

## ROBOTS AND REREADING THE BOOK OF MORMON

WHEN PRESIDENT RUSSELL M. NELSON invited us sisters to read the Book of Mormon by the end of the year ("Sisters' Participation in the Gathering of Israel," Oct. 2018 general conference [Ensign or Liahona, Nov. 2018, 69]), I decided to try. I finally finished reading the Book of Mormon (for the first time on my own!) at 11:55 p.m. on December 31. Then I asked Heavenly Father if it was true. I didn't really feel anything different, but I shrugged it off.

......

"I promise that as you prayerfully study the Book of Mormon every day, you will make better decisions every day. . . . You will receive answers to your own questions and direction for your own life."

President Russell M. Nelson, "The Book of Mormon: What Would Your Life Be Like without It?" Oct. 2017 general conference (Ensign or Lighong, Nov. 2017, 62-63).

As time went on, though, I started getting a bit worried about not receiving an answer. I thought that eventually, I'd feel a KABLAM, and I'd just know it was true—but I never got that mind-blowing feeling. I finally reasoned that I might as well read the Book of Mormon again and see what happens. So I went back to 1 Nephi and started over.

At that time, I was a captain on my robotics team. When I'd sit down to read my scriptures, I was often worrying about some aspect of our team. But as I read the Book of Mormon, I began to see how it applied to my problems, and I started to recognize a pattern of the Lord's hand helping me. It was a huge faith-building experience. I really did know the Book of Mormon was true; I just hadn't realized it before.

Now I'm reading the Book of Mormon again. As you read it, you can come to know it's true as well.

Katy B., Rhode Island, USA



What can I do if I don't get an immediate answer?

- 1. Have patience and faith. "Knowledge and understanding come at the price of patience."
- 2. Keep actively seeking. Patience doesn't mean waiting passively. So don't stop doing all that you can—keep reading, keep praying, and keep hoping!
- 3. Trust in the Lord's promises and timing. "The promises of the Lord, if perhaps not always swift, are always certain." Trust that He will answer in His own time.

From President Dieter F. Uchtdorf, then-Second Counselor in the First Presidency, "Continue in Patience," Apr. 2010 general conference (Ensign or Liahona, May 2010, 56-59).

## HIS NAME IS SACRED

**ON THE FIRST DAY** of history class, the teacher started telling some jokes. I laughed at first, but after a while, some of the jokes he told were kind of offensive and inappropriate. He also kept taking the Lord's name in vain. I started to feel uncomfortable. I knew that I wanted to stand up for what was right, but I had never done anything like that before.

After class, my heart was pounding as I started toward the teacher's desk. I had never been more anxious in my life. I finally mustered the courage to speak. "Hey, I was wondering if you would mind not taking the Lord's name in vain. I would really appreciate it." I anxiously awaited his response.

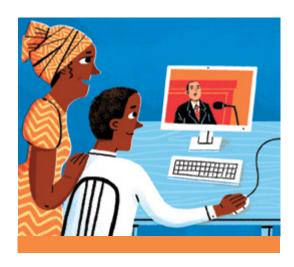
"OK. What does it mean to take the Lord's name in vain?" he asked, crossing his arms and cocking his head.

My mind went blank. But suddenly words came out of my mouth that weren't my own: "Taking the Lord's name in vain is when you use His name causally in conversation. His name is sacred, so we should respect it."

He looked at me for a while, then simply said, "OK." I felt so happy and peaceful inside. I was so grateful Heavenly Father helped me to say what I needed to say. I'm glad that I stood up for what I believed.

Mosiah M., Utah, USA





## BE READY TO SERVE HIM SOON

**FROM THE DAY** that I joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at age 13, I desired to serve the Lord as a full-time missionary.

I was doing all I could to make sure that I would be ready when the time came. I served in my quorums and callings, and I never stopped looking forward to the day that I would be called on a mission.

In a visit to the temple, I prayed to Heavenly Father and told Him that I wanted to serve a mission. I received an answer that I needed to be ready to serve Him soon. However, I still had two years before I would be old enough. I prayed again and got the same confirmation, but this time I felt that the time was closer than I thought.

One year later, the same month I turned 18, President Thomas S. Monson (1927–2018) announced that all worthy 18-year-old young men could go on missions. That very moment, I realized that President Monson was a living prophet of God.

I testify that prayers are answered. Our faith in God will grow when we pray and do as He directs us.

Promise O., Abia, Nigeria