

Purpose: To increase our understanding of our indebtedness to God and to encourage us to put “off the natural man ... through the atonement of Christ the Lord” ([Mosiah 3:19](#)).

†1. Book of Mormon Student Manual #1

†2. Book of Mormon Student Manual #2

1. King Benjamin teaches his sons and has Mosiah call the people together. ([Mosiah 1.](#))

• Mosiah 1:2-8 “The first account of Benjamin is not about his reign as king but about his teachings as a father.” (*LM*)

What things did King Benjamin teach his sons here?

What were some differences between those who searched the scriptures and those who did not?

How do you see this difference reflected in modern society?

How can parents help their children develop a love for the scriptures?

†3. Mark Twain

†4. President Marion G. Romney

• Mosiah 1:16 King Benjamin gave Mosiah “charge concerning the records ... on the plates of brass.”

• D&C 42:56 “The Lord has commanded today’s prophets ... see that the scriptures are ‘preserved in safety.’”

• Mosiah 1:10-12 King Benjamin commanded Mosiah to gather the people for, “I shall give this people a name...”

2. King Benjamin teaches the people of their eternal indebtedness to God. ([Mosiah 2.](#))

• Mosiah 2:5-6 **How did the people organize themselves at the temple to hear King Benjamin?**

• Mosiah 2:7-8 **What did King Benjamin do when he saw that not all the people could hear his words?**

How was this gathering similar to general conference today?

• Mosiah 2:9 **What did King Benjamin counsel them to do as they listened to his words?**

What are some ways we can open our ears, hearts, and minds to the words of the living prophets?

• Mosiah 2:10-16 **What impresses you about the way Benjamin served as king?**

• Mosiah 1:1; 6:7 King Benjamin established peace in the land.

• Mosiah 2:17-19 **What did King Benjamin teach about service?**

†5. Elder Robert J. Whetten

†6. A high school senior

• Mosiah 2:20-21 **What is an unprofitable servant?**

Why are we unprofitable servants to God even if we praise and serve Him with all our souls?

• Mos. 2:22-26 “Ye cannot say that ye are even as much as the dust of the earth ...” †7. Pres. Joseph Fielding Smith

• Mosiah 2:34 “Eternally Indebted”

• Mosiah 2:36-39 The consequences for refusing to obey the commandments after having been taught them.

3. King Benjamin repeats an angel’s prophecies about Jesus Christ and His Atonement. ([Mosiah 3.](#))

• Mosiah 3:2-10 **Why did Jesus suffer temptations, pain, hunger, thirst, and fatigue?**

Why did He suffer anguish for the wickedness of the people? †8. Elder Robert D. Hales

According to the angel, who will receive salvation through the Atonement of Jesus Christ?

a. Mosiah 3:11 People “who have died not knowing the will of God concerning them, ...”

b. Mosiah 3:11-12 People with a knowledge of the gospel who repent and exercise faith in Jesus Christ.

c. Mosiah 3:16, 18, 21 Little children who die in their infancy (See also [Moroni 8:12](#); [D&C 29:46](#))

Why are little children “blameless before God”?

• Mosiah 3:19 The angel said that “the natural man is an enemy to God”

†9. Elder Bruce R. McConkie

How can we “[put] off the natural man”?

a. Yield to the “enticings of the Holy Spirit.”

b. Become a “saint through the atonement of Christ the Lord.”

†10. Elder Quentin L. Cook

c. Become “as a child.” **How can we become “alive in Christ,” as little children are?**

(See Mosiah 3:17-19, 21; see also 2 Nephi 25:23-26; Moroni 8:10)

([Book of Mormon Manual – LDS Institute](#) (Religion 121-122). (You can download a free PDF manual.)

Next Week: Lesson 16: “Ye Shall Be Called the Children of Christ”; Mosiah 4 – 6 † •

†1. **Student Manual #1:** “There is a shift from the first person accounts of the early books in the Book of Mormon to the third person account in the book of Mosiah. The books of 1 Nephi through Omni were translated from the small plates of Nephi and are the works of the original writers; consequently, they were written in the first person. The books of Mosiah through 4 Nephi, however, all come from Mormon’s abridgement of the large plates of Nephi. These books are Mormon’s abridgment of the original authors’ records. (Book of Mormon Student Manual, 136)

†2. **Student Manual #2:** “The term ‘mysteries of God’ as used in the Book of Mormon (Mosiah 1:3) includes the saving principles of the gospel of Jesus Christ. They are termed mysteries not because they are mysterious or difficult to understand, but because they are revealed from God based upon our faith and obedience... ‘A mystery is a truth that cannot be known except through divine revelation—a sacred secret.’” (Hyrum M. Smith and Jann M. Sjordahl, *The Doctrine and Covenants Commentary*, rev. ed. [1972], 141).

†3. **Mark Twain:** “The man who does not read has no advantage over the man who cannot read.” (<http://www.goodreads.com/quotes/show/919>)

†4. **President Marion G. Romney:** “I feel certain that if, in our homes, parents will read from the Book of Mormon prayerfully and regularly, both by themselves and with their children, the spirit of that great book will come to permeate our homes and all who dwell therein. The spirit of reverence will increase; mutual respect and consideration for each other will grow. The spirit of contention will depart. Parents will counsel their children in greater love and wisdom. Children will be more responsive and submissive to the counsel of their parents. Righteousness will increase. Faith, hope, and charity—the pure love of Christ—will abound in our homes and lives, bringing in their wake peace, joy, and happiness.” (“[The Book of Mormon](#),” *Ensign*, May 1980, 65)

†5. **Elder Robert J. Whetten:** “Every unselfish act of kindness and service increases your spirituality. God would use you to bless others. Your continued spiritual growth and eternal progress are very much wrapped up in your relationships—in how you treat others. Do you indeed love others and become a blessing in their lives?” (“[Strengthen Thy Brethren](#),” *Ensign*, May 2005, 91)

†6. **A high school senior:** “I wasn’t active in the Church as a child. However, when I was in the ninth grade, the teachers quorum had a service project of painting the outside of an older couple’s home. They invited me to participate, so I spent the entire day with those guys. It was great. I also felt some feelings that I had never felt before, particularly when Brother and Sister Whitney told us how much they appreciated what we did for

them. That day was a turning point for me, and I have been active ever since.” (In *Are My Children Going to Make It? Real Help for Teaching the Gospel in the Home*, 116)

†7. **President Joseph Fielding Smith:** “Do you think it will ever be possible for any one of us, no matter how hard we labor, ... to pay our Father and Jesus Christ for the blessings we have received from them? The great love, with its accompanying blessings, extended to us through the crucifixion, suffering, and resurrection of Jesus Christ is beyond our mortal comprehension. We could never repay” (in Conference Report, Apr. 1966, 102; or *Improvement Era*, June 1966, 538).

†8. **Elder Robert D. Hales** “What we must remember about the Savior is that He and He alone had the power to lay down His life and take it up again... Without Jesus’ Atonement, there would be an impassable barrier between God and mortal men and women. When we comprehend the Atonement, we remember Him with awe and gratitude.” (“[In Remembrance of Jesus](#),” *Ensign*, Nov. 1997, 26)

†9. **Elder Bruce R. McConkie:** “After the fall of Adam, man became carnal, sensual, and devilish by nature; he became *fallen man*.... All accountable persons on earth inherit this fallen state, this probationary state, this state in which worldly things seem desirable to the carnal nature. Being in this state, ‘the natural man is an enemy to God,’ until he conforms to the great plan of redemption and is born again to righteousness.” (*Mormon Doctrine*, 2nd ed. [1966], 267-68).

†10. **Elder Quentin L. Cook:** “The word saint in Greek denotes ‘set apart, separate, [and] holy’ [in Daniel H. Ludlow, ed., *Encyclopedia of Mormonism*, 5 vols. (1992), 3:1249]. If we are to be Saints in our day, we need to separate ourselves from evil conduct and destructive pursuits that are prevalent in the world.

We are bombarded with visual images of violence and immorality. Inappropriate music and pornography are increasingly tolerated. The use of drugs and alcohol is rampant. There is less emphasis on honesty and character. Individual rights are demanded, but duties, responsibilities, and obligations are neglected. There has been a coarsening of dialogue and increased exposure to that which is base and vulgar... If we separate ourselves from this worldly conduct, we will have the Spirit in our lives and experience the joy of being worthy Latter-day Saints.” (“[Are You a Saint?](#)” *Ensign*, Nov. 2003, 95)