

the Friend

AUGUST • 2003





I Am Taught the Gospel



A girl in my class at school said that she had to follow her family and get her belly button pierced. A boy in my class said that he was going

to get his ear, nose, and tongue pierced. I know the prophet told us not to do things like that. My mom said that I am blessed because I am taught the gospel. I think so, too.

Emma Allen, age 8
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

My Prayer Goal



Last year, I decided to make a goal of saying my prayers every night. For a couple of nights, it was hard to remember to do it. Then I decided that I needed help to remember

to say my prayers. So I prayed to Heavenly Father and told Him about my goal. I asked if He would help me remember to do it each night. And it worked! If I forgot and got into bed without praying, I felt like something was wrong or something was missing. The Holy Ghost helped me every night to reach my goal. My mom and dad were surprised and happy to find out about what I had accomplished. We had a family home evening about goals, and now everyone in my family is working on something!

Jackson Barney, age 9
Orem, Utah

Baby Sister



I prayed for two years for a baby sister. I was the only child in my family. One morning, Mom had to go to the

hospital because of pains in her side. Later that day, when we went to pick her up, she handed us a picture. She was going to have a baby. I was so excited that I screamed with happiness. My daddy cried, and Mom hugged us.

My mom was sure that the baby would be a boy, but when she had another ultrasound, the lady at the hospital said, "It's a girl." My mom was shocked. I wasn't. Heavenly Father told me through the Holy Ghost that I would have a sister. I love my sister.

I have a lot of faith. I know Heavenly Father hears my prayers.

Mariah Hamilton, age 7, with her baby sister, Lydie
Cross City, Florida

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Cover photo by John Luke. *Cover note:* Zion's Boy and Zion's Girl patches were used in the Primary from 1928 to 1948.

the friend

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

HIDDEN CTR RING

One way to honor
Heavenly Father and
Jesus Christ is to
always use Their names
reverently. As you look for
the picture of a CTR ring
hidden in this issue of the
Friend, resolve to do this
no matter what those
around you are doing.



Come Listen to
a Prophet's Voice

Faith Lights the Way

BY PRESIDENT GORDON B. HINCKLEY



As a young man, President Gordon B. Hinckley rode trains that hurtled through narrow mountain passes at night. It helped him understand how the light of faith can guide us through dark times of discouragement.

As each man or woman walks the way of life there may come dark seasons of doubt, of discouragement, of disillusionment. A few see ahead by the light of faith, but many stumble along in the darkness and even become lost.

My call to you is a call to faith, that faith which “is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (Hebrews 11:1), as Paul described it.

Long ago I worked for one of the railroads whose tracks threaded the passes through these western mountains. I frequently rode the trains. It was in the days when there were steam locomotives. Those great monsters of the rails were huge and fast and dangerous. I often wondered how the engineer dared the long journey through the night. Then I came to realize that it was not one long journey, but rather a constant continuation of a short journey. The engine had a powerful headlight that made bright the way for a

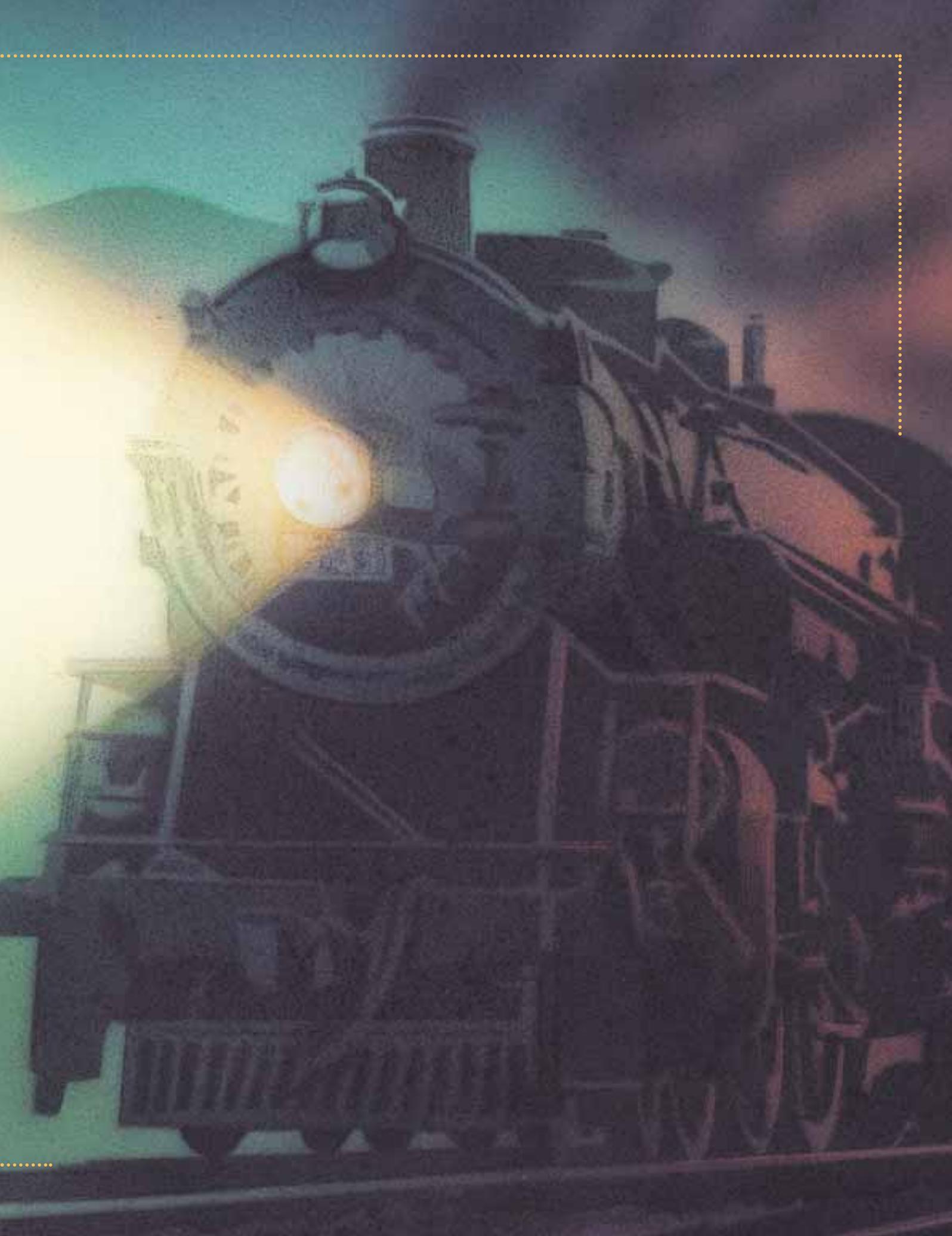
distance of 400 or 500 yards (350 to 450 m). The engineer saw only that distance, and that was enough, because it was constantly before him all through the night into the dawn of the new day.

The Lord has spoken of this process. He said: “That which doth not edify [teach] is not of God, and is darkness.

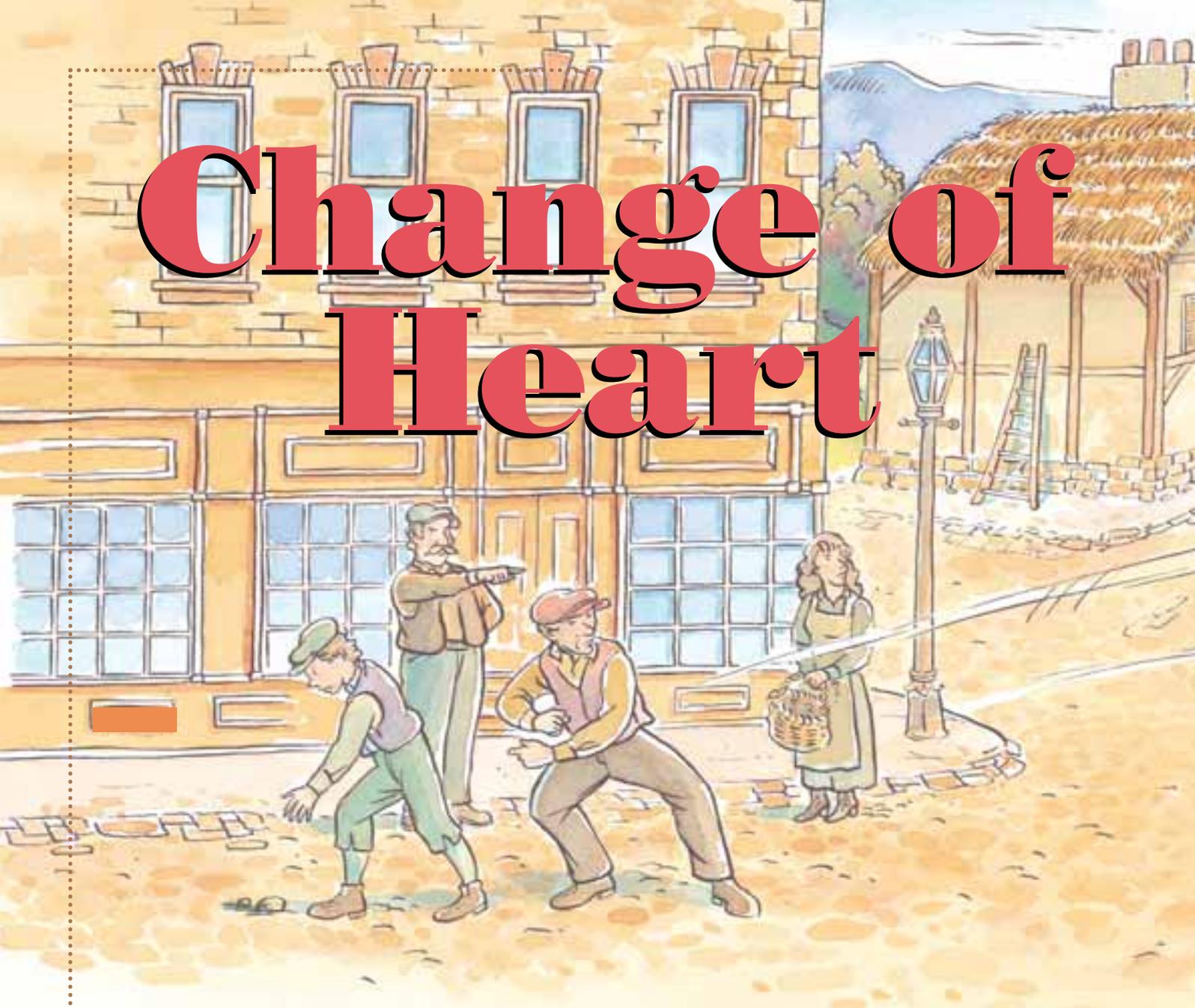
“That which is of God is light; and he that receiveth light, and continueth in God, receiveth more light; and that light groweth brighter and brighter until the perfect day” (D&C 50:23–24).

And so it is with our eternal journey. We take one step at a time. In doing so we reach toward the unknown, but faith lights the way. If we will cultivate that faith, we shall never walk in darkness. ●

From an April 2002 general conference address.



Change of Heart



BY DENISE PAGE

(Based on the history of the author's great-grandmother and the autobiography of Richard Isaac Mills Sr., the Isaac in the story; the words of the hymn they sang were written by John Ernest Bode in 1868.)

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution . . . ? Nay, in all these things we are . . . conquerors through him that loved us (Romans 8:35, 37).

The clock struck nine. Flora watched her father thumb through the Bible's pages to find his place. Elder Roberts, who had been teaching them about the Church, laid down the saddlebag he was mending. Flora's sister, Matilda, set aside her needlework to listen to Father read: " 'Fear thou not; for I am

with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee' " (Isaiah 41:10).

"Amen," Elder Roberts said as Father finished reading.

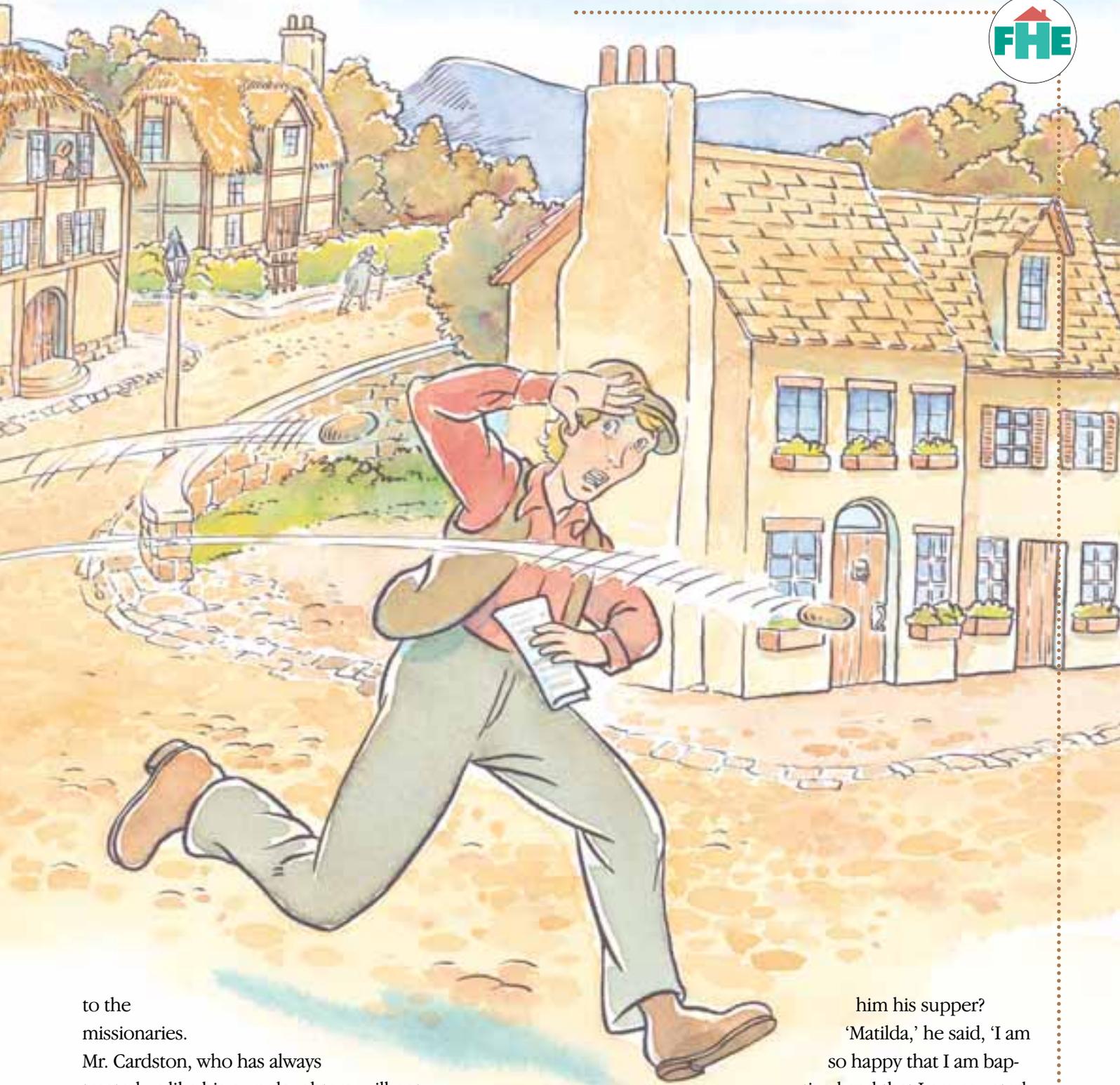
"Now, Elder Roberts, would you read from the Book of Mormon?" Father asked.

Elder Roberts opened the well-worn Book of Mormon. He cleared his throat and began, " 'Now this is the commandment: Repent . . . and come unto me and be baptized in my name' " (3 Nephi 27:20).

Flora leaned closer to Matilda and whispered, "You can be baptized if you like, but I never will."

"Why not, Flora?"

"Just look what has happened to us for even listening



to the missionaries.

Mr. Cardston, who has always treated us like his own daughters, will not speak to us. He won't let Amy and Gertrude associate with us."

"It is hard."

"But that isn't the worst of it. Think of Isaac, driven from the street with stones. He was almost killed just for passing out pamphlets about the gospel."

"But do you know what he whispered to me as I fed

him his supper? 'Matilda,' he said, 'I am so happy that I am baptized and that I am counted worthy to hold the office of a deacon in the Church and kingdom of God.'

"Well, you can be baptized like Isaac and Father, but I shall not," Flora declared firmly.

"Daughters," Father said, "please say good night to Isaac before going to bed."

"Yes, Father," the girls chimed.

Isaac's arms and face were black and blue with bruises. He moaned a little as he attempted to roll onto his side, but he forced a partial smile when he saw his sisters in the doorway.

"Oh, Isaac!" Flora exclaimed. "How can you stand what they have done to you?"

"There, there, Flora. I'll mend in no time. You'll see."

"Weren't you frightened when they began stoning you?"

"Yes, little one, my knees trembled, yet I did my best to magnify my office and calling."

"You are so brave, Isaac."

"It isn't bravery—just love, Flora. My whole being is filled with the love of Christ. I even love those who threw the stones today."

"How can you love people who were trying to hurt you?"

Matilda said, "I think I understand what you mean, Isaac." She kissed his forehead on a spot that wasn't bruised.

"Are you girls going to be baptized?" he asked.

"Yes, I am—this Sunday, in the Matlock Baths."

Matilda's face was radiant.

"No, Isaac." Flora sighed. "I just can't."

"Is it because you don't know if the Church is true?"

"I know it's true. When I read the Book of Mormon, my whole mind seemed filled with light. But I just can't be baptized."

"Why not, little one?"

"All my friends will turn away from me. And Father said that if we all join, we will sell everything and go to America. How can I part with everything and everyone that I love and hold dear? I'm afraid, Isaac."

"That is to be expected. You pray and let God guide you."

On Sunday, Flora was happy that Isaac, although still weak, joined her and Matilda as they made their way to where Matilda would be baptized. At first, the neighbors silently watched them. Then some began to shout horrible lies about the Church.

Flora's stomach churned with fear. If only Father were with them! He had gone earlier with Elder Roberts to prepare for the baptism. She glanced at Isaac's blanched face, perspiring from the effort of walking. He looked close to collapsing.

"This is as far as you go," spoke a harsh voice. "There will not be any of this Mormon baptizing done today."

Flora eyed the crowd that was closing in around them. She shuddered as she looked into their faces. Former friends now seemed like strangers, their faces dark with anger. Flora winced as a stone hit her ankle. "Let's stone them!" someone shouted.

"Heavenly Father, I am so afraid. Please guide and strengthen me," Flora prayed. Peace and love filled her heart, and she felt stronger. Was the Holy Ghost with her? She felt that He was.



“Do not be afraid,” Flora said. Her voice, clear and steady, easily reached the back of the crowd. “We are your neighbors, and we love you. We wish to show our love for Heavenly Father this day by being baptized in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ.”

An old woman shook her cane at the crowd. “They’re just children,” she said. “Let them alone. You should all be ashamed of yourselves.”

Flora held her breath as she listened to the angry crowd murmur. “Come now,” a man growled. “Beatrice is right. These children haven’t done us any harm.” The crowd slowly scattered.

“Who is the brave one now?” Isaac whispered. He smiled, and Flora knew he was pleased with her.

“Flora, did I hear you say ‘we’ are to be baptized?” Matilda asked.

“Yes, I said ‘we.’ You and I are going to be baptized today.” Flora linked her arm with Matilda’s.

So Matilda and Flora were baptized at the Matlock Baths. Afterward, they sang:

“ ‘O Jesus, I have promised To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me, my Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle If Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway If Thou wilt be my
guide.’ ” ●



“Everyone is invited to come and repent and be baptized. . . .

“Despite opposition, the Church will flourish; and despite persecution, it will grow.”

**President Boyd K. Packer
Acting President of
the Quorum of the
Twelve Apostles
From an April 2000
general conference
address.**

Friend to
Friend

Be Kind

And be ye kind one to another (Ephesians 4:32).

I grew up in Provo, Utah. My grandpa had a 60-acre farm, where he grew hay, corn, wheat, tomatoes, and other vegetables. He also had cows, pigs, and horses. My dad, my Uncle Stan, and I helped Grandpa on his farm. When it was time to gather the hay, I stood in the wagon and tromped down the hay as my dad, uncle, and grandpa loaded it into the wagon. When I helped do the milking, my grandpa sometimes gave me a squirt of milk straight from the cow.

My grandpa was not a member of the Church, but he taught me to be fair and honest with everyone. I remember being in the field with him when storm clouds quickly came up. Grandpa unhooked the horses from the wagon so that they could run back to the barn. Then he and I got under the wagon. As we lay there, waiting for the storm to pass, my grandpa told me all about his parents and brothers and sisters.

I was five years old when World War II started, and I made many small model airplanes. I dreamed of flying airplanes. When I grew up, my dream came true. In high school I joined the Utah National Guard. Then I went to the Air Force Academy and became a pilot. Eventually I became a four-star



From an interview with Elder Robert C. Oaks of the Seventy, currently serving as President of the Africa Southeast Area; by Jan Pinborough

general and the commander of United States Air Forces in Europe.

During my years in the military, I took many classes about how to be a good leader. But the most important lessons I ever learned about leadership were from my mother, who taught me how to treat people. As she washed dishes and I dried them, we talked. She taught me to always treat people kindly and to treat them all equally. This is what it means to be a good leader—treating others kindly and honestly.

She also taught me a poem about friends. It is called “Two Little Boys,”* and I have taught it to my own children. It tells about two good friends. One day, when they were riding their stick horses, one boy’s horse broke. His friend invited him to share his own stick horse, saying, “Did you think I would leave you crying when there’s room on my horse for two?” When the two little boys grew up, they became soldiers. The boy who once shared his stick horse was hurt on the battlefield, and his friend rescued him, carrying him to safety on *his* horse.

It is easier to treat people kindly if we always look for the good in them. One of my favorite scriptures says, “Let virtue garnish thy thoughts unceasingly; then shall thy confidence wax strong in the presence of God” (D&C 121:45). *Virtue* is everything good, so this scripture means that we should always think about the good things in people and in situations. When you think about the good things that are in other people, instead of thinking about what they lack, you will find it easier to love them.

We should treat all of our friends kindly, but especially the members of our own families. Two of our sons are 18 months apart, and they have always been best

friends. They did almost everything together when they were growing up. In every photograph we have of them, one has his arm around the other. Heavenly Father has given us mothers and fathers to teach us and brothers and sisters to learn from, but most of all to love. Our families are our greatest treasures. We should treat them in a special way because they are going to be our eternal friends. ●



1. At age 10 (standing) with his parents, Ann and Charles, and his brother Richard

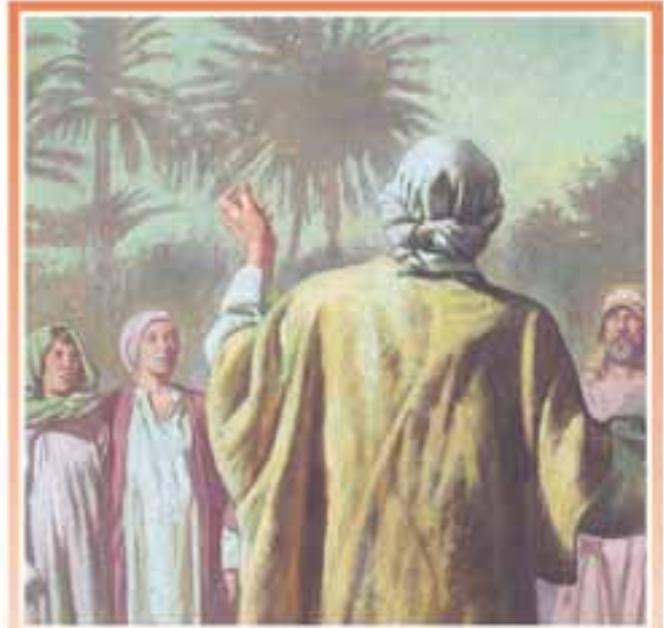
2. With his wife, Gloria, and his son Barton after flying a B-52 mission with Barton

3. With his wife, Gloria, at the Air Force Academy

*Author unknown, see *American Ballads and Songs* (1972/1922), 45.

SIMON AND THE PRIESTHOOD

Chapter 57



Many people in Samaria heard and believed the gospel and were baptized. But they did not have the Holy Ghost.

Acts 8:5, 12–16



Peter and John went to Samaria. They laid their hands on the people's heads and gave them the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 8:14–17



A man named Simon saw Peter and John give people the gift of the Holy Ghost, and Simon knew that the two Apostles had the power of the priesthood. He wanted the power of the priesthood too.

Acts 8:18–19

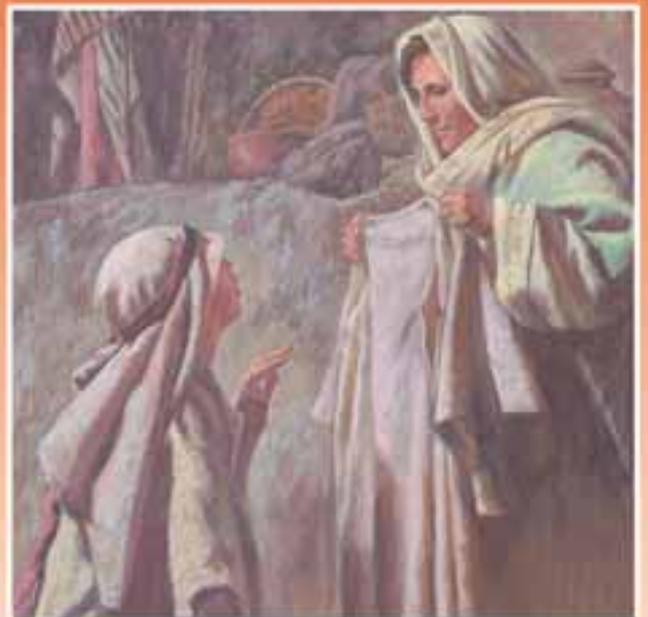


He asked them if he could buy it. Peter told Simon that no one can buy the priesthood, that God gives it only to righteous men. Peter knew that Simon was not righteous and told him to repent.

Acts 8:18–24

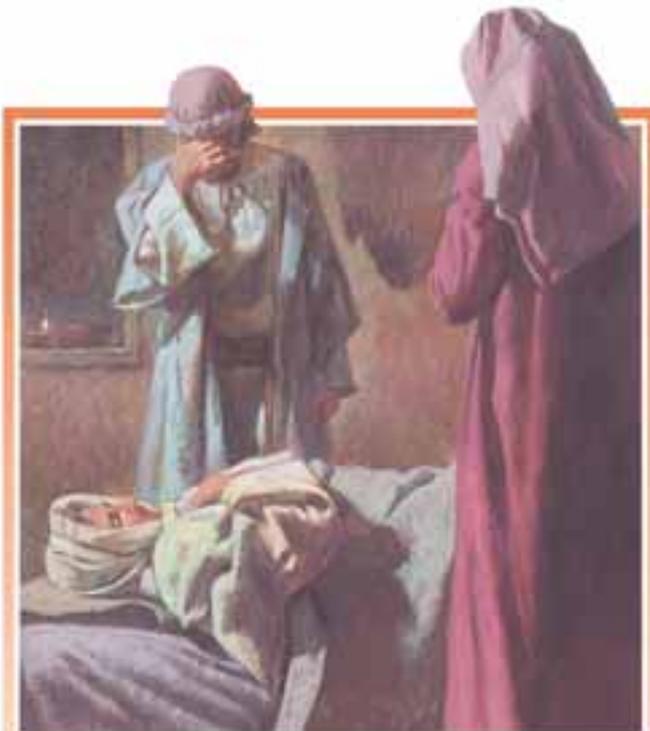
PETER BRINGS TABITHA BACK TO LIFE

Chapter 58



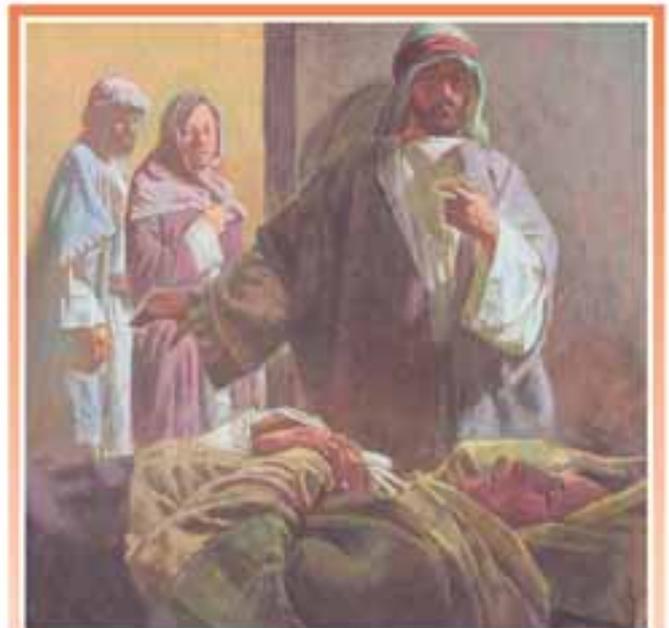
A good woman named Tabitha lived in the city of Joppa. She was a follower of Jesus Christ. She helped many people and did many good things.

Acts 9:36



One day she became sick and died.

Acts 9:37



Her friends sent for Peter to come. He asked Tabitha's friends to leave the room.

Acts 9:38-40



He knelt and prayed, then told her to stand up. She opened her eyes, saw Peter, then sat up.

Acts 9:40

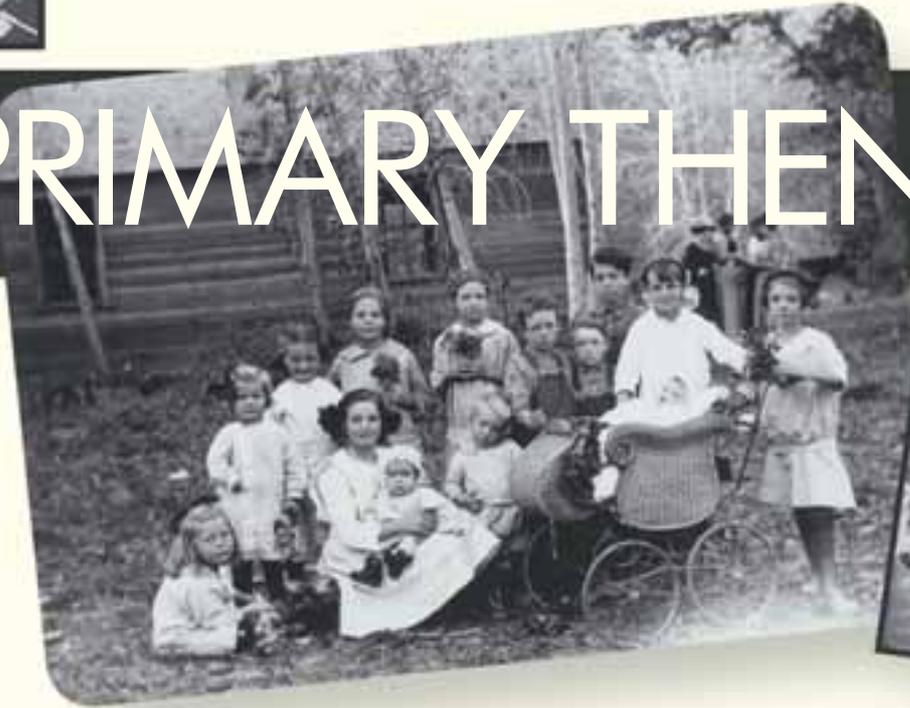


Peter helped her stand. Then her friends came back into the room and saw her alive. Peter had used the power and authority of the priesthood given to him by Jesus to perform the miracle of bringing Tabitha back to life. Many people in Joppa believed in Jesus Christ after they learned what had happened to Tabitha.

Acts 9:41-42



PRIMARY THEN AND



Wherever in the world that you may be, Oh, come with me to Primary (Children's Songbook, 255).

BY CHRISTINE RAPPLEYE

Remember your first day of Primary? It was probably on a Sunday while your parents were in Sunday School, Relief Society, or priesthood meeting. How old were you? Where was Primary held? What did you learn? Did you sing songs and have a lesson?

The very first Primary meeting was held in Farmington, Utah, on 25 August 1878. Sister Aurelia Spencer Rogers wanted to help boys learn how to behave and become good men. She spoke with Sister Eliza R. Snow, the Relief Society general president, about starting a Primary in her ward. Sister Snow

received permission from Church President John Taylor for Sister Rogers to hold the first Primary. They decided girls should attend too.

A few days before the first meeting, Sister Rogers and her counselors visited every family in their ward to invite all the children ages 4 to 14 to Primary. There were more than 200 boys and girls—that was a lot of children!

On the first day, 224 children came. The leaders taught songs and poems, recited Bible stories, and taught lessons on good behavior. Some boys had gone into gardens that did not belong to them, and

some girls had been seen hanging on to wagons. Primary leaders taught that these behaviors were wrong or dangerous.

After the first meeting, Sister Eliza R. Snow organized Primaries in several communities. Many met in one-room schoolhouses or ward buildings. Some had 50 or 60 children; others had more than 100. Imagine having that many children in your Primary class!

During the first few years, some of the Primaries made handwritten newspapers, some organized musical bands, and others had fund-raisers, such as fairs. The money from the fund-raisers helped needy children and other Church members and provided furniture for temples.

Later the Primary started a children's hospital, published a

NOW



magazine, and put on a radio program and a television show.

Over the years, Primaries were set up in many parts of the world. In some places, home Primaries were organized because ward or branch members lived too far from each other to meet at the church during the week.

In the early 1900s, Primaries were divided into classes by age groups,

and lessons were written for each group. In later years, 12- to 14-year-old boys and girls started attending Mutual. Other things changed in the years that followed. Now Primary is held on Sunday.

Today, millions of children attend Primary all over the world. And you are a part of this organization that started 125 years ago with one Primary class in Utah. ●

Why I Like Primary . . .



I like listening to stories about other Primary children like me. I have learned about keeping the Sabbath day holy

and the right things to do on Sunday.

Jacob Kelly, age 7, is a member of the Baulkham Hills Ward, Sydney Australia Greenwich Stake.



I like to listen to the stories of Jesus' miracles—how He healed people, raised the dead, and fed the 5,000. In

Primary I see all my friends. I like to come every Sunday!

Penka Petkova, age 10, is a member of the Geo Milev Branch, Sofia Bulgaria District.

In Primary I've learned that when we say prayers, we close our eyes and fold our arms and bow our heads, and we get blessings sent down to us.

Brandon Checketts, age 6, is a member of the North Logan 11th Ward, North Logan Utah Green Canyon Stake.



I love to draw and write at Primary. I also like the pictures that my teacher shows me. I learn to do good to

others and to members of my family.

Petero Bola, age 8, is a member of the Toga Branch, Nausori Fiji Stake.

Singing is my favorite part of Primary.

I have learned to be reverent and listen to the Holy Ghost.

Makiah Barnhart, age 6, is a member of the Williamsport Ward, Williamsport Pennsylvania Stake.



I like learning about the scriptures and painting pictures of Jesus. I've

learned not to eat or drink things that may hurt me.

Eddy Emanuel Castillo, age 11, is a member of the Comalapa Branch, Chimaltenango Guatemala Stake.



In Primary, we learn about Jesus being our friend, about the temple, to listen to Mummy and Daddy, and

to choose the right. Sometimes that's difficult, but Jesus helps me when I pray for help.

Naomi Mesotten, age 7, is a member of the Leuven Branch, Antwerp Belgium Stake.



I love my teachers and my friends in Primary. My favorite thing is giving a talk or saying the prayer. I

have learned that Jesus died for me because He loves me.

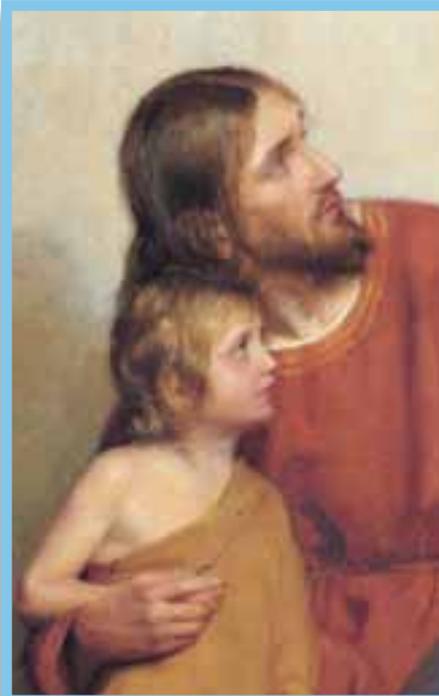
Brooke Peterson, age 4, is a member of the Springfield Third Ward, Springfield Missouri South Stake. ●



Honoring Jesus Christ

BY RONDA GIBB HINRICHSEN

Hidden in this puzzle are ways we can honor Jesus Christ. To find them, look up the scriptures listed below, fill in the missing words, then find those words in the puzzle by reading forward, backward, down, up, and diagonally.



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

1. "Wherefore, ye must press forward with a steadfastness in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope, and a _____ of God and of all men" (2 Nephi 31:20).

2. "But out of _____ or _____ to the name of the Supreme Being, to avoid the too frequent repetition of his name, they, the church, in ancient days, called that priesthood after Melchizedek, or the Melchizedek Priesthood" (D&C 107:4).

3. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and _____ your Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).

4. "And in that day shall ye say: _____ the Lord, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted" (2 Nephi 22:4).

5. "Thou shalt _____ the Lord thy God in all things" (D&C 59:7).

6. "And now behold, I say unto you that the right way is to believe in Christ, and . . . bow down before him, and _____ him with all your might, mind, and strength, and your whole soul" (2 Nephi 25:29).

7. "Thou shalt fear [have reverence for] the Lord thy God, and _____ him" (Deuteronomy 6:13).

8. "If ye love me, _____ my commandments" (John 14:15).

Funstuf Answers

Children's Songbook *Quiz*: (1) d, (2) j, (3) f, (4) h, (5) g, (6) i, (7) a, (8) c, (9) b, (10) e.

Primary Activity: Child "a."

For Little
Friends

BY DIANA FAUGHT
(A true story)

*And he gathered up
all the food of the seven
years, which were in the land
of Egypt, and laid up the food
in the cities (Genesis 41:48).*

Six-year-old Katie loves peaches. But she lives in Las Vegas, Nevada, where it is too hot for peaches to grow well. Luckily she has a neighbor named Daun who knows a lot about growing fruits and vegetables. He and his wife, Alice, have a peach tree that grows big, beautiful, very tasty peaches.

One day Alice came over with a big bag full of peaches. "Would you like some peaches?" she asked. "This year we seem to have more than usual."

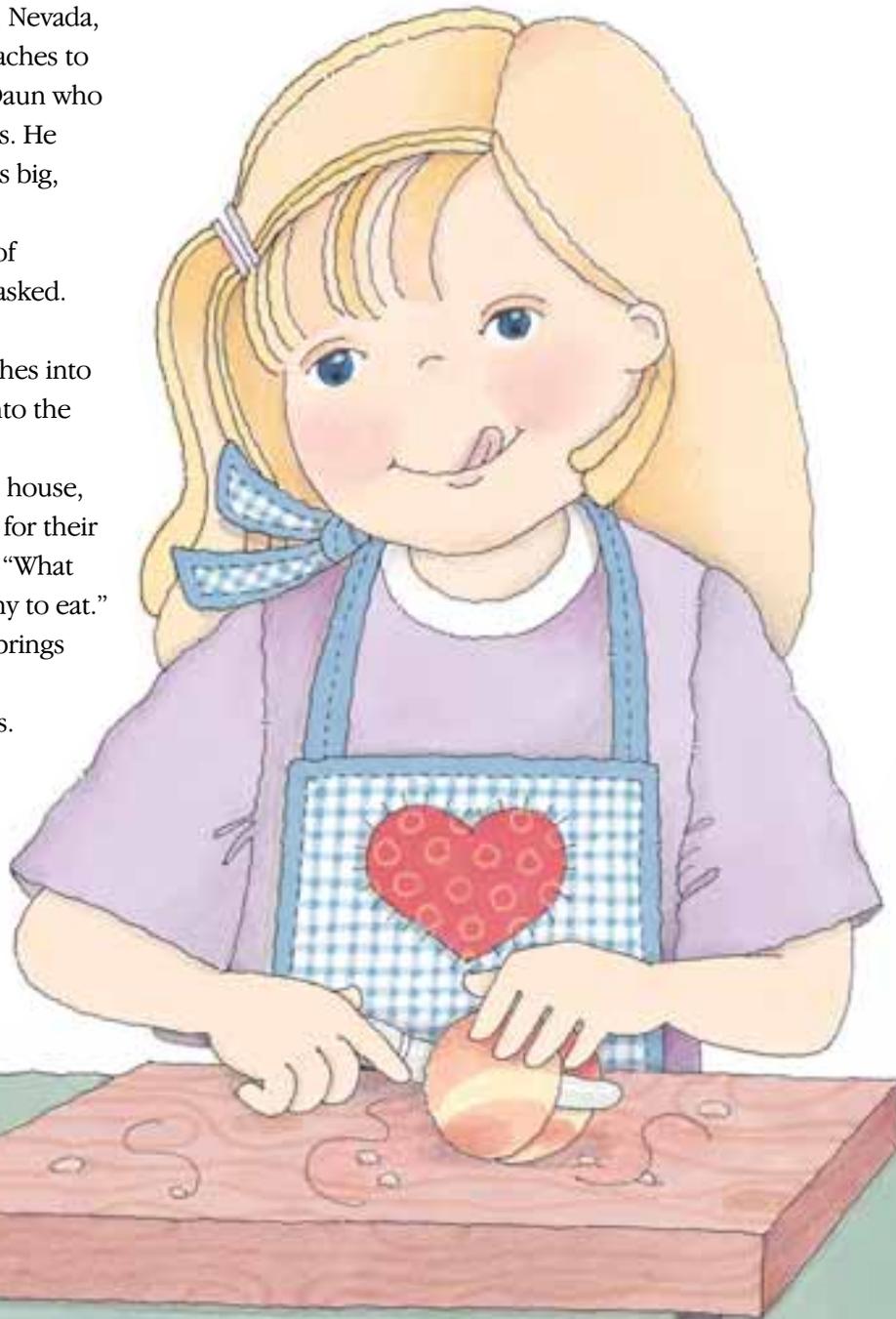
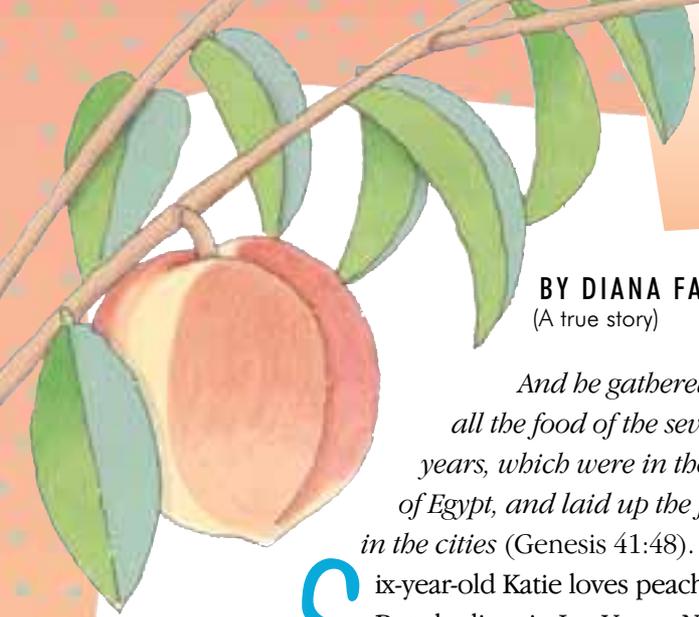
Katie's mom thanked her and took the peaches into the kitchen. She washed them and put them into the refrigerator.

Later that week, while Katie was at a friend's house, Mom bottled all of the peaches in big glass jars for their food storage. When Katie got home, she cried, "What did you do to my peaches? Now I don't have any to eat."

"I'm sorry," Mom said. "The next time Alice brings over peaches, I'll be sure to save you some."

A few days later, Alice brought more peaches. Katie helped Mom wash them. Then she watched Mom put most of them in boiling water. After they were dipped in cold water, Katie cut them in half with a butter knife. She couldn't help tasting a piece. She kept tasting pieces until she got full. "Mommy,

Katie's Peaches

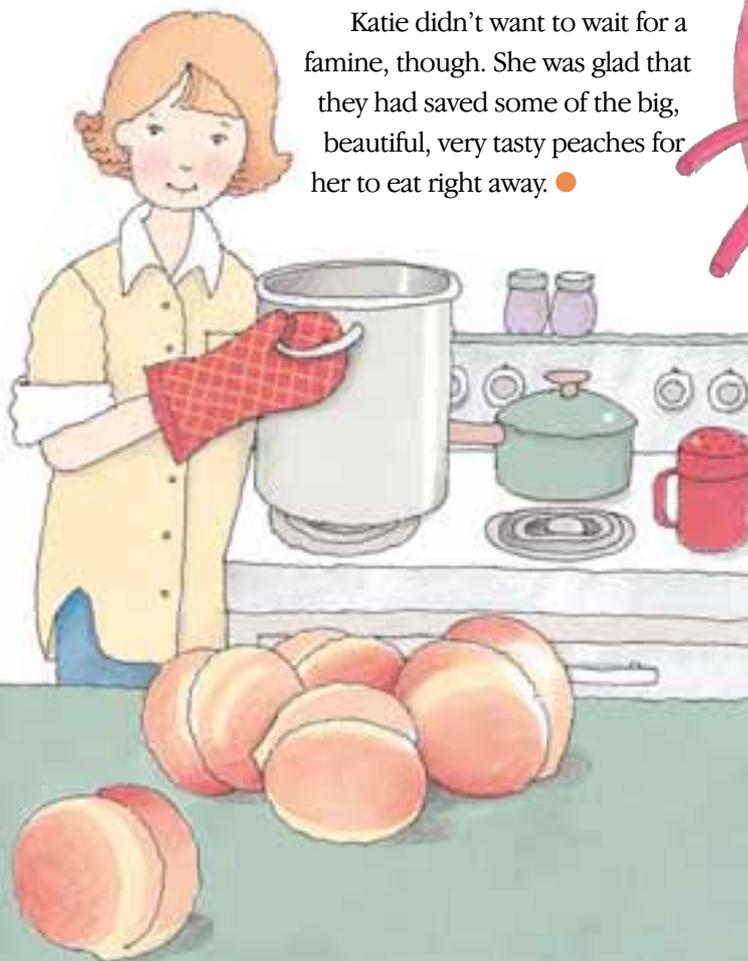


why are we putting my big, beautiful peaches into these glass jars?" she asked.

Her mother explained that they were for food storage. "We are going to do what Joseph in Egypt did." Katie wanted to hear about Joseph, so while they bottled the peaches, Mom told her the story of Joseph and his coat of many colors. She told Katie about how his brothers sold him into slavery in Egypt, where he became a friend of Pharaoh. She explained that Joseph told Pharaoh to store food during the seven years when there was lots of it. Then they could eat it during the seven years when there would be very little food for them.

"The prophet has asked us to store food while we can, because we may need it later," she said. Katie wanted to follow the prophet, so she decided that putting the peaches in bottles was a good idea. She had learned a lot more than how to bottle fruit.

Katie didn't want to wait for a famine, though. She was glad that they had saved some of the big, beautiful, very tasty peaches for her to eat right away. ●



Ladybug Snack

BY ANDREA AND KATIE RANE

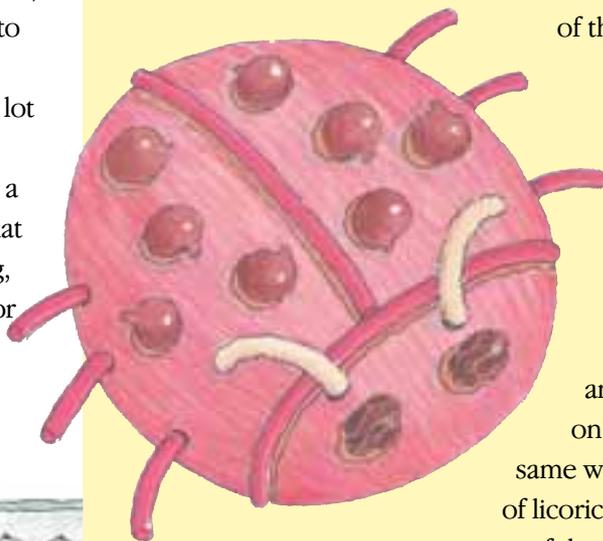
You will need: 1/2 red apple, 2 chow mein noodles, 8 chocolate chips or raisins, 2 licorice whips, peanut butter or frosting, and a toothpick.

1. Have a parent help you remove the core from the apple half.

2. Carefully poke the chow mein noodles into the top end of the apple for antennae.

3. Cut a licorice whip to fit across the apple to

divide the head of the ladybug from the body, then line it with peanut butter or frosting and stick it on. Do the same with a piece of licorice for the center of the body.



4. Put peanut butter or frosting on two chocolate chips or raisins and stick them near the antennae for eyes.

5. Put peanut butter or frosting on the other chocolate chips or raisins and stick them onto the skin of the apple for ladybug spots.

6. Using the toothpick, poke three holes on each side of the apple.

7. Push a short piece of licorice into each hole for legs.

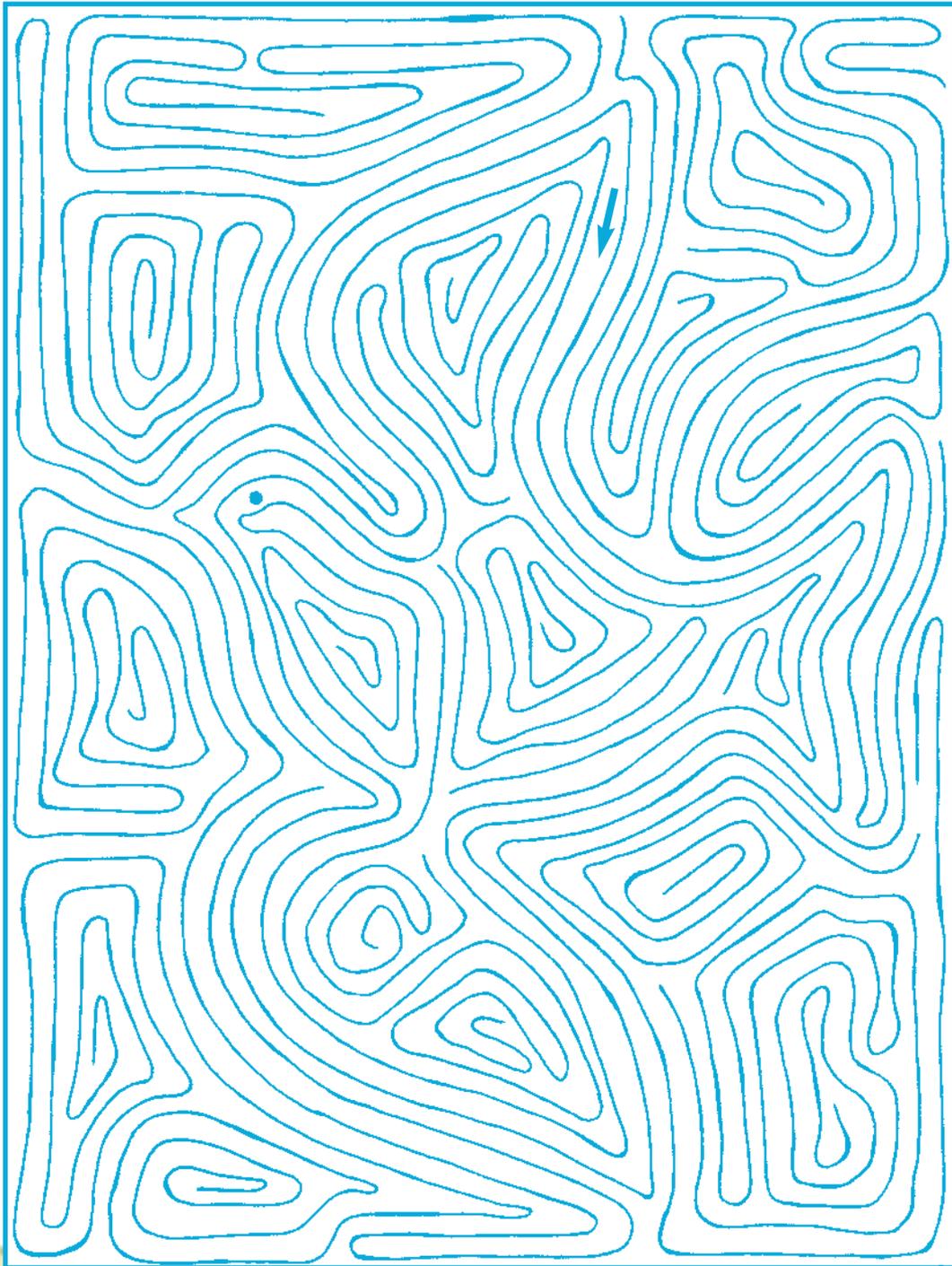
8. Be a praying mantis and gobble up your ladybug.

For Little
Friends

A Sign

BY COLLEEN FAHY

When John the Baptist baptized Jesus in the River Jordan, a sign was given to show that the Holy Ghost was present. To see what that sign was, start at the arrow and fill in all the space between the lines. Do not cross any lines. When you have finished, ask a parent to read aloud Matthew 3:16 and John 1:29-33 and explain them to you.

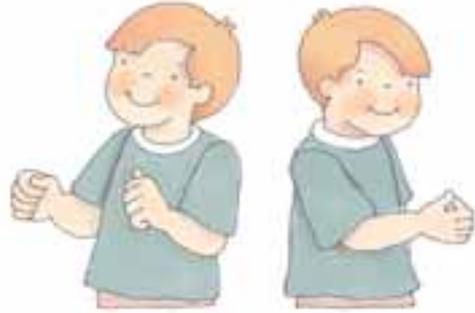


Things That GO

BY JOAN WELCH MAJOR



My plane flies through the clear blue sky.
(Hold arms out like an airplane.)
It's fun to soar so very high!



My car is shiny, bright, and red.
(Pretend to drive a car.)
I stop for gas, then go ahead.
(Pump gas. Drive again.)



It's time, when it is cold outside,
(Shiver.)
To put my ice skates on and glide.
(Pretend to ice skate.)



I like to paddle my canoe
(Sit and pretend to paddle a canoe.)
'Cause I'm the captain *and* the crew.
(Salute.)



I'm an engineer today.
The whistle blows; we're on our way!
(Pretend to pull.)



Whether they move fast or slow,
I like the things that go, go, go!
(Run around.)

Friends in the News



Catherine Boswell, 7, Derbyshire, England, likes dancing and music. She is looking forward to having her dad baptize her. She is a good swimmer, a great sister, and is always happy.



David Hulet, 11, Beijing, China, likes Primary and Scouts. He enjoys learning about China while living there, and for his birthday, he flew a kite in Tiananmen Square.



Kimberly Passey, 8, Vermilion, Alberta, Canada, is the youngest person in her branch. She and her brother are the only children in the branch Primary. She likes to play the piano, skate, and read.



John McOmie, 10, West Jordan, Utah, made a goal to work on building his own testimony while his brother was on a mission helping people in Poland build their testimonies. He likes football and basketball.



Emily Sarah Brooks, 11, Canton, Michigan, likes running and playing with her friends. She enjoys singing and was chosen to sing a solo in a school performance. She reads the scriptures each morning.



Zachary Burgess, 3, Menan, Idaho, likes being a Sunbeam and taking his scriptures to church. He enjoys playing outside and being with his sister, Sidnee, and his eight cousins.



Rochelle Elizabeth Belnap, 8, Queen Creek, Arizona, likes horseback riding, playing with her friends, and singing. She once delivered valentines and sang "Love One Another" to nursing-home patients.



Steven Untch, 8, Independence, Missouri, is the oldest of four children and a Wolf Cub Scout. He is talented in reading, math, basketball, baseball, and clogging. He enjoys studying the scriptures.



A good musician, **Keilara McCormick, 7**, Provo, Utah, works hard to practice the violin. She sang "I Love to See the Temple" as a solo in Primary. She loves her family, especially her baby brother, Joshua.



Ian Paul Wilson, 3, Cary, Illinois, loves his little brother, Brandon. He enjoys reading, playing at the park, drawing, helping Dad with yard work, and helping Mom bake cookies.



Carson Draney, 7, Keystone Heights, Florida, likes reading, riding her bike, playing softball, and leading the music during family home evening. She is a very good artist. She reads the Book of Mormon each day.



A speedy reader, **Spencer Ledford, 9**, Coloma, California, has read more than 4,100 pages in a year. He likes math, Scouts, baseball, soccer, riding his scooter, and going to church. He has four pet rats.



Alyssa Marie Carroll, 4, Norfolk, Virginia, is glad to be in Primary and was excited to give her first talk. She enjoys ballet and going to the library. She loves her baby sister.



Matthew Sager, 11, Payson, Utah, loves Heavenly Father and Jesus. He reads the scriptures with his mom every day and prays for the prophet. His favorite song is "I'll Walk with You."



Megan Schille, 7, Federal Way, Washington, enjoys reading the scriptures and mysteries. She likes playing the piano, drawing, jump roping, swimming, and ice skating.



Benjamin Bondoc, 5, Henderson, Nevada, likes playing the piano and sports (especially T-ball). He is a good example to his friends. He loves all his cousins in the United States and the Philippines.



Ashlyn Dunkley, 11, Sugar Land, Texas, is the oldest of five children. She loves to hear about her grandmother, who is serving a mission in Germany. Ashlyn enjoys soccer, gymnastics, and Primary.



Logan Rust, 7, Troutdale, Oregon, likes to jump on the trampoline, ride bikes, and play basketball with his four older brothers. He likes to go on family vacations. His favorite song is "Latter-day Prophets."



Annie Morgan Anderson, 5, Springville, Utah, is a great singer. Her favorite song is "Follow the Prophet." She likes Primary, and she knows many Bible stories. Her two older brothers and two older sisters love her.



Adam Zimmerman, 8, Port Neches, Texas, has seven older brothers and one older sister. He likes to jump on the trampoline. He was very excited to be baptized and to join Cub Scouts.



Camille Craddock, 9, Salisbury, North Carolina, won first place in a poster contest about preventing child abuse. The theme for her poster was "Families Are Forever."



Loving and kind, **Kade Layne Bellows, 7**, Lander, Wyoming, likes to watch Church videos and learn about the prophets. He enjoys rodeos, snowboarding, and riding his bike. He can't wait to be baptized.



Cheyenne Johnson, 8, Middleboro, Massachusetts, enjoys swimming, dancing, and gymnastics. She loves her three older sisters and is adored by her three young nephews.

Please send submissions to Friends in the News, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least 10 months. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Children whose pictures are submitted must be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published. Upon request, material not published will be returned to sender if a self-addressed, stamped envelope is enclosed.

Children's Songbook Quiz

BY CYNTHIA RAKES BOWDEN

Find the picture for the missing word in each of these phrases of a song from the *Children's Songbook*, then put the correct letter in the blank. If you need help, look up the song.



a.



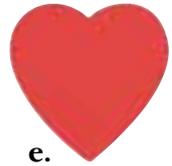
b.



c.



d.



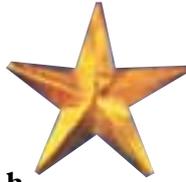
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f.



g.



h.



i.



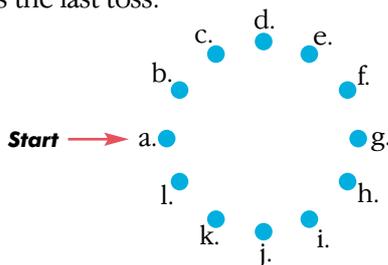
j.

1. "_____ popping on the apricot tree" (pp. 242–43).
2. "The foolish man built his _____ upon the sand" (p. 281).
3. "He gave me my _____ that I might see" (pp. 228–29).
4. "I wonder if one _____ will shine Far brighter than the rest" (pp. 82–83).
5. "Faith is like a little _____: If planted, it will grow" (pp. 96–97).
6. "We also believe the _____ to be the word of God" (p. 127).
7. "I have a fam'ly here on _____" (p. 188).
8. "Clap my _____ and shout for joy, Then climb upon his knee" (p. 210).
9. "If you have a piece of _____, you must learn to share" (p. 262).
10. "And when I am rev'rent, I know in my _____ Heav'nly Father and Jesus are near" (p. 31).

Primary Activity

BY SHERRY TIMBERMAN

Twelve Primary children are standing in a circle, playing toss. Each one tosses the ball to the fifth person to his/her left (clockwise). Every child has the ball once. Begin at the arrow and draw the tosses to see who catches the last toss.





BY SYDNEY S. REYNOLDS

First Counselor in the Primary General Presidency

I know we can pray to Heavenly Father anytime, anywhere, and I'm so grateful that we can.

I Can Pray to Heavenly Father Anytime, Anywhere

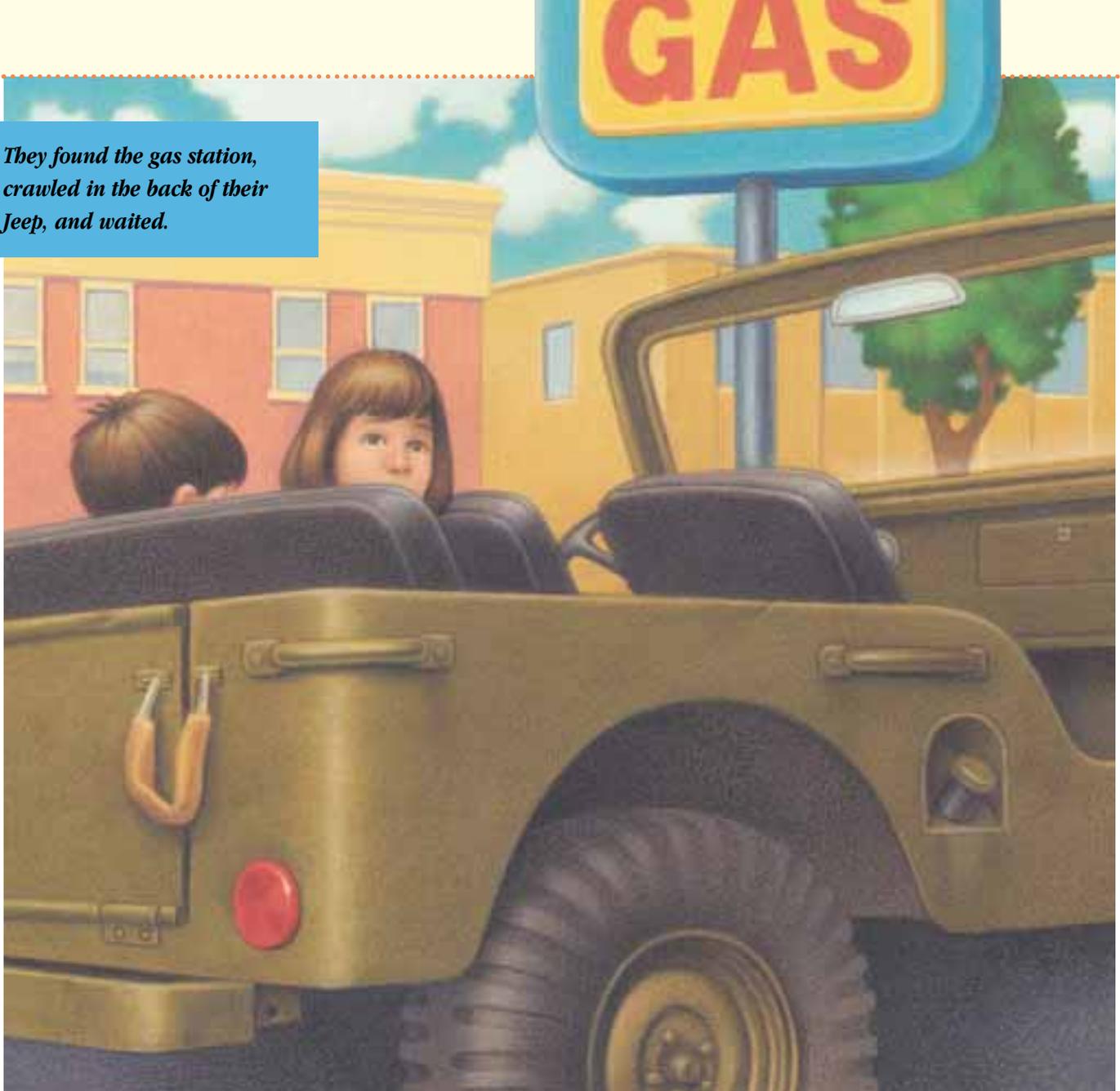
My young brothers and sisters, can you think of the last time you received an answer to your prayers? Was it when you lost something? Was it when you were scared? Maybe you were sick or someone you loved was sick. I have prayed in those times, too.

Where were you the last time you prayed? I have prayed in many places. I have prayed on the beach, in the mountains, in church, on the playground. I have prayed in my house, in an airplane, and at the hospital. I know that I can pray to Heavenly Father anytime, anywhere. I know He hears me.

Let me tell you a story about two children—a boy who was about six years old and a girl just over seven. They went for a ride one hot summer day with their dad in their grandpa's old Jeep. They drove for an hour and a half, and the Jeep started making funny noises. It died completely as they rolled into a gas station in the next town. "We can fix it," the attendant said, and he directed them to walk across town to a parts store. Once inside the store, the children found lots of things to look at, and they didn't notice their dad go into the back with the manager. All they knew was that they couldn't see him. They looked outside and saw a man down the street who was wearing a hat like their dad's. He was just turning a corner, so they ran after him crying, "Dad! Dad!"

By the time they figured out it wasn't their dad, they were lost. They couldn't find the store, they didn't know where they were, and they didn't know anyone in that city. The girl wanted to go this way; the boy thought they should go that way. How could they find their dad, or at least the Jeep? She said, "We need to pray." He felt self-conscious about praying in public, but after they prayed, they both started walking in the same direction. They found the gas station, crawled in the back of their Jeep, and waited. After a little while—

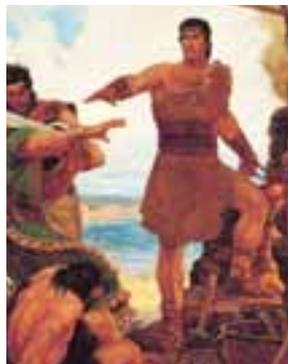
*They found the gas station,
crawled in the back of their
Jeep, and waited.*



it seemed like a long time to them—their father came. He had also been praying that he'd find them and find them quickly.

In the scriptures there are many stories of answers to prayer. Do you remember these? Nephi was told how to build a ship and where to find food; Daniel prayed for protection from the lions; Enos prayed all day and into the night that his sins would be forgiven; Hannah prayed that she could have a baby. My favorite story about prayer is the story of a young boy who wanted to know something.

He wanted to know which church he should join. His friends and his family were finding churches to join. He just didn't know which church was right. He was only 14 years old.





One day Joseph Smith was reading in the Bible, and this is what he read: “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him” (James 1:5). That scripture was so powerful to him! He’d never prayed out loud before, but he needed an answer and he believed the scripture. Humbly, he went to a wooded area close to his house, and he knelt down and began to pray. This was such an important prayer that the powers of darkness threatened to overwhelm this strong, young farm boy, but he cried out to God for help. As he did, a light descended and the darkness went away. Joseph saw two personages standing in the light. One of them said to him, pointing to the other, “This is My Beloved Son. Hear Him!” (Joseph Smith—

History 1:17). It was God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ.

When I think of that story, I think of my children. All of them served in missions outside of the United States. They each needed to learn a new language. One of the things they learned to share in their new languages was the story of Joseph Smith’s prayer. Why did they learn that? Because the people they were teaching needed to know that Heavenly Father and Jesus chose Joseph Smith to be the prophet who would restore the gospel and the Church of Jesus Christ to the earth once more. And the people needed to know that just as Joseph Smith received an answer to his prayer, they could pray to Heavenly Father and receive answers to their prayers. He will answer your prayers, too. I know we can pray to Heavenly Father anytime, anywhere, and I’m so grateful that we can.

Here is my testimony on the fingers of one hand:

1. I know that God is our Father in Heaven and that He loves us.
 2. Jesus Christ is His Son, our Savior and Redeemer.
 3. Joseph Smith is a prophet of God. He translated the Book of Mormon by the gift and power of God.
 4. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the Lord’s Church on the earth today.
 5. The living prophet is President Gordon B. Hinckley.
- In the name of Jesus Christ, amen. ●



TAM HOI HOON OF HONG KONG

BY EMILY CHIEN AND TIFFANY E. LEWIS

As a very little boy, Tam Hoi Hoon loved to climb. He would climb streetlamps and even palm trees with his bare hands! His favorite class in preschool was gymnastics. At the time, the Tam family lived in Hawaii, where Brother Tam was studying at the university.

When his family moved back to Hong Kong, Hoi Hoon joined the Hong Kong Amateur Gymnastic Association. After joining the team, he won the 2001 Hong Kong Gymnastics Competition. Now age 10 and a member of the Aberdeen Ward, Hong Kong Island Stake, Hoi Hoon is setting an example through his gymnastics and his beliefs.

While gymnastics is fun for Hoi Hoon, it is also hard work. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, he and his parents travel by train an hour and a half to practices, then an hour and a half home. The practices are two or three hours long. Learning a new gymnastic move takes Hoi Hoon a month or two because he has to practice the move more than 500 times

before it is perfect! But Hoi Hoon likes the children he works out with, and he loves to perform. Hearing an audience clapping and shouting makes him happy.

Hoi Hoon's favorite gymnastic move is the backward somersault. He can do a somersault with two twists before landing!

Right: Hoi Hoon practices hard and sometimes he wins! Above: Hoi Hoon with his big brother, Kwan Lam (left), and his coach, Chen Yu Tien (right).





Above: The Tam family celebrates Hoi Hoon's and Kwan Lam's birthdays. Right: Hoi Hoon with one of the coaches.

To do some of his moves he must be very brave.

In Chinese culture, parents give their children names with special meaning. This is true with the name Hoi Hoon. *Hoi* means "the sea," and *Hoon* means "wide and spacious." Hoi Hoon was given this special name because his father wanted him to be an understanding person whose capacity to care for and forgive others is as wide and deep as the sea.

Hoi Hoon works well with other people, so it is a good name for him. In gymnastics, he specializes in the men's four, where he performs with three other boys. His coach chose this event for him because it requires special cooperation with gymnasts of different ages.

Hoi Hoon is the middle child of three children in the Tam family. His brother,

Kwan Lam, 12, enjoys playing the piano, singing, and swimming. His sister, Hiu Yau, 4, likes to dance and read storybooks. "We are grateful to have three healthy and lovely children," says Sister Tam. "Each one of them is special."

The Tam children are good students, and the whole family stays busy during the week with schoolwork. When they have time to take a break, the family likes to go to the playground or ride bicycles near their home.

Hoi Hoon enjoys Primary, and he tries to be obedient to what he learns in his class. His favorite song is "I Am a Child of God." As a child of Heavenly Father, Hoi Hoon believes in setting a good example and keeping the commandments.

In July 2001, Hoi Hoon was invited by the Hong Kong government to perform

with other prominent gymnasts in the Chinese Gymnastic Gold Medalist Show. Then age 8, Hoi Hoon was the youngest participant.

All of the gymnasts were asked to attend a final rehearsal the Sunday before the performance. The Tam family knows it is important to keep the Sabbath Day holy, so Brother Tam told Hoi Hoon's coach that Hoi Hoon would attend every other rehearsal—but not the one on Sunday. The coaches and officials were upset and thought about replacing Hoi Hoon with another boy. The Tam family would not change their minds, but they prayed every night in their family prayer that Hoi Hoon would be able to perform. In the end, the officials allowed him to be in the show. Even without the extra practice, Hoi Hoon did every movement perfectly. "I know that obeying the Lord is very important," Hoi Hoon says.

Hoi Hoon's coach, Chen Yu Tien, says there are several things that make Hoi Hoon a good gymnast: "He is willing to practice hard and to endure. His arms are strong and powerful, and he is enthusiastic." But he says what makes Hoi Hoon most successful in gymnastics and everything else he does is the love and support of his family.

Hoi Hoon agrees. "I know Papa and Mama love me very, very much. And they pray for me, too," he says. With that knowledge, he almost can't help but live up to his name—in his family, in his sport, and in his life. ●



BY KATHY ELLIOTT ZEYER

(Based on a true story)

Ye have entered into a covenant with [the Lord], that ye will . . . keep his commandments, that he may pour out his Spirit . . . upon you (Mosiah 18:10).

How many more boards do you think we need?” Jordan* asked as he and Derek huffed and puffed up the driveway to Ben’s backyard.

“Oh, maybe one more load,” Derek said. “My dad says we can use all the scrap wood we need from the pile in our backyard.”

The boys were hauling wood in Derek’s wagon for the treehouse they were building in Ben’s oak tree. When it was finished, it would be their clubhouse.

During the summer, the boys had formed a club. The treehouse would make their club extra special.

Jordan and Derek dumped their load on the pile of boards. Jordan called up to the tree, “How’s it coming?”

“Pretty good,” Brandon answered. “The floor is a little crooked, but we’ve nailed it in tight. We’ll start on the walls next. Send up a couple of really straight boards.”

All week long they worked on the treehouse, and even when it got really hot outside, they didn’t mind. Ben’s mom sent out frozen treats, and the four boys sat in the tree, eating the treats and talking about how fun their treehouse would be when it was finished.

Finally the treehouse was ready. It was getting close to dinnertime, so they all climbed on their bikes to go home. Derek yelled over his shoulder, “Remember, Jordan, ten o’clock tomorrow—our first meeting in the treehouse!”

* All names have been changed.

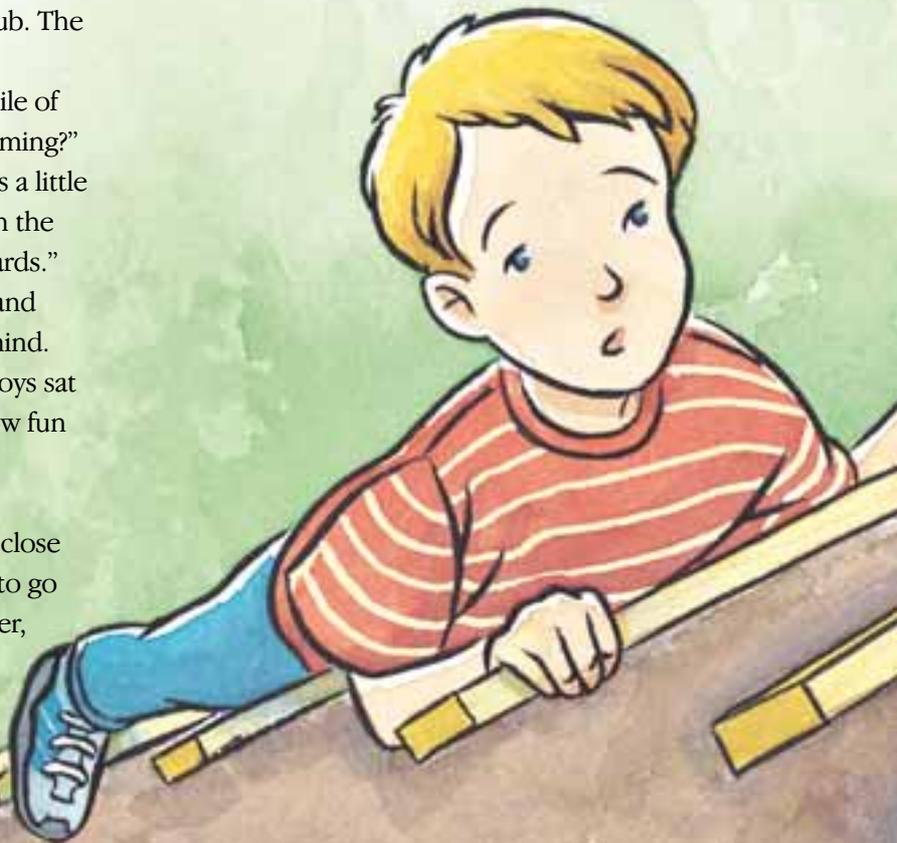
“I’ll be there!” Jordan hollered back.

The next morning, Jordan wolfed down his scrambled eggs and toast, then hurried through his chores. “May I go now, Mom? We’re having our first club meeting in the treehouse.”

“Sure, Jordan. Just be back at noon.”

Jordan hopped on his bike and headed to Ben’s house. He could tell by the bikes in the driveway that his friends were already there. As Jordan climbed the wooden planks nailed to the tree trunk, Derek popped his head out of the treehouse door.

“Stop right there, Jordan,” he said. “You have to give the password first.”



“Huh? We’ve never had a password.”

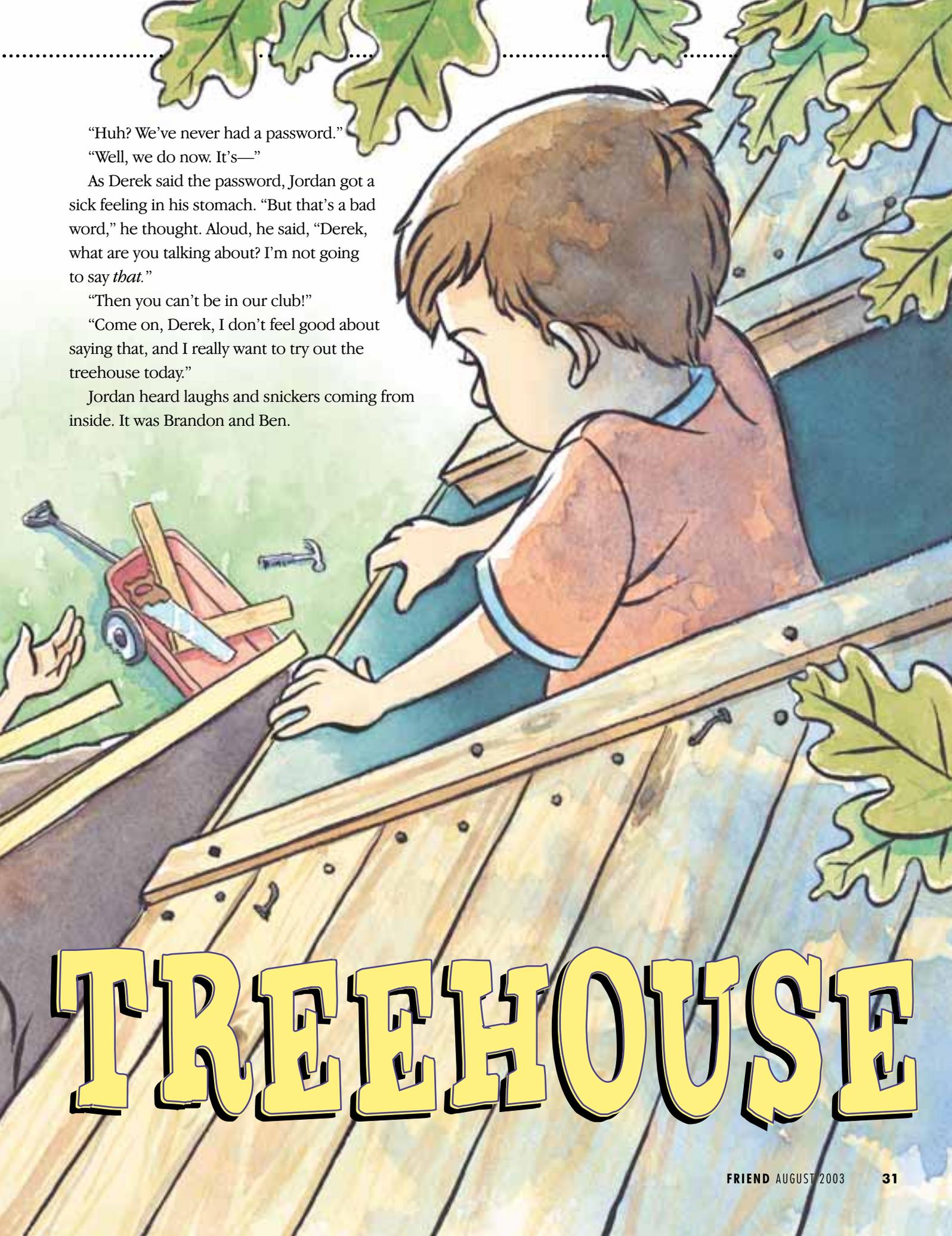
“Well, we do now. It’s—”

As Derek said the password, Jordan got a sick feeling in his stomach. “But that’s a bad word,” he thought. Aloud, he said, “Derek, what are you talking about? I’m not going to say *that*.”

“Then you can’t be in our club!”

“Come on, Derek, I don’t feel good about saying that, and I really want to try out the treehouse today.”

Jordan heard laughs and snickers coming from inside. It was Brandon and Ben.

A colorful illustration of a young boy with brown hair, wearing a blue shirt and a brown vest, working on a wooden treehouse. He is leaning over a wooden beam, holding a long wooden plank. To his left, a red toolbox is open, containing various tools like a hammer, a saw, and a screwdriver. A hand is visible on the left side, reaching towards the toolbox. The background shows green leaves and a blue sky. The title 'TREEHOUSE' is written in large, bold, yellow letters with a black outline at the bottom of the page.

TREEHOUSE



“Jordan’s chicken!”

“Come on, Jordan—we *all* said it.”

Jordan was quiet for a minute. Then he squared his shoulders and said, “I guess I can’t be in the club, then. I won’t say that.” He climbed down the steps, got on his bike, and slowly rode home.

When he came in the back door, Mom said, “Hi, buddy. You’re home early.”

“I guess I didn’t feel much like playing today.” His lip quivered just a bit.

“What’s wrong, honey?”

Jordan hesitated, then blurted out, “The treehouse is finished, but the others say unless I say the password, I can’t be in the club.”

“Well, what’s the password?” Mom asked.

“I can’t tell you. It’s not a nice word.”

“I see.”

Mom walked over to the refrigerator, poured him a glass of chocolate milk, and sat down at the table. She was quiet for a minute, and then said, “Jordan, do you know the story of Abinadi and King Noah?”

“Yes, Sister Nielsen told us that one in Primary.”

“Well, when Abinadi was brought before King Noah and tried to teach the king and his priests about Jesus Christ, Abinadi told them to repent. Do you remember what King Noah thought about that?”

“Didn’t he tell Abinadi that if he didn’t take it all back and deny Jesus Christ, they would kill him?”

“That’s right. And what did Abinadi do?”

“He wouldn’t say it, because he knew it was wrong.”

“Well, isn’t that like what you did today?”

Jordan was puzzled. “I don’t get it, Mom. What does that have to do with my club?”



“Well, Abinadi wouldn’t say something he knew was wrong. He stood up for what was right, and so did you.”

“I guess you’re right, Mom.” He took another gulp of chocolate milk. “But even though being kicked out of the club isn’t anywhere near as bad as getting burned to death, choosing the right can be hard sometimes.”

Mom smiled. “That’s true. But don’t you feel better for making the right choice?”

“Yes, I do. You’re right, Mom. Thanks.”

Just then the doorbell rang. It was Brandon. “Jordan,” he said, his head down a little, “I’m sorry. We never should have had that crummy password. I wish I could have been brave like you. Can we still be friends?”

“Sure, Brandon! What do you say we go over to the park and shoot some baskets?”

“OK! I’ll go home and grab my ball!”

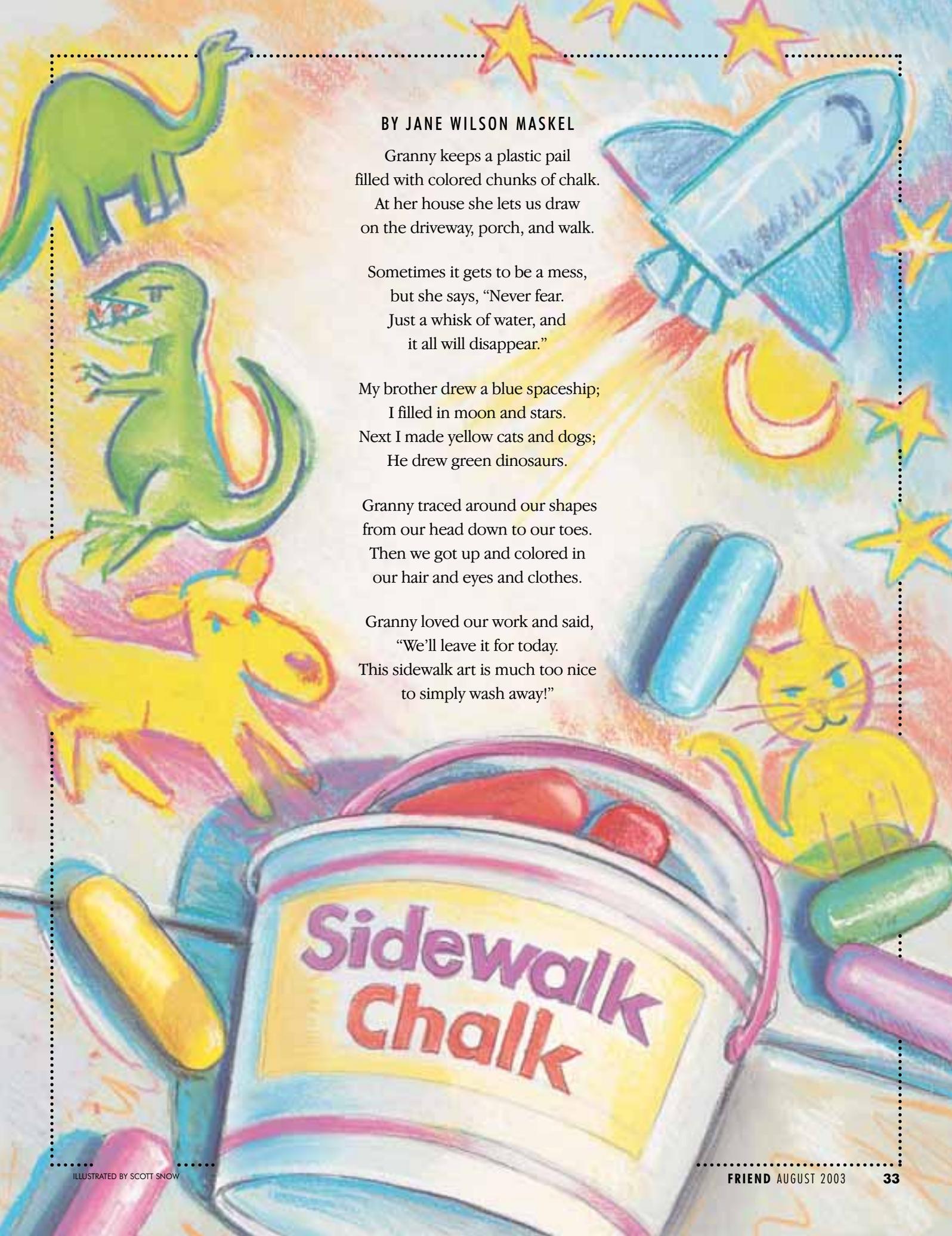
Jordan smiled as they rode their bikes to the park. “Mom was right,” he thought. “It feels lots better to choose the right!” ●



“Some, unfortunately, choose the wrong. But many, so many, choose the right, including so very many of our choice young men and young women. . . . May they be blessed as they pursue lives of virtue, of learning, of growing with faith . . . , all

the time remaining ‘True to the faith that [their] parents have cherished, True to the truth for which martyrs have perished’ (*Hymns*, no. 254).”

President Gordon B. Hinckley
From an April 1995 general conference address.



BY JANE WILSON MASKEL

Granny keeps a plastic pail
filled with colored chunks of chalk.
At her house she lets us draw
on the driveway, porch, and walk.

Sometimes it gets to be a mess,
but she says, "Never fear.
Just a whisk of water, and
it all will disappear."

My brother drew a blue spaceship;
I filled in moon and stars.
Next I made yellow cats and dogs;
He drew green dinosaurs.

Granny traced around our shapes
from our head down to our toes.
Then we got up and colored in
our hair and eyes and clothes.

Granny loved our work and said,
"We'll leave it for today.
This sidewalk art is much too nice
to simply wash away!"

Taking the Sacrament



There is no other name given whereby salvation cometh (Mosiah 5:8).

Jesus Christ Himself gave the ordinance of the sacrament. He and His Apostles were in Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover.

“And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and brake it, and blessed it, and gave to his disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is in remembrance of my body which I give a ransom for you” (Matthew 26:26, including footnote b).

He meant that He was going to atone for our sins by suffering and dying for us so that if we are faithful and repent, we might live again with Him and Heavenly Father after we die.

His Atonement is for each of us individually, but for us to “use” it, we must do our small part. He explained that when we partake of the sacrament, it “is in remembrance of my blood . . . , which is shed for as many as shall believe on my name, for the remission of their sins” (Joseph Smith Translation [after the Bible Dictionary], Matthew 26:24).

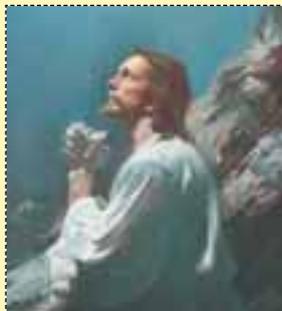
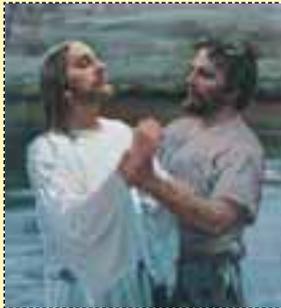
When we are baptized, we make a covenant with Heavenly Father. We promise to remember Jesus’ words—and to keep our baptismal covenant with Heavenly Father—each time we partake of the sacrament and listen to the sacrament prayers:

“O God, the Eternal Father, we ask thee in the name of thy Son, Jesus Christ, to bless and sanctify this bread to the souls of all those who partake of it, that they may eat in remembrance of the body of thy Son, and witness unto thee, O God, the Eternal Father, that they are willing to take upon them the name of thy Son, and always remember him and keep his commandments which he has given them; that they may always have his Spirit to be with them. Amen.

“O God, the Eternal Father, we ask thee in the name of thy Son, Jesus Christ, to bless and sanctify this wine [now water] to the souls of all those who drink of it, that they may do it in remembrance of the blood of thy Son, which was shed for them; that they may witness unto thee, O God, the Eternal Father, that they do always remember him, that they may have his Spirit to be with them. Amen.” (D&C 20:77, 79.)

As members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, we have taken His name upon us. When we remain faithful to the Savior and always remember Him and keep His commandments, we are honoring His name.

When we honor the name of Jesus Christ, Heavenly Father is pleased and keeps His part of the covenant: He sends His Spirit—the Holy Ghost—to help us keep our part of the covenant and to guide us in all ways to live worthy of returning to Him and our Savior.



Picture-Frame Door Hanger

By Kimberly Webb

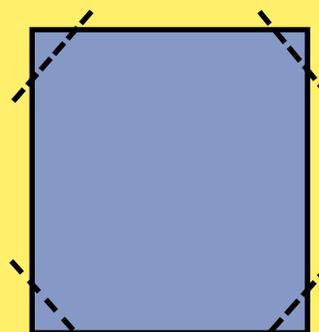
Instructions: Each Sunday this month during the sacrament, decide to do something specific to help bring you closer to Jesus Christ. For example, you could study your scriptures daily.

To help you remember your goal, mount page 35 on heavy paper, then cut out the door hanger and the pictures of Jesus Christ. Choose a picture and write your goal on the back. Cut slits along the dotted lines on the door hanger so you can slide the corners of the picture into the frame. Each time you see the door hanger, think about how you are doing on your goal.

The following Sunday during the sacrament, prayerfully choose a new goal (or decide to work on the same one). Pick a new picture to put on the door hanger and write your goal on the back of it. Do this each Sunday for a month.



My Goals for this Month



Our Creative Friends



*Lauren Jones, age 7
Newbury Park, California*



*Matthew Miller, age 9
St. James, Missouri*



*Stepben Girts, age 8
North Potomac, Maryland*



*Morgan Boyes, age 8
Magrath, Alberta, Canada*

The Temple

The temple is a holy place to feel the Spirit.
I'll be going there next year when I am 12
to do baptisms for the dead,
and I will feel the Holy Ghost even stronger.
When I get married, it will be in the temple
and nowhere else!
I will always say the temple is
the place to be.
Even though I have not been inside it,
I have been close enough to touch it
and to feel Heavenly Father's Spirit.

*Christine Pierson, age 11
Bernville, Pennsylvania*



*Ryan Pierson, age 7
West Linn, Oregon*



*Morgan Robinson, age 6
Yokobama, Japan*

My Covenant

I thank Thee, Lord,
My Father above.
You gave me these talents
To express Thy love.

My writing I now
Dedicate to Thee
To tell of my thankfulness
And of beauty.

I will use these talents
Night and day,
Never in hate,
But in a peaceful way,
To make people laugh
And to make them happy.
I hope all these poems
Will always please Thee.

*Veronica Engler, age 11
Gilbert, Arizona*



*Christopher Luke, age 10
Kaysville, Utah*

Friends

Friends forever—
Remember them!
I will like them for eternity.
Everyone should be a friend.
Nice people are friends.
Do you have a best friend?
Sure I do!

*Ranchester Branch Primary
Gillette Wyoming Stake*

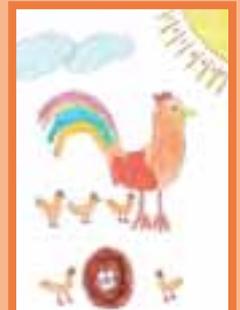


*Nikki Layton, age 5
Mesa, Arizona*

I Am a Giver of Light

I am a giver of light.
My light shines for my family,
But most of all it shines for Jesus.
My light shines and shines.
And when my outer light dies out,
I'll return to Him
And live in holy happiness.
My light will live within.

*Mary-Martha Jackson, age 11
Salt Lake City, Utah*



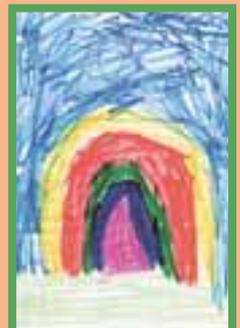
*Julia Johnson, age 8
San Antonio, Texas*

Jesus, the Savior

Jesus is our Savior.
He is our Father's Son.
He stayed on this world
Until His work was done.

Some people hated Jesus.
They cursed and swore at Him.
But He loved them always,
Even to His crucifixion.

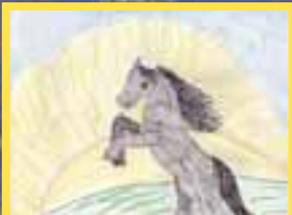
*William Allred, age 8
Richardson, Texas*



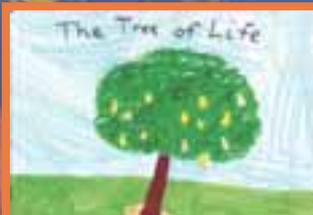
*Wendy Nitta, age 6
Honolulu, Hawaii*



*Vanessa Daniels, age 5
South Jordan, Utah*



*Melissa Delgado, age 11
Nampa, Idaho*



*Kirsten Montgomery, age 9
Richland, Washington*



*Whitney Tapia, age 7
Florence, Kentucky*



*Devon Williams, age 7
Troy, Illinois*

Our Prophet

The prophet is the one I see.
He talks and teaches willingly.
He loves and cares so very much.
For he's the prophet, you see, you see.
He's the one with such great talks.
He feels the Spirit quite a lot.
Even though he's getting old,
That changes nothing about his soul.
He's changed so many lives before.
That's why I love him more and more.

*Baylee Tomlinson, age 11
Terreton, Idaho*

Thank Thee, Lord

Thank Thee, Lord, for the plants,
The bumblebees, and the ants.
Thank Thee, Lord, for the honey,
The hares, the horses, and the bunny.
Thank Thee, Lord, for my eyes
And for the meat to make meat pies.
Thank Thee, Lord, for myself
And for my games upon the shelf.

*Ben Bardsley, age 8
Banchory, Scotland*



*Cory Spanbake, age 8
Whakatane,
New Zealand*



*Samantha Kirchner,
age 9
Amberst, Wisconsin*

What Shall I Pack in a Box Marked "Summer"?

The whizz of an airplane from when we traveled.
The knitting yarn Grandma gave me (becoming unraveled).
The sound of waves crashing on the shore of a beach.
The juice drip-drip-dripping down my chin from a peach.
A cricket's night song from outside my window.
At the Grand Coulee Dam, the laser-light show.
An act of service by weeding tomatoes.
A favorite Sunday dinner of steak and potatoes.
Lots of berries that were fun to pick.
An ice-cream cone that was fun to lick.
Now our vacation is over and done,
The summer was oh so much fun!

*Alexandra (Alex) Sorensen, age 12
Laguna Niguel, California*



*Logan Ammirati, age 6
Fort Collins, Colorado*

Nephi

Nephi the prophet, not of latter days, was quick to obey,
Unlike his brothers Laman and Lemuel, who went astray.
Sam, Jacob, and Joseph, also his brothers, you see,
Followed God's commandments and helped the family.
Angels visited Nephi and helped him along the path,
While Laman and Lemuel were receiving God's wrath.

*Nickolas Hujtyn, age 10
Marshfield, Missouri*



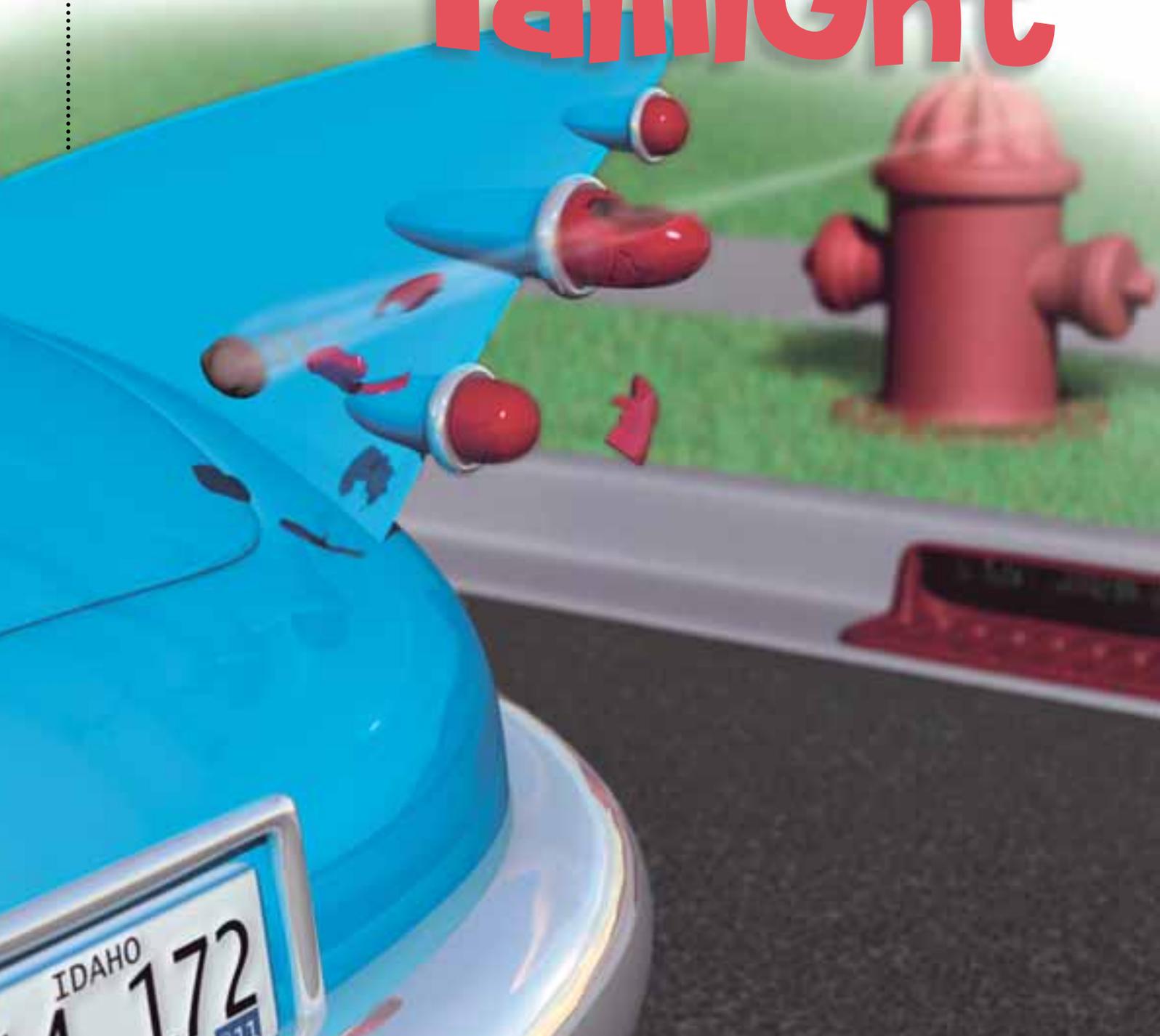
*Taylor Benson, age 9
Las Vegas, Nevada*



*Peti Transfield, age 10
Orem, Utah*

Please send submissions to Our Creative Friends, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220. Drawings sent should be done with dark pens or markers on plain paper. If an adult helps with a child's submission, credit should also be given to him or her. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least 10 months. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Children whose writings and drawings are submitted should be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published. Upon request, material not published will be returned to sender if a self-addressed, stamped envelope is enclosed.

Broken Taillight



BY SHEILA KINDRED

(Based on a true story)

Faith and repentance bringeth a change of heart

(Helaman 15:7).

The apple went spinning to the ground. Clint was getting pretty good with his homemade slingshot. He had made it from a strong Y-shaped stick and a thick rubber band and had been practicing with it all day. Now his aim was good enough to knock an apple right out of a tree.

He saw a car coming down the road and wondered if he could hit a moving target as small as a taillight on a car. He closed one eye, pulled the rock back to his ear, and let it go. *Crack!* The sound of breaking plastic and glass was followed by the tinkle of pieces of glass and plastic hitting the pavement. Clint gasped. He'd actually hit the taillight of that car!

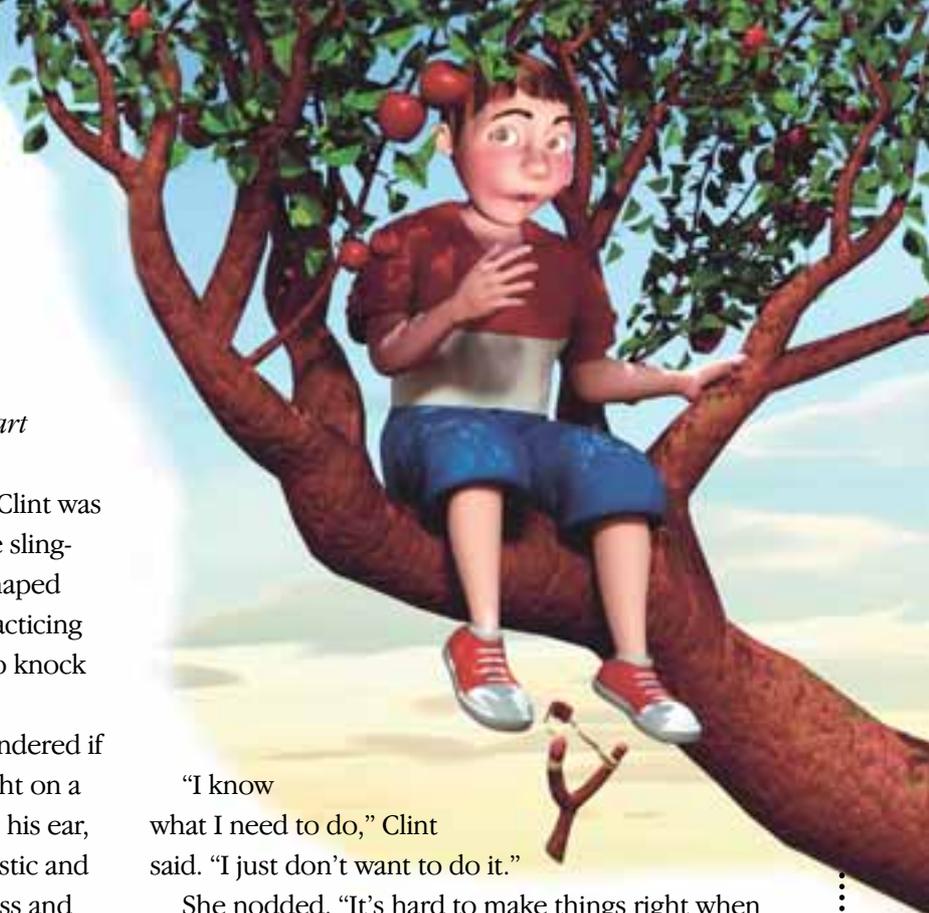
In a panic, he dropped his slingshot and scooted up the apple tree, hiding among the leaves. The car screeched to a stop, and a man jumped out. He walked around to look at his broken light, then glared straight at Clint's hiding place.

"I know you're up there!" he bellowed. "I saw you. You'd better get down here before I call the police!"

Clint didn't move. He recognized the man. It was Brother Ernest, who always complained about how noisy the kids were when he went to church. Clint did not want to talk to him.

After a few minutes, Brother Ernest got back into his car and drove away. Clint waited a long time. It was nearly dark when he finally climbed down. He picked up his slingshot, pulled off the rubber band, then flung the stick into the bushes and walked slowly down the road, feeling worse with every step. By the time he got home, he was miserable, and it showed.

"What's wrong?" Clint's mother asked when he came into the house. Feeling that he could carry the burden no further, he blurted out everything. His mother put a hand on his shoulder. "What do you think you should do now?" she asked softly.



"I know what I need to do," Clint said. "I just don't want to do it."

She nodded. "It's hard to make things right when you've done wrong. But if you do your part, the Lord will take care of the rest. And you'll feel good again. I'll drive you to Brother Ernest's house, if that will make it any easier."

Without a word, Clint went out to the car. When they arrived at Brother Ernest's house, he saw the car with its broken taillight in the driveway. He was relieved that there were no police cars.

The house was dark, and he had a glimmer of hope that maybe Brother Ernest wasn't home. Clint slowly climbed the front steps and rang the doorbell. A dog barked. The porch light suddenly came on, and the door was flung open.

There stood Brother Ernest. "Ah-ha! You've come to pay your dues!"

"S-sorry about your car light, B-brother Ernest," Clint stammered. "I'll pay you for it."

"You bet you will! I'll send the bill to your parents, and if you don't pay, I'm calling the police." He slammed the door and turned off the light, leaving Clint standing alone in the dark.

It took Clint more than three months to repay his parents. It took all his allowance, all his paper-route money, plus anything extra he earned doing chores.

But at last the bill was paid in full. And Clint discovered that his mother had been right. He did feel good again. He was glad that he had done the right thing. He was particularly glad the next time he saw Brother Ernest. . . .

It was Clint's first Sunday as a deacon, and he and another deacon, Dan, were assigned to collect fast offerings. He was surprised when the second house they visited was Brother Ernest's. It was shabbier than Clint remembered. The front step was warped, and the porch light was broken. Seeing the porch light brought back all those memories about the broken car light. He wondered briefly if someone had broken the porch light with a slingshot and hadn't repaired it. Suddenly he felt sorry for Brother Ernest.

"This one's yours," Dan whispered, handing Clint the fast-offering envelope. Clint took a deep breath, squared his shoulders, and rang the doorbell.

There was a sound of movement within the house. Then the front door opened slowly and Brother Ernest peered out. "What do you want?" he asked gruffly.

Clint swallowed hard. "We're from the Church, Brother Ernest. We're collecting fast offerings."

"Don't you people ever give up?" Brother Ernest grumbled. "Go away and stop bothering me."

Clint was turning away when the front door suddenly opened wide, and Brother Ernest stepped out onto the



porch. He peered closely at Clint. "Don't I know you, boy?"

Clint stood up straighter. "Yes, sir."

"Weren't you that boy who—"

"Who bought you a new taillight? Yes, sir, I am."

Brother Ernest stared at him in surprise for a few moments and then did something Clint had never seen him do before. He smiled. "You've changed, boy," he said.

Clint shrugged. "When we do our part, the Lord takes care of the rest."

Brother Ernest seemed to ponder Clint's words a moment. He nodded. "You keep your envelope. I'll pay my offerings next week at church. And I expect to see you there, too, young man. I don't want to find you hiding in some apple tree."

Clint smiled. "I don't need to hide anymore." ●



"If we . . . sincerely repent, we will receive a spiritual change of heart which only comes from our Savior. Our hearts will become new again. . . .

"Repentance brings about spiritual healing of the soul."

Elder Robert D. Hales
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles
From an October 1998 general conference address.

The Atonement

BY ELDER NEAL A. MAXWELL
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

In bringing to pass the . . . Atonement, certain things were utterly unique to Jesus. These cannot be replicated [copied exactly] by us. . . . Obviously, unlike our precious Savior, we surely cannot atone for the sins of mankind! Moreover, we certainly cannot bear all mortal sicknesses, infirmities, and griefs (see Alma 7:11–12).

However, on our smaller scale, just as Jesus has invited, we can indeed strive to become “even as [He is]” (3 Nephi 27:27). . . .

Mortality presents us with numerous opportunities to become more Christlike: first, by coping successfully with those of life’s challenges which are “common to man[kind]” (1 Corinthians 10:13).

Though stretched by our challenges, by

living righteously and enduring well we can eventually become [enough] like Jesus . . . , that one day we can dwell in the Father’s presence forever and ever. By so living now, our confidence will “wax strong in the presence of God” then (D&C 121:45). . . . The Prophet Joseph declared, “If you wish to go where God is, you must be like God” (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, sel. Joseph Fielding Smith [1976], 216). . . .

Being valiant in our testimony of Jesus, therefore, includes being valiant in our efforts to live more as He lived (see D&C 76:79).

*From an October 1997
general conference
address.*



Did you know that Elder Neal A. Maxwell raised pigs and entered them in contests? He won many ribbons in those contests. He likes to read, write, and play tennis. He teaches us about the importance of following Jesus Christ.





Trying to Be Like Jesus

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

The "Broken Boy"

By Ann Smith

One day, my grandchildren, Seth, Cole, and Paige, were visiting me.

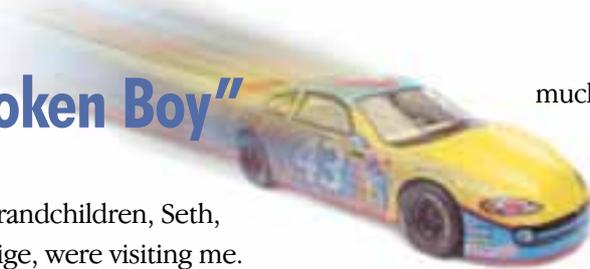
Paige and I were playing a game in our downstairs family room. Seth and Cole were upstairs in the living room, playing "cars." They were taking turns to see whose car could go the fastest and farthest.

I didn't actually know what they were doing until Seth came downstairs and said, "Grandma, you need to come upstairs for a few minutes."

I went upstairs, and he pointed to my favorite porcelain figurine of two boys playing marbles. "Grandma," he said, "my car accidentally hit the figurine and broke the head off the boy."

I was pretty upset, and he knew it. But I said, "Maybe my superglue will fix it." We got it out, and I was able to very carefully mend the figurine. I didn't tell Seth how proud I was of him for admitting what he had done, because I was still upset. Both boys know that they shouldn't play cars in the living room!

The next day, after Seth had gone back home to Idaho (I live in Logan, Utah), I started to think about how



much courage it must have taken him to choose the right and tell me the truth about the broken boy.

I wrote him a letter right away and told him so, and that I was proud of him. He could have blamed it on Cole, or he could have never told me at all. I also told him how glad I was that only a porcelain figurine had been broken and not his testimony of choosing the right.

Cup of Tea

By Morgan Abbott and her mother

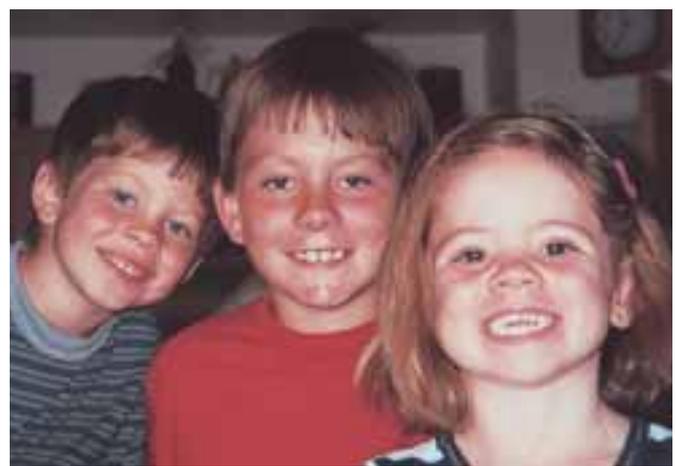


Morgan Abbott, age 7, is a member of Heidelberg Military Ward, Kaiserslautern Germany Military Stake.

When I was getting my hair cut, one of the ladies there gave me a cup of tea. I said, "No thank you."

She tried to give it to me again. I still said, "No thank you."

Morgan's mother writes: "The lady cutting Morgan's hair was very insistent, trying to get her to drink the tea. I was very proud of her. She was very polite, while sticking to her belief in the Word of Wisdom. She wanted to share this in the *Friend*. I think she's a wonderful child!"



Cole, Seth, and Paige Hansen, ages 5, 8, and 4, are members of Rexburg 14th Ward, Rexburg Idaho Center Stake.

Sharing My Talents

By Michael Ahuna



In July 2001, I was able to go to the National Boy Scout Jamboree in Virginia. I am an 11-year-old Scout. I wasn't old enough to participate as a Boy Scout, but I attended with my family, who performs a Polynesian show. I have two older brothers, two older sisters, and a younger brother. We have performed in Utah, Puerto



Michael Abuna, age 11, is a member of Kaneohe First Ward, Kaneohe Hawaii Stake.

Rico, Hawaii, Virginia, Japan, and Florida. We have performed at theme parks, hospitals, schools, libraries, rest homes, orphanages, and Scouting functions.

My younger brother, James (wearing yellow in the photo), and I (wearing green) do a Navajo Indian Hoop Dance. We also do the hula, play the piano, and sing. I also play the ukulele and perform yo-yo tricks.

I enjoyed sharing my talents at the Jamboree. It made people happy. It also helped me to make friends with people from all over the world, and it helped me have a special time with my family. By sharing my talents, I know I will become a better person and build my talents. Matthew 5:16 says, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." I am grateful for the chance I had to share my talents at the Boy Scout Jamboree.



Kindergarten Bully

By Hannah Cardall

One day a girl in my kindergarten class was being mean to me. I didn't know what to do, so I talked to my mom about it. We agreed that it was better to not be mean back, which would only make me feel worse. We decided that I should be extra nice to her. I made a card that I planned to give to her with a fruit snack during lunch on our field trip the next day.

When I gave her the card and fruit snack, she was so

happy that it made me happy, too. I felt like I was the one who got the present! My mom said that that feeling is the Holy Ghost. Even though a few days later the girl was mean again and gave chocolate candy to all my friends at recess but not to me, I remembered the lesson I had learned. I am glad that I know it is better to choose the right and be kind to others, no matter how they treat me.



Hannah Cardall, age 5, is a member of Del Norte Ward, Poway California Stake.





From the Life of President John Taylor



Defender of the Faith

Elder John Taylor was a man who stood up for his beliefs. Many people called him “Defender of the Faith.” One example of his courage happened when he went to Columbus, Ohio, to speak at a Church conference.

I did not come to Ohio to be scared off. I will go and speak. If you do not want to come with me, I will go alone.

Elder Taylor, many people from the town will be there. Many of them wish to tar and feather you tonight.

Our advice is to not go and so avoid this danger altogether.

When Elder Taylor arrived, he started by telling the congregation that he was from Canada—a country still ruled by a monarch.

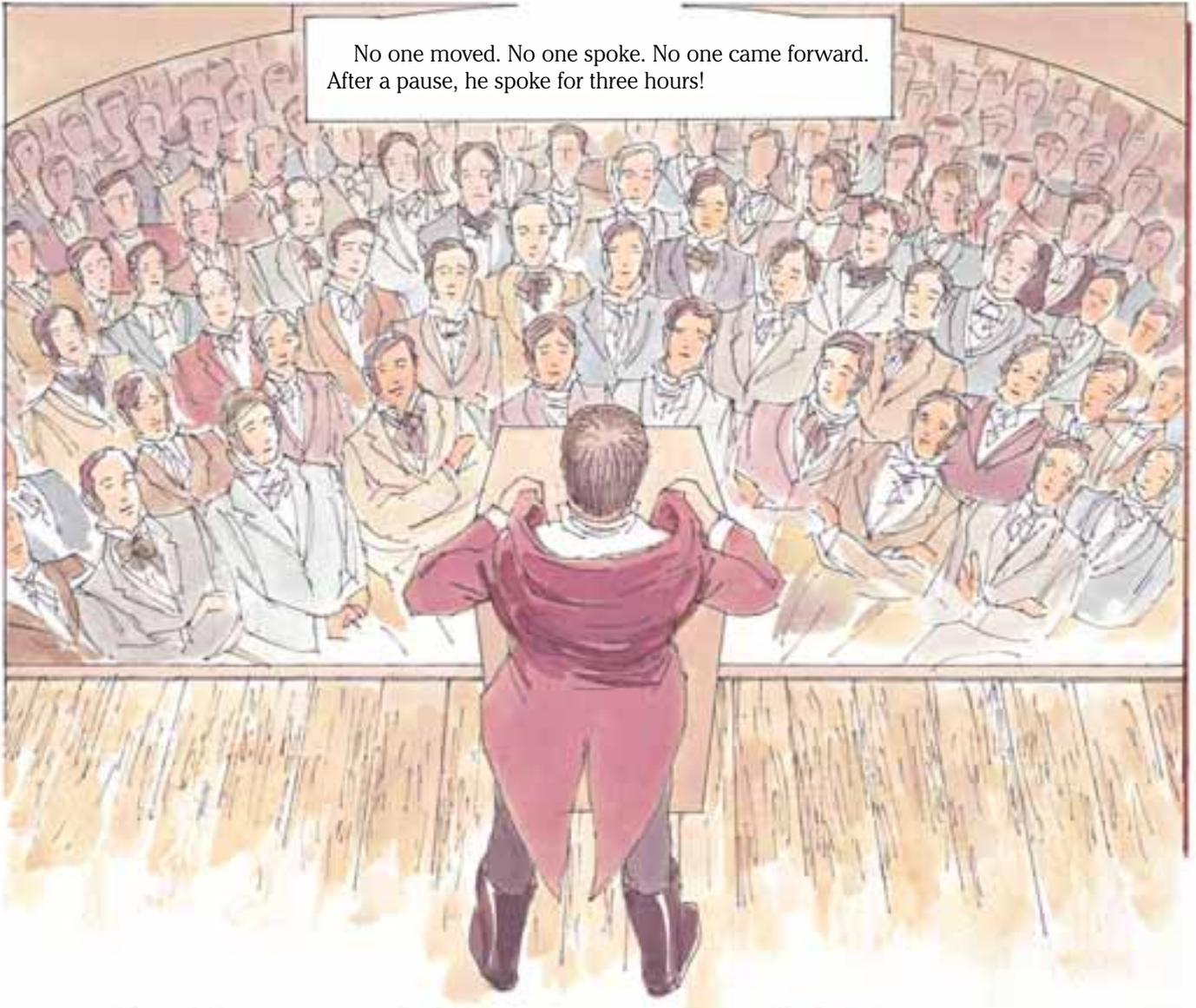
I have been informed that you plan to tar and feather me for my religious opinions. Is this what you have inherited from your fathers? If so, you now have a victim!

Gentlemen, I now stand among men whose fathers fought for and won freedom, the greatest blessing ever given to the human family.

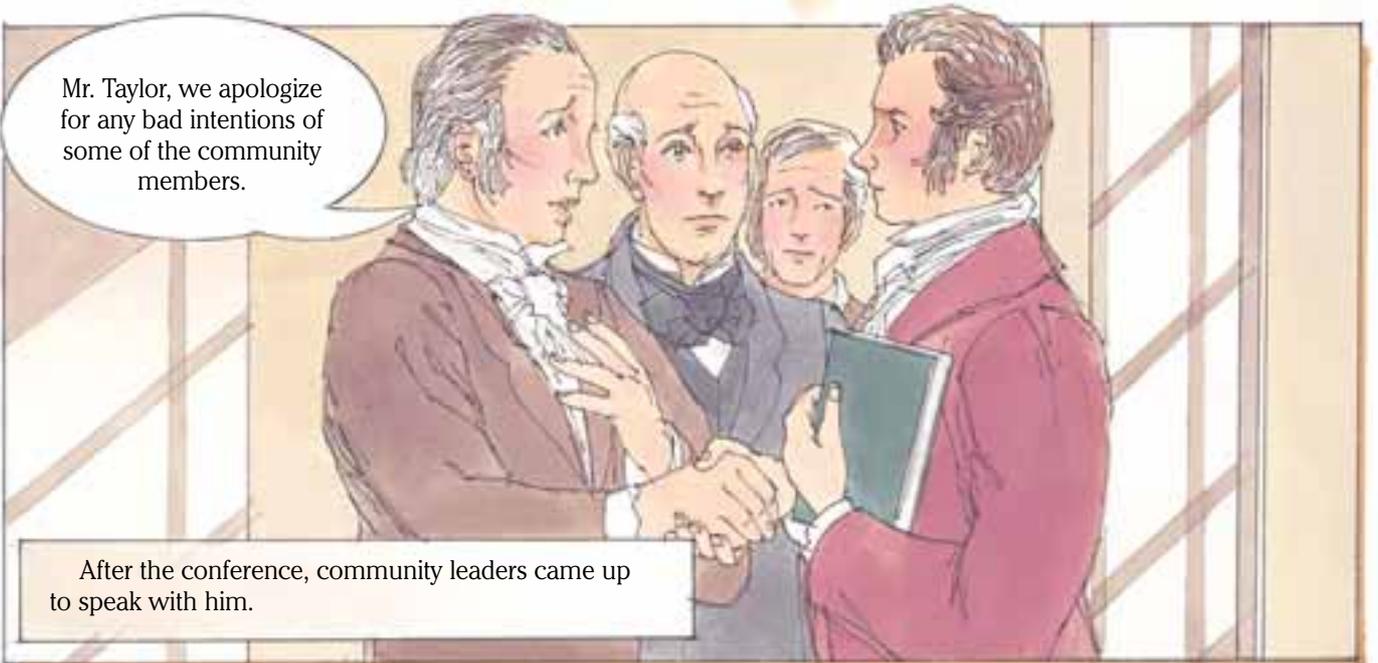
Elder Taylor then opened his vest.

Gentlemen, come on with your tar and feathers. Your victim is ready!

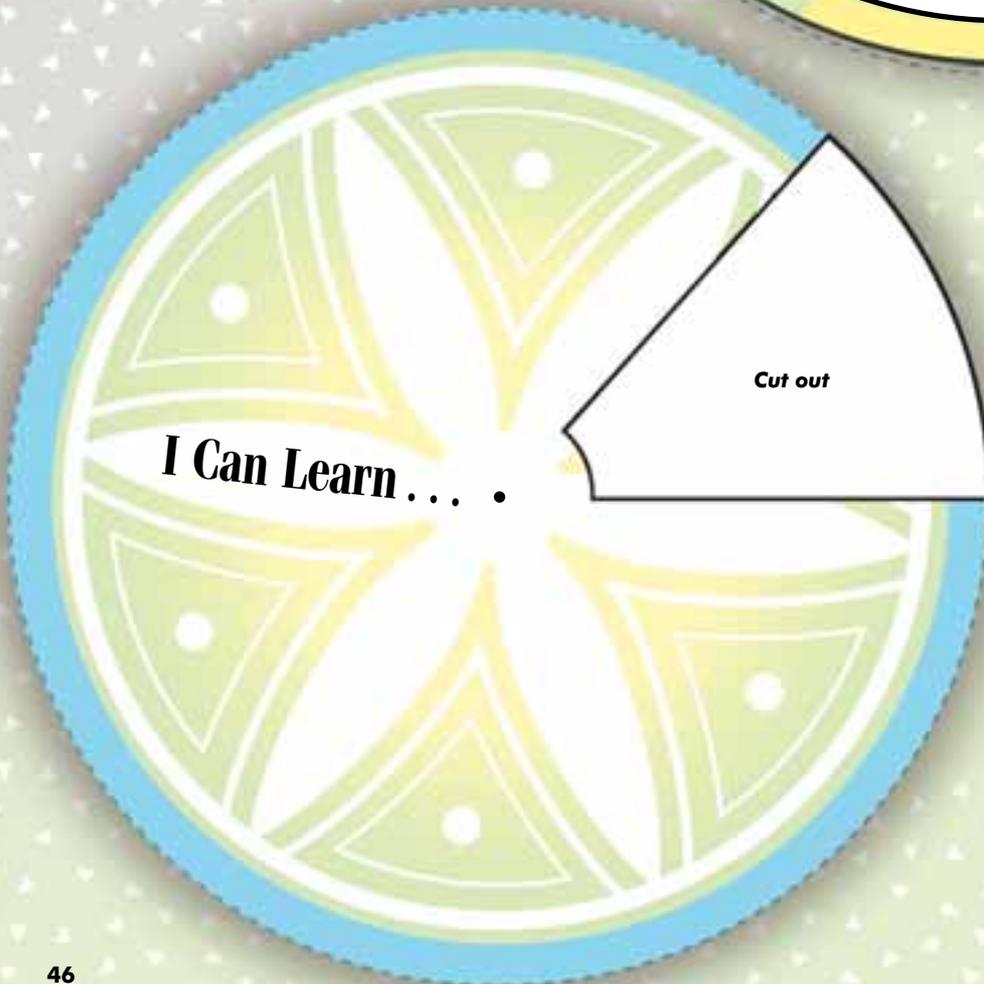
No one moved. No one spoke. No one came forward.
After a pause, he spoke for three hours!



Mr. Taylor, we apologize
for any bad intentions of
some of the community
members.



After the conference, community leaders came up
to speak with him.



1. *Sharing Time with President Gordon B. Hinckley*, item no. 53331.
2. 1 Timothy 4:12.
3. James R. Moss, "Young John Taylor," *New Era*, Oct. 1980, 29.
4. "A Testimony Makes Me Feel Happy Inside," Primary open house, Apr. 2002, 8.
5. Pat Graham, "Happy Birthday, Primary," *Friend*, Aug./Sep. 1983, 34.

Example of the Believers

BY VICKI F. MATSUMORI

There is no other name given whereby salvation cometh (Mosiah 5:8).



After Jesus died, a great Apostle named Paul wrote to members of the Church about how we can be an example of the believers, or a better follower of the Savior. When we do what the Apostle Paul taught, we honor the Savior and His name and we are an example for other people of the Savior's teachings. Paul wrote, "Let no man despise [look down on] thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12).

President Gordon B. Hinckley explained that when Paul says to be an example "in word," he "is speaking here of language. . . . He is saying that coarse and lewd [wicked] words are incompatible with [against] one's calling as a believer in Christ" ("Take Not the Name of God in Vain," *Ensign*, Nov. 1987, 47). He said that we should use the name of Heavenly Father reverently.

In addition to using clean speech, there are other ways to show we are believers in Christ. In 1878, Aurelia Spencer Rogers suggested that children meet together weekly to learn about the Savior and about how to be good examples of believers. President John Taylor, then President of the Church, approved this idea, and the first Primary was organized.

Now, 125 years later, Sister Coleen K. Menlove, Primary general president, encourages children to "live the gospel, and receive . . . a testimony" ("A Testimony Makes Me Feel Happy Inside," Primary open house, Apr. 2002, 8).

When you follow the Savior, choose the right, and avoid using bad language, you are an example of the believers.

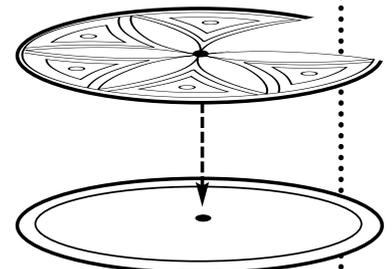
"I Can Learn" Wheel

1. Mount page 46 on heavy paper. Cut out the two circles and the window in the "I Can Learn" circle.

2. In the blank space on the circle with pictures, draw a picture of yourself and write something underneath it that you wish to learn in Primary about being a better example of a believer.

3. Line up the centers of the circles, punch a hole through both circles, and insert a fastener (see illustration).

4. Move the "I Can Learn" circle to read some of the things you can learn in Primary.



Sharing Time Ideas

(Note: All songs are from *Children's Songbook* unless otherwise indicated; GAK = Gospel Art Kit; TNGC = Teaching, No Greater Call)

1. Review D&C 107:4 to help the children understand how names are substituted in the scriptures to show reverence for Deity and to explain different aspects of the Savior's work and mission. On the chalkboard, write these references: Job 19:25 ("redeemer"), Isaiah 9:6 ("Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace"), Luke 2:11 ("Saviour," "Christ the Lord"), John 1:29 ("Lamb of God"), John 1:49 ("King of Israel"), John 10:14 ("good shepherd"), Revelation 1:8 ("Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending," "Lord," "Almighty"). Have the children locate and write the names of Deity on the chalkboard by the reference. Discuss what it means to not take the Lord's name in vain. Help the children memorize Exodus 20:7. Divide them into groups; write the scripture on a piece of paper for each group and cut the words apart. Have the children in each group work together to assemble the scripture. Express your love for the Lord and your desire to honor Him by using His name reverently.

2. Help the children understand that one way we honor Jesus Christ is to think about Him while the sacrament is being passed. Display items and pictures and have the children tell what gospel principles the items or pictures remind them of. For example: a tithing envelope (paying tithing), the number 8 (baptism), a set of scriptures (scripture study), a calendar with the first Sunday circled (fasting), and a picture of a temple (temple worship). Use Luke 22:19–20; D&C 20:77, 79; and a picture of the Last Supper to discuss the events of the Last Supper. What do the bread and water of the sacrament help us remember? (The Savior's sacrifice of His flesh and blood.) What do we promise? (To take upon us His name, to always remember Him, and to keep His commandments.) What does He promise us? (His Spirit as we choose the right.) Discuss ways we can focus our thoughts on the Savior during the sacrament. Take the children to visit the area where the sacrament is prepared and blessed, and invite young men of the Aaronic Priesthood to explain the importance of preparing, blessing, and passing the sacrament. Sing songs or hymns about the Savior and the sacrament.

3. With the approval of the bishop or branch president, invite parents and ward or branch members to honor the Primary in celebration of Primary's 125th anniversary. Ask the visitors to share an experience from Primary, such as a favorite song, an activity they remember, differences in Primary from when they attended, their baptism, a gospel principle they learned in Primary, and so on. Have them wait outside the room and enter when the children guess who they are. Give clues such as "This person is the most recent graduate of our Primary," "This person was Primary president for seven years," "This person graduated from Primary in 1950," "This person visits us and gives us a message each month."

Have the visitors share their experiences, and then have the children sing the visitors' favorite Primary songs. Sing a welcome song to them. Have the children share some of their own Primary experiences.

Have the children help decorate a container for a time capsule to be opened in 25 years on the Primary's 150th anniversary. Have the children draw a picture or write something they can do to follow the Savior, then write their full names and ages on the papers and place them in the container. If possible, include a photograph of the children, leaders, and teachers and present the container to the bishop or branch president.

Express your love for Primary and the Primary children, and the gratitude you feel for what you have learned and taught in Primary.

Challenge the children to always choose the right.

Class presentation: Assign class members to interview ward or branch members who have served missions or lived in countries around the world. Have the class learn what Primary is like in different parts of the world. They could discover how large the Primaries are, what the meeting facilities are like, what kinds of activities are enjoyed, favorite Primary songs, how far the children travel to get to church and what kinds of transportation they use, and so on. Have the class report their findings in sharing time. Then have them sing "Holding Hands Around the World" (*Friend*, July 2002, 44–45) and teach it to the rest of the children. Give each child a plain paper doll with hands outstretched. Have the children color them to represent children all over the world. Have them write on the backs of their dolls something they can do to follow the Savior or some way they can help the Church grow where they live. Display the dolls on a wall for the rest of the ward or branch to see.

4. Display GAK 208 ("John the Baptist Baptizing Jesus") and have the children help retell the events of the Savior's baptism. Sing "Baptism" (pp. 100–101).

On wordstrips, write categories about things related to baptism, such as THINGS FOUND AT A BAPTISM, PEOPLE FROM THE SCRIPTURES WHO WERE BAPTIZED, ORDINANCES OF THE CHURCH, THINGS I PROMISE WHEN I AM BAPTIZED, REASONS TO BE BAPTIZED, WAYS I CAN HONOR MY BAPTISMAL COVENANT.

Divide the children into groups. Display one of the category papers and have a child in the first group give one example that fits the category. For example, for THINGS FOUND AT A BAPTISM, items might be an eight-year-old child, the parents, the missionaries, white clothing, water, a font, the bishop or branch president, witnesses, speakers, and music. Have each group suggest one thing for the category. If a group is unable to give an answer, it drops out of the game until the next category. Have the remaining groups continue until there is one group left. Repeat the process with the remaining categories.

Sing "When I Am Baptized" (p. 103). Bear testimony of the blessings received at baptism, and express gratitude for your membership in the Church.

5. *Song presentation:* To teach "Choose the Right Way" (pp. 160–61), use an object small enough to hide in your hand to illustrate a teaching of Jesus Christ—for example: a coin (tithing), mustard seed (faith), rock (wise man). Discuss the teaching and how the children will be happy as they follow the Savior's teachings.

Have all the children line up against the wall at the back of the room. Place a picture of the Savior on the front wall. As the children learn the song, they advance toward the picture. (For larger Primaries, have all the children move markers, such as a button or a bean, from the bottom to the top of a lined piece of paper, rather than physically move to the front of the room.)

Have the children listen as you sing the first phrase; then they sing it with you. Next they sing it by themselves. If they do it correctly twice in a row, they all advance one step; if not, repeat the process. Do this with the remaining phrases until the entire song is learned and the children have reached the front wall (or the tops of their papers). When they have returned to their chairs, bear testimony that every time they make a right choice in their lives—such as when they choose to do the right and learn the song—they move closer to the Savior.

6. Other *Friend* resources: Sharing Times—July 2002, 12–14; Aug. 1999, 44–46; May 1997, 12–13; Aug./Sep. 1983, 34–35. "Achievement-Day Mystery Activity," Apr. 2001, 2–4; "Respect His Name," Jan. 2000, 48–IBC; "Aurelia," July 2001, 7.



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 "I'll honor His name."



Family Home Evening Ideas

1. Read "Change of Heart" (pages 4–7). Discuss the challenges early Church members—and perhaps even your own ancestors—faced in order to join the Church. Compare them with some of the challenges you might face today as a member of the Church, and discuss how you can overcome them.

2. Sister Sydney S. Reynolds gives her testimony by numbering five points. After reading "I Can Pray to Heavenly Father Anytime, Anywhere" (pages 24–26), number a sheet of paper from one to five. Write or draw pictures of five things that are a part of your testimony or five things of which you would like to gain a stronger testimony. Discuss the examples of answers to prayer Sister Reynolds gives. Then commit to pray about one of the five things on your list during the week in order to gain a stronger testimony of it.

3. Read "Treehouse" (pages 30–32). Have there ever been times when people around you were being disobedient and it was hard for you to be a good example? Discuss how Jordan reacts and how you could follow his example in similar situations. Finish by completing the word search "Honoring Jesus Christ" (page 17).

4. Read "Sharing My Talents" (pages 42–43). Discuss what each family member's talents are and ways to share them. Have a family talent show or visit someone (for example, a neighbor, hospital patient, or rest home resident) who would enjoy seeing your talents.



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*, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220. Send e-mail to cur-editorial-friend@ldschurch.org.

Send children's submissions to *Friend*, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, in care of the appropriate department—Our Creative Friends, Friends in the News, Childviews, Trying to Be Like Jesus.

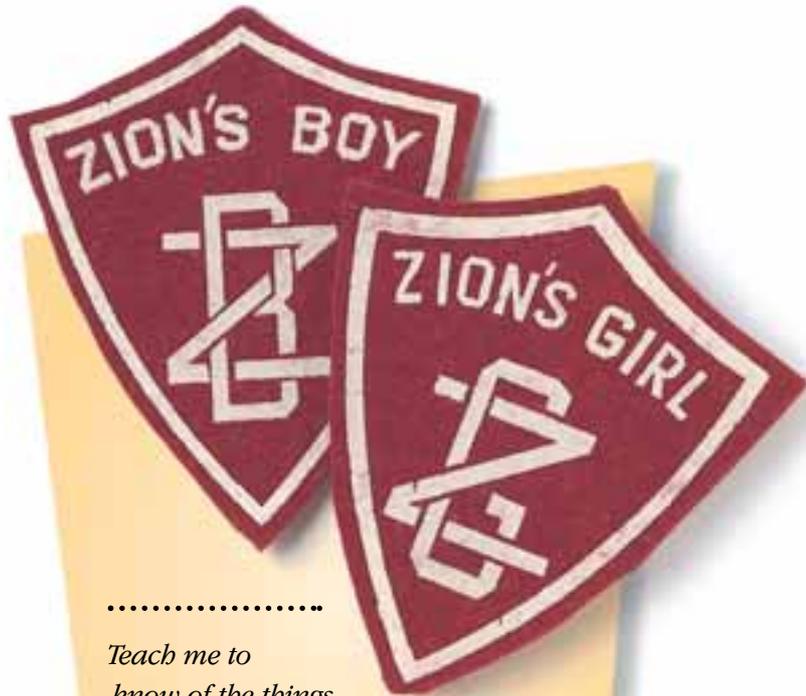
The *Friend* can be found on the Internet at www.lds.org. Click on Gospel Library.



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(FLF) = For Little Friends
(f) = Funstuff
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*Teach me to
know of the things
that are right; Teach me, teach me
to walk in the light (Children's
Songbook, 177).*

See "Primary Then and Now," 14–15.