



The Special Book

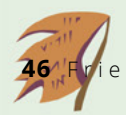


ILLUSTRATION BY ADAM RECORD

By Julia Willardson
(Based on a true story)

“It’s your turn to read, Papa,” Bernice said. She opened the scriptures. Maman and Papa sat next to her on the couch.

Papa read the first scripture. “I know that he loveth his children.”

“I know that he loveth his children,” Bernice repeated.

“Nevertheless,” Papa said, “I do not know the meaning of all things.”*

Nevertheless was a hard word. Bernice couldn’t read yet, and she didn’t know what all the words meant. But she loved repeating the words when her family read scriptures together.

The next day at scripture time, Papa had a surprise. “I have something special for you,” he said. He gave Bernice a book. It had a picture of people and a boat on the front.

“Is this for me?” Bernice asked. She hugged the big book in her arms.

“For you,” Papa said. “Look inside.”

Bernice opened the book. Her eyes got big. There were so many colorful pictures.

“What is it called?” Bernice asked.

Papa pointed to the words on the

cover. “*Book of Mormon Stories*,” he said.

Bernice traced the words on the cover. “*Book of Mormon Stories*,” she said.

“It has the same stories we are reading about in the scriptures,” Maman said.

Bernice pointed to one of the pictures. “Who is that?” she asked.

“Hmm. Do you see the bow and arrows?” Maman asked.

Bernice nodded.

“Do you remember reading about someone who had a broken bow?” Papa asked.

“Nephi?” Bernice said.

“Yes, that’s Nephi,” Papa said.

Bernice smiled. “Thank you, Papa. Thank you, Maman. I love this book.”

Each night, Bernice read her scripture book with Maman and Papa. She pointed to the pictures. She learned to say some hard words. And she learned to read some easy words on her own!

Reading the scriptures made her feel happy. She was glad she could read them with Maman and Papa! ●

This story took place in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

* 1 Nephi 11:17

