

Lesson 10

4 Nephi–Mormon 6

The following assignments include various learning activities, such as questions, lists, essays, charts, comparisons, contrasts, and surveys. To receive credit for this lesson, you must complete the number of assignments indicated below and submit them to your institute instructor or administrator. You may submit your work either electronically or on paper, handwritten or typed.

Each lesson should take approximately 60–90 minutes to complete, the same amount of time you would typically spend in a weekly institute class. Since reading the scripture block listed in the lesson heading is expected of all institute students prior to class, the estimated time for each assignment does not include the time you need to spend reading the scripture block.

Complete three of the following assignments:

1. 4 Nephi 1:1–18. Conversion

- a. Read the institute student manual commentary “4 Nephi 1:2: ‘The People Were All Converted unto the Lord’” (page 341). In 4 Nephi 1:2 we learn that “the people were all converted unto the Lord.” Read 4 Nephi 1:2–18 and list as many of the activities and attributes of the Nephites as you can find that describe a truly converted people. Write a short paragraph about the attribute that stands out most to you and why.
- b. Read 4 Nephi 1:15 and the student manual commentaries “4 Nephi 1:2: ‘There Were No Contentions and Disputations among Them’” and “4 Nephi 1:13, 15–16: ‘There Was No Contention among All the People’” (pages 341, 343). Then answer the following questions in writing:
 - Why was contention eliminated?
 - What can you do to have more of the love of God in your heart?
- c. Read the student manual commentary “4 Nephi 1:16–17: There Were No ‘Manner of -Ites’” (pages 344–45). Explain in writing how practicing the principles taught by President James E. Faust (1920–2007) and Elder Richard G. Scott can lead to a greater unity among Church members.

2. 4 Nephi 1:20–48. Pride Leads to Destruction and Sorrow

- a. The fall of the people in 4 Nephi took place step by step through sin and a series of poor choices. Using 4 Nephi 1:20–48, make a list of the gospel doctrines or principles that were abandoned by the people. Write answers to the following questions:
 - How did forsaking the gospel lead to their downfall?
 - In what ways does pride relate to each of the items on your list?
 - How could following the counsel in Doctrine and Covenants 38:24–27 have stopped the downfall of the people in 4 Nephi?
- b. From what you learned in 4 Nephi 1:20–48, write a half-page paper that identifies the path to apostasy.

3. Mormon 1–2. Righteousness amid Great Wickedness

- a. Using Mormon 1:8–2:15, make a list of at least 10 characteristics that describe the environment Mormon grew up in (see also student manual commentaries “Mormon 1:1: ‘I, Mormon’” and “Mormon 1:16, Willful Rebellion against God” [pages 348–49]). How were the people living? What were their lives focused on?
- b. Using Mormon 1, make another list of the characteristics of Mormon that indicate he remained righteous during a time of general wickedness. Explain in writing how you think Mormon was able to maintain his faithfulness to God.
- c. Compare your two lists. Write one or two paragraphs about what principles and practices from Mormon 1–2 could be applied to help you remain righteous in today’s state of general wickedness.

4. Mormon 2:10–27. Reasons for Sorrow

- a. After reading Mormon 2:10–15, list the reasons for the Nephites’ sorrow.
- b. After reading Mormon 2:18–19, 25–27, list the reasons for Mormon’s sorrow.

- c. What was the difference between the sorrow of the Nephites and the sorrow of Mormon?
 - d. Explain in writing how each of the following scripture passages relates to the Nephites' sorrow, to Mormon's sorrow, or to both: Alma 41:10; 42:29; Moroni 10:22; 2 Corinthians 7:9–10; Moses 7:28–40.
 - e. Read the student manual commentary "Mormon 2:15: 'The Day of Grace Was Passed'" (pages 349–50). Explain in writing how you would answer someone who asked, "Can a person sin beyond the point of no return?"
- Mormon expressed the hope that future readers "may believe the gospel of Jesus Christ." What is the relationship between the gospel, the Book of Mormon, and Jesus Christ?
 - Write your own testimony of the Book of Mormon as a witness of Jesus Christ. Consider sharing your testimony in your next family home evening, fast and testimony meeting, or in another appropriate setting.

6. Mormon 6:16–22. Mormon's Lamentation

Read Mormon 6:16–22 and contemplate how difficult it would be to witness the final destruction of your family, friends, and society. Write a paragraph that includes your answers to the following questions:

5. Mormon 3:17–22; 5:12–15. The Book of Mormon Is a Second Witness of Jesus Christ

Read Mormon 3:17–22; 5:12–15; and the student manual commentary "Mormon 3:20–22; 5:12–14: An Admonition to Believe in Christ" (page 351). Write answers to the following questions:

- Who will read the Book of Mormon?
- What messages did Mormon want to preserve through his writing?
- What seems to have been the most difficult thing for Mormon to accept with the destruction of his people?
- From what you have read, what seems to be the primary reason the Nephites were destroyed?