

Come, Follow Me  
with  
*Living Scriptures*  
STREAMING

## Wickedness Never Was Happiness

Alma 39-42

### Objectives:

- Talk about Alma's counsel to his sons.
- Discuss the importance of learning wisdom in our youth.

### Reinforces Principles of:

- Repentance
- Justice & Mercy

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## Reverence Time

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**Song:** Choose the Right Way, Children's Songbook page 160

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/music/library/childrens-songbook/choose-the-right-way>

**Scripture:** Alma 39:15

"And now, my son, I would say somewhat unto you concerning the coming of Christ. Behold, I say unto you, that it is he that surely shall come to take away the sins of the world; yea, he cometh to declare glad tidings of salvation unto his people."

**Video:** Watch this week's clip from the Living Scriptures Streaming Library. Find the clip at <https://www.livingscriptures.com/fhe-lesson-happiness>

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## Lesson Time

## Wickedness Never Was Happiness

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### Lesson

#### Summary:

After Alma had spoken to Helaman and Shiblon, he spoke to his son Corianton. Corianton had left the ministry and committed sins. Not only did Corianton do things that were wrong, his example was making it difficult for people to believe the gospel message. Alma lovingly but boldly taught his son that his actions were seriously wrong, but explained that Christ would come to take away the sins of the world. If Corianton would willingly repent, his sins could be forgiven.

Corianton had many questions about resurrection and the afterlife. Alma explains that everyone will be resurrected, but there is a time between death and resurrection. Those who are righteous enter into a state of happiness, and those who are wicked will enter into a state of misery. At the time of resurrection, we will all be judged according to our works.

Heavenly Father gives us commandments to help us be happy. There are consequences if we sin. Because of the mercy of our Savior Jesus Christ, if we repent our sins can be forgiven and we can enjoy eternal happiness.

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#### Quote:

*"The words written so many centuries ago by a Book of Mormon prophet are especially relevant for our day: 'Wickedness never was happiness.' May we recognize Satan's deceptions for what they are. May we withstand and see through the lies and influences of the one who seeks to destroy our souls and steal from us our present joy and future glory. My dear brothers and sisters, we must continue to be faithful and vigilant, for so is the only way to discern truth and to hear the voice of the Lord through His servants."*  
Gary E. Stevenson

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#### Questions:

How can our sins hurt others? (Discuss ideas.)

Because of Jesus Christ, what can we do if we sin? (Repent.)

Will everyone be resurrected? (Yes.)

What will happen to the righteous when they die? (They will enter into a state of happiness.)

What will happen to the wicked who don't repent? (They will be in a state of misery.)

How do Heavenly Father's commandments help us? (Discuss ideas.)

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## Activity Time

## Justice & Mercy Scale

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**Description:** This activity helps your family visualize how Jesus Christ's mercy balances out our sins if we repent.

**What you need:**

- 2 plastic or paper cups, string, a clothes hanger, a hole punch, scissors, 16 coins of the same size, tape, and a copy of the activity

**Preparation:** Print and cut out the "Justice" and "Mercy" labels and tape one to each cup. Punch a hole on each side of each cup. Cut the string into two 12-18 inch lengths. Tie a string through the holes in each cup to make a loop, and tie the top of each loop to opposite ends of the hanger as shown. Cut out the strips of paper labeled "sin" and tape one coin to the back of each. Cut out the picture of Jesus and tape 8 coins to the back of the picture near the feet.

**Activity:** Explain: Heavenly Father gives us commandments or "laws" to keep us happy and safe. There are also consequences if we break those laws, or commit sin. God said that "no unclean thing can enter the kingdom of God". But none of us are perfect, and we will all commit some sin in our lives.

Demonstrate: Place the weighted strips of paper labeled sin into the "Justice" cup. You might give an example of a type of sin as you place each strip in the cup, or let family members take turns adding strips to the cup. Point out that the cup is getting heavier and heavier.

Explain: Heavenly Father wanted to give us a way to return back to Him, but He needed to remain just and fair. That's why he provided a Savior for us. Jesus Christ is our Savior, and he was perfect. He paid the price for our sins through His Atonement. If we repent, are baptized, and have faith in Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ's mercy balances out our sins.

Demonstrate: Place the weighted picture of Jesus in the "Mercy" cup. Notice that the cups are again balanced.

Close by bearing your testimony of these principles.



JUSTICE

MERCY

SIN

SIN

SIN

SIN

SIN

SIN

SIN

SIN



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## Treat Time

## *Peanut Butter Happy Face Cookies*

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**Prep Time:** 5 minutes

**Bake Time:** 8 minutes



**Ingredients:** 1 cup peanut butter  
1 cup white sugar  
1 egg

**Instructions:** Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Combine ingredients until smooth.

Treat time: Let children roll dough into 1 inch balls and put on ungreased baking sheets. Lightly flatten each ball with the bottom of a glass. Use a toothpick or skewer to draw a smiley face on each cookie. Bake for 8 minutes.