



The Stick of Joseph: Another Testament of Christ



"All Things According to His Will"

Lesson 2

1 Nephi 1-7

Introduction

- How would you feel about this news?
- What would you do?
- Would it make a difference in how you felt and what you did if you knew that this information had come through a prophet of God?

1. Lehi leaves Jerusalem and takes his family into the wilderness. (1 Nephi 1-2.)

- *What is the first event described in the Book of Mormon that is a direct commandment from the Lord?*
- What circumstances led to this departure? (1 Nephi 1:4-15, 18-20; 2:1-3.)
- *Why did the people of Jerusalem reject the message of Lehi and other prophets?* (1 Nephi 1:19-20; 2:12-13; 16:1-2.)
- *Why do some people today rebel against the Lord and His servants?*
- How did Nephi respond to his father's message? (1 Nephi 2:16, 19.)
- What can we learn from Nephi about how to make our hearts more receptive to the teachings of the prophets?
- *What did the Lord promise Nephi if he would obey the commandments?* (1 Nephi 2:19-20, 22.)
- What did the Lord promise would happen to Laman and Lemuel if they rebelled? (1 Nephi 2:21, 23-24.)
- *How does each of these promises apply to us?*
- Into what kind of country did Lehi take his family when they left Jerusalem? (1 Nephi 2:2.)
- What did they leave behind as they departed? (1 Nephi 2:4.)
- How do you think Lehi's family felt having to leave their home, possessions, and friends?
- What sacrifices have you made to be obedient to the Lord?
- How have you been blessed as you have made such sacrifices?
- *After three days in the wilderness, what did Lehi do? Why?* (1 Nephi 2:6-7; 1 Nephi 5:9; 7:22.)
- How can we develop feelings of gratitude even in difficult circumstances?
- What important blessings resulted from Lehi's obeying the

Lord and leaving Jerusalem?

2. Nephi and his brothers return to Jerusalem to obtain the plates of brass. (1 Nephi 3-4.)

- Why did Lehi send his sons back to Jerusalem? (1 Nephi 3:1-4.)
- How did Laman and Lemuel respond to being sent back? (1 Nephi 3:5.)
- *How did Nephi respond?* (1 Nephi 3:7.)
- *If you had been asked to make this trip, how do you think you might have responded?*
- *What difference would it have made to know that the Lord had asked it of you?*
- *Why did Lehi's family need to obtain the brass plates?* (1 Nephi 3:3, 19-20; 4:15-16; 1 Nephi 5:21-22; Mosiah 1:3-7.)

The efforts of Nephi and his brothers to obtain the plates (1 Nephi 3:9-4:38).

- *What are some situations in which we might need to be "led by the Spirit, not knowing beforehand the things which [we] should do"?* (1 Nephi 4:6.)
- *What can we learn from Nephi's words: "Nevertheless I went forth"?* (1 Nephi 4:7.)
- Why was Nephi reluctant to kill Laban? (1 Nephi 4:10.)
- How did Nephi become convinced that he should kill Laban? (1 Nephi 4:11-18.)
- *How did the Lord "prepare a way" for Nephi to do what he had been commanded to do?* (1 Nephi 3:7)
- *How has the Lord prepared ways for you to keep His commandments?*
- Why did Nephi and his brothers want Zoram to return to the wilderness with them? (1 Nephi 4:35-36.)
- *What persuaded Zoram to accompany Nephi and his brothers?* (1 Nephi 4:31-34.)
- *Why is it important that we be known as people who keep our word?*

See CHART 1 p2

- How did Nephi show strong and abiding faith?
- How can we follow his example?
- *Why did Laman and Lemuel murmur and rebel?* (1 Nephi 2:11-12.)
- *Why were they unable to know the dealings of God?* (1 Nephi 2:18.)

3. Nephi and his brothers bring the brass plates to their family. (1 Nephi 5.)

- How did Lehi and Sariah react when their four sons finally returned with the brass plates? (1 Nephi 5:1-9.)

- How did their return strengthen Sariah's testimony? (1 Nephi 5:8.)
- **What did the brass plates contain?** (1 Nephi 5:10-16; 13:23.)
- **What prophecies did Lehi make about the brass plates?** (1 Nephi 5:17-19.)
- **How are these prophecies being fulfilled?**

4. Nephi and his brothers return to Jerusalem for Ishmael and his family. (1 Nephi 7.)

- **Why did Nephi and his brothers return again to Jerusalem soon after bringing back the brass plates?** (1 Nephi 7:1-2.)
- **How were Ishmael and his family persuaded to join Lehi's family?** (1 Nephi 7:4-5.)
- **Why did Laman and Lemuel and some of the children of Ishmael rebel during their journey in the wilderness?** (1 Nephi 7:6-7.)
- **Why do you think they wanted to return to Jerusalem?**
- **What did Nephi say would happen if they continued in the wilderness and were faithful to the Lord?** (1 Nephi 7:13.)
- **What did he say would happen if they returned to stay in Jerusalem?** (1 Nephi 7:13-15.)
- **What qualities did Nephi exhibit in his dealings with his brothers?** (1 Nephi 2:17-18 and 7:21)
- **How can we demonstrate these qualities in our relationships with our family members and others?**

Additional Important Teachings

1. **"Born of goodly parents"** (1 Nephi 1:1)
 - **What are some responsibilities of "goodly parents" for their children?** (1 Nephi 1:1.)
 - **What can parents learn from Lehi and Sariah about how to fulfill these responsibilities?**
2. **Everyone experiences adversity**
 - **How can it help us to know that prophets and other Church leaders also have trials?**
 - **Although Nephi had "seen many afflictions in the course of [his] days, What kept him true and obedient to the Lord?"** (1 Nephi 1:1).
 - **How is it possible to have many afflictions and still be favored of the Lord?**
 - **How can afflictions help us receive blessings?**
3. **Contents of Nephi's record**
 - **What was Nephi's explanation of what he would write in his record?** 1 Nephi 6
 - **What did Nephi say was his purpose in keeping a record?** (1 Nephi 6:3-4.)
 - **How have Nephi's writings helped you come unto Christ?**

Conclusion

Because of Lehi's and Nephi's willing obedience, millions of people have been blessed. Encourage class members to always "go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded" (1 Nephi 3:7).

One of my ancestors took a notebook with him to church meetings and he wrote down not only what was said, but

thoughts that he had while he was at church and found it to be a time when he received answers to problems he was facing and questions he had been pondering during the week.

I challenge you to write your testimonies, as well as other spiritual experiences, thoughts, and feelings, in their journals. What better place to be taught than right after we have renewed our covenants.

Since we are meeting for sacrament meeting first we can continue being taught during the entire block after this sanctifying ordinance.



And my father dwelt in a tent. (1 Nephi 2:15)

CHART 1

Nephi	Laman and Lemuel
Find words or phrases that characterize Nephi .	Find words or phrases that characterize Laman and Lemuel .
<i>1 Nephi 1:1</i>	<i>1 Nephi 2:11</i>
<i>1 Nephi 2:16</i>	<i>1 Nephi 2:13</i>
<i>1 Nephi 2:16,</i>	<i>1 Nephi 2:12</i>
<i>1 Nephi 2:19</i>	<i>1 Nephi 3:5</i>
<i>1 Nephi 3:7</i>	<i>1 Nephi 3:14</i>
<i>1 Nephi 3:15</i>	<i>1 Nephi 3:31</i>
<i>1 Nephi 4:1,</i>	<i>1 Nephi 2:11-12</i>
<i>1 Nephi 4:3</i>	<i>1 Nephi 2:18</i>
Which character list demonstrates an example of a person we should follow or emulate?	

Me	Nephi	Laman & Lemuel	For each characterization listed place a check in the column in which it belongs. (optional) If you wish, and it applies to you, place a check in the Me column if you wish to improve.
			Characterization
			Went to the Lord for understanding.
			Doubted that the Lord would provide a way for them
			Did not believe all all the prophet's words
			Refused to return without accomplished the commandment.
			Recognized that he had "goodly parents"
			Murmured and rebelled.
			Was willing to go and do what the Lord commanded no matter how challenging.
			Wanted to give up after one try
			Knew that the Lord was "mightier than" the opposition.
			Knew he was blessed by the Lord.
			Murmured against their parents and leaders
			Laman and Lemuel were unable to know the dealings of God.
			Complained that the Lord had asked difficult task.
			Believed all the words spoken by his parents and leaders
			"Knew not the dealings of God"
			Quickly and frankly forgives the wrongs of enemies.