

Ammon and King Limhi
(Lesson intended for ages 5-7)
Written by Liza Hedrick in April 2008

Memory Verse:

For they were men of sound understanding, and they had searched the scriptures diligently, that they might know the word of God.

Alma 12:4

Review:

Mosiah was King of the Nephites.

Alma I set up seven churches in the Land of Zarahemla.

Alma II and the Sons of Mosiah were unbelievers that were converted to the church by an angel appearing unto them.

After Alma II and the Sons of Mosiah were converted they began to share with others what God had done for them in their lives.

Story to read or tell:

Hold up an instrument or pictures of instruments.

Ask the class:

Can these make music by themselves? Can the instrument play its own notes?

What does it need to make music? (musician) Does it sound pretty if they don't follow what is written?

Our story is about the Sons of Mosiah, they asked to be used as an instrument in the hands of God to bring the Lamanites to the knowledge of the truth. They had to place themselves in God's hands to be led and directed in all that they would say and do.

The Sons of Mosiah went around the land telling others of the Lord. God placed an important desire on their hearts. The Sons of Mosiah gathered together some of their friends and stood before their father, King Mosiah. They asked King Mosiah if he would allow them to go to the Lamanite people. They desired to share the knowledge of God with them that they might know and learn to become a peaceful people that would be friendly with the Lamanites. Most importantly, they desired that their souls would not be lost. These Sons of Mosiah said that if the Lord could change their own sinful hearts, he could be merciful to the Lamanites. They pleaded with their father for many days.

King Mosiah didn't know what to do. These were his sons that should take their place as King after him. King Mosiah trusted in God, he asked God what he should do. The Lord guided King Mosiah by telling him that he should let them go preach to the Lamanites. He told King Mosiah that many would believe because of their preaching and He would deliver King Mosiah's sons out of the hands of the Lamanites.

The Sons of Mosiah prepared themselves as they journeyed to the Land of Nephi. They fasted and prayed and searched the scriptures diligently.

Find and read Alma 12:4, 14,15, 18-19*(searched the scriptures, fasted and prayed for a portion of God's spirit.)*

God answered their prayers and gave them direction. They needed to be patient in long suffering and affliction and show a good example. God gave them the courage and the strength they needed to share the gospel. They each separated and set out to spread the word of God.

Ammon, entered the land of the Lamanites and was captured and bound, or tied up by the Lamanites and brought before King Lamoni, who was king over the Land of Ishmael. The king asked him his plans and upon learning that Ammon wanted to stay in the land he offered one of his daughters for him to marry. Ammon, following God's direction, refused the king's daughter and asked to be a servant of the king instead.

Ammon was given the job of helping with the king's flocks.

The servants had a difficult challenge. Every time they took the animals to water, some men scattered their flock that some were lost. The servants feared for their lives. Ammon used this as an opportunity to show God's power and be an example. When they went to water the flocks he drove them off with a sling shot. He also cut off the arms of the ones that were trying to beat him with clubs. The king's servants brought the arms and laid them before the king and told the king how Ammon had preserved the king's flocks. King Lamoni began to believe that Ammon was a Great Spirit that their fathers had spoken of. King Lamoni began to be afraid because in the past he had killed the servants that had allowed his flocks to be scattered and lost. He thought he had done something wrong.

The King wanted to see Ammon and was surprised again to learn that Ammon was faithfully feeding the king's horses. King Lamoni was so impressed by the faithfulness of Ammon in keeping all the commandments that king had given him. Now he really believed he was the Great Spirit and he was afraid of Ammon.

After feeding the horses Ammon went and stood before King Lamoni and asked him what the king wanted him to do. The king wasn't able to answer him for an hour! God gave Ammon the words and understanding. He helped him to understand what the king was thinking. The king was even further amazed. "How do you know my thoughts? Are you the Great Spirit? Tell me by what power you are able to do these things and I will give you anything you desire."

Ammon saw the opportunity that God had given him. "Will you listen to my words if I tell you by what power I do these things? That is what I desire."

Ammon explained many things to the king. Some of the things he taught the king were that; God in heaven knows all our thoughts, he told them about creation and the holy scriptures, the journey of Lehi's family and the rebellion of Laman and Lemuel. He told them about Christ and all the works of the Lord.

The king believed all of Ammon's words. When Ammon finished teaching them, the king cried unto the Lord, begging for mercy. When he cried unto the Lord he fell to the ground, as if he were dead. He was like that for two days and two nights. His wife and family were about to bury him. The queen asked Ammon to come and see the king. Ammon told her that the king would rise again the next morning. Just as Ammon said, the king rose and began to praise God for his plan. He was overcome with the spirit again and this time the king and the queen fell to the ground. Ammon fell to his knees in thanksgiving to God and he too was overcome by the spirit and fell to the earth. The

servants saw that they had fallen and they began to cry unto God with all their might. They too fell to the earth, all except a woman named Abish. She had been converted to the Lord for years, she ran and told a great multitude of people to come and see what had happened to the king and queen and their servants.

One of the group, whose brother was slain by Ammon, went forth to kill Ammon and as he lifted his sword to kill him. As he lifted his sword, he fell dead. As the Lord told King Mosiah, God would protect his sons. The multitude began arguing over why the group had fallen. Abish was worried, she went to the queen, as soon as she touched her the queen stood and praised the Lord saying, “O blessed Jesus, who has saved me from an awful hell! O blessed God, have mercy upon this people!” She also spoke many things that couldn’t be understood.

The king rose and began teaching the multitude the things of God. As many that heard him believed and they were converted to the Lord. The servants also rose and declared unto the people the same things. All of those that believed were baptized and they established a church. The Lord poured out his spirit upon the Lamanites and used Ammon as an instrument to bring many to believe in God.

Activity/Craft:

1. Practice memory verse. Place parts of verse around the room with picture clues to help students that can’t read.
2. Make stick puppets for main characters. Cotton balls for flocks. Students can retell the story.
3. Review game-
 - What happened to Ammon as soon as he entered the land of the Lamanites?(captured)
 - What job did he do after he was released?(helped with the flocks/horses)
 - What did Ammon do that showed faithfulness? (Fed the horses, kept all the directions given by the king.)
 - Who did King Lamoni think Ammon was? (the Great Spirit)
 - Why did Abish gather all the people together? (she believed in the Lord and wanted everyone to see and hear how God changes people’s hearts.)
 - King Lamoni and his wife and servants said they had been changed, what does that mean? (God changed their hearts and they knew the truth)
 - What did those that believed do after learning about God? (baptized)

Memory Verse Visual Clues

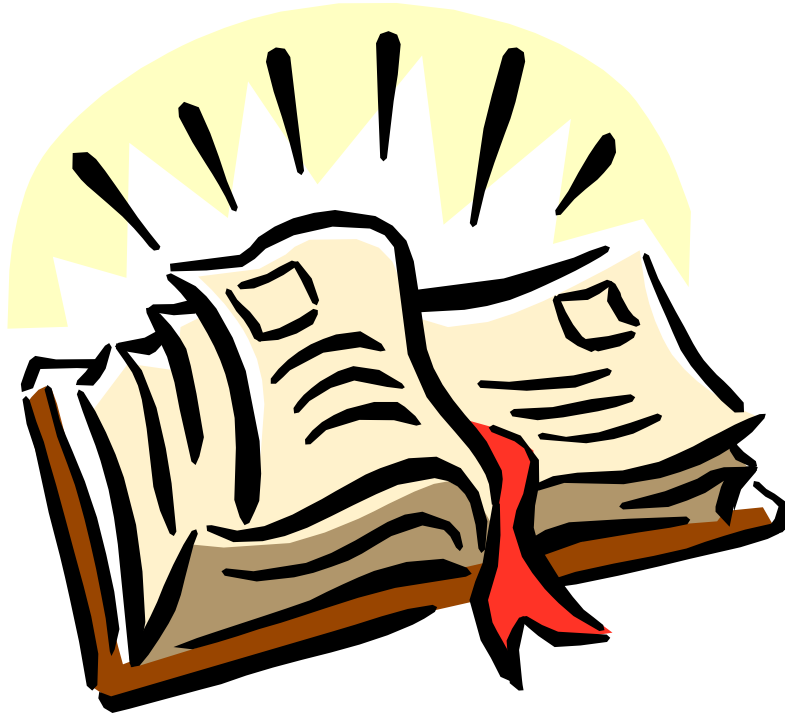
Some of the students aren’t able to read but can easily memorize the memory verse with a visual clue. Here were some of the pictures that I used to help the students with the memory verse.



For they were
men
of sound
understanding,



and they had
searched
the scriptures
diligently,



that they might
know
the word of God.
Alma 12:4

