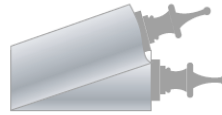




CHURCH EDUCATION

The Holy Bible
The Book of Mormon



'...and they shall become one in thine hand.' Ezekiel 37.17

LESSON TITLE

Lehi Receives a Blessing of the Promised Land

- Part 2: The Liahona

UNIT 6 – Evidence of Authority and Establishing the Church

GRADES 1-3

THE HOLY BIBLE

John 14: 6 “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

THE BOOK OF MORMON

Alma 37: 45 “And now I say, is there not a type in this thing? For just as surely as this director did bring our fathers, by following its course, to the Promised Land, shall the words of Christ, if we follow their course, carry us beyond this vale of sorrow into a far better land of promise.

OBJECTIVES

The student will be able to:

- Recognize God’s preservation of Lehi’s family from Jerusalem to the promised land, 1 Nephi 16:7-39, 17:1-6.
- Recognize the importance of faith and diligence in making the Liahona work, 1 Nephi 16:28,29.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- Where does God plan to take Lehi and his family?
- What instrument does God give Lehi to show him the way to the promised land? How does it work?

MATERIALS

Holy Bible and *The Book of Mormon*

Map of the Middle East

Whiteboard- markers

Task: Copies of play, pages 3-5. 1-per student.

Task: Assignment, page 6. 1-per student

TEACHER NOTES

45-minute lesson

To prepare for this lesson, study the scriptural references listed in **OBJECTIVES**.

Q = Teacher asks question

PROCEDURE

Motivation/Introduction (5 minutes)

1. Display a map of the Middle East on the wall.
2. Engage students in a discussion on ways to get directions when traveling.

Q: When you or your parents are traveling and don't know how to get to the destination, how do they get directions?

Q: How many of you have ever heard of GPS? How does it work? (It points the way on a map and it tells the way to go)

3. Bring students up to date by sharing a brief backstory of Lehi traveling from Jerusalem to the promised land.

*Lehi and his family have traveled about three days' journey from Jerusalem to the Red Sea and set up camp at the shore. **(Point to Jerusalem and the Red Sea on the map.)** His four sons returned to Jerusalem twice - once to acquire the brass plates and another to persuade Ishmael's family to join them.*

Now that Ishmael and his family have joined Lehi's family, they are ready to travel onward to the promised land. There is a problem, however. They have no idea how to get there!

God gives Lehi and his family something better than a GPS. It is called Liahona. The Liahona is one way God will communicate with Lehi on his journey.

Goals: Recognize God's preservation of Lehi's family from Jerusalem to the promised land. Recognize the importance of faith and diligence in making the Liahona work.

Lesson Development (35-40 minutes)

1. Hand each student a copy of the play (See Teacher's Supplement).
 - a. Read the play aloud as students follow along. Be in character.
 - b. Assign parts to students and have them read the play in character. The teacher may read the part of the Narrator. Students and/or teacher may need to read more than one part.
 - c. Optional: students role play.
2. Discuss Essential Questions.
3. Assignment: Students complete in class (Page 6)

Key Words: evidence, authority, establish, church, Lehi, Liahona, promised land

Teacher's Supplement

Play: The Liahona

Characters: Narrator, Laman, Lehi, Sam, Laman's wife, Sariah, Lemuel

Narrator: After Ishmael and his family join Lehi's family in the wilderness, Zoram, the former servant of Laban, marries Ishmael's oldest daughter and Lehi's four sons also marry Ishmael's other daughters. One night, sometime later, the voice of God speaks to Lehi and tells him to continue his journey the next day into the wilderness.

(The next morning)

Lehi: Hey, Sariah, wake up. God told me that we must pack up our things and continue our journey.

Sariah: Well, you had better go tell the others.

(Lehi opens his tent to walk outside)

Lehi: Huh? What's this?

Sariah: It looks like a metal ball. Look how shiny it is. I think it's made of brass. See the beautiful designs engraved upon it. I've never seen anything like this!

Lehi: And look inside! There are two arrows.

Narrator: The Lord shows Lehi and his family that one of the arrows points the direction that they should travel through the wilderness to the promised land. Lehi called the curious ball "Liahona." The Liahona directs them through the fertile parts of the desert, showing Nephi and his brothers where to hunt animals for food. Then, many days later, while Nephi is out hunting, something goes wrong.

Laman: Nephi's been gone all day. What could be taking him so long?

Sam: I am getting hungry. I hope he hurries.

(Nephi comes into camp)

Lemuel: Nephi, I am starving. Where is the food?

Nephi: Guys, I have bad news. I broke my bow. I couldn't shoot anything.

Laman: What! You know that was the only good bow we had!

Laman's wife: You should have been more careful! Now we are going to starve!

Narrator: Soon, there was no meat to eat and the whole camp began to grumble and grow angry with Nephi. Even Lehi began complaining to God.

Lehi: I'm very hungry, and so are all my children. Why did God lead us all the way out here just to starve?

Sariah: Maybe we should have stayed in Jerusalem after all. What did we get ourselves into?

Nephi: I cannot believe it! After all that God has done for us, you complain over a small thing like a broken bow. Do you not think that God will feed us now? I will go make a new bow from wood. Meanwhile, Father, pray to God so that He will show me where to get food. We must have faith!

Narrator: Nephi reminds his family that they need to humble themselves and trust God. Lehi obeys Nephi and he prays to God about what to do. God is angry at their lack of faith and severely scolds him. God tells Lehi to look at the ball. Lehi sees and reads words that cause the whole camp to tremble with fear. They soon discover that the pointers on the ball only work if they have faith in God and that written words will appear on the ball to deliver messages, also according to their faith. The Liahona tells Nephi to hunt on the top of a mountain, so he does and soon the camp has plenty of food. They give thanks unto the Lord.

The families of Lehi and Ishmael continue to follow the directions on the Liahona, but the journey is not easy. Soon, Ishmael dies and his daughters cry and moan, wishing that they never had left Jerusalem.

Laman's wife: My father is dead! It is all because we left Jerusalem. My feet ache from walking so much.

Laman: It is all Nephi's fault. He wants us to follow our father's crazy dreams and visions so that he can lead us out into the wilderness and rule over us. I say we kill him and our crazy old dad too.

Lemuel: Maybe you're right! Our little brother will not rule over us. We must take charge!

Narrator: Laman begins spreading these rumors to the sons of Ishmael. But, every time the group begins to wander away from the Lord, God speaks to them harshly and scolds them. They often go hungry until they repent and then God blesses them with food once again.

The families struggle for eight years in the wilderness because the Liahona will only show them the right way when they have faith in God. If they get lazy and forget to pray or stop following its directions, then the needles stop working and they waste time.

The women give birth in the wilderness, but God makes them strong so they can endure the journey. The families are forced to eat raw meat, but God makes the meat sweet so that it tastes good.

Finally, one day...

Sam: Look! Up ahead! A beach!

Sariah: Look at the beautiful water.

Lemuel: Wow, these trees are loaded with fruit! I'm gonna eat some!

Sam: And honey too! This place rocks!

Lehi: I will call this place Bountiful because it is so wonderful. We will live here for quite a while.

(Story continues in part three)

Assignment - Lehi Receives a Blessing of a Promised Land

Use the words in the box to complete the story below.

BOUNTIFUL	COMPLAINED
EIGHT	FAITH
HUNGRY	JERUSALEM
LIAHONA	LOST
WATER	WILDERNESS

Lehi and his family left their home in _ _ _ _ _ [].

They traveled through the _ _ _ _ _ [] _ for
_ _ _ _ _ years using the _ _ [] _ _ _ _ to guide them.

The Liahona worked by _ _ _ _ _ and diligence. Because the people

[] _ _ [] _ _ _ _ _ along the way, they sometimes got

_ _ [] _ and were hungry. They finally reached the edge of the land

where there was much _ _ _ _ _ . This place had plenty of fruit and

honey to eat so they called it _ [] _ _ _ _ _ .

Use the letters in the brackets [] above, to describe the Liahona:

_ _ _ _ _