

Web site "nathanolsen.com"

Next Weeks Lesson: Lesson 26 "Converted unto the Lord" ([Alma 23-29](#))

Today's Lesson: Lesson 25 "They Taught with Power and Authority of God" ([Alma 17-22](#))

To Know, To Feel, To Do

- How could these phrases relate to missionary work?

Elder Carlos E. Asay related the following experience:



"Not too long ago, I heard the testimony of a new convert—a young man obviously touched by the Spirit. Among other things, he indicated that it was his great desire to share the restored gospel with his family and friends. With tears in his eyes and a quiver in his voice, he said:

" 'I want them *to know* what I know.

" 'I want them *to feel* what I feel.

" 'I want them *to do* what I have done.'

"There *is* a missionary spirit—a spirit which urges us to live outside ourselves and to be concerned for the welfare of others. And anyone who has ever served an honorable mission, assisted in the conversion of a friend, supported a son or daughter in the mission field, or enjoyed close associations with missionaries will testify of its reality" (in Conference Report, Oct. 1976, 58; or [Ensign, Nov. 1976, 42](#)).

After the sons of Mosiah were converted, they felt a great desire to share the gospel with others. Their experiences provide some of the greatest examples of missionary service in the scriptures. This lesson discusses how they were able to become instruments in the hands of God in bringing the Lamanites to a knowledge of the truth.

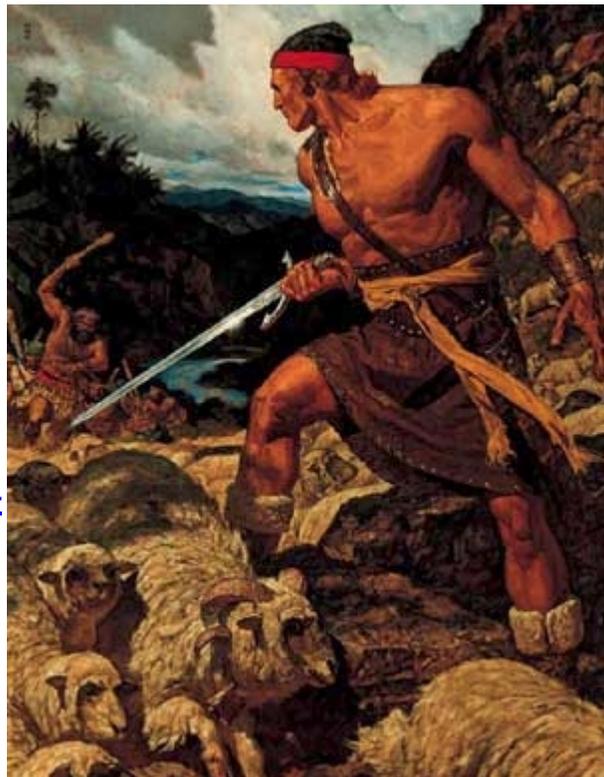
1. The sons of Mosiah preach the gospel to the Lamanites. ([Alma 17:1-18](#))

As Alma traveled to Manti, he met the sons of King Mosiah, who were returning from their 14-year mission to the Lamanites. [Alma 17-26](#) Records the experiences and preaching of the sons of Mosiah during their mission.

- A. Why were the sons of Mosiah such powerful and effective teachers? (See [Alma 17:2-4](#).) How does our personal worthiness and preparation affect our ability to be effective instruments for the Lord? How have you seen a missionary or someone else be blessed because of personal preparation?

- B.** What sacrifices did the sons of Mosiah make to perform their missionary work? (See [Alma 17:5–6](#).) Why were they willing to do this? (See [Alma 17:9](#), [Alma 17:16](#); see also [Mosiah 28:1–3](#). On the chalkboard write *Love God and others*.) How can we develop love and concern for others, as was demonstrated by the sons of Mosiah?
- C.** The sons of Mosiah went to preach to “a hardened and a ferocious people” ([Alma 17:14](#)). What comfort and counsel did the Lord give them to help prepare them for their mission? (See [Alma 17:10–11](#).) How did the sons of Mosiah feel after receiving comfort and direction from the Lord? (See [Alma 17:12](#).) How can these verses help us as we face challenges in our callings?

- 2.** Ammon serves and teaches King Lamoni, and many of the people are converted. ([Alma 17:19–39](#); [Alma 18](#); [Alma 19](#))



- A.** Why did Ammon’s heart become “swollen ... with joy” when the king’s flocks were scattered? (See [Alma 17:29](#).) How did Ammon turn this into a positive experience? (See [Alma 17:30–39](#).)
- B.** How did the king respond when his servants told him how Ammon had defended his flocks? (See [Alma 18:2–5](#).) What was Ammon doing when the king asked where he was? (See [Alma 18:8–9](#).) How did this help prepare King Lamoni to be taught? (See [Alma 18:10–11](#).)
- C.** How did the king’s servants address Ammon when he came to see the king? (See [Alma 18:13](#).) How did Ammon’s words to King Lamoni show that Ammon was still a humble servant? (See [Alma 18:14–17](#).)
- D.** Why do you think it was important for Ammon to serve the king before trying to teach him? How can serving and developing a relationship of trust with others help us present the gospel message to them? In what ways can we serve those we teach?
- E.** As Ammon began teaching King Lamoni, how did he help him gain an understanding about God and heaven? (See [Alma 18:24–33](#).) How can we follow this example when teaching the gospel?

- F. After establishing a level of understanding with King Lamoni, what essential doctrines did Ammon teach him? (See [Alma 18:34–39](#).) Why is the Book of Mormon an important tool in teaching these truths today?
- G. What did King Lamoni do after hearing and believing Ammon's words? (See [Alma 18:40–41](#).) Why is it important for people to seek forgiveness when they are taught the principles of the gospel? Why is prayer necessary in the conversion process?
- H. After praying, King Lamoni fell to the earth. How did the queen demonstrate her faith when Lamoni appeared to be dead? (See [Alma 19:1–5](#), [Alma 19:8–9](#).)
- I. What did Lamoni emphasize when he spoke to the queen after his conversion? (See [Alma 19:12–13](#).)
- J. After speaking to the queen, Lamoni again fell to the earth, as did the queen and all of the servants except Abish ([Alma 19:13](#), [Alma 19:15–16](#)). Who was Abish? (See [Alma 19:16–17](#).) What did Abish do when she understood what had happened? (See [Alma 19:17](#).) How can we better recognize and use opportunities to share the gospel?
- K. What were some of the different responses of the people when they arrived at the house of the king? (See [Alma 19:18–28](#).) How did Abish try to resolve the contention among the people? (See [Alma 19:28–29](#).) How did the king and queen demonstrate their conversion after they arose? (See [Alma 19:29–31](#), [Alma 19:33](#).)
- L. What do you think Mormon wanted us to learn from the experiences of Ammon and King Lamoni and his people? (See [Alma 19:36](#).)
3. Ammon is led by the Spirit to deliver his brethren. Lamoni's father is converted. ([Alma 20–22](#))
- A. What did Lamoni want to do after the Church was established in his kingdom? (See [Alma 20:1](#).) Why is it important for new converts to share their testimonies with others? How can we continue to have such enthusiasm?
- B. How did the conversation between Lamoni and his father demonstrate the depth of Lamoni's conversion? (See [Alma 20:13–15](#).)
- C. What astonished King Lamoni's father about Ammon? (See [Alma 20:26–27](#).) Why are love and testimony so powerful in softening a person's heart?

[Alma 21](#) begins the account of Ammon's brother Aaron and his fellow servants. They preached the gospel to the Amalekites and Amulonites in Jerusalem, but these apostate Nephites were extremely hard-hearted and refused to listen.

Aaron and his brethren left and began preaching in the land of Middoni, where they were thrown into prison and mistreated.

- D. What did Aaron and his brethren do as soon as they were released from prison and fed and clothed? (See [Alma 21:14–15](#).) Why is it important for us to continue in our labors in God’s kingdom even when we face suffering and affliction?
- E. How did Aaron and his brethren know where they should go to teach the gospel? (See [Alma 21:16](#).) How were they blessed as they were led by the Spirit? (See [Alma 21:17](#).) How have you been blessed by heeding the promptings of the Spirit?
- F. Aaron was led by the Spirit to the house of King Lamoni’s father ([Alma 22:1](#)). How had Ammon’s example helped prepare Lamoni’s father to be taught? (See [Alma 22:2–3](#).) How have you seen the examples of Church members influence others for good?
- G. How was Aaron’s teaching of Lamoni’s father similar to Ammon’s teaching of Lamoni? (Compare [Alma 18:24–39](#) with [Alma 22:7–14](#).) What did Aaron say when Lamoni’s father asked what he should do to obtain a hope of redemption? (See [Alma 22:16](#).)
- (1) “Bow down before God.”
- (2) “Repent of all thy sins.”
- (3) “Call on [God’s] name in faith.”
- H. What sacrifices was the king willing to make to know God? (See [Alma 22:15](#), [Alma 22:17–18](#).) What can we learn from the king’s example?



Referring to [Alma 22:15](#), [Alma 22:18](#), President Ezra Taft Benson said: “Each of us must surrender our sins if we are to really know Christ. For we do not know Him until we become like Him. There are some, like this king, who must pray until they, too, have ‘a wicked spirit rooted’ from them so they can find the same joy” (in Conference Report, Oct. 1983, 63; or *Ensign*, Nov. 1983, 43).

- I. Like his son Lamoni, the king was physically overcome by the Spirit. After the king had risen, he declared his testimony, and many were converted through this experience ([Alma 22:18–26](#)). What did the king do following his conversion that helped the missionaries bring thousands to a knowledge of the Lord? (See [Alma 22:26](#); [Alma 23:1–6](#).) What experiences have you had or known of where the conversion of one person had a positive effect on many others?