

Vacation Church School
Heroes Unit #2

Faith

Lesson: Mormon, God's Record Keeper

*...Come unto me and be ye baptized,
and build up again my church...
Mormon 1:65*

Goals:

1. Remember the name of Mormon
2. Understand that Mormon had great faith in order to accomplish the things the Lord asked him to do.
3. Know the story is from the Book of Mormon
4. Be able to relate the story.
5. Understand that we have the Book of Mormon because of Mormon's dedication.
6. Know that he/she has a place in building God's kingdom.

Vocabulary:

1. Ammoron
2. Mormon
3. Sacred plates
4. Hill Shim
5. rebel
6. Lamanites
7. Hill Cumorah

Materials and Preparation Needed:

Introduction:

- Book of Mormon

Story:

- Casstte player/CD player
- 7 styrofoam cups (2 should be smaller size)
- Clothespins (14 total)
- Markers
- Poster of Mormon working on the sacred records. (Ask Coordinator for this item.)
- Small ball

- ❑ Yellow construction paper
- ❑ Scissors
- ❑ Small pillow or brown or gray play dough
- ❑ Prepare:
 1. On cassette or CD have a male with a clear speaking voice record the words of the prophet Ammoron and God speaking to Mormon. (Ask Coordinator for this item) Leave a gap between each item if making a tape or CD.
 - ❖ *Mormon, I can see that you love God. God has an important job for you to do. As you are growing up, watch everything that is going on around you. When you are 24 years old, go to the Hill Shim and dig up the sacred records of God that I have hidden there. Write down everything you have seen on the sacred plates.*
 - ❖ *Do not preach to this people anymore. They are deliberately rebelling against me.*
 - ❖ *God's power won the battle for you. Repent of your sins. Go to church and learn about God.*
 - ❖ *Oh, that you had repented before this great destruction.*
 - ❖ *Believe in the gospel of Christ, which is in this record.*
 2. On Styrofoam cups draw faces, hair and clothes to make characters for the story.
 - 1) Young Mormon
 - 2) Mormon's friend
 - 3) Ammoron
 - 4) Adult Mormon
 - 5) Two Nephites
 - 6) Two Lamanites
 3. Clip on the clothespins for legs

Teacher's References: (These references are for the teacher to familiarize themselves with the lesson.)

Mormon 1-3

1:2-5

Ammoron, a Nephite prophet and keeper of the sacred records observes that Mormon is a serious child. He instructs him to remember the events he witnesses in his life. He further instructs Mormon that at the age of 24, he

is to go to the Hill Shim where the sacred plates are hidden and write the spiritual history of his people on these records.

1:16-18

At the age of 15, Mormon is called to be a minister and begins to preach to the people. Because of their rebelliousness, God forbids him to preach to them anymore.

1:22-23

At the age of 16, Mormon is appointed leader of the army and leads the Nephites in battle against the Lamanites.

1:53-66

The Nephites continue to have some success in battle but do not humble themselves before God. They began to boast and swear by the throne of God that they will destroy their enemies. Mormon refuses to lead their army.

2:19-26

The Lamanites come to battle against the Nephites with greater strength and are about to overtake the land. Mormon has compassion on his people and agrees to lead the army again.

3:7-13

Mormon gathers his people to the hill Cumorah for the final battle. He passes the sacred records on to his son Moroni. When the battle is over, only 24 men are left alive.

3:23-30

Mormon bids farewell to his people wishing that they had repented before this great destruction. He speaks to the people of a later day, who will read the Book of Mormon, telling them to repent and be baptized and lay hold on the gospel of Jesus Christ which is written in the sacred records of the Nephites and the Jews.

Introduction:

Can you think of someone you know who is ten years old? When our Book of Mormon hero was the age of (Ten year old you know), God started getting him ready for an important job. Now, can you think of someone who is 15? When our hero was 15, the same age as (15 Year old you know), God called him to be a minister. When he was only 16, he became the leader of an army. His name is found on the front of this book.

Hold up the Book of Mormon

In fact, this book is named after him, *The Book of Mormon*.

Story:

Our story began when Mormon was just a young boy.

Set out young Mormon cup.

Like any other boy, he liked to have fun with his friends.

Set out Mormon's friend and a ball. Have Mormon and friend kick the ball back and forth.

Mormon liked to think about God too.

Remove friend.

One day, when Mormon was 10, God sent a the prophet Ammoron to him.

Set out cup of Ammoron. Play Cassette or CD.

Mormon, I can see that you love God. God has an important job for you to do. As you are growing up, watch everything that is going on around you. When you are 24 years old, go to the Hill Shim and dig up the sacred records of God that I have hidden there. Write down everything you have seen on the sacred plates.

While Mormon was growing up, he probably fished and ran in the hills with his friends.

Bring back Mormon's friend and have them run.

Then remove the friend.

Mormon started taking more time to do his job for God. He paid close attention to what the grown ups in his land were doing and he remembered. God saw what a good job Mormon was doing.

Replace young Mormon with Adult Mormon.

When Mormon was 15 years old, God saw that he was ready to be a minister. "Now I can teach people about God!" thought Mormon. Do you think that the people listened to Mormon? No, they were wicked and rebellious.

Place two Nephite cups facing Mormon. Hold Mormon.

"You must believe in God." Mormon told them.

Hold the two Nephites and shake them as if saying "No."

"Nah! We don't want to hear about God," they said.

Walk the Nephites away and remove.

Then God spoke to Mormon:

Play tape:

*Do not preach to this people anymore.
They are deliberately rebelling against me.*

Does anyone know what rebelling means? When we don't obey our mom and dad we are rebelling. We don't do what they ask us to do we are rebelling. Well, the Nephites did what was even worse than not obeying their mom and dad. They didn't obey God. From then on they had serious trouble.

Their enemies, the Lamanites, attacked!

Set out the cups for the Lamanites while making war noises.

Though Mormon was only 16, he was tall and strong. He was chosen to lead the army.

Do you think God blessed the rebellious Nephites as they fought the Lamanites? No. The Lamanites killed many people and chased them from their cities.

Place the Nephites to battle the Lamanites.

Knock the Nephites to the floor.

Then remove everyone but Mormon.

It was time for Mormon to do his special job for God. He went to the Hill Shim.

Have the plates hidden behind play dough or under a pillow.

Take out plates.

He found the sacred plates and began to write down all the terrible things that were happening to his people.

The fighting went on for a long time. Then something changed. Mormon's army won some battles. God was giving the Nephites another chance. He sent Mormon to preach to them one last time.

Place Nephites and play tape:

God's power won the battle for you. Repent of your sins. Go to church and learn about God.

Have Nephites march around proudly.

That was the end for the Nephites. Then came the last big battle. Mormon gathered all the people to the Hill Cumorah.

Place Mormon on Hill Cumorah and Nephites near the hill.

Have the Lamanites attack.

Knock some of the cups over.

They fought so hard that when the battle was over only 24 of the Nephites were left.

Remove all but Mormon.

Mormon finished his job for God. On the sacred plates, he wrote to his people:

Play tape:

Oh, that you had repented before this great destruction.

And to all who would read the Book of Mormon he wrote:

Play tape:

Believe in the gospel of Christ, which is in this record.

It isn't every day that God needs a job as big as the one Mormon did. He does have a job for each of us in His church. Pray, be loving, and think about the things you learn at church. You will be getting ready for the job God has for you when you are ready.

Discussion:

Sometimes when you sing a song at the front of the church, even though you're scared or maybe you choose to be nice to someone when other kids aren't. Reading the Bible or the Book of Mormon instead of watching TV. When you do these things you are doing a job for God, right now, while you are young, just like Mormon did.

Optional Activities:

(Look through the following activities and use the ones that will fit the needs of your students. You may choose to use these or maybe not. You decide what will meet your students needs.)

Review: Mormon True or False

Unlock The Code Worksheet

□ Prepare:

1. One copy per student of each worksheet

Secret Message

Can you figure out the code to read Mormon's message to us? To check your answer, read Mormon 3:30 on Page 704 in the Book of Mormon.

Code:

1=A	6=F	11=K	16=P	21=U
2=B	7=G	12=L	17=Q	22=V
3=C	8=H	13=M	18=R	23=W
4=D	9=I	14=N	19=S	24=X
5=E	10=J	15=O	20=T	25=Y
				26=Z

12 1 25 8 15 12 4 21 16 15 14 20 8 5

7 15 19 16 5 12 15 6 3 8 18 9 19 20

23 8 9 3 8 19 8 1 12 12 2 5

19 5 20 2 5 6 15 18 5 25 15 21

14 15 20 15 14 12 25 9 14 20 8 9 19

18 5 3 15 18 4 2 21 20 1 12 19 15

9 14 20 8 5 18 5 3 15 18 4

23 8 9 3 8 19 8 1 12 12 3 15 13 5

21 14 20 15 2 8 5 7 5 14 20 9 12 5 19

6 18 15 13 20 8 5 10 5 23 19

Game: Mormon Jeopardy

- ❑ Scissors
- ❑ Markers
- ❑ Paper Bag
- ❑ Stop Watch or Watch with a second hand
- ❑ Writing Paper to record game points
- ❑ Prepare:

1. Cut out each word from the story:

- 1) Mormon
- 2) 10
- 3) Ammoron
- 4) Hill Shim
- 5) Sacred plates
- 6) Minister
- 7) Army
- 8) 15
- 9) 16
- 10) Hill Cumorah
- 11) 24
- 12) Lamanites
- 13) Nephites
- 14) Book of Mormon

2. Put the strips into the paper bag.
- To Play:
1. Have kids take turns drawing a word from the bag.
 2. When child draws a word from the bag, they must explain the significance in the story. (Example= 16, the age Mormon was when he was chosen to head the Nephite army.)
 3. If student can explain word in 5 seconds or less, he/she gets 100 points.
 4. If student can explain the word in 10-15 seconds, he gets 50 points.
 5. If student takes 20-30 seconds to explain the word, he/she earns 20 points.
 6. If the student is unable to explain the word in 30 seconds, he forfeits his/her turn and puts the word back into the bag.
 7. Winner is the person with the most points.