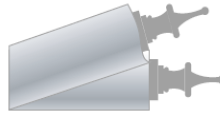




CHURCH EDUCATION

The Holy Bible  
The Book of Mormon



'...and they shall become one in thine hand.' Ezekiel 37:17

## LESSON TITLE

### To Be Highly Favored of the Lord

#### UNIT 2 - Love, Kinship, Worship

#### GRADES 10-12 and Adult

#### THE HOLY BIBLE

Psalms 5:12, "For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as *with* a shield."

#### THE BOOK OF MORMON

1 Nephi 1:1, "I, Nephi, having been born of goodly parents, therefore I was taught somewhat in all the learning of my father; and having seen many afflictions in the course of my days, nevertheless, having been highly favored of the Lord in all my days; yea, having had a great knowledge of the goodness and the mysteries of God, therefore I make a record of my proceedings in my days."

#### OBJECTIVES

The participant will be able to:

- Cite instances of God's compassionate love. (Section 1)
- Identify and Apply understanding of God's plan for salvation to His love and compassion for mankind. (Section 1)
- Identify and Describe through discussion God's plan for loving and peaceful relationships and relate to being highly favored. (Section 2)
- Analyze and personalize revelations accepted at GC Conference 10/2019. (Section 3)

#### MATERIALS

*Holy Bible* and *The Book of Mormon*

Drawing board and marker

Notebooks for participants and writing utensils, optional (Useful for all sections)

[Descriptions of Highly Favored](#), Participant, 1/participant

[Teacher's Supplement](#)

[Revelations - GC Conference, 10/ 2019](#), 1/participant

## TEACHER NOTES

3 – 60 minute lessons

Teacher may divide lessons into more sessions.

To prepare for this lesson, study the scriptural references listed in **PROCEDURE**.

Q = Teacher asks question

#### Definitions:

**Bless** -> invoke divine favor upon

**Compassion** - > sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others

**Favor** *n.* an act of kindness beyond what is due or usual

**Favored** *adj.* endowed with special advantages or gifts. Providing preferential treatment  
<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/favored>

**Righteousness** the quality of being morally right or justifiable.

**Unity** -> oneness; harmony; continuity without contention; brotherhood

**Value** a person's principles or standards of behavior; one's judgment of what is important in life.

## PROCEDURE

### Motivation/Introduction (5-10 minutes)

**Prior to class:** Write definitions for “Bless”, “Compassion”, “Favor”, “Favored” on the board (See **TEACHER’S NOTES**, page 1).

**In class:** Pass out notebooks and pens to participants and encourage them to write notes or reflections.

**Today we will discuss the meaning of highly favored of the Lord, and how one becomes a recipient of the Lord’s favors.**

- ✓ Present terms and definitions on the board.
- ✓ Sing verse 1 and chorus of ***Songs of Zion, #83***, “He’ll Take Care of Me.

**Q:** Do you believe in good and bad times that God takes care of you?

**Q:** How do we know God loves us? How are love and compassion demonstrated in Jesus’s life and death? How do we know that God values loving and peaceful relationships?

**As we identify ways in which the Nephites were highly favored of the Lord, consider your own relationship with God - how He has favored you, and when you have felt His love and peace.**

### Lesson Development (25-30 minutes)

#### Section 1

#### Describe and Define Highly Favored Of The Lord

- ✓ Examine Nephi’s and Alma’s descriptions of being highly favored of the Lord, 1 Nephi 1:1, Alma 9:19-23. (Instructions located in Teacher’s Supplement. **See Materials**)

**Q:** Can you imagine how the Nephites feel when the Lord favors them? Can you imagine how the Lord feels when He does marvelous things for His beloved people?

**Q:** Considering all the information discussed, how would you define being highly favored of the Lord?

- ✓ Lead group to conclude, being highly favored means to be greatly blessed by...
- intimately knowing God as Creator, Redeemer, Holy Ghost
- and experiencing God’s presence and power in our lives.

### Review/Assessment (5 minutes)

(Select from the following)

**Q:** What would it feel like to let someone you love to do something you know will cause them pain or suffering, even if it’s for a good reason? How might God feel about mankind to have given His only Son?

**Q:** What is the recurring theme about God’s love? Can you recall and explain some examples? Can you elaborate on how we know God loves mankind using examples from scripture or your personal experience?

**Q:** In your own words, what does it mean to be highly favored of the Lord.

### Life Application (5 minutes)

(Select from the following. Use discretion when presenting questions. Consider if questions should be for reflection - recorded in notebook - or discussed openly.)

**Q:** Can you recall a time when you felt God’s love? What is it like? How do we know that we are worthy of God’s love?

**Q:** Can you think of ways we can thank God and His Son for their sacrifice?

On a scale of 1-10, with 10 being ALWAYS and 1 being RARELY...

**Q:** How often do I consider pleasing the Lord?

**Q:** How often do I thank God for His unconditional love?

- ✓ Read/share Experiences by Ricci and Campitelle in Teacher’s Supplement (**See Materials**).

Memory Verse:

**Psalm 34:17**, “The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.”

Key Words: favor, unity, distraction, righteous, revelation, October 2019 conference, blessing, blessed, values

## Section 2

### Relate God's Plan for Relationships to Being Highly Favored (35 minutes)

- ✓ Briefly review key points from To Be Highly Favored of the Lord, Section 1.
- ✓ Read and discuss the Church's vision statement and relate with being highly favored.

#### Vision Statement of the Church

"Living and worshipping in unity and righteousness will result in the fullness of God's Spirit and power among the Saints, culminating in continuous growth of the Church and fulfillment of Christ's promises concerning His kingdom on Earth."

**Q:** How does the Vision Statement of the Church depict God's plan for loving and peaceful relationships? How do loving and peaceful relationships relate to being highly favored of the Lord?

**Q:** What is continuous growth of the Church and fulfillment of Christ's promises linked with? When will God's Spirit and power be manifested in fullness?

- ✓ Examine lyrics of "They Say the Land Has Milk and Honey" and conceptualize God's plan for loving and peaceful relationships.
1. Participants **sing, #107, Songs of Zion**, "They Say the Land Has Milk and Honey" and ...
    - a. From lyrics, identify things God plan for peaceful and loving relationships and what He values.
      - i. Make a list on the board.  
Teacher's Supplement contains examples (**See Materials**)
      - ii. Compare the list to a state of living and worshipping in unity and righteousness.
      - iii. cite scriptures to support responses, if able
      - iv. Divide into two or more sessions, as needed.

#### **Review/Assessment (5-10 minutes)**

**Q:** Why does God value loving and peaceful relationships?

**Q:** What aspects of the Church's vision statement depict peaceful and loving relationships?

**Q:** Why does God value honor and worship?

**Q:** Why does God value equality? Value liberty? Value truth?

**Q:** How are blessings linked with our relationship with God? Our relationship with our fellowman?

#### **Life Application (5-10 minutes)**

(Select from the following. Use discretion when presenting questions. Consider if questions should be for reflection - recorded in notebook - or discussed openly.)

**Q:** How do I seek peace with God?

**Q:** From the list of things that God values, which are important to me? Which are unimportant to me? Why?

**Q:** How do I strive to love all people?

Rate your answers to the following questions on a scale of 1-10, with 10 being VERY and 1 being HARDLY...

**Q:** How often do I seek to be a peacemaker?

**Q:** How often do I pray to be filled with charity?

**Q:** How often do I thank God for His blessings?

**Q:** How excited am I to see the Church grow? To see peace on earth?

**Q:** How desirous am I to see the fullness of God's Spirit and power among the Saints?

**Q:** How desirous am I to see the fullness of God's Spirit and power of God in my life?

**Q:** How often do I relate the success or failure of the church to the condition of my relationships with others?

#### **Memory Verse:**

**Proverbs 16:7**, "When a man's ways please the Lord, He maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him."

### Section 3

#### Analyze and Personalize Conference Revelations (45 minutes)

- ✓ Briefly review key points from previous sessions.

**Q:** Would you consider Daniel to be a man who was highly favored of the Lord? What do you know about Daniel? (Facts about Daniel listed in Teacher's Supplement. **See Materials**)

We would likely agree that Daniel fits the description of being highly favored of the Lord. Yet in the book of Daniel, we find him fasting, praying, and confessing.

- ✓ Read aloud Daniel 9:3-11.

**Q:** Of what did Daniel need to confess and repent?

- ✓ Read aloud Daniel 9:20, 10:12.

**Q:** Did Daniel repent of personal sins, the sins of his nation -Israel, or both?

- ✓ Relate Daniel's circumstance to modern day.

The Lord gave two revelations to the Church which were accepted at the October 2019 General Conference. In the revelations, the Lord revealed His sadness and concern over loss of attention from His people. He observed that they were "distracted" by the things of the world.

1. Pass out copies of "Revelations – GC Conference 10/2019 and Q12 Comments" (**See Materials**) and read aloud as they follow along.
2. Have participants turn to their neighbor and identify what the Lord reveals about our relationships with Him. (2 minutes)
3. Call participants to order and have them share responses as a whole.
4. Pass our copies of "Revelations - GC Conference 10/2019 and Q12 Comments" (**See Materials**) to participants and read aloud as they follow along.

- ✓ Sing verse 4 and chorus to **#22, Songs of Zion**, "Second to God" and verse 1 and chorus to **#361, Saints Hymnal**, "I Love Him".

#### **Review/Assessment (5 minutes)**

**Q:** How do we know God is not fully pleased with His Church at the time of these revelations?

**Q:** What responsibility do individuals have in addressing personal sins? ... in addressing societal sins?

#### **Life Application (5 minutes)**

(Select from the following. Use discretion when presenting questions. Consider if questions should be for reflection - recorded in notebook - or discussed openly.)

**Q:** What do I think of God's messages to the Church (Revelations- Oct. 2019 Conference)? How do I relate to the Lord's sadness? What can I do make Him smile?

**Q:** How does my relationship with God help or hinder the state of the Church?

**Q:** How can I live and worship in unity and righteousness?

**Q:** Why should I give my whole heart to the Lord? What does that look like? How am I resisting?

**Q:** What is competing with God for my attention? How/.why did these things become more important than God?

**Q:** How does God know He has first place in my heart?

**Q:** How do I demonstrate loyalty to God?

**Q:** How do I honor God.

#### **Scripture Texts/ References/ Memory Verses**

*Holy Bible:*

1 Samuel 2:30 ... for them that honour Me I will honour...

Psalms 33:12, Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord....

Psalms 33:18-19, Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear Him...

Psalms 147:11, The Lord taketh pleasure in them...

2 Corinthians 5:18-20, God used Christ to reconcile the world

Hebrews 11:6 ...without faith it is impossible to please Him..

*The Book of Mormon:*

1 Nephi 17:35, Behold, the Lord esteemeth all flesh in one; he that is righteous is favored of God....

Mosiah 2:22, 24, 31, 41 (God's promises and blessings to those who keep His commandments)

Mosiah 4:9 (God all wise and powerful)

Alma 9:20-22 (description of highly favored)

3 Nephi 17: 6-25 (Jesus's compassion)

Moroni 7:37 (by faith miracles are wrought)

4 Nephi 1:1-18 (Nephites blessed in all their doings)

#### **Memory Verse:**

**2 Chronicles 7:14**, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

#### **Suggestions/Scriptures for Further Study/ Exploration/ Extension of Topic**

Content in Teacher's Supplement (**See Materials**)

