

Maja's Sunshine Scripture

By Maja Kralj McKinstry
and Noelle Lambert Barrus
(Based on a true story)

This story happened in Slovenia.

Maja sat on the steps of her house and rested her chin in her hands. The sun was shining bright, warm rays of light through the tall trees. The air smelled like fresh pine needles.

Mami came out and sat next to Maja. "What are you thinking about?"

"I'm supposed to share my favorite scripture in Primary," Maja said. "But I don't have a favorite. And I don't know which one to pick."

Mami nodded. "Choosing a favorite scripture is hard." She looked out at the trees, then stood up. "I have an idea."

Mami went back inside. When she came back, she was holding her scriptures. "Let's start with a story. What's your favorite scripture story?"

Maja thought about it. "I like when Jesus visited the Nephites."

Mami flipped through the pages in the Book of Mormon. "That story starts in 3 Nephi." She pointed to the page. "Let's take turns reading and pick out verses we like."

Maja nodded and listened as Mami read. She read about Jesus Christ calling His disciples. She read about peacemakers and prayer.

Then it was Maja's turn. When she finished one of the verses, she paused. She felt like the sun was shining bright enough to fill her heart.

She looked up at Mami. "I like that one."

"Me too. What do you like about it?"

Mami asked.

Maja shrugged as a smile spread on her face. "It's about Jesus. And it just makes me feel happy."

Mami smiled back. "That's a great way to know you've found a favorite scripture. Do you want to share that one in Primary?"

*3 Nephi 15:9.



Maja nodded excitedly. "Will you help me learn it?"

"Of course!" Mami said.

Mami and Maja practiced one word at a time. While they worked, the birds chirped in the trees, like they were learning too.

All week, Maja kept practicing her new favorite scripture. On Sunday morning, she was a little nervous. She practiced saying her scripture on the long drive to church.

There were only a few kids in Maja's Primary. But as she walked into the classroom, Maja felt like butterflies were flying around in her stomach.

When it was her turn to share, Maja stood and took a deep breath. "Behold, I am the law, and the light," she said. "Look unto me, and endure to the end, and ye shall live; for unto him that endureth to the end will I give eternal life."*

When Maja was done, she sat down and smiled. She did it! The nervous butterflies were gone, and the warm, sunshiny feeling was back. She knew her favorite scripture would bring that feeling whenever she needed it. ●



The scripture Maja learned for Primary still brings her feelings of sunshine and comfort today! What's your favorite scripture?