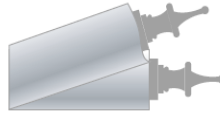




CHURCH EDUCATION

The Holy Bible  
The Book of Mormon



'...and they shall become one in thine hand.' Ezekiel 37.17

## LESSON TITLE

### Lehi Receives a Blessing (A Land of Promise), Part 3: Crossing the Waters

## TEACHER NOTES

45-minute lesson

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

## OBJECTIVES

Q = Teacher asks question

## UNIT 6 – Evidence of Authority and Establishing the Church

## GRADES 1-3

### THE HOLY BIBLE

John 14:21 "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

### THE BOOK OF MORMON

1 Nephi 17:13 "And I will also be your light in the wilderness; and I will prepare the way before you, if it so be that ye shall keep my commandments; wherefore, inasmuch as ye shall keep my commandments ye shall be led towards the Promised Land; and ye shall know that it is by me that ye are led."

## OBJECTIVES

The student will be able to:

- Recognize God's preservation of Lehi's family from Jerusalem to the promised land 1 Nephi chapters 17 & 18.
- Listen to a retelling and act out Lehi's journey across the waters
- Relate through Lehi's story how he/she can show love to God

**Craft:** Make a sample paper boat prior to class to show students what to expect.

## ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- Which of Lehi's sons are obedient? Which of Lehi's sons are disobedient? Can you give examples for each?
- Do you recall who can change the weather? Why does Lehi's family encounter a storm on their way to the promised land? What is the reason the weather gets calm again?
- Why is it good to listen to God? How does listening to God tell Him we love Him?

## MATERIALS

Holy Bible and The Book of Mormon

World Map

**Task 1:** Copies of script for skit, 1-per student, pages 3-7

**Craft:** [Paper Boat](#) 1 - sheet of 8 ½ "x 11 " paper per student

## PROCEDURE

### Motivation/Introduction (3 minutes)

1. Engage students in a discussion about following instructions, with associated rewards and consequences...

**Q:** Think of a time when your parents (Or teacher) asked you to do something that you found difficult or uninteresting, or that you just didn't want to do. What are some examples?

**Q:** What happens when you listen to your parents? To your teacher?

**Q:** What happens when you fail to listen to your parents? To your teacher?

Talking Points: Like parents and teachers, God gives instructions that He wants us to follow. They are called commandments. One example of a commandment was when God told Lehi to get the brass plates from Laban.

Today, we will learn more about what happened to Lehi and his family as they continue their journey towards the promised land, and how extremely important it is to obey God's commandments.

**Goals:** Recognize God's preservation of Lehi's family from Jerusalem to the promised land.

Listen to a retelling and act out Lehi's journey across the waters.

Relate through Lehi's story how he/she can show love to God.

### Lesson Development (35-40 minutes)

1. Post a map of the world on the wall and locate Jerusalem. With your finger, trace along the borders of the Red Sea to the seashore, as you explain that Lehi and his family were told to leave Jerusalem and all their personal belongings, and travel this route through the wilderness to the promised land.

**Q:** How might you feel if you were asked to leave your home and all your stuff? (Acknowledge that it may be

hard to “step out of our comfort zone” and follow instructions. Emphasize that when God give a commandment, it should be obeyed.)

2. Our story begins with Lehi's family at the seashore waiting for God to tell them what to do next.
  - a. Hand a copy of skit to each student in the class (See Teacher's Supplement).
  - b. Assign a character to each student.
3. Read through the skit as students follow silently along. Then have students read the story together. (Teacher may act as Narrator.)

### 4. Craft: Paper Boat

Talking Points: The boat that God showed Nephi how to build was very strange to them. They said that it was built of “curious workmanship.” We will also build a boat of curious workmanship that will really float!

- a. Give each student a sheet of paper.
  - b. Guide students to create paper boats to represent the boat that Lehi and his family used to cross the ocean to the promised land (See instruction, page 1)
  - c. As you explain how to fold the boat, step by step, first pause to ask an Essential Question before each step.
5. Scripture Cheer: (Lead students in cheer)
    - “If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.” John 15:10
  6. Task 2: Students complete assignment (See Teacher's Supplement).

Key Words: evidence, authority, establish, church, Lehi, promised land, boat, water

## Teacher's Supplement

### SKIT: Lehi's Family Crosses the Many Waters

**Characters:** Narrator, Nephi, Lehi, Ishmael's son, Lemuel, Sam, Laman's wife, Nephi's wife, Laman, Sariah, Lemuel's wife

**Narrator:** God commanded Lehi and his family to leave Jerusalem and go to the promised land. In the promised land, Lehi would be safe from the angry people who wanted to hurt him. He would also be free to serve God the right way. God gave Lehi a compass, the Liahona, to show him the path to take. The Liahona only worked if the people had faith in God and if they loved one another.

Lehi's and Ishmael's families traveled eight years through the wilderness along the Red Sea. Finally, they reached the seashore where they could rest. The land along the seashore had plenty of fruit and wild honey. The people called it 'Bountiful.

**Lemuel:** (Relaxing in a hammock by the shore) Ahhh! This is the life! I can just relax and drink coconut milk all day. I say no more traveling for me.

**Laman:** Me too. Hey, look over there. It looks like Nephi is chopping logs! What for?

**Lemuel:** Let us go see what our naughty little brother is up to.

**Nephi:** Oh, hey guys. You are just in time to help me build a ship.

**Lemuel:** Where did you get that saw? And look at all these tools!

**Nephi:** Well, God told me to go to the top of that mountain, over there, so I did. Then, He commanded me to build a ship so we can cross the great sea. God said He would show me how to build it. God told me where to find ore to make tools.

**Laman:** Our naughty little brother thinks he can build a ship! Well, good luck, Nephi.

**Lemuel:** Yeah, do not ask us to help you.

**Nephi:** God said that if we keep His commandments, He will take us to the promised land. We must obey God!

**Laman:** Liar! It was dad's crazy idea to leave Jerusalem and you supported it. Lemuel, I am sick of hearing him say, "God told me this. God told me that." Let us throw Nephi into the sea!

**Nephi:** In the name of God, do not touch me!

**Narrator:** Before Laman and Lemuel could grab Nephi, he stopped them. Nephi was filled with the power of God. If they would touch him they would dry up like a dead plant. Nephi told his older brothers that he had faith that God would help him do all that He told him. If God told him to tell the water to be dry land, it would dry up. If God could do that, then He could tell him how to build a ship.

Laman and Lemuel were so scared that they did not touch Nephi for many days. Finally, God told Nephi to stretch out his hand to Laman and Lemuel and let them touch it, so they would feel God's power. Nephi let his brothers touch his hand and God zapped them with a shock. Laman and Lemuel fell on their knees and began to worship Nephi.

**Nephi:** Do not bow to me! Worship God! Now, help me build the ship.

**Laman and Lemuel:** Okay!

**Narrator:** God showed Nephi how to build the ship. Nephi and his brothers worked together, as God commanded.

(Many days later. Admiring the ship)

**Lehi:** Wow. That is a fine-looking boat. It sure looks sturdy. Let's pack up and go.

**Sam:** God helped us. Without God, we could not have done it!

**Narrator:** Lehi's and Ishmael's families packed up their stuff. Jacob and Joseph, Lehi's sons born in the wilderness, would have been less than eight years old when they sailed on the ship. The wind blew the ship toward the promised land.

**Sam:** (Like a pirate) Arrrr Matey! This be the life for me!

**Nephi:** You are silly, Sam.

**Sariah:** Are we still on course?

**Lehi:** Yes, dear. The Liahona is pointing straight ahead.

**Sam:** Shiver me timbers! Methinks I hear something at the back of the boat!

**Lehi:** Hey, what is all that noise!

**Lemuel:** Wahoo! We're having a party!

**Laman's wife:** Have some wine!

**Sariah:** Put that away! We need to respect God's commandments. Stop this wild party and drunkenness!

**Lemuel's wife:** Oh, be quiet old woman! It is O.K. to have some fun once in a while.

**Nephi:** Look, guys, if we make God angry, we are in trouble. We could drown in the sea!

**Ishmael's son:** Be quiet, Nephi. I am sick of you telling us what to do.

**Laman:** Our little brother will never rule over us. Let us tie Nephi up!

**Lemuel:** Yes!

**Narrator:** Laman, Lemuel, and the sons of Ishmael tie Nephi to the mast of the ship with cords. Sam and the others could not stop them.

**Laman:** Now I am captain of this ship! Lemuel, tell me where to go.

**Lemuel:** I do not know where to go. This compass does not work. The needles just keep go in circles.

**Lemuel's wife:** Look at the storm clouds over there!

**Ishmael's son:** The waves are huge! They are crashing on the deck. Hold on!

**Laman's wife:** I am seasick! Maybe we celebrated too soon.

**Laman:** Be quiet everyone! I am in charge. We will be fine.

**Narrator:** A huge storm comes. The waves beat back the ship for three days. Waves pound and crash upon the deck of the ship. Everyone holds on for dear life. On day four, the storm is so bad that everyone fears that the ship will be sunk in the sea.

(Huge waves, thunder, and lightning)

**Sam:** (Desperate and yelling as loud as he can) Laman, you have to untie Nephi! It is the only way that God will stop the storm!

**Ishmael's son:** Sam is right! If you do not untie Nephi, we will die!

**Nephi's wife:** (Pleading) Please Laman. Our children are sick from the storm. Sariah and Lehi are weak. They have not left their beds.

**Lemuel:** Laman, they are right. We must repent for what we have done. God truly is angry with us.

**Laman:** Fine. Untie Nephi. I am sorry that I ever tied him up and took control.

(They untie Nephi)

**Nephi:** Ouch! My wrists and ankles are all swollen from being tied so tight.

**Narrator:** After Nephi is free, he takes the Liahona. Its needles stop spinning. They point the way to the promised land. Nephi prays to God to make the storm stop. The wind and waters get calm. Nephi takes the ship toward the promised land.

Many days later, they see land. They arrive safely on the beach and set up their tents. The land is the special place that God prepared for them to live. They are in the promised land!

Lehi's and Ishmael's families plant the seeds they brought from Jerusalem. The seeds sprout and grow, and supply much food. When they explore the promised land, they find beasts in the forest, such as cows, oxen, and goats. They find metals like gold, silver, and copper. The people thank God for bringing them to the promised land.

## WHO SAID IT?

**Instructions:** Match the words to the person who said it. Draw a line to connect them. Names can be used more than once.

“Our brother is a fool, for he thinketh that he can build a ship; yea, and he also thinketh that he can cross these great waters.”

1 Nephi 17:17

**GOD**

“If God had commanded me to do all things, I could do them. If he should command me that I should say unto this water, be thou earth, it should be earth; and if I should say it, it would be done.” 1 Nephi 17: 50

**JESUS**

“Stretch forth thine hand again unto thy brethren, and they shall not wither before thee, but I will shock them” 1 Nephi 17:53

**LAMAN AND LEMUEL**

“We know of a surety that the Lord is with thee, for we know that it is the power of the Lord that has shaken us.” 1 Nephi 17: 55

**NEPHI**

“If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love.” John 15:10