

Episode 2: The Tree of Life

1 Nephi 8, 11

Name: _____

Principle: Continually holding fast to the word of God carries us through the mists of darkness to the love of God.

Read 1 Nephi 8:10–12; 1 Nephi 8:24; 1 Nephi 8:30; 1 Nephi 11:22; 1 Nephi 11:25

1 Nephi 8:10–12 ¹⁰And it came to pass that I beheld a tree, whose fruit was desirable to make one happy. ¹¹And it came to pass that I did go forth and partake of the fruit thereof; and I beheld that it was most sweet, above all that I ever before tasted. Yea, and I beheld that the fruit thereof was white, to exceed all the whiteness that I had ever seen. ¹²And as I partook of the fruit thereof it filled my soul with exceedingly great joy; wherefore, I began to be desirous that my family should partake of it also; for I knew that it was desirable above all other fruit.

1 Nephi 8:24 ²⁴And it came to pass that I beheld others pressing forward, and they came forth and caught hold of the end of the rod of iron; and they did press forward through the mist of darkness, clinging to the rod of iron, even until they did come forth and partake of the fruit of the tree.

1 Nephi 8:30 ³⁰But, to be short in writing, behold, he saw other multitudes pressing forward; and they came and caught hold of the end of the rod of iron; and they did press their way forward, continually holding fast to the rod of iron, until they came forth and fell down and partook of the fruit of the tree.

1 Nephi 11:22 ²²And I answered him, saying: Yea, it is the love of God, which sheddeth itself abroad in the hearts of the children of men; wherefore, it is the most desirable above all things.

1 Nephi 11:25 ²⁵And it came to pass that I beheld that the rod of iron, which my father had seen, was the word of God, which led to the fountain of living waters, or to the tree of life; which waters are a representation of the love of God; and I also beheld that the tree of life was a representation of the love of God.

Discuss & reflect

1. Compare 1 Nephi 8:24 (“clinging to the rod”) with 8:30 (“continually holding fast”). What’s the difference, and which describes your scripture study right now?
2. Lehi’s first desire after tasting the fruit was for his family (8:12). What does that teach about the gospel and families?
3. What is the “great and spacious building” in your world? Where does mockery of faith show up for you?
4. The mists of darkness are “the temptations of the devil” (1 Nephi 12:17). What habits keep you holding the rod when you can’t see far ahead?

Cross-reference

1 Nephi 15:24 “And I said unto them that it was the word of God; and whoso would hearken unto the word of God, and would hold fast unto it, they would never perish; neither could the temptations and the fiery darts of the adversary overpower them unto blindness, to lead them away to destruction.”

Psalms 119:105 “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

Mark it

Mark 1 Nephi 8:30 and underline “continually holding fast.” Write one daily habit that is your rod of iron.

What I learned

One thing I'll do this week:

Sketch notes

 doodle, map, or diagram

Family discussion

What is one thing our family can do every day to keep “holding fast” to the word of God?

✂ cut out · keep in your scriptures as a bookmark

MEMORY VERSE

“...it is the love of God, which sheddeth itself abroad in the hearts of the children of men”

1 Nephi 11:22