

“My Christian friends believe in the Bible, but they don’t understand why we have the Book of Mormon. What can I tell them?”

The answer to your question is found in the Book of Mormon itself.

What is the purpose of the Book of Mormon? Read its title page and D&C 20:1–12.

How do you explain simply to someone what the Book of Mormon is? Read the introduction to the Book of Mormon.

What did the Lord say about those who think there should be no more scriptures beyond the Bible? Read 2 Nephi 29.

What Book of Mormon chapters would be good for your friends to read first? It depends on their interests, but 2 Nephi 31; Alma 32; 3 Nephi 11; and Moroni 10 are powerful chapters.

In the New Testament, the Apostle Paul taught, “In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established” (2 Corinthians 13:1). The Book of Mormon does just that: it is another witness of Jesus Christ, establishing His word, His gospel.

For more help on this question, see *Preach My Gospel* (2004), chapter 5, and *True to the Faith* (2004), pages 157–58. **NE**

It Testifies of Jesus Christ



I would tell your friends that the Book of Mormon is a sacred record of the ancient inhabitants of the Americas.

Like the Bible, it testifies of Jesus Christ. However, it clarifies doctrines taught in the Bible. It is a book of scripture brought to light in these times by God’s power to help a dark world come to know Jesus Christ.

Ashley B., 18, Colorado

It Is Like the Bible



The Book of Mormon is a lot like the Bible. It talks about prophets who communicated with God to lead His people, just like Moses led the children

of Israel. And after Christ ascended into heaven, He visited the people in the Americas and performed miracles, just like He did in the New Testament.

Matthew T., 15, Virginia

Invite Them to Read It

I would just tell them the truth about the Book of Mormon and how it came to be. You

You don't have explain to them all the details, but you could challenge them to prayerfully read a bit of it.

Tanner M., 16, Utah

An Account of Christ in the Americas

Tell them that the Book of Mormon is a second witness and testament of Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. It is not meant to replace the Bible but to enhance our understanding of the doctrines presented in it. The Book of Mormon was written by ancient prophets for us, in our time, to strengthen us. It is an account and a witness that following His Resurrection, Jesus Christ visited and ministered in the Americas as well as in Jerusalem. This fortifies the truth that the gospel of Jesus Christ is for everyone, everywhere.

Amelia H., 18, Ohio

A Record of the "Other Sheep"



You can refer your friends to John 10:16. This scripture is talking about the people in the ancient Americas and how Jesus Christ will teach them too. You could refer them to its cross-reference in the Book of Mormon, 3 Nephi 15:21.

Breann P., 16, Utah

More Teachings



It's great that your friends already believe in the Bible. You're already over the first hurdle. Now, to get over the second, explain that Jesus Christ speaks to all His children, not just those in Jerusalem, and that the Book of Mormon contains His

teachings to those in the Americas.

Explain that the Book of Mormon isn't a new Bible but teachings from Jesus Christ so we can learn more.

Katie N., 16, England

We Believe



I think the best answer is in the introduction to the Book of Mormon.

It begins: "The Book of Mormon is a volume

of holy scripture comparable to the Bible. It is a record of God's dealings with the ancient inhabitants of the Americas and contains, as does the Bible, the fulness of the everlasting gospel." The Bible is a record of God's dealings with the ancient inhabitants of the Old World. The Book of Mormon is a record of God's dealings with the ancient inhabitants of the Americas, but they are very similar. You can also quote article of faith number eight.

Astraya J., 13, Utah

Responses are intended for help and perspective, not as pronouncements of Church doctrine.

How can your friends get a copy of the Book of Mormon? If you don't have one to share, you can ask your ward or branch leaders or local full-time missionaries. Or your friends can request a copy through **Mormon.org**. Click the Free Media link.

NEXT QUESTION

"All I feel is emptiness when I pray. How do I know my prayers are being heard?"

Send us your answer and photo by October 15, 2009.

Go to newera.lds.org, click Submit Your Material, and then select Questions and Answers.

You can also write to us at:

newera@ldschurch.org

or

New Era, Q&A, Prayer

50 E. North Temple St., Rm. 2420

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NEmore

Got questions? We've got answers. Go to **newera.lds.org**.



ANOTHER TESTAMENT OF JESUS CHRIST

I testify that the Book of Mormon is another testament of Jesus Christ and that it will lead us to come closer to Him. I testify that the Book of Mormon testifies of the Bible and restores precious truths taken from it. I testify that the Book of Mormon leads us to make commitments and feel that love which will lead us toward living better lives. And I testify that by earnest prayer we may know that the Book of Mormon is true."

President Henry B. Eyring, First Counselor in the First Presidency, "Why the Book of Mormon?" *New Era*, May 2008, 9.