

# Study and Teach from the Scriptures

## Book of Mormon, Mosiah Chapter 2

By Priest Aaron Presler ~ August 2017 (revised 2023)

Here are a few guidelines to help you study and teach directly from scriptures.

1. **PRAY TO PREPARE:** Always pray that the Holy Spirit will guide you in your study or teaching. Without that, it's just an exercise in reading.
2. **SELECT:** Various reasons may lead to your study of scripture. The Spirit places a scripture on your heart. You have questions about a topic. You simply want to study more effectively. You have a class to teach.
3. **LISTEN:** As you read, study or teach, listen for the still small voice of the Holy Spirit. If you approach your study trying to prove something you already believe, you may miss a new concept the Lord wants you to learn.
4. **DISCOVER CONTEXT:** Read some scripture before and some after your Scriptures to fully understand the setting.
5. **FIND SUPPORT:** Find additional scripture support for your study using key words, or topics found in your Scripture. This can give you a sense of the harmony found within the three books of scripture.
6. **PERSONALIZE WITH TESTIMONIES:** After you select a topic, add a testimony or two to add real world experience to the class. It may be your own testimony or one you've heard from someone.

### SCRIPTURE

#### Mosiah, Chapter 1

14 *And it came to pass that after **King Benjamin**... waxed old; and he saw that **he must very soon go the way of all the earth**; ...*

32 *Who had established peace in the **land of Zarahemla**, and who had taught them to keep the commandments of God,...*

34 *And they pitched their tents round about the temple, every man having his tent with the door thereof towards the temple, that thereby they might remain in their tents, and hear the words which **King Benjamin should speak unto them**;*

35 *For the multitude being so great, that King Benjamin could not teach them all within the walls of the temple; therefore he*

### NOTES, TOPICS, SCRIPTURES

#### CONCEPT OF CONTEXT

Five questions to understand setting of scriptures you are studying. **WHO? WHEN? WHERE? WHAT? WHY?**  
To find answers to these questions, read scriptures that come before and after selected scriptures.

**WHO?** Verse 14

— **King Benjamin**

**WHEN?** Verse 14

— **Shortly before his death**

**WHERE?** Verses 32, 35

— **land of Zarahemla**

— **spoken from a tall tower**

**WHAT?** Verse 34

— **A sermon given to his people**

**WHY?** Verse 35

— **To introduce his people to Jesus**

## SCRIPTURE

caused **a tower to be erected**; that thereby his people might **hear the words which he should speak unto them.**

**ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURAL SUPPORT: Finding references in all 3 books may be challenging. While one scripture won't diminish the truth, a second and/or third scripture adds further witness.**

95 And he said unto me, Awake, and **hear the words which I shall tell thee**: for behold, I am come to declare unto thee glad tidings of great joy. ...

97 For behold, the time cometh, and is not far distant, that with power, **the Lord Omnipotent** who reigneth, who was, and is from all eternity to all eternity, **shall come down from heaven**, among the children of men, and shall dwell in a tabernacle of clay,

102 And **he shall be called Jesus Christ**, the Son of God, the Father of heaven and earth, the Creator of all things, from the beginning;

103... that salvation might come unto the children of men, even through faith, on his name;

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116 And moreover, I say unto you, that there shall be no other name given, **nor any other way nor means whereby salvation can come** unto the children of men, **ONLY in and through the name of Christ**, the Lord Omnipotent.

## NOTES, TOPICS, SCRIPTURES

Verses 95, 97, 102: **MAY I INTRODUCE YOU TO JESUS CHRIST?** King Benjamin introduces his people to Jesus Christ.

### Additional Scriptural Support

2 Corinthians 4:5-6 **For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus** the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Nephi 11:48 And **we talk of Christ, we rejoice in Christ, we preach of Christ, we prophecy of Christ**, and we write according to our prophecies, that our children may know to what source they may look for a remission of their sins ...

DC 55:1c ... **to preach repentance and remission of sins** by way of baptism **in the name of Jesus Christ**, ...

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Verse 116: **ONLY JESUS!**

### Additional Scriptural Support

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life**: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Alma 18:12 Behold, **he is the life and the light of the world**. Behold, **he is the word of truth and righteousness**

DC 10:12a I am Jesus Christ, the Son of God. **I am the life and the light of the world.**

## SCRIPTURE

### ONE WAY TO STUDY AND TEACH FROM SCRIPTURE:

Select a Chapter and discover what the Lord has hidden here.

EXAMPLE: Elder David Argotsinger, from my home congregation of Grain Valley, preached a sermon on July 10, 2016 stating that Mosiah 2:1-24 is a perfect description of "AN APOLOGY TO GOD."

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### Mosiah, Chapter 2

- 1 *And now, it came to pass that when King Benjamin had made an end of speaking the words which had been delivered unto him by the angel of the Lord, that he cast his eyes round about on the multitude, and behold they had fallen to the earth, for the fear of the Lord had come upon them;*
- 2 *And **they had viewed themselves in their own carnal state, even less than the dust of the earth.***
- 3 *And **they all cried aloud with one voice, saying, O have mercy, and apply the atoning blood of Christ, that we may receive forgiveness of our sins, and our hearts may be purified:***
- 4 *For we believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who created heaven and earth, and all things, who shall come down among the children of men.*

## NOTES, TOPICS, SCRIPTURES

### AN APOLOGY TO GOD (A Look at Genuine Repentance)

### ELEMENTS OF AN EFFECTIVE APOLOGY:

1. Express sorrow or regret
2. Explain honestly what went wrong
3. Accept responsibility for your wrong
4. Speak repentance (the I'm sorry part)
5. Offer to repair (make things right)
6. Ask forgiveness (and accept if given)

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Verse 3: **EXPRESS SORROW** or regret  
King Benjamin causes his people to reflect on their own unrighteousness and they are humbled to the point of repentance.

### Additional Scriptural Support

II Corinthians 7:9-10 Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that **ye sorrowed to repentance; for ye were made sorry after a godly manner**, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing; For **godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation ...**

Revelation 3:19 As many as I love, **I rebuke and chasten**; be zealous therefore, and **repent**.

Alma 16:134 And now because ye are **compelled to be humble**, blessed are ye; for a man sometimes, if he is **compelled to be humbled, seeketh repentance**;

DC 1:5c ... and inasmuch as **they sinned they might be chastened, that they might repent**; and inasmuch as **they were humble**, they might **be made strong**, and blessed from on high, ...

## SCRIPTURE

- 5 *And it came to pass that after they had spoken these words, the Spirit of the Lord came upon them, and they were filled with joy,*
- 6 *Having received a **remission of their sins**, and having peace of conscience, because of the exceeding faith which they had in Jesus Christ who should come, **according to the words which King Benjamin had spoken unto them.***
- 7 *And King Benjamin again opened his mouth, and began to speak unto them, saying,*

## STUDY TIPS

Use **KEYS WORDS** to find support scriptures and find **AGREEMENT** in 3 books

Verse 6: **REMISSION OF SIN** Look to Jesus alone to forgive us of our sin

Acts 10:43 ... that through his name **whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.**

2 Nephi 11:48 And we talk of Christ, we rejoice in Christ, we preach of Christ, we prophecy of Christ, and we write according to our prophecies, that our children may **know to what source they may look for a remission of their sins.**

DC 49:2g ... repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, according to the holy commandment, **for the remission of sins; ...**

## NOTES, TOPICS, SCRIPTURES

Verse 2: **EXPLAIN HONESTLY what went wrong** Look at the reality of your condition honestly.

### Additional Scriptural Support

Acts 22:4, 19-20 Paul **EXPLAINING** his unrighteous acts.

## HIDDEN GEMS

Sometimes, unexpected truths are found in small, overlooked phrases. Searching with pride to find something unique leads to spiritual blindness. With humility, trust that the Holy Spirit will reveal truth.

### Verse 4-6: **BELIEVE ON THE WORDS** (testimony) **OF OTHERS**

Matthew 5:3 Blessed are they who shall believe on me; and again, **more blessed are they who shall believe on your words**, when ye shall testify that ye have seen me and that I am.

Alma 16:136 And now as I said unto you, that because ye were compelled to be humble, ye were blessed, do ye not suppose that they are **more blessed who truly humble themselves because of the word?**

3 Nephi 5:48 And again, **more blessed are they who shall believe in your words**, because that ye shall testify that ye have seen me, and that ye know that I am.

DC 83:10c therefore, as I said unto mine apostles, I say unto you again, that **every soul who believeth on your words**, and is baptized by water for the remission of sins, **shall receive the Holy Ghost; ...**

## SCRIPTURE

*My friends and my brethren, my kindred and my people, I would again call your attention, that ye may hear and understand the remainder of my words which I shall speak unto you;*

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- 8 *For behold, **if the knowledge of the goodness of God at this time, has awakened you to a sense of your nothingness, and your worthless and fallen state;***
- 9 *I say unto you, if ye have come to a knowledge of the goodness of God, and his matchless power, and his wisdom, and his patience, and his long suffering towards the children of men,*
- 10 *And also, the atonement which has been prepared from the foundation of the world, that thereby salvation might come to him that should put his trust in the Lord, and should be diligent in keeping his commandments, and continue in the faith even unto the end of his life; I mean the life of the mortal body;*
- 11 *I say, that this is the man who receiveth salvation, through the atonement which was prepared from the foundation of the world, for all mankind, which ever were, ever since the fall of Adam, or who are or who ever shall be, even unto the end of the world; and this is the means whereby salvation cometh.*

## NOTES, TOPICS, SCRIPTURES

4 And **I persecuted** this way unto the death, **binding and delivering into prisons** both men and women. ...

19 And I said, Lord, they know that **I imprisoned and beat** in every synagogue them that believed on thee;

20 And when the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed, **I also was standing by, and consenting unto his death**, and kept the raiment of them that slew him.

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Verse 8: **ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY for your wrong** At 8 years old, I successfully stole comics from a local store, but was caught by Mom. My Dad's solution was for me **ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY** for my actions, return the comics, pay for them, and apologize to the store owner. So humiliating! ... but effective.

### Additional Scriptural Support

James 5:16 **Confess your faults** one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed.

Alma 19:19 Therefore I command you, my son, in the fear of God, that you refrain from your iniquities; that ye **turn to the Lord with all your mind, might and strength**; that ye lead away the hearts of no more, to do wickedly;

20 But rather return unto them, and **acknowledge your faults, and retain that wrong which ye have done**; seek not after riches, nor the vain things of this world; for behold, you can not carry them with you.

DC 58:9d By this ye may know **if a man repenteth of his sins. Behold, he will confess them** and forsake them.

## SCRIPTURE

12 And **there is none other salvation**, save this which hath been spoken of; **neither are there any conditions whereby man can be saved**, except the conditions which I have told you.

13 **Believe in God; believe that he is, and that he created all things both in heaven and in earth;**

14 **Believe that he has all wisdom, and all power, both in heaven and in earth;**

15 **Believe that man doth not comprehend all things which the Lord can comprehend.**

16 And again: **Believe that ye must repent** of your sins and forsake them, and humble yourselves before God; and **ask in sincerity of heart** that he would forgive you:

### DEFINITIONS TO REMEMBER

**BELIEVE...**  
**and if you believe**  
**...DO!**

One of the really great definitions of what it means to BELIEVE! Mark this one as a scripture to remember.

## NOTES, TOPICS, SCRIPTURES

### STUDY TIPS

Use concepts or topics found in your scripture study.

Verse 12: **NONE OTHER SALVATION**  
What is spoken of in verse 12?

Acts 4:12 **Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name** under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

2 Nephi 11:39 ... I say unto you, that as these things are true, and as the Lord God liveth, **there is none other name given under heaven, save it be this Jesus Christ** of which I have spoken, whereby **man can be saved**.

DC 16:4f Behold, Jesus Christ is the name which is given of the Father, and **there is none other name given whereby man can be saved**

**Verse 16: SPEAK REPENTANCE (the I'm sorry part)** To receive forgiveness, we must do MORE THAN FEEL repentant, we need to **SPEAK REPENTANCE** and **ASK FORGIVENESS**.

### Additional Scriptural Support

1 John 1:9 **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins**, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 Nephi 2:34 And it came to pass that I did frankly forgive them all that they had done, and **I did exhort them that they would pray unto the Lord their God for forgiveness**.

DC 58:9d By this ye may know if a man repenteth of his sins. Behold, **he will confess them** and forsake them.

## SCRIPTURE

17 And now, if you **believe all these things, SEE THAT YE DO THEM.**

18 And again I say unto you as I have said before, that as ye have come to the knowledge of the glory of God,

19 Or if ye have known of his goodness, and have tasted of his love, and have received a remission of your sins, which causeth such exceeding great joy in your souls,

20 Even so I would that ye should remember, and **always retain in remembrance, the greatness of God, and your own nothingness,** and his goodness and long suffering towards you unworthy creatures,

21 And **humble yourselves even in the depths of humility, calling on the name of the Lord DAILY,** and standing steadfastly in the faith of that which is to come, which was spoken by the mouth of the angel;

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22 And behold, I say unto you, that if ye do this, **ye shall always rejoice, and be filled with the love of God,** and always retain a remission of your sins;

23 And **ye shall grow in the knowledge of the glory of him that created you, or in the knowledge of that which is just and true.**

24 And **ye will not have a mind to injure one another, but to live peaceably, and to render to every man according to that which is his due.**

## NOTES, TOPICS, SCRIPTURES

### DEFINITIONS TO REMEMBER

# The GREATNESS of God... ...our own NOTHINGNESS.

This is the foundation for repentance, humility and our relationship with Jesus Christ. Without a deep and genuine understanding of this principle, we remain sinful humans... which means prideful, separated from God and not knowing we need a Savior.

### HIDDEN GEMS

Verse 21: **IS REPENTANCE A ONE TIME MAJOR EVENT?** Well, **YES.** It's life changing, being born again, becoming a new creature ... But **NO.** With a single word, Verse 21 calls us to **DAILY** repentance as well.

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Verse 22-24: **OFFER TO REPAIR (or make things right)** When genuine repentance has been made and forgiveness given, a real change of perspective and of behavior follows. If we are forgiven by Jesus, we will love Him and seek to follow Him.

### Additional Scriptural Support

I John 2:1, 3-6 ...if any man sin and repent, **we have an advocate with the Father,** Jesus Christ the righteous;...

3 ...And hereby we do know that we know him, **if we keep his commandments.**

4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the

truth is not in him.

5 But **whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected;**

hereby know we that we are in him.

6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to **walk, even as he walked.**

Mosiah 3:3 And also, we know of their surety and truth, because of the **Spirit of the Lord Omnipotent, which has wrought a mighty change in us,** or in our hearts, **that we have no more disposition to do evil, but to do good** continually.

DC 10:6 And now, verily, verily I say unto thee, **Put thy trust in that Spirit which leadeth to do good;** yea, **to do justly, to walk humbly, to judge righteously;** and this is my Spirit.

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16 *And again: Believe that ye must repent of your sins and forsake them, and humble yourselves before God; and **ask in sincerity of heart that he would forgive you:***

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Verse 16: **ASK FORGIVENESS (and accept it if given)**

Repentance is **our part:** It's what we do to humble ourselves before the Lord in sorry and deep humility.

#### **Additional Scriptural Support**

Matthew 6:13 And **forgive us our trespasses,** as we forgive those who trespass against us. (Willing to forgive even when the person who wronged you doesn't ask for forgiveness.)

Mosiah 1:119 For the natural man is an enemy to God, ...

120 But if **he yields to the enticings of the Holy Spirit, and putteth off the natural man,** and becometh a saint, **through the atonement of Christ, the Lord,** and becometh as a child, submissive, meek, humble, patient, full of love, **willing to submit to all things which the Lord seeth fit to inflict upon him,** even as a child doth submit to his father.

DC 64:2b ... but verily I say unto you, **I, the**

**Lord, forgiveth sins unto those who confess their sins before me, and ask forgiveness, ...**

DC 87:1a Thus saith the Lord, Verily I say unto thee, my son, **Thy sins are forgiven thee, according to thy petition, for thy prayers** and the prayers of thy brethren **have come up into my ears**;

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- 25 And ye will **not** suffer your children, that they go **hungry, or naked**;
- 26 **Neither** will ye suffer that they **transgress the laws of God, and fight and quarrel one with another, and serve the devil, who is the master of sin, or who is the evil spirit which hath been spoken of by our fathers; he being an enemy to all righteousness.**
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- 27 But ye will **teach them to walk in the ways of truth and soberness**; ye will **teach them to love one another, and to serve one another**;
- 28 And also, ye yourselves will **succor those that stand in need of your succor**; ye will **administer of your substance unto him that standeth in need**;
- 29 And ye will not suffer that the begger putteth up his petition to you in vain, and turn him out to perish.
- 30 Perhaps thou shalt say, The man has brought upon himself his misery; therefore I will stay my hand, and will not give unto him of my food, nor impart unto him of my substance, that he may not suffer, for his punishments

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Verses 22-26: **RESULTS OF HUMILITY AND REPENTANCE** God's promises will be fulfilled: you always rejoice; you will be filled with love; you will grow in knowledge, you will not injure one another; you will live peaceably; you will be fair to all men; you will clothe and feed the needy; you will teach your children to serve God, not the devil.

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Verses 27-32: **OUR ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO HIS FORGIVENESS**

**Teach your children of Jesus** and His ways

**Help the poor**, because in reality, we are all beggars

**There but for the grace of God go I?** Really? I used to think it was about my own efforts. Good education, talented artist, work hard, all these things are what cause me to be successful and kept me from being a beggar... but that is so self-centered, arrogant and simply wrong.

are just.

31 But I say unto you, O man, whosoever doeth this, the same hath great cause to repent; and except he repenteth of that which he hath done, he perisheth for ever, and hath no interest in the kingdom of God.

32 For behold, **are we not all beggars?** Do we not all **depend upon the same being, even God, for all the substance which we have;** for both food, and raiment, and for gold, and for silver, and for all the riches which we have of every kind?

33 And behold, even at this time, ye have been calling on his name, and begging for a remission of your sins.

34 And has he suffered that ye have begged in vain?

35 Nay; he has **poured out his Spirit upon you,** and has **caused that your hearts should be filled with joy,** and has caused that your mouths should be stopped, that ye could not find utterance, so exceeding great was your joy.

36 And now, if God, who has created you, on whom you are dependent for your lives, and for all that ye have and are, doth **grant unto you whatsoever ye ask that is right, in faith, believing that ye shall receive,** O then, how had **ye ought to impart of the substance that ye have, one to another?**

37 And if ye judge the man who putteth up his petition to you for your substance, that he perish

Verses 33-41: **God's Goodness and our dependence on Him** The nature of God is revealed. If you understand His nature, and accept His goodness, are we expected to reflect His nature in our actions?

- not, and condemn him, how much more just will be your condemnation, for withholding your substance, which doth not belong to you, but to God, to whom also, your life belongeth;
- 38 And yet ye put up no petition, nor repent of the thing which thou hast done.
- 39 I say unto you, wo be unto that man, for his substance shall perish with him; and now, I say these things unto those who are rich, as pertaining to the things of this world.
- 40 And again, I say unto the poor, ye who have not and yet have sufficient, that ye remain from day to day; I mean all you who deny the begger, because ye have not; I would that ye **say in your hearts, that I give not because I have not; but if I had, I would give.**
- 41 And now, **if ye say this in your hearts, ye remain guiltless,** otherwise ye are condemned, and your condemnation is just; for ye covet that which ye have not received.

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- 42 And now, for the sake of these things which I have spoken unto you; that is, for the sake of retaining a remission of your sins from day to day, that ye may walk guiltless before God,
- 43 I would that ye should **impart of your substance to the poor,** every man according to that which he hath, such as **feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick, and administering to their relief,**

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Verses 42-48: **GOD'S COUNSEL TO RETAIN REMISSION OF SINS** Our actions should reflect God's nature. Our response to His goodness to us should be reflected in our goodness to others

**both spiritually and temporally,**  
according to their wants,

44 And see that all these things  
are done in wisdom and order:  
for it is not requisite that a man  
should run faster than he has  
strength.

45 And again: it is expedient that  
he should be diligent, that  
thereby he might win the prize:  
therefore, all things must be  
done in order.

46 And I would that ye should  
remember, that whosoever  
among you that borroweth  
of his neighbor, should return  
the thing that he borroweth,  
according as he doth agree,

47 Or else thou shalt commit sin,  
and perhaps thou shalt cause thy  
neighbor to commit sin also.

48 And finally, I can not tell you  
all the things whereby ye may  
commit sin: for there are divers  
ways and means, even so many,  
that I can not number them.

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49 But this much I can tell you, that  
if ye do not **watch yourselves,**  
and **your thoughts,** and  
**your words,** and **your deeds,**  
and observe to **keep the**  
**commandments of God,** and  
**continue in the faith** of what  
ye have heard concerning the  
coming of our Lord, even unto  
the end of your lives, ye must  
perish.

50 And now, O man, **remember,**  
and perish not.

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Verses 49-50: **COUNSEL FOR CELESTIAL LIVING**

A good friend of mine wrote an entire book about Celestial Living on just these two verses. Amazing! But that's how deep the truth is found within the scriptures.