

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SELECTING AND RECORDING YOUR “CROWDSOURCED” BOOK OF MORMON VERSE

Welcome to the “crowdsourced” Book of Mormon. *Book of Mormon Central* is delighted that you’ve chosen to participate in this landmark project. We don’t expect the video verses to have a professional look or have a big “Hollywood” crew, but if the following guidelines are followed we’ll be “the best that we can be”. The Book of Mormon deserves our best, don’t you think?

NOTE: WE WILL SOON HAVE A TUTORIAL VIDEO AVAILABLE. IN ADDITION, PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS.

1. **SELECT A VERSE:** Pick one from our website that hasn’t already been recorded. It could be one of your favorites, or perhaps one that would relate to a special background that you can find. You can reserve a verse for ten days on our website (The WHITE button will turn YELLOW). If you don’t submit your video for a reserved verse within ten days, it will become available for someone else to record.
2. Be aware that BMC is not obligated to accept your video for publication.
3. **LOCATION:** It could be neutral, or it could be a geographic landmark, or something that relates to your verse. Preference will be given to locations outside the western United States.
4. **BACKGROUND:** Your background should not be too bright, too dark, or too cluttered. And please avoid showing people moving around in the background as much as you can.
5. **CAMERA:** You don’t have to use a professional camera (unless you’d like to). In fact, most of our videos will probably be shot with cell phones. **But please shoot with the camera image** ****HORIZONTAL**** (landscape mode) and use the highest quality setting available (preferably HD – 1080P or better).
6. **CAMERA SUPPORT:** A tripod is preferred, or place the camera on a table or some other support.
7. (Tip: a beanbag or towel, etc. underneath helps to keep it aimed at the right spot.) If your camera is hand held, that is okay, as long as it is steady. (Keeping it zoomed out wide will help with that.) Remember – keep it steady. If you have a “selfie stick”, you can tape or tie it to a support to make an improvised tripod. (If you’re using a cell phone, don’t shoot your video in “selfie” mode – the quality is better in the regular camera mode)
8. **CLOTHING:** Please avoid any bright white or dark black clothing. Muted colors in a mid-grayscale are best, with no fine patterns or tiny stripes. Avoid hats or sunglasses. Avoid clothing with text or copyrighted logos or other graphics.
9. **LIGHTING:** If you’re indoors, pick a spot with plenty of light available, or supplement the lighting as needed with an extra lamp. If you’re outdoors, avoid harsh sunlight that causes deep shadows. A slight cloud overcast or light shade is best. If you’re in the sun, get someone to hold a card that’s white or covered with tinfoil to bounce daylight into the shadowy side of your face. (It really helps!)
10. **FRAMING:** Please shoot a medium-close shot from the waist up. If it is too wide, we’ll have to crop it in the editing process and that will diminish the quality of the image. If you’re including a landmark that identifies your location, stand so that it can be seen the background. If it is very large, you may have to stand at quite a distance out in front of it.
11. **AUDIO:** This is really important!
 - a. If you’re using a microphone that’s built into your camera or phone, you’ll need to have the camera closer to you than you think is necessary in order to get good audio. Find a quiet place to shoot. Background noises can be very distracting. Fans, radios, or people speaking

in the background will be recorded louder than you think. If someone is mowing grass, etc. close by, they usually won't mind pausing for a minute or two if you ask them nicely. And if your camera has a manual setting for the recording volume, use it and set it a bit lower than maximum. That will help to eliminate background noise.

b. Speak loudly enough to separate your voice from any background noise.

12. LOOK INTO THE CAMERA: You probably won't have a TV-style teleprompter to read your verse. But there are some ways to avoid looking down away from the camera to read it (so we can see your face and not just the top of your head).

a. If your verse is short, you may be able to memorize it.

OR,

b. If you'd like, use a second cell phone or an iPod-style tablet as a "do-it-yourself" teleprompter that someone can hold up CLOSE to the camera lens. You can change the settings on the Church's scripture app to make the text size larger. (use a finger to scroll up the text while you're shooting longer verses) OR,

c. there are also free apps you can download like "Parrot Teleprompter" that are simple and easy to use. OR,

d. You can print out the verse on one or more pieces of paper in large type and have a friend hold them close to the side of the camera (it works well to tape or glue the pages to pieces of cardboard so they don't flutter).

13. RECORD AS MANY TAKES AS YOU NEED: It doesn't have to be perfect, but you'll want to do your best. STOP AND START THE CAMERA FOR EACH TAKE, so that the camera will create a separate video file. We will edit the video using the best take.

14. UPLOAD YOUR VIDEO: When you reserve the verse you want to record, you will receive an email like the one below with a link to upload your video later. Be sure to save that email and use the link to upload your video.



Dear Kirk, here is your video upload link!

Thanks for reserving the verse **Title:1**. Your password is **F.rJbCIKc**. You have 10 days to upload your video. After 10 days the verse will be available for someone else to reserve.

Click on this link to upload your video -

[Upload my video](#)

Thank you for helping flood the earth with the Book of Mormon.

Crowdsourced Book of Mormon

Crowdsourced Book of Mormon
by Book of Mormon Central

Login to upload your Video

Please enter the password that was emailed to you. You can upload your video now or come back later using the same link you just used. Once a video has been uploaded, this option will not be any more available.

	Title:1
	sterlingrd@msn.com
Please, tell us briefly where the video was filmed.	
	Hill Cumorah NY
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I grant permission for BMC to use this video
	F.rJbCIKc

Submit

15. Afterwards, it may take several days or weeks for us to edit and publish your verse. Keep checking back until the button turns GREEN and your verse is published. Then . . .

16. TELL YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Use all your social media contacts to tell everyone where they can find your video verse and watch you! Then invite them to record their own verse! Use twitter, Facebook, Instagram, email, phone, or even (gasp!) talk to them IRL (In Real Life)!

Thanks again for becoming part of the Book of Mormon "crowd"!