



CHURCH EDUCATION

The Holy Bible
The Book of Mormon



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

LESSON TITLE

Nephi and Lehi & The Gift of Vision (Helaman's Sons)

UNIT 6 -Evidence of Authority and Establishing the Church

GRADES 1-3

HOLY BIBLE

Acts 2:17, "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

THE BOOK OF MORMON

Helaman 5:50, "And it came to pass that they did go forth, and did minister unto the people, declaring throughout all the regions round about all the things which they had heard and seen, insomuch that the more part of the Lamanites were convinced of them, because of the greatness of the evidences which they had received."

OBJECTIVES

The student will be able to:

- Understand with guidance the gift of visions.
- Act out the account of Nephi and Lehi (Helaman's sons) in prison, Helaman 5:18-51.
- Recognize with guidance the power of the Holy Spirit in preserving the lives of Nephi and Lehi.
- Identify through the story the Holy Spirit convinced the Lamanites of truth and with guidance Identify the Holy Spirit as the source of truth. Part 2.
- Recognize God's favor in his/her life. Part 2

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- Who gives Lehi and Nephi great power when preaching to the Lamanites?
- How many Lamanites in and around the land of Zarahemla are baptized because of their preaching?
- How are Nephi and Lehi treated in the land of Nephi?
- Who protects Nephi and Lehi with a ring of fire? Who causes the prison walls to shake?
- What do the Lamanites fear? What does God say to the Lamanites?
- How do we know the Lamanites listened to God?
- Does the Holy Spirit lie to the Lamanites or tell the truth?
- Does God love all people?

TEACHER NOTES

2- 40-minute lessons

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

Definition:

Vision *n.* something seen in a dream or while awake which is supernatural or sent from God.

- How does God protect His people?
- What does God's power look like in this story?

MATERIALS

Holy Bible and The Book of Mormon

Props: A dark sheet or blanket to represent the dark cloud (optional). Several feet of thick cord/ rope or several sheets of yellow butcher paper to represent the fire (optional)

Task 1: Story Map: 1 copy per student and teacher, pages 3-6.

Task 2: Assignments: 1-copy per student, pages 8-9. Colored pencils/ highlight markers. Pencils. Colored pencils/markers.

PROCEDURE

Motivation/Introduction (3 minutes)

1. Engage students in a discussion about the heavenly gift of visions.

Q: Who has heard of God's gift of visions? What does it mean to see a vision?

Q: Do you know someone who has seen a heavenly vision?

Goals: Understand with guidance the gift of visions.

Act out the account of Nephi and Lehi (Helaman's sons) in prison.

Recognize with guidance the power of the Holy Spirit in preserving the lives of Nephi and Lehi.

Lesson Development (30-35 minutes)

1. Teacher and students take turns reading aloud the account of "Nephi and Lehi – The Gift of Vision" as students follow along. (See Story Map below.)
 - a. Tell students to raise their hand when a vision is seen in the story.
 - b. Guide students to highlight or circle the text showing the vision.
2. Task 1: Students act out the account as teacher narrates. Assign students to play Nephi, Lehi, Aminadab, and the Lamanite army. Teacher may use props listed in materials if desired:
 - Lay rope on the floor around Nephi and Lehi when fire surrounds them or hand Nephi and Lehi a sheet of orange/yellow butcher paper to hold in like a shield.
 - Tell the army to hold the blanket/sheet over their heads when the dark cloud surrounds them.
 - Tell Aminadab to peek out from under the blanket to see Nephi and Lehi.

- Tell the army to look from under the blanket when they are given power to see Nephi and Lehi.
 - Remove the blanket when the cloud disappears.
 - Lay rope on the floor around the army to represent a pillar of fire or give students a sheet of butcher paper to hold in front as a shield.
3. Discuss the first 6 bullets of Essential Questions.

Part 2:

Goals: Identify through the story the Holy Spirit convinced the Lamanites of truth and with guidance Identify the Holy Spirit as the source of truth.

Recognize God's favor in his/her life.

Poster Based Discussion:

1. Teacher leads on TRUTH. Create a list of sources of truth.
2. Discuss the last 4 bullets of Essential Questions.
3. Let students role play the account of Nephi and Lehi again.
4. Task 2: Give students the puzzle and/or assignment to complete.

Key words: evidence, authority, establish, church, Nephi, Lehi, vision, God's power, thoughts

Students' Story Map: Nephi and Lehi and The Gift of Vision

Helaman 5:20-50

Nephi and Lehi were brothers - the sons of Helaman – who lived about 30 years before Jesus was born. They were servants of God. They went from town to town preaching the gospel with great power given them by the Spirit of God. They convinced many people to serve God. They traveled to the land of Nephi to preach there. They were captured by an army of Lamanites who threw them into prison. Let's find out what happened to them!

Nephi and Lehi are not given any food for many days in the prison. One day, the Lamanite army goes into the prison. They are amazed to see Nephi and Lehi surrounded by fire, and are afraid to touch them. When Lehi and Nephi see that they are not burned by the fire, they become courageous and know that God is protecting them from the Lamanite army.

Nephi and Lehi stand up and begin to speak, saying, "Don't be afraid. God has shown you this marvelous thing, to let you know that you can't kill us." Then the earth shakes and the walls of the prison shake too, as if they are about to tumble.

Suddenly, the Lamanite army is surrounded by a dark cloud, which makes them more afraid. They hear a voice, from above the cloud, saying, "Repent, repent, and stop trying to kill my servants whom I have sent to preach to you." When the army hears the voice, they realize that it is not a voice of thunder or a scary voice, but it is a calm voice, like a whisper, and it touched their hearts. Even though the voice is mild, it is powerful and shakes the earth and the walls of the prison.

The voice comes again, saying, "Repent, repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand; and do not try to kill my servants." The earth shakes and the walls tremble. A third time the voice comes and speaks, and the prison walls shake again, as if the prison were about to break in pieces! The Lamanites cannot run away because of the dark cloud which covers them; and they cannot move because they are afraid.

There is a man among the Lamanite army named Aminadab. He sees through the dark cloud and sees the faces of Nephi and Lehi shining very brightly, even as the faces of angels. He sees them looking up, and talking to someone in heaven. Upon seeing this, he yells to the others of the army to turn and look. They also see the faces of Nephi and Lehi, and ask “What does this all mean? Who are these men talking to?”

Aminadab answers, “They are talking with the angels of God.” The Lamanites ask, “What should we do to get rid of this dark cloud that is covering us?” Aminadab answers, “You must repent, and cry unto the voice until you have faith in Christ; then the dark cloud will leave you.”

The people all begin to cry out unto God, and they do not stop until the dark cloud disappears. Then they look around and notice that every one of them is encircled by a pillar of fire along with Nephi and Lehi! Even though the flaming fire surrounds them, it does not harm them or burn the walls of the prison. The Holy Spirit comes down from heaven, and enters into their hearts. They are filled with great joy and are given marvelous words to speak.

They hear a pleasant voice as if it were a whisper saying, “Peace, peace be unto you, because of your faith in my son Jesus Christ.” When they hear this voice, they look up and see the heavens open, and angels come down and speak to them.

There were about three hundred people who saw and heard these things. They were told to go on their way and to believe what they had seen. These men go and tell many people of what they had heard and seen in the prison. Their testimonies of the power of God convince many people to believe in Jesus Christ.

Teacher's Story Map: Nephi and Lehi & The Gift of Vision Helaman 5:20-50

(Highlighted text identifies a heavenly vision)

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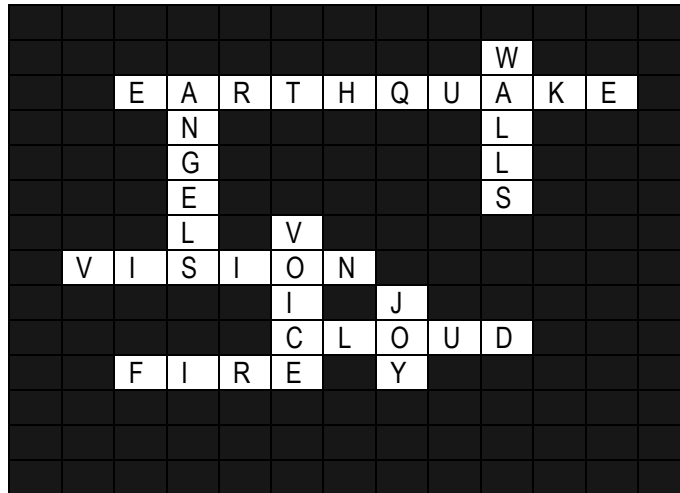
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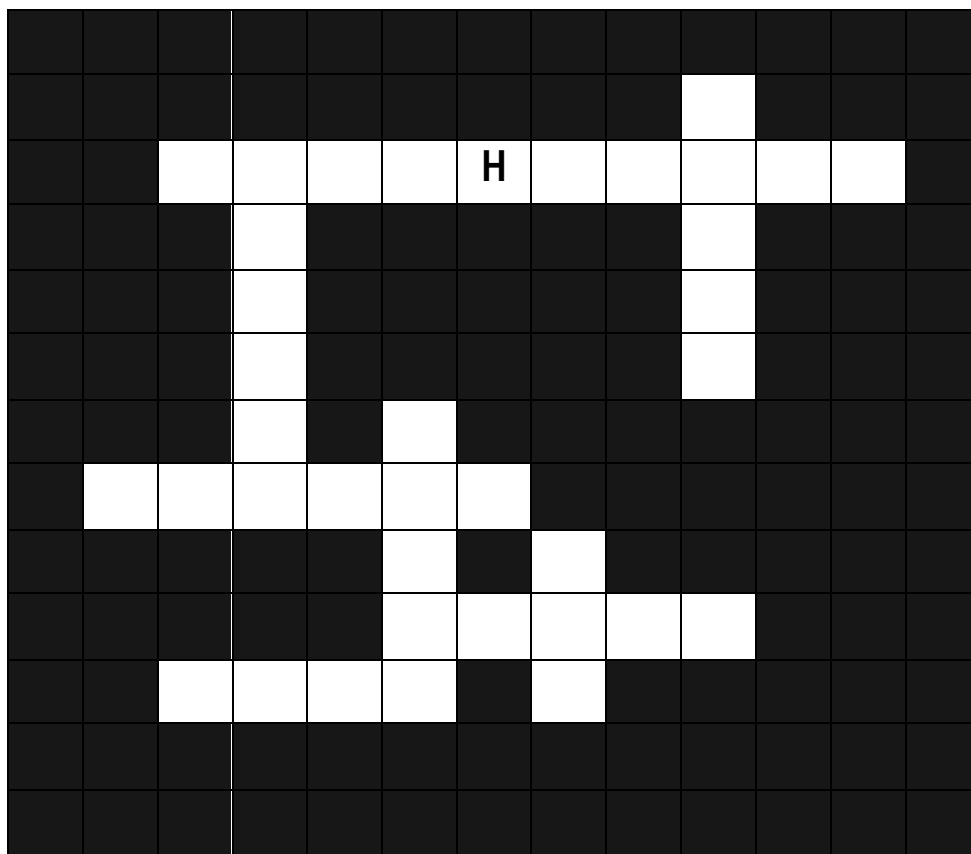
Puzzle Key - NEPHI AND LEHI - THE GIFT OF VISION



PUZZLE DIRECTIONS: Use the clues below to discover the words to fill in the puzzle.

1. Shaking of the earth
2. Seen while looking heavenward
3. Shook but did not fall
4. Supernatural sight
5. Very mild when it spoke
6. Darkness that impaired vision
7. Filled with more than they could express
8. Encircled but did not harm them

Puzzle - NEPHI AND LEHI & THE GIFT OF VISION



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CLUES:

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Assignment: Nephi and Lehi & The Gift of Vision

Write one sentence stating what you like about the story.

Draw a favorite scene from the story.

