

## Episode 25

### Scripture Stories

#### CHAPTERS 40-41

#### Samuel the Lamanite Tells About Jesus Christ, Book of Mormon Stories

[BEGIN MUSIC: Scripture Power]

Because I want to be like the Savior, and I can,  
I'm reading His instructions, I'm following His plan.  
Because I want the power His word will give to me,  
I'm changing how I live, I'm changing what I'll be.

Scripture power keeps me safe from sin.  
Scripture power is the power to win.  
Scripture power! Ev'ry day I need  
The power that I get each time I read.

[END MUSIC]

CHILDREN: Welcome to Scripture Stories!

[BEGIN MUSIC: Scripture Power]

I'll find the sword of truth in each scripture that I learn.  
I'll take the shield of faith from these pages that I turn.  
I'll wear each vital part of the armor of the Lord,  
And fight my daily battles, and win a great reward.

Scripture power keeps me safe from sin.  
Scripture power is the power to win.  
Scripture power! Ev'ry day I need  
The power that I get each time I read.

[END MUSIC]

HOST: Scripture Stories is a program for you—the children. As you listen, remember that these stories are about real people who lived long ago. Read along with us. You'll find these stories in the Scripture Stories books published by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Have your mother, father, teacher or a friend help you find the story and invite them to read along with you, too.

[BEGIN MUSIC: Keep the Commandments]

Keep the commandments; keep the commandments!  
In this there is safety; in this there is peace.  
He will send blessings; He will send blessings,

Words of a prophet: Keep the commandments.  
In this there is safety and peace.

We are His children: we are His children,  
And we must be tested to show we are true.  
Hold to His promises; Hold to His promises,  
Heeding the prophets: Keep the commandments.  
In this there is safety and peace.

[END MUSIC]

HOST: If you remember, last week we read the story of Nephi Receives Great Power. Nephi walked toward his home, thinking about what the Lord had shown him and about the wickedness of the Nephites. He was sad because of their wickedness. The Lord spoke to Nephi and praised him for being obedient and working so hard to teach the gospel. Nephi was given the power to do anything. The Lord knew he would use this power righteously. The Lord told Nephi to warn the Nephites that if they did not repent, they would be destroyed. Nephi went immediately to warn the people. The Nephites did not believe Nephi. They tried to throw him into prison, but the power of God protected him. Nephi declared the word of God to all the Nephites. But the people became even more wicked and began fighting each other. Nephi prayed for a famine, hoping that a lack of food would humble the Nephites and help them repent. The famine came. There was no rain, so the ground dried up and crops could not grow. The people stopped fighting. The Nephites were hungry, and many of them died. Those who lived began to remember the Lord and what Nephi had taught them. The people repented of their sins and then begged their judges to ask Nephi to end the famine. The judges went to Nephi. When Nephi saw that the people had become humble and had repented, he asked the Lord to end the famine. The Lord answered Nephi's prayer, and it began to rain. Soon the crops were growing again. The people glorified God and knew that Nephi was a great prophet. Most of the Nephites joined the Church. They became rich, and their cities grew. There was peace in the land. Then some of the Nephites who had earlier joined the Lamanites attacked the Nephites. The Nephites tried to defeat their enemies, who had become Gadianton robbers, but could not because they themselves had become wicked again. When the Nephites were righteous, the Lord blessed them. When they were proud and forgot the Lord, he gave them problems to help them remember Him.

Children at home, get ready to read along with us the story of Samuel the Lamanite Tells About Jesus Christ by turning in your book to Chapter 40.

[BEGIN MUSIC: Samuel Tells of the Baby Jesus)

Said Samuel, "Within five years  
A night will be as day,  
And Baby Jesus will be born  
In a land far, far away."

Hosanna! Hosanna! Oh, let us gladly sing.  
How blessed that our Lord was born;  
Let earth receive her King!

Across the sea, in Bethlehem,  
Lord Jesus came to earth  
As Samuel had prophesied,  
And angels sang His birth.

Hosanna! Hosanna! Oh, let us gladly sing.  
How blessed that our Lord was born;  
Let earth receive her King!

[END MUSIC]

- CHILD: The Lamanites obeyed God’s commandments. They became more righteous than the Nephites.
- CHILD: Samuel, a Lamanite prophet, went to Zarahemla to preach to the wicked Nephites. He told them to repent.
- CHILD: The Nephites threw Samuel out of the city, and he started going back to his own land.
- CHILD: But the Lord told Samuel to return to Zarahemla and tell the people the things that the Lord would put into his heart.
- CHILD: The Nephites would not let Samuel back into the city, so he climbed to the top of the city wall and preached from there.
- CHILD: He prophesied that the Nephites would be destroyed in 400 years unless the people repented and had faith in Jesus Christ.
- CHILD: Samuel told the Nephites that Jesus Christ would be born in five years and that He would save all those who believed in Him.
- CHILD: Samuel told them about the signs of Jesus’ birth. A new star would appear, and the night before Jesus would be born it would not get dark.
- CHILD: Then Samuel told them the signs of Jesus’ death. There would be three days of total darkness—the sun, moon, and stars would not shine.
- CHILD: There would also be thunder and lightning and earthquakes. Mountains would crumble, and many cities would be destroyed.
- CHILD: Some Nephites believed Samuel and repented of their sins. They went to find Nephi, a righteous Nephite who could baptize them.
- CHILD: The rest of the Nephites did not believe Samuel. They threw rocks and shot arrows at him.
- CHILD: But the Lord protected him, and none of the rocks or arrows hit him.

CHILD: When the people saw he could not be hit, many more believed him and went to Nephi to be baptized.

CHILD: Nephi also taught the people about Jesus. He wanted them to believe in Jesus, repent, and be baptized.

CHILD: Most Nephites, however, did not believe Samuel. They tried to capture him.

CHILD: Samuel jumped down from the wall and ran to his own country.

CHILD: Samuel began teaching the Lamanites. He was never heard of again among the Nephites.

HOST: Why did Samuel get on the city wall? Meghan.

MEGHAN: Because they wouldn't let him back into the city.

HOST: Exactly. What did Samuel prophesy would happen in five years? Tiana.

TIANA: He prophesied that Jesus Christ, the Savior, would be born.

HOST: Uh-huh. And what would be the signs of Jesus Christ's birth? Mason.

MASON: That there would be a night that was bright as day.

HOST: Uh-huh. Yeah. That there would be signs and wonders in the heavens and there would be a night as bright as day. What would be the signs at the time of Christ's death? Camille.

CAMILLE: There would be dark days.

HOST: Okay. Awesome! Meghan.

MEGHAN: There would be three whole dark days.

HOST: Right. Three whole dark days. Why do you think the Lord revealed these signs to the Nephites? Tiana.

TIANA: So they could be prepared for when these disasters happened.

HOST: Uh-huh. Yeah. Well, they weren't just disasters, were they? There were other things that weren't disasters, so why would he want them to know these things? Kaitlin.

KAITLIN: So that they knew when Jesus would be born.

HOST: Yes. Because all the prophets had been prophesying about Jesus—that He was coming, that He was true, that He was real. Why was He trying to prepare them? Meghan.

MEGHAN: So that they could repent and have Heavenly Father forgive of their sins before He came.

HOST: Uh-huh. Wonderful. Go ahead, Kaitlin.

KAITLIN: Like if they didn't believe him, since the prophets were telling them that this would happen, if they didn't believe when it happened, they'd believe and they'd go, "Hey, they're right. Guess we were wrong."

HOST: Right. So also to prove to the people that it really was true. Yes, that's great. Meghan.

MEGHAN: They also said that Christ would save the ones that believed in Him. So if they didn't believe in Him, then He can't save them. They had to believe in Him.

HOST: That's excellent. Good thoughts. Thank you. What did those who did not believe in Him do?

CHILD: They tried to kill Samuel.

HOST: By doing what?

CHILD: Like throwing rocks and shooting arrows at him and trying to capture him.

HOST: What did the Nephites who believed in Samuel do after he finished preaching to them?

CHILD: They went to Nephi to be baptized.

HOST: Yeah, they repented, didn't they? So the ones who didn't believe were throwing rocks and arrows and all of these things. How come none of the rocks and arrows hit Samuel? Mason.

MASON: Because he had faith and the Lord was protecting him.

HOST: Yes. Alright. So if you had a message or if you had something that the Lord wanted you to do, would you get up on the wall?

CHILD: I would do it because I know that the Lord would help me and protect me and if I were to die, I know that I would be doing the right thing and I was helping Him do what He wanted me to do.

HOST: That's wonderful. You know, guys, we read—in the scriptures we read about all these prophets and most of them have to put their lives on the line for what they believe and for what is true. Are we willing to do that? Kaitlin.

KAITLIN: I would be willing to do it because I know that Heavenly Father would protect me like she said.

HOST: Awesome. In our lives right now, what are some ways that we can stand up for what we believe and what are some, you know, things that people may offend us with?

CHILD: Well, some example things that have sort of happened to me in the past was some of my friends kind of say, "This doesn't exist, it's all a bunch of baloney," and it's kind of hard to stick up for yourself. It's hard to say yes with one person. It's easier to, you know, agree on the right answer with a lot of people next to you so it's kind of hard to stand up by yourself.

HOST: That's true. It can be very lonely. You have to be very brave. So do you think Samuel was very brave? Yes. He really was. What happened when the people saw that Samuel couldn't be hit? Mason.

MASON: They went up on the wall and tried to kill him with swords.

HOST: And then what happened?

CHILD: Then Samuel jumped off the wall and ran back to his own land.

HOST: Isn't that amazing? That's just wonderful. There's no limit to what you can do when you're in the service of the Lord. Why do you think the people chose not to believe the prophets? Why? Kaitlin.

KAITLIN: They didn't wanna be told they're wrong. They wanted to be told, "I am right," not "You're wrong."

HOST: That's right. Absolutely. Meghan.

MEGHAN: And at this time some people aren't very humble. And they're full of pride. And they don't wanna listen to what they think a silly prophet has to say and so they just say no because they are full of pride.

HOST: That's right. And they don't wanna make a change.

CHILD: Some people probably just think, "Oh, well, I thought I was right. I don't wanna be wrong," so they wanna believe that.

HOST: Uh-huh. And sometimes people who don't have a lot of faith, you know, what do they do when they see miracles? Is it a miracle to them? TJ.

TJ: Sometimes they do and sometimes they're just, "Oh, this happened."

HOST: Right. And try to maybe explain it away, "Oh, I'm sure there's a logical explanation." What can you do to show that you believe the prophet? Meghan.

MEGHAN: By listening to General Conference and reading the Friend and showing a lot that you really do think that what the prophet is saying is true.

HOST: Uh-huh. Awesome. Kaitlin.

KAITLIN: By reading the scriptures, going to church, being baptized, so many other ways, but sometimes the prophet says to do things and when you do them, it shows Heavenly Father that you'll do it.

[BEGIN MUSIC: Sleep, Little Jesus]

Sleep, little Jesus, Lord of the earth.  
Angels are telling the news of thy birth.  
Shepherds will come to thee, bringing thee love.  
Bright shines the star in heaven above.

"Sleep, little Jesus, softly we sing.  
Earth long has waited her Savior and King.

Heavenly hosts sing, “Alleluia,  
Peace to all men, Alleluia!”

[END MUSIC]

- HOST: You are listening to Scripture Stories. Please turn to Chapter 41: The Signs of Christ’s Birth.
- CHILD: Nephi, the son of Helaman, gave the sacred records and scriptures to his oldest son, Nephi.
- CHILD: The Nephites saw great signs and miracles that prophets had said would happen before Jesus Christ’s birth.
- CHILD: But some Nephites said the time for Jesus’ birth had already passed.
- CHILD: They mocked those who still believed Samuel the Lamanite’s prophecies.
- CHILD: The people who believed in Jesus Christ and in the prophets were sad to think that something might keep the prophecies from being fulfilled.
- CHILD: The people watched faithfully for a night with no darkness, which was the sign that Jesus Christ would be born.
- CHILD: Those who did not believe in Jesus Christ chose a day to kill the believers if the sign had not happened.
- CHILD: Nephi was sad because of the wickedness of those who did not believe in the Savior.
- CHILD: Nephi prayed all day for the people who were going to be killed.
- CHILD: The Lord comforted Nephi and told him that it would not get dark that night. Jesus would be born the next day in Bethlehem.
- CHILD: That night the sun went down, but it did not get dark. The sign of Jesus Christ’s birth had come. The people were astonished.
- CHILD: Those who had planned to kill the believers fell down and appeared to be dead.
- CHILD: They were afraid because they had been wicked. Now they knew that the Savior would be born and that the prophets had been right.
- CHILD: It stayed light all night. When the sun came up the next morning, the people knew that Jesus Christ would be born that day. The prophecies had been fulfilled.
- CHILD: A new star appeared in the sky, just as the prophets had said it would.
- CHILD: Satan still tried to get people not to believe the signs they had seen, but most did believe.
- CHILD: Nephi and other Church leaders baptized all those who believed and repented.

CHILD: There were glad tidings in the land because the words of the prophets had been fulfilled. Jesus Christ had been born.

HOST: What were some of the people saying about Samuel the Lamanite's prophecies? Meghan.

MEGHAN: That they weren't gonna come true.

HOST: Uh-huh. Some were saying they weren't gonna come true. Kaitlin.

KAITLIN: They weren't gonna be fulfilled.

HOST: Uh-huh. Yeah. Some were believing and some weren't. How did the unbelievers treat the believers? Mason.

MASON: They were trying to kill them and they planned a day that they would kill all of them.

HOST: Isn't that horrible? TJ.

TJ: They treated them very poorly.

HOST: Yes, they did. How do you feel when others make fun of you?

CHILD: I feel sad.

HOST: Yeah. Does it ever make you feel embarrassed?

MEGHAN: Well, for me it kind of makes me wonder about myself like, why are they mocking me? What's wrong with me? What do I have to do to make them stop mocking?

HOST: What if you believe in something so strongly and then people are making fun of that thing. What do you start thinking about that thing you believe? Tiana.

TIANA: You sometimes start thinking, "Well, maybe I shouldn't start believing in this because they are saying it's not true, so maybe I'm gonna stop. Oh, I don't want to," but, you know, you get this, oh, I want to but I don't feeling.

HOST: Right. You may start to doubt or feel ashamed. Well, this is exactly what's happening right here. But we need to be strong and have faith. Stand up for what's right. How would this make it hard for the believers? Mason.

MASON: Because they were being laughed at and they didn't want to be so they had doubt and they wanted to go there but they knew that that wasn't right.

HOST: Yes. Even though they were mocked, what did believers continue to do? Camille.

CAMILLE: They kept believing in Heavenly Father.

HOST: They sure did. Did you have a comment, Meghan?

MEGHAN: They started to look more faithfully for the new star to come. They wanted the sign to come so that, you know, they weren't gonna be killed. They wanted the prophecy to come true.

HOST: Absolutely. What does this show about the faith of those who believed? Tiana.

TIANA: The people who believed had so much faith to be able to keep on believing, “Oh, it’s gonna happen, it’s gonna happen, I know it is,” even if they are getting mocked and treated poorly. They still had so much faith to believe that.

HOST: Yes, their faith was solid. It was strong. What threat did the unbelievers make to those who believed? Meghan.

MEGHAN: That shortly after the sign was supposed to come, if it didn’t come, they were just gonna kill them.

HOST: Uh-huh. That’s right. Why do you think some people get angry with those who believe in God? Kaitlin.

KAITLIN: If they didn’t believe, they don’t wanna be told that they’re right and they are wrong because they are like, “How am I being wrong?” Because they wanna be right and they want the people that believe to be wrong, but the people that believe are right.

HOST: Interesting. So maybe things they are doing in their life, if the believers aren’t doing them, they don’t want to feel guilty for the things that they are doing?

CHILD: Maybe some people think that they are doing the right thing, like they believe the right thing, and then the people who believe in Jesus Christ, they don’t believe that they are doing the right thing so they start mocking them and saying, “Hey, you are not doing the right thing, you should be following our Church or something.”

HOST: And remember, the land was infested with Gadianton robbers at the time so a lot of people were living rather wickedly. What did Nephi do when he saw the people were going to be killed?

CHILD: He prayed for them all day because he loved them. He didn’t want them to be killed.

HOST: Yes. That would have been a tragedy. What was the answer to Nephi’s prayer? TJ.

TJ: Jesus would be born that morning and there would be no night, darkness.

HOST: How would you feel if the prophet came to your house and told you that? Meghan.

MEGHAN: I’d feel very excited and very thrilled that He was going to be born the very next day and that the signs were really gonna come.

HOST: Why were the unbelievers so afraid when they saw the signs that the prophecy was fulfilled? Kaitlin.

KAITLIN: Because they’re like, “I guess we were wrong.”

HOST: (laughing) Meghan.

MEGHAN: They were so afraid because they had been so wicked and they knew that they were threatening these people that they knew that it wasn’t going to come true. And it was and

so they felt very horrible about themselves and astonished that it was actually gonna happen.

HOST: Uh-huh. Anyone else have a comment on that? Kaitlin.

KAITLIN: Because they'd be afraid because they go, "We've been mocking them, hurting them, telling them that this would happen so they'd stop believing" and now to see that it's happening.

HOST: Yeah, I think maybe they'd be a little afraid of getting punished. What sign did the Nephites see that was also seen in Bethlehem? Camille.

CAMILLE: A big star.

HOST: Yes. Isn't that neat? A very special birthday present in the heavens. How did the people show their belief in the Lord? TJ.

TJ: They did not become stirred at the mocking.

HOST: Interesting. They didn't waver. They stayed strong. How can you show your belief in the Lord? Kaitlin.

KAITLIN: Going to church, reading the scriptures, praying, being baptized.

HOST: Meghan.

MEGHAN: We can show our faith in the Lord by just doing some of the things like reading the Friend, or just watching General Conference. It shows Him that we really want to live with Him and that we really want to do things that are right.

HOST: Yes. And how can we show by our example?

CHILD: If we do something for others, then maybe others will be like, "Wow, I didn't know that person was so nice, and I didn't know that they would do that for free or for service." Maybe they'll want to talk to you and then become your friend and then maybe they could learn more about you and then maybe they could become interested in the Church and why we do this stuff.

HOST: Sure. So just by being a good person. We can show we love the Lord by being a good person. Why is the news of Jesus' birth such glad tidings?

CHILD: Because He is going to die for our sins and He's gonna make the atonement for us so it's very exciting to know that someone—that Heavenly Father's Son—is going to come down and teach us. It's very exciting to think about it.

HOST: It is. He is fixing it, He's gonna make everything right.

CHILD: It's great to know that Jesus Christ will come and help us all and save us all and He'll do it all by Himself and without any help from anybody else.

HOST: Uh-huh. That is wonderful. It's all glad tidings. Kaitlin.

KAITLIN: It was glad tidings because the people that were gonna be killed if He wasn't born, they knew that they'd stay alive.

HOST: Yeah, it was immediately glad tidings for those people, huh? Yeah. And the whole world realized that, you know, they fall into a big dark hole and someone was gonna come pull them out. Isn't that glad tidings? I'd be thrilled about that and I am thrilled about that because it's still true now today for me and for you. Like Samuel prophesying of Jesus' birth, prophets have also prophesied of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Just as the people who did not believe in the coming of Jesus' birth, there are many people today who don't believe in the Second Coming of Christ. How do you know that the prophecies of Jesus Christ's Second Coming will be fulfilled?

CHILD: Because like in the story that happened, Samuel was right and if Samuel's right and what he said when Jesus' birth is gonna come and it came, then the Second Coming is most likely gonna come. It's gonna come because that's what Heavenly Father told the prophets.

HOST: I think I see what you're saying. If Samuel is a true prophet and he said it then and it came true, and if our prophet today is a true prophet and he says it now, it'll come true.

CHILD: And because everybody's telling us that it'll come true. God has sent it down to our prophet and our prophet has told it to us and so they've been telling us and telling us and telling us and so God really wants us to know that this is going to happen. He wants more people to believe this time that He will come.

HOST: Yes. And who else can whisper if it's true or not to your heart?

CHILD: The Holy Ghost can.

HOST: Absolutely. What kind of person do you wanna be when He comes? Mason.

MASON: A righteous person.

HOST: TJ.

TJ: Nice, righteous and forgiving.

HOST: Yes, definitely. I would definitely wanna be on His side when He comes. Meghan.

MEGHAN: I want to be completely clean of my sins by just repenting every single time I do bad because when He comes, He'll see that I'm really trying to be like Him.

HOST: Right. Do you remember how happy the believers were when they saw the sign of Christ's birth? You wanna be happy when He comes again. Do you remember how scared and sad and upset the unbelievers were at the sign of His birth? You don't wanna be scared, sad and upset when He comes again. You wanna be welcoming Him to come.

CHILD: You wanna be a humble, careful person.

HOST: Yeah, definitely. What can we do now to prepare for the Second Coming then?

CHILD: We could listen to the prophets and see if the Lord has instructed them to tell us anything new that's about to happen or something.

HOST: Uh-huh. TJ.

TJ: Repent.

HOST: Yes. Definitely. Meghan.

MEGHAN: We could set goals for ourselves right now to be a better person and work up to those goals when the Second Coming comes.

HOST: Great. Heavenly Father will fulfill all the prophecies He's made through His prophets. We can prepare ourselves today and show our faith in Jesus Christ by following His example and keeping His commandments. Those are great ways to prepare for His coming.

We've learned so much today. I hope we'll all remember to thank Heavenly Father in our prayers for all He taught us and I hope we'll keep talking about the things we've learned with our families and other people we love. Next week join us as we read Chapter 42: The Signs of Christ's Crucifixion. If you'd like to listen to this program again, a grownup can help you get a copy to play on your computer, iPod or other music player at [radio.lds.org](http://radio.lds.org). You can also sign up to get new episodes as soon as they're ready. If you'd like your own copies of the scripture stories as books or DVDs, you can find them at [scripturestories.lds.org](http://scripturestories.lds.org) or a grownup can buy them at your local Church distribution center.

CHILDREN: See you next week.

[BEGIN MUSIC]

[END MUSIC]