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Book of Mormon Gems of Truth: Lesson 10

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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.

Visiting Teacher Messages

Book of Mormon Gems of Truth

Lesson 10—"But to Be Learned Is Good If They Hearken Unto the Counsels of God" (2 Nephi 9:29).

Leone O. Jacobs

For Tuesday, November 4, 1952

Objective: To point out the meaning of true education.

"HE is a very well educated man," we hear someone remark, "yet he had only fourteen days of formal schooling." Such a situation may well be so. Some of the world's great characters did not have the opportunity of so-called formal education, yet this did not prevent them from becoming educated in every sense of the word. Education is not limited to that which is offered in formal institutions of learning. One may be educated without having attended a college or university. On the other hand, a man who has acquired impressive degrees may, nevertheless, be lacking in true education.

In considering this subject the question to be pondered is, "What is the purpose of my being here on earth? What are the things I should learn while here?" Mere attendance at school may not supply the answers to these important questions.

The acquisition of truth and the living of truth will give one real education. The search for truth should be the quest of all people everywhere.

What is truth? The Lord tells us, "And truth is knowledge of things as they are, and as they were, and as they are to come" (D. & C.

93:24). The Lord advises us to learn:

Of things both in heaven and in earth, and under the earth; things which have been, things which are, things which must shortly come to pass; things which are at home, things which are abroad; the wars and the perplexities of the nations, and the judgments which are on the land; and a knowledge also of countries and of kingdoms (D. & C. 88:79).

These quotations indicate that our Heavenly Father desires us to gain knowledge about our world.

Formal education is desirable, if we also hearken to the counsels of God. We should be anxious for knowledge about our world, and equally anxious to learn our responsibility to the world. If our learning includes this, then it is good. Some people are not given the opportunity for a formal education; however, to obey the Lord's commandments does not require schooling.

"The purpose of education," said President J. Reuben Clark, Jr., "is to know and recognize truth, to love truth and to live it." The gospel of Jesus Christ is truth, the commandments of God are true principles, and our learning should help us to live the gospel, not estrange us from it.

Students should be discriminating in their appraisal of material presented to them. If the information given in school takes one away from God, then it is not truth and is not good education. Many who have had very little formal education are quick to recognize the will of God and to conform to his will. On the other hand, some who are college trained have not learned to

hear our Heavenly Father and live according to his instructions. As Herbert Spencer says, "To prepare us for complete living is the function which education has to discharge."

Complete living calls for religious instruction and practice, as well as the acquisition of secular knowledge. The two must go hand-in-hand to enrich the whole person.

Work Meeting—Home Management

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

Lesson 2—The Use of Time

Rhea H. Gardner

For Tuesday, November 11, 1952

Time is all the capital stock there is on the earth. You should consider your time golden; it is actually wealth (President Brigham Young).

AT the time of our birth, each of us received an endowment of shares of the capital stock referred to by President Young. Each share has a value of 365 golden days or 8,760 precious hours. Unlike material wealth, the shares must be used immediately upon maturity, for they cannot be kept nor given away.

The difference between success and failure, as a homemaker, lies mainly in how we use our time. It is not the hours we put in, but what we put into the hours that counts.

There is no ideal pattern for the division of time, because of individual differences, needs, and desires. There are guideposts, however, which, if followed, will help

us make more efficient use of our time by eliminating wasteful expenditures. Some of the guideposts are:

1. *Face Yourself*

"Time's a'wastin'" everytime two steps are taken to do a job that could just as well be done with one, or none at all. Today's homes, and especially the kitchens, are time and step-savers. Millions of dollars have been spent in finding ways and means of doing work with the least cost in time and energy.

An improved way of doing a task may mean a saving of only a minute or two. This saving, however, repeated each day or week, means hours or even days saved over a period of a year.