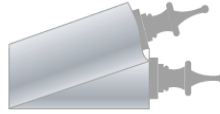




CHURCH EDUCATION

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 7-9

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 student will be able to:

- Define compassion and favor and discuss the relationship with love
- Identify and Apply an understanding of God's plan for salvation to His love and compassion for mankind.
- Recognize an association between righteousness and being favored of God

MATERIALS

Holy Bible and *The Book of Mormon*

Songs of Zion, #83 "He'll Take Care of Me"

Drawing board and marker

1 – per student, Small notebook and writing utensil

4"x6" index cards

Colored pencils/pens/markers

Experiences: [Helen Campitelle and Carson Stroyne](#)

Mind Map: [Favored Saints Trading Cards](#)

TEACHER NOTES

1—60 or more-minute lesson(s)
(May require additional sessions depending upon students' knowledge base. See note **Lesson Development**, C.)

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

Q = Teacher asks question

Compassion to suffer together.

Among emotion researchers, it is [defined](#) as the feeling that arises when you are confronted with another's suffering and feel motivated to relieve that suffering.
<https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/topic/compassion/definition>

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

Righteous conduct that is morally right

PROCEDURE

Motivation/Introduction (5 minutes)

Prior to class: Write definitions on the board.

Compassion □ to suffer together.

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

Righteous □ conduct that is morally right

In class:

- ✓ Sing verse 1 and chorus of *Songs of Zion*, #83, "He'll Take Care of Me.

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

- ✓ Present terms and definitions on the board.

When someone goes out of their way to be kind or helpful, we call it doing a favor. When God is kind or helpful, such as when He answers a prayer, we say we are blessed or favored.

Q: Can you recall a time when someone did a favor for you? How did you feel after someone performed the favor?

Q: Can you recall a time when you did a favor for someone? Why did you do the favor? What motivated you? How did you feel?

Q: What motivates favor and compassion?

God's word tells us that He is full of love and compassion and He performs many favors/blessings. God's gift of eternal life, through His Son, Jesus is the ultimate demonstration of love and compassion.

Q: How much love did it take for Jesus to die on the cross to pay the ransom for sin?

- ✓ Tell students to write a brief definition for favor and compassion in their notebooks.

Lesson Development (15-20 minutes)

In this lesson, we will discuss specific instances of how and why God demonstrates compassion and favor to individuals.

1. Draw a chart on the board as shown below.
2. Ask students recall an account in the scriptures where God rescues someone.
3. Prompt students to recall the problem, the need, and how God favored the individual. Record

responses on the board and fill in the chart as shown.

4. Tell students to record information in their notebooks.
5. If students lack knowledge of scriptural accounts and cannot contribute, come prepared with an example. At another session, teach another account, and so forth, to build students' knowledge base. Choose examples other than those shown, as desired.

Examples:

Person	Problem	Need	Favor
Daniel	Lion's den	Protection	God sent angel to shut lions' mouths
Joseph	In prison	Freedom	God gave Joseph interpretation to Pharaoh's dream
Nephi	Cross the ocean	Transportation	God instructed how to build a ship
Lehi	Life threatened	Safety/ protection	God gave Liahona to guide to safety
Zacchaeus	Sinner	Redemption	Jesus died for sins

Q: What may be some reasons why God rescues [fill in name from board] ?

Q: How does God demonstrate compassion to _____ ?

Read Psalms 5:12 and relate to each individual listed on the board, "For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as *with* a shield."

Q: How does righteousness relate to love for God?

Q: What type of relationship does _____ have with God?

Q: How does _____ seek God's help?

Q: Why does _____ believe that God can help?

Q: How does _____ show appreciation for God's favor?

The individuals we discussed today strove to be righteous. They believed in God and Jesus, God's Son. They loved God and were loyal to Him. They were God's friends.

Review/Assessment (10-15 minutes)

- Q:** In your own words, how would you define favor?
Q: How is love related to compassion?
Q: Can you recall an example of God's compassion?
Q: Who does God favor?
Q: In your own words, what does it mean to be highly favored of the Lord?
Q: When we serve God, does that mean that nothing bad will ever happen?

Play the 'Favored Saints' game:

1. Cover information on the board.
2. Using the information from the board, make up clues and see if students can recall to whom the clues pertain. For example, "How did God save Daniel from being the lions' dinner?"

Life Application (10-15 minutes)

- Q:** Can you think of a modern-day example where God favors someone? (Share and discuss experiences (**See Materials**) or experience of choice.)
Q: Can you recall a time when God favored you? How did you feel?
Q: What can we do to feel more of God's love?
Q: Can you remember a time when you showed compassion for someone?

Homework:

Students record in notebook at least one favor that God performed for him/her or his/her family, following the format used in class: person, problem, need, favor, and gratitude shown. Bring to class to share.

Scripture Texts/ References/ Memory Verses

Holy Bible:

Genesis 39:2-4 (God's divine protection on Joseph)
Genesis 39:19-23 (God's protection on Joseph in prison)
Genesis 40: 8-19 (Joseph interprets dreams in prison)
Genesis 41:16-37 (Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dream)
Genesis 41:38-46 (Pharaoh elevates Joseph to second in Egypt)
Daniel 6: 1-23 (angel shut lions' mouths)
Luke 19:1-10 (Zacchaeus meets Jesus)
John 14:18,21 (Will not leave you comfortless; Christ will manifest himself unto those who keep His commandments)
Hebrews 11:6 (...he that cometh to God must believe that He is...)
Romans 5:8 (But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.)

The Book of Mormon:

1 Nephi 1:1 (Nephi is favored by knowing God)
1 Nephi 3:6 (Nephi is favored for not murmuring)
2 Nephi 26:33 (Lord doeth good among the children of men)
Mosiah 2:22, 24, 31, 41 (God's promises and blessings to those who keep His commandments)
Mosiah 15:9 (Christ's compassion through the cross)
Alma 9:20-22 (description of highly favored)
3 Nephi 17: 6-25 (Jesus's compassion)
Moroni 7:37 (by faith miracles are wrought)

Memory verse: (Assign one to memorize)

John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Psalm 86:15, "But thou, O Lord, *art* a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth."

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

Further Study (1 session / saint)

1. Study a few more examples where God favored individuals, such as:
 - a. Captain Moroni (Victorious in battle, Alma 48:15-16)
 - b. Esther (Fasted and prayed to save lives of the Jews, Esther)
 - c. Ruth & Naomi (Saved from poverty, Ruth),
 - d. Jared and his brother (Preserve language, sent to land of promise, instructed how to prepare for journey, travel safety (Ether 1-3,6)
 - e. Noah's family (Lives spared, Genesis 6:11-18)
 - f. Sons of Helaman and Lamanites (Lives spared, visions, unbelievers converted, Helaman 5)
2. After studying each account, guide students to make a "Favored Saints" trading card (**See Materials**). Students can illustrate something notable about the person on the back of each card.

Key Words: favor, compassion, love, God, blessing, Jesus