



Faith
Ether 12:1-22



Boat Without An Anchor

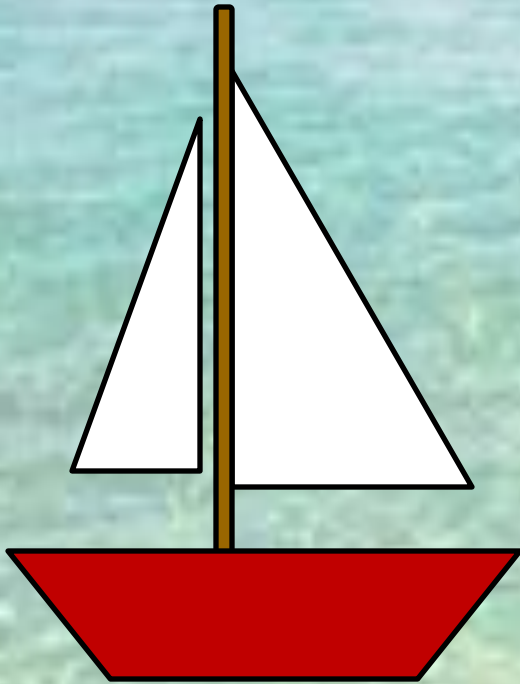
Why is it important for a boat to have an anchor?

What dangers or difficulties might a boat encounter if it does not have an anchor?

What influence do waves have on a boat?



Life



“...even as chaff is driven before the wind, or as a vessel is tossed about upon the waves, without sail or anchor, or without anything wherewith to steer her; and even as she is, so are they.”
Mormon 5:18

*social pressures, adversity,
false teachings, or wickedness*

Spiritual Anchors

Just as ships need anchors to keep them from drifting away on the open seas, people need spiritual anchors in their lives if they are to remain steadfast and not drift into the sea of temptation and sin.

Faith in God and in his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, is the main anchor we must have in our lives to hold us fast during times of social turbulence and wickedness that seem to be everywhere today.



Artwork by Akiane Kramarik

This faith must be more than that of the generic dictionary variety. Our faith, for it to be meaningful and effective and to hold us fast, must be centered in Jesus Christ, in his life, in his atonement, and in the restoration of his gospel to the earth in the last days.”

Elder M. Russell Ballard

By Faith All Things Are Fulfilled

Ether Spoke of:

Hope for a better world—love our fellowmen with greater compassion

Hope for a place at the right hand of God

Faith making it an anchor to the souls of men

Faith which makes them steadfast

Faith which bring good works—to do good

Which leads to the glory of God

Ether 12:3-4



Hope that saves is born of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hope is not merely wishful thinking.

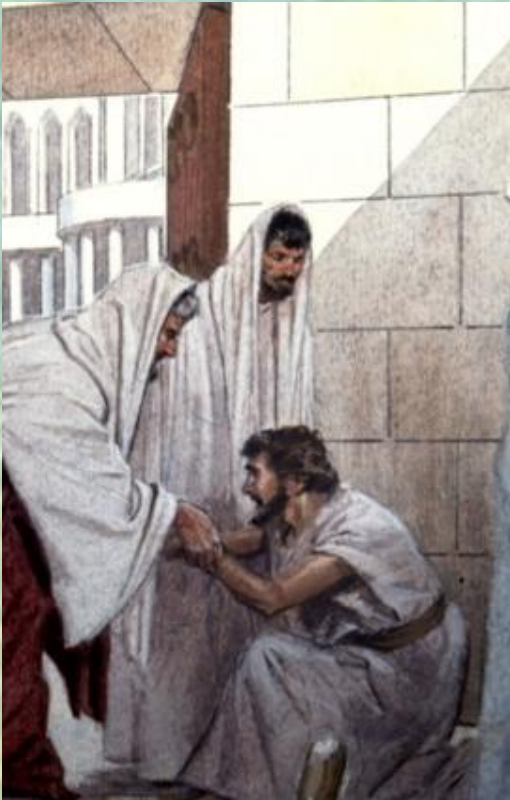
Hope comes from trusting in and following the Savior.

“True Repentance is based on and flows from faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, there is no other way.”

Ezra Taft Benson

Degrees of Faith

Faith is a principle of action and power. Whenever we work toward a worthy goal, we exercise **faith**.



“Blessed art thou because of thy **exceeding faith**; I say unto thee, woman, there has not been such **great faith** among all the people of the Nephites.”
Alma 19:10

“Now ye see that this is the **true faith** of God;” Alma 44:4

“For if there be **no faith** among the children of men God can do no miracle among them”
Ether 12:12

“...thus they did retain a **hope through faith**” Alma 25:16

“Do ye **exercise faith** in the redemption of him who created you?” Alma 5:15

What kind of Faith should we have?

Spiritually Blind Jaredites

“Moroni informs us that their disbelief was because “they saw them not.” This is an age-old rejection of the spiritual workings of God. The world states that ‘seeing is believing.’



“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”
Hebrews 11:1

Such logic...defies the workings of god and denies the words of prophets.

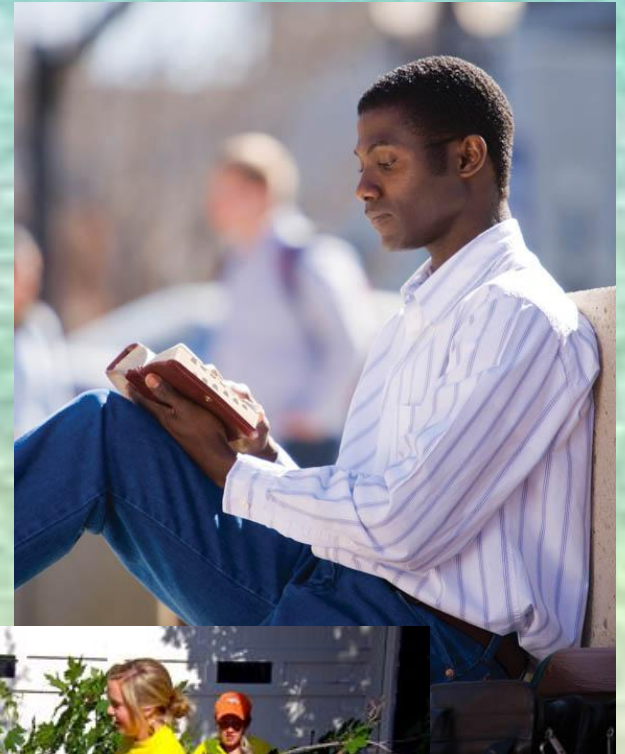
JFM and RLM

Those who need seeing proof say:

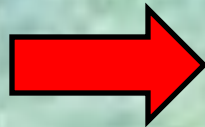
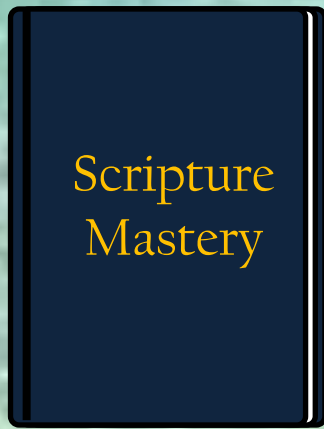
“How do ye know of their surety? Behold, ye cannot know of things which ye do not see; therefore ye cannot know that there shall be a Christ.”

Alma 30:15

People Can Receive a Spiritual Witness of Jesus Christ through:



Scripture Mastery



"And now, I, Moroni, would speak somewhat concerning these things; I would show unto the world that faith is things which are hoped for and not seen; wherefore, dispute not because ye see not, for ye receive no witness until after the trial of your faith."

Ether 12:6

Trial of Your Faith



“You can learn to use faith more effectively by applying this principle taught by Moroni: ‘... ye receive no witness until after the *trial of your faith*’ [Ether 12:6; italics added]. Thus, every time you *try your faith*, that is, act in worthiness on an impression, you will receive the confirming evidence of the Spirit. Those feelings will fortify your faith. As you repeat that pattern, your faith will become stronger”

Richard G. Scott



Faith Precedes A Miracle

Moroni provides examples: match

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| 1. The faith of Alma and Amulek | <u>2</u> a. Helaman 5:45; 3 Nephi 9:20 |
| 2. The faith of Nephi and Lehi | <u>4</u> b. 3 Nephi 28; Mormon 8:10-11 |
| 3. The faith of Ammon | <u>5</u> c. Ether 3:4-6, 25-26 |
| 4. The faith of the three disciples to not taste death | <u>1</u> d. Alma 14:26-29 |
| 5. The faith of the brother of Jared | <u>6</u> e. Enos 1:12-13; 15-18 |
| 6. The faith of the fathers that the record be preserved for the Jews and the Gentiles | <u>3</u> f. Alma 17:29-39 |

What Have We Learned?

Who is narrating this account?

Who is speaking?

Who is receiving the message?

What is happening in this account?

What has happened *before* this event?

What is the *message* of this story?

What did the writer intend for us to *learn* from this story? (Doctrine or Principle)

Sources:

Suggested Song: *Faith #96*

M. Russell Ballard Anchor Your Soul March 1993 Ensign

Ezra Taft Benson *Teachings of* pg. 71

Joseph Fielding McConkie and Robert L. Millet *Doctrinal Commentary on the Book of Mormon*
Vol. 4 pg. 295

Richard G. Scott (“The Sustaining Power of Faith in Times of Uncertainty and Testing,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2003, 76).