

1. Watch chapter 4 from The Animated Complete Learning system, Nephi and the Brass Plates, DVD. (Video clip provided online for viewing.)

2. “The distance from Jerusalem to the Red Sea (the Gulf of Azaba) is about 180 miles through the hot, barren country infested anciently by many marauders. Lehi and his family traveled three days’ journey beyond this point (see 1 Nephi 2:5-6). This meant at least a twelve- to-fourteen-day trip one way, which gives added meaning to Nephi’s response in 1 Nephi 3:7.” Book of Mormon Student Manual, Religion 121 and 122, ©1989 by Corporation of the President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, p.5

3. “...when someone with whom you associate suggests you participate in something that is not as ‘the Lord commands,’ you can think of the courageous plea Nephi made to his elder brothers: ‘Let us be faithful in keeping the commandments of the Lord’ (1 Nephi 3:16).” H. David’s Burton, Ensign, November 1995© 2006 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.

4. One reason we are here on the earth is to show our willingness to obey Heavenly Father’s commandments.

In the premortal existence, Heavenly Father presided over a great Council in Heaven. There we learned of the plan for our salvation, which included a time of testing on the earth: ‘We will make an earth whereon these may dwell; and we will prove them herewith, to see if they will do all things whatsoever the Lord their God shall command them’ (Abraham 3:24-25).”

5. Sometimes it may be difficult to do what is asked of us.

Share a commandment that you think may be difficult to obey and ask other family members what commandments they think may seem difficult or unreasonable. Honor and sympathize with their feelings.

Even the Savior wondered if another way was possible. Discuss Luke 22:42: “Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.”

6. Explain that there are many things Heavenly Father has asked us to do to bring us happiness.

List some items that might symbolize ways we can show obedience to God (See activity for ideas) and have family members guess what Heavenly Father wants us to do based on the item.