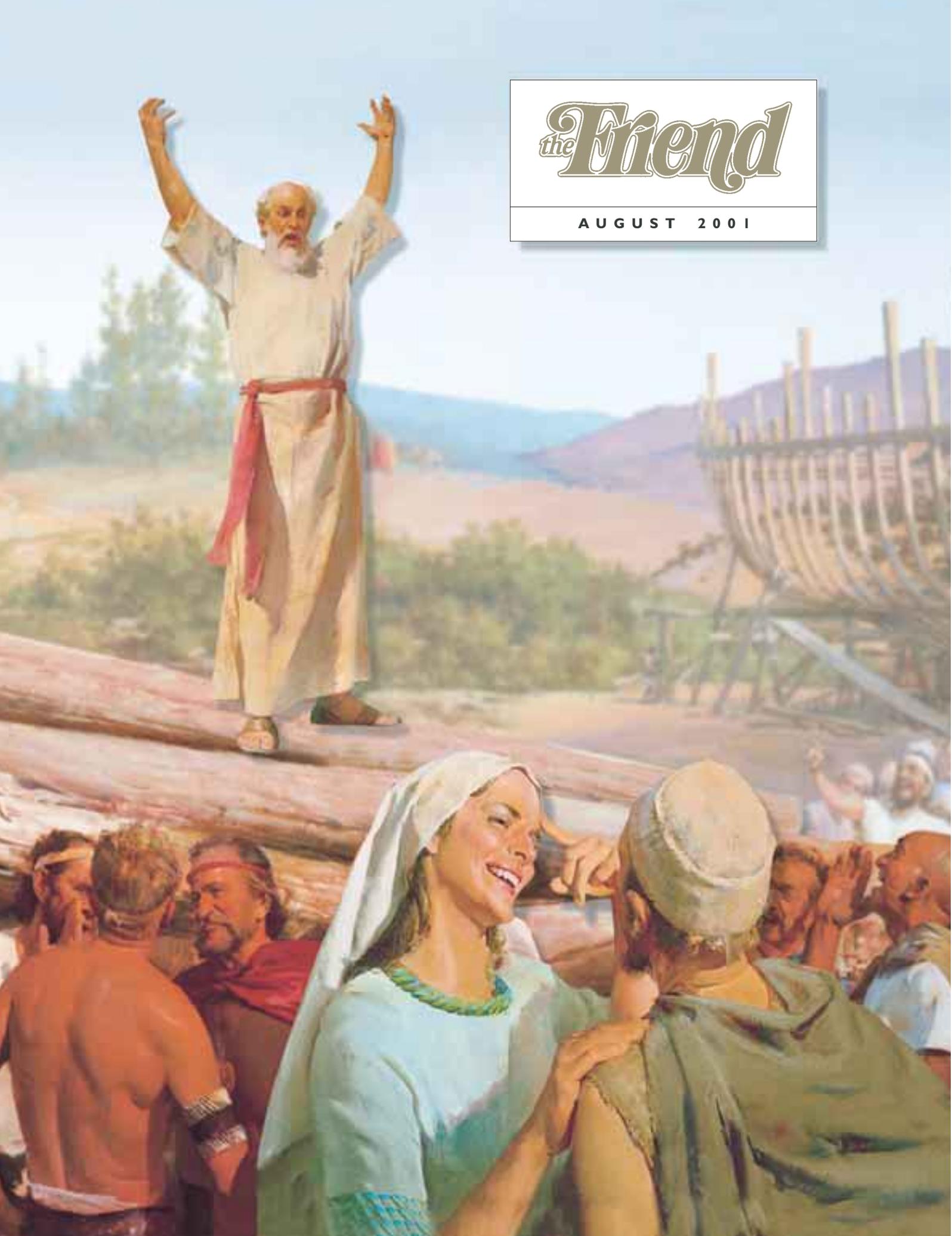


the Friend

AUGUST 2001





The Still, Small Voice

I like to read scripture stories, the Book of Mormon, the *Liahona*, and the *Friend* and draw pictures of the people in the scriptures. I go to Primary

with my brother, Emerson, 7, and my sister, Hannah, 4.

When I was baptized, I was very happy to receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. My Primary teacher taught me that it is a very valuable and priceless gift and that the Holy Ghost becomes my constant companion if I always choose the right.

This summer, my family and I went to Don Arc Beach to join a family reunion. Many of my cousins, uncles, and aunties were there. The beach lies next to a fishing village.

It was low tide when we got there, and I looked around for seashells. I saw something with needlelike things around it. When I went to pick it up, a voice came to my mind and told me to never touch it. I called my brother Ariel and showed him the small, black thing. He told me to not touch it because it is poisonous.

I realized that the voice I heard in my mind was the still, small voice of the Holy Ghost. He warned me, and I obeyed His voice and was OK. It was a good thing that I obeyed it, because if I had touched that sea creature, I would have been poisoned.

*Ninianne Emrys Abraham Sojor, age 10
Iligan City, Philippines*

The Friend and My Little Sister

I am sixteen years old now, and a Laurel in the Young Women program. I still peek at my sister's *Friend* when it comes. My sister's friends always talk to her about other magazines, some of which are not up to Church standards, and I think it's great that she talks to them about her *Friend*. A third grader, she is sharing the gospel! Please continue to provide such a learning tool! (Our family loves its helpful hints when family home evening sneaks up on us!)

*Jennifer Austin, age 16
King George, Virginia*



Dandelions

We have dandelions in our yard. I love dandelions. They are tall and yellow and pretty, and I like to pick them. I put the dandelions in baskets and give them to my mommy. I know Jesus made dandelions because He loves me.

*Alexus Carper, age 3
Spearfish, South Dakota*



Volume 31 Number 8
August 2001

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The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

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Cover painting *Noah Preaching* by Harry Anderson / electronically composed by Mark Robison / back cover by Clark Kelley Price

Come Listen to a Prophet's Voice

TEMPLE



Inasmuch as my people build a house unto me in the name of the Lord . . . my glory shall rest upon it (Doctrine and Covenants 97:15).

Great blessings for ourselves and for our families come from going to the temple. We can live worthy of these blessings by obeying the commandments. President James E. Faust talked about

these blessings. Here are some of the things he said. You may want to talk about them with your parents.

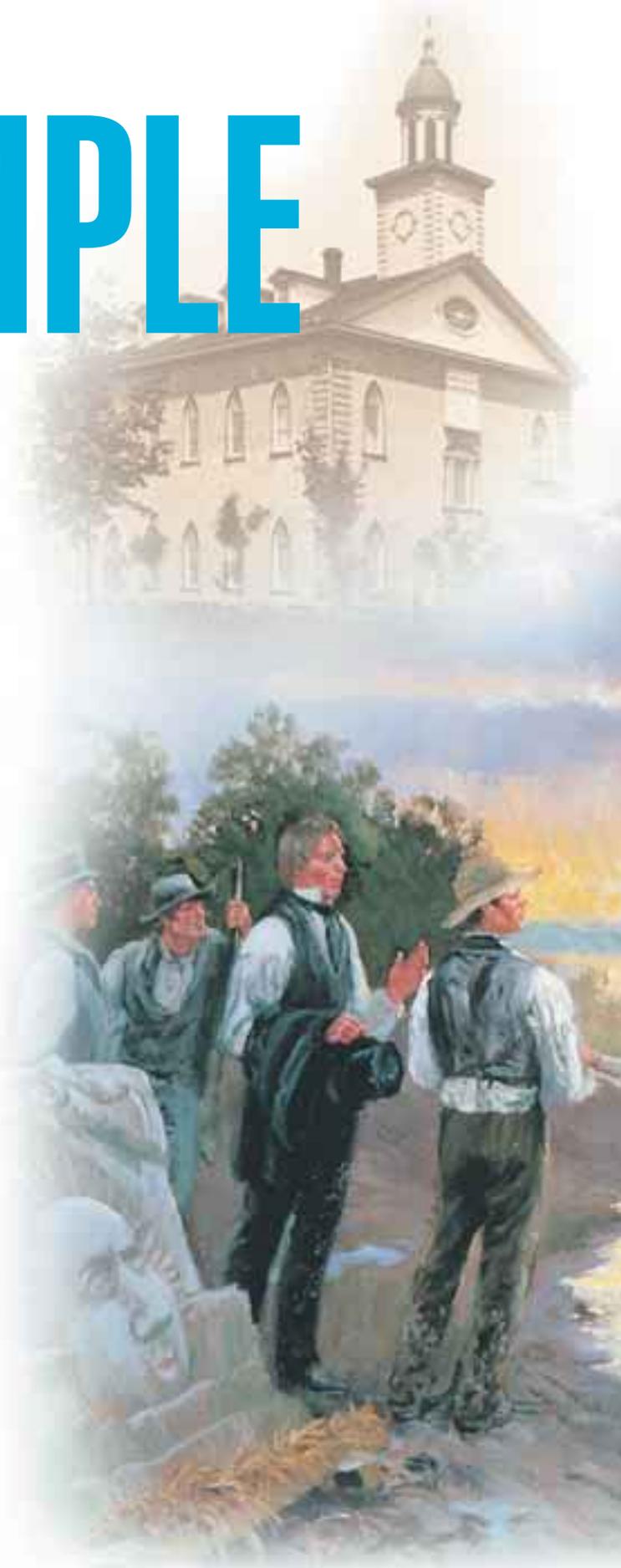
We are living in the greatest day of temple building. . . . The faithful Saints who pay their tithes and offerings have made this possible, and each will receive eternal blessings. . . .

Each temple building is an inspiration, magnificent and beautiful in every way, but the temple building alone does not bless. The . . . blessings . . . come through obedience and faithfulness to priesthood authority and covenants made. . . .

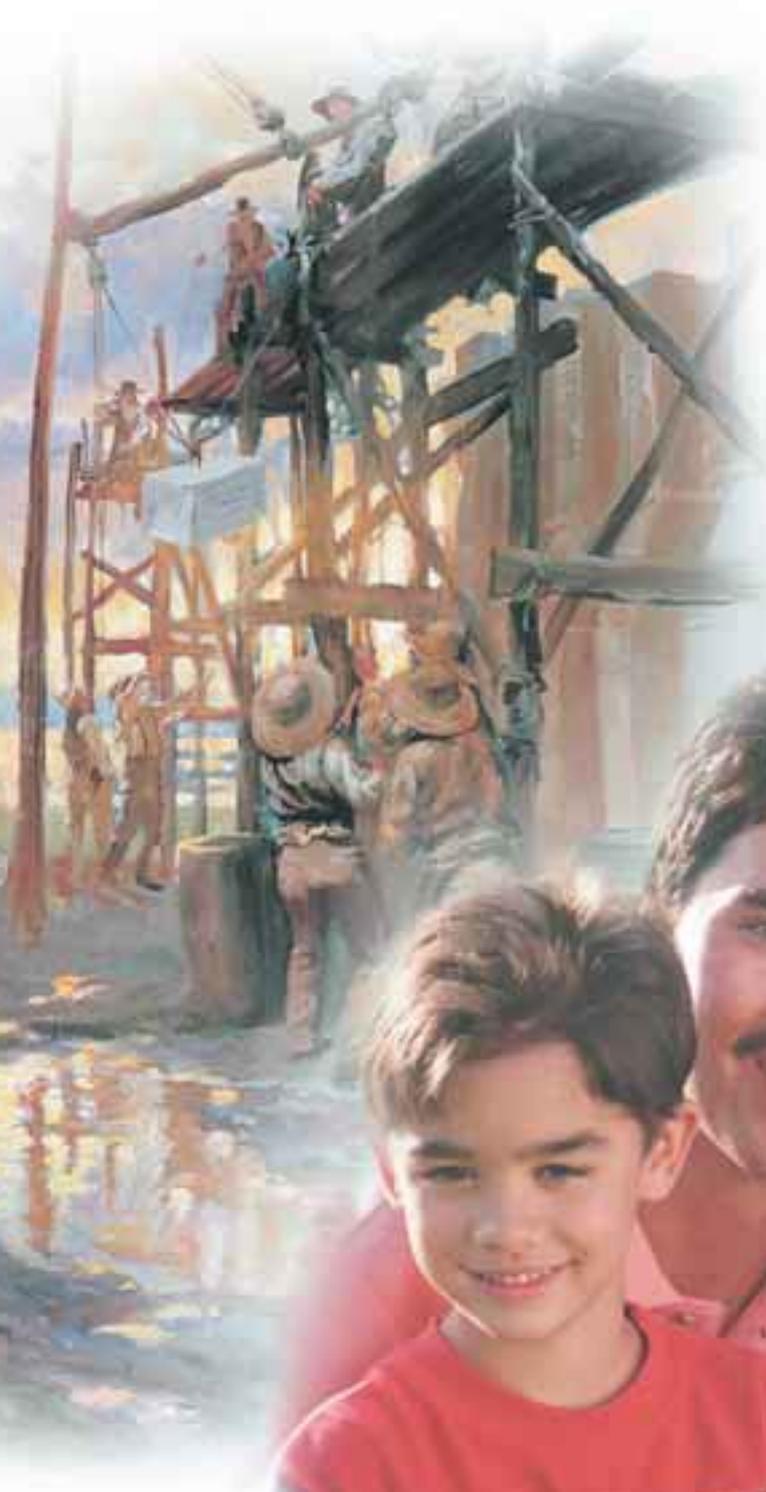
In the magnificence and splendor of our modern temples, well might we pause and reflect upon the laborers without shirts and shoes who built the Nauvoo and Kirtland Temples. Each temple that stands today is a vindication of Joseph and Hyrum Smith and a triumph for them and all of our people who suffered the destruction, the beatings, and the murders at the hands of cruel tyrants in the mobs who drove our people west. . . .

In the temples of the Lord, we learn obedience. We learn sacrifice. We . . . have our lives consecrated to holy purposes. . . .

We can see in vision the countless couples in their youth and beauty coming to be married. We see clearly the unspeakable joy on their countenances (faces) as they are sealed together [for eternity]. . . . We can see unnumbered families



BLESSINGS



surrounding the altar, all clothed in white, with bowed heads and clasped hands, as they are sealed one to another. . . . We can see the army of angelic young children . . . coming to the house of the Lord with awe and wonder to be baptized for the dead.

We see . . . heavenly hosts unnumbered whose eternal odysseys (journeys) have been suspended as they wait for their vicarious work to be done. . . . We can see families dancing, shouting, and crying with joy in their being united in another world.

The spirit and blessings of the temple can fill our homes as we live worthy lives. Even before we are old enough to go to the temple, we can prepare our hearts by being obedient and choosing the right. When we do go to the temple, we can share its blessings with our ancestors.

The prophet said to plant a garden, so that's what we'll do (Children's Songbook, page 237).

A loud, whirring noise broke into the game Debbie and her little sister, Becca, were playing with their dolls. The sound was coming from the backyard. Debbie and Becca looked wide-eyed at each other and left the dolls, clothes, and furniture made from shoe boxes to run outside.

When they came to the backyard, they stopped and stared at the curious sight. Daddy was there with a strange machine the size of a lawn mower. It was ripping up the beautiful green grass of the backyard and leaving only ugly brown dirt behind.

"What is he doing?" Becca asked. Debbie didn't answer. She could only shake her head and run to the kitchen to find Mommy.

Mommy had just finished peeling potatoes and was cleaning the peelings out of the kitchen sink. When Debbie stood beside her quietly sobbing, she stopped and asked, "What on earth is the matter? Are you hurt?"

Debbie swallowed her sobs and pointed to the backyard. "Why is Daddy ruining the grass?"

Mommy sighed with relief. "Oh, is that what's bothering you?" She placed her hands on Debbie's shoulders. "Honey, the prophet said that we need to plant a garden. He told us at the last general conference. So Daddy borrowed that tiller, and we're going to obey the prophet and plant a garden."

"Why?"

"I don't know why the prophet wants us to. I guess he wants everyone to be self-sufficient."

"What does that mean?"

"It means to be able to take care of ourselves. If we're hungry, we can feed ourselves."

Debbie sighed loudly as she went to the counter and sat on a stool. "Can't we just go to the store?"

"No, we need to learn to follow the prophet—like the Saints that came across the plains. When

they did what the prophet told them, they were blessed and they were able to bless others, too."

Debbie looked at her mother but didn't say anything. She knew that Daddy and Mommy had made up their minds.

Their backyard would no longer be a wonderful place to play. Now over half of it would be a big brown spot with garden plants, weeds, and bugs. She slid off the stool and went to her bedroom.

"Don't worry, Debbie," Mommy called after her. "I'm sure that *we'll* have lots of blessings for following the prophet, too."

In her room, Debbie just sat on her bed. Her dolls didn't even look fun to play with anymore. Everything was ruined. She would never have fun at home again.

"Daddy says we're going to plant carrots and corn, and I get to help with the weeding," Becca chirped happily when she came into the bedroom.

Debbie frowned at her.

"It's going to be a lot of fun," Becca told her.

"Daddy says there's nothing better for growing bodies than fresh vegetables from the garden. He said he always had plenty of them when he was a little boy."

"I'll bet it's the worst stuff we've ever eaten." Debbie got off the bed and began putting away her dolls.

Becca quietly watched her for a minute, then asked, "Don't you want to play anymore?"

"I never want to play anything again!" Debbie stuffed the last doll into a box and pushed it under the bed. She lay down and buried her face under her pillow, hoping anything Becca had to say wouldn't come through the soft down.

"I'll bet one day you'll be glad we have a garden."

Debbie pretended that she hadn't heard and held as still as if she were sound asleep. She hoped that

RUINING THE BACKYARD GRASS

By Patricia Reece Roper

A TRUE STORY

“I saw that!” Becca ran up behind her. Debbie whirled around. Seeing that she was caught, she held out the pod for her sister to try a pea.

Becca tasted one, and her eyes lit up. “Wow! Those are good!”

Debbie nodded. “I never thought peas could taste good enough to eat,” she admitted.

“So are you glad we have a garden?”

Debbie looked down and smiled. “I guess so.”

Several weeks later, Debbie learned to be really grateful for the garden. Daddy’s company had some trouble,

Becca wasn’t right. She hoped that she would always hate the garden and what it had done to the beautiful grass.

But as the weeks went by, Debbie began to change her mind. Tiny carrot plants with feathery leaves were beginning to grow in a straight row, and beside them grew beans with dark green leaves shaped like hearts. She had to admit to herself that she did like to see the plants grow bigger and bigger. It was even fun to pull the weeds and pretend that they were terrible beasts trying to steal all the water and food from the tender little plants.

Daddy showed her how to carefully water each row with the hose turned low so that the ground could soak up plenty of moisture and not be washed away.

Once, while she was supposed to be weeding, she pulled a pea pod from the vine and carefully opened it. Tiny round peas were inside. She tasted one. It was the best-tasting pea she had ever had.



and many of its employees lost their jobs. Daddy was one of them. He didn't know how long it would be before he could find another job.

"It sure is a good thing we planted that garden," Mommy remarked at the dinner table one evening. "Without it, we wouldn't have any food to bottle and save for winter."

"You mean we would be hungry?" Debbie asked in surprise.

"No." Her mother shook her head. "We would just not be eating as well. Thanks to the garden, we haven't had to buy as much food, and I've been saving some money. Now that we're not sure when we'll be getting any more, it's a good thing we saved extra."

"We have more food and extra money, all because of the garden," Daddy explained. "This is a testimony to me that the Lord certainly does bless us when we follow the counsel He gives us through His prophet."

"Yes," Mommy added, "I knew He would bless us—I just didn't think it would be this soon."

Debbie quietly nibbled at an ear of corn. She was glad that her parents had decided to follow the prophet. She knew that if they hadn't, their family wouldn't have been blessed with the things they needed. She went to bed that night with a full stomach and a happy heart, knowing that the Lord had watched over her family and He was blessing them because they listened to the prophet.



FAMILY PREPAREDNESS

By President Spencer W. Kimball

We call upon Latter-day Saints everywhere to strengthen and beautify the home with renewed effort in these specific areas: food production, preservation, storage; the production and storage of nonfood items; fixup and cleanup of homes and surroundings. . . .

We encourage you to grow all the food that you . . . can on your own property. Berry bushes, grapevines, fruit trees—plant them if your climate is right for their growth. Grow vegetables and eat them from your own yard. Even those residing in apartments or condominiums can generally grow a little food in pots and planters. . . .

Make your garden . . . neat and attractive as well as productive. If there are children in your home, involve them in the process with assigned responsibilities.

(Ensign, May 1976, page 124.)



Spencer W. Kimball

We can get direction all along our way, If we heed the prophets (Children's Songbook, page 111).

When Spencer W. Kimball was President of the Church, many people felt afraid of war and other disasters. President Kimball told Church members to not be afraid. He taught them that they could prepare for difficult times by saving money, clothes, and food, and by working harder to share the gospel.

As Sister Kimball and I have traveled to many places of the world these past six months, I have been heartened and gratified with the vitality and growth of the Church and the devotion and unselfish service of the members in the stakes, wards, and missions.

In this conference we have been counseled to conserve our resources and ease the financial burdens on our people. Again we urge the planting of home gardens and the maintenance of a year's supply of food and clothing against a time of need.

We urge all Latter-day Saints to be good neighbors and to be good citizens, loyal to their flag and country. . . . We have been urged to qualify ourselves to receive all the ordinances and blessings of the gospel by keeping the commandments, doing our duty, and paying a true tithe and generous fast offerings.

We are all very much aware, my brothers and

sisters, that the world is in turmoil. We are continually being tried and tested as individuals and as a church. There are more trials yet to come, but be not discouraged nor dismayed. . . . With faith and good works, the truth will prevail. This



is His work. There is none other like it. Let us, therefore, press forward, lengthening our stride and rejoicing in our blessings and opportunities.

We ask our Heavenly Father to give you power to extend your knowledge to the people in your neighborhood who need it and to take the gospel to areas in the world that need those great blessings now more than ever.

My brethren and sisters, I testify to you that this is the Lord's work and that it is true. We are on the Lord's errand.

(Ensign, May 1981, pages 78–79.)



RELATIONSHIPS

That same sociality which exists among us here will exist among us there, only it will be coupled with eternal glory (Doctrine and Covenants 130:2).

From an interview with Elder Robert J. Whetten of the Seventy, currently serving as President of the South America North Area Presidency; by Melvin Leavitt

I grew up in Colonia Juárez, Mexico, and had a happy childhood. My twin brother, Bert (Albert), and I were the middle of ten children. We rode horses and fished and swam in the river. We worked hard, too, feeding chickens, milking cows, and tending our father's orchards.

Our parents taught us about the purpose of life, where we come from, what happens after we die, and the consequences of our choices. I learned about the plan of salvation and about repentance as a constant process.

My parents often said to me, "Remember who you really are." I didn't understand that at first, but I learned that they meant to remember that I was a child of God.

I loved Primary. I can still remember those beautiful Primary songs we sang. When I was about eleven, a friend of mine fell off a horse and died from his injuries. Our Primary class sang "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" at his funeral. Those

words burned deep into my soul. I knew that Billy was all right, and I knew that what we were singing was the truth.

Bert and I grew up expecting to serve missions, and when we got old enough, we did. My mission made all the difference in the world to me. I gained a deeper understanding of the gospel, I developed discipline, and I learned to serve others. It has been the basis for a happy, successful life.

Three months after we returned from our missions, a man killed my twin brother. My father and another brother were badly wounded in the same attack. We knew who the person was who did it, but he was never arrested. I learned what it was like to feel hate and want revenge. I even had dreams of hurting the man who had done this terrible thing. But the Lord had made it clear what he expected of me:

"Ye ought to forgive one another; for he that forgiveth not his brother his trespasses standeth condemned before the Lord; for there remaineth in him the greater sin.

"I, the Lord, will forgive whom I will forgive, but of you it is required to forgive all men." (Doctrine and Covenants 64:9–10.)

With time and prayer, I *did* forgive that man. We all did.



2

3



4



5

1. Elder Whetten (left) at age 10 with his twin brother, Albert
2. As a missionary at age 19
3. At a baptism in 1963
4. On his wedding day
5. With his family at a daughter's wedding

relationships. I can remember my mother saying, “Bobby, you and Bert must have been good friends in the premortal life for Heavenly Father to let you come together in the same family at the same time.

Now can't you get along a little better?"

My wife, Raquel, and I have eight children and twelve grandchildren. They are our greatest joy in life. My oldest grandson, Mario, lives in Guadalajara, Mexico. One day in class, his Primary teacher asked, “Mario, who loves you?"

He answered without hesitation, “Jesus and my grandfather love me.” He was right. The essence of the gospel of Jesus Christ is love. We love those we serve, and we serve those we love. It all starts in the home. Jesus told us to love our neighbor, and who are our closest neighbors? Our own families. My brothers and sisters are still my best friends. I love my extended family, too, including my 130 first cousins. Tell your parents that you love them. Tell your grandparents that you love them. Then show them by your actions that you really mean it.

My parents told me, “Remember that your Heavenly Father wants you to come back to Him.” Please remember that, too. It's like when parents send a child to school in the morning—they want and expect him to come home in the afternoon. Our Heavenly Father sent us here to earth to learn, and He wants us to come back home to Him when our schooling on earth is over. Someday I want to be where my father and mother and Bert are. I want to go home.

I was told as a child, “If you stay true and faithful, you can be with those great people who went before you who were true and faithful.” This teaching awoke in me a desire to be where our loved ones are who have passed on. Being “true and faithful to the end” became my goal, even as a young man.

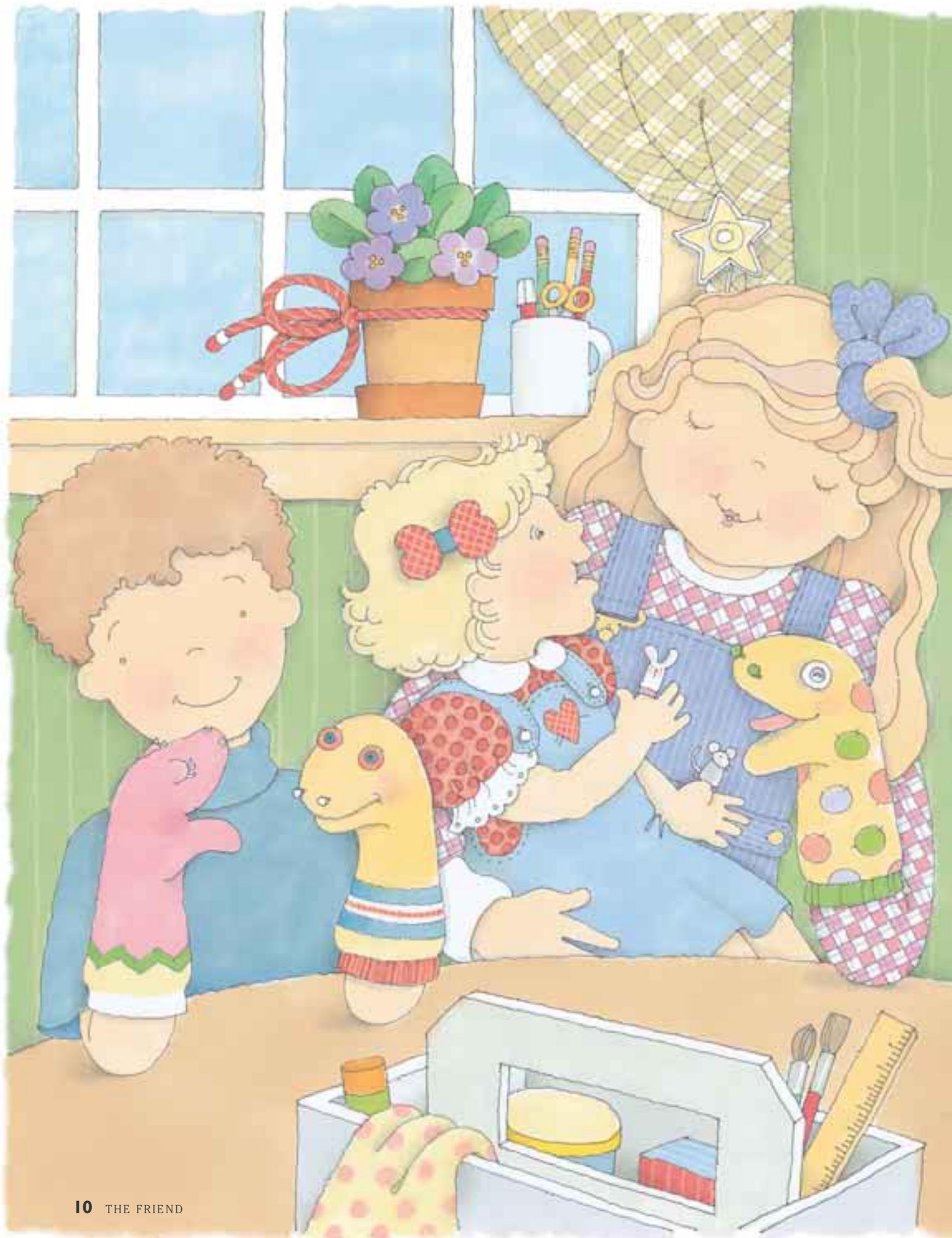
Recently my son Carlos asked me, “Dad, what is your greatest fear?"

I said, “I guess my greatest fear would be that I might not be true and faithful to the end. That's the worst thing that could ever happen.” Then I added, “My other worst fear would be that my children would not be true and faithful, and my posterity that comes after.”

Heavenly Father wants family relationships to be forever. Turn your hearts to your parents. Spend time with them. Ask them to tell you about your grandparents and great-grandparents. When I read the stories of my forebears, I gain great inspiration and a renewed desire to live worthily.

Children, please listen to your parents. There are so many things to listen to—TV, music, movies, the Internet. Be sure that you listen to those who really love you—your parents, your bishop, your Primary teacher, the living prophet, and above all, Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.

My parents taught me the importance of family



BABY-SITTING JOB



BASED ON A TRUE STORY

By Jane McBride Choate

Thanks again, Alanna,” Brother Tolley said. “You did a great job.”

“You’re welcome.” Alanna Johnson could barely keep the excitement from her voice.

Her first baby-sitting job had gone perfectly. She’d taken the child-care kit that she’d made at a Primary Achievement Day activity and played games with the Tolley’s three children until it was bedtime.

Brother Tolley walked her to her front door and waited while she let herself into the house.

Alanna hadn’t even looked at the money Sister Tolley had pressed into her hand at the end of the evening. She’d expected five or six dollars. Now, she saw that it was a twenty-dollar bill!

That’s eighteen dollars, she thought, *after I pay my tithing.* Alanna imagined her parents’ faces when she handed them the eighteen dollars.

Things hadn’t been easy for the Johnson family since Dad had lost his engineering job a year ago. Her sixteen-year-old brother, Steve, had found an after-school job at the supermarket. And, for the first time Alanna could remember, her mother had taken a part-time job.

Still, the family struggled to make ends meet. There had been no new clothes or movies in the last year. They no longer went out to eat on Fridays or to the bowling alley on Saturdays. Alanna didn’t really mind, as long as their family was together.

But now she could help. Eighteen dollars! That was enough to fill the car with gas or to buy a bag of groceries.

Her excitement faded as she wondered if Sister Tolley realized how much money she had given her. Could she





have made a mistake? Alanna frowned as she remembered that Sister Tolley had simply pulled the money from her purse without looking at it.

Maybe Sister Tolley meant to give me the twenty-dollar bill. Baby-sitting three children is a lot of work. Alanna remembered that the Tolley's didn't seem to have much money, either. *But,* she silently argued with herself, *they gave me the money. I didn't steal it.* Alanna looked around the living room. Though the room had only a few pieces of furniture, her mother had hung pictures of the Savior, the Prophet Joseph Smith, and President Gordon B. Hinckley on the walls. Alanna remembered helping her mother cut the pictures from the *Ensign* and put them in frames they'd found at a garage sale. President Hinckley seemed to be looking intently at her from his framed picture.

He wouldn't keep the twenty dollars, she thought. *Not if it didn't really belong to him.*

She found her parents in the kitchen. Her mother was cooking; her father was paying bills at the table.

Alanna took a deep breath and told them what happened. "I wanted to give the money to you, to help out the family, but I think Sister Tolley made a mistake." She swallowed hard. "I'm going to give it back to her."

Dad settled his big hand on her shoulder. "You just gave us the best gift there is, Alanna. Knowing that you want to do what is right is

worth far, far more than eighteen dollars."

Mom kissed her. "We're very proud of you, sweetheart."

When her family arrived at church the following morning, Alanna looked for Sister Tolley. "I think you overpaid me last night," she said and handed the twenty-dollar bill to her.

Sister Tolley looked startled, then relieved. "I didn't know where that money had gone! I knew that I had put it in my purse. Then this morning, I couldn't find it." She started to cry.



There is no substitute under the heavens for . . . the boy or girl who is honest.

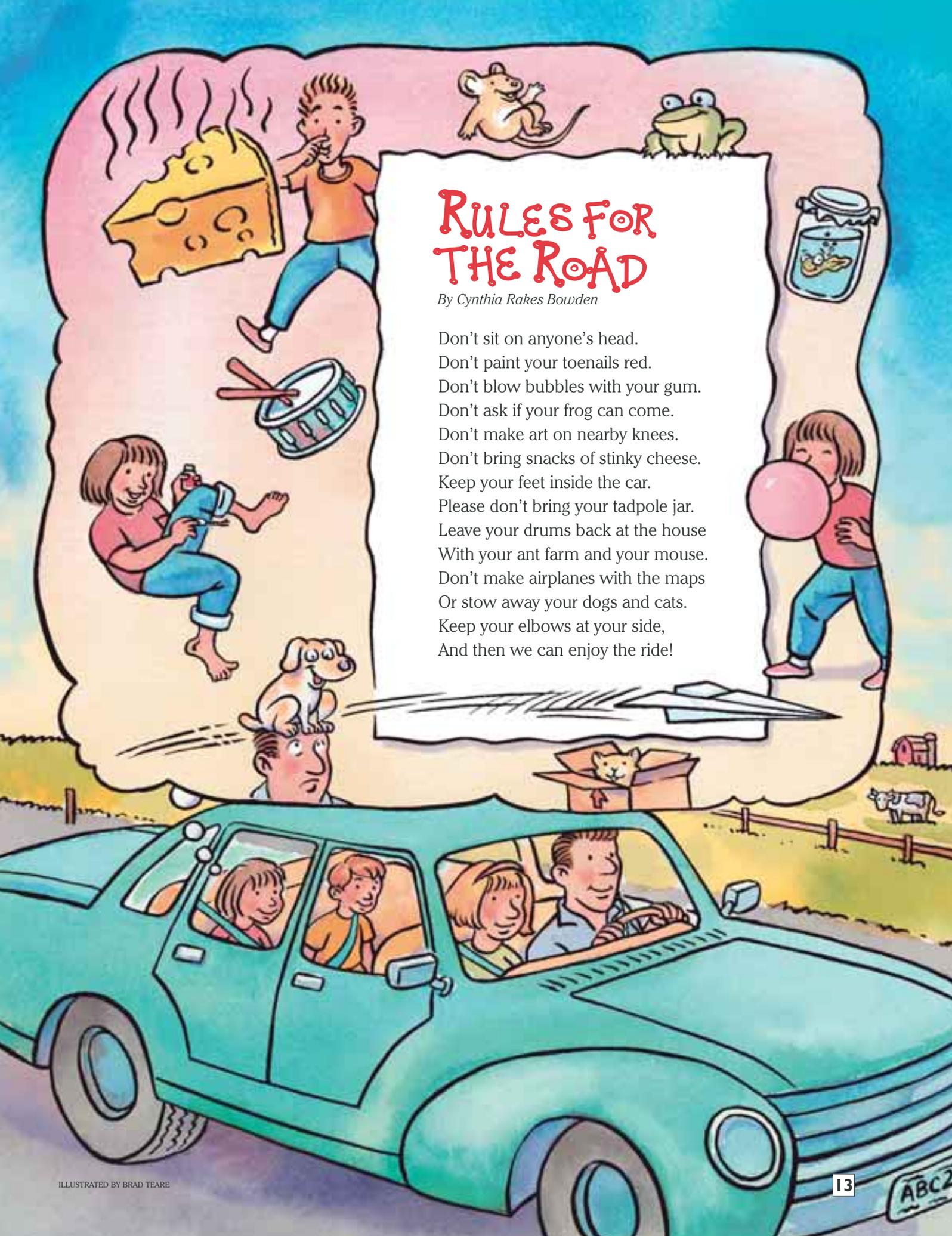
—President Gordon B. Hinckley
(*Ensign*, November 2000, page 52.)

"It's the last payment for something my husband needed. I didn't know what I was going to do if I didn't find it."

Alanna discovered that she was crying, too.

Sister Tolley opened her purse and counted out six dollars. "I hope you'll baby-sit for us again. Our children think you're the best baby-sitter they've ever had—and so do I."

Alanna gave her mother five dollars. After paying her tithing, she had only forty cents left, but somehow she felt very rich.



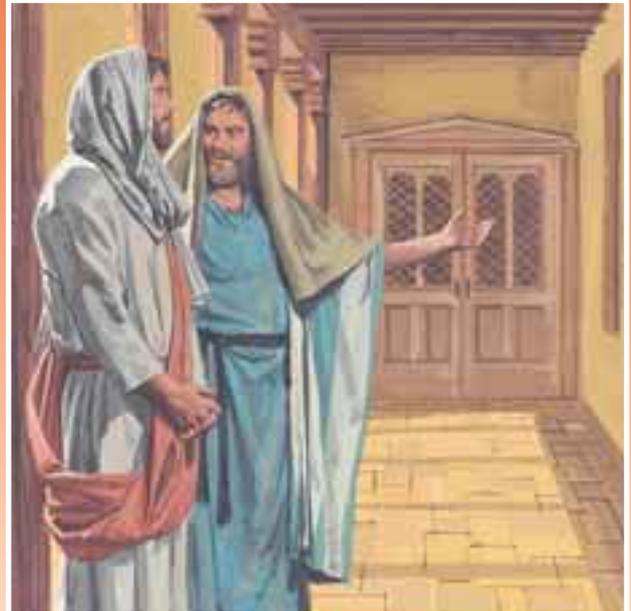
RULES FOR THE ROAD

By Cynthia Rakes Bowden

Don't sit on anyone's head.
Don't paint your toenails red.
Don't blow bubbles with your gum.
Don't ask if your frog can come.
Don't make art on nearby knees.
Don't bring snacks of stinky cheese.
Keep your feet inside the car.
Please don't bring your tadpole jar.
Leave your drums back at the house
With your ant farm and your mouse.
Don't make airplanes with the maps
Or stow away your dogs and cats.
Keep your elbows at your side,
And then we can enjoy the ride!

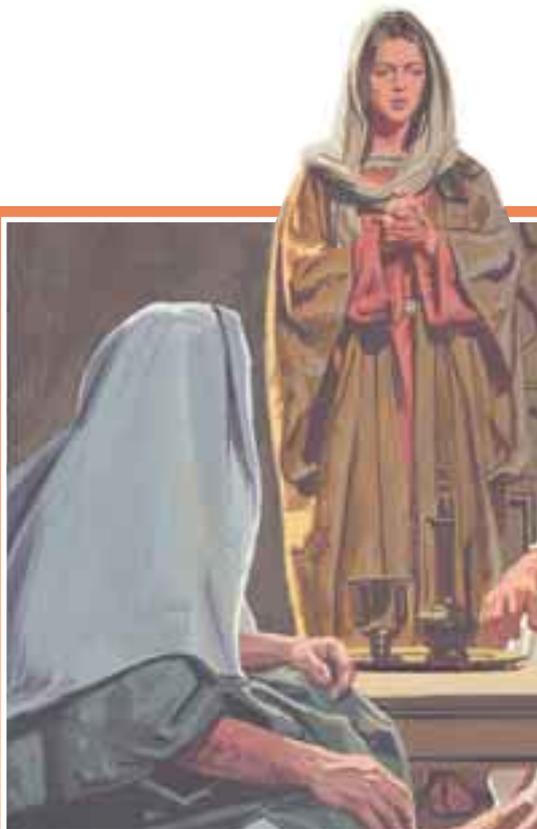
JESUS FORGIVES A WOMAN

Chapter 23



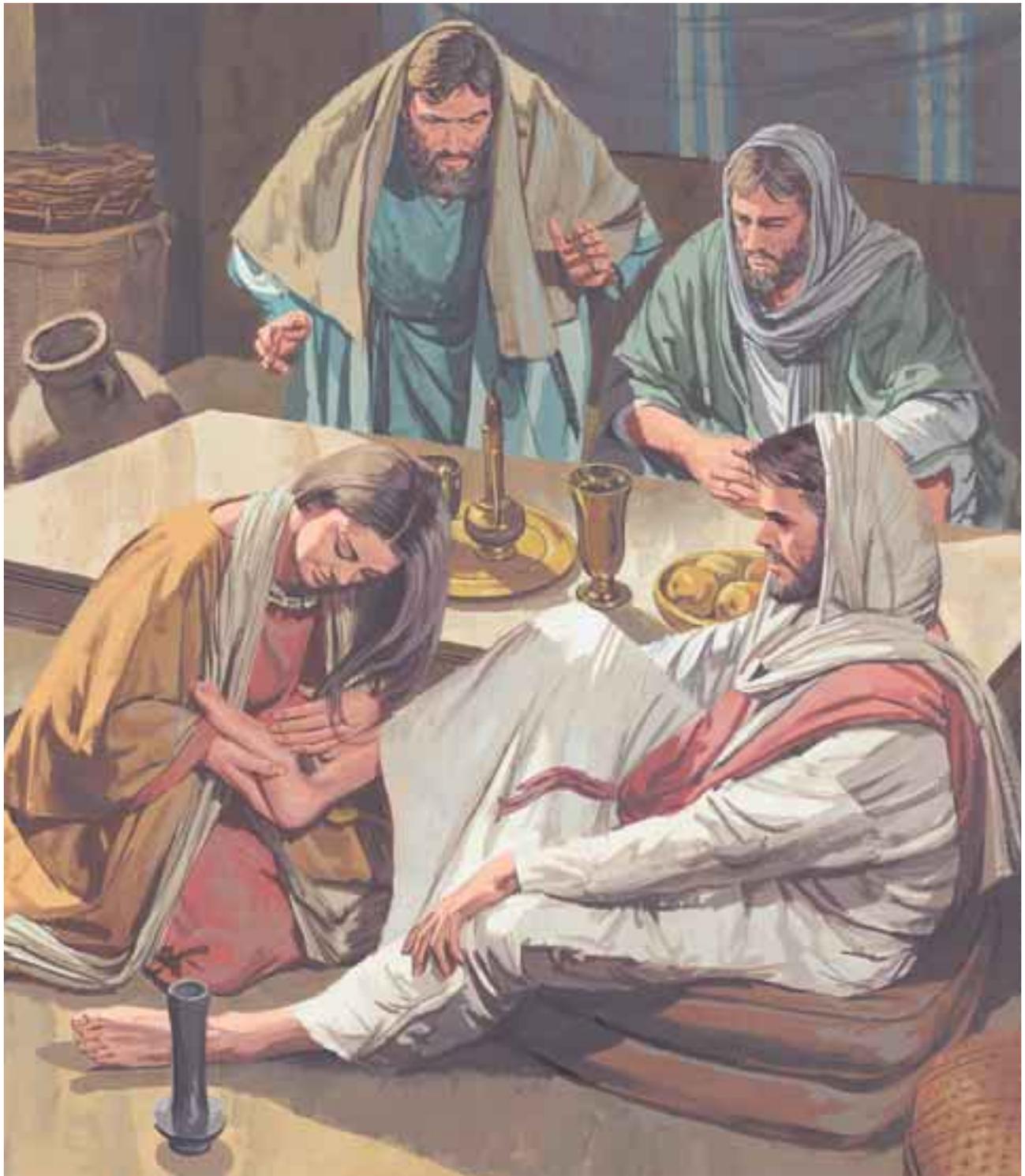
A Pharisee (Pharisees were one group of Jewish leaders) asked the Savior to eat with him. Jesus went to his house and sat down.

Luke 7:36



A woman who had many sins lived in the city. She knew that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, and she went there.

Luke 7:37



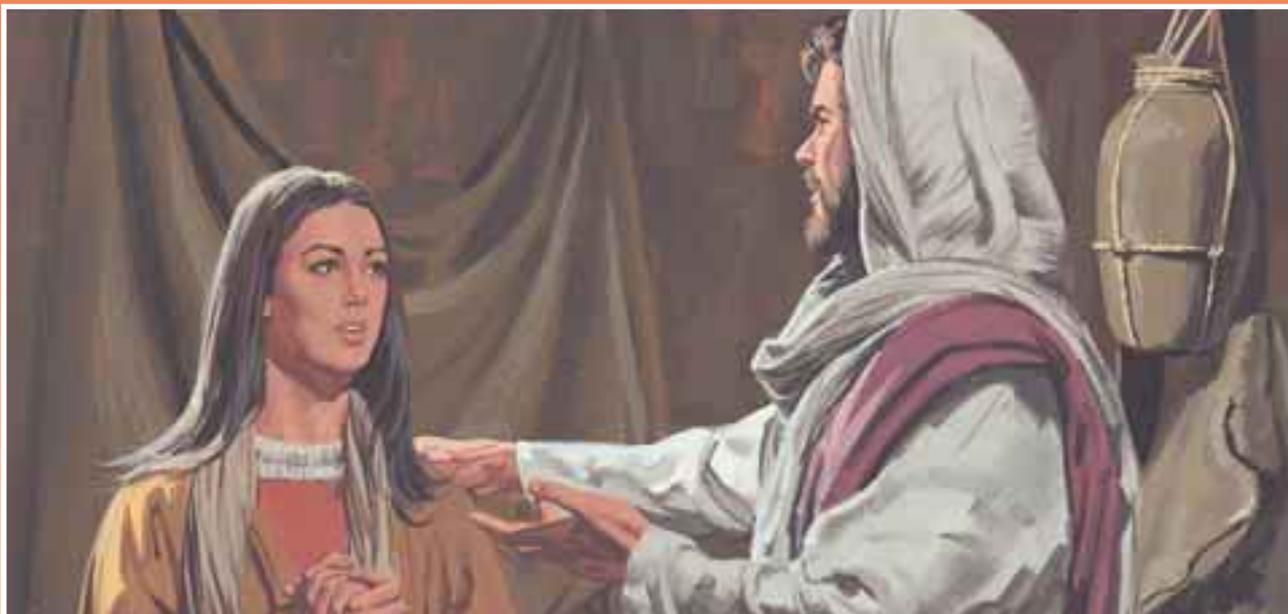
Crying, she knelt at the Savior's feet and washed them with her tears. Then she dried His feet with her hair and kissed them. She put sweet-smelling oil on them, too. The Pharisee watched her. He knew that she had many sins, and he thought that Jesus should not let her touch Him.

Luke 7:38-39



The Savior knew what the Pharisee was thinking. Jesus pointed out that the woman had washed His feet with her tears, dried them with her hair, and put sweet-smelling oil on them. But the Pharisee had not given Him water to wash His feet, or oil to anoint His head, as was often done for guests.

Luke 7:44–46



Jesus told the Pharisee that the woman had many sins but had repented of them. She loved the Savior very much and had faith in Him. He told the woman that her sins were forgiven, that she should not be sad anymore.

Luke 7:47–50; Doctrine and Covenants 58:42–43; Jesus the Christ, pages 262–263

JESUS COMMANDS THE WINDS AND THE WAVES

Chapter 24



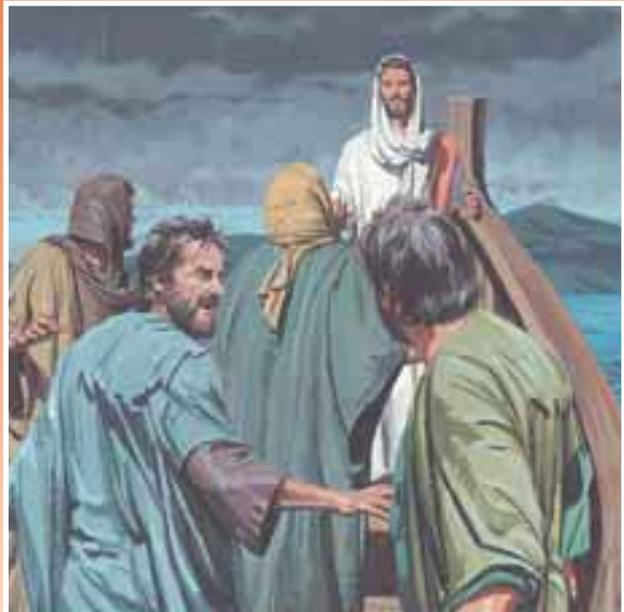
Jesus and His disciples were in a boat on the Sea of Galilee, and Jesus fell asleep. The wind began to blow very hard, and the waves were filling the boat with water. The disciples were afraid that it would sink. They woke Jesus and asked Him to help.

Luke 8:22-24



The Savior stood up and commanded the wind to stop blowing and the waves to go down. The wind stopped blowing, and the sea became calm.

Luke 8:24



Jesus asked the disciples why they were afraid. He said that they should have more faith. They wanted to know what kind of man Jesus was to have even the wind and the waves obey Him.

Luke 8:25



Prophets Teach *and* Warn

And the voice of warning shall be unto all people, by the mouths of my disciples, whom I have chosen (Doctrine and Covenants 1:4).

Prophets want to help people return to Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. Knowing that people will be happy if they live the gospel, prophets do everything they can to help people understand the gospel and live it.

King Benjamin was such a prophet. When he was old, he wanted to let his people know one last time just how important it is to have faith in Jesus Christ, to keep His commandments, and to help each other.

He had a tower built so that he could talk to as many of them as possible. When they heard that their beloved king was doing this, the people came and pitched tents around him. So many came that he had his words written down and given to all those who couldn't hear him.

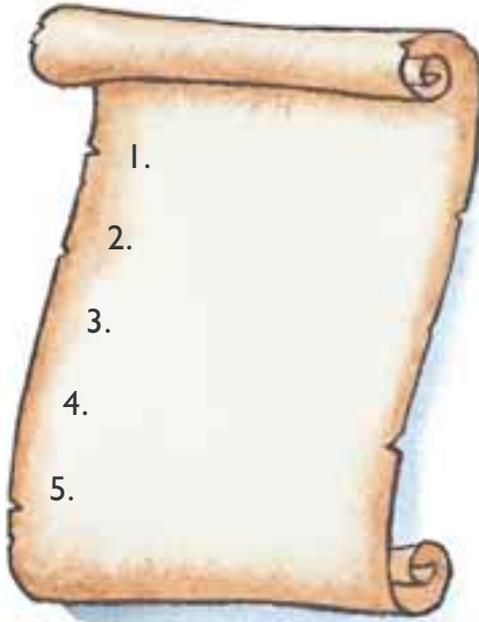
King Benjamin reminded the people that they had *chosen* him to be their king. He said, "If I, whom ye call your king, do labor to serve you, then ought not ye to labor to serve one another?"

"And . . . if I, whom ye call your king, who has spent his days in your service, and yet has been in the service of God [as prophet], do merit any thanks from you, O how you ought to thank your heavenly King! . . .

"In the first place, he hath created you, . . . for which ye are indebted unto him.

"And secondly, he doth require that ye should do as he hath commanded you. . . .

"Consider on the blessed and happy state of those that keep the commandments of God. . . . If they hold out faithful to the end they are received into heaven, that thereby they may dwell with God in a state of never-ending happiness."



After warning the people what would happen if they did not obey the commandments and if they fought with instead of helped each other, this prophet said that an angel had told him that Jesus Christ would soon be born. That He would work "miracles, such as healing the sick. . . .

"And lo, he shall suffer temptations, and pain . . . , even more than man can suffer, except it be unto death; . . . so great shall be his anguish for the wickedness . . . of his people. . . .

"There shall be no other name given nor any other way nor means whereby salvation can come unto the children of men, only in and through the name of Christ."

The people believed King Benjamin and made a covenant to do God's will and keep His commandments. Because they did, the prophet told them, "Ye shall be called the children of Christ . . . for behold, this day he hath spiritually begotten you."

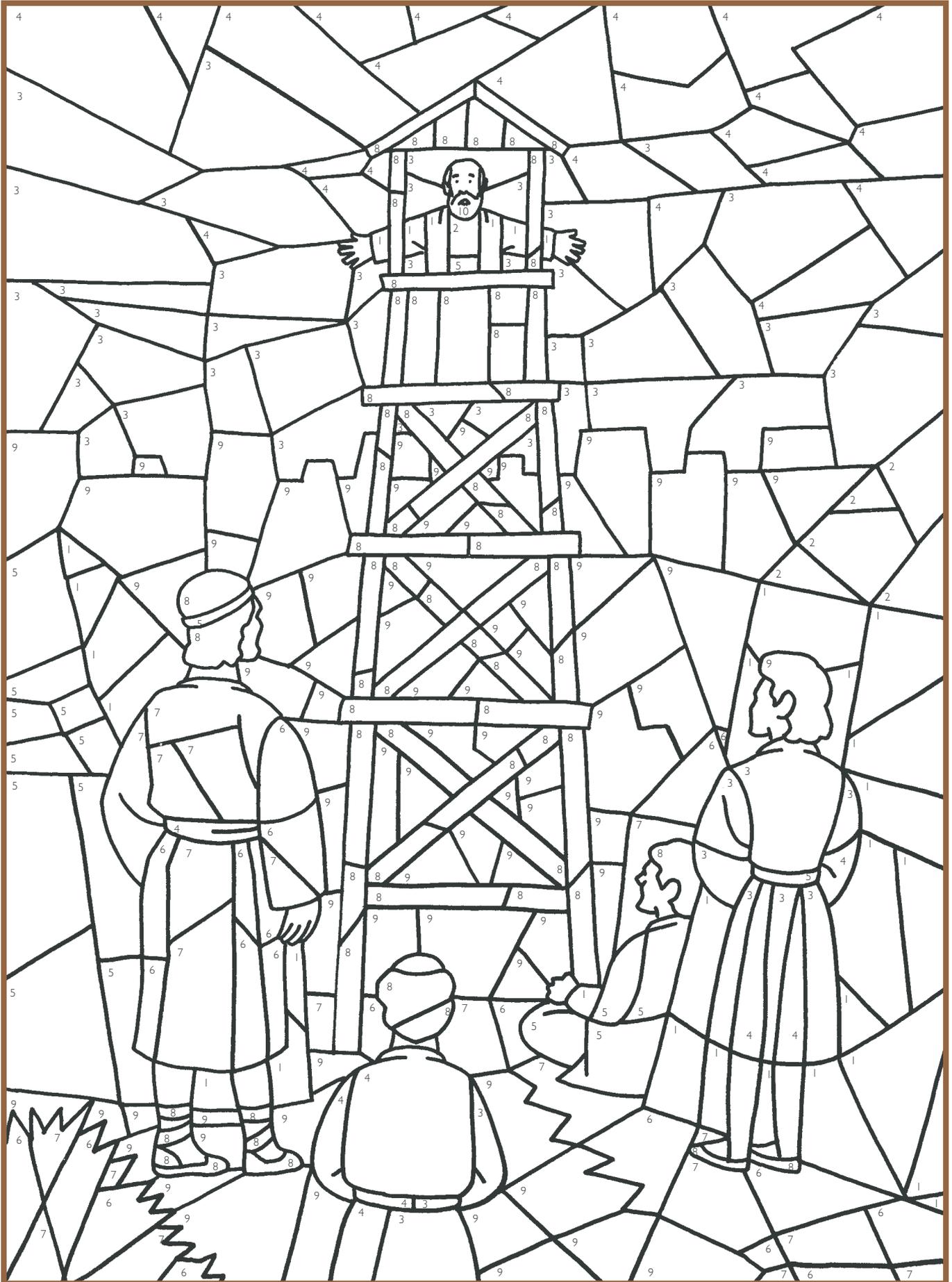
(See Mosiah 1:9-10; 2-3; 5:7.)

Poster Article Activity

King Benjamin Teaches the People

Instructions: Read the article on this page, then, on the scroll below the title, write five things that King Benjamin told his people. Use the following key to color-by-number the picture on page 19:

- 1 = orange
- 2 = yellow
- 3 = light blue
- 4 = blue
- 5 = red
- 6 = light green
- 7 = green
- 8 = brown
- 9 = tan
- 10 = white
- no number = flesh



I will show miracles . . . unto all those who believe on my name (Doctrine and Covenants 35:8).

By Alma J. Yates

BAD HABITS and Miracles

FICTION

There was a tiny glow of growing yellow light just above the mountains to the east as I crept across our front lawn and headed for Buddy's place next door.

"Well, good morning, Aaron," Buddy greeted me in a soft, surprised voice. "I would have bet my best fishing pole that you'd never get that mattress unstuck from your back at this time of day."

"And you would have lost that fishing pole," I teased back.

Buddy chuckled. "It's rare for a ten-year-old boy to get himself out of bed at four o'clock just to help his neighbor irrigate his yard."

Buddy was old enough to be my grandpa. I used to call him Mr. Chambers or Brother Chambers until he told me that his name was just plain old Buddy. *Mister*, he said, made him sound too old, and *Brother* made him sound like a preacher.

I'd been helping him with his yard, in his shop, or around his house for as long as I could remember. When I helped him work on his truck or car, he explained how everything worked and why he had to change the oil or the spark plugs or pour in antifreeze. When we planted his garden, he asked me where we should put the carrots and the tomatoes and the other vegetables like I was the expert and had to be the one to decide. He usually planted them right where I suggested.

When I arrived that morning, the irrigation water was gurgling into Buddy's backyard



because he had already pulled up the headgate that let the water in from behind his backyard fence.

For the next hour, Buddy and I sloshed around in the cool brown water as we irrigated the garden, the fruit trees, the lawn, and the flowers.

“We have to be careful that we don’t let in too much water back here,” he told me, “or it will overflow the patio and run into the basement.

It happened once, and it took Marva and me a week to pump all the water out and get things cleaned up. We had to replace the carpet and almost everything else downstairs. Marva hasn’t let me forget that boo-boo. That’s why I needed you out here today to keep me on my toes. Another accident like that, and I’ll be sleeping in the shed for the next two years.”

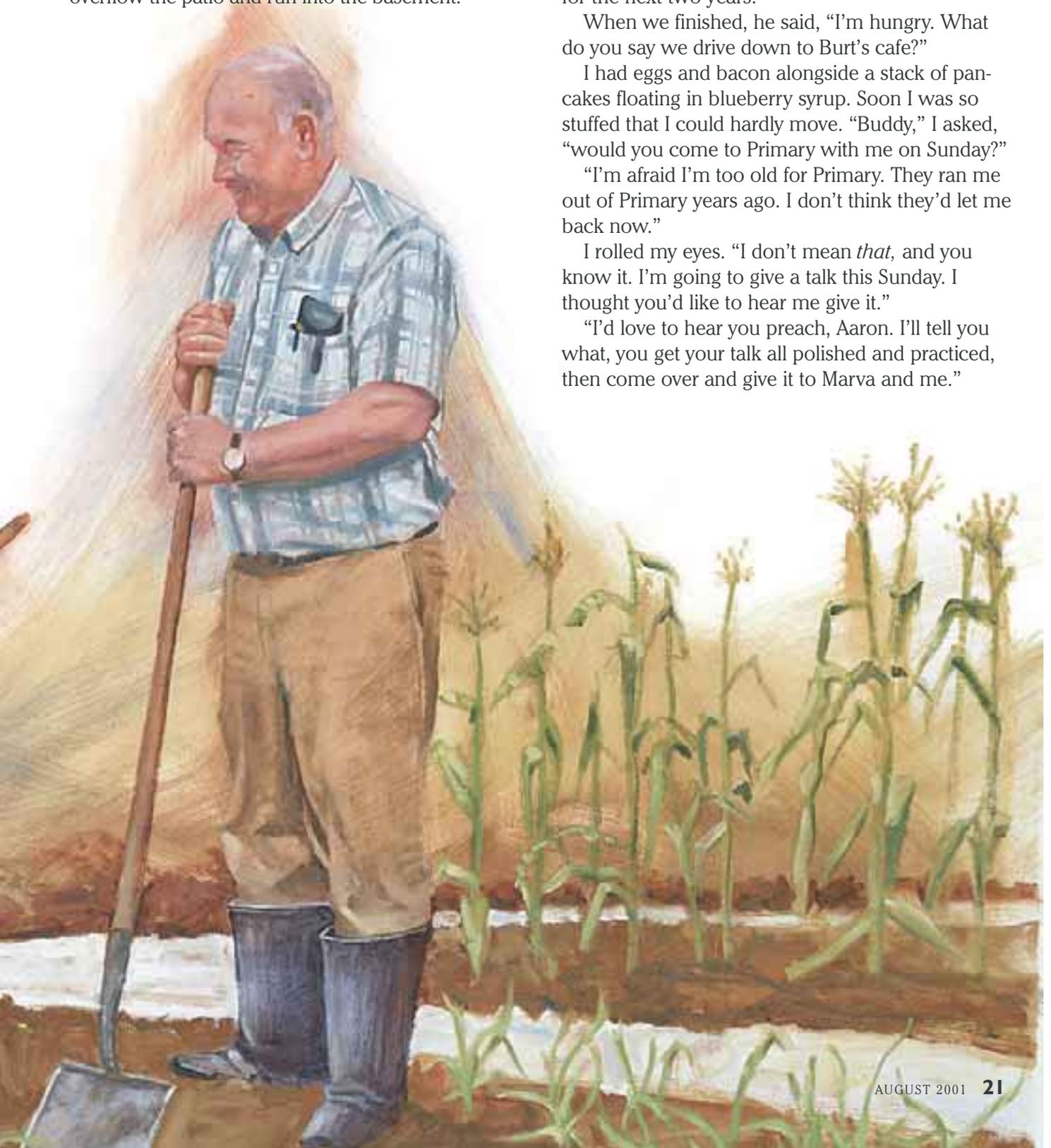
When we finished, he said, “I’m hungry. What do you say we drive down to Burt’s cafe?”

I had eggs and bacon alongside a stack of pancakes floating in blueberry syrup. Soon I was so stuffed that I could hardly move. “Buddy,” I asked, “would you come to Primary with me on Sunday?”

“I’m afraid I’m too old for Primary. They ran me out of Primary years ago. I don’t think they’d let me back now.”

I rolled my eyes. “I don’t mean *that*, and you know it. I’m going to give a talk this Sunday. I thought you’d like to hear me give it.”

“I’d love to hear you preach, Aaron. I’ll tell you what, you get your talk all polished and practiced, then come over and give it to Marva and me.”



“But I want you to hear me give it in Primary.”

Buddy wagged a finger at me. “You’re a sneaky guy, but I know your tricks. You’re just trying to get me to go to church. I already told you that it’s been so long since I went to church that the whole building would fall down if I walk through the door.”

“That’s not true,” I came back. “You were there when I got baptized, and it’s still standing.”

Buddy smiled. “That was a special occasion. Special occasions don’t count.”

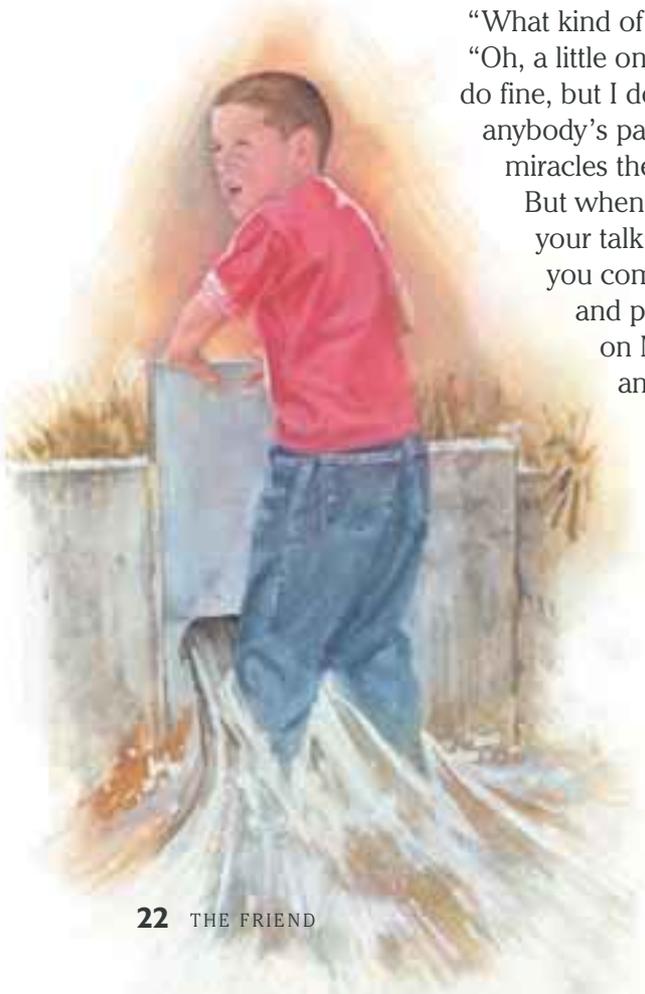
“Sundays are special occasions,” I pestered. “Marva would love to have you there. She hates always going to church alone. Why did you stop going to church, anyway?”

Buddy set his fork down. “Oh, somebody hurt my feelings. It doesn’t seem like a big thing now, but it seemed pretty important back then. I decided I’d stop going, and I just got out of the habit. Now I’m in the habit of staying home, and it’s a tough habit to break. Besides, I’m too old to go back. And nobody cares, anyway.”

“That’s not true. *I* care. So does Marva.”

“Aaron, it would take a miracle to get me back inside the church.”

“What kind of miracle?”
“Oh, a little one would do fine, but I don’t think anybody’s passing out miracles these days. But when you get your talk ready, you come over and practice on Marva and me.”



Mom, do you believe in miracles?” I asked my mother later that morning as I helped her clean the family room.

“Of course. Why do you ask?”

“What do you think a miracle is?”

Mom thought for a moment. “I suppose a miracle is something that doesn’t normally happen, and when it does happen, it’s because the Lord helps it happen that way. For example, when you had an earache in the middle of the night last year and there was no way to get you to the doctor, Dad gave you a priesthood blessing. Right away the pain stopped, and you went to sleep. That wasn’t a huge miracle, but it was a miracle.”

“Do you think it would be all right for us to pray for a miracle for Buddy? He says he won’t go to church unless he has a miracle.”

“Well, Aaron, the scriptures tell us that we aren’t to ask for signs. A miracle might be considered a sign. We could pray that Buddy would decide to go to church, but I’m not sure asking for a miracle for him would be the right thing to do.”

I worked on my Primary talk. I decided to talk about how the Lord answers prayers. I included the story about my earache. When I finally had the talk as good as I could get it, I went over to Buddy’s house and practiced on him and Marva.

“It’s a mighty fine speech, Aaron,” Buddy said.

“So will you come to Primary and listen to me give it there?” I coaxed.

Buddy laughed. “You don’t ever stop pestering me, do you? Besides, Marva and I are going to be out of town for three or four days, including Sunday. In fact, I need you to keep an eye on things while we’re gone. Will you water the flowers and pick the green beans and cucumbers?”

I was disappointed, but I didn’t stop praying for Buddy.

Monday morning I watered Buddy’s flowers. I picked the green beans and cucumbers. I even pulled the weeds. Then I checked all around the yard to make sure everything was all right before going home.

On Monday afternoon as I was reading a mystery book, I got to wondering about Buddy’s place again. I went back to my book, but I couldn’t concentrate. I kept thinking of Buddy’s place. I’d done more than he’d asked me to do, but

something kept pestering my mind.

Finally I set my book down and muttered to myself, "I'll go back and check again." I wandered around Buddy's front yard, making sure all the flowers had received water. I looked through the front window. Everything was all right in there. The rose bushes on the side of the house were all fine.

I was starting to feel kind of silly. Then I went through the gate. The backyard was a huge pond, and the water was just a few inches from running into Buddy's basement! Someone had taken the headgate from the irrigation ditch when it was empty. But now it was full, and the water was gushing into Buddy's yard.

Without stopping to pull off my shoes and socks, I sloshed over to the ditch and pushed the headgate into place. The water stopped rushing into Buddy's yard. It had started trickling into the window wells, but it didn't look like it would flood the basement.

When Buddy and Sister Chambers came home, one glance at his backyard told him what had happened. "Well, Aaron," he said, "I owe you a great big thanks. As soon as I walked back there, I remembered taking that headgate out to clean the ditch. I forgot to put it back. I almost thought I'd had a miracle." He grinned. "But it wasn't a miracle at all—you look out for me all the time. I'm sure glad that I'd asked you to keep an eye on things."

"But, Buddy," I said seriously, "I think it really was a miracle. I'd already checked on your place once today, and everything was fine. I'd done everything you'd asked me to do. I had no reason to go back and check on anything. But this afternoon something in my brain kept insisting that I needed to check again. That's why I went back.

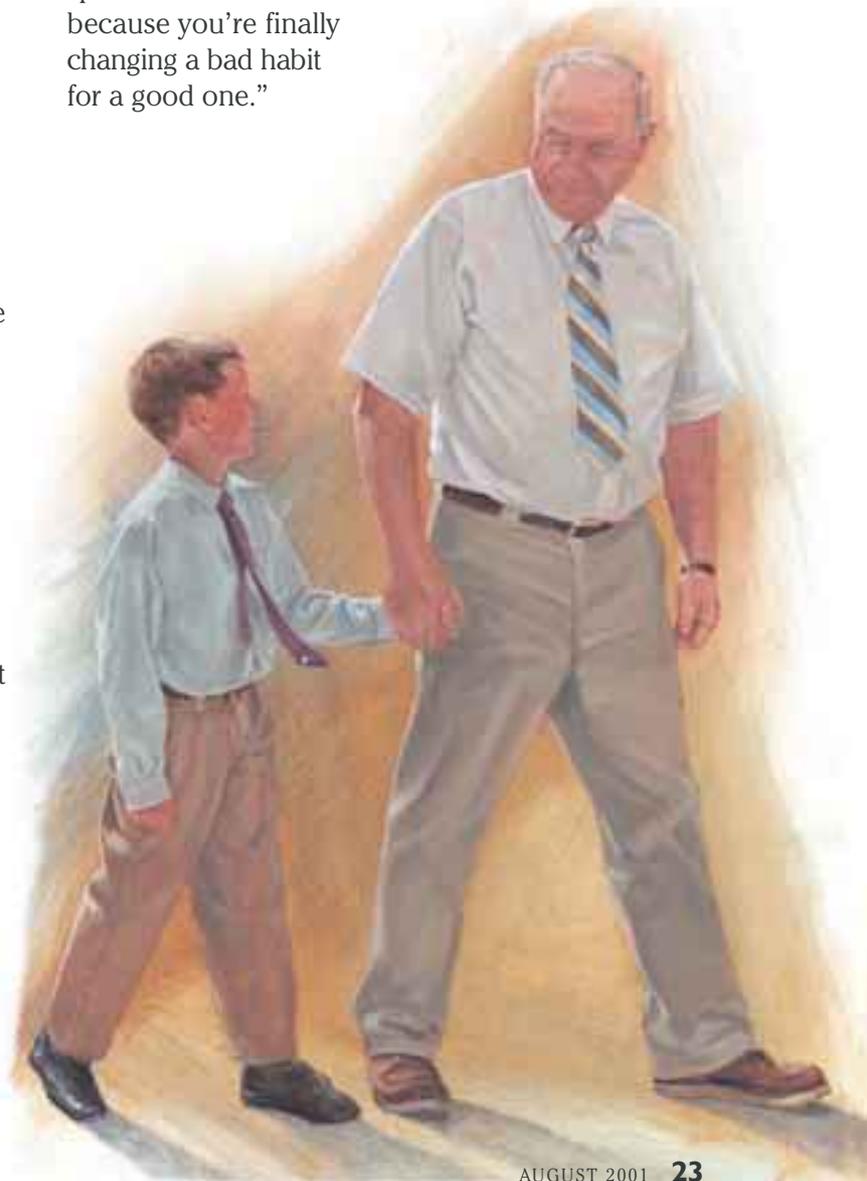
"The other day you said that nobody cared about what you do. That's not true. The Lord was watching out for you. He was the one who sent me over here to check up. I don't know everything about miracles, but if you ask me, that's a miracle. It might be just a little one, but it's still a miracle." I hesitated. "Maybe you've had more miracles than you know about. Maybe you just haven't recognized what they were."

The next morning I went over to help Buddy clean up his backyard. We didn't say very much at first, but when we took a short rest, he said, "I've been doing some serious thinking since last

night. You were right. Even though I've stayed away from church so long, the Lord hasn't forgotten me. He still knows where I live. I didn't think He did.

"And He doesn't even mind sending a miracle or two my way, even when I don't deserve them. I guess I'm going to have to break an old habit—staying home Sundays." He took a deep breath. "It's been a long time since I've walked through those church doors, but if you'll walk beside me and take me by the hand, I'm going to see if I can do it without the whole building falling down."

I smiled. "You missed my Primary talk," I teased him, "but that's OK, because more than anything, I want you to come back to church. For good. Next Sunday will be best of all, because I'll know that you're not there for a special occasion. You'll be there because you're finally changing a bad habit for a good one."



Feast of Prophets

Receive the pleasing word of God, and feast upon his love (Jacob 3:2).

Each plate holds a teaching, an experience, or a revelation from a prophet, ancient or modern. Some quotes are very short; some are longer. Each is a spiritual feast that can nourish your spirit.

Remove the page, and attach it to the refrigerator with magnets. Choose the first dish you wish to enjoy, read the scripture on it, and apply it to your life. If you wish, put a magnet on that plate as a marker. If you sample one dish a day, there are enough to last the month of August. But you may choose to feast a week, a month, or even longer on some of them. Strive to apply your new understanding to your daily life. Invite the rest of your family to the feast, too. If you do not understand something you read, ask a parent to explain.

When you have savored every dish thoroughly, you can recycle them into a game. Glue the whole page to heavy paper or poster board and allow it to dry.

LEHI

"Men are, that they might have joy" (2 Nephi 2:25).

HOWARD W. HUNTER

"We should at every opportunity ask ourselves, 'What would Jesus do?' and then be more courageous to act upon the answer."

ALMA THE ELDER

"Mourn with those that mourn; yea, and comfort those that stand in need of comfort, and . . . stand as witnesses of God at all times and in all things, and in all places" (Mosiah 18:9).

SPENCER W. KIMBALL

"Put your shoulders to the wheel, lengthen your stride, heighten your reach, increase your devotion."

JOHN THE BELOVED

"Let us love one another: for love is of God" (1 John 4:7).

MORMON

"Every thing which inviteth to do good, and to persuade to believe in Christ, is sent forth by the power and gift of Christ; wherefore ye may know with a perfect knowledge it is of God.

"But whatsoever thing persuadeth men to do evil, and believe not in Christ, and deny him, and serve not God, then ye may know with a perfect knowledge it is of the devil." (Moroni 7:16-17.)

JAMES

"Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

BRIGHAM YOUNG

"It matters not whether you or I feel like praying; when the time comes to pray, pray. If we do not feel like it, we should pray till we do."



GORDON B. HINCKLEY

"I plead with our people everywhere to live with respect and appreciation for those not of our faith. . . . We can and must be respectful toward those with whose teachings we may not agree."

MOSES

"Thou shalt not steal. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour. Thou shalt not covet." (Exodus 20:15-17.)

PAUL

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord" (Ephesians 6:1).

GEORGE ALBERT SMITH

"I would be a friend to the friendless and find joy in ministering to the needs of the poor. . . . I would not seek to force people to live up to my ideals but rather love them into doing the thing that is right. . . . I would not knowingly wound the feeling of any, not even one who may have wronged me, but would seek to do him good and make him my friend."

MALACHI

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it" (Malachi 3:10).

ALMA THE YOUNGER

"Have ye spiritually been born of God? Have ye received his image in your countenances? Have ye experienced this mighty change in your hearts?" (Alma 5:14.)

MORONI

"And when ye shall receive these things, I would exhort you that ye would ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not true; and if ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost" (Moroni 10:4).

KING BENJAMIN

"If I, whom ye call your king, do labor to serve you, then ought not ye to labor to serve one another? And behold also, if I, whom ye call your king, . . . do merit any thanks from you, O how you ought to thank your heavenly King!" (Mosiah 2:18-19.)

LORENZO SNOW

"It is our duty to improve each day, and look upon our course last week and do things better this week; do things better today than we did them yesterday."

JOHN TAYLOR

"Treat one another aright. Have you sinned one against another? Then go and make restitution. . . . Have you spoken unkindly to your brother or sister? Then go and acknowledge your wrong and ask to be forgiven, promising to do better in the future."

JACOB

"And he commandeth all men that they must repent, and be baptized in his name, having perfect faith in the Holy One of Israel, or they cannot be saved in the kingdom of God" (2 Nephi 9:23).

JOSEPH F. SMITH

"If the Saints obey this counsel [holding family home evening], we promise that great blessings will result. Love at home and obedience to parents will increase. Faith will be developed in the hearts of the youth of Israel, and they will gain power to combat . . . temptations."

JOSEPH SMITH

"We believe in being honest, true, chaste, benevolent, virtuous, and in doing good to all men" (Articles of Faith 1:13).

ENOS

"I kneeled down before my Maker, and I cried unto him in mighty prayer and supplication for mine own soul; and all the day long did I cry unto him; yea, and when the night came I did still raise my voice high that it reached the heavens" (Enos 1:4).

HAROLD B. LEE

"Look to the President of the Church for your instructions. If ever there is a conflict, you keep your eyes on the President if you want to walk in the light." (The Teachings of Harold B. Lee, page 532.)

WILFORD WOODRUFF

"We are expecting to live together forever after death. I think we all as parents and children ought to take all the pains we can to make each other happy as long as we live [so] that we may have nothing to regret."

EZRA TAFT BENSON

"Let us continually reread the Book of Mormon so that we might more fully come to Christ, be committed to Him, centered in Him, and consumed in Him."

ISAIAH

"He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him. . . . Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows. . . . But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities. . . ; and with his stripes we are healed." (Isaiah 53:3-5.)

SAMUEL THE LAMANITE

"Behold, ye are free; ye are permitted to act for yourselves. . . . [God] hath given unto you that ye might know good from evil, and . . . that ye might choose life or death." (Helaman 14:30-31.)

NEPHI

"I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded, for I know that the Lord giveth no commandments unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commandeth them" (1 Nephi 3:7).

JOSEPH FIELDING SMITH

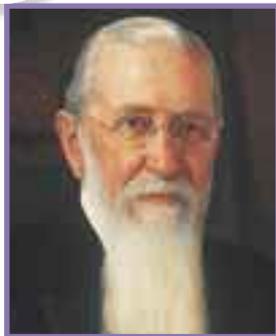
"Be true to every trust. Honor thy father and thy mother. Dwell together in love. . . . Be modest in your dress. Over-come the world, and do not be led astray by the fashions and practices of those whose interests are centered upon the things of this world."

DAVID O. MCKAY

"Every member a missionary."

HEBER J. GRANT

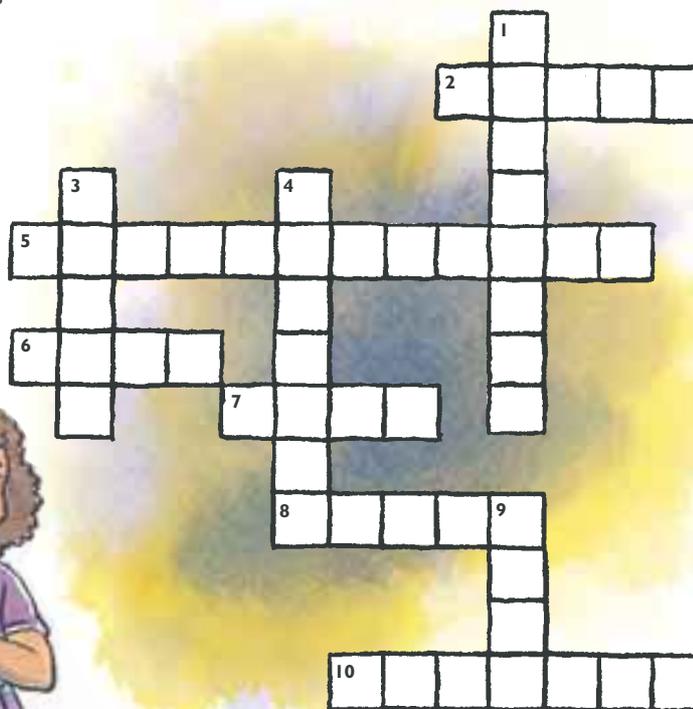
"Keep the commandments of God. That is my keynote speech, just those few words: Keep the commandments of God."



President Joseph F. Smith Crossword

By Hilary Hendricks

You can learn about President Joseph F. Smith, sixth President of the Church, by doing this crossword puzzle. Read the clues, then fill in the puzzle by choosing the correct answer from the list below.



- debt
- faith
- five
- guard
- Hawaiian
- history
- love
- Mary Fielding
- tithing
- wagon

ACROSS

- 2. When he felt scared or alone, it helped young Joseph F. Smith to remember the _____ of his mother and father.
- 5. His mother was _____ Smith.
- 6. President Smith was a tenderhearted man. Sometimes he cried, thinking about how much _____ people felt for him.
- 7. He was this many years old when his Uncle Joseph and his father, Hyrum, were killed by a mob at Carthage Jail.
- 8. As a young man, he volunteered as a scout to _____ the Saints against Johnston's Army.

10. President Smith visited many sites important to Church _____ and bought some of them for the Church—including the farm in Palmyra, New York, where the Prophet Joseph Smith saw Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. There is now a beautiful temple in Palmyra.

DOWN

- 1. When he was just fifteen years old, he was called on a mission to the _____ Islands, then known as the Sandwich Islands.
- 3. At age eight, he had to drive his family's _____ across the plains.
- 4. He learned from his mother the importance of this principle, when she reminded him that even though they were very poor, the Lord's tenth must come from the best they had.
- 9. While he was President of the Church, Joseph F. Smith helped the Church get completely out of _____—finally the Church owed money to no one.

(See answers on page 37.)

With an older person's help, you can prepare these refreshing recipes for your family or friends. Any of these recipes would make a delicious family home evening treat. The "Hand-Tossed Ice Cream" would also be a fun family night activity.

Peanut Butter Batons

By Carol Merolla

- 1/4 cup chunky peanut butter
- 1/4 cup dry milk powder
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1/3 cup light cream or canned milk
- 4 flat wooden sticks
- 4 peeled bananas, frozen
- 1/3 cup chopped peanuts

1. In a medium bowl, mix the first four ingredients together. Spoon the mixture onto a dinner plate or pie plate.

2. Insert a flat wooden stick into each frozen banana.

3. Roll each banana in the peanut butter mixture to completely coat, then sprinkle with peanuts, place in an oblong baking pan, and keep frozen until ready to serve.

Fruit Salsa

- 1 apple, cored and chopped
- 1 kiwifruit, peeled and chopped
- 1 can (8 ounces/227 g) crushed pineapple with juice
- 1 cup sliced strawberries, fresh or frozen
- 1/3 cup frozen orange juice concentrate, thawed
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar

In a medium mixing bowl, combine all the ingredients; chill. Serve with "Baked Cinnamon Strips" (see recipe on this page).

Hand-Tossed Ice Cream

By Jennifer Hughes

- 3/4 cup whole milk
- 1 cup whipping cream
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 1-quart (1-liter) sealable plastic bags
- 2 1-gallon (4-liter) sealable plastic bags
- 6–8 pounds (3–4 kg) crushed ice
- 2/3 cup rock salt
- newspaper
- heavy-duty tape

1. Place the first four ingredients into a 1-quart (1-liter) plastic bag. As you seal the bag, push out most of the air. Place the filled bag inside the other quart (liter) bag and push out most of the air as you seal it.

2. Cover the bottom of 1-gallon (4-liter) plastic bag with ice. Sprinkle 2–3 tablespoons of salt over the ice. Place the double bagged ice-cream mixture on top of the ice. Layer more ice and salt around the ice-cream mixture until the large bag is full; seal. Place the sealed bag inside another 1-gallon (4-liter) bag; seal.

3. Form the filled bags into a ball shape by covering with several layers of newspaper.

Secure by wrapping tape completely around the ball.

4. Take the "ice-cream ball" outside and toss it back and forth with family members or friends for 15–20 minutes. Remove the wrappings and unseal the bags, then serve the ice cream! Makes about 2 cups.

Baked Cinnamon Strips

- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 6–8 flour tortillas (8"/20 cm in diameter)

1. In a large, sealable plastic bag, combine the sugar and the cinnamon.

2. Cut a tortilla into 6 strips. Lightly brush both sides of the strips with water, place in the plastic bag, seal, and shake to coat the strips. Remove the strips and arrange in a single layer on a baking sheet. Repeat this procedure with the remaining tortillas.

3. Bake at 375° F (190° C) for 8–10 minutes or until crisp. Serve immediately or let cool and store in an airtight container.





FOR LITTLE FRIENDS

Marc and Sister

It shall be given you by the Comforter what you shall do (Doctrine and Covenants 31:11).

By Terri Ann Petersen

It was a bright summer day. Everyone in Marc's family was busy working outside. David was mowing the lawn. Dad was fixing the car. Mom was weeding the garden. Marc started to feel a little lonely. *Hmmm*, he thought, *I will go visit Sister Dunkley.*

Sister Dunkley lived just up the street. Marc liked her. She had beautiful white hair. She

made delicious cookies. Her house always felt warm and happy. Mom said that he could visit her, so he skipped all the way there.

Marc knocked on Sister Dunkley's door. No one answered. He knocked again. Slowly the door opened. There was Sister Dunkley. She looked a little tired. Her beautiful white hair was a little messy. She was still in her pajamas.

Sister Dunkley smiled a tired smile. "Why hello, Marc. Would you like to come in?"

"Yes, thank you." He sat down on the couch. Sister Dunkley sat down on a chair.

"I don't have any cookies today, Marc," she said.

"That's all right, Sister Dunkley. I just came for a little visit. Everyone is busy at my house."

Marc looked around at Sister Dunkley's house. Something did not feel right. From the couch he could see her bed. It was not made. He could see her kitchen, too. The dishes were not washed. He looked at Sister Dunkley. Why was she still wearing her pajamas?

Marc got down off the couch. "I need to go home."

"That was a short visit." Sister Dunkley looked puzzled.

"I need to tell my mom something." He walked out the door, then ran down the street. He ran all the way to his own backyard. "Mom! Mom!" Marc grabbed her hand and pulled her toward the house.

"My goodness, Marc, what is the matter?"

"It's Sister Dunkley! We need to make one of those Relief Society dinners for her. She's sick, and we need to help her."

"How do you know she's sick?"

"When I visited her, I sat on her couch. I could see into her bedroom. Her bed was not made. I could see into her kitchen. Her



Dunkley



dishes were not done. She still had her pajamas on, and her beautiful white hair was a little messy. Now, Mom,” Marc said, his hands on his hips, “when you are sick, you don’t make your bed. You don’t do the dishes. You wear your pajamas, and your hair is a little messy. So I know Sister Dunkley is sick.” Marc pulled his mom’s hand again. “Come on—let’s go make one of those Relief Society dinners.”

A smile slowly crossed Mom’s face. “Marc, let’s you and I go back to see your sweet friend, Sister Dunkley.”

Marc and Mom went to Sister Dunkley’s house. Mom knocked on the door. When no one answered, Mom slowly opened the door. “Sister Dunkley!” she called.

Marc ran across the living room to Sister Dunkley’s bedroom. “Look, Mom! She’s lying on her bed!”

Sister Dunkley tried to get up, but she couldn’t. She was too sick. Mom sat on her bed and quietly talked to her. Next Mom made a telephone call. Soon Sister Dunkley’s son came into the house. He looked worried. He thanked Mom for helping his mother.

“Don’t thank me,” Mom laughed. “Thank my little detective, Marc. He had the sense to know something was wrong.”

On the way home, Mom held Marc’s hand. “I am very proud of you, Marc. Thank you for coming and telling me Sister Dunkley was sick. When you felt uncomfortable, that was Heavenly Father telling you something. That feeling came from the Holy Ghost. He was telling you to pay attention, that something was not right. Since you listened to that feeling and came and told me, we were able to help Sister Dunkley. Those feelings can help us be safe and guide us in what we need to do. They tell us that Heavenly Father loves us.

I am happy you came and told me what you were feeling. Today, Marc, you listened to the Holy Ghost. Come on! I’ll race you home so we can make one of those Relief Society dinners.”



Our Prophet

By Elizabeth Giles

Keep the commandments.
Believe in Christ.
Read the scriptures
and pray.

This is the counsel
given from God
through our prophet
today.

Rabbit without a House

By M. H. Martin

The object of this game from Brazil is to not be the “rabbit without a house” to hide in. The game needs at least eight players but is more fun with a larger group.

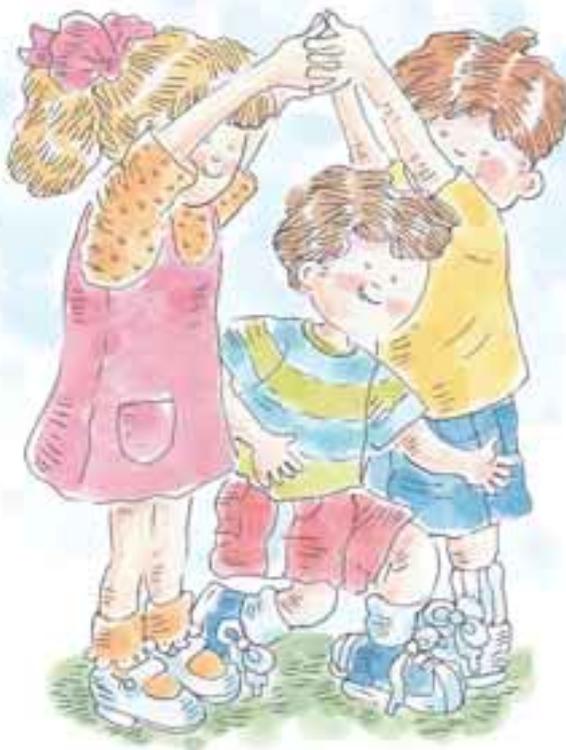
Choose one person to be the game leader, and another person to be the first rabbit without a house. The rest of the players are divided into groups of three.

Each group makes a house by having two players face each other and hold hands. The third player stands inside the house and is a rabbit. Make sure that the houses are not too close to each other.

The player chosen to be the first rabbit without a house stands in the middle of the groups, near one of the houses.

The game leader calls, “find a house!” and all of the rabbits must look for a different home. The rabbit that does not find a house becomes the next rabbit without a house.

After a while, children playing the parts of the rabbits trade places with some of the children playing the parts of the houses, until everyone has had a chance to be both a rabbit and a house.

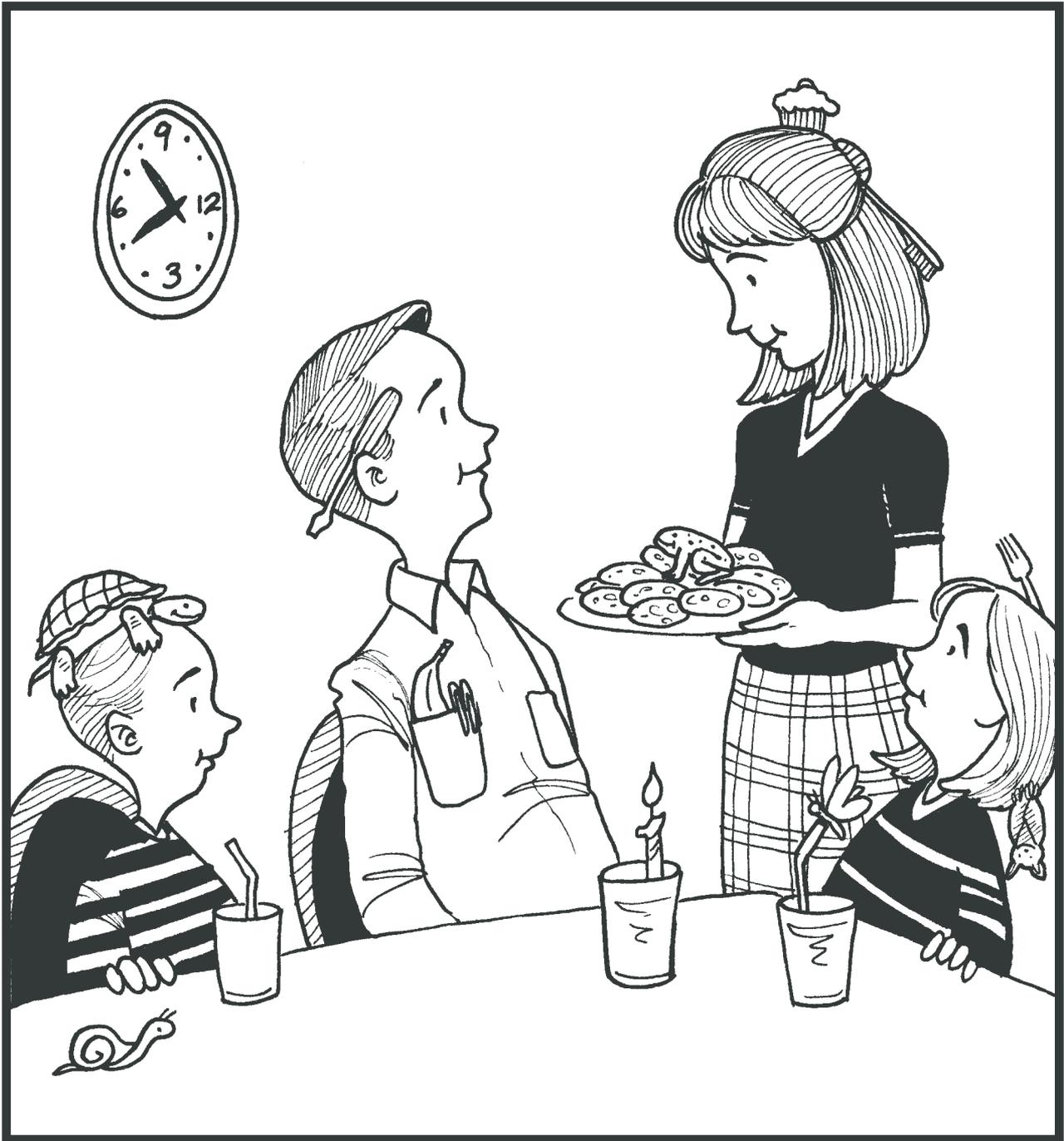


Painting with Sand

Heavenly Father paints beautiful scenes with the shifting dunes of desert sand. You can paint with sand, too. You will need: a sheet of paper, a bottle of glue, and sand of several colors. You can find colored sand in nature, or you can mix sand with powdered poster paint for a brighter look.

1. Cover the paper with glue.
2. Carefully drizzle one color of sand after another onto the glue to form a picture or design. Or you can squeeze glue onto the paper in pictures or patterns, then pour sand over the glue.
3. Let the painting dry, then pour off any loose sand.





Refreshments

By Bob Peterson

There's nothing wrong with gobbling up yummy family home evening treats. Twelve things are wrong with this picture, though. Find them while you eat your refreshments.

(See answers on page 37.)

FROM THE LIVES OF THE CHURCH PRESIDENTS

Joseph F. Smith, a Man at Age Eight

After his father, Hyrum, and his Uncle Joseph were killed at Carthage Jail, Joseph F. Smith had to help his mother bring their family to the Salt Lake Valley.

Joseph, you are only eight years old, but I must depend on you. You must be a man when you are hardly a boy.

I'll help as much as I can, Mother.

Along the journey, young Joseph chopped wood, picked berries, carried water, and took care of the family's animals.

But his main responsibility was driving the oxen.

He felt especially sad when his ox teams were thirsty and tired.

I'm sorry, Thom. I know it's too hot for you.

The journey was hard, and life didn't become easier once they reached the Salt Lake Valley.

It looks like we'll have to spend the winter in our covered wagon, children. But God will protect us.

Joseph admired the faith and courage of his mother.

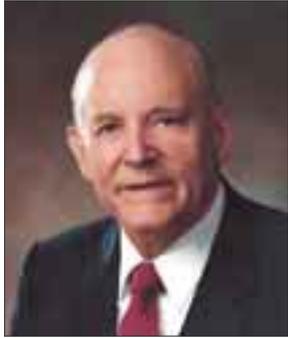
Even though the family had barely enough to live on, Mary Fielding Smith insisted they pay a full tithe.

Choose the nicest potatoes to take to the tithing office, Joseph. The Lord's share must be the best pick of the crop.

Joseph must have remembered his mother's faith when he received his call to preach the gospel in Hawaii. He was only fifteen years old, had no money to take with him, and didn't even know the language.

He served faithfully in Hawaii and on several other Church assignments before becoming the sixth President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Many people learned the gospel because of the faith and hard work of President Joseph F. Smith.

If you'd like to learn more about President Smith, do the "President Joseph F. Smith Crossword" on page 26.



He Takes Care of His Church



The duty of the President of the office of the High Priesthood is to preside over the whole church, and to be like unto Moses (Doctrine and Covenants 107:91).

BASED ON AN ACTUAL EVENT

By Angie Bergstrom

My mom called all the children in my family together one morning. She told us that President Howard W. Hunter had been sick and had died. We were sad. President Hunter was the prophet, and we loved him.

“Who will run the Church now?” Erik, my youngest brother, asked.

“Well, the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles will be in charge until another prophet is chosen,” Mom answered. “But remember, Jesus Christ is the head of this Church. We will not be left without a prophet.”

“Really?” I asked. “We’ll have a new one?”

“Absolutely,” Mom said. She explained to me that when a prophet dies, the members of the First Presidency return to their former positions

in the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, and with the guidance of the Lord, the Apostles reorganize the First Presidency. Mom also explained that the Church follows a pattern established by the Lord. When the Lord calls a new Apostle, that Apostle gradually moves forward in seniority in the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles as other Apostles die. At the death of the President of the Church, the senior Apostle becomes the new President of the Church. Mom said that we can pray to know for ourselves that the new Church President has been chosen by the Lord.

A little while after President Hunter died, I got a phone call from my friend Molly, who is not a member of the Church. “Hey, Angie, that’s too bad about your prophet. My dad and I were really worried about you. Is your church going to shut down now?”

I almost dropped the phone from surprise.

“Of course not,” I said, remembering my mother’s words. “The Lord promised us that we would always have a prophet.”

“You mean, they’ll choose a new one?” Molly asked. “Don’t you need an angel to come down and declare that he’s the prophet?”

“I believe God will choose another prophet. Jesus Christ is the head of the Church,” I said with a smile because I knew it was true.

“But how do you know the new prophet is chosen by God?”

She didn’t understand that we could pray to Heavenly Father and find out. But I knew that that was exactly what I was going to do. Right after I finished my prayers that night, I knew that the Lord would take care of His Church.

A few days later an announcement was made that the new President of the Church was Gordon B. Hinckley.

I raised my hand high a few weeks later during general conference to sustain President Hinckley as the prophet. And in the years that have followed, I have continued to raise my hand to sustain him. I support him in all he says and does. I am thankful that President Hinckley has been called of God to be the prophet. Truly, the Lord does not leave us alone.



How the Lord Takes Care of His Church



In the April 1986 general conference, Elder David B. Haight of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles explained the process by which a new Church President is called. He said:

“When one Church President passes away, how is a new President selected?”

“In 1835 the Lord gave a revelation

on this matter that provides for orderly succession.

The revelation states that the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles is a body equal in authority to the First Presidency. (See Doctrine and Covenants 107:24.) That means that when the President of the Church dies, his counselors are automatically returned to the Quorum of the Twelve, which then becomes the presiding body of the Church. That pattern was established with the death of the Church’s first President, Joseph Smith.

“Following the martyrdom of the Prophet Joseph and his brother Hyrum in 1844, the Quorum of the Twelve, with Brigham Young as quorum president, presided over the Church for the next 3 1/2 years.

“Then, on the banks of the Missouri River in Winter Quarters on December

5, 1847, the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles met in council. . . . Brigham Young, President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, was unanimously sustained by members of that body as President of the Church. . . . This action created a new First Presidency, which was later sustained by the



unanimous vote of the Saints. . . .

“This divinely revealed procedure for installing a new First Presidency of the Church—revelation from the Lord and sustaining by the people—has been followed to our present day. The First Presidency is to be ‘upheld by the confidence, faith, and prayer of the church’ (Doctrine and Covenants 107:22).”

(*Ensign*, May 1986, page 8.)

FRIENDS IN THE NEWS



Glory Davies-Ogunshakin, 3, Lagos, Nigeria, enjoys singing "I Am a Child of God" and "Nephi's Courage." She quickly folds her arms and bows her head when asked to say a prayer. She is happy and cheerful.



Timothy Failes, 9, Olathe, Kansas, likes going to Primary and sacrament meeting and listening to the speakers. He enjoys roller-blading and going to Cub Scouts with his friends.



MaKenna Kaleia Ford, 5, Lee's Summit, Missouri, dressed up like Mary for her ward's Christmas play. She likes going to church, singing Primary songs, learning about Jesus, and saying her prayers.



Westin Joseph Laing, 7, Athens, Tennessee, loves the scriptures he received for Christmas, and leads the family in daily scripture reading. He looks forward to being baptized with his papaw [grandpa].



Emma Hailey Brown, 2, Eugene, Oregon, likes to get her *Friend* in the mailbox. She enjoys going to nursery, visiting Grandma and Grandpa's house, and helping Mom with her two-month-old brother, Connor.



Named after Captain Moroni in the Book of Mormon, **Moroni John Black**, 4, Springville, Utah, is the youngest of six children. He enjoys computers, dinosaurs, and being with his dad and his brothers.



Samantha Bond-McKee, 7, Masterton, New Zealand, is a very spiritual girl who tries hard to choose the right. She loves her family, and is good at reading and writing poems. She has a pet lamb and two hens.



Kipling Hetchler, 11, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, enjoys hockey and other outdoor activities. He likes to give talks in Primary and wants to serve a mission. He attends Scouts with a nonmember friend.



Cherish Hope Brown, 10, Bridgeport, West Virginia, likes visiting temples, singing "The Articles of Faith," writing to her pen pals, roller-blading, reading historical fiction, and photographing animals.



Paul Stewart, 8, Great Falls, Montana, likes to give talks, share his testimony and the Book of Mormon with others, cuddle with his pet cat, Bambi, and help his sister read.



Marie Li Huang, 6, Plymouth, Minnesota, enjoys painting, drawing, computer games, playing in the sandbox and in snow, playing with her little sister, Katie, in cubby houses they build, and singing Primary songs.



Matthew Hacker, 8, Kingwood, Texas, loves Primary. He also enjoys riding his scooter and playing basketball and soccer.



Dakota Horlings, 5, Cardston, Alberta, Canada, lives with her nana and grampy and is loved very much. She lives close to the Spirit and likes to visit the temple grounds often. She enjoys Primary and music.



Hunter Sivley, 2, Whittier, California, will soon be three years old. His cousins—Holland, Tucker, and Cameron Seamons, welcome him to Primary by putting his picture in Friends in the News.



Rebecca Voelckers, 9, Palmyra, New York, was baptized by her brother Adam, who is now on a mission. She is thankful for living near the "cradle of the restoration." She wants to be an artist, and likes to run and jump.



Lambert Porter, 6, Gilbert, Arizona, is very good at sports. He also likes school and Primary and playing with his friend Steven. This is a surprise from his big sister Erika.



Kimberly Legones, 11, Westfield, New Jersey, loves to ride horses. She has a strong testimony. She prays for her family, for President Hinckley, and for the Church to grow so the world can become a better place.



Chandler Maguet, 7, Corbin, Kentucky, likes to read about children from around the world in Friends in the News. He likes animals and enjoys building things. His dad is teaching him and his brothers to play golf.



A compassionate girl, **Caliana J. McMurtrey**, 8, Loveland, Colorado, asked her birthday guests to bring donations to charity instead of gifts for her. She loves Jesus, her four older brothers, and school.



Tyler Erickson, 3, St. Louis, Missouri, is a "super kid." He loves Jesus, taking care of his little sister, Emma, and playing with cars. His favorite scriptures story is about Samuel the Lamanite.



Miriam Jane Johnson, 6, Vancouver, Washington, likes to ride horses all by herself. She loves her two younger brothers and wants to say hi to her grandparents serving a mission in Independence, Missouri.



Steven Williams, 5, Grass Valley, California, likes going to Primary and school. He also enjoys playing with his sister, Sheri, playing "tickle-monster" with Daddy, playing basketball, drawing, and swimming.

Wrappin' Words

By Margaret Russell

Starting with the bold letter in the upper-left corner and going clockwise, how many words can you find in the puzzle below? Each word must contain at least 3 letters, and you may not skip any letters.

B E D C O V E R S E L E C
 T T
 N R
 E I
 N A M R E P A C S Y T I C

Hink Pinks

By Wendi J. Silvano

A Hink Pink is a set of two rhyming words with the same number of syllables. Use the clues to figure out the Hink Pinks below. (Example: *hog dance* is *pig jig*.)

1. Obese feline
2. Arid insect
3. Close doe
4. Distant vehicle
5. Humid airplane
6. Phony viper
7. Insect embrace
8. Amphibian swamp
9. Grizzly gaze
10. Rodent cap



I'm going out of business because he ate the lemon.

Funstuf Answers

President Joseph F. Smith Crossword: Across—(2) faith, (5) Mary Fielding, (6) love, (7) five, (8) guard, (10) history. Down—(1) Hawaiian, (3) wagon, (4) tithing, (9) debt.

Wrappin' Words: bed, bedcover, bedcovers, cove, cover, covers, over, verse, select, elect, electric, electricity, city, cityscape, scape, cap, cape, caper, ape, aper, per, perm, permanent, man, mane, anent.

Hink Pinks: (1) fat cat, (2) dry fly, (3) near deer, (4) far car, (5) wet jet, (6) fake snake, (7) bug hug, (8) frog bog, (9) bear stare, (10) rat hat.

Refreshments: banana, bat, butterfly, candle, clock, cupcake, fork, frog, screwdriver, snail, toothbrush, turtle.

Things I Can Do to Follow the Apostles





WATCHMEN ON THE TOWER

And the voice of warning shall be unto all people, by the mouths of my disciples, whom I have chosen (Doctrine and Covenants 1:4).

By Diane Nichols



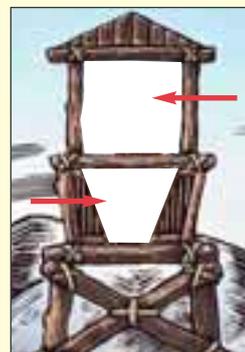
Imagine that you are standing on the top of a very tall building or a high mountain and are looking down on the city or valley below. The view from such a high spot is different from the one you would see if you were down below, isn't it? From below, you see only the things that are near to you. But when you are up high, you can see many things that are not visible from below.

In the Savior's time, farmers grew grapes in great fields called vineyards. Grapes were very valuable. Sometimes robbers would come into the vineyard to steal or destroy the crops. Wise farmers built tall towers just outside their vineyards. They would hire a trusted watchman to stand in the tower and watch for danger. From where he stood, the watchman could see things far beyond the vineyard. He had a much better view than those who were working on the ground. Because he could see so far, he could warn those below if danger was coming. The other workers would then have time to prepare to defend the vineyard.

Through the ages, Heavenly Father has given His children "watchmen." These watchmen are called prophets and apostles. They have been called by Heavenly Father to watch over His children. They are given a better view of the dangers that lie ahead of us. They warn us about how we can be prepared and defend ourselves against those dangers, including those that are sometimes hard to recognize, such as temptations and evil influences.

In The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, we are led by a prophet who is the President of the

Church, and his two counselors in the First Presidency of the Church. We also have twelve Apostles whom we sustain as prophets, seers, and revelators. They are our watchmen today. While they don't stand on a tower, they do receive direction and inspiration from Heavenly Father to know what dangers, problems, and challenges await us. They teach us how to prepare to face them as we try to keep our covenants and the commandments. If we listen to and obey their words, we can be prepared. We hear their counsel during general conference. We can also read their words in the *Friend* and the *Ensign* magazines. The prophets and apostles are our watchmen on the tower today. If we heed their words, we will be safe.



WATCHMEN ON THE TOWER

Cut pages 38 and 41 out of the magazine and glue them carefully onto heavy paper. Cut out the two windows near the top of the tower. Cut out the wheel. Attach the tower to the front of the wheel by carefully pushing a brass fastener

through the black dots on each piece. As you turn the wheel, you will see pictures of each of the current members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles in the tower's top window. Below each picture is something that that Apostle has warned us to do to protect ourselves from the evil influences of the world. List some of the things you can do to obey their counsel on the lines above the tower.

SHARING TIME IDEAS

(Note: CS = *Children's Songbook*; GAK = *Gospel Art Kit*)

1. Invite a Melchizedek Priesthood bearer from your ward or branch to portray King Benjamin. He may want to wear a simple costume over his clothes. Have him tell who King Benjamin was (a righteous Book of Mormon king who worked hard and taught his people to obey God's commandments and to serve one another), when he lived, and who his people were (see Mosiah 2–5). Have him explain about the tower King Benjamin had built so that he could speak to all his people before he died; also have him teach a few of the principles that King Benjamin taught. For example: Mosiah 2:17—when we serve others, we are serving God; Mosiah 2:20–21—we should be thankful for all that we have; Mosiah 2:22—when we keep the commandments, blessings will come; Mosiah 4:15—we should love and serve one another; Mosiah 4:16—we should care for those in need.

Divide up into classes or groups. Give each group a reference from King Benjamin's talk. Have the children look up the scripture, read it together, and discuss what they can do to follow this teaching. Invite each class to share the things they will do to follow King Benjamin. Then have them stand behind "King Benjamin" and sing the chorus of "Follow the Prophet" (CS, pp. 110–111). Repeat until the entire Primary has had a chance to "follow the prophet." Testify that blessings come into our lives when we do what the prophets have asked us to do.

2. Have the children repeat the sixth article of faith with you. Explain that in the Church we have twelve Apostles, just as Jesus Christ had when He was on the earth. They are men called by Heavenly Father to be special witnesses of Jesus Christ to all the world. Ask twelve children to hold pictures of the members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles today (library pictures 64332, 64335, 64348, 64355, 64371–64373, and 64375–64379, or use pictures from the *Ensign*, May 2001.) Have each child tell one thing about the person whose picture she or he is holding (see the information on the back of the library pictures, or for information on some of the Apostles, see the *Friend*, Aug. 1990, pp. 12–13). We sustain these men as prophets, seers, and revelators. They are "watchmen on the tower," warning us of approaching dangers and helping us to choose the right. Their counsel to us is a great treasure in our lives so that we can avoid temptations and choose the right.

Prepare a treasure hunt by cutting out several slips of paper. On each slip, write a question about one of the current members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles and then a clue as to where the next slip of paper is hidden. The last clue should lead to the most recent conference issue of the *Ensign* or *Liahona* in which you have underlined statements that apply to the children from addresses given by these Apostles. Hide the clues before Primary. Divide the children into small groups. Ask the first group a question. After they answer it, read the clue to help them find the next slip of paper. When they find it, have them ask the second group the question on the paper. When the question is answered, someone in the first group reads the clue for the second group. Repeat until each group has answered a question and discovered a slip of paper or the magazine. Have each group read a marked statement from the magazine and tell what they can do to follow that counsel. Bear your testimony about these special witnesses of Jesus Christ.

3. Prepare a quiz on prophets. Ask questions such as: "Who was the first prophet?" (Adam); "Who is the prophet and President of the Church today?" (President Gordon B. Hinckley); "Name a prophet from the Old Testament"; "Name a prophet from the Book of Mormon"; "Who wrote the Articles of Faith?" (Joseph Smith), etc. Display pictures of as many of the prophets you ask questions

about as you can find in the GAK. As the children answer each question, have them hold up the picture of that prophet. If pictures are not available, hold up the book of scriptures where that prophet's teachings are found. Each of these prophets has counseled the people in his day to do the things the Savior wants them to do. Tell how Joseph Smith was asked by a newspaper reporter what the Church believed. In response, Joseph wrote a letter. He listed thirteen basic beliefs of the Church. The Prophet's list became the Articles of Faith. Ask, "Who knows the thirteenth article of faith?" Have the children repeat it together. Joseph Smith used the teachings of another prophet, Paul in the New Testament, when he wrote, "If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy, we seek after these things" (see Philip. 4:8). Have the children tell or pantomime things that they do every day to follow the teachings found in the thirteenth article of faith (watch only appropriate television shows, read books and listen to music that is uplifting and motivates us to think and act and feel in righteous ways, etc.). Sing "Hum Your Favorite Hymn" (CS, p. 152).

4. Have the children tell you some things that the prophet has asked us to do (keep the Sabbath Day holy, read the scriptures, be a friend to others, be kinder, have family home evening, etc.). Write on the board their responses. Make several large musical notes. Write the page number of a song from the CS that will go with some of the teachings likely to be mentioned. Display the notes. Ask a child to choose one. Have the pianist play the first few notes of the song and see if the child can name the song. (His or her class may help.) Decide which teaching the song goes with and place the note on the board by the appropriate response. Sing the song, then have the child tell how they can follow the prophet's counsel.

For younger children: Give each class a piece of poster board or a large piece of paper. On the bottom of each poster, write something that the prophet has asked us to do (see above). Have each class draw something on the poster that they can do to follow that teaching. Ask the pianist to play, or listen to a tape of, Primary songs during the activity. Have each class tell about their picture and what they will do to follow the prophet. If time permits, choose a song that supports the teachings chosen by the class. Display the posters in the Primary meeting room.

5. *Musical presentation:* "Stand for the Right," (CS, p. 159). Sing the song through for the children and ask them which phrase is repeated four different times. ("Be true.") Who asks us to "be true?" ("Our prophet.") What does it mean to "be true" to something? (To be loyal and to do what is right, regardless of the circumstances.) Explain that our prophet wants us to be true to the teachings of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Have everyone sing the song again, then ask, "When should we be true?" ("At work or at play, In darkness or light?"). "When are we in darkness or light?" Have the children tell of times when they have felt that they were in darkness or light. Listen to the last phrase of the song as you all sing it through again. When do we "stand for the right?" (When we do what is right). Pass a beanbag or other small, soft object around as you all sing the song again. When the music leader holds up a "Stop" sign, ask the child holding the beanbag to tell you what they have done or can do to stand for the right. Provide help for the child, as needed. Repeat several times. Testify that great blessings come as we follow the prophet and are true to the teachings of the Savior.

6. Additional *Friend* resources: "The Calling of the Twelve" (May 1995, pp. 48–IBC), "Benjamin: Nephite Prophet-King" (Apr. 1996, pp. 48–IBC), "Moroni: Last and Lone Nephite Prophet" (Sep. 1996, pp. 48–IBC), "Daniel's Choice" (Mar. 1997, p. 28), "Choose Like Daniel" (Mar. 1997, p. 29).

WATCHMEN ON THE TOWER

(See page 39 for instructions.)



Elder Henry B. Eyring

President Boyd K. Packer

Elder Jeffrey R. Holland

Elder L. Tom Perry

Elder David B. Haight

Elder Neal A. Maxwell

Elder Russell M. Nelson

Elder Dallin H. Oaks

Elder M. Russell Ballard

Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin

Elder Richard G. Scott

Elder Robert D. Hales

Keep trying.

Study the scriptures and the words of the living prophets.

Follow the promptings of the Spirit.

Place a high priority on family home evening.

Use your time wisely.

Learn to serve and to forgive others.

Obey God's commandments.

Follow the Church leaders.

Be an example.

Trust in Heavenly Father.

Know Christ that Jesus loves you.

Pray daily.



Put your trust in that Spirit which leadeth to . . . judge righteously; and this is my Spirit (Doctrine and Covenants 11:12).

Changing the Channel



By Trace Williamson

Three of us were at another friend's house, playing and watching television. A show came on that I was not allowed to watch. I watched for a few minutes, but I got a sick feeling inside. I wanted to be like my friends, so I tried to ignore the feeling. But the longer I watched, the worse I felt.

When I finally got up the courage and told them that I couldn't watch the show, a funny thing happened. Two of my other friends said, "Oh, yeah, we can't watch it, either." The fourth friend got really mad and ran and locked himself in the bathroom. The three of us changed the channel and waited for him to cool off.

When I went home, I told my mom what had happened. She said that she was really proud of me because it must have been a hard thing to do, especially when I knew that my friend would be mad. She told me that the sick feeling I had had inside was the Holy Ghost trying to remind me to choose the right.

I'm glad that I stood up for what was right, because it helped my friends do the same. Even better than that, it got rid of the sick feeling inside me!

*Trace Williamson, age 10
Lakeside 14th Ward
Provo Utah West Stake*



*'Tis love we get when love we bring
(Children's Songbook, page 139).*

Being a Friend Made a Friend

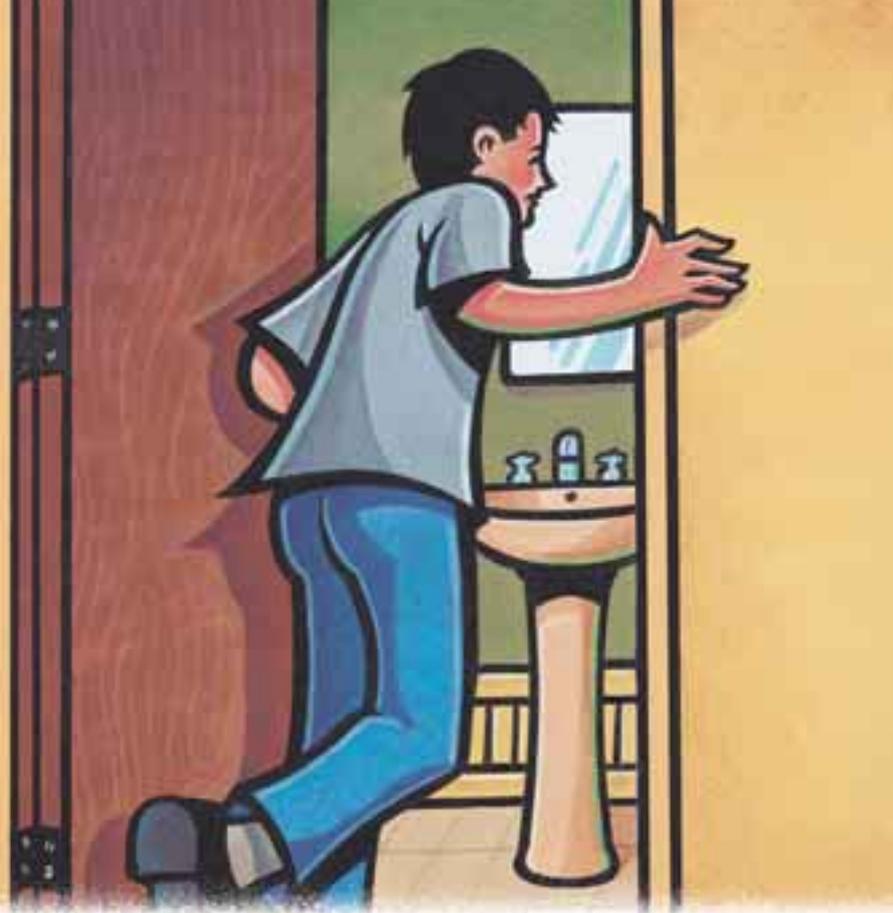


By Logan Seidel

When I was in first grade, nobody was playing with Jack,* so I decided to play with him. The first time we played together, we played firemen, because that's what he wants to be when he grows up. I want to be an inventor—Jack's going to help me, of course. The next time we played together, Jack brought his football to school and we played with it at recess. Ever since then, we've played together at recess and after school. We are still good friends, even though other kids don't play with him. They laugh at him when he talks, and some don't want to sit by him at lunch. But Jack is a good friend and a very smart boy. I'm glad I can be his friend.

*Logan Seidel, age 9
Kokomo Ward
Lafayette Indiana Stake*

*Name has been changed.



*Ev'ry one is needed For just what he can do
(Children's Songbook, page 142).*

Helping My Brother

By Amy Roth



My brother Joseph had a stroke when he was a baby. He is really special. At school, he follows me, and I watch so that no one pushes him down. Then I walk him down the stairs to his class-

room. The kids in his classroom help him out, too. He can't read yet. He can count to about seven or eight. He doesn't really know the alphabet. He needs help opening some things, so I open them. I help him a lot because I love him.

*Joseph and Amy Roth, ages 4 and 8
Logansport Ward
Lafayette Indiana Stake*

Remember . . . kindness (Doctrine and Covenants 4:6).

Hospital Balloon

By Bria Felt



My mom took my sister and me to the hospital, to a class where we learned about how to help take care of our new baby brother when he is born. In the corner were a lot

of balloons that were going to be given to us at the end of the class. I saw a cute mouse balloon that I really wanted, so when it was time to get balloons, I hurried fast so that I could choose that one. And I got it! I was very happy.

Then I saw a little girl who was crying. I thought that maybe she was sad because she didn't get the balloon she wanted. I asked her if she wanted my balloon. She said she didn't. (I think maybe she was too shy to take it.) My mom saw what I had done and told me that she was proud of me. I felt good inside because I went to see if the girl wanted my balloon. I know that Heavenly Father saw me, too. I am trying hard each day to be kind and to do things that Jesus would do.

*Bria Felt, age 6
Heatheridge Seventh Ward
Orem Utah Heatheridge Stake*

Our Creative Friends

A Testimony

A testimony's great,
And everyone knows why—
Because you feel a special part
Of Heavenly Father's loving heart
And why He sent His Son to die
On Calvary's Hill, up so high.

A testimony gives us
A special kind of love
That tells us we're special,
Right from our home up above.
Heavenly Father loves us—
That's why we're all here
To have the Holy Ghost with us
To tell us that He's near.

Our Heavenly Father loves us
Each and every day—
At home, at work,
At school, or play.
That's why He gave us testimonies—
To share that light with others
So they can feel that loving warmth
That comes from our loving Father.

*Melissa Brienne Whitley, age 10
Carrollton, Texas*

I Used to Live in Heaven

I used to live in Heaven a long time ago,
And I could see earth far down below.
We came here to be tested, both you and me,
And Christ died on the cross to help us see
That if we had enough faith to keep going strong,
And if we had enough courage to keep going on,
We'll make it to heaven someday,
No matter what stands in our way.
Christ will always love you, it's true.
After all, He created the earth just for you!

*Emma Nielson, age 11
Leamington, Utah*

Tithing

We've got to pay our tithing today,
For today is Sunday.
And don't be afraid to pay.
Don't argue with your mother
That it's a waste of money.
When you do that,
You can feel it in your tummy.
And don't think of running away.
You should pay your tithing today.
And don't hide your money under your bed.
And don't be afraid to pay.
And don't be afraid to say,
"Pay your tithing."
PAY YOUR TITHING TODAY!

*Jonathan Harper, age 6
Salt Lake City, Utah*



*Elli Mulcock, age 9
Logandale, Nevada*



*Noah Olsen, Dallin Geisbrecht, and
Caidan Phinney, age 5
Maple Ridge and Chilliwack, British
Columbia, Canada*



*Hayden Mitchell, age 9
Adelaide, Australia*



*Beth Lott, age 11
Jerome, Idaho*



*Tyler Bean, age 9
Moore, Oklahoma*



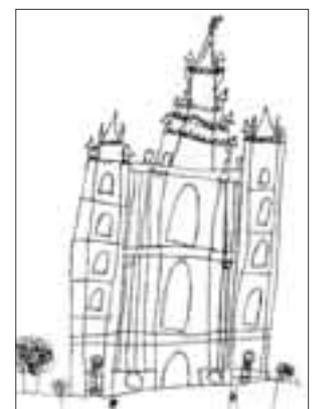
*Lindsey Bishop, age 2
Salt Lake City, Utah*



*Brooke Steel, age 11
Garden City, Kansas*



*Randi Blankenfeld, age 4
Cle Elum, Washington*



*Keithsran Khem, age 7
Weatherford, Texas*

How Can You Explain the Brain?

How can you explain the brain?
 Well, let me show you with a few refrains:
 The brain is a tissue that helps me miss you.
 It looks like worms all clumped up.
 When you see it, you'll be all shook up.
 It's connected to the spinal cord.
 The cerebrum, cerebellum, and brain stem
 Are the main parts. I thank the Lord.
 I use the cortex when I think.
 It works faster than I can blink.
 Scientists use their left side;
 Musicians use their right.
 Whichever side you go for,
 The brain is out of sight.

*Melody Henderson, age 9
 Cleburne, Texas*



*Jenna Hall, age 10
 Barrhead, Alberta, Canada*



*Stockton Fisher, age 5
 Bountiful, Utah*

The Polar Bear

The polar bear with lots of white,
 Slowly, calmly, walks the night,
 Breaks the ice, eats a seal
 For a nice, full, generous meal,
 Buries all he couldn't eat,
 Then walks home on furry feet,
 Finishes his walk with a small, little leap,
 Lies down,
 And goes to sleep.

*Katrin Yount, age 10
 Joyce, Washington*



*Kristen Oda, age 8
 Brunswick, Ohio*



*William Jensen, age 10
 Galway, Ireland*



*Megan Christensen, age 9
 Pendleton, Oregon*

Friendship

Born from a single smile,
 Leaped from a heart,
 Made from differences,
 Frosted with similarities,
 Blossomed by trials,
 Tied together by words and actions,
 A single wall against the tides.

*Anne Paullin, age 12
 Santa Barbara, California*



*Ali Pennock, age 7
 Bath, England*



*Joel Johnson, age 6
 North Platte, Nebraska*

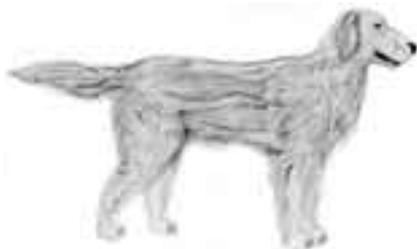


*Logan Speranza, age 8
 Ellsworth, Maine*

Moonlight

I love the moon,
 And I love the light.
 This special night
 Is for the moonlight.

*Carly Laidlaw, age 7
 Murray, Utah*



*Derek Owens, age 12
 Orlando, Florida*



*Izra N. Manantan, age 5
 Pasig City, Philippines*



*David A. Maness, age 10
 Woodbridge, Virginia*

MAKING FRIENDS

LEE, CHAN OK*

Lee, Chan Ok (7) lives in the sky—twenty-three stories high in one of hundreds of apartment buildings that rise in clusters above her immense city. Seoul is the capital of the Republic of Korea and home to some twelve million people. From her balcony, Chan Ok has a wide view but still sees only a small part of the city she loves.

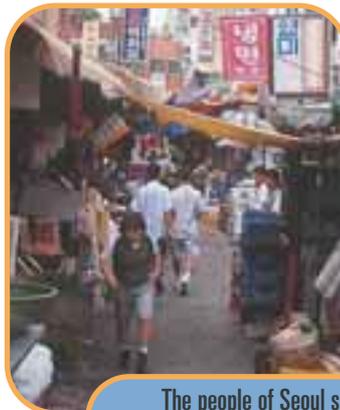
Seoul offers the best of the old and new. Skyscraping office buildings cast long shadows over the serene palaces of past dynasties (a series of rulers of the same family), and five gates still stand in a city wall built in the fourteenth century.

Most people here wear western clothing, but they also own the traditional and beautiful *hanbok* and gladly don it for wedding celebrations, festivals, and other special occasions. Food can be bought in modern stores, prepackaged and shrink-wrapped, or it can be purchased in sprawling outdoor markets where the aroma of fish, spices, fruit, and a thousand other delights mingle in the air.



of Seoul, Republic of Korea

*Written and
photographed by
Melvin Leavitt*



The people of Seoul shop in traditional marketplaces as well as in modern supermarkets.

Koreans love good food and are wonderful cooks. Rice is served at most meals, with a great variety of tasty side dishes, including fish, noodles, dumplings, soup, and barbecued beef. Many of these dishes feature seasonal vegetables and are flavored with pepper. Perhaps the favorite food is kimchee, a spicy pickled cabbage that is beloved of Koreans.

The evening meal is an important family time for the Lees. They usually eat at a low table while sitting on the floor, each with a bowl of rice. They use metal chopsticks and add side dishes to their rice from serving bowls in the middle of the table. Chan Ok has no assigned chores, but she eagerly helps her mother prepare meals and do other tasks.

Though Seoul is crowded, it has saved space for many beautiful parks as well as museums, gardens, and shrines. The storied River Han runs through the city, spanned by twenty bridges. One “bridge,” however, is not near the river. The Seoul South Korea Temple spans

*In Korea, people put their last names first, then a comma, then their given names.

the gap between heaven and earth, and Chan Ok loves to see it.

Seoul's twelve million residents are largely unknown to each other except as a sea of nameless faces. But Chan Ok knows something that brings the cold numbers to life—every one of this vast throng is a child of Heavenly Father, well known and deeply loved by Him.

She is certain that Heavenly Father knows *her*, too. She can believe that, knowing everything, He knows that she likes to sing along with her favorite artists on the radio and television, and dance in front of the mirror. That she won an award for a dance she performed at a stake talent night. That she likes to help her mother cook and enjoys setting the table with chopsticks and spoons. That her favorite snack is *ta po ke*, a spicy concoction of rice cake with vegetables and hot pepper sauce.

She can believe that He knows that she wants to be a singer or a nurse when she grows up and that her mother doesn't want her to be a singer because she would face bad influences and have to work on Sunday. That her very favorite song isn't one of the popular tunes she enjoys but "I Am Like a Star Shining Brightly." That her favorite subject in school is Korean and that her least favorite is maths. That she is a good listener who senses when her brother, Chan Joon (11), or one of her sisters, Mesun (15) or Jin Sook (12), is lonely.

Knowing that everyone is known by Heavenly Father, Chan Ok goes about her life, confident of her own worth and the worth of others. She has many friends at school, which she can see from the windows of her apartment. She attends school six days a week and studies two or three hours at home each evening. Her teachers like her

The Lee family enjoys eating together.



because she volunteers to run errands or do other tasks for them. In Korean schools, the students themselves clean the classrooms and bathrooms at the end of the day. Some do this grudgingly, but Chan Ok pitches in enthusiastically and does not stop till the room is spotless.

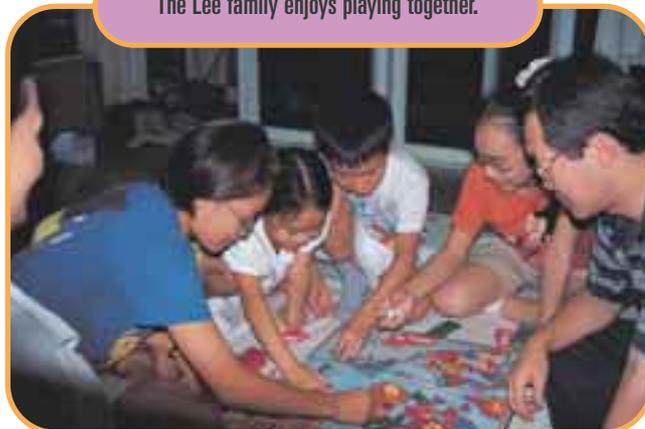
When asked if there was anything she would like to say to the children of the world, Chan Ok replied, "I'd like to meet them all in person and tell them that God lives. I want to give them my love and introduce them to my family."

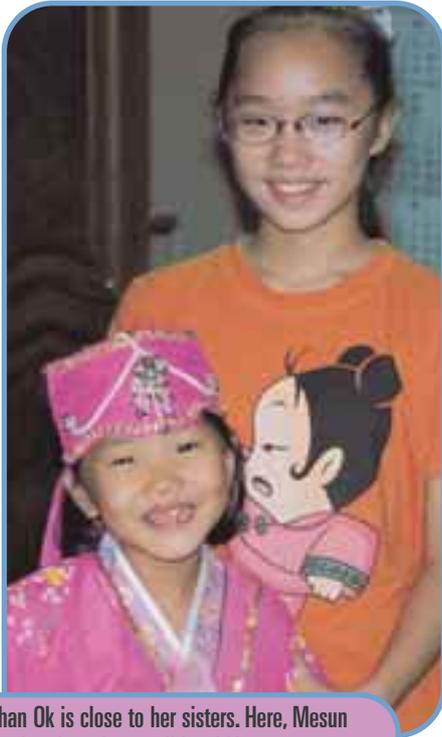
She shares a room with her sisters, and they sometimes help her style her hair and choose clothes. They are good friends, and she looks up to them and

admires their achievements. Mesun, for example, is a gifted diver who has won international recognition in her age group.

Jin Sook speaks English and is a talented singer and a very eager reader of books. She has stayed in close

The Lee family enjoys playing together.





Chan Ok is close to her sisters. Here, Mesun helps her dress in a traditional Korean costume.

touch with all her teachers.

Chan Joon is a computer whiz and Chan Ok's personal computer tutor. He also likes baseball and soccer and has many friends. Sometimes he and Chan Ok have wrestling contests.

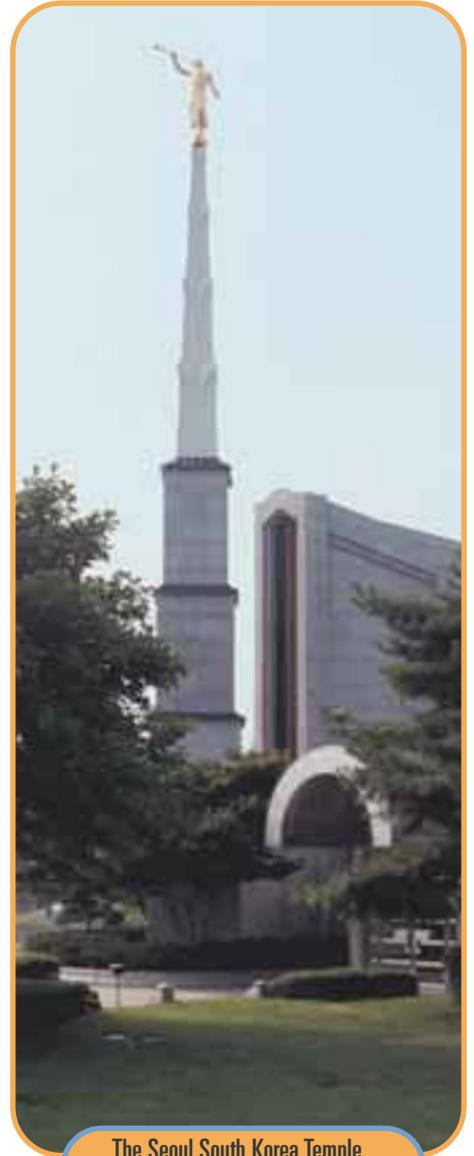
Chan Ok feels great love for her grandparents. When her grandfather was seriously ill, it was she who suggested a family prayer. She also loves her parents. She likes to give her mom hugs and sit on her dad's lap in the evening. She often writes notes to her parents expressing love or appreciation. One said simply, "Mom, Dad, thank you."

They return the love. "Her very existence makes our family happier," Brother Lee explains.

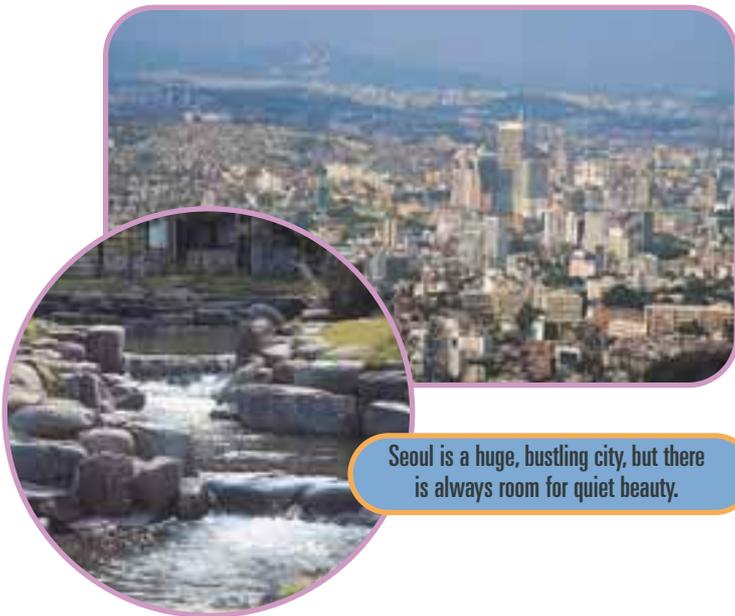
Sister Lee agrees. "I'm so grateful to the Lord for giving her to us. My love for her grows every year."

Korea is known as "The Land of the Morning Calm," but it hasn't always been calm. The Republic of Korea, or South Korea as it is usually called, has been half of a divided country since World War II. In 1950 it was invaded by North Korea, known officially as the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. There followed a horrible three-year war that destroyed much of Seoul. It has since been rebuilt into a modern city. There is still tension between the north and south, but everyone hopes that someday the two Koreas can be peacefully reunited.

That day may be hastened by people like Chan Ok and her family, people who realize that Heavenly Father knows and loves everyone, whether they live in the north, the south, the east, or the west. Or twenty-three stories straight up in the Land of the Morning Calm.



The Seoul South Korea Temple links time and eternity.



Seoul is a huge, bustling city, but there is always room for quiet beauty.

Guide to the *Friend*

The Guide to the *Friend* can help you find stories or articles for preparing lessons or talks for church or for family home evening. Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned in the Family Home Evening Ideas. The Primary theme for August is: “Heavenly Father sends Prophets to warn and teach His children.”



FAMILY HOME EVENING IDEAS

1. Read “Ruining the Backyard Grass” (pages 4–6), including the quote from President Spencer W. Kimball. Discuss how you can learn what President Gordon B. Hinckley has counseled you to do. Talk about how important it is for you to follow the prophet.
2. Invite a family member to tell the story “Baby-sitting Job” (pages 10–12). Included on these pages is a principle our prophet today says we should live. What is it? How can each family member do it?
3. Tell the story of King Benjamin in “Prophets Teach and Warn” (pages 18–19). Make the “Watchmen on the Tower” wheel (pages 38–39 and 41), choose one or two of the things the Apostles suggest you do, and concentrate on doing them during the coming week.
4. Together read “Joseph F. Smith, a Man at Age Eight” (pages 32–33), and then do the “President Joseph F. Smith

Crossword” (page 26). President Smith tried to do right all his life. Invite each family member to tell about something good, kind, or brave that he or she has seen one of your family members do.

5. Invite your father or an older brother to present the information in “He Takes Care of His Church” (pages 34–35). Talk about how important it is to sustain the prophet and what it should mean in how you live each day.

6. Make some “Hand-tossed Ice Cream” (page 27) for refreshments. While you eat the ice cream, do the “Refreshments” activity (page 31) together.

See pages 4–6.



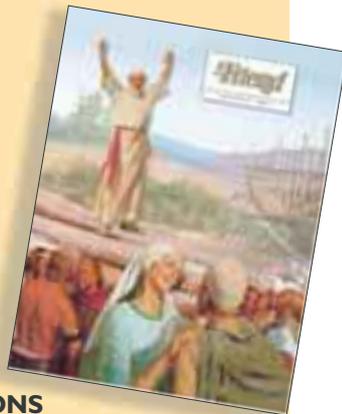
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- (f) = Funstuf
- (FLF) = For Little Friends
- (m) = music
- (p) = poem
- (P) = poster
- (r) = rebus

MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSIONS

The *Friend* welcomes unsolicited manuscripts but is not responsible for them. Rejected manuscripts will not be returned unless a stamped, addressed envelope is enclosed. Send manuscripts to *Friend Magazine*, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3226. Send e-mail to cur-editorial-Friend@LDSChurch.org.

Send children’s submissions to *Friend Magazine*, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3226, in care of the appropriate department—**Our Creative Friends, Friends in the News, Childviews, Trying to Be Like Jesus Christ.**



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*Noah was a prophet called to preach the word,
Tried to cry repentance, but nobody heard.
They were busy sinning—Noah preached in vain.
They wished they had listened when they saw the rain.*

(Children's Songbook, page 111.)