

December 30-January 5 Introductory Pages of the Book of Mormon

"ANOTHER TESTAMENT OF JESUS CHRIST"

- Clue Game** – Give them the clues on the sheet below to see if they can guess what the clues are describing. You can print these up and hide them somewhere in the room for the kids to find, pull them out of a bowl/bag, or just read them out loud one at a time (whatever works best for the kids you teach).
 - Explain that our focus this year will be the Book of Mormon. Spend a little time talking about each of the clues. Point to the name of Jesus on the cover of a Book of Mormon and help them understand that the purpose of the Book of Mormon is to help us learn about and believe in Christ. Mom/Dad share why the Book of Mormon is important to us and why we're excited to study it this year.
 - The family manual makes this suggestion for discussing how the Book of Mormon is the keystone of our religion: "A keystone is a wedge-shaped stone at the top of an arch that locks the other stones together. To help your family understand how the Book of Mormon is "the keystone of our religion," you could build or draw an arch with a keystone at the top. What happens if the keystone is removed? What would happen if we did not have the Book of Mormon? How can we make the Book of Mormon the keystone of our faith in Jesus Christ?"
- Book of Mormon or Bible? Activity** - Review some of the things we've learned about Jesus from the Bible. Cut out the pictures of the Bible and Book of Mormon below (or use real scriptures if you have a Bible and Book of Mormon that are separate). Read some of your favorite scriptures about Christ in either the Bible or Book of Mormon (see below for a few possible scriptures). As you read each one, have the kids point to either the Bible or the Book of Mormon to see if they can guess which book each scripture came from. Then do the same with the descriptions below (read them, have them guess which book it's describing). Help them see that both books testify of Christ and teach us about Him.
 - Show the picture of the Bible and Book of Mormon together (on page below) and emphasize that they both work together to teach us about Jesus and His gospel. Both have special teachings in them that can help us feel closer to Christ.
- The Book of Mormon Changes Lives** – Choose one or more videos from this link to watch and discuss how learning what the Book of Mormon teaches us can make our lives better:
<https://www.comeuntochrist.org/beliefs/book-of-mormon/book-of-mormon-changes-lives>
- Book of Mormon Stories** – Explain that there are lots of cool stories in the Book of Mormon that help us learn about Jesus and have faith in Him. Show the "Book of Mormon Stories" pictures and descriptions below (from *The Friend* magazine) and summarize/discuss these stories from the Book of Mormon. Talk about some of the cool things these people did through their faith in Jesus.
 - Sing the "Book of Mormon Stories" song <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EAkKdQYJXxc> and see if they can hear words in the song about any of the pictures/stories we just shared.
 - Could use this page from *The Friend* to share more stories:
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/shared/content/images/magazines/friend/2012/05/fr12may24-27-the-story-of-the-book-of-mormon.pdf>.
- How We Got the Book of Mormon Video** – Show video from the church's website and discuss in as much detail as needed <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/media-library/video/book-of-mormon/book-of-mormon-stories?lang=eng>.
 - This article from *The Friend* has some more great pictures and details about the golden plates:
<http://media.ldscdn.org/pdf/magazines/friend-february-2017/2017-02-18-golden-plates-to-book-of-mormon-eng.pdf>
- Family Plan/The Holy Ghost Can Help Us Know the Scriptures Are True** – Read the following story and discuss how the Holy Ghost can give us a warm feeling to help us know that the scriptures are true:
<http://media.ldscdn.org/pdf/magazines/friend-september-2015/2015-09-23-a-new-feeling-eng.pdf>

- Share this paragraph from the Introduction to the Book of Mormon:
We invite all men everywhere to read the Book of Mormon, to ponder in their hearts the message it contains, and then to ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ if the book is true. Those who pursue this course and ask in faith will gain a testimony of its truth and divinity by the power of the Holy Ghost.
 - Come up with a family plan for how we can feel the spirit more as we study the Book of Mormon this year.
 - Brushstroke Activity: If time/interest, share the following quote from Elder David A. Bednar:
“Each family prayer, each episode of family scripture study, and each family home evening is a brushstroke on the canvas of our souls. No one event may appear to be very impressive or memorable. But just as the yellow and gold and brown strokes of paint complement each other and produce an impressive masterpiece, so our consistency in doing seemingly small things can lead to significant spiritual results.”
 - Get out some finger paints or whatever type of paints you have and a large piece of paper or poster board. Take turns reviewing things we learned last year/ways we’re going to make Come Follow Me study this year meaningful. As ideas are shared, each person uses a brush/paint to add something to the picture.
7. Treat – Show the “Worth More Than its Weight in Gold” poster from the church’s website:
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/media-library/images/mormonad-its-weight-in-gold-1118368?lang=eng> .
Talk about why the Book of Mormon is more valuable than gold to us. Eat a treat wrapped in gold (Hershey’s nuggets, gold coins, etc.).

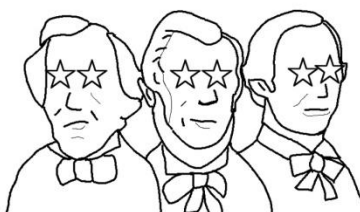

Additional Ideas:

- Common Questions About the BOM for Older Kids: <http://media.ldscdn.org/pdf/lds-magazines/liahona-october-2011/2011-10-22-common-questions-about-the-book-of-mormon-eng.pdf>
- How the Book of Mormon and Bible Work Together: <https://www.comeuntochrist.org/beliefs/book-of-mormon/how-bible-and-book-of-mormon-work-together>
- Book of Mormon stories for kids on the church’s website: <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/manual/book-of-mormon-stories?lang=eng>
- Book of Mormon Spot it Game: <http://bustoutyourcrayons.blogspot.com/2015/05/book-of-mormon-spot-it.html>
- Book of Mormon Quiet Book: <http://bustoutyourcrayons.blogspot.com/2015/01/book-of-mormon-quiet-book.html?m=1>
- Witness Activity:
 1. Place a dollar bill worth a large amount in a box. Tell what’s in the box. Ask if they believe you.
 2. Have some family members act as witnesses, looking in the box and reporting what’s there. Is it easier to believe when you hear these witnesses?
 3. Read/discuss the witness pages in the Book of Mormon. How do these witnesses help your belief?

Clue Game – Give them the following clues to see if they can guess what they are all about. You can print these up and hide them somewhere in the room for the kids to find, pull them out of a bowl/bag, or just read them out loud one at a time.

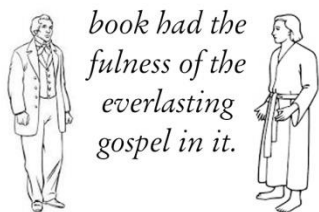
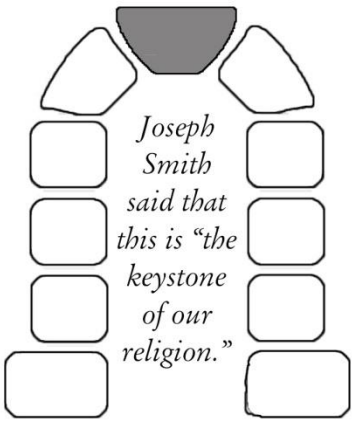
Come Follow Me Clue

When describing this, 3 men named: Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer and Martin Harris said, "It is marvelous in our eyes."


Joseph Smith called this "The most correct of any book on Earth."

An angel named Moroni told Joseph Smith that this book had the fulness of the everlasting gospel in it.

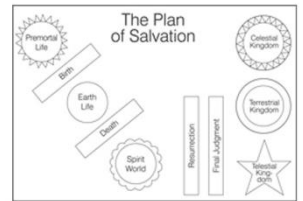
Joseph Smith said that this is "the keystone of our religion."

It was written to convince people "that Jesus is the Christ, the Eternal God."




= **Eternal God**

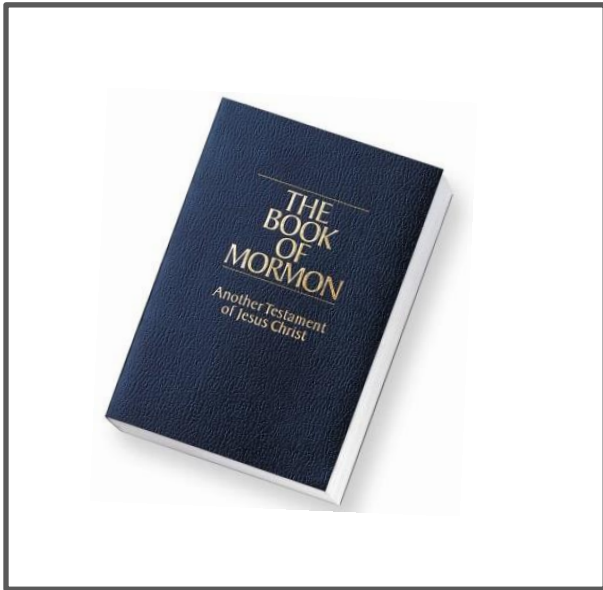
It "outlines the plan of salvation" (teaches us about God and his plan for us)



The prophet (President Nelson) promised that as we study this book, "the windows of Heaven will open, and you will receive answers to your own questions and direction for your own life"



Book of Mormon or Bible? Activity – Show pictures of the Bible and Book of Mormon below. Read some scriptures about Christ/descriptions of the books from the next page (or share some of your own favorite scriptures about Christ). Have the kids point to the book they think the scripture/description is about. Help them see that both books testify of Christ and teach us about Him.

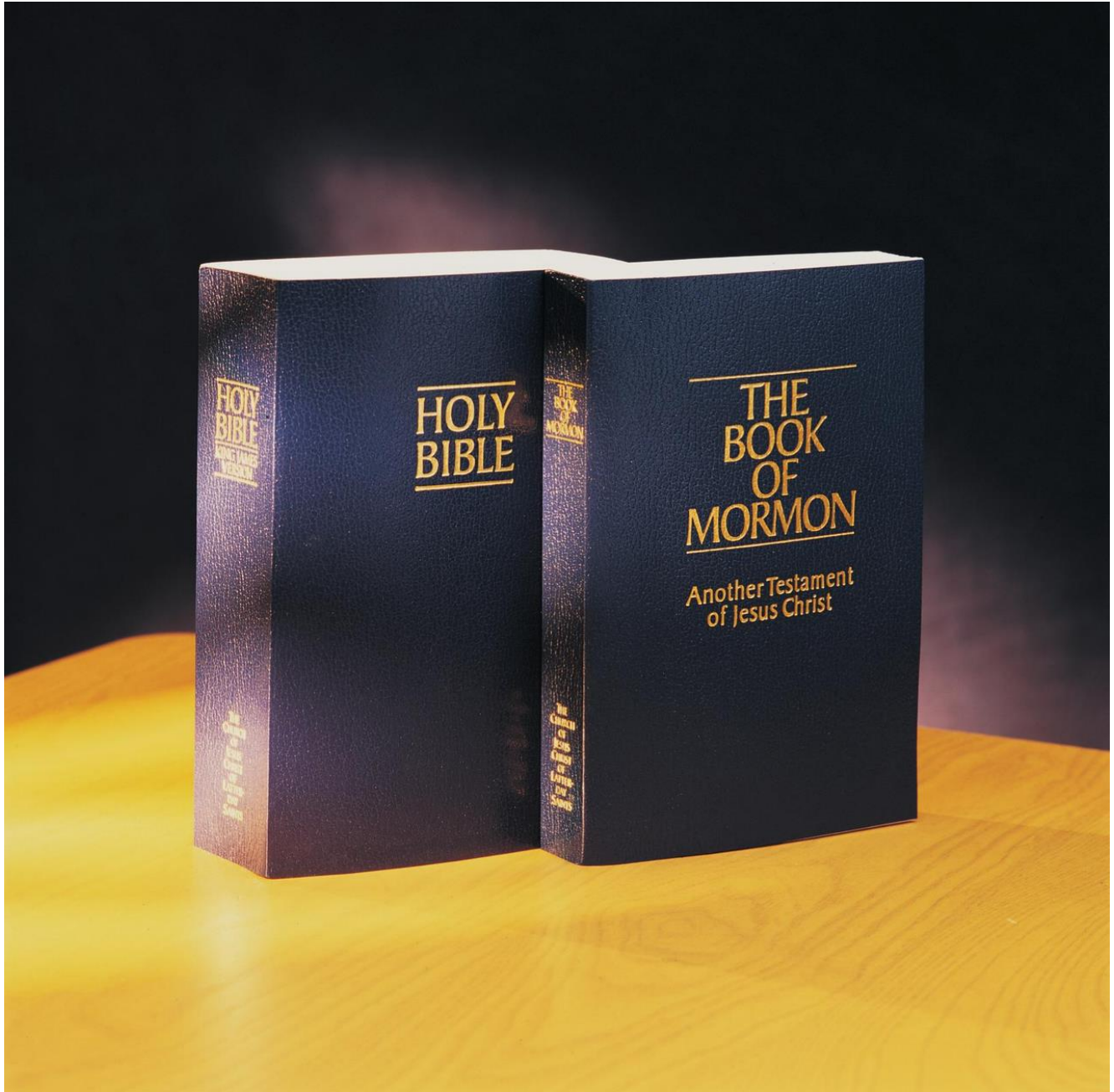


Bible or Book of Mormon? Possible Scriptures about Christ:

<p><u>Philippians 2:10-11</u> 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Bible)</p>
<p><u>2 Nephi 25:26</u> And we talk of Christ, we rejoice in Christ, we preach of Christ, we prophesy of Christ, and we write according to our prophecies, that our children may know to what source they may look for a remission of their sins. (Book of Mormon)</p>
<p><u>Mosiah 3:8</u> And he shall be called Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Father of heaven and earth, the Creator of all things from the beginning; and his mother shall be called Mary. (Book of Mormon)</p>
<p><u>Psalms 18:2</u> The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. (Bible)</p>
<p><u>Helaman 5:12</u> And now, my sons, remember, remember that it is upon the rock of our Redeemer, who is Christ, the Son of God, that ye must build your foundation; that when the devil shall send forth his mighty winds, yea, his shafts in the whirlwind, yea, when all his hail and his mighty storm shall beat upon you, it shall have no power over you to drag you down to the gulf of misery and endless wo, because of the rock upon which ye are built, which is a sure foundation, a foundation whereon if men build they cannot fall. (Book of Mormon)</p>
<p><u>Acts 10:38</u> Jesus...went about doing good. (Bible)</p>
<p><u>Mosiah 3:11</u> For behold, and also his blood atoneth for the sins of those who have fallen by the transgression of Adam, who have died not knowing the will of God concerning them, or who have ignorantly sinned. (Book of Mormon)</p>

Descriptions:

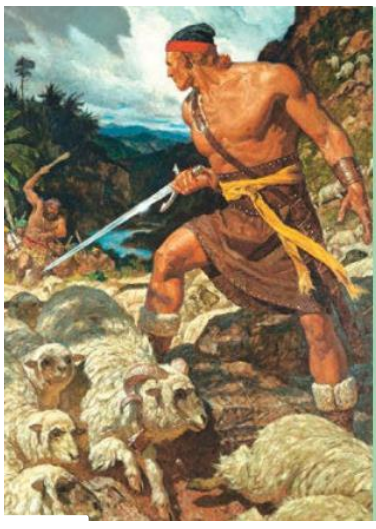
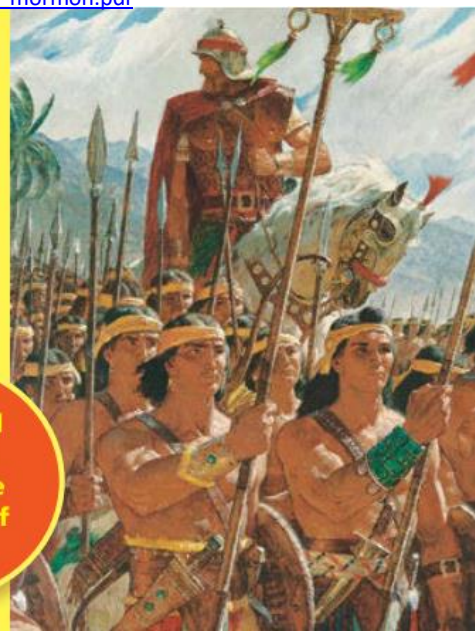
<p>This book tells about Jesus visiting the Americas after He was resurrected. (Book of Mormon)</p>
<p>This book tells about the birth of Jesus Christ. (both)</p>
<p>This book tells about the Atonement of Jesus Christ. (both)</p>
<p>This book tells about the resurrection of Jesus Christ. (both)</p>
<p>This book can help me have faith in Jesus Christ. (both)</p>



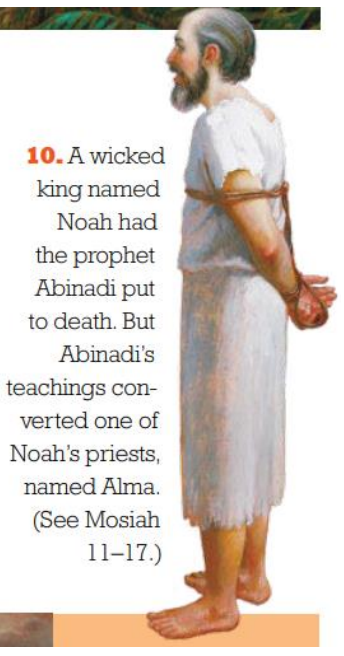
Book of Mormon Stories: Use these pictures from *The Friend* to discuss some of the cool stories found in the Book of Mormon. Then listen for the stories of these people in the “Book of Mormon Stories” song from the Primary Children’s Songbook. From *The Friend* <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/shared/content/images/magazines/friend/2012/05/fr12may24-27-the-story-of-the-book-of-mormon.pdf>

15. Helaman led an army of 2,000 righteous Lamanite young men. (See Alma 53, 56–58.)

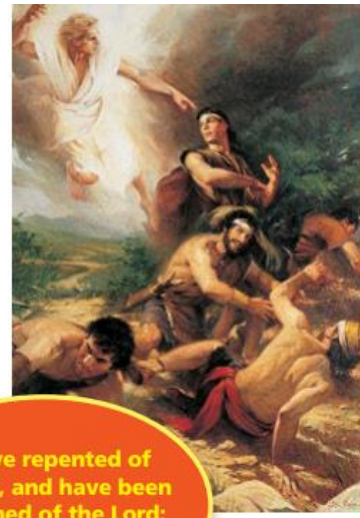
“They had fought as if with the strength of God.”



13. Mosiah's son Ammon defended King Lamoni's flocks and won his trust. Then he converted many Lamanites. (See Alma 17–19.)



10. A wicked king named Noah had the prophet Abinadi put to death. But Abinadi's teachings converted one of Noah's priests, named Alma. (See Mosiah 11–17.)



12. Alma's son Alma the Younger was not obedient. He and his friends, the sons of Mosiah, were wicked. Then an angel told them to repent. Alma and the sons of Mosiah repented and spent the rest of their lives preaching the gospel. (See Mosiah 27–28.)

“I have repented of my sins, and have been redeemed of the Lord; behold I am born of the Spirit.”

May 2012

18. After His Resurrection, Christ visited the righteous Nephites and Lamanites. He taught them His gospel, healed them, and blessed them, just as He had in the land around Jerusalem. (See 3 Nephi 11–28.)



16. A Lamanite prophet named Samuel prophesied that Jesus Christ would soon be born. (See Helaman 13–16.)

