I told the brethren that the Book of Mormon was the most correct of any book on earth, and the keystone of our religion, and a man would get nearer to God by abiding by its precepts, than by any other book.

— *Joseph Smith, 1841*

Chart 1

Joseph Smith on the Correctness and Importance of the Book of Mormon

Explanation   In one of the most famous declarations ever made about the Book of Mormon, the Prophet Joseph Smith declares this sacred record to be the keystone of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ and the best guide available for drawing nearer to God. This statement implies that the Book of Mormon is not only doctrinally but also historically correct. The Book of Mormon brings people closer to God by testifying of Jesus Christ, teaching the importance of obeying the commandments, explaining the plan of salvation, and revealing many other truths conducive to personal righteousness.

Sources   Introduction to the Book of Mormon, 1981 edition. See Joseph Smith, *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith,* comp. Joseph Fielding Smith (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1976), 194.