



# Appreciating the Savior's Mission

One of our favorite family home evenings helped us better appreciate the life and mission of the Savior. We asked every family member to find scriptures about the Savior's hands, eyes, feet, or mouth. Then we each shared those scriptures. For example, the Savior's hands healed the leper, His feet walked on water, and His eyes wept at the tomb of Lazarus. We also discussed the wounds in Jesus's body and the perfection of His sacrifice. Our discussion about the life and acts of Jesus Christ invited the Spirit and allowed each family member to bear testimony of our Savior.

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ILLUSTRATION BY BETH WHITTAKER

## HELPS FOR HOME EVENING

### Helps for Home Evening

**“Make Yours a Great Life,” page 38:** Family home evening is an excellent time to encourage family members. After sharing this article, consider helping your children create a “life plan.” You could include career choices, educational goals, or personal ambitions. Set a plan of small goals to help reach bigger ones. Conclude by discussing this quote from the article: “Some people dream about the future but don’t do much to move into it with power. They don’t realize that what they do—or don’t do—now will profoundly affect their future.”

**“Home Teachers Who Made a Difference” page 33:** Discuss how home teachers can “nurture and inspire, to counsel and direct our Father’s children.” Share stories from the article and bear your testimony about how home teachers have blessed your life. Encourage the priesthood holders in your family to set a goal to help them magnify this divine call to nurture and inspire God’s children.

*There are many in the Church today who "sift by the pond of Bethesda," hoping to be carried into the healing waters. Who will help them?*

*In the 4th chapter of John, the Savior goes to Bethesda the "pool of Bethesda," and others who were sick or had disabilities came to the pool. The day the Savior visited was different.*

*"And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years."*

*He would be completely healed.*

*We know that the pool allowed the "blind, but without," and others who were sick or had disabilities come to the pool. The day the Savior visited was different.*

*"And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years."*

**Look for a Blessing**

Just to mention that James Christ made a point to visit the pond of Bethesda during his mission in a time when he could have focused solely on the trials and activities of the week with him. He wanted to help those who were in need.

As a former member of the American Red Cross, I worked with victims of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. A week after the hurricane hit, a man walked into my office. His legs were grotesquely swollen, and I asked him what had happened. He said that after the floodwaters had receded he had been bound, he found himself alone in a dark, deep water. Many of his neighbors were trapped in their homes or on rooftops. He immediately looked for a raft or small dinghy to bring his family to higher ground. He knew he had to get through the water to help his family, but he was afraid to go. He called for help to become a lifeline, and he was able to help his family to safety. He was able to help his family to safety. He was able to help his family to safety.

**Listen without Criticism**

It is often so easy to be so sure of our own rightness that we know that we have done a "big thing" for God. The more we know about the needs of the people we are serving, the more we realize that we need to listen without criticism. Often, what we would expect to be so to the grateful and those who are grateful for our help or assistance. People who are suffering don't need our explanation for their

Suggest they write down the goal in their journal.

**“Carrying Others to the Pool of Bethesda,” page 62:** Read together the first paragraphs of the article and have your family make a poster of the five guidelines. Refer to the poster as you share some of the stories from the article, discussing which guideline was followed. Discuss how these principles can help you serve others in times of need and make a goal to use them.