

Letter to Leadership (Bishoprics, Relief Society and YW Presidents; and/or Stake Presidency):

(Feel free to use this or adapt and revise to your local needs)

Hello [Leaders you are addressing],

We are going to be hosting an LGBTQ+ Book of Mormon study group [or Come Follow Me group, or whatever your group is]. If you know anyone that would be interested let them know they can reach out to us.

Our main goals are to help anyone in our ward or stake feel less alone and to give people a safe space to share wherever they're at in their journey, and by studying the Book of Mormon we will stay rooted in the gospel. In addition to seeking guidance from the Spirit some ideas we're suggesting as possibilities to look for while reading the Book of Mormon from an LGBTQ+ perspective will be: God's love for all His children, inclusivity, the importance of personal revelation, patience, hope, examples of Heavenly Father and/or Jesus Christ showing love in a variety of ways, and of course seeking to come closer to the Savior and recognizing Him as our Redeemer.

We intend to keep any conversations confidential and respect each other's privacy. We are giving people the option to attend in person or over zoom so those who feel more comfortable coming with the camera and sound off have that ability. We've made a scripture reading chart for [January-November (your group may have a different reading schedule to include here)], but people are welcome to join at any point in the year. We will be meeting [day(s) and time (our group meets once a month)] to start with a prayer and then discuss our favorite things or what stood out to us in our personal reading.

Again, if you are aware or become aware at any point during the year of anyone that would benefit from participating in this please let them know they can contact us.

Thank you,

[your names and preferred method of contact]

Letter template to group members:

(Feel free to use this or adapt and revise to your local needs)

Hello friends!

Welcome to our LGBTQ Book of Mormon Study Group. We meet together [regular date, time, location (our group meets once a month both over Zoom and in person)]. I've attached the reading chart so you can see what chapters we will be discussing each month. Don't feel obligated to keep the same pace if you need to do something different.

We are reading the Book of Mormon from an LGBTQ+ perspective (or as allies imagining as best we can) in hopes to gain a better understanding of how we can be supportive to any LGBTQ+ people in our wards who may want a safe space. We've told our ward and stake leadership about this in case anyone comes to them and could use this type of group or is interested in joining us. Please feel free to invite anyone you feel inspired to invite as well. We want to help anyone in our wards feel less alone, and by studying the Book of Mormon we should stay rooted in the gospel.

In addition to seeking guidance from the Spirit some ideas we're suggesting as possibilities to look for while reading the Book of Mormon from an LGBTQ+ perspective are: God's love for all of His children, inclusivity, the importance of personal revelation, patience, hope, examples of Heavenly Father and/or Jesus Christ showing love in a variety of ways, and of course seeking to come closer to the Savior and recognizing Him as our Redeemer.

Our plan is to begin each meeting with a prayer and then start our discussion by taking turns sharing what scriptures stood out to us and what we think about them (inspiration and/or questions you have). You do not need to feel obligated to share anything and are welcome to just listen to the discussion. We intend to keep any conversations confidential and respect each other's privacy.

If you have any questions feel free to give one of us a call or email :-)

[Names and contact info]

