

# Lesson 1

Outlined by  
Dennis Roberts

## “The Keystone of our Religion”

### The Book of Mormon

- 1- Witness
- 2- Doctrine
- 3- Testimony

#### Welcome

Special ward experiences?  
What’s your Book of Mormon testimony?

#### Book of Mormon is keystone of our religion

BofM Intro ¶ 6 What is a keystone?  
Quote #1 President Ezra Taft Benson  
Quote #2 President Ezra Taft Benson  
BofM Title Page ¶ 2 Three purposes of BofM?  
BofM Title Page Why is the subtitle so important?  
D&C 10:45-46 | Why is BofM keystone of doctrine?  
D&C 20:8-12  
Quote #3 President Ezra Taft Benson  
Moroni 10:3-5 How to gain testimony of BofM?

#### Many witnesses have testified of B of M

Ether 5:1-4 Why important to have witnesses?  
BofM What witness of Bof M do we have?

#### Book of Mormon was written for our day

Mormon 8:25-41 What is prophesied @ BofM?  
I Nephi 19:23 Does this influence our BM study?

#### Book of Mormon can bring us nearer to God

BofM Intro ¶ 6 What are precepts?  
D&C 84:54-58 Consequences of not reading BM?  
Quote #4 President Ezra Taft Benson

#### How does this apply to me?

“The moment you begin a serious study of the Book of Mormon, you will find greater power to resist temptation. You will find the power to avoid deception. You will find the power to stay on the strait and narrow path... When you begin to hunger and thirst after those words, you will find life in greater and greater abundance.”  
*President Ezra Taft Benson*

Next Week  
I Nephi 1-7

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### Quote #1

*President Ezra Taft Benson*

“Just as the arch crumbles if the keystone is removed, so does all the church stand or fall with the truthfulness of the Book of Mormon.”

*October Conference, 1986*

### Quote #2

*President Ezra Taft Benson*

“There are three ways in which the Book of Mormon is the keystone of our religion. It is the keystone in our witness of Christ. It is the keystone of our doctrine. It is the keystone of testimony.”

*October Conference, 1986*

### Quote #3

*President Ezra Taft Benson*

“The Lord himself has stated that the Book of Mormon contains the ‘fullness of the gospel of Jesus Christ’ (D&C 20:9). That does not mean it contains every teaching, every doctrine ever revealed. Rather, it means that in the Book of Mormon we will find the fullness of those doctrines required for our salvation. And they are taught plainly and simply so that even children can learn the ways of salvation and exaltation.”

*October Conference, 1986*

### Quote #4

*President Ezra Taft Benson*

“A powerful testimony to the importance of the Book of Mormon is to note where the Lord placed its coming forth in the timetable of the unfolding Restoration. The only thing that preceded it was the First Vision...”

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#### Book of Mormon is keystone of our religion

BofM Intro ¶ 6 What is a keystone? ..... Su Casa arches last night  
 Quote #1 President Ezra Taft Benson ..... Why would church crumble without BofM?  
 Quote #2 President Ezra Taft Benson .....  
 BofM Title Pg ¶ 2 Three purposes of BofM?..... 1-Show remnant, 2- teach covenants, 3- convince all  
 BofM Title Pg Why is the subtitle so important? ..... Read I Nephi 13: 38-41 = “establish the truth”  
 D&C 10:45-46 | In what ways is BofM keystone of our doctrine?  
 D&C 20:8-12  
 Quote #3 President Ezra Taft Benson ..... Has BofM increased your doctrinal understandings?  
 Moroni 10:3-5 How to gain testimony of BofM?..... How did you come to know truthfulness of BofM?

#### Many witnesses have testified of B of M

Ether 5: 1-4 Why important to have witnesses? ... How did additional witnesses help Joseph Smith?  
 BofM What witness of BofM do we have? ... Read names from front of BofM

Are witnesses important to you?

#### Book of Mormon was written for our day

Mormn 8:25-41 What is prophesied @ BofM? ..... What conditions would exist in our day?  
 I Nephi 19:23 Does this influence our BM study? ... Do you put your name in scriptures when reading?  
 Quote #4 President Ezra Taft Benson ..... Write list on WB and put in order

#### Book of Mormon can bring us nearer to God

BofM Intro ¶ 6 What are precepts?..... (commandments, principles)  
 D&C 84:54-58 Consequences of not reading BofM? Pretty powerful stuff here!

Lets think about good things that happen from reading BM!

#### How does this apply to me?

“The moment you begin a serious study of the Book of Mormon, you will find greater power to resist temptation. You will find the power to avoid deception. You will find the power to stay on the strait and narrow path... When you begin to hunger and thirst after those words, you will find life in greater and greater abundance.”  
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