

Lesson 11

Mormon 7–Ether 5

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 assignments 3 and 5 and one of the remaining assignments:

1. Mormon 7. Mormon’s Final Testimony

- In his final testimony to the descendants of the Nephites and Lamanites, Mormon wrote what he wanted them to know and do. As you study Mormon 7, make two lists: first, what he wanted the people to know; and second what he wanted them to do. Include the verses where you found your answers.
- Read Mormon 7:8–10 and the institute student manual commentary “Mormon 7:8–9: The Book of Mormon and the Bible Support Each Other” (pages 354–55). Write a two- or three-paragraph letter to someone who accepts the Bible but is hesitant to read or accept the Book of Mormon. Explain how the Book of Mormon helps people believe the Bible. (These other scriptures may be helpful: 1 Nephi 13:38–40; 2 Nephi 3:11–12; 29:3–10.)

2. Mormon 8:26–41. A Prophecy of Moroni

- In Mormon 8:14–16, 26–32, Moroni described the day in which the Book of Mormon would come forth to the world. List at least five truths found in those verses about Joseph Smith and the coming forth of the Book of Mormon.
- Read Mormon 8:26–41 and the student manual commentary “Mormon 8:31: Pollutions in the Last Days” (pages 356–57). Write a paragraph about what most impresses you about Moroni’s prophecy concerning our day.

- Read Mormon 8:34–41 and the student manual commentary “Mormon 8:34–35: Written for Us Today” (page 357). How did President Ezra Taft Benson (1899–1994) recommend we study the Book of Mormon? Write a paragraph describing how you think this approach to studying the Book of Mormon would influence your understanding of it.

3. Mormon 9:1–31. Believe in a God of Miracles

- Moroni spoke to at least four groups of people in Mormon 9. Write a summary of his message for each of the following groups:
 - Those “who do not believe in Christ” (verses 1–6).
 - Those “who deny the revelations of God” (verses 7–14).
 - Those who do not believe God can work miracles (verses 15–25).
 - Those who “despise the works of the Lord” (verses 26–31).
- According to Mormon 9:12–17, what do you think are three central doctrines relating to the plan of salvation? List them and briefly explain in writing the importance of each doctrine as it relates to the plan as a whole.

4. Ether 1–2. Prayer

Read Ether 1:34–39, 43; 2:14. Also read the student manual commentaries “Ether 1:43: ‘This Long Time Ye Have Cried unto Me’” and “Ether 2:14: The Lord Chastened the Brother of Jared” (pages 363–64). Then write answers for the following questions:

- What role did prayer play in the Jaredites’ early history?
- Why did the Lord chasten the brother of Jared?
- Why do you think God wants us to go to Him often in prayer?
- What is the difference between crying unto the Lord and merely saying our prayers?
- What can you do to make your prayers more effective?

5. Ether 2–3. Seeking and Receiving Revelation from the Lord

- a. Read Ether 2:16–19 and list the challenges the brother of Jared faced after the barges were built.
- b. From Ether 2:20–25, write your answers to the following questions:
 - Of the problems the brother of Jared identified, which one did the Lord solve by giving direct instructions?
 - Read the student manual commentaries “Ether 2:19–3:6: Obtaining Light Was a Growing Experience” and “Ether 2:22–23: Prayer Requires Effort” (pages 364–65). What might the Lord have been teaching the brother of Jared by asking the questions in Ether 2:23, 25? How might Ether 12:6; Doctrine and Covenants 9:7–9; 58:26–29 apply in this situation?
- c. Read Ether 3:4–19. Respond in writing to the following questions:
 - What did the brother of Jared expect to see?
 - What did he see at first? What did he eventually see?
 - What do these verses teach us about how our spirits compare with our bodies in appearance?

- What do verses 9 and 19 say about what the brother of Jared needed for this vision to occur?

6. Ether 4:4–7. Vision of the Brother of Jared

Read Ether 4:4–7 and write a brief response to the following questions:

- How did Moroni describe the brother of Jared’s vision?
- What did the Lord command Moroni to do with the writings of the brother of Jared?
- When will we be able to see the brother of Jared’s writings?

7. Ether 5. Three Witnesses

- a. Read Matthew 18:16; Ether 5:1–6; Doctrine and Covenants 17:1 and write brief responses to the following questions:
 - What is the role of the Three Witnesses?
 - What were they to see?
- b. Read the testimony of the Three Witnesses found in the front of the Book of Mormon and the student manual commentary “Ether 5: Testimony of the Witnesses” (page 367). Explain in writing how the testimony of the Three Witnesses has helped strengthen your testimony of the Book of Mormon.