/28/2020)
- Loyalty (1/30/2020)

Extension of Topic (future lessons):

➤ **Scriptural Examples of Individuals Favored by The Lord**

Objectives:

The participant will be able to:

- Discuss 1-3 scriptural examples of the Lord's compassion and favor and examine the relationships these individuals had with Him. (1 session/example)
- Identify situation(s) in which he/she would like to seek the Lord's favor.

Present term and definition:

Compassion → to suffer together.

Among emotion researchers, it is **defined** as the feeling that arises when you are confronted with another's suffering and feel motivated to relieve that suffering.

<https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/topic/compassion/definition>

Example 1 - David

Q: Who can recall one or more ways the Lord favored David?

1. Draw chart on the board as shown, and have participants name - David's problems, his needs, and how God favored him. Use examples provided, as needed.
2. Read/summarize corresponding scriptures in left column if students are not familiar with accounts.

David	Problem	Need	Favor
1 Samuel 17:34-36	bear and lion attacked sheep	Deliverance/ protection	God strengthened him
1 Samuel 17:37,45-50	Giant threatened camp of Israel	Deliverance/ protection	God instilled confidence to defeat
Psalms 31	Pursued by Enemies	Deliverance/ protection	God protected on numerous accounts

Q: Why might the Lord have shown compassion to David in these situations?

Read and discuss **Psalms 5:12**, "For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield."

Q: Describe David's relationship with the Lord? How does David seek the Lord's attention?

Q: How does David express his appreciation for the Lord's favors?

Q: Name a situation in your life in which you would like the Lord's favor. How are you seeking His attention?

Example 2 - Daniel

The scriptures state that Daniel was favored of the Lord (Daniel 9:23).

Q: Who can recall one or more ways the Lord favored Daniel?

1. Draw chart on the board as shown, and have participants name - Daniel's problems, his needs, and how God favored him.
2. Read/summarize corresponding scriptures in left column as needed, to facilitate discussion.

Daniel	Problem	Need	Favor
Daniel 1:1-16	Ungodly customs imposed	Exception to rule	God softened guard's heart
Daniel 2:1-23	Death sentence	Interpretation of king's dream	God provided interpretation
Daniel 6:1-22	Thrown into Lions' den	Deliverance	God sent angel to close lions' mouths
Daniel 9	Sin, destruction of Jerusalem	Forgiveness, mercy, comfort	God sent angel to deliver message

Q: Why might God have shown compassion to Daniel at various times?

Read and discuss **Daniel 9:23**, "At the beginning of thy supplications the commandments came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision."

Q: Describe Daniel's relationship with the Lord? How does Daniel seek the Lord's attention?

Q: How does Daniel show his appreciation for God's favors?

Q: How do you show appreciation for God's blessings?

Example 3 – Nephi

The scriptures state that Nephi was favored of the Lord (1 Nephi 1:1).

Q: Who can recall one or more ways the Lord favored Nephi?

1. Draw chart on the board as shown, and have participants name - Nephi's problems, his needs, and how God favored him.
2. Read/summarize corresponding scriptures in left column as needed, to facilitate discussion.

Nephi	Problem	Need	Favor
1 Nephi 3 and 4	Laban refused to surrender the brass plates	Remove obstacles	Holy Spirit guided and plates delivered
1 Nephi 3:28-31	Life threatened	Deliverance	God sent angel
1 Nephi 17:7-11, 18:1-4	Crossing the ocean	Transportation	God instructed how to build ship

Q: Why might have God shown compassion to Nephi at various times?

Read and discuss **1 Nephi 2:19**, "And it came to pass that the Lord spake unto me, saying: blessed art thou, Nephi, because of thy faith, for thou hast sought me diligently, with lowliness of heart."

Q: Describe Nephi's relationship with God. How does Nephi seek the Lord's attention?

Q: How does Nephi show appreciation for God's favors?

Q: What words of affirmation would you like to hear from the Lord? How are you seeking Him?

Extension of Topic, (future lessons):

- **Education Committee online lessons**
 - Grades 10-12 and Adult - “Righteousness”
 - Grades 10-12 and Adult - “Covenants”
- Q12 letter on Righteousness
- Mosiah 1:10-13 and chapters 4-5 - King Benjamin and his people become highly favored
- 1 Nephi 14 & 15 and Ether 2:11-12, .8:23-24 - God’s instructions for the Gentiles
- Mosiah chapter 21 - Why the Lord is slow to hear the cry of King Limhi and his people, vs 15. (Clue: Mosiah 11:20-26)
- Alma 24: 29-30 and 2 Peter 2:20-22 – Perils of apostasy - enlightened people who turned from God