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Book of Mormon Gems of Truth: Lesson 35

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Abstract: Monthly Book of Mormon lessons for adult women (Relief Society). Each month a verse of Book of Mormon scripture is presented with accompanying quotes from General Authorities and writers of the Church.

ness; and thus they were ripening again for destruction" (Helaman 11:37).

God had blessed and prospered the people as long as they placed their trust in him. Because a majority of the people had chosen to be wicked, their government itself was endangered.

And thus we see that except the Lord doth chasten his people with many afflictions, yea, except he doth visit them with death and with terror, and with famine and with all manner of pestilence, they will not remember him. O how foolish, and how vain, and how evil, and devilish, and how quick to do iniquity, and how slow to do good, are the children of men; yea, how quick to hearken unto the words of the evil one, and to set their hearts upon the vain things of the world

. . . and how slow are they to remember the Lord their God, and to give ear unto his counsels, yea, how slow to walk in wisdom's paths Therefore, blessed are they who will repent and hearken unto the voice of the Lord their God; for these are they that shall be saved (Helaman 12:3-5, 23).

Questions and Topics for Discussion

1. Distinguish between Cezoram and Seezoram.
2. Why does the Lord find it necessary to chasten his people?
3. Why did the Lord give Nephi power over the elements?
4. What often happens to a people when God blesses them abundantly?
5. What made Lehi and Nephi such great missionaries?
6. What happens to representative government when a majority of the people choose iniquity?

Visiting Teacher Messages

Book of Mormon Gems of Truth

Lesson 35—"But When Thou Doest Alms Let Not Thy Left Hand Know What Thy Right Hand Doeth; That Thine Alms May Be in Secret; and Thy Father Who Seeth in Secret, Himself Shall Reward Thee Openly" (3 Nephi 13:3-4).

Edith S. Elliott

For Tuesday, December 6, 1955

Objective: To point out that alms should be given in secret and the Lord shall reward openly.

IT is the nature of women to be generous. Usually a mother's whole life is one of giving to her family. Relief Society members are well schooled in the meaning of sharing, giving, helping, alms, compassionate service, generosity, and other related words and phrases. In fact, the gospel of Jesus Christ teaches us to see the needs of our brother and alleviate them. To love

our neighbor as ourselves will bring the blessings of eternity to this earth.

The friendly Lebanese writer and philosopher, Kahlil Gibran, says, "Your friend is your needs answered And he is your board and your fireside. For you come to him with your hunger, and you seek him for peace" (*The Prophet*, page 66). May each of us be that friend.

The really beautiful part of giving is the personal reward of unbounded joy experienced by the giver. There are always Christmases, anniversaries, and other occasions to remind us of, at least, a bit of sharing; but to the real Christian soul, every day brings an opportunity to serve in some capacity our families, neighbors, or friends.

When we study world statistics which tell about the poverty and limited opportunities of many millions of people, we see the literal fulfillment of Christ's statement, "For ye have the poor always with you . . ." (Mt. 26:11). No wonder the Savior repeatedly pleaded for us to minister to the needs of the unfortunate.

Compassionate service was one of the most important reasons for the founding of our Relief Society. Let us not forget that we were commissioned by the Prophet Joseph Smith to assuage suffering.

Let us be reminded that sharing has many facets. We really give little when we give of our possessions. It is when we give of ourselves that we truly give. Alms is a small word; but it has a mighty meaning, one of which is to give of thyself. A kind word, a friendly smile, the understanding of a problem, sincere forgiveness of a wrong may all be catalogued under this four-letter word.

I am sure that none of us keeps a list of our kind deeds tacked to the gatepost for all to see. Yet some of us, by word or inference, like to let it be known that we have served, perhaps just to hear a word of praise. Yet the real joy of sharing comes when only three persons are aware of it—you, the one you have helped, and your God. "That thine alms may be in secret; and thy Father who seeth in secret, himself shall reward thee openly" (3 Nephi 13:4) should be our guide.

Work Meeting—Food Preparation and Service

(A Course Recommended for Use by Wards and Branches at Work Meeting)

Lesson 3—Poultry Selection and Preparation

Rhea H. Gardner

For Tuesday, December 13, 1955

POULTRY is one of the most versatile of all meats. According to the method of preparation, it may be served at any meal of the day, for party refreshments, packed lunches, and picnics. Today there is no off-season for poultry. One may serve superior quality fried chicken on Christmas Day just as well as on the Fourth of July. Roast

chicken or turkey may appear on the summer picnic menu just as well as for Christmas dinner.

Stewed Chicken

Because of the variety of ways in which poultry may be prepared, it need never become unpopular. Stewed chicken is no doubt the method most frequently used. The