



The Gospel Doctrine Class



Book of Mormon - Lesson 5

Hearken to the Truth, and Give Heed unto It

“We had suffered many afflictions and much difficulty, yea, even so much that we cannot write them all.” (1 Nephi 17:6)

1 Nephi 16–22

A study of this lesson will inspire us to follow Nephi’s example of faith and willing obedience.



W.H. Murray: "Until one is committed there is a hesitancy, the chance to draw back, always ineffective-ness. Concerning all acts of initiative (and creation), there is one elementary truth, the ignorance of which kills countless ideas and splendid plans: That the moment one definitely commits oneself, then Providence moves too.

"All sorts of things occur to help one that would never otherwise have occurred. A whole stream of events issues forth from the decision, raising in one's favor all manner of unforeseen incidents and meetings and material assistance, which no man could have dreamt would have come his way." (Everest—The West Ridge, p100)

Questions to ask as we "liken the scriptures unto ourselves":

- What significance does this particular event or principle have for me today?
- What does the rebellion of Laman and Lemuel teach me?
- What can I learn about faithfulness from Nephi's obedience?
- If I were in this particular situation or faced with this challenge or question, how would I react? What flaws or strengths would I find in my own character?
- Am I like Lehi's family in the wilderness, or am I like Nephi?
- Do I complain when things get difficult, or do I trust in God no matter what the circumstances?
- What do I learn about God and his dealings with his children from this event?
- Why does God put his children through the trials of the "wilderness"?
- Why did he send Lehi and his family to a whole new land?
- As I study the lives of men and women in the scriptures, what do I learn about the things that please or displease God?
- Why was this particular concept, principle, or event included in the scriptures?

Next Week's Reading Assignment
2 Nephi 1–2

The Nephi/Laman Scale

Nephi 5 - 4 - 3 - 2 - 1 - 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 **Laman**

Action	-----	Complains and murmurs
Respects Authority	-----	Talks against parents and spiritual leaders
Obedient	-----	Complains and no action
Prayerful	-----	Does not seek the Lord
Reverent	-----	Rude
Praises the Lord during tough times	-----	Angry and murmurs