



CHURCH EDUCATION

The Holy Bible
The Book of Mormon



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

LESSON TITLE

King Benjamin's Wisdom

UNIT 6 – Evidence of Authority and Establishing the Church

GRADES 1-3

HOLY BIBLE

Proverbs 1:5, "A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:"

BOOK OF MORMON

Mosiah 2:9, "And these are the words which he spake and cause to be written, saying: My brethren, all ye that have assembled yourselves together, you that can hear my words which I shall speak unto you this day; for I have not commanded you to come up hither to trifle with the words which I shall speak, but that you should hearken unto me, and open your ears that ye may hear, and your hearts that ye may understand, and your minds that the mysteries of God may be unfolded to your view."

OBJECTIVES

After participating in this lesson the participants will be able to:

- Describe ways King Benjamin was wise, Mosiah 1:7, 2:9-19.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- Can you think of one way King Benjamin was wise?
- What habits do you share with king Benjamin?
- How do we know that King Benjamin is God's friend?
- How are you God's friend?

MATERIALS

Holy Bible (KJV) and The Book of Mormon (study scripture references listed in lesson)

Visual Aid: Picture of a king/queen wearing a crown. Alternative a replica of crown

Whiteboard and markers

Task: 1- paper plate per student. Crayons

TEACHER NOTES

45-minute lesson

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

Q = Teacher asks question

Note: The Church of Jesus Christ uses the Authorized King James Version of The Holy Bible and The Book of Mormon published by The Church

Definitions:

Wise *adj.* – having or showing experience, knowledge, and good judgment.

Wisdom *n.* – the ability to make good judgments based on what you have learned from your experience, or the knowledge and understanding that gives you this ability.

PROCEDURE

Motivation/Introduction (5 minutes)

1. Engage students in a discussion on the meaning of wisdom.

Q: What does it mean to be wise? (to know the difference between right and wrong, and to choose to do what is right).

2. Hold up a picture of a king/queen, or a replica of a crown.

Q: What do we call a ruler who wears a crown? Does a king/queen need to be wise? Why?

Goal: Describe ways king Benjamin was wise.

Lesson Development (30 minutes)

1. Share a retelling of King Benjamin's life, emphasizing his wisdom.
2. Write the heading **KING BENJAMIN'S WISDOM** on the board. List examples of King Benjamin's wisdom on the board as they are presented in story.
3. Discuss Essential Questions and refer students to the list on the board as needed.
4. Task: Play a game where students choose between wise and unwise behaviors.
 - a. Hand each student a paper plate and a crayon.
 - b. Students make paddle faces – Tell students to draw a smiley face on one side of the plate and frowning face on the opposite side.
 - c. Think of a couple of scenarios where students have to make a choice. See example below. Tell students to use the paddle faces to respond.

Scenario 1:

Your teacher says, "Do not play on the rocks on the playground." At recess your friend says, "Let's go play on the rocks."

Q: Who would listen to your friend? (Students respond with their paddle faces.)

Q: What is the wise thing to do in this situation? Why?

Key Words: evidence, authority, establish, church, king Benjamin, righteousness, wisdom

Story Map: King Benjamin's Wisdom

About 100 years before Jesus was born lived a King named Benjamin. King Benjamin lived in the land that we call America. King Benjamin was a wise king. King Benjamin learned wisdom from God's word. King Benjamin obeyed all of God's commandments.

Add to the list:

- **Read God's word**
- **Obedied God's commandments**

King Benjamin was fair. God's word taught king Benjamin how to be fair. King Benjamin was fair by treating people as equals. He did not think or act like he was better than others. King Benjamin worked to provide for his family. He could have taxed his people (take money from others to support his family) but he didn't think that would be fair.

Add to the list:

- **Was Fair**
 - Treated people as equals

King Benjamin made good laws for his people to follow. His laws follow God's commandments to love one another and to live peaceably. King Benjamin was wise to set a good example and he obeyed the laws that he made. By his example, the people learned how to be kind and helpful, and they lived in peace for many years.

Add to the list:

- **Set a good example**
 - Made good laws
 - Obeyed his laws

King Benjamin studied God's word and he prayed, asking God to give him wisdom. The wisdom that King Benjamin gained helped him to be a very good leader. King Benjamin instructed his people to read God's word and to pray. He instructed his sons to read and obey God's word. King Benjamin believed that God's word was right and true.

Add to the list:

- **Prayed**
- **Instructed others to read God's word and pray**