

Episode 26

Scripture Stories

CHAPTER 42

Signs of Christ's Crucifixion

[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, every day I need,
The power that I get each time I read.

CHILDREN:

Welcome to scripture stories!
I'll find the sword of truth from 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.
I'll 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, every 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, a teacher or a friend help you find the story and then invite them to read along with you too.

[BEGIN MUSIC: Samuel the Lamanite]

Samuel the Lamanite high on the city wall,
Came to warn the people and repentance was his call.
Arrows could not hit him for a man of God was he,
And he taught in the land righteously.

[END MUSIC]

HOST: If you remember last week, we read the story “Samuel the Lamanite tells about Jesus Christ.” Now first off, who was Samuel the Lamanite? Who can tell me who Samuel the Lamanite was? Yes, Caitlyn.

CAITLYN: He was one of God's Prophets.

HOST: He was one of God's prophets. Ok. Excellent. Alright, so he was a prophet of God. He was a Lamanite prophet of God and he went to Zarahemla to preach to the wicked Nephites and he told them to repent because if you remember the Lamanites were obeying God's commandments, it was the Nephites who had become wicked this time.

So the Nephites threw Samuel out of the city and he started to go back to his own land, but the Lord told Samuel to return to Zarahemla and tell the people the things that the Lord would put into his heart. The Nephites would not let Samuel back into the city. So what did he do? What did Samuel do when the Nephites wouldn't allow him into the city? Yes, Andres.

ANDRES: Climbed up the wall.

HOST: He climbed up the wall. Excellent. So he climbed up the wall because they wouldn't let him into the city. And he preached from there right? So he prophesied that the Nephites would be destroyed in 400 years unless the people repented and had faith in Jesus Christ. Samuel told the Nephites that Jesus Christ would be born in 5 years, and that he would save all those who believed in him. And Samuel also told them about the signs of Jesus' birth. Now, do you remember what those signs were? What were some of those signs of Jesus' birth? Yes, Daisy

DAISY: Um...a big star in the sky.

HOST: Ok, that was one of them. Excellent. Yes, Caitlyn.

CAITYLN: Three days with no darkness.

HOST: Ok. Yes, exactly. Yes. It would not get dark for three days. Exactly. So those were two of the big signs that were going to come for Jesus' birth.

And then Samuel told them about the signs of Jesus' death. There would be three days of total darkness, the sun, [laughing] Rebecca, you were ready to say that right?

REBECCA: Yeah

HOST: You knew that one. What else was....so there would be three days of total darkness, where the sun, moon, and stars would not shine. Do you know what else would happen during his death? What do you think Andres?

ANDRES: There would be lots of earthquakes and fire.

HOST: Right, earthquakes, fires, lots of destruction, right? Yes, Caitlyn.

CAITLYN: Lots of cities would be destroyed.

HOST: Lots of cities would be destroyed. Mountains would crumble and cities would be destroyed, right? And some Nephites actually believed Samuel and repented of their sins, and so they went to find Nephi, a righteous Nephite who could baptize them. But what did the rest of the Nephites do? The ones that were still wicked that didn't believe. What did they try to do to Samuel while he was preaching on the wall? Daniel?

DANIEL: They were throwing spears, weapons, and stones at him.

HOST: They were throwing spears, weapons, and stones at him. Did any of them hit him?

DANIEL: Uh Uh.

HOST: No, they didn't. Why? Yeah, Caitlyn, what do you think?

CAITLYN: Because God protected him.

HOST: Exactly. That's exactly right. What were you going to say, Andres?

ANDRES: Same thing as her.

HOST: Same thing. Alright. So, when the people saw that he could not be hit, many more people believed him, and went to Nephi to be baptized. Nephi also taught the people about Jesus. He wanted them to believe in Jesus, repent, and be baptized. Most Nephites, however, did not believe Samuel and they tried to capture him. Samuel jumped down from the wall and ran to his own country and Samuel began teaching the Lamanites. He was never heard of again among the Nephites. Yes. Caitlyn.

CAITLYN: That's pretty amazing; first, to not be hit by all these things being chucked at you, and then jumping off of a wall and not dying.

HOST: That's right.

CAITLYN: That's amazing.

HOST: That is pretty amazing, isn't it? I know I wouldn't have been able to do that. He was definitely protected by God. Definitely protected.

[BEGIN MUSIC]

Picture a stable in Judea. Picture a sacred, silent night.

And can you hear, the angels near, and see the star so bright?

Picture the little baby Jesus. Think of his life and words so dear.

Sing praise to him, remember him as you picture Christmas this year.

Picture the kind and gentle Joseph. Picture the mother Mary, fair.

And can you see so reverently the sheppards kneeling there.

Picture the little baby Jesus. Think of his life and words so dear.

Sing praise to him, remember him as you picture Christmas this year.

[END MUSIC]

HOST: Nephi the son of Helaman gave the sacred records and scriptures to his oldest son, Nephi. The Nephites saw great signs and miracles that prophets had said would happen before Jesus Christ's birth. But some Nephites had said that the time for Jesus' birth had already passed. They mocked those who still believed Samuel the Lamine's prophecies. The people who believed in Jesus Christ and in the Prophets were sad to think that something might keep the prophecies from being fulfilled. The people watched faithfully for a night with no darkness, which was the sign that Jesus Christ would be born. Do you know what those people who didn't believe that Jesus Christ was going to come, do you know what happened with them? What did they decide to do? Does anybody remember? Yes, Joseph. What did they decide?

JOSEPH: They were going to kill them.

HOST: Ok. So they were going to kill the people that believed that Jesus Christ was going to come. So those who didn't believe in Jesus Christ chose a day to kill the believers, right? ...If the signs had not happened. And Nephi was sad, of course, because of the wickedness of those who did not believe in the Savior. Nephi prayed all day for the people who were going to be killed. What happened when Nephi prayed? Yeah, Daniel.

DANIEL: The day that didn't have darkness came.

HOST: Ok. So the day would come. Definitely. Yes?

CAITLYN: Heavenly Father said that that day would come and the next day Jesus would be born in Bethlehem.

HOST: Ok. Could you imagine what a comfort, what a relief that was to hear that, to get that answer to that prayer? The Lord, He comforted Nephi and told him exactly what you said, Caitlyn, that that night, it would not get dark that night. That Jesus would be born the next day in Bethlehem. So that night the sun went down, but it did not get dark, just as Heavenly Father had promised. The sign of Jesus Christ's birth had come and the people were astonished. Those who had planned to kill the believers fell down and appeared to be dead. I would imagine they felt pretty silly, right? They were afraid because they had been wicked. Yes, Caitlyn.

CAITLYN: I think I know why they mocked the believers, because they did not want to be told that they were wrong.

HOST: Ok. You know what I think; I think you're probably right. When you don't want to be told you're wrong, you stick with what you said and it might not be the right thing, right?

CAITLYN: Uh huh.

HOST: So they knew that the Savior would be born and that the prophets would be right. It stayed light all night long and when the sun came up the next morning, the people knew that Jesus Christ would be born that day and the prophecies had been fulfilled. What else happened? What was the other sign? Rebecca, you mentioned it before. What appeared in the sky?

REBECCA: A star.

HOST: A star. Ok. So that was, was that a fulfillment of prophesy then?

REBECCA: Uh huh.

HOST: Yeah, it was. Just as the prophets had said it would, a star appeared in the sky. Satan still tried to get people not to believe the signs they had seen, but most did believe. Nephi and other church leaders baptized all those who believed and repented. There were glad tidings in the land because the words of the prophets had been fulfilled. Jesus Christ had been born.

[BEGIN MUSIC]

The prophet has some words for you,
And these are the words: be true, be true.
At work or at play, in darkness or light,
Be true, be true, and stand for the right.

HOST: You're listening to scripture stories. Today our story starts 33 years after our last one ended. Children at home, you can read along with us in chapter 42: The signs of Christ's crucifixion.

CHILD: 33 years had passed since the people had seen the signs of Jesus Christ's birth.

CHILD: They now watch for the signs of his death. Three days of darkness.

CHILD: Some did not believe that the sign would come. They argued with those that did believe.

CHILD: One day, a fierce storm came. There was a terrible wind.

CHILD: Lightening flashed and thunder shook the whole earth.

CHILD: The city of Zarahemla caught on fire. The city of Moroni sank into the sea. The city of Moronihah was buried.

CHILD: An earthquake shook the whole earth. Highways were broken up and buildings crumbled.

CHILD: Many cities were destroyed and many people were killed.

CHILD: The storm and the earthquake lasted for about 3 hours.

CHILD: When the storm and earthquake stopped, thick darkness covered the land. There was no light anywhere. The people could even feel the darkness

CHILD: The darkness lasted for 3 days. Candles would not burn and people could not see the sun, moon, or stars.

CHILD: The people cried because of the darkness, destruction and death. They were sorry they had not repented of their sins.

HOST: Ok. Let's stop for a moment and talk about what we've read so far. What was the sign of Jesus Christ's death that the people watched for? Wow, lots of hands. Excellent. Rebecca, what do you think?

REBECCA: Three days of darkness.

HOST: Ok. Excellent. Yes. Caitlyn.

CAITLYN: That um...there would be three days of darkness and no light and if you tried to light a candle, it wouldn't burn.

HOST: Ok. Three days of definite darkness. Yes. Andres.

ANDRES: That there would be lots of destruction.

HOST: Ok so they were looking for that three days of darkness. Definitely. How long did the earthquake last for? Joseph.

JOSEPH: Three hours.

HOST: Three hours! Could you imagine an earthquake that lasted three hours? That's how long church is! That's a long earthquake! Alright, so what happened to the people in their cities in the storm and earthquake before the darkness came? Uh..Let's go with Daisy.

DAISY: Some cities were burned down.

HOST: Ok, so some cities were burned down. What else happened to some cities? Yes, Rebecca.

REBECCA: One city sunk into the sea, and one city was buried.

HOST: Ok. So buried, sank into the sea. Yes. Caitlyn.

CAITLYN: Some cities caught on fire.

HOST: Alright, just like Daisy said. Excellent. Joseph, what else happened?

JOSEPH: The mountains crumbled and just tore apart some.

HOST: Ok. Yeah, so it was pretty complete destruction. Why couldn't the people light a candle or build a fire for light in the darkness? Joseph, why do you think?

JOSEPH: Because the darkness was so thick, it would just put it out again.

HOST: Ok so they could actually feel the darkness. That's pretty heavy. What were you going to say Caitlyn?

CAITLYN: Kind of like what Daisy said. If they could feel the darkness, it must have been really heavy darkness.

HOST: It must have been really heavy. Definitely. Thank you. So why were the people sorry that they did not repent? Why do you think the people were sorry they didn't repent? Daniel, what do you think?

DANIEL: Cause they didn't want 3 days of darkness and destruction.

HOST: Ok. Do you think that maybe some of their friends and family were killed in that destruction? Definitely. Yeah. Caitlyn.

CAITLYN: Many people were killed.

HOST: Many people were killed. What else do you think? What do you think, Andres, Why do you think people were sorry that they did not repent?

ANDRES: They couldn't light a fire, they couldn't see anything, and so, they really didn't want the darkness. They were sorry that they didn't repent.

HOST: They were sorry they didn't repent. Thank you. Anybody else? Alright, well let's continue reading then.

CHILD: Then the people heard the voice of Jesus Christ

CHILD: Jesus told them about the terrible destruction in the land. He said that most wicked people had been killed.

CHILD: He said that those that had not been killed needed to repent. If they did and came unto him, he would bless them.

CHILD: The people were so amazed after hearing the voice that they stopped crying. Everything was silent for many hours.

CHILD: Then Jesus spoke again saying he had often tried to help the people, if they would repent now, they could still return to him.

CHILD: After three days, the darkness left. The people rejoiced and joyfully thanked the Lord.

HOST: I love that part of that. The people rejoiced and joyfully thanked the Lord. That makes me feel so happy that they accepted that. So what did the people hear in the darkness? What did they hear? Daniel

DANIEL: They heard Jesus Christ's voice and that most of the wicked people had been killed and that they needed to repent,

HOST: Ok. Excellent. Thank you. Uh, yes, Caitlyn.

CAITLYN: Kind of like what Daniel said, it said that most of the people died, that were wicked, and some of you that are still alive need to repent.

HOST: Ok. So he told the people that were still alive that hadn't been killed that they needed to repent. Why did he think he was telling them to repent? Does anybody know? Yes, Rebecca.

REBECCA: Well, maybe if they didn't repent, then they would die like all the other people that were wicked.

HOST: Ok. Good point. Yes, Caitlyn.

CAITLYN: So they could live in Heavenly Fathers Kingdom again.

HOST: I think you're right as well. I think he wants us to repent so that we could live with Him again, because no unclean thing can dwell in his presence. He's a perfect being. Alright so, what does it mean to come unto Christ? I think we'll just go around and I want to know what it means to each one of you, ok. And we'll start with Daisy, and work our way around here. Ok?

DAISY: Coming unto Christ means like, to kind of humble yourself, and like, not think that you don't need him.

HOST: Coming unto Christ, you realize that you definitely do need him, right? Excellent. Ok, Joseph, what does it mean to you to come unto Christ?

JOSEPH: Follow commandments and repent if you don't.

HOST: Excellent. Thank you. Caitlyn, what does it mean to you?

CAITLYN: Kind of like what daisy said. To humble yourself, cause humble means to like, know that you're nothing without Heavenly Father and Jesus.

HOST: Excellent. I like that. Humbling yourself means that you realize that you are nothing but you can be something with the help of Jesus. You can be everything. Definitely. Thank you. Daniel.

DANIEL: It means to be repent and ask if you can be forgiven of your sins.

HOST: Excellent. Thank you. Rebecca what does it mean to come unto Christ?

REBECCA: It means to obey him and like keep the commandments.

HOST: Good. That's excellent. Thank you. Andres.

ANDRES: It means to like, if you did something wrong, then you should repent so you can live with him again.

HOST: Excellent. Definitely. So what does Jesus say he will do if we come unto Him? If we choose to come unto Jesus, what does he say he'll do? Yes Rebecca.

REBECCA: Um, we can go into the celestial kingdom when we die.

HOST: Ok. So you can live with Him again. Wonderful. Daniel.

DANIEL: He will bless us

HOST: He will definitely bless us. I know that is definitely true. He definitely blesses us when we come unto him. Yes, Andres.

ANDRES: Help us when we're in a hard situation.

HOST: Definitely. Does anybody have an example of that? Where they've been helped in a hard situation? Let's go with Joseph first, then we'll come over to Caitlyn. Excellent. Joseph, so what's an example for you?

JOSEPH: I've lost something and then I prayed and I walked around a little bit, and then I found it.

HOST: Ok, so you lost something, you prayed and asked for help to find it, and then you walked around and found it. I like that. So you didn't just pray; you prayed and then walked around, so you put effort into it, and Heavenly Father helped you. Excellent. Caitlyn

CAITLYN: At school there was a bully that bullied me, and she'd do it at recess. One time I had the courage to go to the principal's office and tell her about it.

HOST: Ok so you were given courage. Did you pray to have that courage? Excellent. It worked. Thank you for sharing that. Andres.

ANDRES: Once, my family was driving up to Salt Lake, and there was this big snow storm and we prayed and we got through it safely.

HOST: Excellent. That same thing has happened to me many times as well. I know that it's a real help, real power of prayer. Thank you for sharing that, everybody. What did Jesus tell the people that they could do to return to him? What was one of the things they could do to return? Yes Caitlyn.

CAITLYN: They could repent and if they haven't been baptized, be baptized.

HOST: Ok. So how do you repent? Can anybody help me understand how you repent? Daisy.

DANIEL: Well, you tell, like, if you're mean to somebody, you tell them you're sorry, and then you ask Heavenly Father if he'll forgive you in prayer.

HOST: Ok. Excellent. Thank you. That's a wonderful way to repent. Andres, what do you think? How do you repent?

ANDRES: You say sorry to whoever you, like, were mean to, and then you say a prayer and say sorry to Heavenly Father.

HOST: Ok. Excellent. Rebecca, what do you think?

REBECCA: Just say sorry to the person who you were mean to and then you say a prayer.

HOST: Ok. Excellent. Does anybody have a little brother or sister? Ok. So most everybody. [LAUGHING]. Alright, well let's use an example here. So, say your little brother, you have a little brother Andres?

ANDRES: Yeah, I have a baby brother, a little brother, and a little sister.

HOST: Ok.

CAITLYN: I have three brothers.

HOST: And Caitlyn, you have three brothers. [LAUGHING] You're outnumbered. So Caitlyn, let's say that Christmas comes around and your little brother gets a toy that you really love and you take it away from him because you really want to play with it. K. So how would you make that right? What would you do to make that right?

CAITLYN: Um... I could say, "Can we take turns?" Or like, let's say it was a Barbie or something, and if we had another one, we could play together.

HOST: Ok. So you'd work on playing together then. Ok Excellent. What else could you do? Daisy, what would you do to make that right?

DANIEL: Well, I would give my brother back the toy and say if you'd still let me play with it, I'd be happy to play with it, and I'd say sorry.

HOST: I'm hearing the same thing around here. You're going to say sorry and that's a very important part of repenting. You feel bad for what you've done and you ask Heavenly Father for forgiveness and say you're sorry. Then you try everything you can to make it right. It's a very important thing. Thanks for sharing that everybody. So, what did the people do after the darkness had left? What did they do, Andres?

ANDRES: They rejoiced!

HOST: They rejoiced! Alright, Caitlyn.

CAITLYN: They rejoiced and praised God.

HOST: Excellent. Thank you. Rebecca.

REBECCA: They thanked Heavenly Father.

HOST: They thanked Heavenly Father. That's such an important thing. Daisy.

DANIEL: I was going to say the same thing.

HOST: Alright so they rejoiced and thanked Heavenly Father. How do you feel after you repent? Joseph, how do you feel after you repent?

JOSEPH: Really good.

HOST: Really good. Would you think that you would rejoice as well?

JOSEPH: Yeah.

HOST: Yeah, I would think so too. Andres, how do you feel after you repent?

ANDRES: I feel a warm feeling that I've been forgiven.

HOST: Excellent. That's a wonderful answer. Thank you. Rebecca, how do you feel after you repent?

REBECCA: I feel, like, really good inside, and happy that I just did something that I really wanted to do.

HOST: Excellent. [LAUGHING] I know that we all really want to do that. We do want to repent and come closer to Jesus through doing that. I want to bear you my testimony that Jesus wants each of us to come unto him. I know that's true. I know that we can come unto him by repenting when we do wrong or make mistakes. We also can come unto him as we follow his example and keep his commandments.

[BEGIN MUSIC]

I am sorry is not an easy thing to say
When I know I've been thoughtless and done something wrong.
I'll try to repent, to do better, to pray that Heavenly Father will help me be strong.

[END MUSIC]

HOST: We've learned so much. I hope we'll all thank Heavenly Father in our prayers for all He taught us. And I hope we'll all keep talking about the things we've learned with our

families and other people we love. Join us next week as we read and discuss chapter 43: Jesus Christ appears to the Nephites, and Chapter 44: Jesus Christ blesses the children. If you'd like to listen to this program again, a grown up can help you get a copy to play on your computer, iPod, or other music player at radio.lds.org. You can also sign up to get new episodes as soon as they are ready. If you'd like your own copies of the scripture stories as books or DVDs, you can find them at scripturestories.lds.org or a grown-up can buy them at your local church distribution center.

CHILDREN: See you next week!

[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]