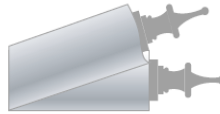




CHURCH EDUCATION

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 3: Crossing the Waters

UNIT 6 – Evidence of Authority and Establishing the Church

GRADES 1-3

THE HOLY BIBLE

John 14:21 "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

THE BOOK OF MORMON

1 Nephi 17:13 "And I will also be your light in the wilderness; and I will prepare the way before you, if it so be that ye shall keep my commandments; wherefore, inasmuch as ye shall keep my commandments ye shall be led towards the Promised Land; and ye shall know that it is by me that ye are led."

OBJECTIVES

The student will be able to:

- Recognize God's preservation of Lehi's family from Jerusalem to the promised land 1 Nephi chapters 17 & 18.
- Listen to a retelling and act out Lehi's journey across the waters
- Relate through Lehi's story how he/she can show love to God

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- Which of Lehi's sons are obedient? Which of Lehi's sons are disobedient? Can you give examples for each?
- Do you recall who can change the weather? Why does Lehi's family encounter a storm on their way to the promised land? What is the reason the weather gets calm again?
- Why is it good to listen to God? How does listening to God tell Him we love Him?

MATERIALS

Holy Bible and The Book of Mormon

World Map

Task 1: Copies of script for skit, 1-per student, pages 3-7

Task 2: 1 - sheet of 8 ½ "x 11 " paper per student

TEACHER NOTES

45-minute lesson

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

Q = Teacher asks question

Task 2: Make a sample paper boat prior to class to become familiar with the process, and to show expected result to students. Directions in lesson

PROCEDURE

Motivation/Introduction (3 minutes)

Engage students in a discussion about following instructions, with associated rewards and consequences...

Q: Think of a time when your parents (Or teacher) asked you to do something that you found difficult or uninteresting, or that you just didn't want to do. What are some examples?

Q: What happens when you fail to do what you are asked to do by your parents? By your teacher?

Q: What happens when you do what you are told?

Explain: Like parents and teachers, God gives instructions that He wants us to follow. They are called commandments. One example of a commandment is when God told Lehi to get the brass plates from Laban.

Today, we will learn about Lehi and his family as they continue their journey towards the promised land. We will learn how extremely important it is for them to obey God's commandments.

Goals: Recognize God's preservation of Lehi's family from Jerusalem to the promised land. Listen to a retelling and act out Lehi's journey across the waters. Relate through Lehi's story how he/she can show love to God

Lesson Development (35-40 minutes)

1. Post a map of the world on the wall and locate Jerusalem. With your finger, trace along the borders of the Red Sea to the seashore, as you explain that Lehi and his family were told to leave Jerusalem and all their personal belongings, and travel this route through the wilderness to the promised land.

Q: How might you feel if you were asked to leave your home and all your stuff? (Acknowledge that it may be hard to "step out of our comfort zone" and follow instructions. Emphasize that when God give a commandment, it should be obeyed.)

2. Our story begins with Lehi's family at the seashore waiting for God to tell them what to do next.
 - a. Hand a copy of skit to each student in the class (See Teacher's Supplement).
 - b. Assign a character to each student.
3. Read through the skit as students follow silently along. Then have students read the story together. (Teacher may act as Narrator.)

4. Task 2: The boat that God showed Nephi how to build was very strange to them. They said that it was built of "curious workmanship." Today, we will also build a boat of curious workmanship that will really float!

- a. Give each student a sheet of paper.
- b. Students create paper boats to represent the boat that Lehi and his family used to cross the ocean to the promised land.

You may find a tutorial online.

Suggested websites:

Step by step: http://www.mathematische-basteleien.de/paper_ship.htm

Video:

<http://www.pedagonet.com/videos/paperboat.htm>

- c. As you explain how to fold the origami boat, step by step, first pause to ask an Essential Question before each step.
5. Scripture Cheer: (Lead students in cheer)
 - "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love." John 15:10
 6. Task 3: Students complete assignment (See Teacher's Supplement).

Key Words: evidence, authority, establish, church, Lehi, promised land, boat, water

Teacher's Supplement

SKIT: Lehi's Family Crosses the Many Waters

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

Narrator: God commanded Lehi and his family to escape from Jerusalem and travel toward the promised land. In the promised land, they could live in safety and serve God the right way. God gave them a compass, the Liahona, which showed them the path to take, but it only worked if they had faith and followed God's commandments.

Lehi's family traveled through the wilderness for eight years, enduring many hardships along the way. They finally reached the seashore where they could rest. The land along the seashore had plenty of fruit and wild honey. The people called it "Bountiful." They called the water "Irreantum" which means "Many waters." Listen to what happens to Lehi and his family after they rest on the seashore for many days.

Lemuel: (Relaxing in a hammock by the shore) Ahhh! This is the life! I can just relax and drink coconut milk all day. I say no more traveling for me.

Laman: Me too. Hey, look over there. It looks like Nephi is sawing logs! Is he crazy?

Lemuel: Let's go see what our nutty little brother is doing now.

Nephi: Oh, hey guys. You're just in time to help me build a ship.

Lemuel: Where did you get that saw? And look at all these other tools!

Nephi: Well, God spoke to me and told me to go to the top of that mountain, over there, so I did. Then, He commanded me to build a ship so that we can cross this great sea. He said He would show me how to build it. Then He told me where to find metal to make these tools.

Laman: Our crazy little brother thinks that he can build a ship! Well, good luck, Nephi.

Lemuel: Yeah, don't expect us to help you.

Nephi: God said that if we keep His commandments, He will lead us to the promised land. We must be obedient!

Laman: Liar! It was dad's crazy idea to leave Jerusalem and you supported it the whole time. Lemuel, I'm sick of hearing, "God told me this and God told me that." Let's throw Nephi into the sea!

Nephi: In the name of God, don't touch me!

Narrator: Before Laman and Lemuel could grab their younger brother, Nephi told them that he was filled with the power of God and that whoever touched him would wither like a dead plant. He told them that if God commanded him to, say to the water, "Be dry land," it would dry up. So, if God could do that, then He could tell him how to build a ship.

Laman and Lemuel were so scared that they did not touch Nephi for many days. Then, God spoke to Nephi and told him to stretch out his hand to his brothers so that they could touch him. When Nephi did this, God shocked Laman and Lemuel so hard that they knelt before Nephi and began to worship him, but Nephi told them to stop.

Nephi: Don't worship me! Worship God! Now, help me build that ship.

Laman and Lemuel: Okay!

Narrator: So, God showed Nephi how to build the ship, which was different from any ship a man had built before, and he and his brothers worked together, as God commanded.

(Many days later. Admiring the ship)

Lehi: Wow. That sure is a fine-looking boat. It sure looks sturdy. Let's pack up and go.

Sam: God really helped us. Without Him, we never could have done it!

Narrator: Lehi and all his family packed up their belongings. While traveling in the wilderness, Lehi and Sariah gave birth to two sons – Jacob and Joseph. These young boys would have been less than eight years old when their family boarded the ship. The wind blew the ship on top of the water for many days.

Sam: (Like a pirate) Arrrr Matey! This be the life for me!

Nephi: You are silly, Sam.

Sariah: Are we still on course?

Lehi: Yes, dear. The needles on the Liahona are still pointing straight ahead.

Sam: Shiver me timbers! Methinks I hear something at the back of the boat!

Lehi: Hey, what's all that ruckus!

Lemuel: Wahoo! We're having a party!

Laman's wife: Have some wine!

Sariah: Put that away! We should be following God's commandments. Stop this wild dancing and drunkenness!

Lemuel's wife: Oh, be quiet old woman! Learn to have some fun once in a while.

Nephi: Listen, guys, if God gets angry with us, we're in trouble. We could drown in the sea!

Ishmael's son: Be quiet. I'm sick of you telling us what to do.

Laman: Our little brother will never rule over us. Let's tie Nephi up!

Lemuel: Yes!

Narrator: Laman, Lemuel, and the sons of Ishmael tie Nephi with cords so that he cannot move. Sam and the others are outnumbered so they cannot do anything to stop them.

Laman: Now I'm captain of this ship! Lemuel, tell me where to steer.

Lemuel: I don't know where to go. This compass has gone haywire. It has stopped working.

Lemuel's wife: Look, dark storm clouds are coming!

Ishmael's son: The waves are getting huge! They are crashing upon the deck. Hold on everyone!

Laman's wife: I'm getting sea-sick! Maybe we celebrated too soon.

Laman: Be quiet! I'm in charge. We'll be fine.

Narrator: A huge storm arises and beats back the ship for three whole days. The waves pound and crash upon the vessel. On the fourth day, it gets so bad that everyone fears that they would be swallowed up by the sea and drown.

(Huge waves, thunder, and lightning)

Sam: (Desperate and yelling as loud as he could) Laman, you've got to let Nephi go! It's the only way that God will spare our lives!

Ishmael's son: Sam's right! If you don't let him go, we will all die!

Nephi's wife: (Pleading) Please Laman. Our children are all sick from this terrible storm, and your father and mother are so weak that they have not left their beds for days.

Lemuel: Laman, they are right. We must repent for what we have done. God truly is angry with us.

Laman: Fine. Release Nephi. I'm sorry that I ever tied him up and took command.

(They untie Nephi)

Nephi: Ouch! My wrists and ankles are all swollen from those cords.

Narrator: After Nephi is released, he takes the Liahona and it begins to work once again. Nephi prays to God and the wind and the storm stop, and everything gets calm. Nephi once again guides the ship and he and his family are led toward the promised land.

Many days later, they arrived safely at a new seashore. They pitched their tents. This is that special place that God had prepared for them and their descendants to live. They are in the promised land!

Lehi's family plants the many seeds that they brought from Jerusalem, and they are blessed with plenty of food. As they explore the land, they find beasts in the forest of every kind, including cows, oxen, and goats. They also find gold, silver, and copper. The people give thanks to God for bringing them to the promised land.

Assignment: WHO SAID IT?

Instructions: Below are quotes from the Book of Mormon and the Bible. Match each quote with the person who said it and draw a line from the quote to the name.

1 Nephi 17:17 "...Our brother is a fool, for he thinketh that he can build a ship; yea, and he also thinketh that he can cross these great waters."

God

1 Nephi 17: 50 "...If God had commanded me to do all things, I could do them. If he should command me that I should say unto this water, be thou earth, it should be earth; and if I should say it, it would be done."

1 Nephi 17:53 "...Stretch forth thine hand again unto thy brethren, and they shall not wither before thee, but I will shock them..."

Nephi

1 Nephi 18: 21 "And it came to pass after they had loosed me, behold, I took the compass, and it did work whither I desired it. And it came to pass that I prayed unto the Lord; and after I had prayed the winds did cease, and the storm did cease, and there was a great calm."

1 Nephi 17: 55 "...We know of a surety that the Lord is with thee, for we know that it is the power of the Lord that has shaken us."

Laman and Lemuel

John 15:10 "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love."

1 Nephi 18: 9 "And after we had been driven forth before the wind, for the space of many days, behold, my brethren and the sons of Ishmael and also their wives began to make themselves merry, insomuch that they began to dance, and to sing, and to speak with much rudeness..."

Jesus

1 Nephi 17:13 "...and I will prepare the way before you, if it so be that ye shall keep my commandments; wherefore, inasmuch as ye shall keep my commandments ye shall be led towards the Promised Land; and ye shall know that it is by me that ye are led."