The Winter 2015 Course Paper

The Fall 2014 course paper will answer the following statement: *How does Book of Mormon bring men to Christ?*

**Introduction to Paper:**

I. *(Thesis statement) President Ezra Taft Benson:*  
  "The Book of Mormon brings men to Christ through two basic means. First, it tells in a plain manner of Christ and His gospel. It testifies of His divinity and of the necessity for a Redeemer and the need of our putting trust in Him. It bears witness of the Fall and the Atonement and the first principles of the gospel, including our need of a broken heart and a contrite spirit and a spiritual rebirth. It proclaims we must endure to the end in righteousness and live the moral life of a Saint.  
  "Second, the Book of Mormon exposes the enemies of Christ. It confounds false doctrines and lays down contention. (See 2 Ne. 3:12.) It fortifies the humble followers of Christ against the evil designs, strategies, and doctrines of the devil in our day. The type of apostates in the Book of Mormon are similar to the type we have today. God, with his infinite foreknowledge, so molded the Book of Mormon that we might see the error and know how to combat false educational, political, religious, and philosophical concepts of our time." (From "The Book of Mormon is the Word of God," *Ensign*, Jan, 1988, p. 3)

Nephi taught that the Book of Mormon will help latter-day scattered Israel “come to the knowledge of their Redeemer and the very points of his doctrine, that they may know how to come unto him and be saved (1 Ne. 15:14)

*This course paper will focus on the fist of the two ways that the Book of Mormon brings men to Christ. It will discuss the “very points of doctrine” that are necessary to understand in order to “know how to come unto [Christ] and be saved” (1 Ne. 15:14).*

II. *Lehi’s Dream* (1 Nephi 8): Nephi and Mormon use Lehi’s dream as a way for the reader to make connections as well as to see patterns and themes throughout their writings.

**Main Body of Paper** *(Book of Mormon’s teachings regarding the following topics relative to why and how men are to come Christ)*

I. Premortality

II. Creation  
   A. BM teachings on creation  
   B. What does the BM teach is the purpose the earth was created?

III. Fall of Adam  
   A. BM teachings regarding the story of the creation  
   B. What does the BM teach regarding the results of the Fall?

IV. Atonement  
   A. Justice and Mercy  
   B. Infinite atonement  
   C. What did Christ suffer?

V. Spiritual Rebirth  
   A. Faith  
   B. Repentance  
   C. Baptism  
   D. Gift of the Holy Ghost

VI. Endure to the End

**Conclusion** *(So what does this mean for me?)*