

# the friend

APRIL • 2009



# Friends by Mail



## Living Room Baptism



I live in a village that has only one other family who are members of the Church. We take turns meeting at each other's homes for church meetings. I turned eight years old in the winter, but because we do not have a baptismal font and all of the lakes are frozen solid, I was baptized in an inflatable swimming pool in my living room. The branch president and the district president flew in to help. I am glad I could be baptized so I can follow Jesus's plan for me.

*Caleb H., age 8, Alaska*

## I Wasn't Nervous



Last year, the Primary chorister in my ward asked me if I would play one of the songs in the Primary sacrament meeting program. I was very nervous because I had never played in front of a lot of people before. I prayed to not be nervous. When the day of the program came, I played my song and it was very pretty. I am grateful that Heavenly Father answered my prayer and helped me to not be nervous.

*Maddie G., age 9, Oklahoma*

Would you like to write us a letter?  
Turn to the inside back cover to find out how.

## Title of Liberty

When I was six years old, I had a great time doing this family home evening. We learned about Moroni and the title of liberty. I found out that it represents obeying God. My family made a title of liberty. It is important to learn the ways of God when we are young so

we can be ready for the challenges that await us when we are older. I believe in God, and I hope you do too. I enjoyed doing this family home evening lesson, and I think you should do it too.

*Lilian P., age 7, Utah*



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# the Friend

See the  
Guide to the Friend  
(inside back cover)  
for family home  
evening ideas.



*A children's magazine published by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*

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Cover by Jim Madsen

You'll find some surprises in this month's *Friend*. First, there's a beautiful poster of Jesus Christ to hang on your wall. Look on pages 24 and 25!

Then look for all the CTR rings we've hidden this month. There are 17! How many can you find?



Come Listen to  
a Prophet's Voice

# Returning Safely to Heavenly Father

BY PRESIDENT DIETER F. UCHTDORF  
Second Counselor in the First Presidency

## The Point of Safe Return

During my training to become an airline captain, I had to learn how to navigate an airplane over long distances. Flights over huge oceans, crossing extensive deserts, and connecting continents need careful planning to ensure a safe arrival at the planned destination. Some of these nonstop flights can last up to 14 hours and cover almost 9,000 miles (14,500 km).

There is an important decision point during such long flights known as the *point of safe return*. Up to this point the aircraft has enough fuel to turn around and return safely to the airport of departure. Having passed the point of safe return, the captain has lost this option



**President Uchtdorf teaches that because of the Atonement, we can repent and always have hope.**

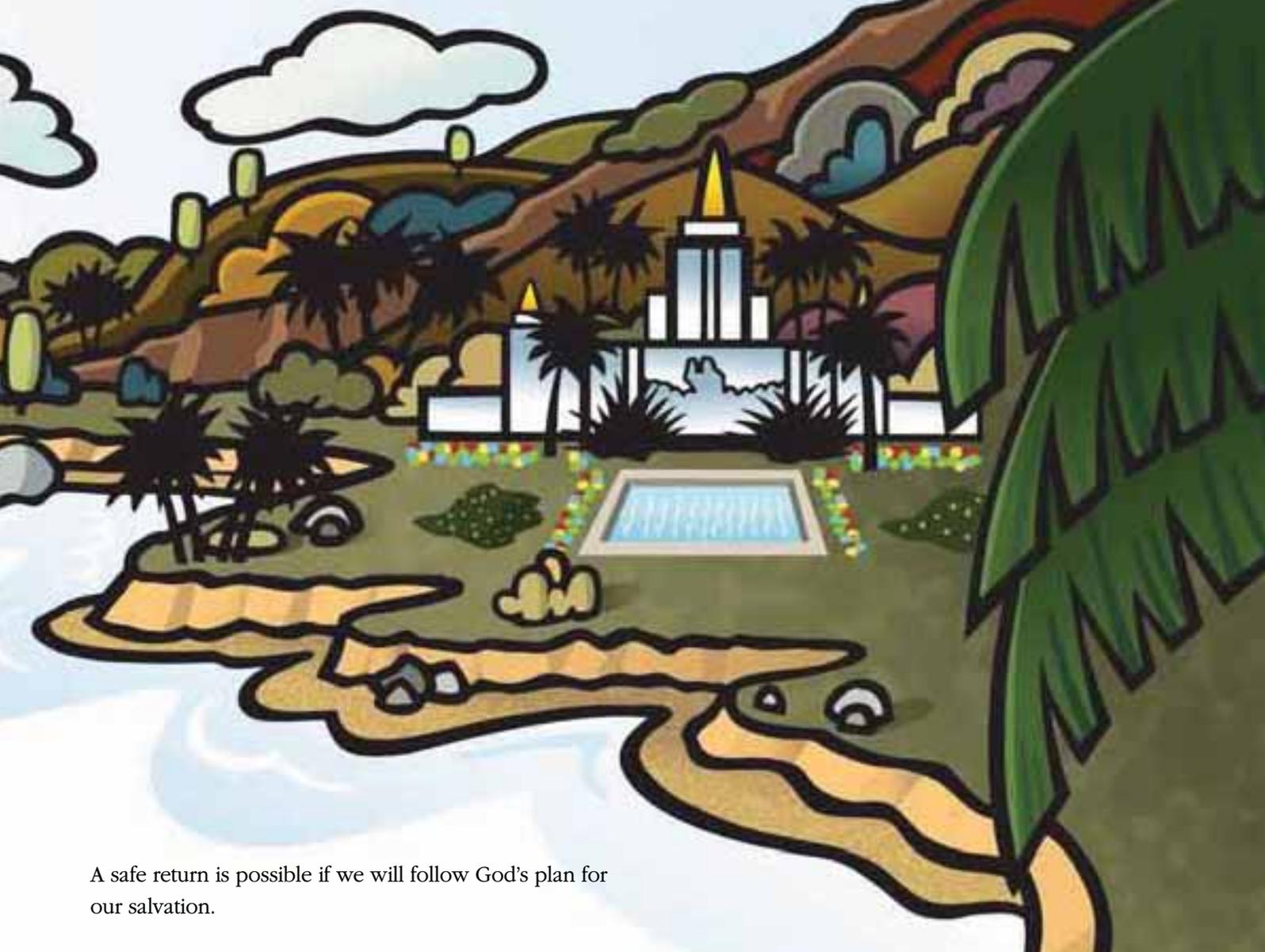
and has to continue on. That is why this point is often referred to as the *point of no return*.

## It's Never Too Late

Satan wants us to think that when we have sinned we have gone past a “point of no return”—that it is too late to change our course. The Atonement of Jesus Christ is the gift of God to His children to correct and overcome the consequences of sin.

Christ came to save us. If we have taken a wrong course, the Atonement of Jesus Christ can give us the assurance that sin is *not* a point of no return.





A safe return is possible if we will follow God's plan for our salvation.

### **There Is Always Hope**

Wherever you find yourselves on this journey through life, whatever trials you may face, there is *always* a point of safe return; there is always hope. You are the captain of your life, and God has prepared a plan to bring you safely back to Him, to your divine destination.

The gift of the Atonement of Jesus Christ provides us at all times and at all places with the blessings of repentance and forgiveness. Because of this gift, the opportunity to make a safe return from the disastrous course of sin is available to all of us. Happiness in this life and eternal joy in a life to come will be our reward if we choose to accept and apply this gift of our Heavenly Father. ●

*From an April 2007 general conference address.*

### **THINGS TO THINK ABOUT**

1. Every time you repent and take the sacrament, you are as clean as you were on the day you were baptized and confirmed. During the sacrament, think of how Jesus loves you and made it possible for you to repent and be happy.
2. Think of a time when you did something you knew was wrong. What does Heavenly Father want you to do when this happens? Why is it so important to repent as soon as you realize you have done something wrong?
3. How does keeping the commandments help you follow Heavenly Father's plan for your salvation? What are some ways that obedience keeps you safe?



# My Brother and the Resurrection

BY LAURIE WALKER

(Based on a true story)

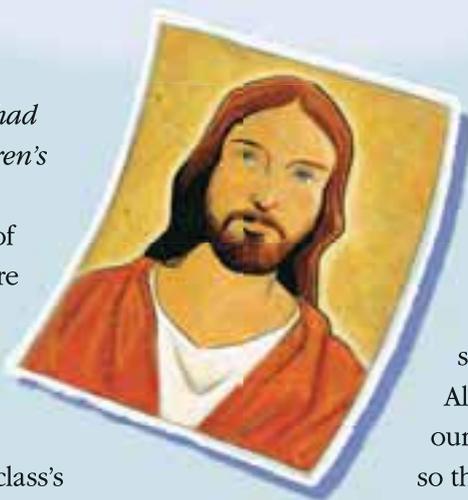
*Did Jesus really live again after he had died? Oh yes! And so shall I! (Children's Songbook, 64).*

Michelle stood up in front of the entire Primary, not sure if she was ready to do this. In Primary during the month of April, they were talking about Jesus Christ's Atonement. Michelle had been excited when it was her class's turn to give the talk and say the prayer in opening exercises. She had asked if she could give the talk, knowing just what she would talk about.

But now she wasn't so sure. Her stomach was feeling funny, and her mouth was dry. Then she saw her mom and dad in the back of the room and remembered the prayer they had together that morning. Now she didn't feel quite so scared anymore.

Michelle took a deep breath and held up a picture of a tiny baby. "This is my brother. His name is David Alan, and he would have been three years old this year. But when he was born, he couldn't breathe very well. He stayed alive in the hospital long enough to have a blessing, and then he died. I never got to see my brother, and sometimes I'm really sad about that."

Then Michelle held up a picture of Jesus. "But because of the Atonement and Resurrection, I don't have to be sad all the time. When Jesus died and came back to life, He made it possible for my little brother to one day have a perfect body. That will happen when



Jesus comes back to earth and people are resurrected. I can hardly wait, because then I will see my little brother again."

Michelle held up her brother's picture again. "I know sometimes people have to die. My family still gets sad sometimes when we think of David Alan. But we know that Jesus suffered for our sins, died for us, and was resurrected so that we can be resurrected too.

"I'm glad I'll be able to see my little brother and that he will be healthy. I'm also glad that Heavenly Father and Jesus loved us enough to make the Atonement happen so we can see the people we love again. I say this in the name of Jesus Christ, amen."

Michelle stepped down from the podium. When she went to the back of the room, she gave her mom and dad a big hug.

"You did a wonderful job," Mom whispered.

"We love you so much," Dad said.

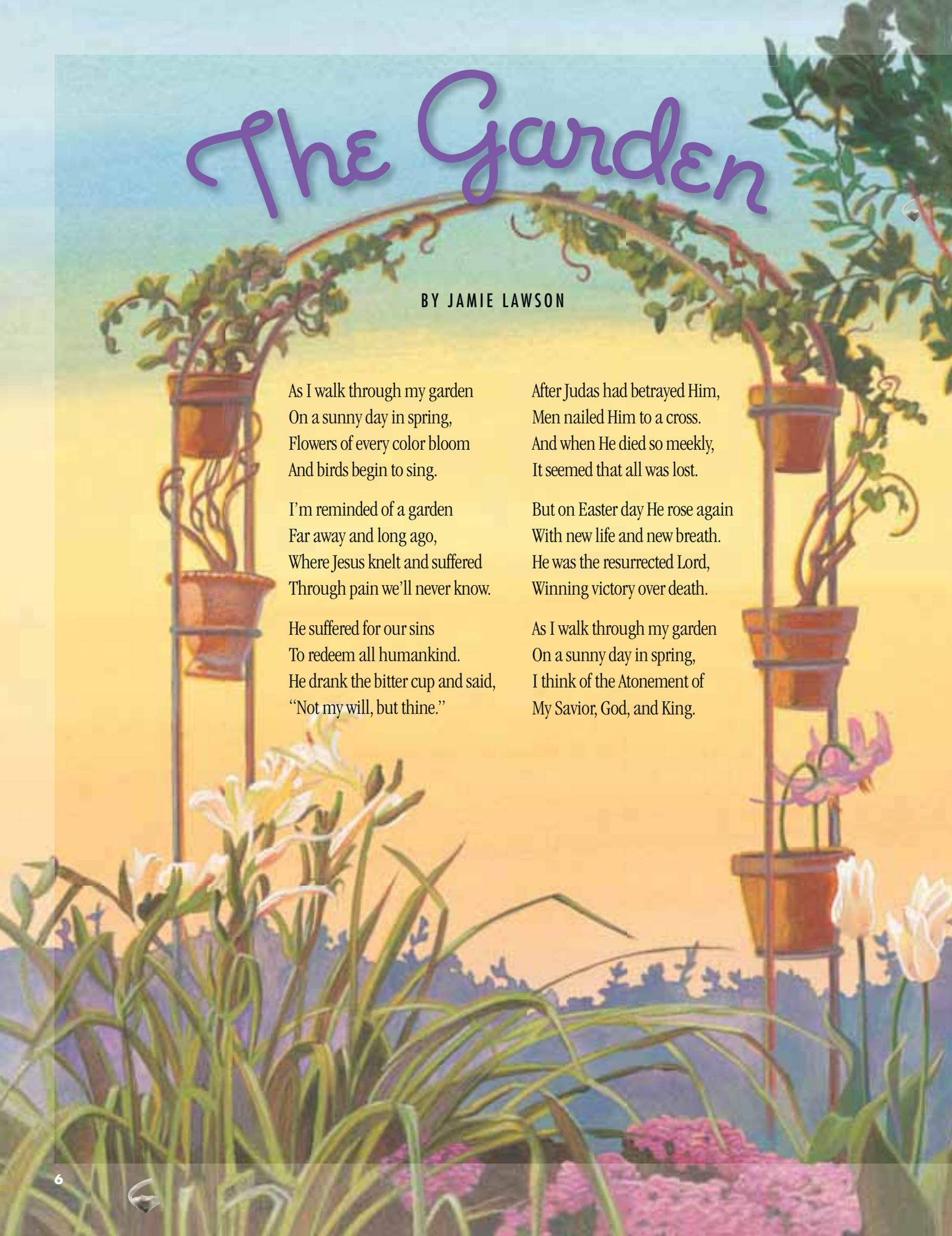
Michelle felt happy after her talk because Heavenly Father put a good feeling in her heart. She knew He loved her too. ●

"Because of Christ there is hope smiling brightly before you, and you need not worry too much about . . . death. . . . Through our Savior Jesus Christ you will be resurrected."<sup>1</sup>

**Julie B. Beck, Relief Society general president**



# The Garden



BY JAMIE LAWSON

As I walk through my garden  
On a sunny day in spring,  
Flowers of every color bloom  
And birds begin to sing.

I'm reminded of a garden  
Far away and long ago,  
Where Jesus knelt and suffered  
Through pain we'll never know.

He suffered for our sins  
To redeem all humankind.  
He drank the bitter cup and said,  
"Not my will, but thine."

After Judas had betrayed Him,  
Men nailed Him to a cross.  
And when He died so meekly,  
It seemed that all was lost.

But on Easter day He rose again  
With new life and new breath.  
He was the resurrected Lord,  
Winning victory over death.

As I walk through my garden  
On a sunny day in spring,  
I think of the Atonement of  
My Savior, God, and King.





**By Elder  
Octaviano Tenorio  
Of the Seventy**

# The Promises of a Prophet

*Search these commandments, for they are true and faithful, and the prophecies and promises which are in them shall all be fulfilled (D&C 1:37).*

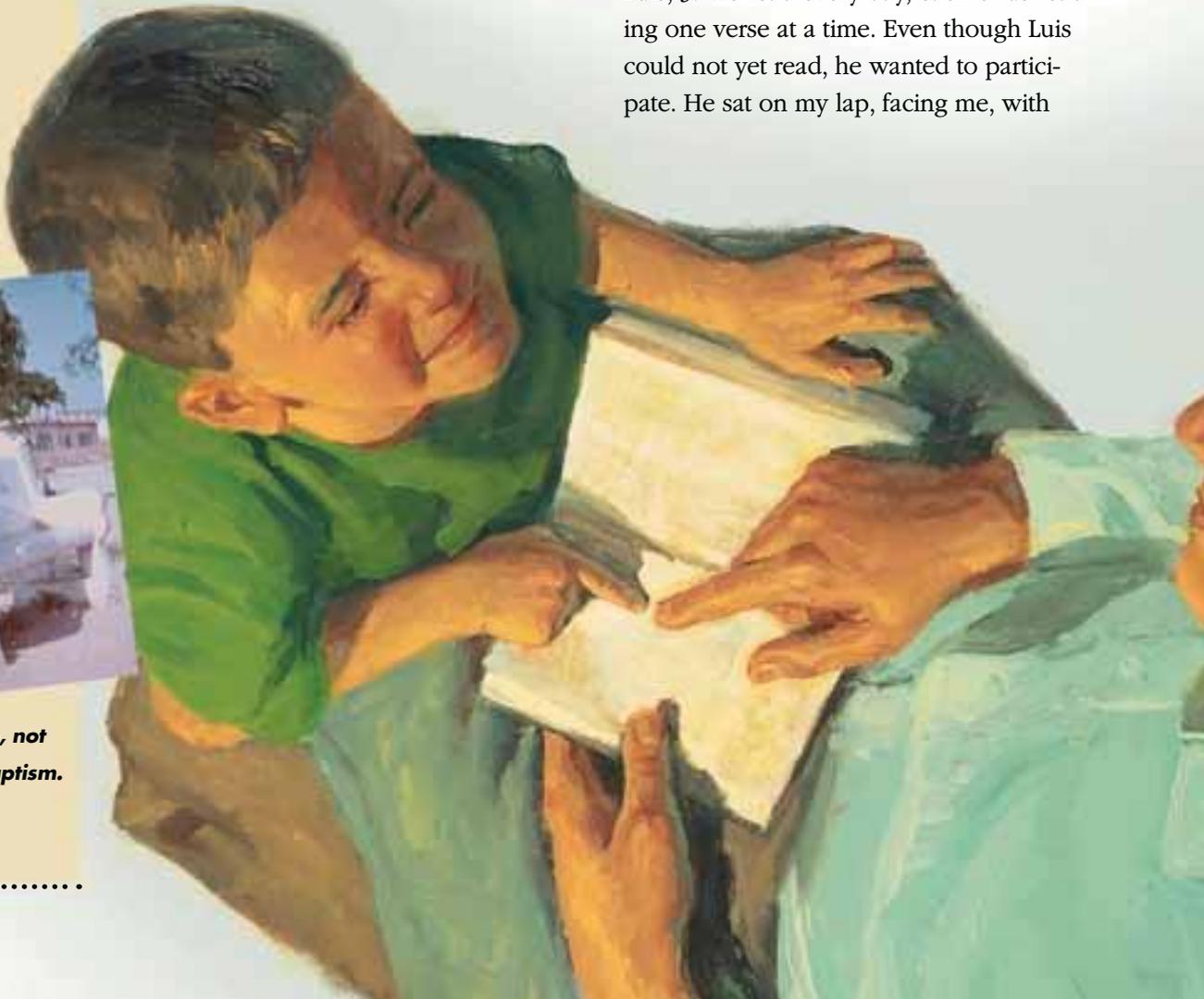
**T**hroughout my life I have learned that when we follow the teachings of our prophets, we receive promised blessings. In the April 1986 general conference,

President Ezra Taft Benson (1899–1994) promised that if families would read the scriptures together regularly, the Spirit would fill their homes.<sup>1</sup>

My dear wife and I decided to follow that counsel. We set a goal to read a chapter a day from the Book of Mormon with our three children—Jorge, 10; Susi, 9; and Luis, 3. We read every day, each of us reading one verse at a time. Even though Luis could not yet read, he wanted to participate. He sat on my lap, facing me, with



**At about age 16, not  
long after his baptism.**



the Book of Mormon between us. When it was my turn to read, we both followed my finger as I pointed to each word, and Luis repeated out loud every word I read while he looked at those words upside down.

Just before he turned five years old, Luis asked, “When is it my turn to read?”

We explained that when he was older, he would go to school and learn to read.

He responded, “I already know how to read!”

Astonished, I handed him a Book of Mormon. He opened the book upside down and began to read perfectly. He had learned to read by following along in the Book of Mormon!

When he was six years old, Luis sometimes went with me to visit Church members. I asked him to share his testimony as well as a short scripture message that I had taught him. Whenever he read from the Book of Mormon, he held it upside down and read perfectly.



**His son Luis at age four.**

I testify to you that if you start to read the scriptures from the time you are a little child, you will better understand the Lord’s promises and you will know what He expects from you. Someday you will become a parent and have little children of your own. Teach them to read the scriptures, and you will see a fulfillment of the promise in Proverbs 22:6: “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

Luis is now finishing his university studies and working full-time. No matter how late he gets home from work, school, or a Church assignment, he still reads a chapter from the Book of Mormon before he goes to bed. The prophet’s promise has truly been fulfilled: as a result of our reading this sacred book, our family has been richly blessed and we are more united.

I invite you to read the scriptures every day. If possible, read them with your family. I urge you boys to prepare to serve missions. I invite all of you to have a goal of being sealed in the temple for all eternity. And finally I want you to remember the inspired counsel of President Gordon B. Hinckley (1910–2008), who told us: “You need all the education you can get. . . . Whether it be repairing refrigerators, or the work of a skilled surgeon, you must train yourselves.”<sup>2</sup>

My dear children, listen to your teachers, be obedient in the classroom, do your very best, and learn all you can. The Lord has rich blessings in store for you and your families. Our duty is to “follow the prophet; he knows the way.”<sup>3</sup> ●

#### NOTES

1. See Ezra Taft Benson, “The Power of the Word,” *Ensign*, May 1986, 81.
2. Gordon B. Hinckley, “A Prophet’s Counsel and Prayer for Youth,” *Ensign*, Jan. 2001, 4, 7.
3. “Follow the Prophet,” *Children’s Songbook*, 110–11.



# Jesus Christ Is My Savior



*I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me* (John 14:6).

BY CHERYL ESPLIN



Before Heavenly Father sent us to earth, He chose Jesus Christ to be our leader and Savior. You chose to follow Jesus Christ before you were born.

When Jesus came to earth, He taught the gospel and set up His Church. He kept His promise to be our Savior. He suffered and died and was resurrected so that we could be resurrected and live again with Heavenly Father and our families.

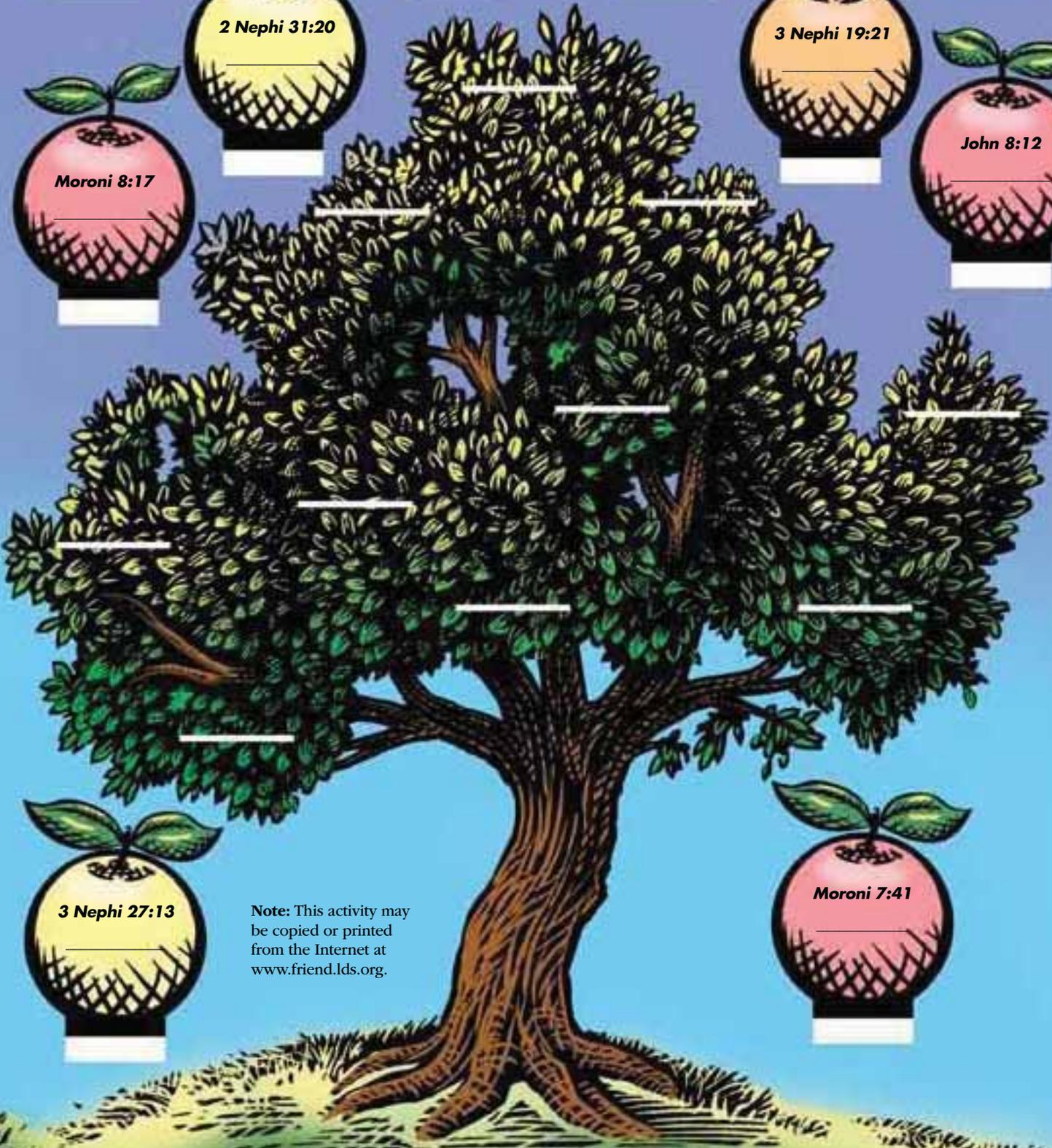
The scriptures teach us of the many blessings made possible by Jesus Christ. Do you remember the story of Lehi's dream? Lehi saw a tree. The tree represents the love of Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.

On the tree was fruit that would make people happy. Lehi tasted the fruit, and it filled him with great joy. Lehi wanted his whole family to taste the fruit. (See 1 Nephi 8:10–12.)

The fruit of the tree represents the blessings we receive because of Jesus Christ and His Atonement. We taste of the fruit when we trust in Jesus Christ, when we are baptized and receive the Holy Ghost, and when we live the gospel and feel our Savior's love. ●

## Activity

Remove page 11, and mount it on heavy paper. Cut slits in the tree on the white lines, and cut out the fruit. For each fruit, look up the scripture, identify the blessing Heavenly Father has given us, and write it on the line. Put the tab of the fruit into a slit on the tree.



Note: This activity may be copied or printed from the Internet at [www.friend.lds.org](http://www.friend.lds.org).

## SHARING TIME IDEAS

**April Theme: *Jesus Christ made it possible for me to live with my Heavenly Father again.***

**(Note: All songs are from *Children's Songbook* unless otherwise noted; GAK = Gospel Art Picture Kit.)**

1. ***In the premortal life, I chose to follow Jesus Christ.*** Ask the children to name some of the choices they have made that day (what to wear, what to eat, and so on). Write responses on the board. Explain that Heavenly Father has given us agency, the ability to make choices. Teach about the Council in Heaven, when Heavenly Father presented His plan. Explain that using our agency is an important part of that plan. Help the children understand that Satan wanted to change the plan and take away our ability to choose. Jesus Christ wanted to follow Heavenly Father's plan and volunteered to be our Savior. Emphasize to the children that they chose to follow Jesus Christ (see *Primary* 6, lesson 2).

Write questions to help the children review what they have learned. Put the questions in a container. Choose a child to pick a question out of the container and answer it. Then have that child choose someone else to pick a question and answer it. Continue as time allows. Sing "I Lived in Heaven" (p. 4). Bear testimony of the importance of continuing to follow Jesus Christ.

2. ***I have a testimony that Jesus Christ is my Savior.*** A few days in advance, ask two or three older children to come to Primary prepared to bear their testimonies of Jesus Christ. Write on the board: "In the premortal life I chose to \_\_\_\_\_." Ask the children to remember from last week's discussion the choice they made in the premortal life (follow Jesus Christ). Repeat the sentence together. Tell the children that their choice to follow Jesus Christ shows that they had a testimony of Him in the premortal life and that their testimony will grow as they continue to learn about Him in this life. Use the chalkboard to teach enrichment activity 2 in lesson 30 of the *Primary* 7 manual, page 104. Use John 14:6 to reinforce the idea that just as the ladder provides the only way out of the pit, Jesus Christ provides the only way to eternal life. Hand out a paper and a pencil or crayons to each child. Invite the children to draw a picture of a way they can follow Jesus Christ. Emphasize that scriptures, good music, and the testimonies of others can help build and strengthen their testimonies of Jesus Christ. Sing both verses of "Help Us, O God, to Understand" (p. 73). Invite the children you asked beforehand to bear their testimonies.

3. ***My family and I will be resurrected.*** Beforehand and with approval of the bishop or branch president, invite a member who has experienced the death of a loved one to bear testimony of what the Resurrection means to him or her. Put the following GAK pictures in a pile in the following order with 227 on top: GAK 227 (Jesus Praying in Gethsemane), GAK 228 (The Betrayal of Jesus), GAK 230 (The Crucifixion), GAK 231 (Burial of Jesus), GAK 233 (Mary and the Resurrected Lord), GAK 234 (Jesus Shows His Wounds), and GAK 316 (Jesus Teaching in the Western Hemisphere). While the

pianist plays "Beautiful Savior" (pp. 62–63), have the children pass around a small stone. Tell them it is symbolic of the stone rolled in front of the opening of Christ's tomb. When the music stops, have the child holding the stone take the picture from the top of the pile and tell about it or choose someone to help. Continue for each picture, pausing after GAK 234 to sing the second verse of "On a Golden Springtime" (p. 88) and to read Luke 24:39 in unison. Have the children feel their hands to help them understand that after Jesus was resurrected, the Apostles could feel His hands just as the children can feel their own hands. Continue with the rest of the pictures. Teach that because of the Atonement of Jesus Christ, everyone who has ever lived on the earth will be resurrected. Have the invited guest bear testimony. Sing "Did Jesus Really Live Again?" (p. 64). At the end of the third verse, have the children stand when singing the words "Oh yes! And so shall I!"

4. ***By following Jesus Christ, we will be able to live with Heavenly Father and Jesus again.*** Have the children try to draw something unfamiliar (for example, an unusual animal or flower). Then provide a picture of the object, and have them draw it again. Discuss how models help us. Then explain that on the wall of President Thomas S. Monson's office is a favorite painting of the Savior. He said, "When facing difficult situations, I often look at it and ask myself, 'What would He do?' Then I have tried to respond accordingly" (in Jeffrey R. Holland, "President Thomas S. Monson: In the Footsteps of the Master," supplement to the *Ensign*, June 2008, 2).

Give each class one or more scripture references that illustrate the Savior's example. Have class members read to discover what Jesus did to be an example, and have them suggest ways they can follow that example. Possibilities: John 19:26–27 (showed concern for mother); John 13:14–15 (served others); Acts 10:38 (went about doing good); Matthew 4:23 (taught the gospel); Mark 1:9 (was baptized); Luke 2:52 (grew in wisdom); Mark 10:14–16 (loved little children); 3 Nephi 17:15–17 (prayed). Sing "I'm Trying to Be like Jesus" (pp. 78–79).

**For younger children:** Match pictures showing Jesus's example with pictures of children following His example. Possibilities: GAK 206 (Childhood of Jesus Christ) with 2-23 (son helping father) from *Primary* 2 picture packet; GAK 242 (Jesus and His Mother) with 1-46 (children with their grandmother) from *Primary* 1 picture packet; GAK 212 (Sermon on the Mount) with GAK 607 (Young Girl Speaking at Church); GAK 208 (John the Baptist Baptizing Jesus) with 2-20 (baptism) from *Primary* 2 picture packet; GAK 205 (Boy Jesus in the Temple) with GAK 617 (Search the Scriptures); GAK 216 (Christ and the Children) with 2-49 (family on picnic) from *Primary* 2 picture packet; GAK 225 (The Last Supper) with GAK 604 (Passing the Sacrament); 1-64 (Christ praying with the Nephites) with 1-9 (girl praying) from *Primary* 1 picture packet.

5. **Friend** references: "Jesus Christ Is My Savior," Mar. 2005, 20–22; "Why I Believe in Jesus Christ," Apr. 2006, 18–19; "Savior and Redeemer," Apr. 1999, 12–13; "Sharing Time Butterfly," Apr. 2007, 4–6; "Friend to Friend," July 1999, 6–7.

# Matt AND Mandy



# Excited to Learn

BY LENA M. HARPER

(Based on a true story)

*Seek learning, even by study and also by faith* (D&C 88:118).

**R**ussell carefully packed his two pencils and his notebook in his schoolbag. He combed his hair and checked to make sure his clothes looked nice. After giving his mom a hug good-bye, he ran to the bus stop. He felt like he would burst if the bus didn't come soon. He was excited to start school for the first time.

Every year, Russell had watched his older brothers and sisters walk to the bus stop, where they got on the bus for school. He wanted to ride the bus with them. Even more, he wanted to learn the things they did. He wanted to learn more about dinosaurs. He wanted to know how trains worked. He wanted to learn to read. He just knew he was going to like school.

Russell's teacher, Mrs. Wilson, smiled when he walked into the classroom. She showed Russell where his desk was. She also showed him where to hang his schoolbag.

"Maybe we'll learn about dinosaurs first," Russell thought.

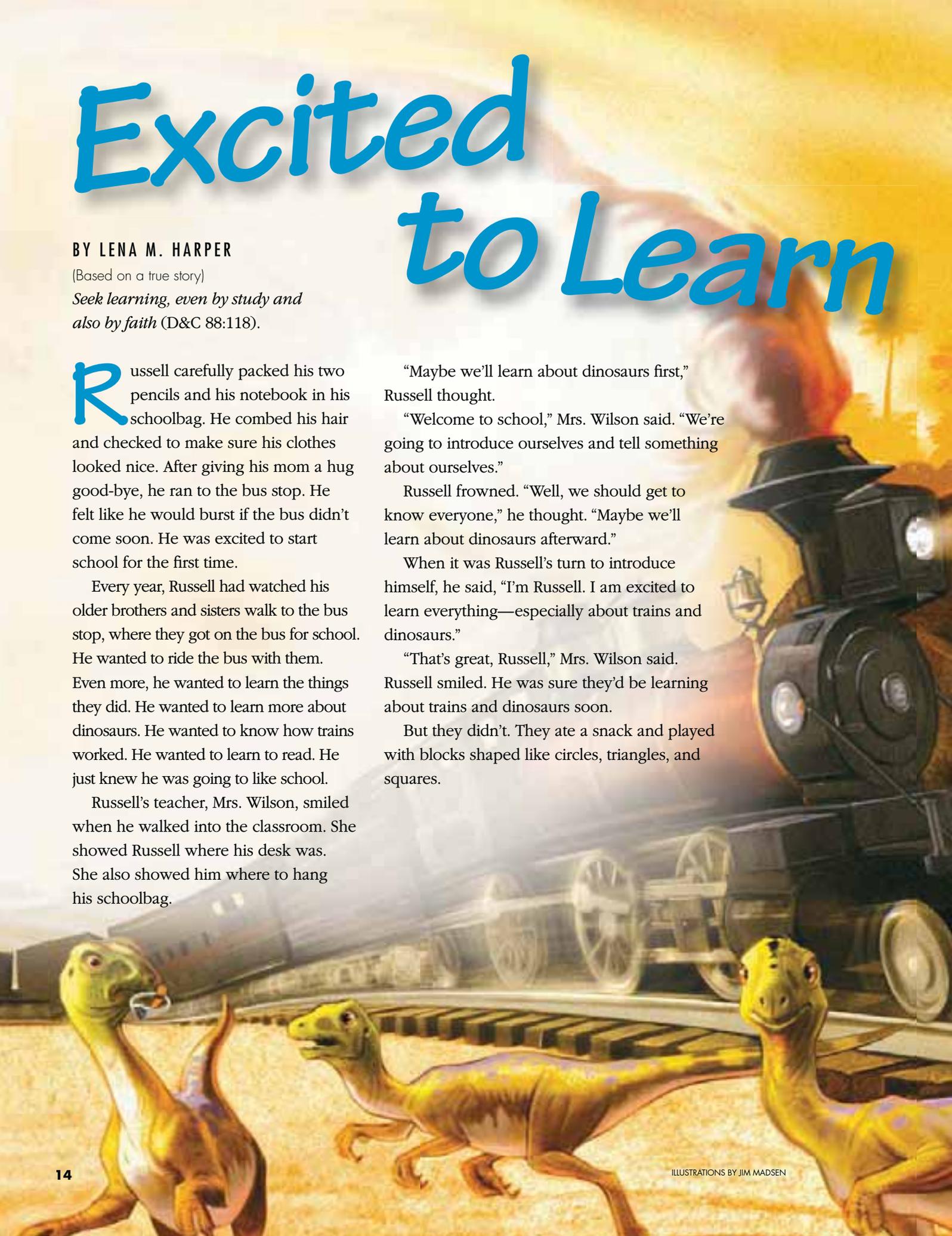
"Welcome to school," Mrs. Wilson said. "We're going to introduce ourselves and tell something about ourselves."

Russell frowned. "Well, we should get to know everyone," he thought. "Maybe we'll learn about dinosaurs afterward."

When it was Russell's turn to introduce himself, he said, "I'm Russell. I am excited to learn everything—especially about trains and dinosaurs."

"That's great, Russell," Mrs. Wilson said. Russell smiled. He was sure they'd be learning about trains and dinosaurs soon.

But they didn't. They ate a snack and played with blocks shaped like circles, triangles, and squares.







“There is no limit to your potential learning as a child of God.”<sup>2</sup>  
**President Henry B. Eyring,  
First Counselor in the First Presidency**

“Mrs. Wilson, when are we going to learn about dinosaurs and trains?” Russell asked.

“Not right now, Russell,” she said. “Now it’s time to read a story.”

“Is it about dinosaurs?”

“No, Russell.”

After the story they learned about the alphabet. Then it was time to go home.

Russell was mad.

He frowned out the window on the bus. He ran home from the bus stop and stormed through the front door. He ran into his room and buried his head in a blanket.

Mom came in and put her hand on Russell’s head. “How was your first day?” she asked.

“Terrible. I’m never going to learn anything, and I’m not going back. All we did today was play with blocks and read stories.”

“Well, Russell, it’s just your first day,” Mom said.

Russell sat up and looked at Mom. “I want to learn about dinosaurs and trains and reading—now.”

Mom sat next to Russell on the bed. “You can’t learn everything at once. Learning takes time. And the more you learn now, the more you’ll be able to learn later.”

“What do you mean?” Russell asked.

“Well, you need to learn the alphabet before you can learn to read. And you need to learn to read before you can read about the things you’re interested in,” she said.

Russell thought about it. Maybe there were other things to learn about than only dinosaurs and trains. “Well, I guess I’ll try school again tomorrow,” he said.

Mom smiled at him.

“But, Mom, do you think we could get a book from the library about dinosaurs?”

“I definitely think we can do that.” ●



# How can I learn more when I read the scriptures?

The scriptures are like a written “recording” of the “voice” of the Lord—a voice we feel in our hearts more than we hear with our ears. As we study the written word of God, we learn to hear His voice in the words we read. As we return repeatedly to the holy scriptures, we gain experience and confidence in hearing and feeling His voice.

Five basic principles can help us learn more effectively from our personal scripture study.



**Elder David A. Bednar of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles shares some of his thoughts on this subject.**



## **1. Pray for understanding and invite the help of the Holy Ghost.**

Begin scripture study with prayer.  
Ask for understanding as you study.  
Express gratitude as you conclude.



## **2. Work.**

Pay the price of regular and diligent study.



## **3. Be consistent.**

Set aside a specific and scheduled time each day.



## **4. Ponder.**

Think about the truths, experiences, and lessons in the scriptures.

Take time—pondering cannot be forced, hurried, or rushed.



## **5. Write down impressions, thoughts, and feelings.**

Record what you learn, think, and feel.

Invite the Holy Ghost to continue instruction.

# The Best of Friends

BY OLIVE MAY BEA

**Children all over the world love their family and friends—just like you! This month let's meet Cameron and Mia Harper of Blackfoot, Idaho.**

**C**ameron (10) and Mia (7) live in the countryside of the wide Snake River Valley, surrounded by distant, beautiful mountains. Their house sits next to railroad tracks, and across the road is an alfalfa field where they like to hit golf balls.

Cameron and Mia are very different from each other. Cameron likes to draw trains, build things, and figure out how things work. Mia likes to play any sport from basketball, volleyball, and golf to gymnastics, soccer, and snowboarding.

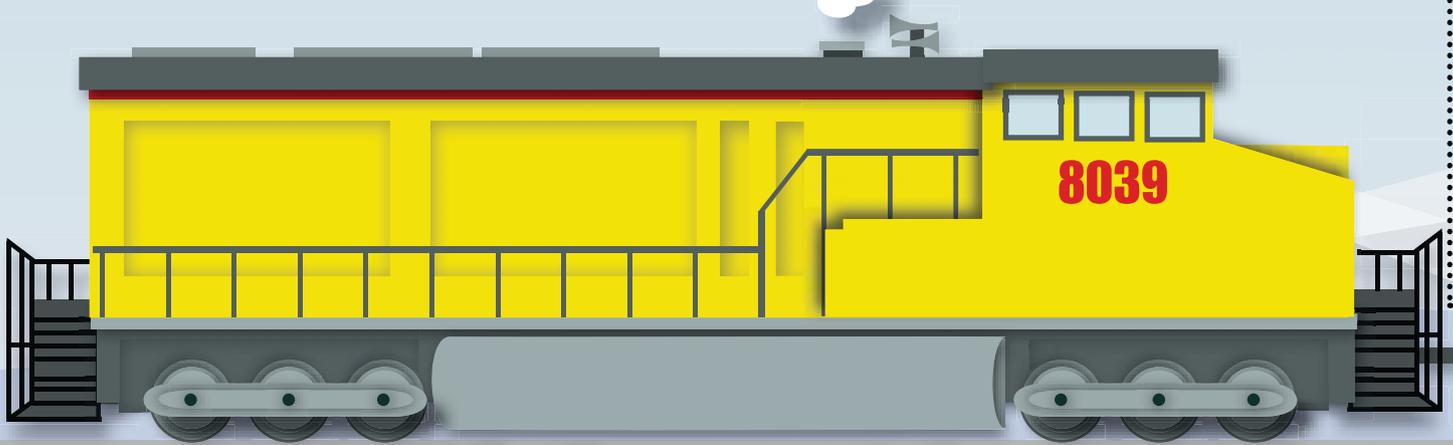
But this brother and sister also have much in common. They both like to eat raw rhubarb with salt.

Rhubarb is a sour red vegetable that looks like celery. They both also want to be train engineers when they grow up, and they both live the gospel by trying to be kind and caring every day.

## Kindness

### Begins with Mia

Mia received an award at school for being caring. She brightens everyone's day with her smile, and she is ready to help people in need. "I helped a boy in my class pick up the stuff that fell out of his school box once," Mia says. She even writes friends thank-you notes for being her friend.



### Hard Work Pays Off

Cameron puts a lot of effort into the things he does. He had a big math test at school, and he wanted to do well. Before the test he studied and practiced hard. During the test he took his time, and he was the last one to finish. Because he worked hard and did his best, he succeeded. But even when things don't work out, he doesn't worry about them because he has tried his hardest.

Cameron is often there when his dad fixes or makes things. He asks questions and helps because he wants to know how things work.

### Best Friends Are Family

Cameron and Mia love their family.

"If you didn't have a family," Mia says, "you'd be all alone." Mia keeps her family happy with her active personality and her giving nature.

"Mia's a good helper," her mom says. "If you ask her to help you, she will—without complaining. She likes to do nice things for people."

### Favorite Things

#### Cameron

Color: green

Animal: cat

Part of Primary: Sharing Time

Game: pickup sticks

Primary Song: "I Know My Father Lives"

Part of School: art



### **Favorite Things**

#### **Mia**

Color: yellow

Animal: bunny

Part of Primary: learning new songs

Primary Song: "I Am a Child of God"

Part of School: making projects

Cameron is the kind of friend you want to have. He doesn't make other people feel bad. He doesn't put others down or say bad things about anybody.

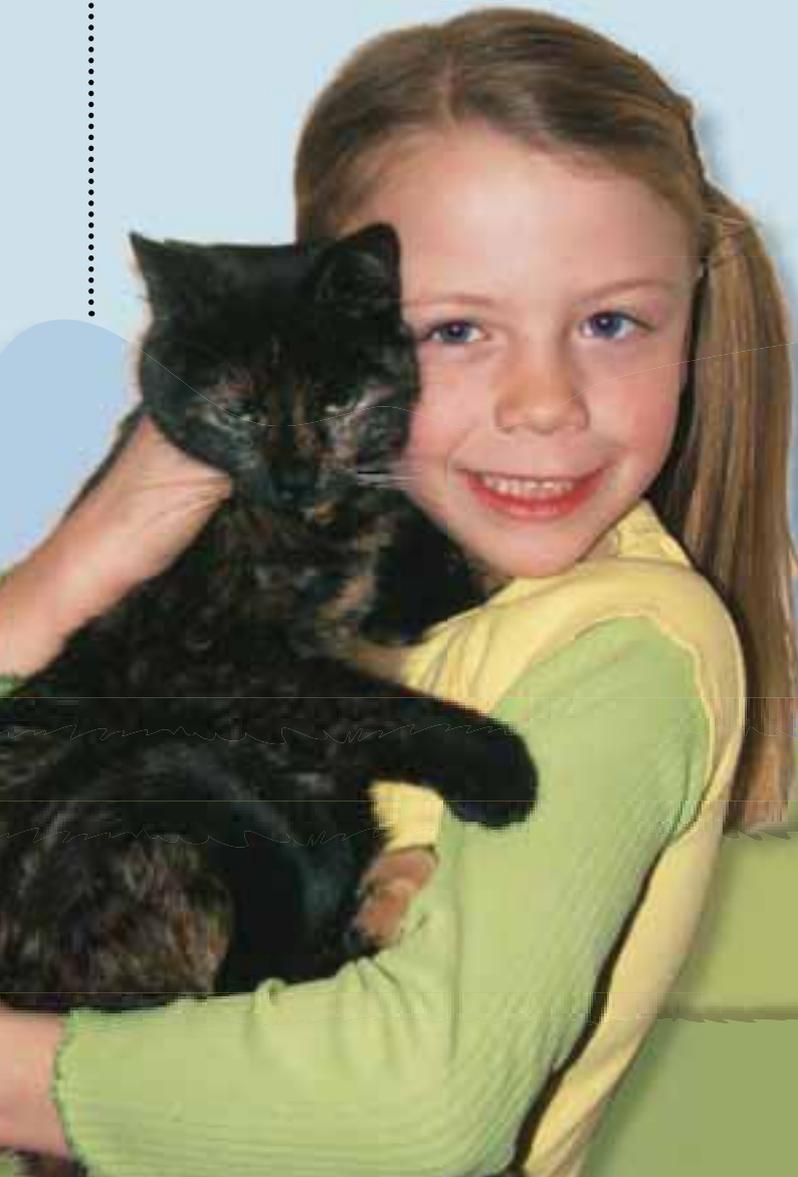
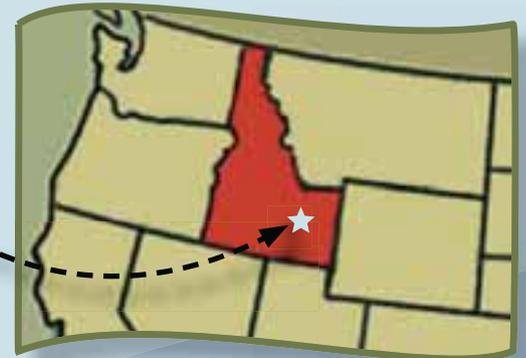
"He is very easygoing," his mom says. "He doesn't fight back when he's teased, and he doesn't always have to win."

Cameron and Mia enjoy playing games with their family. They like reading the scriptures, praying, and having family home evening together too. Both show their love for the family's three cats—Sneaker, Scavenger, and Spot. They help to feed them and hold and pet them.

### **A Friend When You Need One**

Mia and Cameron are the youngest of seven children, and they get excited when their older brothers and sisters come to visit. Mom and Dad are very supportive of their children. They encourage their talents and teach them by example that they can accomplish anything if they will work hard. The Harpers love having a big family. When they need help or want someone to play with, they just ask each other. ●

**Where in  
the World Is  
Blackfoot,  
Idaho?**



## Kitchen Crafts



Every spring, Cameron and Mia Harper like to hunt for wild asparagus that grows by the railroad tracks near their home. It is one of their favorite foods. Cameron and Mia eat it broiled or steamed, but they like it steamed the best. With a parent's help, cook your own asparagus and see which way you like it. To read more about Cameron and Mia, turn to page 18.

### Broiled Asparagus

**20 asparagus spears**

**1/4 cup olive oil, or melted butter or margarine**  
**salt**

1. Each piece of asparagus looks like a little spear. The pointy end is tender, but the straight end is tough. To remove the tough end, hold one end of the asparagus with each hand, then bend the asparagus into the shape of a U. The asparagus will break in two near the tough end. Throw away all the tough ends.
2. Rinse the asparagus in cold water and let dry.
3. Place the olive oil in a bowl. Roll the asparagus spears in the oil until they are covered.
4. Place the asparagus on a baking sheet lined with aluminum foil. Sprinkle with salt. Broil in the oven for about 3–5 minutes, or until brown and bubbly.

### Steamed Asparagus

**20 asparagus spears**

**1 cup water**  
**butter**  
**salt**  
**1 lemon, if desired**

1. Wash and prepare asparagus as described in the other recipe.
2. Place a vegetable steamer in the bottom of a wide pot. Add water.
3. Arrange the asparagus spears to evenly cover the steamer. Put the lid on the pot and bring the water to a boil.
4. Cook the asparagus for about 5–6 minutes, or until you can easily pierce it with a fork. Serve with butter and salt. Cut the lemon in half, and squeeze a little lemon juice on top if you would like.

People in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome liked to eat asparagus. In fact, a recipe book from the third century included a recipe for asparagus.





**God Sent Us Here**

God hath sent His Son to give,  
God hath sent His Son to live.  
God has sent me to my happy home on earth  
And has watched me since my birth.  
We learn to live, we learn to give,  
Just like Jesus did.  
*Thomas G., age 10, Utah*

**Paradise**

Eagles soar above the sapphire sky,  
Perfect in an everlasting spring.  
The flowers of a garden of love  
Grow to the height of possibilities.  
Every moment passing too soon,  
Each heartbeat pounding like drums.  
The bee's hum, the waterfall's hiss—  
Making music in harmony.  
The sun's light shines through the treetops;  
Each ray of joy sparks a little hope.  
The moon's glimmer on the shining lake  
Reflects a little bit of faith.  
The magic in the air fills me up.  
This is the paradise of all dreams.  
Bringing tranquility and peace  
For us, forever and ever.  
*Alicia G., age 11, Oregon*



*Peter B., age 11, Oregon*

**Heavenly Father's Blessings**

Heavenly Father created this earth,  
Helping me by giving me birth.  
I am thankful for the life He gave me,  
He also let me see.  
Please believe me,  
He lets us be free.  
He led us with His hand,  
He is a wonderful Man!  
I will obey God's commands,  
I will do the best I can.  
He will lead us with His hand  
To a beautiful land.  
*Bogue D., age 8, North Carolina*

**Temples**

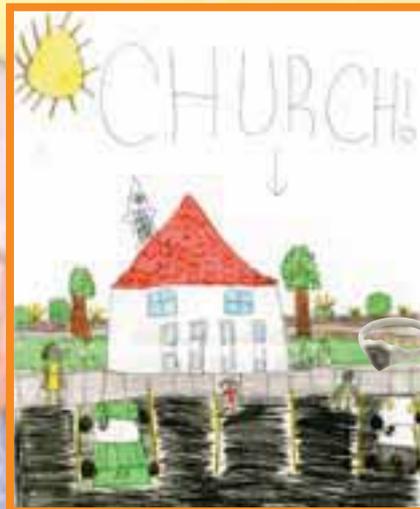
Truth  
Eternal Covenants  
Marriage  
Purity  
Love  
Enter His House  
Serve Others  
*Kara M., age 9, Idaho*



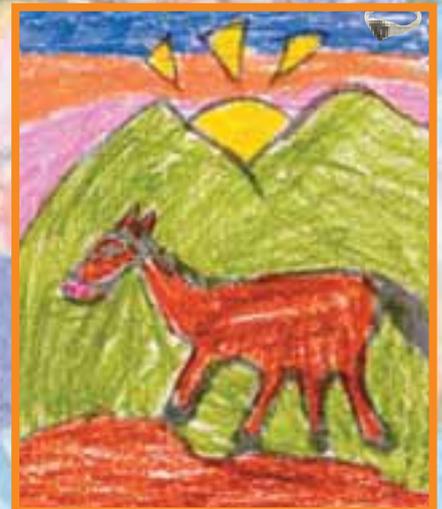
*Joseph G., age 5, Kansas*



*Ashley W., age 8, Washington*



*Jaela M., age 7, Arizona*

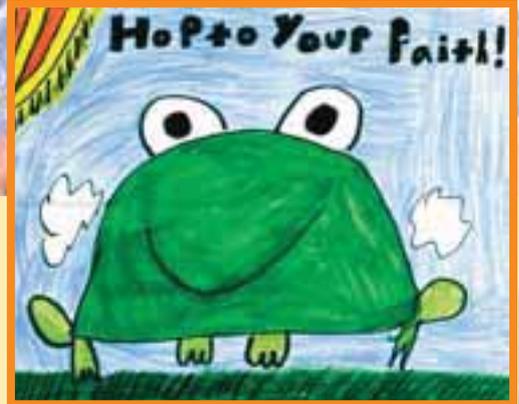


*Mia S., age 8, Colorado*

Would you like  
to send us a  
poem or drawing?  
Turn to the  
inside back cover  
to find out how.



Keely V., age 10, Wyoming



Logan L., age 9, Georgia



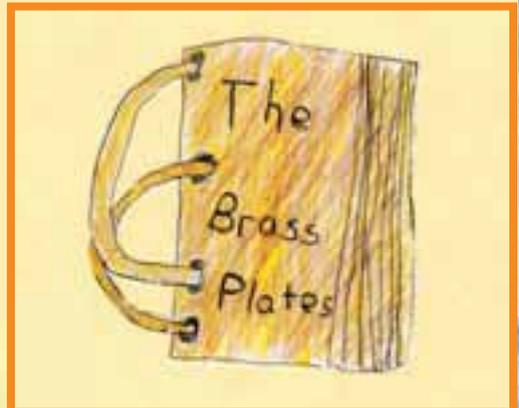
Mason B., age 9, Florida



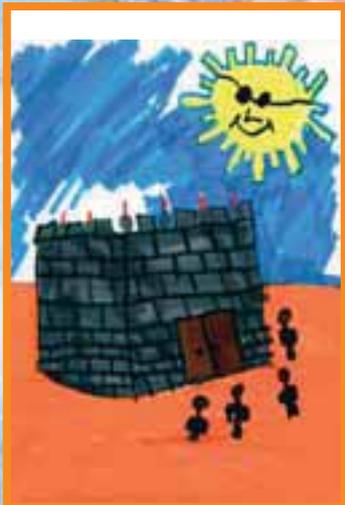
Abigail J., age 6, Texas



Hannah F., age 4, Nevada



Alex K., age 9, California



Jacob D., age 10, Ohio



Joel J., age 9, Kansas



Jacob L., age 9, Illinois

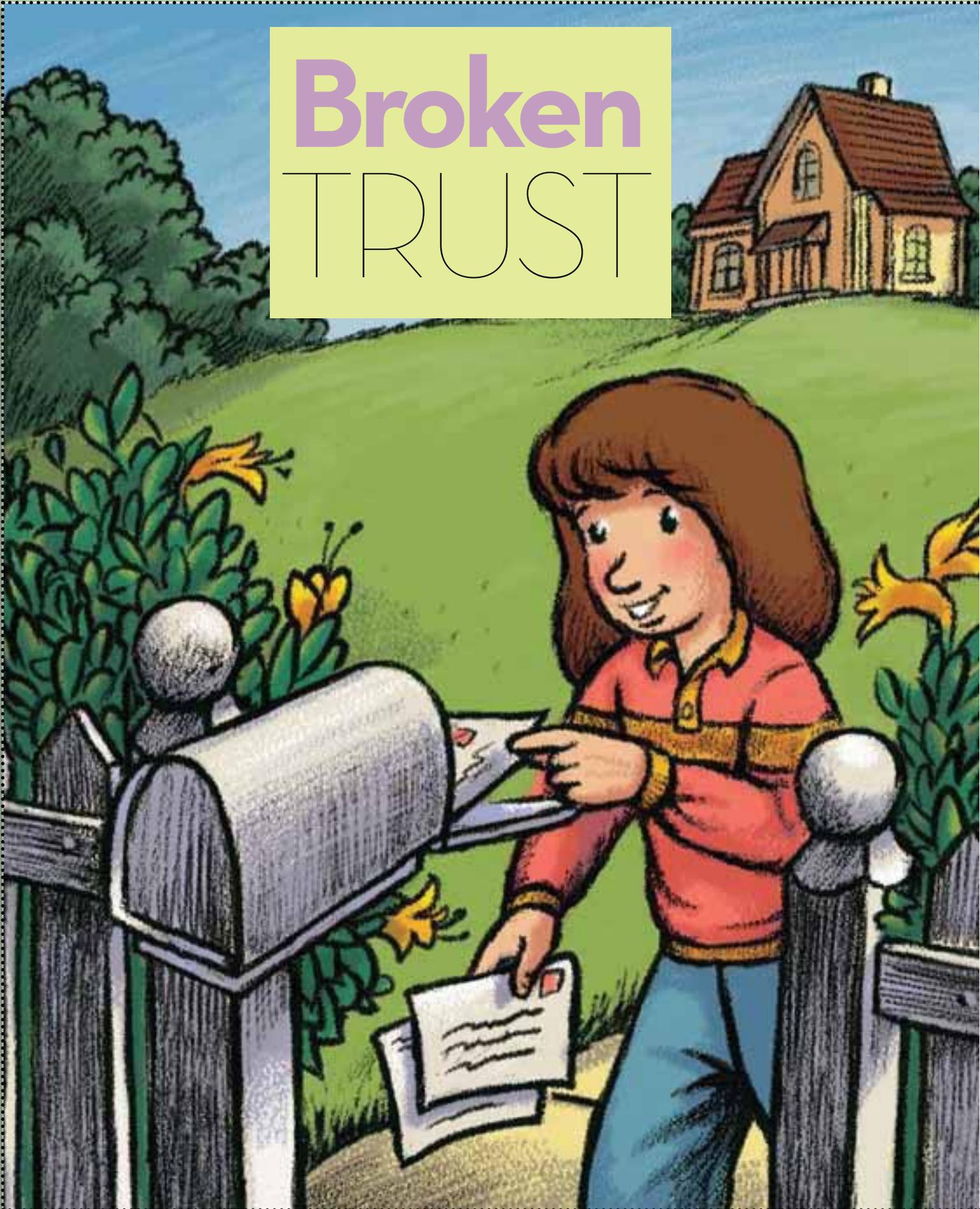




ILLUSTRATION BY PAUL MANN

“Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 19:14).

# Broken TRUST



**BY MARNIE SPENCER**

(Based on a true story)

*We believe in being honest* (Articles of Faith 1:13).

Melinda left her house holding the key Mrs. Roberts had given her. “I’m off to work,” she said. She liked the way that sounded. “Not every 11-year-old has a job,” she thought.

She walked to the Robertses’ house and opened their mailbox. The Roberts family would be gone until Thursday, and they had hired Melinda to get their mail and do other chores at their house every day.

Melinda went into their house, put the mail on the kitchen table, and filled the cat’s food dish. Then she went into the family room to water the plants. It felt strange to be in her neighbors’ house alone.

In a corner of the room she saw a shelf filled with glass figurines. Each one was a little girl in a fancy dress. She picked one up and looked at it carefully. On the bottom it said, “Michelle.” Melinda wondered if each of the figurines had a name. She picked up another and turned it over. It was named Rebecca.

Melinda picked up another glass girl, one in a pretty yellow dress. As she turned it over, it slipped from her hand and fell to the floor. Melinda gasped and knelt down quickly to pick it up. Its head and one of the legs had broken off.

“Oh no,” she thought. “What am I going to do? Mrs. Roberts is going to be so mad at me!”

She put the head back on the figurine and was surprised to see that she could hardly tell it was broken. When she put the leg back, she found that

the little girl could still stand up.

“If I put it back just right, Mrs. Roberts won’t even know it’s broken,” she thought. “If she picks it up or bumps the shelf, it will fall apart, but she’ll think she broke it herself. No one will know it was me.”

Melinda had a sick feeling as she walked home. She wondered if she should tell Mrs. Roberts about breaking the figurine. “But she trusted me,” Melinda thought. “She’ll never trust me again if she knows I broke something in her house.”

Melinda went to the Robertses’ each morning for the next two days. She was careful not to go near the shelf where the figurines were. She didn’t even want to look at them.

On Thursday afternoon, the Robertses’ car was back in their driveway.

Melinda walked over to return their key. Mrs. Roberts thanked her for doing such a good job and gave her an envelope with money inside. Melinda could hardly speak. She felt awful. “It’s just a little glass girl,” she thought. “It’s not a big deal. And they’ll never know I did it.”

That night after dinner, Melinda’s father opened the Book of Mormon for family scripture study. They were reading about Helaman’s stripling soldiers.

Melinda and her brothers listened as Dad read Alma 53:20: “And they were all young men, and they were exceedingly valiant for courage, and also for strength and activity; but behold, this was not all—they were men who were true at all times in whatsoever thing they were entrusted.”

“They were super brave,” Nathan said.

“And strong,” Tyler added.

“They were strong and brave enough to fight,” Mom



agreed. “That’s what the first part of the scripture says. But in the next part, it says something more about them—that they used their courage to be true. They stood up for what was right.”

Melinda looked at her Book of Mormon and read the words again. She had been entrusted with something, and she had not been true.

A little while later, Melinda stood at the Robertses’



door. Mrs. Roberts looked surprised to see her. “Hello,” she said. “Did you forget something?”

“Yes. I mean, no. I need to tell you something.” She took a deep breath. “I broke one of your little glass girls. I put it back so you couldn’t tell it was broken. I’m sorry I broke it, and I’m sorry I didn’t tell you about it before. I was just scared, I guess.”

“Why don’t you come in and show me what you broke?” Mrs. Roberts said.

Melinda followed her neighbor into the family room and pointed out the girl in the yellow dress. When Mrs. Roberts picked it up, its head and leg fell off. “I would never have known it was broken if I hadn’t picked it up,” she said. “Well, it can be glued. I broke another one once, and I glued it.” She picked up another figurine and showed Melinda. “You can hardly tell, can you?”

Melinda shook her head. She hadn’t noticed the crack in the other one. “I really am sorry,” she said.

“It’s OK. I’m glad you came back to tell me the truth. That took a lot of courage. You know, we’ll be going out of town again next month. Would you like to help out at our house then too?”

Melinda looked up. “Do you trust me? Even after I broke something?”

“You’ve shown that you are very trustworthy. You told the truth when you didn’t have to. I’ll be glad to have you work for us again.”

“I won’t touch the figurines. I promise.”

“That’s fine. Thank you, Melinda, for coming over tonight.”

The heavy feeling Melinda had felt for days was gone. She felt as light as a feather as she skipped home. ●

“You and I must strive . . . to be honest with God, honest with ourselves, and honest with other people.”<sup>3</sup>

**Elder David A. Bednar**  
of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles



# Gardening Time

BY AMIE JANE LEAVITT

There are many kinds of vegetables you can plant in a garden. To find out what some of them are, use the code below.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	L
									
M	N	O	P	R	S	T	U	W	Z
									

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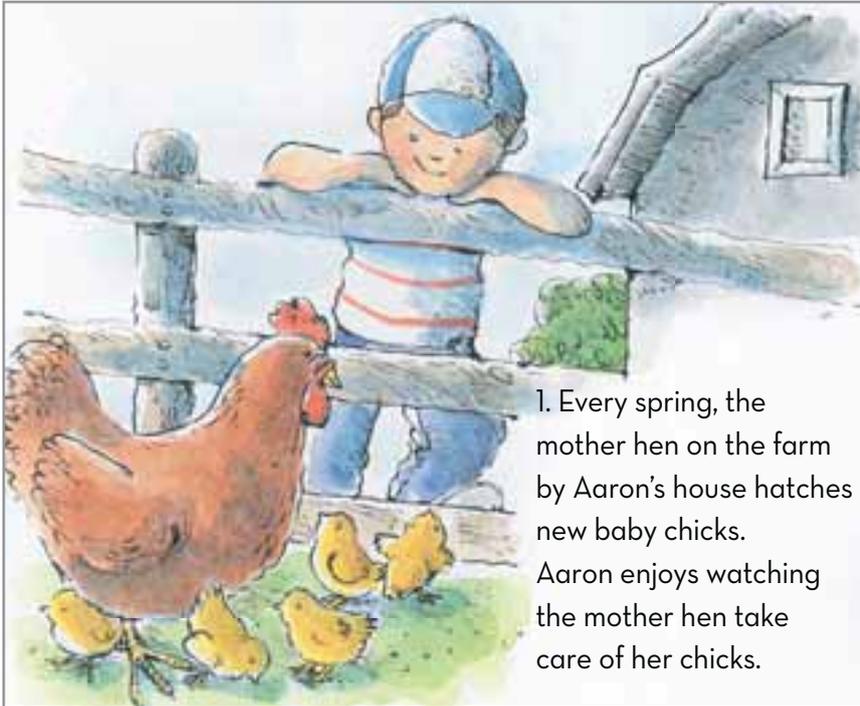
*I will gather them as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings (D&C 10:65).*



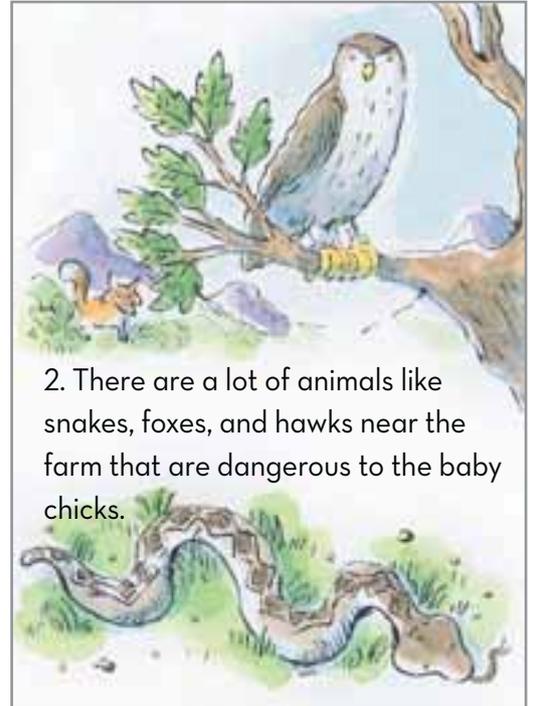
# Chicks and

BY JAMES E. GRIFFIN

(Based on a true story)



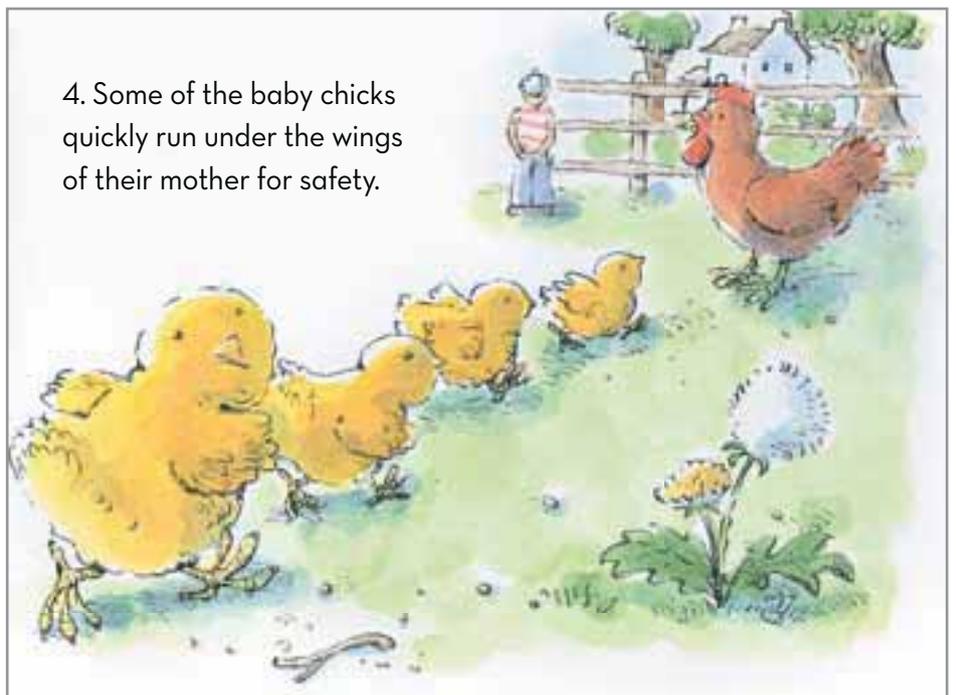
1. Every spring, the mother hen on the farm by Aaron's house hatches new baby chicks. Aaron enjoys watching the mother hen take care of her chicks.



2. There are a lot of animals like snakes, foxes, and hawks near the farm that are dangerous to the baby chicks.

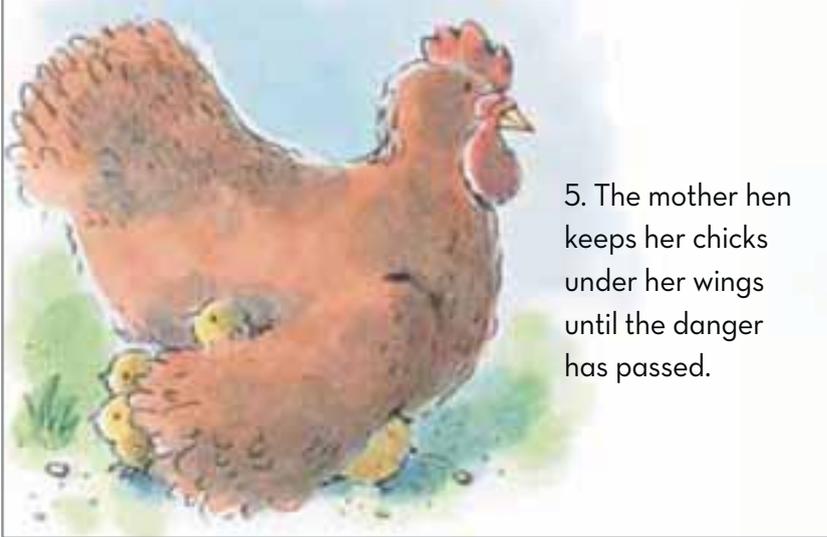
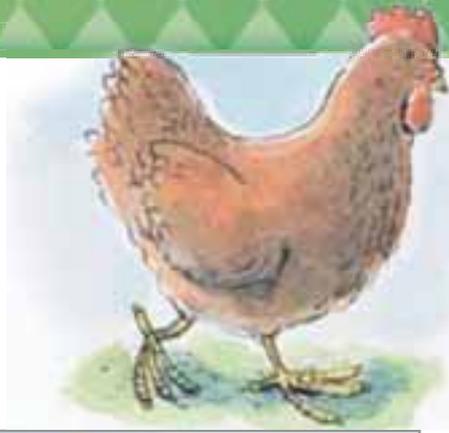


3. The mother hen watches for danger. When she sees an animal that could hurt her chicks, she clucks to warn her babies.

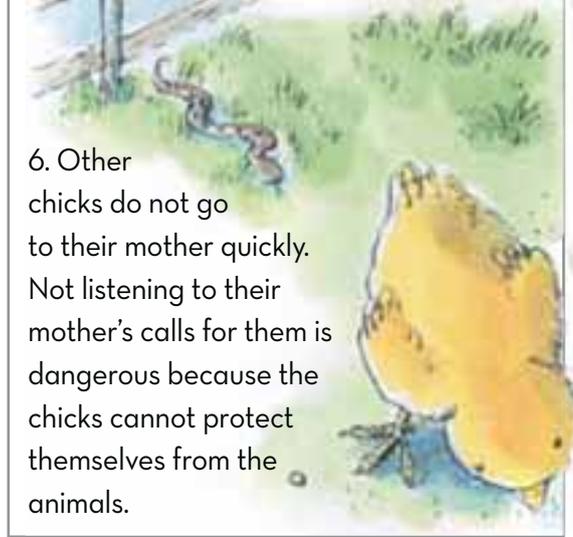


4. Some of the baby chicks quickly run under the wings of their mother for safety.

# Hens

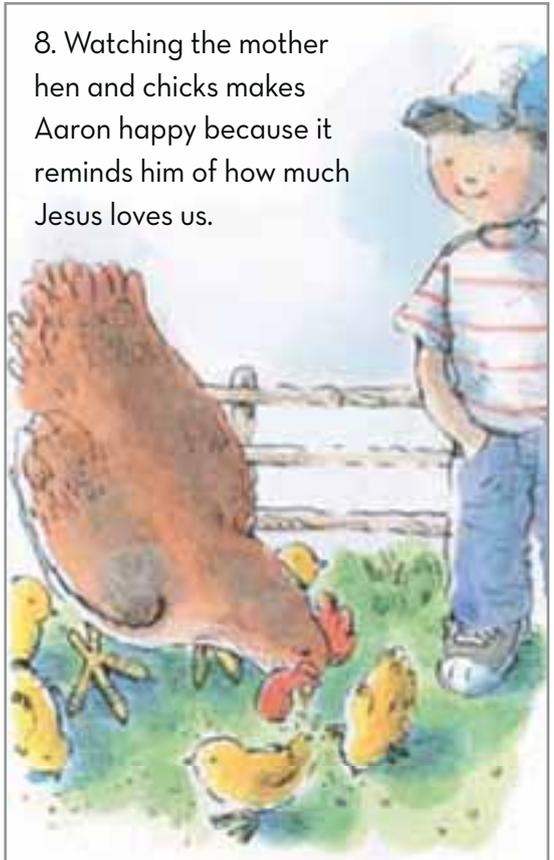


5. The mother hen keeps her chicks under her wings until the danger has passed.



6. Other chicks do not go to their mother quickly. Not listening to their mother's calls for them is dangerous because the chicks cannot protect themselves from the animals.

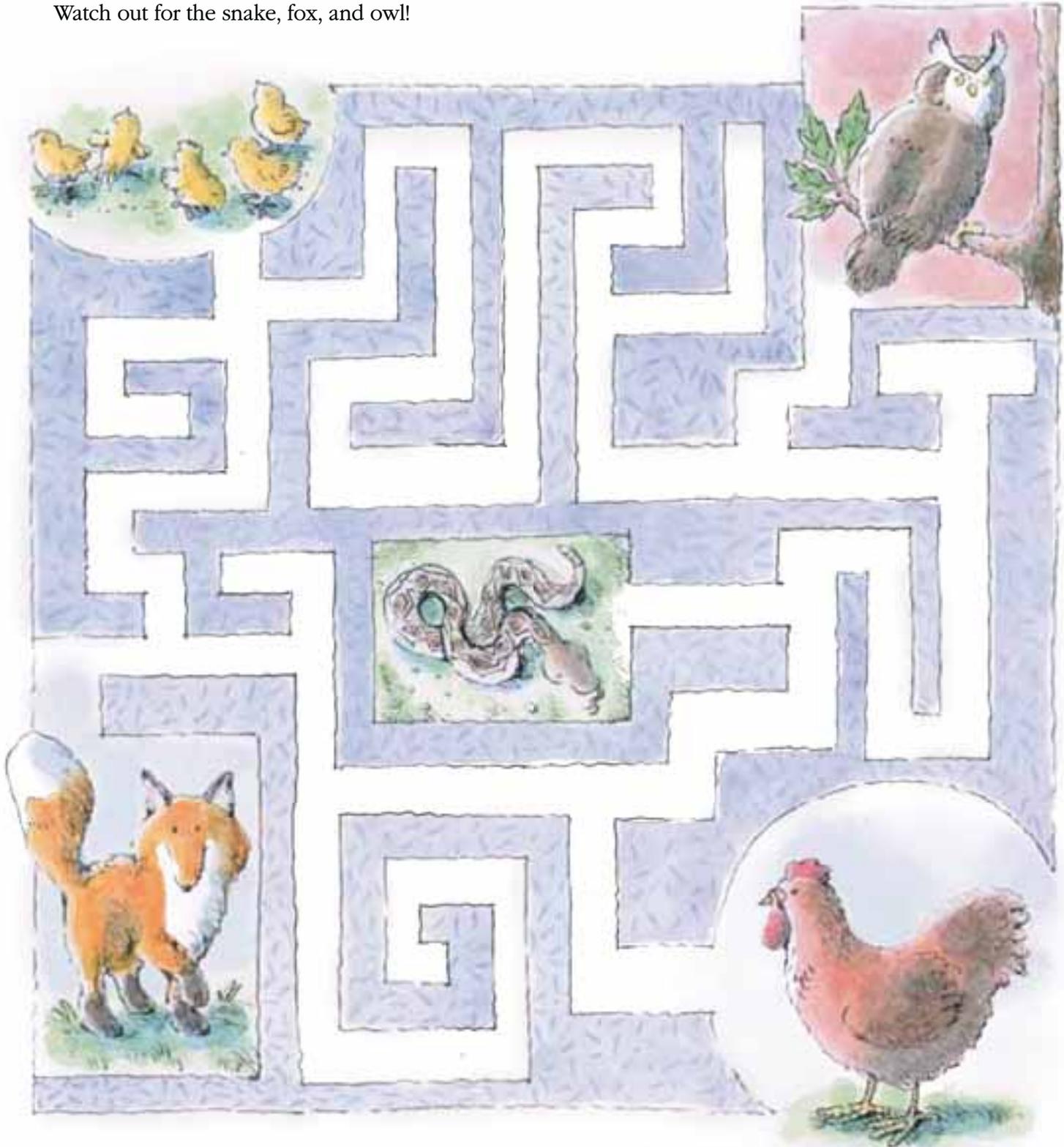
7. In Primary, Aaron learned that Jesus said He is like a mother hen and we are like baby chicks. When we follow Jesus's commandments, He will protect us like the mother hen protects her babies.



8. Watching the mother hen and chicks makes Aaron happy because it reminds him of how much Jesus loves us.

# Help the Chicks Find Their Mother

When a mother hen senses danger, she clucks to warn her baby chicks. Good baby chicks will listen to their mother's voice and run to her. Help the chicks through the maze to find their mother. Watch out for the snake, fox, and owl!



# Song of Spring

BY MARILYN KRATZ

Especially in early spring  
When grass begins to grow,  
And flowers bloom and birds return,  
And soft, warm breezes blow,  
I have to sing because I know  
The beauty that I see  
Was made by the same loving hands  
That created me.



# Friends in the News



**Kemala A.**, 8, Trinidad, likes to draw and write stories, make up songs, and recite poems from memory. She likes math and spelling, and likes to pray and have family home evening. Her favorite foods are *roti* (a flat bread eaten with curry) and *pelau* (chicken, rice, and pigeon peas cooked in coconut milk).



**Ambrose G.**, 10, Texas, likes basketball and football. He likes playing video games and enjoys going to Scouts and Primary. Ambrose would like to meet President Monson, and he would like to be a math professor someday.

Would you like to be a friend in the news? Turn to the inside back cover to find out how.



**Kyle T.**, 5, Virginia, is energetic and enthusiastic. He likes playing soccer and basketball. Kyle also likes learning to read.



**Mariah T.**, 5, Utah, loves Heavenly Father and Jesus. She also likes cats and reindeer. Mariah likes to think about spiritual things and to talk with her home teachers.



**Adia, Sedona, and Brynn H.**, 8, 5, and 4, Maryland, like to play together and make each other laugh. Adia plays the harp and is a good big sister. Sedona likes to share the gospel and climb things. Brynn is good at cheering people up. They all enjoy helping take care of their baby sister, Ash.

## Brainerd Ward

Primary children in the Brainerd Ward, Chattanooga Tennessee Stake, made a poster to show that they sustain the prophet, President Thomas S. Monson.



**Olivia Shelley L.**, 3, Colorado, likes to tell funny jokes to her family, even when she calls family members who live far away. She tries to do what Jesus asks and is a good example to her family and friends. She calls her baby brother "My Favorite Boy."



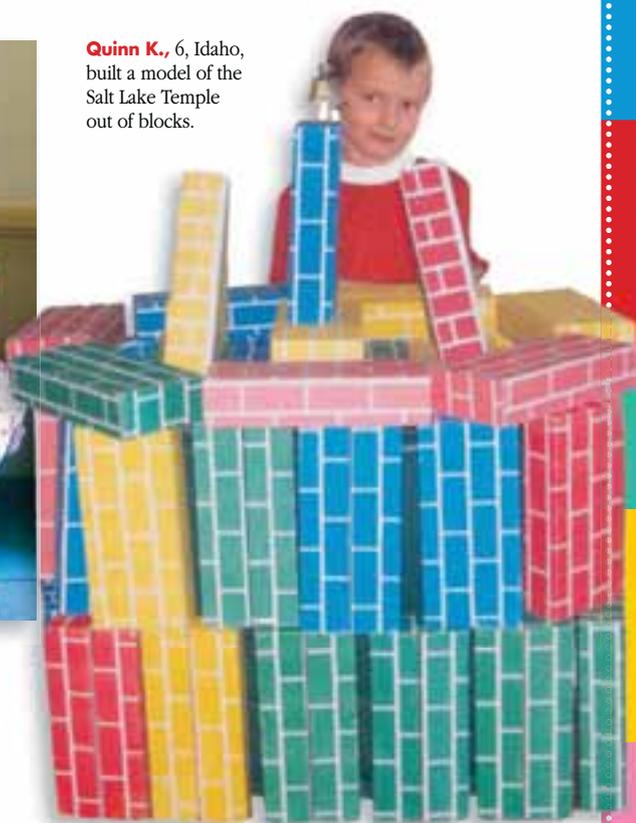
**Elliot Ward**

The Primary children of the Elliot Ward, Gilbert Arizona Highland Stake, attended an activity called "I Am a Child of God." They focused on things Heavenly Father has given them, such as a body, a family, a living prophet, baptism, and the gift of the Holy Ghost.



**Four Corners Ward**

Primary girls in the Four Corners Ward, Salem Oregon Stake, invited their mothers to a special activity night. After eating the tasty dessert the girls made, everyone sewed heart-shaped pillows with supplies donated by the American Heart Association. The pillows were given to heart patients at a nearby hospital.



**Quinn K.**, 6, Idaho, built a model of the Salt Lake Temple out of blocks.

BY JULIANNE DONALDSON

(Based on a true story)

*Fear not, little children, for you are mine, and I have overcome the world, and you are of them that my Father hath given me* (D&C 50:41).

It was Easter morning, and Peter was grumbling.

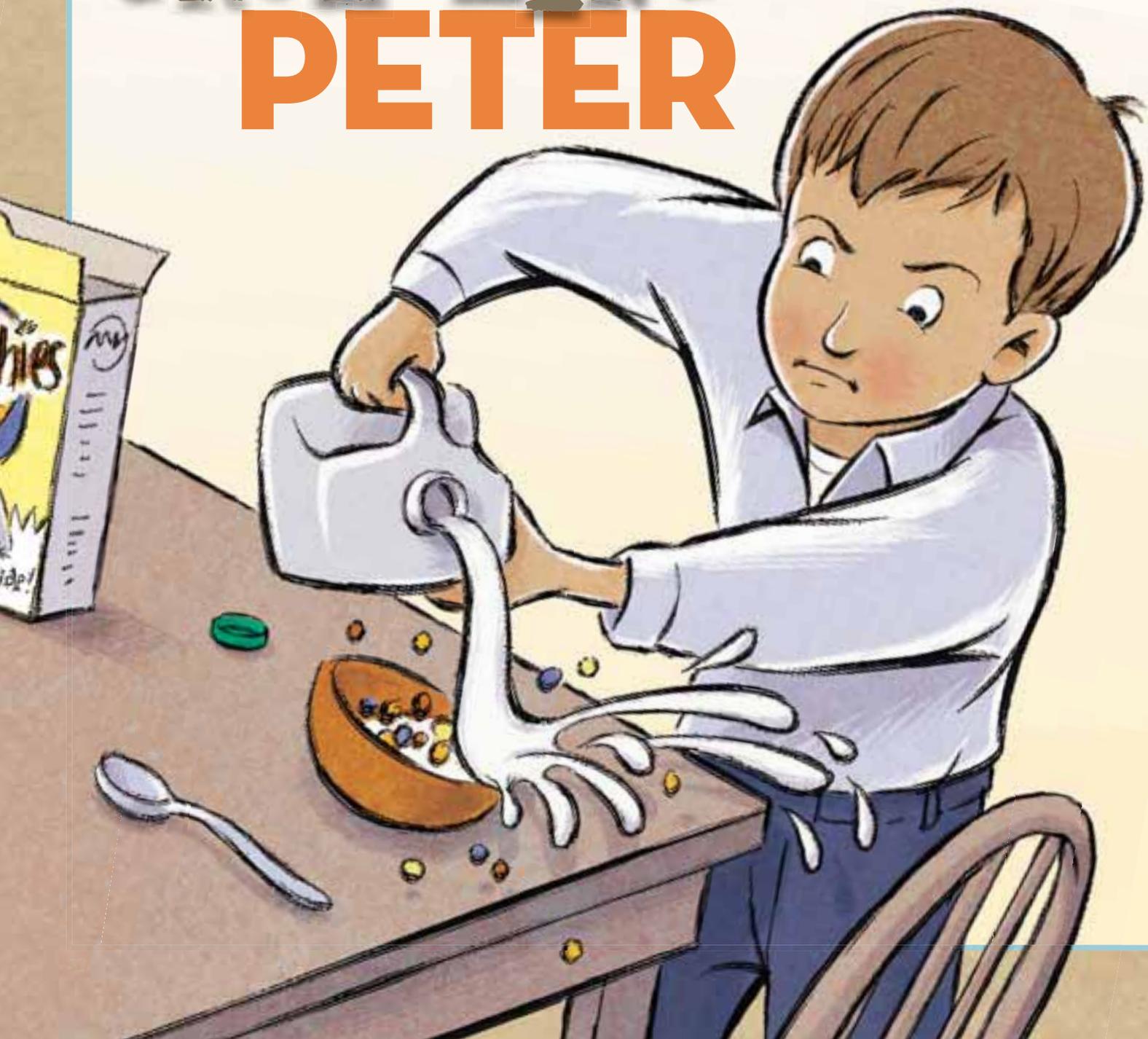
He had looked everywhere, but he couldn't find his favorite black church socks. Instead, he put on

the only socks he could find—white ones with holes in the toes—and walked into the kitchen.

“Mom, can you pour me some cereal?” Peter asked as he plopped into his chair.

His mother and his stepfather, Jack, were dressing his two baby brothers, who were screaming so

# GRUMBLING PETER





loudly it hurt Peter's ears.

"Peter, can you do it yourself, please?" his mom answered. "I'm really busy."

Peter understood that he needed to do his part to help at home. He knew Mom couldn't do as much for him as she did before the babies were born. Sometimes it seemed to Peter as if nobody noticed what he was doing, but he tried to choose the right anyway.

As Peter poured the milk, he spilled some on his shirt and pants. He grumbled as he grabbed a towel and tried to wipe himself off.

Peter hadn't always been grumbly. His grumbling started around the time his parents divorced and Dad moved to another state. After Mom married Jack, Peter got twin baby brothers who seemed to take up all of Mom's time. It seemed Mom and Jack were always feeding the babies, dressing them, or getting them ready for bed.

Sometimes Peter felt sad and alone. Even though he

was eight years old, he still wished someone would help him do things like thread his belt through all the loops of his pants or comb his hair the right way. Sometimes at night, when he heard Mom singing a lullaby to his little brothers, he wished she would sing to him too. Peter wished things could go back to the way they used to be. This is why he grumbled.

As his family walked to church, Peter kicked at the rocks on the sidewalk. He followed Mom and Jack, who were carrying the babies. In sacrament meeting, Peter didn't feel like listening to the talks. He drew pictures in his notebook instead.

Later, Peter was talking to his friend Thomas in Primary class when his teacher said something that made him stop.

"Jesus knows and loves all of us," Sister Jones said. Peter didn't believe her. "He doesn't know me!" he said. Sister Jones turned to Peter. She said softly, "Peter, Jesus knows everything about you. He knows you have two baby brothers that you help take care of. He knows you are having a hard time and feeling lonely. And He

knows that you help your mom and dad because you want to do what's right."

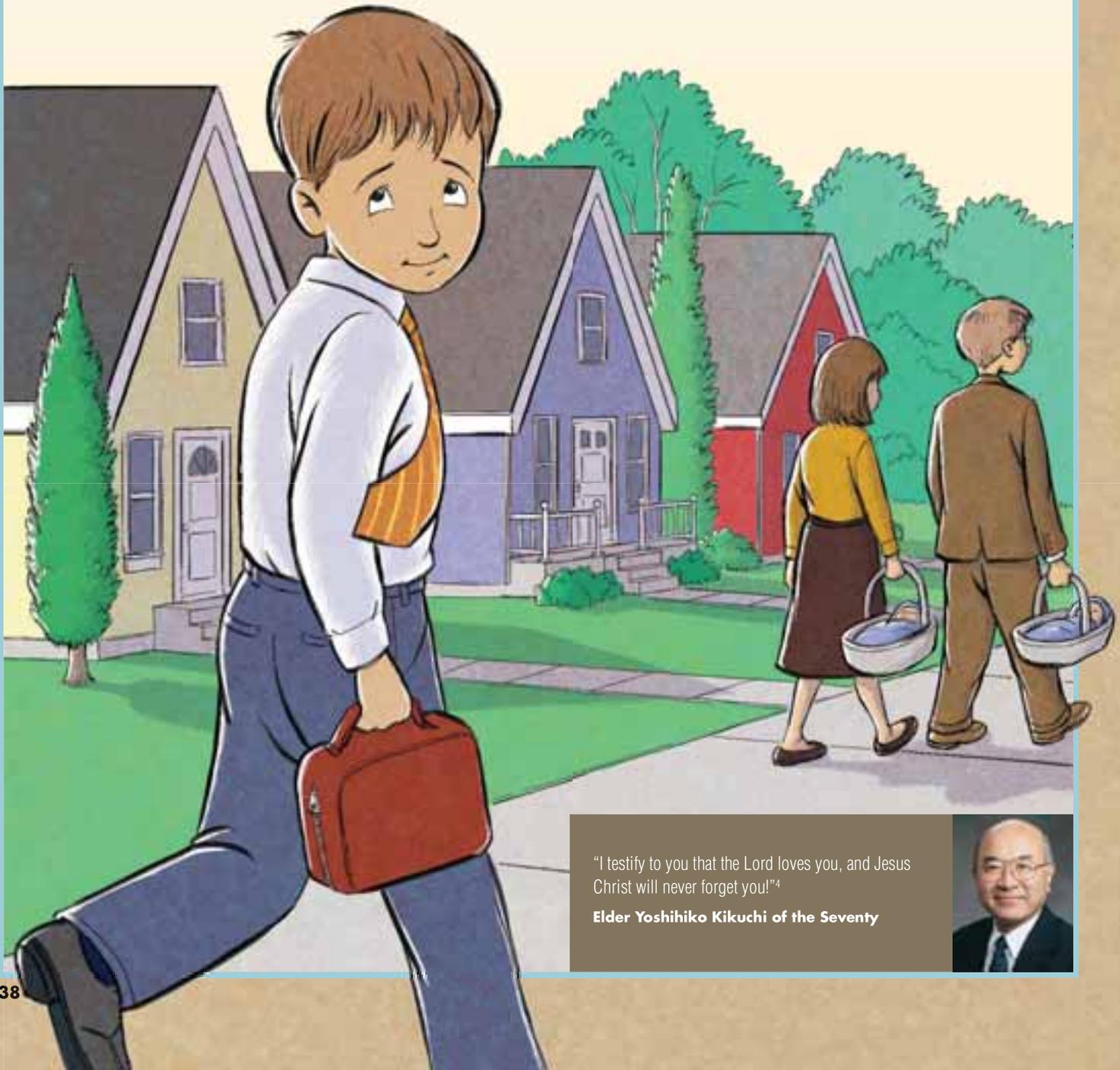
Peter hadn't thought anybody knew all those things about him, especially the part about being lonely but still trying to choose the right. But as he listened to Sister Jones's words and saw her kind smile, a warm feeling pushed out the lonely, grumbling feelings inside him.

"Peter, if you are feeling happy, then you are feeling the Holy Ghost," Sister Jones said. "He is telling you

that what you are hearing is true—Jesus *does* know and love you."

Peter knew he was feeling the Holy Ghost. It made him feel happy to know that Jesus really did know him and love him.

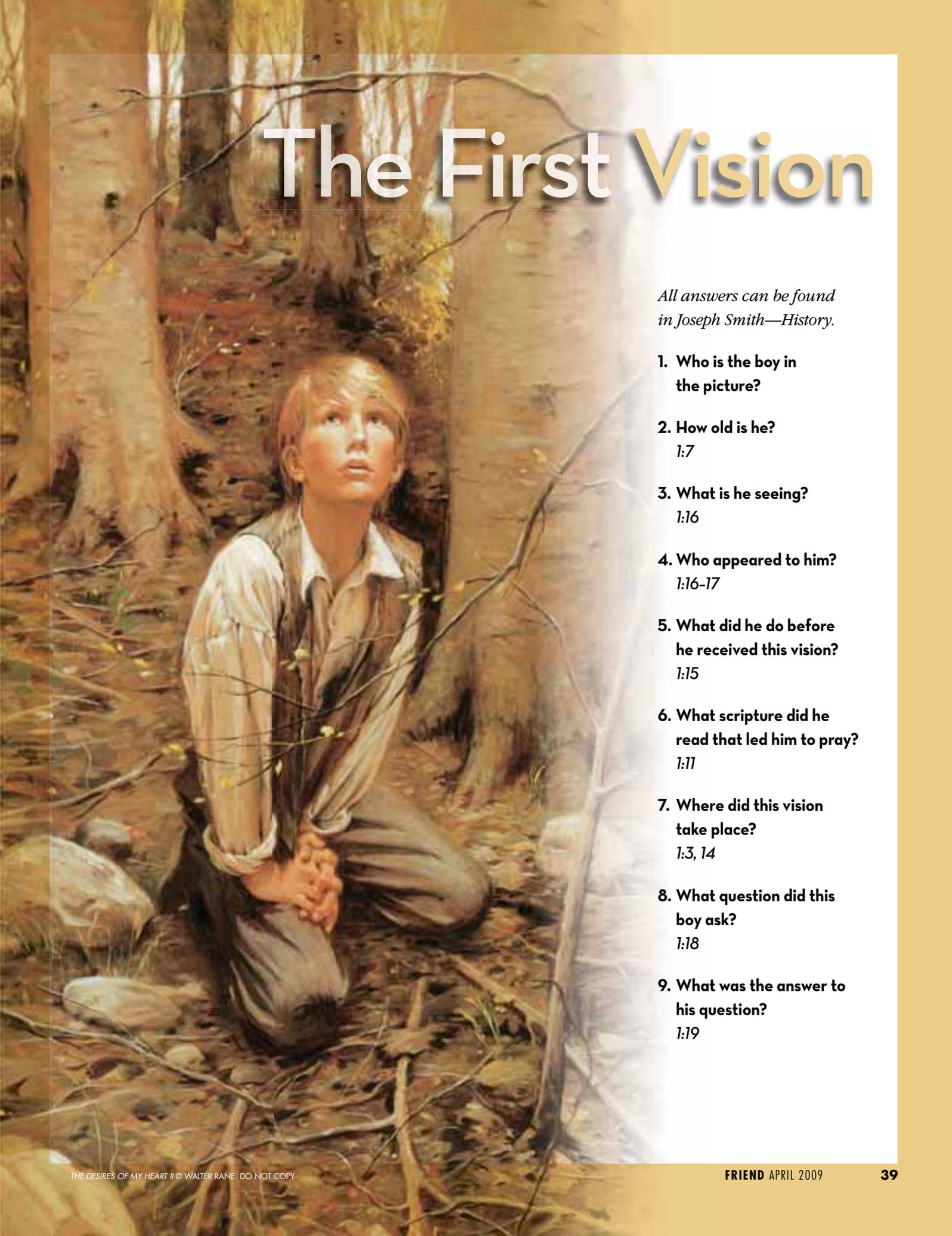
After Primary, Peter walked home from church with his family like he always did. Mom and Jack carried the babies while Peter walked behind. But now he understood that he never really walked alone—Jesus knew everything about him and loved him. ●



"I testify to you that the Lord loves you, and Jesus Christ will never forget you!"<sup>4</sup>

**Elder Yoshihiko Kikuchi of the Seventy**





# The First Vision

*All answers can be found  
in Joseph Smith—History.*

- 1. Who is the boy in the picture?**  
1:7
- 2. How old is he?**  
1:7
- 3. What is he seeing?**  
1:16
- 4. Who appeared to him?**  
1:16-17
- 5. What did he do before he received this vision?**  
1:15
- 6. What scripture did he read that led him to pray?**  
1:11
- 7. Where did this vision take place?**  
1:3, 14
- 8. What question did this boy ask?**  
1:18
- 9. What was the answer to his question?**  
1:19

# Questions and Answers about the Organization of the Church

## Why is the Church named after Jesus?

Jesus said it is named after Him because it is His Church (see 3 Nephi 27:8). He organized it to help us return to Heavenly Father. Jesus Christ is the head of the Church.

## What does “latter-day” mean?

Jesus said, “For thus shall my church be called in the last days, even The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints” (D&C 115:4). “Latter-day” means the last days, the time we live in right now.

## What does “Saints” mean?

“Saints” means members of Christ’s Church. The scriptures tell about Saints in many time periods.

Old Testament times: Deuteronomy 33:3; Psalm 30:4

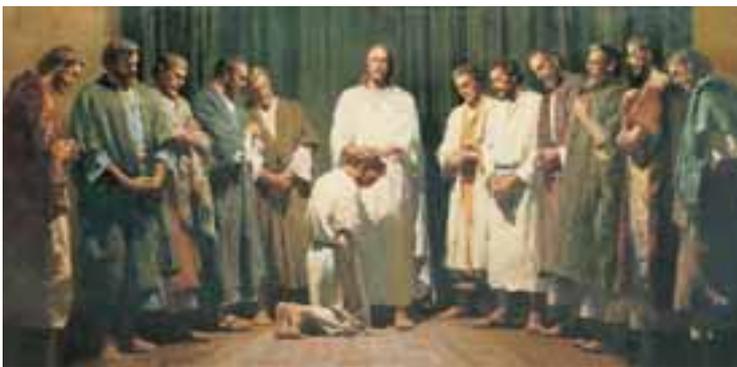
New Testament times: 1 Corinthians 1:2

Book of Mormon times: 1 Nephi 14:14; Moroni 8:26

Joseph Smith’s time: D&C 57:1; 84:2

Today, members of the Church are also called Saints.

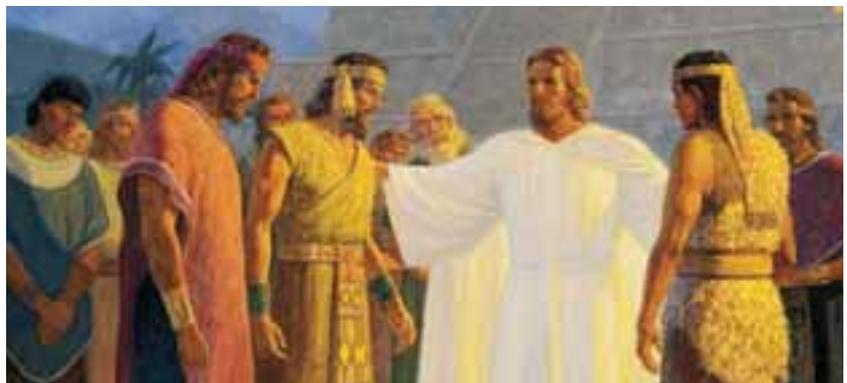
# THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS



*Twelve Apostles in New Testament times*

## How did Jesus Christ organize His Church?

Jesus organized His Church when He lived on earth, when He visited the American continent, and when He restored it through the Prophet Joseph Smith. Each time He chose Twelve Apostles or disciples to help Him build the kingdom of God on earth by teaching the gospel (see Mark 16:14–15; 3 Nephi 12:1).



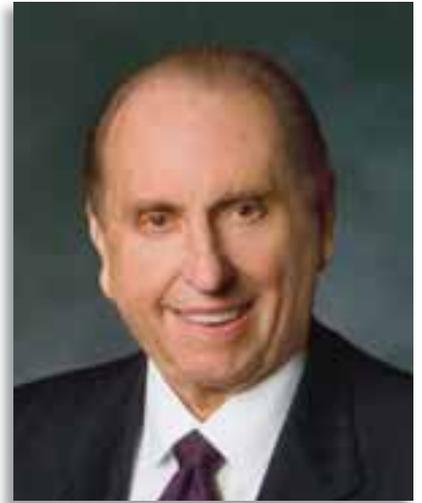
*Twelve disciples in Book of Mormon times*



**Joseph Smith,**  
*first President of the Church*

## Latter-day Prophets

Jesus also calls a prophet to lead the Church. The President of the Church is the prophet. Jesus called Joseph Smith as the first prophet in the latter days. Thomas S. Monson is the 16th President of the Church. The prophet is the only person who can receive revelation for the entire Church.



**Thomas S. Monson,**  
*16th President of the Church*

### How do our Church leaders help Jesus?

All of the Church leaders help Jesus by serving other members of the Church.

The prophet directs the Twelve Apostles.

The Apostles direct the Quorums of the Seventy.

The Quorums of the Seventy help the Apostles teach stake and district presidents.

Stake and district presidents help bishops and branch presidents.

In wards and branches, bishops and branch presidents direct Relief Society presidents, Young Men and Young Women presidents, Primary presidents, Sunday School presidents, home and visiting teachers, and other leaders.

Leaders and teachers in wards and branches serve all of us.

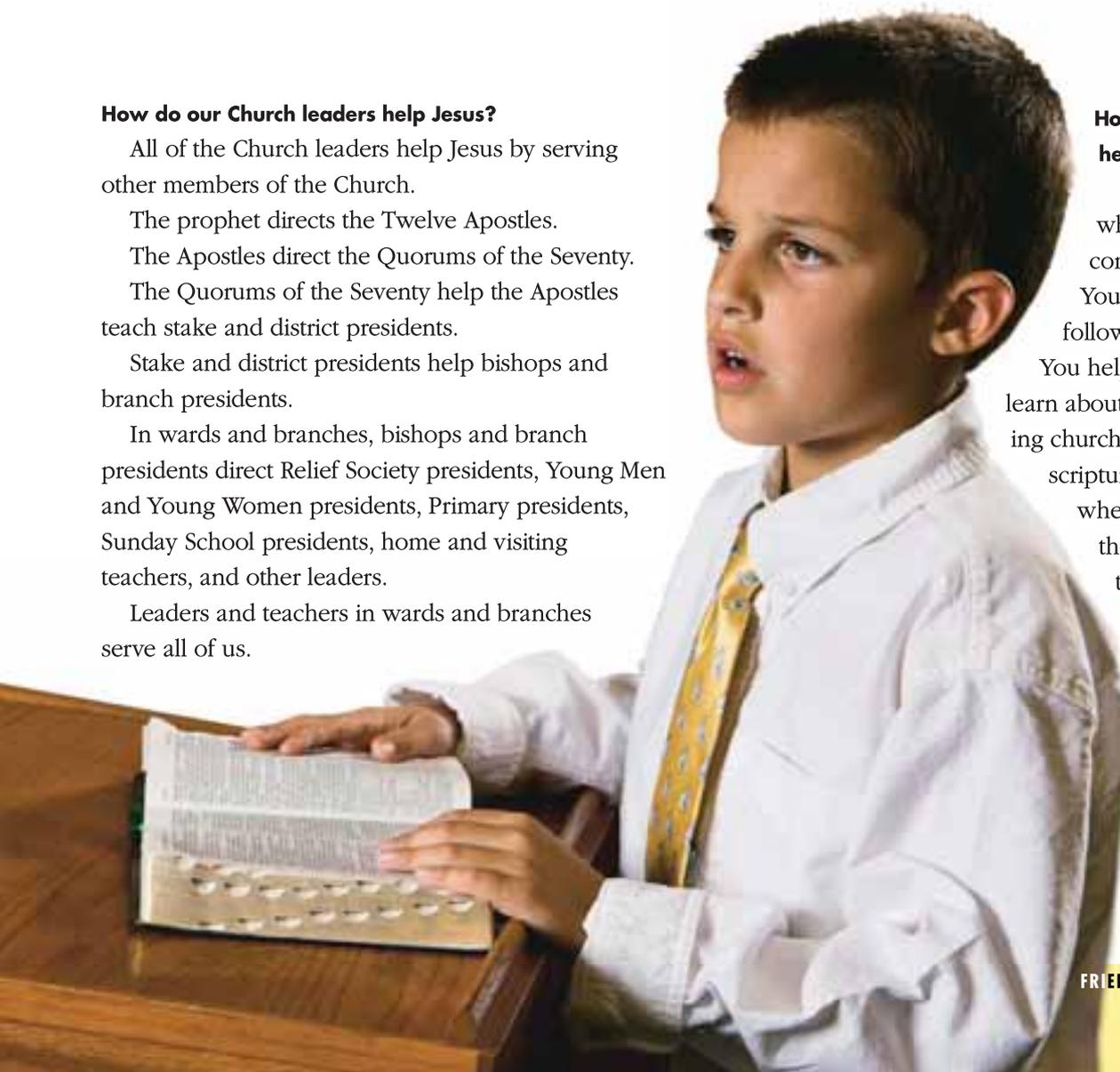
### How can you help Jesus?

You help Jesus when you keep His commandments.

You help Him by following the prophet.

You help Him when you learn about Him by attending church and reading the scriptures. You help Him

when you choose the right. By doing these things, you are preparing to be a future leader in His Church, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. ●



# An Easter Testimony

BY CHAD E. PHARES

Look at the pictures of events that happened around the time of Jesus's Crucifixion and Resurrection. Each event is labeled with a letter. In the spaces below, write the letters for the events in the order the events happened. The letters will spell out an important part of the testimony Joseph Smith gave of Jesus Christ.

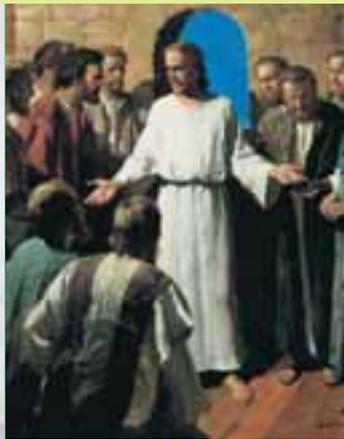
What is the testimony that Joseph Smith gave of Jesus Christ?

“

!”



S. He ascends into heaven  
(see Acts 1:9–11).



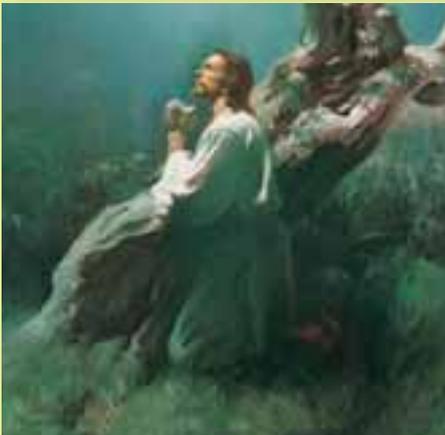
E. He appears to the Apostles  
(see Luke 24:36–40).



I. He is laid in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea  
(see John 19:38–42).



H. He institutes the sacrament  
(see Mark 14:22–24).



E. He suffers for us in Gethsemane  
(see Matthew 26:36–46).



V. He appears to Mary at the tomb  
(see John 20:11–17).



L. He is crucified at Calvary  
(see Luke 23:33–46).

# Serving Like Christ

Look for words about service in the word search below. The words are forward, backward, horizontal, vertical, and diagonal. After you find all the words, fill in the blanks below with the unused letters to discover a message about service.

“ \_\_\_\_\_ ”

N E I G H B O R E B  
 S G Y L O O B S C V  
 U I E S T R E S I E  
 S V E H O Y X E V C  
 E E E T L C A N R A  
 J R H I A R M I E E  
 S E M R V E P P S P  
 R A E O N E L P A N  
 F S S E L B E A O T  
 R E T S I S H H E R

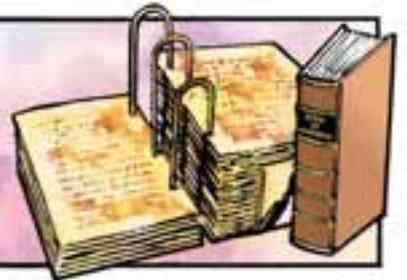


- |           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| BLESS     | JESUS    |
| GIVE      | SISTER   |
| PEACE     | EXAMPLE  |
| BROTHER   | NEIGHBOR |
| HAPPINESS | FAMILY   |
| SERVICE   | OTHERS   |
| CARE      |          |



FROM THE LIFE OF THE PROPHET JOSEPH SMITH

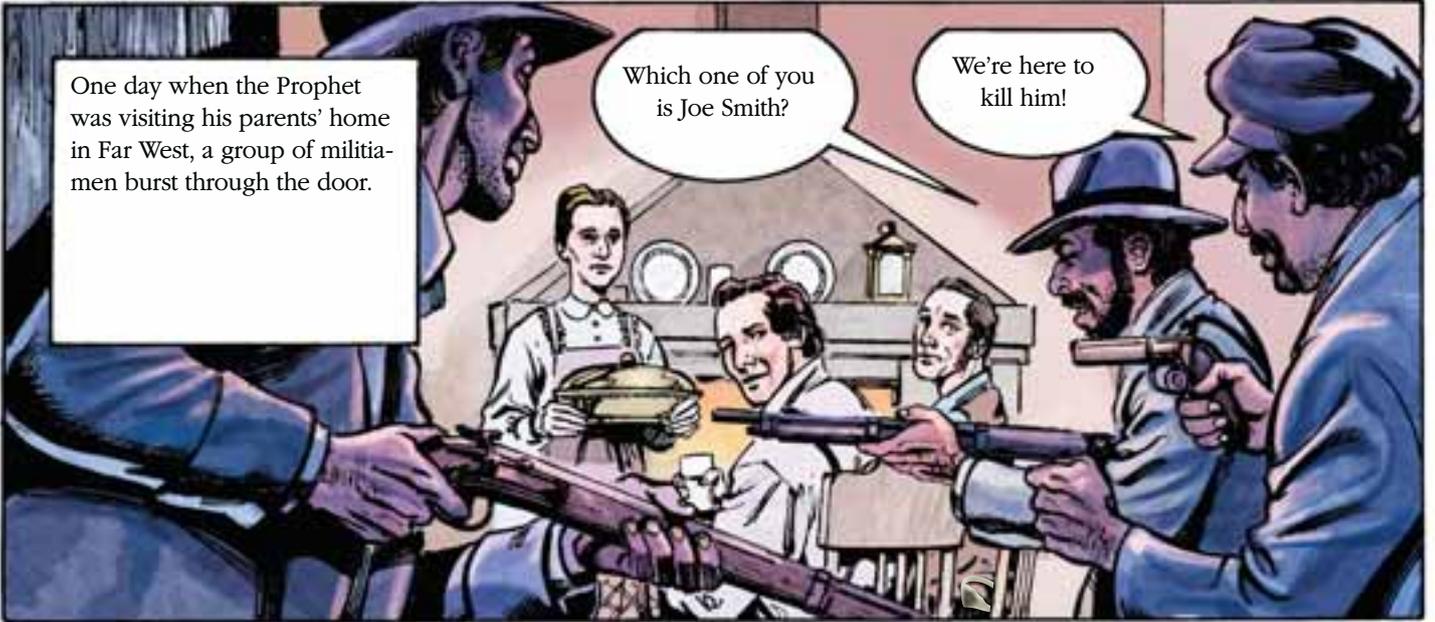
# Making Peace with His Enemies



One day when the Prophet was visiting his parents' home in Far West, a group of militiamen burst through the door.

Which one of you is Joe Smith?

We're here to kill him!



Joseph immediately stepped forward, smiled at the men, and shook their hands.

I'm Joseph.

Nice to meet you. Please, come and sit down.

The men stared in disbelief at the Prophet as he continued to speak.

We Mormons believe in Jesus Christ and just want peace. But we have had a lot of persecution these past months since we've moved to Missouri. As far as I know, none of us have ever broken the law. But if we have, we're ready to be tried by the law.





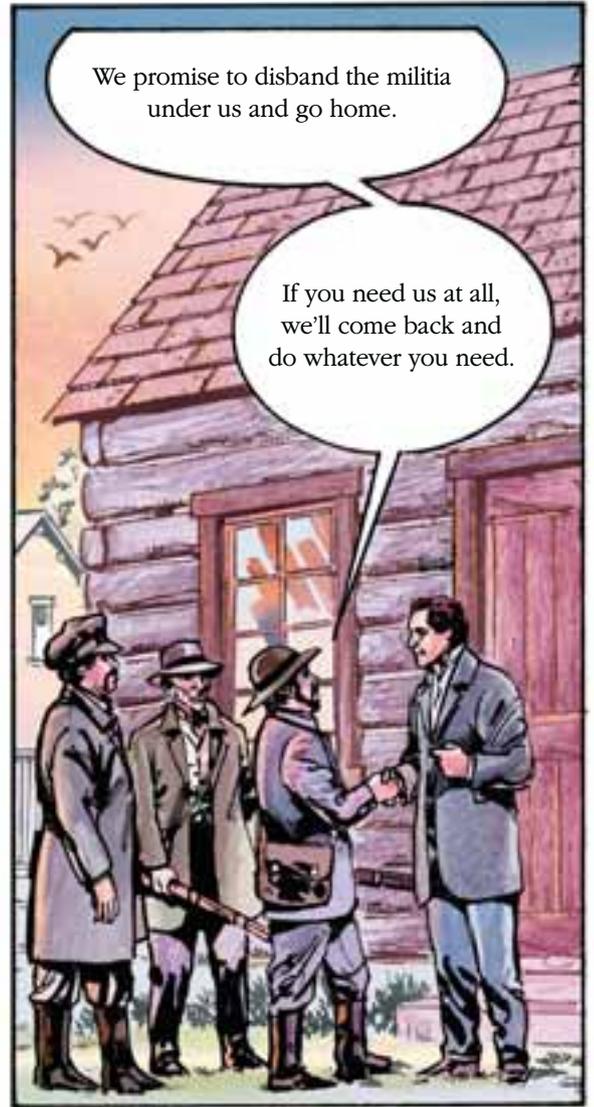
Mother, I believe I will go home. Emma will be expecting me.



You shall not go alone, for it is not safe.

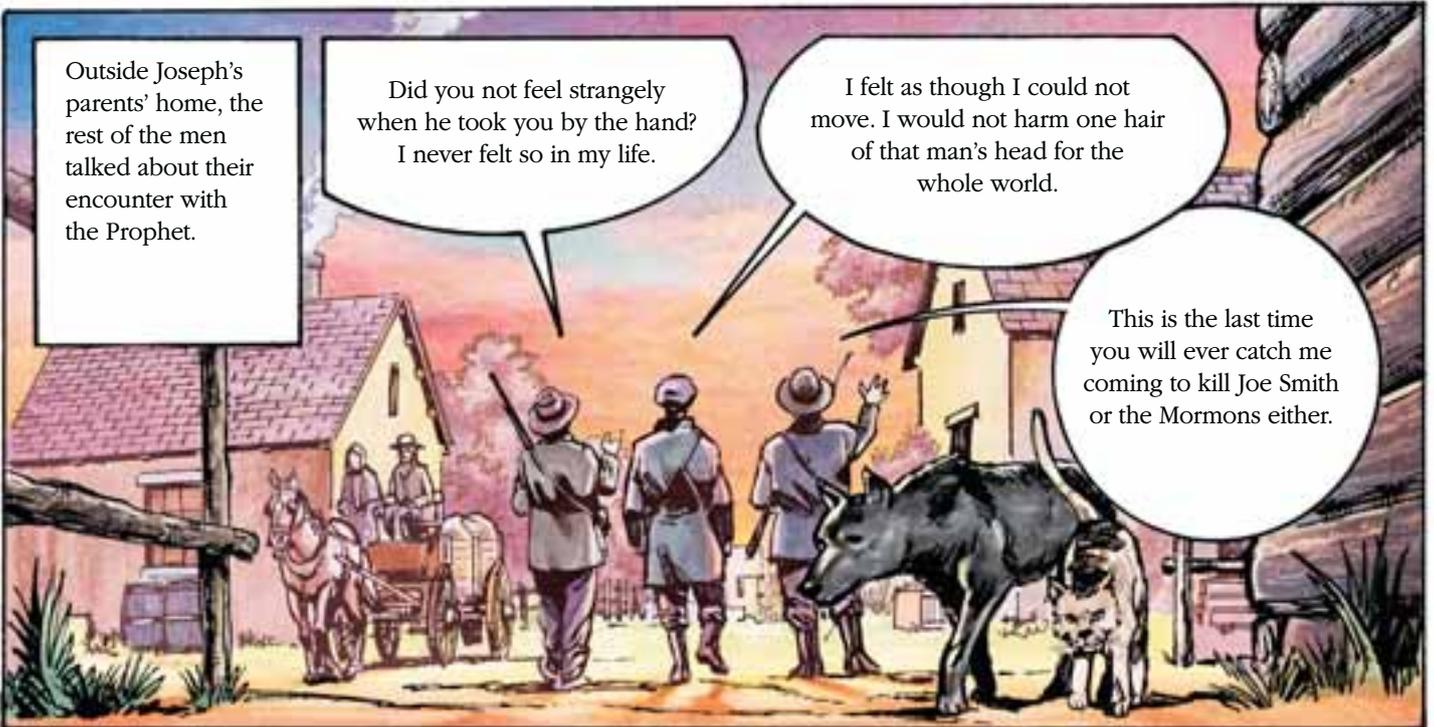
We will go with you and guard you.

Thank you.



We promise to disband the militia under us and go home.

If you need us at all, we'll come back and do whatever you need.



Outside Joseph's parents' home, the rest of the men talked about their encounter with the Prophet.

Did you not feel strangely when he took you by the hand? I never felt so in my life.

I felt as though I could not move. I would not harm one hair of that man's head for the whole world.

This is the last time you will ever catch me coming to kill Joe Smith or the Mormons either.



# Trying to Be Like Jesus

*He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life (John 8:12).*

## One Word



I went to a bookstore with my mom, and she said I could pick out one book for myself. I found

a book I liked in the kids' section. My mom read the back of the book and decided that I could get it. When we got home, I couldn't wait to start reading my new book. It was so good I couldn't stop reading it. I was close to the middle when something unexpected happened. There was a bad word! I had a feeling I should tell my mom, but I didn't think it was a big deal. So I kept reading. When I was on the next page, the feeling came to me again. This time it was stronger. I showed my mom the bad word. We returned the book to the bookstore. I found a different book that I really liked, and it had nothing bad in it. I had a great time reading it.

I am so glad I listened to the Holy Ghost. If I hadn't, then I'd probably feel horrible right now. Sometimes one simple word can hurt you. My mom and dad are proud of me for telling them. I felt great that day!

*Jessica M., age 10, Oregon*



## TV Truth



One night, my family went over to our friends' house. My brothers and I were play-

ing with their kids, and we went into the TV room and started watching a show. When my mom came to check on us, she told us she didn't want us to watch that show, so we shouldn't go into the TV room again. Then she left. But I went into the TV room anyway and watched the show.

That night, my mom asked if I went back into the TV room. I told her that I didn't. The next morning I felt so terrible that I started crying. I went to my mom and said, "I lied! I'm really sorry!" She gave me a hug and thanked me for telling the truth. But I still didn't feel good. I went into my room and knelt down and prayed. I told Heavenly Father I was sorry for disobeying my mom and lying to her, and that I didn't like the feeling I was having. When I finished praying, the terrible feeling was gone. I felt happy again.

*Hallie W., age 6, Pennsylvania, with help from her mom*

## Teaching about Joseph Smith



**F**or a “living history museum” at school, I had to pick an American hero, learn about him, dress like him, and be able to answer questions someone might ask me the night of our presentation. I chose Joseph Smith. When I finished my report, my teacher asked me some questions that I could not answer, and I felt really bad about that. My mom suggested I talk to the missionaries. They told me investigators often ask those questions, and I would someday answer them again when I’m on my mission. The missionaries gave me some information, and I felt good about talking to my teacher. They also suggested I give her a Book of Mormon.

On the night of the performance, many people asked me questions. Reading about Joseph Smith helped me strengthen my testimony about him and his courage to follow Heavenly Father.

*Andrew M., age 11, Texas*

## Service for Mom



**I** was outside playing with my sisters and brother. It was getting dark, so my mom asked us to go inside, and we did. Then my mom asked me to please close the garage. When I went back out, I saw our bikes and skateboard and a chair outside. I put the toys behind the gate and put the chair away in the garage where my mom wouldn’t hit it with her car. Then I closed the garage. I know that Jesus wants me to do service for my mom.

*Cameron S., age 5, Arizona, with help from her mom*

## A Winning Choice



**M**y baseball team decided to go see a college baseball game together. They were going to go on a Sunday. I told them I would not be going because it was on a Sunday. My coach changed the day to go to a game to a Saturday so I could go with them. We had a great time, and the team we liked won too! I am glad I chose the right.

*Scott P., age 11, California*

**Tell us how you’re trying to be like Jesus. Turn to the inside back cover to find out how to send us a letter.**





**JESUS CHRIST MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO LIVE WITH MY HEAVENLY FATHER AGAIN.**

"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father,  
but by me" (John 14:6).



### Topical Index to this Issue of the *Friend*

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(f) = Funstuff  
(IFC) = inside front cover  
(v) = verse

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### Sidebar References

1. "There Is Hope Smiling Brightly before Us," *Ensign*, May 2003, 103–104.
2. "Do What They Think You Can't Do," *New Era*, Oct. 1989, 6.
3. "Be Honest," *New Era*, Oct. 2005, 8.
4. "Count Your Blessings," *Ensign*, May 1984, 73.



# Family Home Evening Ideas

1. Read "The Promises of a Prophet" (pp. 8–9). Set a goal with your family to read the scriptures together every day. Talk about when and where your family scripture reading will be done. If your family already reads the scriptures together every day, talk about how you can make your scripture study more meaningful. Read "How can I learn more when I read the scriptures?" (p. 17) for ideas.

2. Ask family members to look up and read the scriptures listed in "An Easter Testimony" (p. 28). After each scripture has been read, put the scriptures in order on the blanks on the page to read an important part of Joseph Smith's testimony of Jesus Christ. Share your own testimony about the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, and tell about how it makes you feel to know that we will all be resurrected.

3. Choose two family members to react to different imaginary situations. Ask one family member to have a good attitude and the other to have a bad attitude. (Some of the situations could include stubbing a toe, losing a game, being late for school, or getting a bad grade.) Read "Grumbling Peter" (pp. 36–38). Then talk about what helped change Peter's attitude. Testify that remembering that Jesus loves us can help us to have good attitudes even when things go wrong.

4. Show family members the picture in "The First Vision" (p. 39). Look up the scriptures and answer the questions listed. After all of the questions have been answered, ask family members to think of other questions that could be asked about the picture. Tell the story of the First Vision and share your testimony about what Joseph saw.

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The following information and permission must be included:

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Age \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province, Country \_\_\_\_\_

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Children whose work is submitted should be at least three years old.

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# What's in the *Friend* this month?



## page 2

President Uchtdorf explains how Jesus Christ's Atonement helps us turn around when we make a mistake.

## page 24

Look for a beautiful poster of the Savior to hang on your wall.



## page 26

What happens when Melinda accidentally breaks a glass figurine in her neighbors' house?