

As Popular as Nehor

“I’m not running for class president anymore!” Auggie declared as he opened the door.

“What? Why not?” April asked from the living room.

“I can’t compete with Jenny,” Auggie sighed. “She’s convinced almost everyone in the class to vote for her.”

“Oh really? How has she done that?” April wondered.

“Well, Jenny is cool and popular. She has been giving kids candy to earn their vote. Not only that, but she promised that whoever votes for her won’t have homework anymore!” Auggie collapsed on the couch. “How do I convince people to vote for me?”

“That is not a real promise,” April laughed. “Students need homework to learn. She is lying to gain support and popularity. This reminds me of Nehor. From the Book of Mormon. Do you remember him?”

“Um,” Auggie thought. “Not really.”

“Well, Nehor wanted to make his own church, so he started making up lies so people would join him,” April began. “He told them that they shouldn’t have to work, but have others work for them. People started to pay him money and support his church. Not only did Nehor lie, but he went on to do some other awful things so he was taken to Alma to be judged.”

“Yeah, that does kind of sound like what Jenny is doing,” Auggie admitted. “What should I do?”

“You keep being the kind person you are,” April smiled. “Keep telling the truth. Love and serve your classmates. Soon your teacher will find out that Jenny has been promising no homework to the students and there will be consequences. No one wants to follow someone who lies.”

“That’s true,” Auggie perked up a little. “Thanks April! If I have to lie to be popular, then I don’t want to be popular. I’ll keep being honest and good!”