

The Zoramites
Lesson intended for ages 5-7
May 2008
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Memory Verse:

...Faith, is not having a perfect knowledge of things: therefore if ye have faith, ye hope for things which are not seen, which are true. Alma 16:143

Review:

Who was Alma the younger? (He and the Sons of Mosiah saw an angel appear unto them, He was the first to be appointed Chief Judge)

Where can we read about Alma the younger? (Book of Alma)

Introduction:

(Bring a variety of seeds or pictures of seeds at different stages of growth.)

Have you ever seen a seed open and start to grow? What things does it need to continue to grow? Water and sunlight, a seed will open and start to grow with those two things. What does it need to continue to grow to its full height? Some good ground perhaps. In our story today, Alma tells the people to plant the word of God in their hearts. In order for it to sprout and bring forth fruit he told them they needed to nourish the seed with faith, great diligence, and patience. The fruit of seed will be a great feast if you continue to nourish it carefully.

Story to read or tell:

Alma chapter 16

Alma was the Chief Judge over all the land of the Nephites as well as High Priest of the church. Alma was a wise and a fair judge, but the church was starting to be carried away in pride. Alma chose another godly man to take his place as judge so he would have more time to preach to the people throughout the land.

A man named Korihor came into the land and was deceiving the people. He was taken before the Chief Judge and Alma. After denying God many times, Korihor said he would believe in God if he were shown a sign. Alma prayed to God and Korihor wasn't able to speak, he was stricken dumb. He went from house to house begging for food and was eventually trampled to death by the Zoramites.

Alma heard that the Zoramites, who had separated themselves from the Nephites, were perverting the teachings of God. Alma gathered together some of his sons and the Sons of Mosiah, to go into the land of the Zoramites to preach to the people. The word of God had a better ability to lead the people to do what was right than the sword.

Read or have students read:

Alma 16:85-87 The Zoramites had been Nephites but separated themselves from the Nephites. They didn't keep God's commandments.

Read the following scriptures about the worship of the Zoramites:

Alma 16:89-90 The Holy Stand, Rameumpton, with only room for one person.

Alma 16:99 They went to their homes and never spoke of God until the following week.

Alma 16:100 Their hearts were set on riches.

Alma 16: 101 They were lifted up in pride.

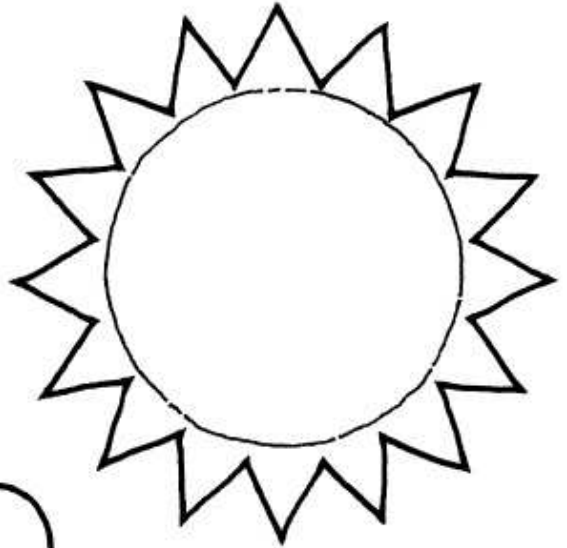
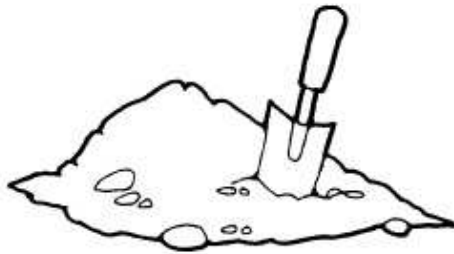
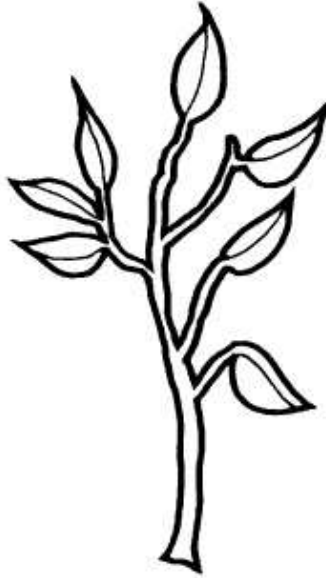
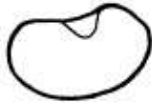
Alma 16:122-123 *They cast out the poor and wouldn't let them worship in the synagogues.*

Alma and Amulek began to teach the poor, who were ready to hear the word of God. He taught them many things about worshipping God. He taught them that man can pray to God wherever he is, and God will hear his prayer. He taught them about faith, repentance and baptism. He taught these people to exercise their faith in God. He compared the word of God to a seed, if you plant the seed and see it begin to grow you know that it is good. It will strengthen your faith in God. He also said that they needed to be diligent in their faith, and patience in nourishing the word that it would continue to grow and produce fruit. If you feast upon this fruit you will never hunger or thirst.

Alma and his brethren led the Zoramites that were cast out to the land of the people of Ammon. They fed and clothed and gave land to those that were rejected by the Zoramites.

Activity:

1. Use the following pictures and word strips to explain Alma's teaching about the seed.
2. Place *Word of God* on the seed. If we learn and obey the word of God we will be strengthened and can testify of the truth of the gospel or the word of God.
3. Place *Pray, Study the scriptures, Obey the commandments, Serve others* on things that help nourish the tree/seed.
4. Place *Testimony of Jesus Christ* on the tree. Our testimony will grow as we do all those things to help nourish it.



Word of God

Testimony of Jesus Christ

Pray

Study the scriptures

Obey the commandments

Serve others



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