

# The Stick of Joseph: another Testament of Jesus Christ



## Hearken to the Truth, and Give Heed unto It

### Lesson 5

#### INTRODUCTION

- I don't want to.
- I'll think about it.
- I'll try.

Read 1 Nephi 3:4.

- What might have happened if Nephi had responded to the Lord's commandment with one of these statements above?
- How did Nephi respond? (1 Nephi 3:7.)

Replace with **I WILL**

THE LORD GUIDES THE FAMILIES OF LEHI AND ISHMAEL ACCORDING TO THEIR FAITH AND DILIGENCE. 1 Nephi 16; 17:1-3.

#### (summarize the events in 1 Nephi 16:9-33.)

- What did Lehi find at the door of his tent on the morning when it was time to move on? (Alma 37:38).
- What were the purposes of the Liahona? (1 Nephi 16:10, 29.)
- What did the people need to do in order for the Liahona to work? (1 Nephi 16:28-29; Alma 37:40.)
- What were the consequences when the people were unfaithful and disobedient? (Alma 37:41-42.)
- What are some guides in our lives that, like the Liahona, work according to our faith and diligence? (Alma 37:38-46;)
- How have these guides helped you?
- How did Laman and Lemuel react when Nephi broke his bow? (1 Nephi 16:18, 20.)
- How did Lehi react? (1 Nephi 16:20.)
- How did Nephi react? (1 Nephi 16:22-23.)
- **What can we learn from Nephi's response to this challenge that can help us when we face challenges?**
- After Nephi made a new bow, he asked Lehi where to go to obtain food (1 Nephi 16:23).
- How did Lehi respond to his son's request? (1 Nephi 16:24-25.)
- What was the result of Lehi's humbling himself and turning to the Lord? (1 Nephi 16:26-32.)
- **What can we learn from the Lord's dealings with Lehi in**

this instance?

- Of what was Nephi speaking when he observed that "by small means the Lord can bring about great things"? (1 Nephi 16:29; Alma 37:6-7; D&C 64:33).
- **In your life, how have you seen that this is true?**
- **How can the knowledge of this principle help us?**

**NEPHI DEMONSTRATES UNWAVERING FAITH BY FULFILLING THE LORD'S COMMAND TO BUILD A SHIP.**

#### (summarize 1 Nephi 17:4-55; 18:1-4.)

- What can we learn from Nephi's actions in response to the Lord's command to build a ship? (1 Nephi 17:8-11, 16-19, 50-51; 18:1-3; James 2:17-18.)
- **How can you find strength in the Lord's promise: "I will prepare the way before you, if it so be that ye shall keep my commandments"?** (1 Nephi 17:13).
- What was Laman and Lemuel's reaction when they saw that Nephi was about to build a ship? (1 Nephi 17:17-22.)
- How was the exodus of Lehi and his family similar to the exodus of Moses and the Israelites? (1 Nephi 17:23-44.)
- Why did Nephi tell Laman and Lemuel that they "were past feeling, that [they] could not feel [the Lord's] words"? (1 Nephi 17:45).
- **What does it mean to feel the words of the Lord?**
- **What consequence do people face when they, like Laman and Lemuel, harden their hearts against the truth?** (1 Nephi 17:46-47.)
- Nephi urged his brothers not to murmur against their father. **How does murmuring affect our families?** (1 Nephi 17:49)
- **How can we overcome the practice of backbiting and speaking against family members?**
- How did Nephi learn to build the ship (1 Nephi 18:1-3).
- How did the Lord answer his prayers? (1 Nephi 18:1, 3-4.)
- **Why is it important for us to seek the Lord often in prayer?**

**LAMAN AND LEMUEL BIND NEPHI, WHO SHOWS COURAGE AND GRATITUDE DESPITE THIS TRIAL. AFTER THEY FREE HIM, HE GUIDES THE SHIP TO THE PROMISED LAND. (1 Nephi 18:5-25).**

#### (summarize 1 Nephi 18:5-22).

- As they sailed toward the promised land, what did Laman, Lemuel, the sons of Ishmael, and their wives do? (1 Nephi 18:9).
- What was Nephi's response to their actions? (1 Nephi 18:10.)
- **What was wrong with this merrymaking?** (1 Nephi 18:9; D&C 136:28.)

- What was the only thing that would convince Laman and Lemuel to release Nephi? (1 Nephi 18:15-20.)
- What shows that Laman and Lemuel became more hard-hearted as they rebelled against the Lord, repented, and then continued to rebel? (contrast 1 Nephi 18:20 with 1 Nephi 2:14; 7:19-21; 16:39; 18:4.)

- **What is the danger of returning to the same sin over and over again?** (D&C 82:7.)

- How did the Lord bless the people after Laman and Lemuel repented and loosed Nephi? (1 Nephi 18:21-25)
- As the people traveled through the wilderness and across the sea, what circumstances led many of them to murmur? (1 Nephi 16:18-20, 34-36; 17:21.)

- **What was Nephi's attitude during these difficult times?** (1 Nephi 18:16)

- What other examples do you see that even when those around Nephi complained against God, he never wavered in his obedience and his love for the Lord?

## INSIGHTS FROM 1 NEPHI 19-22

- What was one of the first things the Lord commanded Nephi to do after the families arrived in the promised land? (1 Nephi 19:1-4).

- What did Nephi say that he would write? For what reason? (1 Nephi 19:5, 18).

- **What blessings will come to our posterity if we record sacred events in our lives?**

- According to Nephi, how would the world receive the Savior during His mortal ministry? (1 Nephi 19:7-10.)

- Why did the world reject Jesus as "a thing of naught"? (1 Nephi 19:9.)

- Why was Jesus willing to endure such persecution? (1 Nephi 19:9.)

- **According to Nephi, why would the Jews be "scourged by all people"?** (1 Nephi 19:13-14.)

- **What will happen when**



## *the Jews in the latter days?* (1 Nephi 19:15-16.)

- What did Nephi teach his brethren from the brass plates? Why?(1 Nephi 19:21-22).
- **How have you been blessed as you have studied the scriptures and learned of the prophets of old?**
- **Why is it important to "liken all scriptures unto ourselves"?** (1 Nephi 19:23).
- **How have you benefited from doing this?**

## Significant prophecies concerning the last days. 1 Nephi 21-22

- 1 Nephi 21:22-23; 22:6-8. What will bring scattered Israel together again.
- 1 Nephi 21:26; 22:10-12. What promises did the Lord give Israel for the last days?
- What role will the Book of Mormon play in that promise?
- 1 Nephi 22:13-15. What will be the plight of the Nations that reject God?
- 1 Nephi 22:16-19. What does the Lord promise the righteous?
- 1 Nephi 22:26. What conditions will exist on Earth during Christ's millennial reign?

## CONCLUSION

The last words written by Nephi in the Book of Mormon are a fitting description of his true character: "The Lord commanded me, and I must obey" (2 Nephi 33:15). Elder Heber J. Grant stated "No obstacles are insurmountable when God commands and we obey" (in Conference Report, Oct. 1899, 18).

Nephi and his family were blessed as they traveled to the promised land because Nephi continued to have an "I will" attitude—he did not hesitate to obey the Lord's commandments. We should trust in the Lord, work diligently to overcome the challenges, and avoid complaining against the Lord and His servants.

## CHALLENGE.

Share your Testimony in spoken and written word for family, posterity and friends. Share appropriate experiences that relate to the scriptural principles and build and strengthen testimonies.