

Vacation Church School
Heroes Unit #2

Faith

Lesson: Brother of Jared

Never has man come before me with such exceeding faith.

Ether 1:72

Goals:

1. By the end of the class the child should be able to remember the name of the main character.
2. Remember the Brother of Jared showed great faith and accomplished what he did by faith in God.
3. Remember that he/she should trust in God in difficult circumstances in his/her life.
4. Relate the events of the story.
5. Know the story is from the Book of Mormon.

Vocabulary:

1. Jared
2. Brother of Jared
3. Language
4. Faith
5. Cloud
6. Stones
7. Boat

Materials and Preparation Needed:

Story:

- Book of Mormon
- CD
- Pictures:
 1. Jared
 2. Brother of Jared
 3. Tower of Babel
 4. Group of Jaredite people
 5. Jaredite flock
 6. Bees
 7. Cloud

8. Brother of Jared in prayer

9. God touching the stones

10. Boat

- ❑ Flannel board or poster board
- ❑ Scissors
- ❑ Velcro Dots or Tape
- ❑ Crayons/Markers/Colored Pencils
- ❑ Prepare:
 1. Make recording of three people shouting some of the following expressions in foreign languages. *Que pasa?* (Spanish for What's happening?) *Jak Tamidzie?* (Polish for What's happening?) *Sche Ke gerda!* (Lithuanian for Talk Right.) If unable to make recording it could be read to the class.
 2. Make copies of Flannel graph drawings.
 3. Cut, color, and attach Velcro to backs of the figures.

Review Activity:

- ❑ Secret Message Worksheet
- ❑ Prepare:
 1. Make copies for each student.
 2. Answer= Because of thy faith thou hast seen.

Outside Activity: Scavenger Hunt

- ❑ Ziplock bags
- ❑ Seeds or Raw popcorn
- ❑ Paper bags
- ❑ Toy Farm Animals
- ❑ Cloth Remnants
- ❑ Prepare:
 1. Put popcorn or seeds in Ziplock bags.
 2. Hide farm animals and cloth remnants outside.
 3. When ready ask kids to find some of the things that the Jaredites would have taken with them on their journey to a new land.

Memory Verse Activity:

Never has man come before me with such exceeding faith. Ether 1:72

□ Post-It notes

1. Write parts of the above memory verse on pieces of post-it notes.
2. Hide around the room.
3. Have each student practice finding the parts of the verse in order.

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

Ether 1:7-27

Establishes that this is a record of Jared, the Brother of Jared, their friends and families at the tower of Babel when God scattered the people and confounded the languages. Jared asks his brother, who is known for great faith, to petition the Lord that their languages might not be confounded. God honors the prayer. Jared asks his brother to ask mercy for their friends and family. God again has compassion. Fearing that in His anger, God will drive them from the land, Jared asks his brother to ask God to tell them if they will be driven from the land and to reveal to them where they will be sent. God instructs them to gather their loved ones, their flocks, and seeds of every kind. They snare birds and fish, and carry honeybees. God goes before them in a cloud to lead the way.

Ether 1:36-46

The Jaredites reach the sea and set up camp. The Brother of Jared forgets to pray for four years. God forgives him, but admonishes him never to forget the Lord again. God instruct the Brother of Jared to build boats to cross the ocean. They must

have a top and bottom and be tight like a dish as they will sometimes flip completely over.

Ether 1:47-61

The Brother of Jared inquires of the Lord how to supply the ships with air. The Lord instructs him to put holes in the top and bottom of each boat. When the boats are submerged in the mountainous waves, sent to drive them to the promised land, they can stop the holes to keep water out. The Brother of Jared then inquires of the Lord how to bring light to the ships. He climbs a nearby mountain and melts 16 small stones from clear white rock.

Ether 1:66-72

The Brother of Jared places the stones on the ground and asks the Lord to touch them. God reaches down and touches each stone. As he does, each stone begins to shine. The faith of the Brother of Jared is so great, the veil is taken from his eyes and he sees the finger of God. The Lord tells the Brother of Jared that no one has ever come before Him with such great faith.

Introduction:

What is our native language? *Discuss languages and answer with the class.* Imagine what it would be like if you suddenly started talking in a foreign language? What if you needed water and the words came out "ushnoru vandeneh?" What if you couldn't make anyone understand you? Well that's just what happened to all the people all around our hero from the Book of Mormon. *Hold up the Book of Mormon.* We'll find out what happened to him and how he became a hero for God.

Story: The Faith of the Brother of Jared

Place flannel board graph figures on the board as you tell the story.

A very long time ago everyone spoke the same language. This was wonderful, until the people forgot that they needed God. Nobody knows for sure, but it may have sounded something like this:

"Let's build a tower to the sky. If we build a tower all the way to Heaven we can be just as powerful as God."

"We'll make the mortar!" another cried out.

Place the picture of the Tower of Babel.

Soon everyone was working together for the wrong reasons. God knew they needed to be taught a lesson. Suddenly, everyone sounded something like this: *Play cassette/CD or just read the different languages.*

Que pasa? (Spanish for What's happening?)

Jak Tamidzie? (Polish for What's happening?)

Sche Ke gerda! (Lithuanian for Talk Right.)

In all this confusion was a good man who had not forgotten God. We don't know his name but we know his brother's name, Jared. The Book of Mormon just calls him the Brother of Jared.

Jared and his brother could still understand each other. Jared came running to his brother.

Place the picture of Jared and the picture of his brother.

"You have great faith. Please ask the Lord to help us to speak the same language." God answered the prayer of the Brother of Jared.

Place the picture of the group of Jaredite people.

"Ask Him to let us understand our family and friends too!" begged Jared. Once more God answered the Brother of Jared's prayers.

Jared was very afraid that the Lord was so angry that He would drive them out of the land. He pleaded his brother, "Ask the Lord if He is going to drive us out of the land. If He is going to drive us out, ask Him where we should go."

Then God spoke to the Brother of Jared, "Go and get all of your family and friends. Bring your flocks of animals and seeds to grow food. I will lead you to a special land."

Place the pictures of flock and bees.

The people did what God commanded them. They even caught birds, fish, and bees to take with them. God went before them in a cloud and led them all the way to the ocean.

When they got to the ocean, they were pretty tired. They set up camp and decided to relax for a while. They were so relaxed that for four years the Brother of Jared forgot to do something very important. Do you know what it was? He forgot to pray.

Place the picture of the Brother of Jared in prayer.

The Brother of Jared realized how careless he had been and he was very sorry. "Please forgive me!" he begged the Lord.

"I forgive you," God said. "But don't forget to pray anymore. Now it is time to build boats to cross the ocean. Build them with tops that can shut tightly like a dish to keep the water out."

Place the picture of the boat.

The people got to work building. When they were finished, two things were missing. What do you think they might be?

Pause for discussion. Place the picture of boat.

Air and light were the things they would need in their boats. "Put a hole in the top and bottom of each boat for air." God said. "Sometimes the waves will be as big as mountains and flip the boats completely upside down. When the water comes in, stop up the holes in the boats."

There was one more thing the brother of Jared knew the Lord could do, put light in the boats so they wouldn't have to cross the ocean in darkness. He climbed up on a mountain and smashed out some clear white rock. Then he melted it into sixteen small stones. He knelt down to pray.

"Oh Lord, I know you can make these stones glow with light." Then something wonderful happened.

Place the picture of God touching the stones.

God reached down and touched each stone. As he touched each stone, it began to glow with light. The Brother of Jared believed in God so much that he could see God's finger as it touched the stones.

"No one has ever believed in me this much before." The Lord told the Brother of Jared.

We will probably never have to cross the ocean to a strange land, but when we have a problem in our life, God wants us to pray to Him in faith, just like the Brother of Jared. Who knows what wonderful things will happen?

Secret Message Worksheet

Directions: Answer the following true/false questions by circling the correct answer. Fill in the blanks of the secret message below with the correct letter.

Secret Message:

____ _
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

____ _
13 14 15 16

H THOU HAST SEEN. Ether 1:72

- | | <u>True</u> | <u>False</u> |
|--|-------------|--------------|
| 1. The Brother of Jared's name was Bob. | A | B |
| 2. Jared and his brother were at the Tower of Babel. | E | F |
| 3. The Brother of Jared prayed that they would still be able to understand each other. | C | Q |
| 4. God didn't answer the Brother of Jared's prayer. | T | A |
| 5. God promised to lead them to a new land. | U | P |
| 6. They left their animals behind. | V | S |
| 7. They took honeybees with them. | E | R |
| 8. God commanded the Brother of Jared to build boats to cross the ocean. | O | K |

	<u>True</u>	<u>False</u>
9. The Brother of Jared prayed every day for four years.	P	F
10. God instructed the Brother of Jared to build boats with holes in the top and bottom.	T	X
11. God told the Brother of Jared the boats would go through waves as big as mountains.	H	Z
12. God said they must cross the ocean in darkness.	L	Y
13. The Brother of Jared shaped sixteen clear white stones.	F	M
14. The Brother of Jared hid the stones.	D	A
15. As God touched the stones, they began to shine.	I	Q
16. The Brother of Jared had so much faith that he saw the finger of the Lord.	T	C

