STUDENT MANUAL

BOOK OF MORMON
VOLUME ONE

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT CORRELATION COMMITTEE OF
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

PUBLISHED FOR THE USE OF COLLEGE STUDENTS
IN THE CHURCH EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

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VOLUME II

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A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

Not only is the Book of Mormon, according to the Prophet Joseph Smith, the most correct book available to man so far as its doctrinal accuracy is concerned, but it is inlaid with innumerable insights which provide a remarkable relevancy for each of us in our daily lives.

This student manual has been prepared for LDS young adults in colleges and universities everywhere to assist them in their study of this special book. I encourage and support the use of this manual, since the individual who falls in love with the Book of Mormon early in life will never be disappointed in its capacity to renew and refresh him, or in the amazing relevancy of that book for his daily life in spite of his constantly changing tactical challenges.

The thirty-second chapter of Alma contains a plea from that great prophet in which he asks us to "give place" in our lives for the message of Christ and to arouse ourselves to "experiment" with gospel living. To be a serious student of the Book of Mormon, one must likewise "give place" in his life for the reading and savoring of that record.

The book also contains remarkable longitudinal data, a millenium of religious history in which we see the rise and fall of nations (and of individuals); we see history as it is illuminated by many sunbursts of celestial sense!

Most of all, we get from the Book of Mormon a powerful witness that Jesus Christ is the living, resurrected Son of God. This witness is a crucial contribution in the midst of the ongoing, tragic recessional in much of western civilization from a discipleship to a living Christ. In the Church which is the custodian of authentic, orthodox Christianity, one can see why Christ denounced teachers and teachings which celebrate "a form of godliness" but which nevertheless view Christ's doctrines in a way to "deny the power thereof!"

The Book of Mormon reinforces those doctrines which constitute "the good tidings" of the gospel, for without central truths in a world filled with foreboding and despair, the gospel would not be good news at all!

The Book of Mormon is a living book in which we learn about a living God, a living Christ, and how to better serve his "only true and living Church..." a much-needed message of stirring significance to an otherwise dying world!

God bless you!

Neal A. Maxwell