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LESSON 11:

# The Role of the Book of Mormon

Ponder: What is the Book of Mormon?

Ponder the following summary description of the Book of Mormon:

“The Book of Mormon is another witness of Jesus Christ and confirms the truths found in the Holy Bible. Far from undermining the Bible, the Book of Mormon supports its testimony of Jesus Christ. One passage says that the Book of Mormon “shall establish the truth” of the Bible “and shall make known to all kindreds, tongues, and people, that the Lamb of God is the Son of the Eternal Father, and the Savior of the world; and that all men must come unto him, or they cannot be saved” (1 Nephi 13:40).

“In its more than 6,000 verses, the Book of Mormon refers to Jesus Christ almost 4,000 times and by 100 different names: “Jehovah,” “Immanuel,” “Holy Messiah,” “Lamb of God,” “Redeemer of Israel,” and so on.

“Both volumes of scripture are a compilation of teachings as recorded by ancient prophets. While the Bible details events in the eastern hemisphere, the Book of Mormon documents the lives of the inhabitants of the ancient Americas.

“The book was written by many ancient prophets by the spirit of prophecy and revelation. Their words, written on gold plates, were quoted and abridged by a prophet-historian named Mormon.

“The crowning event recorded in the Book of Mormon is the personal ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ among the Nephites soon after his resurrection. It puts forth the doctrines of the gospel, outlines the plan of salvation, and tells men what they must do to gain peace in this life and eternal salvation in the life to come.

“In due course the plates were delivered to Joseph Smith, who translated them by the gift and power of God. The record is now published in many languages as a new and additional witness that Jesus Christ is the Son of the living God and that all who will come unto him and obey the laws and ordinances of his gospel may be saved.

“We invite all men everywhere to read the Book of Mormon, to ponder in their hearts the message it contains, and then to ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ if the book is true. Those who pursue this course and ask in faith will gain a testimony of its truth and divinity by the power of the Holy Ghost. (See Moroni 10:3–5.)

“Those who gain this divine witness from the Holy Spirit will also come to know by the same power that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world, that Joseph Smith is his revelator and prophet in these last days, and that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the Lord’s kingdom once again established on the earth, preparatory to the second coming of the Messiah.” (See [Gospel Library > Topics > Gospel Topics > Book of Mormon](#)).



What are your feelings about the importance of the Book of Mormon in helping people to learn about and understand the restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ in these latter days?



Record Your Feelings:

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## Study and Discuss: The Book of Mormon

- Study the following sections from *Preach My Gospel*, Chapter 5 “What is the Role of the Book of Mormon?” including the scriptures referenced in each section.
  1. The Book of Mormon is the Keystone of Our Religion
  2. The Book of Mormon Testifies of Christ
  3. The Book of Mormon and the Bible Support Each Other
  4. The Book of Mormon Answers Questions of the Soul
  5. The Book of Mormon Draws People Nearer to God
  6. Use the Book of Mormon to Respond to Objections
  7. How Should You Use the Book of Mormon
- Plan to discuss what you learn with your missionary preparation class, your Sunday School teacher, quorum or auxiliary leader, a family member, a class member, or a friend.
- Write in your journal the most important points you learn through these discussions about the role of the Book of Mormon in convincing seekers of truth that the gospel has been restored:

## Prepare to Serve

- Review the section in *Preach My Gospel*: Chapter 5 “What is the Role of the Book of Mormon?” “Ideas for Study and Application.” Do the exercises under the subtitle “Personal Study.” Write down your answers in your study journal. Discuss your answers with your teacher or quorum / auxiliary leader. Add to your journal any new impressions and ideas you learn through these discussions. Then make a goal to read from the Book of Mormon daily and to complete reading it at least once by the time you are called to serve as a full time missionary.
- Read and do all the exercises pertaining to the principle of self-reliance: “Become One, Serve Together” in Chapter 8 of the self-reliance booklet *My Foundation for Self-Reliance*. If you have not done so, ask your quorum or auxiliary leader about joining a self-reliance group in your ward or stake. Plan to complete the twelve-week group process as part of your missionary preparation.