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## Book of Mormon Gems of Truth: Preview of Lessons for 1954-55

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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.

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# Visiting Teacher Messages

## Book of Mormon Gems of Truth

Preview of Lessons for 1954-55

Leone O. Jacobs

THE series "Book of Mormon Gems of Truth" will be continued during 1954-55 and will, as previously, deal with the portion of The Book of Mormon covered by the theology department (Alma, chapter 9 through Alma 63). Many of life's most profitable lessons are to be found within this book of scripture. Some of these lessons will be used by the visiting teachers this year as topics for discussion in the homes they visit.

The Book of Alma, comprising sixty-three chapters, is the longest book in The Book of Mormon. It contributes enlightenment on many gospel subjects and offers practical advice which can be incorporated into our lives today. This is the purpose of these messages—to encourage Latter-day Saints to put into practice in their lives the topics discussed.

Alma was one of the greatest missionaries in Book of Mormon history. He has been compared to Paul, the apostle, in regard to the miraculous manner of his conversion and the zeal which he exhibited in teaching and defending the gospel of Christ.

The passages selected include the words of Alma and of three other men of great faith, Amulek, Ammon, and Pahoran, whose words express in a sincere and appealing way their desire to serve the Lord and bring souls to repentance.

The general board again urges visiting teachers to commit these quotations to memory, so that they may be discussed in the homes with greater ease. It is recommended that the sisters in the homes be drawn into the conversation whenever possible. If they participate with ideas and experiences of their own, the visits will prove more profitable.

It is suggested that visiting teachers write on the back of "Notice of Visit" slips (left when the family is not at home) a notation giving the respective objective and scripture reference for the visiting teacher message of the month.

The messages and their objectives for the eight months follow:

Lesson 25. "*Now My Brethren, We See That God Is Mindful of Every People, Whatsoever Land They May Be in; Yea, He Numbereth His People, and His Bowels of Mercy Are Over All the Earth . . .*" (Alma 26:37).

Objective: To assure us that God watches over all his children.

Lesson 26. "*But If Ye Will Nourish the Word, Yea, Nourish the Tree as It Beginneth to Grow, by Your Faith With Great Diligence, and With Patience, Looking Forward to the Fruit Thereof, It Shall Take Root; and Behold It Shall Be a Tree Springing Up Unto Everlasting Life*" (Alma 32:41).

Objective: To point out that faith and great diligence are required in order to gain life everlasting.

Lesson 27. *"For Behold, This Life Is the Time for Men to Prepare to Meet God; Yea, Behold the Day of This Life Is the Day for Men to Perform Their Labors"* (Alma 34:32).

Objective: To stress the necessity of working out our salvation here and now, in mortality.

Lesson 28. *". . . For That Same Spirit Which Doth Possess Your Bodies at the Time That Ye Go Out of This Life, That Same Spirit Will Have Power to Possess Your Body in That Eternal World"* (Alma 34:34).

Objective: To point out that whatever spirit possesses our bodies in this life will be with us after death.

Lesson 29. *". . . For Just as Surely as This Director Did Bring Our Fathers, by Following Its Course, to the Promised Land, Shall the Words of Christ, If We Follow Their Course, Carry Us Beyond This Vale of Sorrow into a Far Better Land of Promise"* (Alma 37:45).

Objective: To point out that everyone has the power within himself to reach "the land of promise" by living by the words of Christ.

Lesson 30. *". . . As Ye Have Begun to Teach the Word Even So I Would That Ye Should Continue to Teach . . . Use Boldness, But Not Overbearance; and Also See That Ye Bridle All Your Passions, That Ye May Be Filled with Love . . ."* (Alma 38:10, 12).

Objective: To show the need of being courageous in teaching the word of God and being filled with love.

Lesson 31. *"For That Which Ye Do Send Out Shall Return Unto You Again, and Be Restored . . ."* (Alma 41:15).

Objective: To lend incentive to the performance of good deeds.

Lesson 32. *". . . My Soul Standeth Fast in That Liberty in the Which God Hath Made Us Free"* (Alma 61:9).

Objective: To show that we must hold fast to that God-given liberty which ensures our freedom.

## *Work Meeting*—Selection, Care, and Use of Household Equipment

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

### Preview of Lessons for 1954-55

Rhea H. Gardner

**T**HE mismanagement of family finance has repeatedly been given as the most common cause of marital discord. The majority of homemakers, especially in their early

years, find it to be their most difficult problem.

To make a mistake in buying a gadget may not be too serious, unless it is repeated frequently. How-