TEACHINGS AND DOCTRINE OF THE BOOK OF MORMON TEACHER MATERIAL—LESSON 3

Obstacles to Receiving the Fruit of the Tree of Life

Read this paragraph as a group: In Lehi's vision of the tree of life, the filthy river, "mists of darkness" (1 Nephi 12:17), and "great and spacious building" (1 Nephi 8:26) made it more difficult for people to arrive or remain at the tree and partake of its fruit. In the class preparation material, you may have identified some modern examples of these dangers or distractions that keep people away from the Savior. With the members of your group, discuss ways young adults today encounter the following situations:

Filth or sin (river of filthiness: 1 Nephi 8:13; 12:16; 15:27)

Deceptions and temptations ("mist of darkness": 1 Nephi 8:23; 12:17)

Pride and mocking of the world (the "great and spacious building": 1 Nephi 8:25–28; 12:18)

Discuss: In what ways can the examples you discussed prevent a young adult from coming unto Jesus Christ and enjoying the blessings of His Atonement? How have you tried to overcome these obstacles in your own life?

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