

## April 12-19 Mosiah 1-3

As I studied and read the scriptures for this week, I thought about General Conference and how so many of the messages and principles given to us during the 5 sessions were in such alignment with the principles and teachings of these 3 chapters. I want to touch on just a few that stood out to me and further supports and strengthens my testimony of the truthfulness of the gospel and that President Nelson and our other General Authorities are truly called of God to lead and guide us through these latter days.

### 1. Family Scripture Study

- a. There have been many changes over the past couple of years that have provided increased opportunities for us to dive into the scriptures and to study and learn them as a family. With the Home Centered Church plan and schedule, along with the Come Follow Me study guide, we are asked to spend additional time as a family to study and learn the scriptures together as well as independently.
- b. This is something that has been ongoing since the time of even Lehi. Mosiah 1: 4, we are taught that if Lehi had not made a practice of studying the plates and having them available to him, he would not have been able to teach his children. It's important to not only to know the stories in the scriptures, but to study them and to be in them constantly so that we remember the words correctly and allow them to feed and sustain our faith. Without constantly being in the scriptures and feeding our spirits, our faith would dwindle

### 2. Facing your tent

- a. King Benjamin and Mosiah gathered everyone together and they pitched their tents to the face the Temple. "every man according to his family, consisting of his wife, and his sons, and his daughters and their sons, and their daughters, from the eldest down to the youngest, every family separate from one another." Mosiah 2:5. Why do we face the Temple? For several reasons. 1. Respect 2. To better hear what is to be said so that we can be taught, spiritually fed and hear the words of the prophets.
- b. As I read this and thought about the status of the world right now and this recent general conference and how this resembled those families as they pitched their tents. We too were facing the Temple as we all sat in our living rooms and faced our televisions to watch General Conference, to hear the words of our Prophet and General Authorities; to learn what the Lord needed for us to hear. This brings me to the next point that was not taught by our speakers but is in fact the same now as it was then.

### 3. Words of a Living Prophet

- a. As in King Benjamin's time he delivered his words, his instructions from the Lord verbally just as our Prophets do today. Those words were ultimately written down so that they can be re-read and studied time and again to strengthen us and teach us what our spirits and hearts need. So it is today. The words spoken in our General Conferences are written down after they are spoken so that we can re-read and re-hear the messages the Lord intended for us. We need to read and discuss these with our families, search them for answers and guidance just as we do the scriptures.

### 4. Keep the Commandments

- a. We all know it's important to keep the commandments. Keeping the commandments opens up a path for the spirit to be present in our lives, to become a constant companion and friend to all of us. We need the Spirit to get to heaven because it is the Spirit that is our connection to Christ and it is only through Christ and His atoning sacrifice that we are able to return to Him and to our Heavenly Father.

These 3 chapters hold so many wonderful lessons and messages. One of the last things I want to mention is in Mosiah 3: 5-10. Keep in mind this is approximately 124 years before the birth of the Savior, but the faith that they had of what was yet to come inspires me so much. They knew everything, every detail of His birth, His miracles, His atoning sacrifice and His resurrection. This had not happened yet, but still they had faith in their own salvation because of what was to come because of those before them who put the words to paper (or plates 😊) so that everyone would have the gospel available to them to continue to learn, confirm, build testimonies and strengthen their faith.

There is so much more in these 3 short chapters, so I encourage you to read them together as a family and talk about what sticks out in your minds as you do so. All of these principles given to us so long ago are as true and strong today as they were then. This is the true church and the Lord himself leads us and he prepares a path for us.

I leave you my testimony that the gospel is true and if we study as a family, we will strengthen our testimonies and we will strengthen our homes and families.

In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen

Sister Anzalone