



# the friend

DECEMBER • 2006

# Friends by Mail

## Kylie's Kindness



Sara G., age 10, Nevada

I ran for the office of historian on my fifth-grade student council. When my opponent, Kylie, won I felt sad. Later Kylie slipped me a note that said nice things about me. I will always remember Kylie's example of kindness.

blessing. After the blessing I felt really good and I was able to finish 2 Nephi. I'm glad Heavenly Father's real and that He hears and answers our prayers.

Eden J., age 6, Washington

## Excited

I'm going to turn eight years old soon, and when I turn eight I will get baptized. I'm excited. After I get baptized I know I won't always do the right thing. But I will try very hard to choose the right and follow Heavenly Father's commandments. And if I make bad choices I will repent.

Kaylee Jo D., age 7, Utah



## Reading Help

I've been reading the Book of Mormon. When I was in 2 Nephi, I was having a hard time reading. So my dad gave me a priesthood



## A Prayer for Jake



Two years ago we took our dog, Jake, with us to Grandma and Grandpa's house for Christmas. Jake ran off right before a really bad snowstorm. My dad drove around looking for him for a couple of hours, but could not find him.

My dad called our family together and told us that Jake was lost and that we needed Heavenly Father's help to find him. We knelt together, and my dad asked me to say the prayer. I asked Heavenly Father to



let some nice people find him and take care of him and help him come home to us because we loved him.

My prayer was answered. Some nice people found him in a cow pasture. They cleaned him up and fed him. The next morning they called us, and we picked him up. Heavenly Father helped Jake stay safe as he crossed a busy road, and He led nice people to help him. I know Heavenly Father answers prayers because He answered mine.

Dwight P., age 6, with help from his mom, Utah

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# the friend

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



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

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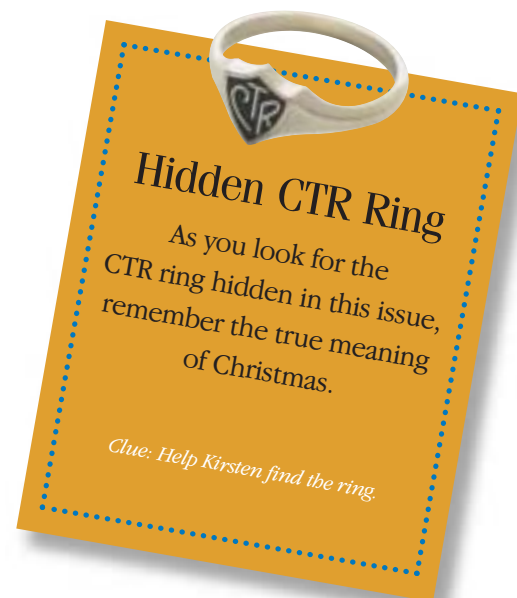
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Cover photograph by Christina Smith



*A Christmas Message from the First Presidency  
to the Children of the World*



# Christmas *Light*

**I**n the Holy Land, a star appeared in the heavens at the time of the Savior's birth. In the New World, there was light for a day and a night and a day to mark His coming to earth as a newborn babe. His life continued in light as He was the perfect example of obedience, goodness, and love.

As we study the Savior's life and teachings, sing songs of joy to honor Him, keep His commandments, honor our parents, and love and serve one another, we will keep that light shining bright this Christmastime and all through the coming year. ●

*President Gordon B. Hinckley  
Thomas S. Monson  
James E. Faust*







*Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love (Romans 12:10).*

# Room FOR Three

BY STACIE A. HEAPS

(Based on a true story)

**B**rent ran downstairs, his little sister, Lindsey, following close behind. “Mom!” Brent cried. “Lindsey won’t leave us alone!”

Brent’s best friend, Clint, had come over to play. The boys were playing with Brent’s fire truck and putting out the fires in the skyscrapers they had built out of blocks. “Lindsey always wants to do what we’re doing,” Brent said. “Why can’t she go away?”

“Brent, please be nice to your sister. She just wants to spend time with you,” Mom said.

“But, Mom, she always wants to tag along. Can’t she do something else for a while?”

“How about if we color together, Lindsey?” Mom asked. Lindsey nodded.

“Thanks, Mom,” Brent said as he started back up the stairs.

“Don’t forget, Brent,” Mom called after him. “You and Clint have practice for the Christmas program in less than an hour.”

“OK, Mom,” Brent replied.

“Mommy, why doesn’t Brent like me?” Lindsey asked, tears forming in her eyes.

“He does like you,” Mom said. “But sometimes he just wants to be with his friends. Brent loves you very much, even if he doesn’t always show it.”



A little while later, Mom took Brent and Clint to the church to practice for the Christmas program. Brent was excited. He was going to play Joseph this year. Before, he’d always been a sheep or a shepherd or a Wise Man. That was neat, but this year would be the best ever.

“OK, we’re going to practice the scene at the inns,”

Brother Mitchell said. “Joseph and Mary, take your places. Innkeepers, it’s time.”

The Primary children hurried to their places onstage as Joseph and Mary approached the first inn.

“Please, do you have a room that we could stay in for the night?” Brent asked. “My wife is going to have a baby very soon, and she needs a place to rest.”

“I’m sorry. There’s no room,” the innkeeper said.

“Come on, Mary. Let’s try another place,” Brent said. They walked to the next innkeeper. “Hello, sir. We’ve come a long way, and my wife is going to have a baby very soon. Do you have a place where we can stay?”

“No, we’re all full. There’s no room.”

Brent went to the next innkeeper and knocked on the door, then the next, and then the next. The answer was always the same.

“There’s no room.”

“No room.”

“No room.”

“I’m so sorry, Mary,” Brent said. “Let’s try this one last place.” He turned and knocked on the door. “Sir, please, we’re very far from home, we have no place to go, and my wife is going to have a baby very soon. We’ve tried every inn in town. Do you have anywhere that we could stay?”

“I’m sorry. We’re all full.”

Joseph and Mary turned away slowly, looking sad. “I’m sorry, Mary,” Brent began. “I don’t know what—”

“Wait! Wait just a moment,” the innkeeper called after them. “Maybe I have a place after all. Come with me.”

The innkeeper led them to the stable with cows, sheep, and other animals. “It’s not much, but you can stay here if you like.”

“This is wonderful,”

Brent said gratefully.

“Thank you very, very much.”

A few days later, Clint was at Brent’s house again. They were playing in a big box, pretending it was a fort that protected them from invaders. But Lindsey kept bothering them, asking if she could come inside too.

“Lindsey, why don’t you go do something else? Can’t you see that there’s no room for—” Brent stopped mid-sentence. He thought of the words that he’d heard just a few days before: “No room,

no room, no room.” He thought of Joseph and Mary and the baby Jesus, who meant so much to all of them. Then he looked at his little sister.

“I’m sorry, Lindsey. Of course there’s room for you. There’s always room for three.” ●



# Christmas

## Christmas Doorknob Banner

BY ROSE ROSS ZEDIKER

You will need:

**lightweight cardboard**

**or cardstock**

**scissors**

**green felt**

**glue**

**red felt**

**cotton balls**

1. Using the illustration as an example, cut the lightweight cardboard into a rectangular shape with a hole near the top for your bedroom doorknob to fit through.

2. Trace the shape of the cardboard onto the green felt and cut it out. Glue the green felt in place on the cardboard.

3. Cut a stocking shape out of the red felt. Pull cotton balls to loosen them and glue them along the top of the stocking.

4. Turn the stocking over and squeeze glue along the outside edges, but not the top edge.

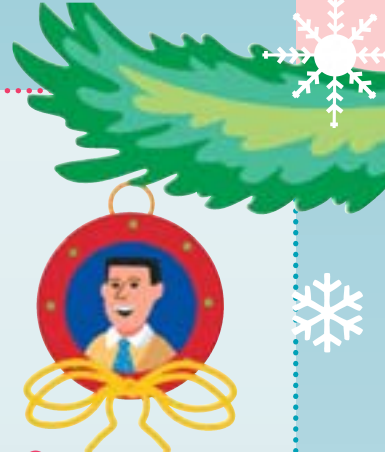
Press the stocking onto the center of the green felt and let the glue dry. The stocking should now form a small pocket.

5. Have every family member make a doorknob banner and spend the season leaving notes, treats, and other Christmas surprises in each other's stockings.





# Workshop



## Spiced Nuts

**2 cups walnut halves, blanched almonds, or pecan halves**

**1 small egg white**

**1/4 cup brown sugar**

**1 tablespoon sugar**

**1 tablespoon cinnamon**

1. Pour the nuts into a large, resealable plastic bag.

2. Crack an egg into a bowl, making sure to separate the white from the yolk. Discard the yolk. Add the egg white to the nuts in the plastic bag. Shake to coat.

3. Add the sugar and cinnamon to the bag. Shake to coat.

4. Spread the nuts on a greased baking sheet and bake 20 minutes at 300°F (149°C). Pour the nuts onto waxed paper and let cool.

## Festive Cracker Dip

**8 ounces (227 g) cream cheese**

**1/3 cup sour cream**

**1/4 cup chopped green olives stuffed with pimentos**

**1 teaspoon liquid from the bottle of green olives**

**1/4 cup chopped green pepper**

**1/4 cup chopped red pepper**

Stir the cream cheese and sour cream together. Mix in the chopped olives and olive juice. Form into a ball and cover with chopped peppers. Serve with crackers or vegetables.



## Berry Bread

**3 cups flour**

**2 cups sugar**

**1 teaspoon salt**

**3 teaspoons cinnamon**

**1 teaspoon baking soda**

**1 1/4 cups oil**

**4 eggs**

**3 cups frozen strawberries, raspberries, or mixed berries**

1. Stir all the dry ingredients together in a large mixing bowl. Then add the oil, eggs, and berries. Mix well.

2. Pour the batter evenly into three greased and floured 8x4-inch (20x10-cm) loaf pans. Bake at 350°F (177°C) for 1 hour.



## Family Tree Ornaments

BY LORI NAWYN

These simple ornaments can turn your Christmas tree into a real family tree! You will need:

**canning jar rings**

**photocopies of family photos—both**

**living family members and ancestors**

**pencil**

**scissors**

**glue**

**yarn or ribbon**

**lace (optional)**

1. Place a canning ring right-side up on a photo. Make sure all the details you want to see are framed by the ring. Trace around the outside of the ring with a pencil.

2. Cut out the photo along the traced line and make sure it fits snugly inside the canning ring.

3. Turn the ring upside down. Squeeze a bead of glue around the edge of the photo and carefully place the photo inside the canning ring. Wipe away any excess glue.

4. Cut ribbon or yarn into desired lengths. Tie the ends together to form a loop for hanging. Glue the bottom of the loop to the top of the canning ring. You may also want to glue ribbon or lace along the canning ring for decoration. Allow the glue to dry and hang your ornament on the Christmas tree.

*Remember also the promises which were made to you (D&C 3:5).*

# Remembering Promises



**BY ELDER JAY E. JENSEN**  
Of the Seventy

**W**hen I was serving as mission president in Colombia, I left on a Thursday morning to fly to a city in our mission. I spent the day interviewing, and as I spoke with the missionaries, a number of concerns began to worry me.

After a zone conference with the missionaries, I conducted a district conference with Church leaders and members on Saturday and Sunday. There were challenges in this area: low Church attendance, poor preparation, and other concerns. The experiences that I had over these four days left me feeling low.

On the flight home, I used the time to read, ponder, and pray. I took my scriptures in hand and thumbed through the pages, reading here and there. Soon I came to some verses in Doctrine and Covenants

section 3 that will never be the same to me: “The works, and the designs, and the purposes of God cannot be frustrated, neither can they come to naught” (v. 1).

I thought about these words. I realized that on my trip I had come to the wrong conclusion that the purposes, designs, and works of God were being “frustrated” in that city.

I continued on: “For God doth not walk in crooked paths” (v. 2). Some of the missionaries

**Age 10 (right) with his brothers Marvin (left) and Richard (center)**



**Age 12**



**Age 19, before his mission**

**The scriptures taught me to remember the great promises given to me.**

and members seemed to be walking in crooked paths.

In verse 5 I found a treasure—one of the most wonderful insights I have ever found in the scriptures: “Behold, you have been entrusted with these things.”

I paused to reflect upon the things entrusted to me: my wife and six children, 100 missionaries, 6,000 members, 13–14 million nonmembers, a mission, districts, branches, budgets, buildings, and so forth.

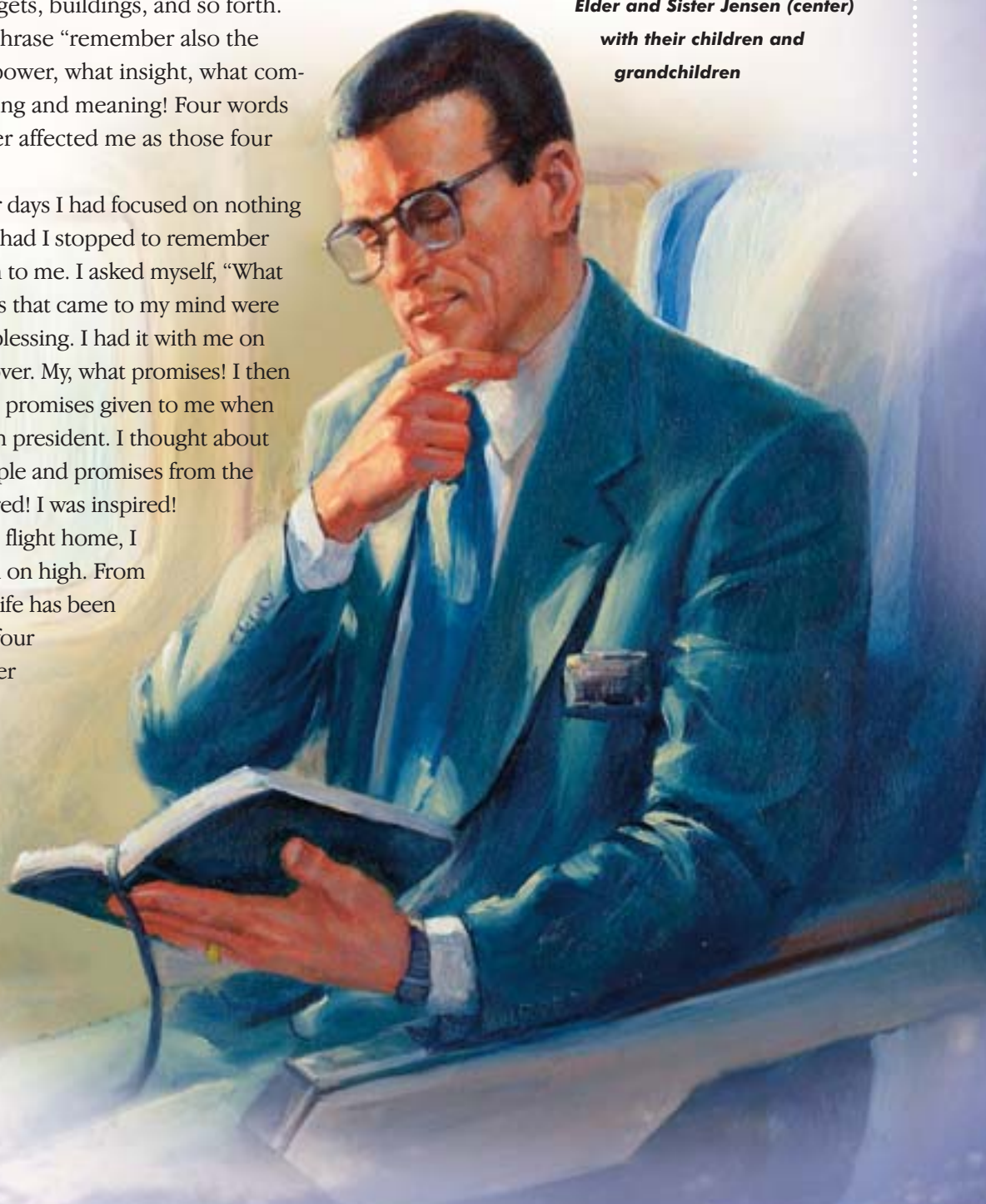
Then I came to the phrase “remember also the promises” (v. 5). What power, what insight, what comfort, what depth of feeling and meaning! Four words from scripture had never affected me as those four did that day.

I realized that for four days I had focused on nothing but problems. Not once had I stopped to remember the great promises given to me. I asked myself, “What promises?” The first ones that came to my mind were those in my patriarchal blessing. I had it with me on the plane, and I read it over. My, what promises! I then pondered on the special promises given to me when I was set apart as mission president. I thought about the promises of the temple and promises from the scriptures. My spirit soared! I was inspired!

As I look back on that flight home, I realize I was taught from on high. From that day until today, my life has been different, all because of four simple words: “remember also the promises.” ●



**Elder and Sister Jensen (center)  
with their children and  
grandchildren**



*Elizabeth Beardall's sister Charlotte has recently died of scarlet fever. When Elizabeth falls ill, her parents summon Latter-day Saint missionaries who have been preaching in their town in England. The elders give Elizabeth a blessing in which they make four promises. The first is that Elizabeth will recover, which she immediately does. The second is that she will accept the gospel and be baptized.*

BY SHEILA KINDRED

(Based on the life of Elizabeth Beardall Mower)

# Promises to Elizabeth

## Part 2: Elizabeth's Decision

*And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall . . . inherit everlasting life (Matthew 19:29).*

Christmas was coming, and Elizabeth could hardly wait. Her excitement wasn't for the gifts that Father Christmas would bring, nor for her eighth birthday on the day after Christmas. She was excited because on the day after her birthday she would be baptized into God's true Church.

Grandmother Beardall smiled as the family sat down

to dinner. "Look at Elizabeth," she said. "She's glowing like a crystal! Is it Christmas or birthday wishes that dance in your head, my dear?"

"Neither," Elizabeth answered without thinking. She remembered too late that Grandmother wasn't supposed to know about the baptism.

"Neither?" Grandmother sounded puzzled. "How can it be neither? Tell us, child. What excites you so?"

Elizabeth studied the pattern on her china plate and didn't answer.

Grandmother frowned and turned to look at Father.





“Someone told me they saw you associating with those wicked Mormons, Francis. I assured them it was not true. Can you give me the same assurance?”

Elizabeth thought of Elder Chase and Elder Canon and all the other good people in the Church. “They are not wicked, Grandmother!” she blurted out.

Grandmother turned pale. “So it is true,” she said softly.

“Mother, we have found God’s true Church,” Elizabeth’s father said gently. “We are being baptized at the end of the month.”

Grandmother sat stiff and straight. “The children too?”

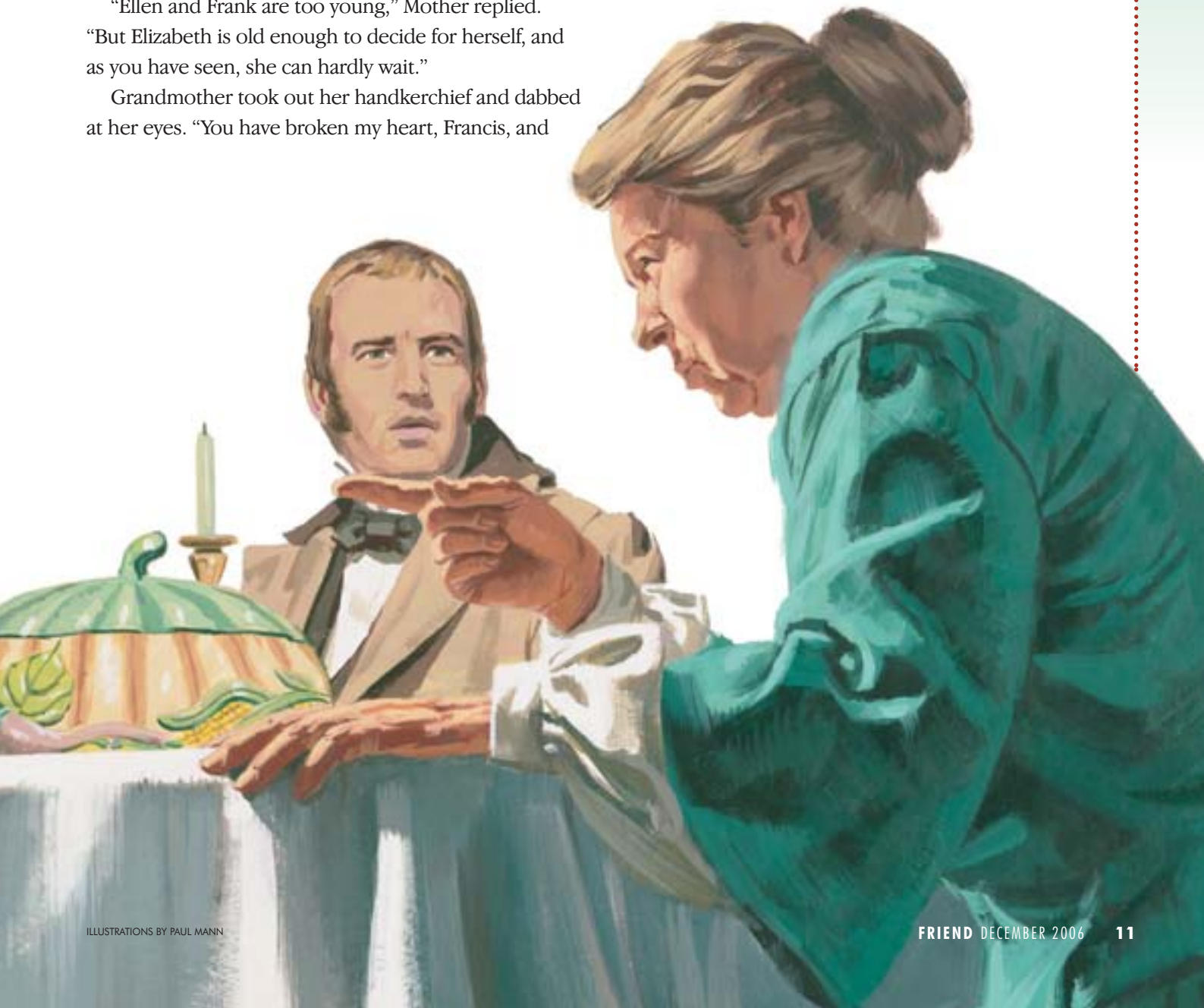
“Ellen and Frank are too young,” Mother replied.

“But Elizabeth is old enough to decide for herself, and as you have seen, she can hardly wait.”

Grandmother took out her handkerchief and dabbed at her eyes. “You have broken my heart, Francis, and

brought disgrace on your family. I would rather have followed you to your grave than see you join that despised church. If you join with those people, you are no longer my son, but I would not lose my beloved granddaughter.” She turned to Elizabeth. “If you really have a choice in this matter, I beg you not to be baptized but come and live with me. I promise that you will never want for anything as long as you live.”

Elizabeth didn’t know what to say. She loved her grandmother very much, but she also wanted to be



baptized. Later, as Mother tucked her into bed, Elizabeth asked, “Why doesn’t Grandmother want us to join God’s true Church?”

“She doesn’t believe that it is the true church,” Mother said, “and she has the right to choose.”

“But what should I do? If I do what Grandma wants will Heavenly Father understand? Will He know that I still believe the Church is true?”

“He knows your heart, Elizabeth, but sometimes faith is more than just believing. It is trusting God and doing the right thing even when it’s hard. But you also have the right to choose. It’s your decision if or when you are baptized.”

In the busy days that followed, Elizabeth put aside the decision as she worked on Christmas presents for her family. But as she pushed cloves into a pomander

“We follow the Savior by entering the waters of baptism and receiving a remission of our sins, by receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost and allowing that influence to inspire, instruct, guide, and comfort us.”



**Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “Follow Me,” Ensign, May 2002, 16–17.**

ball for Grandmother, Elizabeth knew she could give a gift that would make Grandmother much happier. She could agree to live with her.

On Christmas Eve Elizabeth’s family was enjoying their plum pudding when the doctor came to call. “I have just come from tending Mrs. Beardall,” he told Father. “She is not serious, but asks that you come see her.”

Father reached for his coat. “I’ll take Elizabeth,” he said. “That will cheer her.”

Grandmother was in bed propped on her pillows. “How are you?” Father asked, taking her hand.

“My old body is wearing out,” Grandmother said. “I am in great need of a strong youth to assist me.” She looked at Elizabeth. “Well, dear? What is your decision? Will you come help me in my time of need?”

Elizabeth hesitated. Seeing her grandmother in bed reminded her of the night three years earlier when she herself lay dying.

“I love you, Grandmother,” Elizabeth said, “and I will do what I can to help you. But God has given me special promises and one of them was that I would join the true Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He cannot keep His promises unless I do my part. So I have decided to be baptized with my parents.”

As soon as Elizabeth spoke these words, joy filled her heart. She knew she had made the right decision. ●

*Coming up in next month’s Friend, read about the third promise from Elizabeth’s blessing in “Part 3: Elizabeth Alone.”*





# The Blessed Christ Child

BY REBECCA TODD ARCHIBALD

When angels came that holy night,  
They did not visit kings;  
A large and glorious army  
Never heard them sing.

It was not in a palace  
The angels came to earth—  
But on a lonely hillside  
They told of Jesus's birth.

They appeared to humble shepherds  
Tending their flocks by night  
And told them of the Christ child  
While the star shone so bright.

If we can be like shepherds,  
Humble, pure, and mild,  
We, too, can know the Savior,  
Once the blessed Christ child.



**Luke 2:7**

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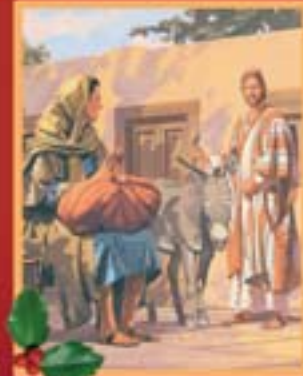
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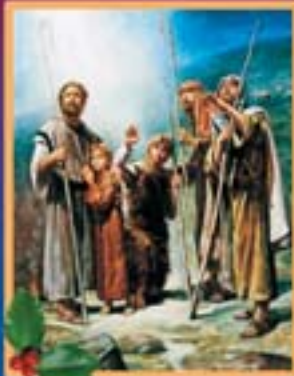
**Isaiah 7:14**



**Luke 1:39-45**



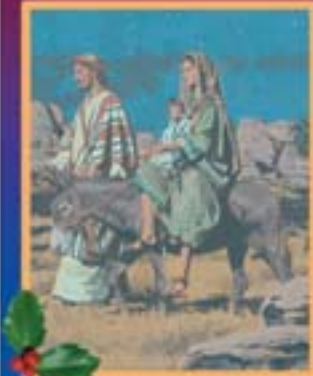
**Luke 2:1-6**



**Luke 2:8-20**



**Matthew 2:1-12**



**Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23**



**Matthew 24:30, 36**



# He Sent His Son



*The angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord (Luke 2:10–11).*

BY ELIZABETH RICKS



This year we have been learning about promises. A promise is a pledge that you will do something or not do something.

As we read the scriptures, we see that the Father and the Son always fulfill Their promises. One of the greatest promises that Heavenly Father made was to send His Son to the earth. In the Grand Council in Heaven, Heavenly Father promised to send a Savior. The Savior would atone for our sins so that we could live with Heavenly Father again.

How did Heavenly Father send His Son to the earth? He sent Him as a newborn baby. He allowed Jesus to learn and grow, just the way that we learn and grow. Because Heavenly Father loves us so much, He allowed His Son to die for us. But then Jesus was resurrected, making it possible for us to live again too.

What a wondrous promise Jesus Christ was to the earth! Heavenly Father had promised to send Him. Heavenly Father kept His promise.

What does Heavenly Father expect from us? The Primary song “He Sent His Son” reminds us:

*Have faith, have hope, live like his Son, help others on their way.*

*What does he ask? Live like his Son.*

*(Children’s Songbook, 34–35)*

As we live as Jesus lived, we will qualify for the promises that Heavenly Father has for us.

## Before-or-After Game

Glue page 14 to heavy paper, and cut out the cards. Place the round nativity card on a flat surface. Read the scripture listed. Take turns choosing cards and reading scriptures. If the scripture tells about an event that happened or a prophecy that was given *before* Jesus was born, put it before the picture of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus. If the scripture tells about an event or prophecy that came *after* Jesus was born, put the card after the picture of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus. ●

## Sharing Time Ideas

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

1. Tell the children that you will ask them a question with music and they will raise their hands when they know the answer. Display GAK 113 (Isaiah Writes of Christ's Birth), and point to the baby in the picture while the pianist plays "Who Is the Child?" (p. 46). If the children are not familiar with this song, sing the first verse. Display GAK 201 (The Nativity), and sing the second verse. Point out the similarities between the two pictures. Explain that the man who is writing in the first picture is Isaiah. Isaiah saw the birth of the Savior in a vision hundreds of years before the Savior was actually born.

Isaiah used other titles for Jesus Christ. Display wordstrips with scrambled letters of the following words: Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Divide the children into five groups. Give each group a wordstrip, telling them how many words are in that title and what letter the word or words start with. Because the puzzles may be difficult, give them hints. As the children solve the puzzles, write the correct word(s) on the back of the wordstrips. Display the five titles. Have them put the wordstrips in order by looking up Isaiah 9:6. Help the children understand what each word means and how it is an appropriate title for Jesus Christ. For example, Jesus is "wonderful" because He performed many miracles—wonders—while He was on the earth.

Ask the children to listen for other titles of Jesus Christ as they sing "The Shepherd's Carol" (p. 40). Have them stand whenever they hear a word that refers to Jesus. Divide the children into groups to sing a round. Bear testimony that Jesus came to the earth as the literal Son of God.

2. Ask the children how they would feel if, when the sun went down, it did not get dark. Ask them how they would feel if the prophet told them that one day the sun would go down and it would not get dark. Would they be less frightened? Tell them that this happened and that they will find out more about it in the scriptures.

Help the children locate "Jesus Christ, First Coming of" in the index to the Book of Mormon (p. 178). Tell them that even though Jesus did not live on the American continent when He had a mortal body, Book of Mormon prophets still prophesied of Him. Review Isaiah 9:6, and show them how to locate the same scripture in the Book of Mormon by using the index (2 Nephi 19:6).

Play a matching game by pairing Book of Mormon prophets who testified of the Savior with the scripture that records their prophecies. (Nephi—2 Nephi 25:19; King Benjamin—Mosiah 3:5; Abinadi—Mosiah 15:1; Alma—Alma 7:10; Samuel—Helaman 14:2.) You may want to add pictures of each of these prophets from the GAK or from the *Primary 4* picture packet. Have the children read the prophecy and make a match.

*For younger children:* Display pictures of the same five prophets. Allow five children to wear simple costumes depicting the prophets mentioned. Read the prophecy from the scriptures. Let the children guess which prophet each child is representing.

Read Helaman 14:3–4. Explain that because Christ is the Light of the World, having light even when the sun was not shining was an appropriate sign for His birth.

Sing "Samuel Tells of the Baby Jesus" (p. 36). Have the children notice how the first verse, when the people are waiting for Jesus, sounds a little bit sad. But the chorus, when the people realize that the Lord is born, sounds joyful. Ask the children to sound joyful when they sing the chorus.

Testify that Jesus came into the world to be an example and to atone for the sins of all people.

3. Invite a member of the bishopric or branch presidency to visit Primary. Have him come to Primary the week before and tell the children that he will be coming to visit them the next week.

When the children enter the room, remind them that a guest is coming, but explain that you don't know exactly when he will arrive. Invite them to choose a favorite Christmas song to sing while they wait. Tell the children that Heavenly Father promised to send a Savior to the world. The people waited and waited for the Savior and didn't know exactly when He would come. One of the signs that Jesus was born was a new star. Sing "There Was Starlight on the Hillside" (p. 40). Continue singing songs until the guest arrives. Have him bring a set of scriptures wrapped as a gift and tell the children that gifts are not always things that we can hold in our hands. Gifts can be things such as stories and songs. Invite a child to unwrap the gift. The scriptures will have a bookmark at John 3:16. Have the guest ask the children what they think Heavenly Father's gift to the world was. Invite a child to read the scripture. Have the guest tell the children that he wants to share the story of how Heavenly Father gave the gift of His Son to the world. Have the pianist softly play "Silent Night" (*Hymns*, no. 204) one octave higher while the guest reads Luke 2:1–20. Thank the bishopric or branch presidency member for his gift of a story, and suggest that the children give him the gift of a song. Sing a favorite Christmas song. After the guest leaves, explain that he had promised to come visit them and that he kept his promise. In the same way, Heavenly Father promised to send His Son; Heavenly Father kept His promise. Just as the guest visited Primary, Jesus Christ visited the earth. Just as the guest brought the gift of a sacred story, Jesus gave us the gift of eternal life by atoning for our sins. Testify of the divinity of Jesus Christ. Tell the children that their gift to Heavenly Father and Jesus will be their obedience to the commandments.

4. Remind the children that all year we have been talking about the promises of Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. Have the children look up and mark 2 Nephi 10:17. Jesus will fulfill His promises to all of us. Explain that we too can make promises to follow Jesus Christ in faith.

Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles said, "To follow Christ is to become more like Him" ("Christlike Attributes—The Wind beneath Our Wings," *Ensign*, Nov. 2005, 102). If we want to become more like Jesus, we should do the things that He did. Ask the children to suggest things Jesus did that they too can do. List their ideas on the chalkboard. Divide the children into groups. Allow the groups to choose an idea from the chalkboard. Give the groups large pieces of paper, and ask them to illustrate the idea. While the children are drawing, invite the pianist to play "He Sent His Son" (pp. 34–35). Put the drawings together in a roller box (see *TNGC*, 178–79). Have the children sing "He Sent His Son" while you assemble the roller box. When the roller box is ready, display it while the pianist plays "I'm Trying to Be like Jesus" (pp. 78–79). Give each child a piece of paper that says, "I promise to follow Jesus Christ in faith. This week I will try to be like Him by \_\_\_\_\_." Have the children fill in a goal and then sign their names. Challenge the children to be more like Jesus. Bear testimony that Jesus always keeps His promises.

5. *Friend* references: "Christmas in the Americas: A Christmas Program," Dec. 2004, 18–21; "The Savior's Birth," Dec. 2001, 30; "Christ's Life on Earth," Mar. 1999, 39; "Isaiah Prophecies of the Savior," Mar. 1998, 34; "Christmas Music Quiz," Dec. 2004, 26; "Sing of Christmas," Dec. 2003, 28.

# GUESS WHO



Can you guess who this is? Read the clues about this member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. Then find the answer on page 32.

- 1** He was born on August 24 in New York. He and his brother and sister liked to help their father build fishponds and rock gardens in their wooded yard.
- 2** After he graduated from the University of Utah, he went into active duty in the United States Air Force as a jet fighter pilot.
- 3** His career in business took him and his family to England, Germany, and Spain.
- 4** He is eighth in seniority in the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.
- 5** He and his wife, Mary, were married in the Salt Lake Temple on June 10, 1953.
- 6** While growing up in New York, the headquarters of the United Nations was within his school district boundaries.

**The members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles are prophets, seers, and revelators and stand as special witnesses of Jesus Christ. They have the responsibility to testify of Him to the whole world.**

He had many friends from different countries. He liked sitting in the schoolyard and talking to them about their cultures and beliefs. He says: “Our different cultures and backgrounds make life exciting and interesting, and when we look beyond differences, we find we still have the same basic feelings and needs.”

**7** As a boy, he spent two summers working on his uncle’s ranch in Skull Valley, Utah. The first few days he was tired and discouraged, but he came to enjoy the work of rounding up wild horses, baling hay, and caring for the animals.

### Words of Wisdom

*There are two things about friendship that I have learned. One is, good friends do not make you choose between their way and the Lord’s way. Second, good friends make it easier for you to stay on the strait and narrow path and to gain eternal life. In other words, when you are in their presence, it’s easier for you to live properly* (“Integrity and Values: A Discussion . . .,” Ensign, Apr. 2005, 49).



# Trying to Be Like Jesus

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

## A New Friend

By Byron H.

Last year a new boy came to my class. Some of the kids were mean to him. They said things like, "Don't sit by him." They wouldn't play with him at recess. I felt bad. One day I sat by him even though my friends said not to, and I played with him at recess. I felt good. I knew I was doing what Jesus would want me to do. That made me happy. I was glad I could be a friend to someone who was new because I have been new before.

*Byron H., age 7, Alabama*



## Sharing Happiness

By Jacqueline S.

Nathan, a neighbor boy, came around to play with my son Michael. Later I took them to the park. Michael rode his bike to the park and promised Nathan that he could ride on the way home. But when the time came to leave, Michael found it hard to keep his promise. He rode his bike home himself, feeling very unhappy. Nathan wasn't too pleased either. After Michael had time to think about it, he agreed that Nathan could have a go on his bike after all, so off they went. Afterward Michael told me, "I liked sharing because Nathan is my friend, and it made me feel happy."

*Nathan T., age 6, and Michael S., age 5, England*





## Awards and Rewards

By Alexa B. with help from her family

**N**ear Christmastime I entered an art contest with students from my area. I drew a picture of an angel appearing to shepherds, telling them the joyous news of Christ's birth. I was delighted to learn that I was one of the finalists and that my art would be displayed at a local museum, but sad when I learned that the awards ceremony was going to be on Sunday.

When my parents asked me what I thought I should do about the ceremony, I said that we shouldn't go because it was on Sunday. My family and I had a great time visiting the museum on Saturday to see my picture, and my award was mailed to me the next week.

I am happy that I chose to keep the Sabbath day holy. My testimony grew that day because I knew I had chosen the right. I know that Heavenly Father blesses us when we keep His commandments.

*Alexa B., age 7, Utah*

## Preparing for a Mission

By Angie M.

**M**y brother Scott is serving a mission in Costa Rica. When I grow up I want to go on a mission. My nephew Braden will be 19 when I'm 21, so we'll be serving missions at the same time.

We're both looking forward to it! I have been preparing for a mission by reading and studying the scriptures, praying daily, and learning new languages.

*Angie M., age 10, Idaho*



## Christmas Missionary

By Arielle M.

**I**wanted to do missionary work so I gave my schoolteacher a special Christmas DVD with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Her whole family loved it. They watched it on Christmas Day. She wrote me a lovely thank-you letter. I felt very happy.

*Arielle M., age 8, Ontario, Canada*



## Standing Up

By Dalton W.

**W**hen I eat lunch in the school cafeteria, some kids talk about things that I know I shouldn't listen to. I ask them to not talk about those things. Sometimes they stop, but sometimes they don't. If they don't, I move to another place so I don't have to hear bad things. A couple of times I've had to eat alone.

Sometimes standing up for the right means that you aren't liked as much, but I think it helps other people to want to choose the right too. It also means that you will attract good friends. I am glad that we have a prophet who asks us to be clean.

*Dalton W., age 11, Missouri*



# A Year without Gifts



BY SARA V. OLDS  
(Based on a true story)

*Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts*  
(1 Corinthians 14:1).

**H**e that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.’ ”\* Dad finished reading the scripture and set the Bible on his lap. “What do you think this verse means?” he asked.

Peter, the oldest child in the family, raised his hand. “Does it mean giving service to others?”

Mom nodded. “That’s one way we can give ourselves to the Lord. For our new year’s resolution, we’ve decided to focus on giving service to others and to our family.”

“We have decided to spend one family home evening each month serving someone else,” Dad said.

“We are also going to stop buying gifts for the whole year,” Mom continued.

Robbin and Peter sat up straight.

“No gifts!” Peter cried.

“No presents?” Robbin asked.

Julia was quiet, too little to understand.

Mom shook her head.

“Wait a minute!” Robbin exclaimed. “No presents? None at all?”

“I didn’t say *no* presents,” Mom said. “We’re not *buying* any presents. This year, we’re going to make presents for each other.”

Peter and Robbin looked at each other doubtfully. It didn’t sound like much fun.

Valentine’s Day came quickly, and for family home evening they baked and decorated cookies, something they hadn’t done in a long time. They took some to an elderly neighbor and left the plate on the porch anonymously. As the family

shared their homemade valentines, it seemed like this was the best Valentine’s Day they’d ever had.

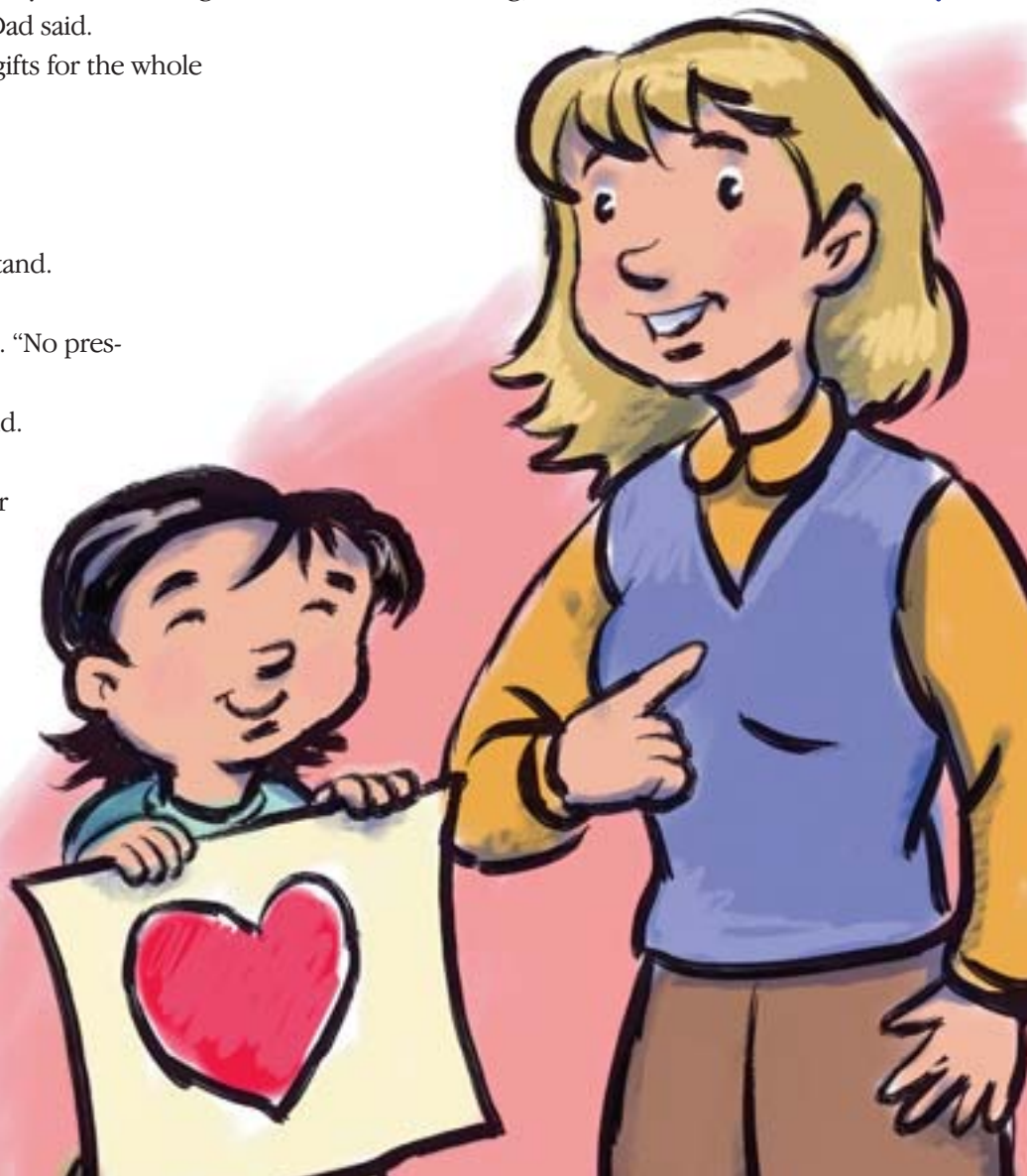
For Easter, Peter made a treasure hunt for Robbin using an old Easter basket and plastic eggs stored from last year. Inside the basket was his favorite puzzle, which he knew Robbin enjoyed.

Robbin drew pictures for Mother’s Day, and Peter washed the car inside and out for Father’s Day.

Mom started a Sunday tradition of baking gingerbread, always two batches. The family ate one and delivered the other to someone in the ward.

As Christmas drew near, the family worked secretly as they made presents for each other.

On Christmas morning,



“He who gives money gives much, he who gives time gives more, but he who gives of himself gives all. Let this be a description of our Christmas gifts.”

**President Thomas S. Monson, First Counselor in the First Presidency, “The Gifts of Christmas,” *Ensign*, Dec. 2003, 5.**



the children awoke to find a large pile of presents in front of the tree, along with their own handmade gifts.

“There aren’t any names on these ones,” Robbin said, patting a large box.

“Who are they for?” Peter asked.

Julia scrambled around the packages, pulling at the bows and paper.

Mom smiled. “Let’s open them and find out.”

Peter tore open a heavy package. “Bars of soap? How many bars of soap do I need?”

Robbin unwrapped another box. “Toothpaste?” She giggled. “Mom, there must be 20 boxes of toothpaste in here. Oh, and toothbrushes.”

Julia opened two packages with lots of combs. Peter opened a slim box of zipping plastic bags. He started to laugh. “Mom, why do I need plastic bags for Christmas?”

“Towels!” Robbin exclaimed, lifting a bundle of colorful towels out of a box.

Peter smiled at Mom and Dad. “All right. What’s going on?”

“With all of these things we can make hygiene kits,” Dad said. “The Church sends them to people who are in an emergency situation and have nothing.”

“Like an earthquake?” Robbin guessed.

Mom nodded. “Exactly. Let’s make these hygiene kits, and hopefully we’ll feel more grateful for our wonderful blessings this Christmas season.”

They quickly formed an assembly line. Each person was assigned an item to place in the bags—two bars of soap, four toothbrushes, one toothpaste tube, two combs, and two towels.

“You know,” Robbin said as she carefully placed two more combs into a bag, “this is fun. It makes me feel good to think we’re helping someone else.”

Everyone agreed, and they felt the joy that comes from serving others. ●

\*Matthew 10:39.

*For ideas for families to participate in humanitarian aid projects, visit [www.providentliving.org](http://www.providentliving.org). Click on “Humanitarian Services,” then “How Can I Help?”*





# Friends in the News



**Cory A. V.**, 10, Colorado, likes to read, run, and play football and basketball. He has three brothers, one sister, and a dog named Gid-giddaniah. He is a Webelos Scout and wants to go on a mission someday.



**Savannah H.**, 8, Alberta, Canada, likes to write in her journal and play the piano. She is very social and a great example to friends and family. She loves her Primary teacher.



**Cameron T.**, 5, Hawaii, likes to work alongside his dad in their mechanic shop and can name many mechanic tools. He hugs his mom every day.



**Julianne E. G.**, 9, Missouri, likes to read Friends in the News. She says, "I like to play soccer, dance, play with friends, read scriptures, and give talks in Primary." She has three sisters and two brothers.



**Jacob L.**, 10, Washington, likes to play football and baseball. His dad is a convert to the Church and has been a big influence in his life. Jacob is great at math and science.



**Matea W.**, 11, Alaska, likes reading, swimming, and singing. She plays the piano and the oboe. Her favorite Primary song is "Beautiful Savior."



**Samuel A. W.**, 12, Idaho, helps his grandpa on the farm. He is cheerful and likes to tell jokes. He enjoys reading his scriptures and being a good friend to his aunts, uncles, cousins, and classmates.



**Ashanti S.**, 8, Bahamas, was baptized in the ocean because the members do not have a church building with a font yet. She likes to read, sing Primary songs, and help younger children in Primary.



**Carter C.**, 4, Nevada, likes being a Sunbeam and visiting with his friends at Primary. He enjoys reading, helping his younger brother Ryan and baby sister Anna, and playing basketball with his dad.



**Erin H.**, 8, Arizona, likes to play the piano, do gymnastics, and swim. She reads scriptures with her family every night and is working on the Faith in God Award. She has one sister and two brothers.



**Brandon N.**, 5, Oregon, likes to talk nonstop and has a great imagination. His family says he is "a hoot." He enjoys explaining how trains and machines work.



**Emily J. C.**, 4, Queensland, Australia, likes bugs and enjoys dancing and singing, but sometimes doesn't like having her hair done. She enjoys Primary. Her favorite song is "Rain Is Falling All Around."



**Jonah S.**, 5, Minnesota, likes to take long bike rides with his dad. He is a great helper with his baby brother, Benjamin.



**Callie A.**, 5, Massachusetts, made a lemonade stand to earn money to help hurricane victims. She raised over \$1,200! Her favorite song is "I Love to See the Temple."



**Lue X.**, 11, California, was born in Thailand. In 2004, he moved to California with his parents, grandmother, and six brothers and sisters. He is quick to smile and is learning English.



**Macie D. H.**, 6, Idaho, loves animals—especially cats. She likes to draw, go camping, and play games with her family. Her favorite song is "I Am a Child of God."

**Please send submissions to Friends in the News, Friend Magazine, Rm. 2430, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, United States of America. A written statement signed by a parent or legal guardian granting permission to publish the child's photo and submission must be included. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least a year. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Children whose photos are submitted should be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned.**

# A Week for the Christmas Story

As a family, use this activity to remind one another of the wondrous story of the Savior's birth. Begin on December 18. (1) Find number 1 (the star) on the nativity scene. (2) Sing the song listed. (3) On page 37 find the item labeled number 1, cut it out, and glue it on the nativity scene in the outline that is the same shape as that item.

Repeat on the following five nights. Read the scripture listed, sing the song, and then glue the cutout on the nativity scene.

On Christmas Eve, read the two scriptures given at number 7, and then invite family members to share their testimonies of Jesus Christ. Sing the final song listed.

This activity may be done all on one night, if you prefer. You may also sing your favorite Christmas songs in place of those suggested.

**4. Luke 2:8–12**

***"The Shepherd's Carol"***

**(Children's Songbook, 40)**

**Luke 2:13–14**

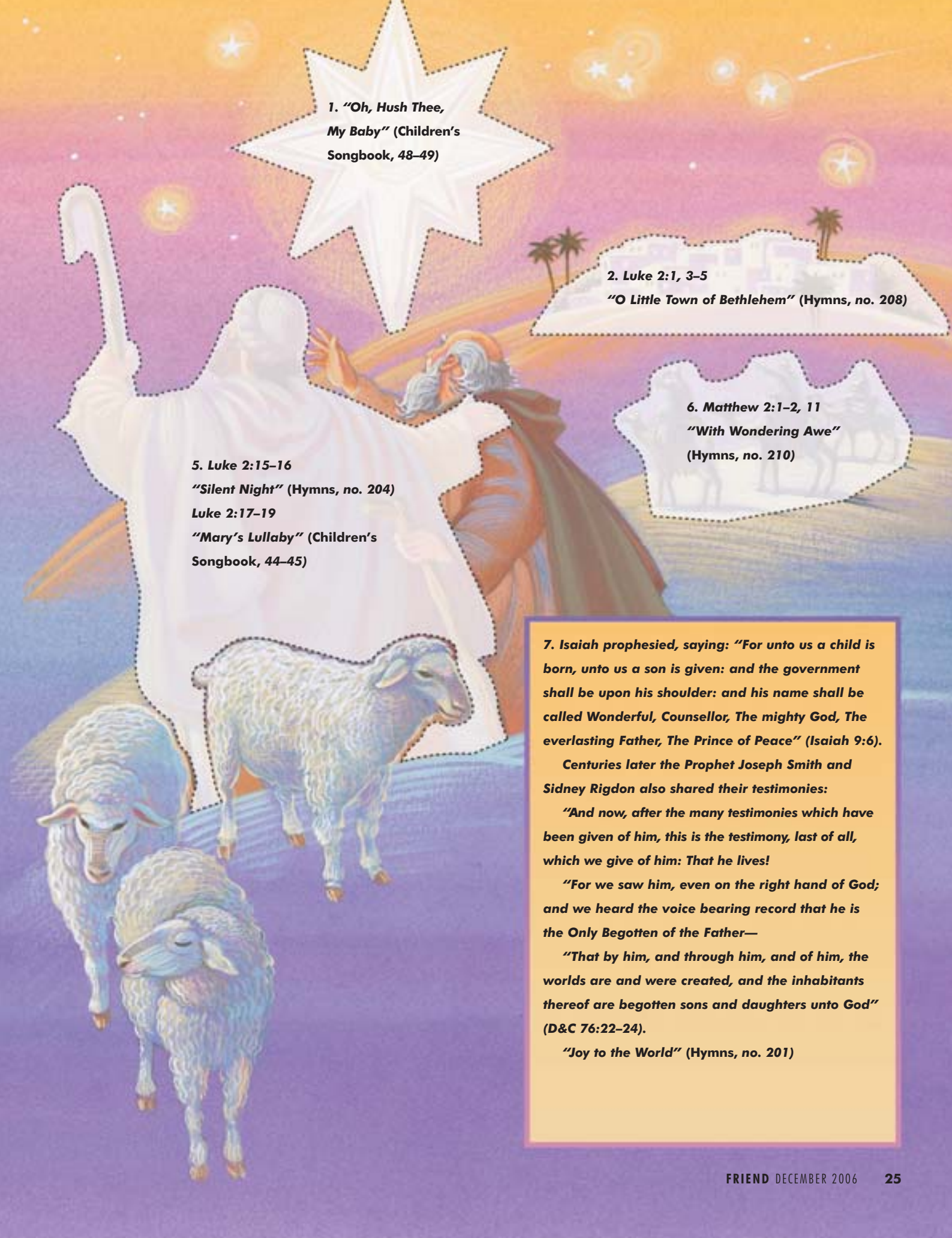
***"Far, Far Away on Judea's Plains"***

**(Hymns, no. 212)**

**3. Luke 2:6–7**

***"Away in a Manger"*** (Children's

**Songbook, 42–43; or Hymns, no. 206)**



1. "Oh, Hush Thee,  
My Baby" (Children's  
Songbook, 48–49)

2. Luke 2:1, 3–5

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" (Hymns, no. 208)

5. Luke 2:15–16

"Silent Night" (Hymns, no. 204)

Luke 2:17–19

"Mary's Lullaby" (Children's  
Songbook, 44–45)

6. Matthew 2:1–2, 11

"With Wondering Awe"  
(Hymns, no. 210)

7. Isaiah prophesied, saying: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

Centuries later the Prophet Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon also shared their testimonies:

"And now, after the many testimonies which have been given of him, this is the testimony, last of all, which we give of him: That he lives!

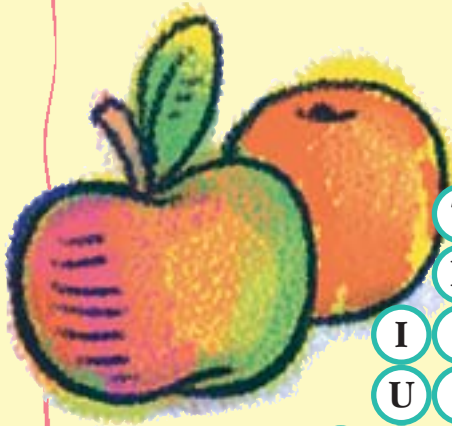
"For we saw him, even on the right hand of God; and we heard the voice bearing record that he is the Only Begotten of the Father—

"That by him, and through him, and of him, the worlds are and were created, and the inhabitants thereof are begotten sons and daughters unto God" (D&C 76:22–24).

"Joy to the World" (Hymns, no. 201)



# The Gifts and Fruits of the Spirit



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T R O D I U S P O D T S H S Y N E  
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I G G M F F D O E R T H O E J G O O D L F  
R U R  
I P T

BY RICHARD STEEN WILLIAMS

Search for *gifts* of the Spirit that read up, down, or diagonally and color them red (see 1 Corinthians 12:8–10). Then search for *fruits* of the Spirit that read up, down, or diagonally and color them green (see Galatians 5:22–23). Color the remaining circles yellow and write down the letters in the yellow circles in order. You will discover a message.

### Gifts:

- Wisdom
- Knowledge
- Faith
- Healing
- Miracles
- Prophecy
- Discerning
- Interpretation
- Tongues

### Fruits:

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Longsuffering
- Gentleness
- Goodness
- Faith
- Meekness
- Temperance

Answer: A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit (Matthew 7:18).

# MATT & Mandy

OK, each time we leave a gift, we'll sing a carol. Everybody ready?

"Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!"

"Joy to the world, the Lord is come."

"Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright."

It's weird. Tonight was just as wonderful as Christmas morning. But I didn't get a single gift.

Didn't you?

I guess maybe I did.

# They Spoke to Us

*As you make the October 2006 general conference a part of your own and your family's life, you might consider using the following ideas for personal study and family home evening. Or you may wish to create your own questions, activities, and discussion ideas. (Page numbers refer to the beginning of the talks in the November 2006 Ensign.)*

## **Search the Words Activity**

1. What object did President Hinckley show while he was speaking on Sunday morning? (Clue: Search President Gordon B. Hinckley's talk on p. 82.)
2. What school subject did Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf dislike as a boy? What changed his mind? (Clue: Read Elder Uchtdorf's talk on p. 37.)
3. Like Pahoran in the Book of Mormon, what should we say when someone is rude to us? (Clue: Search Elder David A. Bednar's talk on p. 89.)
4. Fill in the blank: "I testify to you that the Resurrection is not a \_\_\_\_\_." (Clue: Search Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin's talk on p. 28.) What does this mean? How does it change the way you live each day?
5. What did the hikers do when it was time for general conference? (Clue: Read Elder Jeffrey R. Holland's talk on p. 104.) What can you do when it is time for general conference?
6. What did Brigham Young and others wave as "an ensign to the nations"? (See President Boyd K. Packer's talk on p. 85.) How can you and your family be an ensign, or an example, to the world around you?
7. Which principle can we

learn best from the stories of three towels and a 25-cent newspaper—tithing, honesty, or kindness? (Clue: Read Bishop Richard C. Edgley's talk on p. 72.)

## **Quotes and Activities**

1. President Gordon B. Hinckley said: "Faith is not demonstrated only in big heroic events, such as the coming of the handcart pioneers. It is also demonstrated in small but significant events." He then told the story of a woman who lost something important to her

but found it after she prayed. Each time you pray, remember that you are showing faith in Heavenly Father, just as handcart pioneers did. Picture Heavenly Father listening to your prayers as you speak to Him. Ask Him to help your faith continue to grow.

2. Sister Elaine S. Dalton, Second Counselor in the Young Women General Presidency, said: "To the youth of the noble birthright, look into the windows of eternity! See yourselves in the Lord's holy temples. See yourselves living worthy and pure lives. Generations are depending on you!" Draw a picture of yourself near the temple or attach a picture of a temple to a mirror that you look into each day. Remind yourself daily of future





goals and how you can stay worthy to achieve them.

3. President Thomas S. Monson taught: “We can rely on the faith and testimonies of others only so long. Eventually we must have our own strong and deeply placed foundation, or we will be unable to withstand the storms of life.” He explained that the reason some roads crack and others stay smooth is that some roads have deeper foundations than others. Using objects or toys found around the house (blocks, cans, plastic cups), build towers with weak foundations. Demonstrate how easily they fall. Think of ways to strengthen your spiritual foundations so that the difficult things you face won’t “chip away” at your testimony.

4. President James E. Faust taught that being a disciple means obeying the Savior. He said, “The blessings of discipleship are readily available to all who are willing to pay the price.” Fold a piece of paper in half. On one side write what you must “pay” in order to be a disciple of Christ, such as studying the scriptures, attending church, telling the truth, and being kind. On the other side write the blessings that come from following Christ, such as guidance, peace, eternal family relationships, joy, protection, and eternal life. Each time you must make a choice between right and wrong, remember your list of blessings

and how valuable they are to you.

5. Ask some family members to hold out their hands, palms up. Ask the other family members to keep their hands closed. Place a small item in the open hands. Why could they receive the item? Brother A. Roger Merrill, Sunday School General President, taught that we must act to receive the Spirit. He said, “Remember, *receive* is a verb.” Discuss with your family how we each decide to receive the Spirit during our church meetings, scripture study, and personal prayer.

6. Elder Marcus B. Nash of the Seventy shared two lessons he learned as a boy while fishing. What were they? How do they apply to us? As you pray, ask to be surrounded by the influence of the Holy Ghost and to avoid Satan’s lures that would pull you away from a “happy, gospel-centered life.”



## Stories to Read and Share

Are you preparing a talk or lesson? In the conference talks beginning on the pages listed below, you’ll find stories you can tell.

**Father and son go bowling at 5:00 a.m., 9**

**Father is patient with son who knocks over motorcycles, 15**

**Martyrdom of Rafael Monroy and Vincente Morales, 20**

**Deacon takes recording of priesthood lesson to another deacon, 43**

**Father sacrifices to buy an ironing machine for his wife, 46**

**Marcus B. Nash catches a fish, 49**

**Boy blessed after a fall from a diving board, 51**

**Priest gives collected food to a single mother, 53**

**Boy finds king’s emerald while doing his duty, 56**

**Thomas S. Monson prompted to visit and bless hospitalized friend, 56**

**Young women carry Jami Palmer on a hike, 62**

**Waitress talks about the gospel with a truck driver, 69**

**Richard C. Edgley returns three towels he had taken, 72**

**Rich man takes newspapers from a vending machine, 72**

**Martha Paxman finds her lost wedding band, 82**

**Handcart companies rescued on the plains, 82**

**Pioneer leaders raise an ensign to the nations, 85**

**Man inspired to help blind farmer, 97**

**Woman listens to general conference on a hike with friends, 104**

**Young mother feels unworthy of God’s love, 108**

**Woman prompted to visit a grieving Relief Society sister, 113**

**Anne C. Pingree seeks forgiveness from one she offended, 113**

**Single mother with seven children prays for a night off, 115**

**Young couple pays tithing and does not go hungry, 115**



# Christmas Smiles

BY BRITNEY SCHETSELAAR  
(Based on a true story)



*When ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only  
in the service of your God (Mosiah 2:17).*

Time to go shopping for Christmas presents!" Mom called. Four-year-old Kirsten hopped to the car. Kirsten liked getting presents. She wanted a new doll with curly hair.

As they drove to the store, Mommy turned around in her seat. "Tonight we are buying

presents for another family. They won't have any if we don't help," she said.

"What?" asked Kirsten. "And no presents for us?"

"We are going to share our presents. You will still get some, but not as many. Remember, we talked about this in family home evening?"

Kirsten frowned.

"We don't know the family," Mom said. "But you can help Dad and me find presents."

"Hooray!" Deanna said.

Kirsten frowned harder. Her bottom lip stuck out and the corners of her mouth pushed down as far as they would reach.

At the store, Kirsten helped Britney. They walked up and down the aisles until they saw the games. Kirsten







picked one in a gray box for the boy.

“Good choice,” Britney said.

Kirsten frown started to shrink—but only a little.

Next, Juleen wanted to buy some good-smelling soap for the mom. Kirsten helped Juleen pick a happy peach scent.

“Mmmm,” Juleen said as she took a sniff, “my favorite!”

The corners of Kirsten’s mouth got a little higher. She almost smiled.

When they were done buying presents, Kirsten and her family went home and wrapped them. Kirsten wrapped a scarf for the girl and tied it with a fluffy bow.

“That looks beautiful!” Mom said.

Kirsten couldn’t help it—an itty-bitty smile kept sneaking onto her face.

Mommy put all the presents in a big box. They sang Christmas carols all the way to the family’s house. Kirsten’s smile got a little bigger.

Dad started to take the box out of the car. “Can I come?” asked Kirsten.

“Of course,” Dad said.

Dad carried the box to the door and Kirsten rang the doorbell. A teenage girl with sad eyes answered.

“Merry Christmas!” said Dad and Kirsten. They put the box in the girl’s hands. The girl smiled, and then Dad and Kirsten ran away before she could ask them questions or find out what was in the box.

Kirsten skipped around the corner to where Mommy and her family were waiting in the car. Kirsten could see her brother and sisters’ smiles through the car windows. “Did you have fun?” Mommy asked.

Kirsten didn’t even have to answer. Mom could tell just by looking at Kirsten’s face—she had the biggest smile of them all. ●



# Which **Two** Rocking Horses?

BY ROBERTA L. FAIRALL

**S**nappy, the shipping clerk, wants to send horses that are the same to the twins.  
After you decide which two he should send, color the rocking horses.



Answer: 1 and 6. Guess Who? Answer: Elder Robert D. Hales

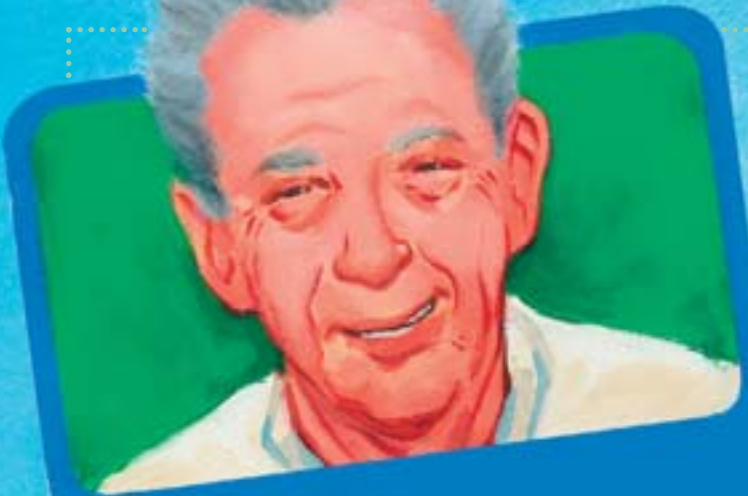
# Old Testament Bookmarks

BY VAL CHADWICK BAGLEY

**Instructions:** Mount this page on heavy paper, then cut out the bookmarks. Punch a hole near the top of each bookmark as indicated, and loop-tie several narrow strips of ribbon or yarn about nine inches (23 cm) long through the hole. These bookmarks would make good gifts for friends or family.

**Note:** If you do not wish to remove pages from the magazine, this activity may be copied, traced, or printed from the Internet at [www.lds.org](http://www.lds.org). Click on Gospel Library.





BY MYRNA M. HOYT

(Based on a true story)

*Feed the flock of God which is among you (1 Peter 5:2).*

**A**fter Nathan's family moved into their new home, Gard was the first person he met. The house had previously belonged to Gard's relatives, and he continued to pasture his sheep in the field next door.

Gard was an elderly man with thinning gray hair, and the many years of hard work in the heat and cold had taken a toll on his body. His fingers were bent and crippled with arthritis, his eyes were nearly blind, and his face and hands were weatherworn. Gard had never married and lived alone in a tiny, run-down home that was actually more of

# Feed My SHEEP



a shack. He had never learned to drive a car, so he walked around town pulling a cart behind him.

Nathan's family didn't know if they had adopted Gard or if he adopted them, but Nathan and his younger siblings Angie and Eric enjoyed helping him take care of his sheep, fix fences, or weed his garden. As they worked together he shared interesting experiences from his boyhood, as well as stories about the pioneers who had settled their community.

One warm, sunny afternoon, Nathan and Angie decided to go into the field and chase Gard's sheep. At the time they thought it was great fun, but they soon changed their minds after Dad had a serious talk with them. Nathan and Angie felt very sorry about being unkind to Gard's sheep. They humbly went to Gard and apologized. He was kind and understanding, and thanked them for their honesty and courage to make

it right with him. From that day on, Nathan and Angie became assistant shepherds and did all that they could to help Gard take care of his sheep.

As the Christmas season drew near, Nathan anxiously shared some news with his family at dinner one evening.

"Gard told me today that he has not had a Christmas tree since he was a boy."

With that announcement, the family soon outlined a plan of action—Gard would have a Christmas tree!

On Saturday, Nathan's family drove to the nearby forest for their traditional Christmas-tree hunt. In the past their goal had been to search until they found a perfect blue spruce for their home, but this year everyone felt more excitement than ever before at finding the right tree for Gard. A perfect little spruce caught Nathan's eye, and everyone approved. They took the tree home to prepare for Gard's Christmas surprise.



On Monday for family home evening, Mom helped Nathan, Angie, and Eric make ornaments out of felt, glitter, ribbon, buttons, and beads. Then they decorated the tree and loaded it into the back of their truck.

Nathan had never felt such excitement as they huddled together around the tree before knocking on Gard's door. As soon as they heard the click of the latch, everyone started singing, "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."

Gard's eyes lit up with excitement, followed by a few tears of joy as he invited them in. He danced from one foot to the other as he helped Nathan and Dad place the tree in front of his window that faced the street. Gard was so excited about his Christmas tree that he left it standing and decorated until March! Nathan and his family felt a warm peace in their hearts as they observed the soft glow of Gard's tree lights each evening throughout the winter.

**W**hile helping Gard plant some seeds in the spring, Nathan curiously asked Gard why he didn't attend church. Gard replied that he hadn't been to church for many years, partly because he didn't feel that he was needed there.

The next morning in scripture study, Nathan's family read John 21 in the New Testament. In verses 16 and 17 Jesus instructs His disciples, "Feed my sheep."

That caught Nathan's attention, and Dad explained. "Jesus was often referred to as the Good Shepherd. His followers were people who believed in Him, and were sometimes called His sheep. Before He left them, He made sure that each one of His sheep, or followers, was loved and cared for."

Dad continued as Nathan listened with interest. "Jesus knows and loves each one of us. As members of The



Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, we must also help watch over His sheep by loving and caring for one another."

Nathan thought for a few moments. Then he said, "Gard is one of Jesus's sheep, and He would probably like us to help Gard come to church. Is that what Jesus meant about feeding His sheep?"

Dad nodded. "I think that is exactly what Jesus

would like us to do."

"But where do we start?" Nathan asked.

Dad explained that the first step was as simple as just being a friend. "I think that we have already become good friends with Gard," he said. "Now let's include him in our prayers and ask Heavenly Father to help us know what we can do next."

A few months later, Dad was called to serve as the high priest group leader in the ward. In his prayers, he asked Heavenly Father who should serve with him. He felt impressed that he should ask Gard to serve as his secretary.

Nathan's family was thrilled when they learned that Gard had accepted the call and would be riding to church with them on Sunday.

As Gard continued to attend church, Nathan decided that the feeling he had inside was even more exciting than delivering a surprise Christmas tree! ●

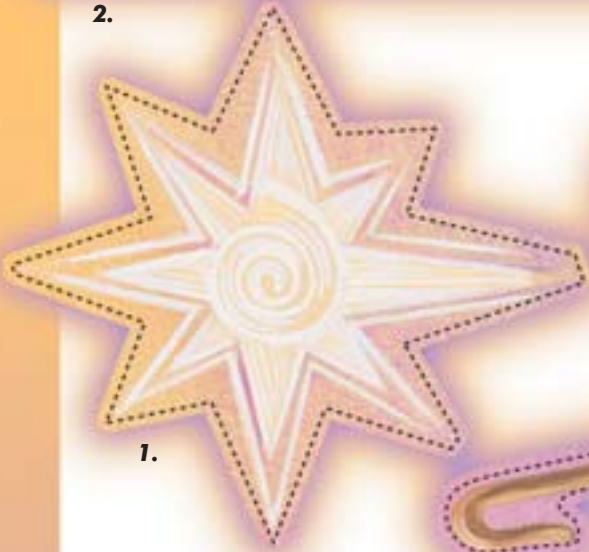
"Our Savior Jesus Christ teaches us the importance of seeking after the one who is lost."

**Elder Paul K. Sybrowsky of the Seventy,**  
"If Christ Had My Opportunities . . .,"  
*Ensign*, Nov. 2005, 35.





2.



1.



5.



6.

*For activity and instructions, see  
pages 24–25.*



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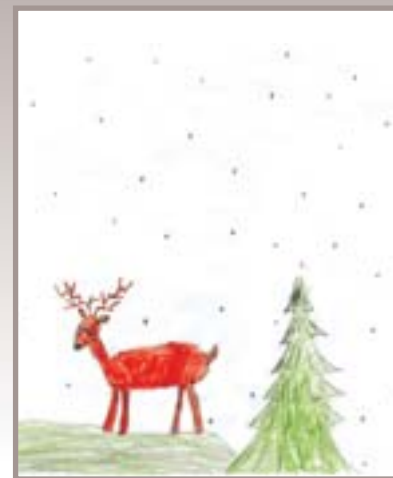


3.

Our Creative Friends



Naomi A., age 8, Alaska



Nathan M., age 7, North Carolina



Liam H., age 5, Alberta, Canada



Hannah H., age 5, Utah

It  
is a time  
for giving at  
Christmastime.  
It's a time for caring,  
A time for singing carols,  
A time for hot chocolate by the fire,  
A time to express your love, gladden the  
sad, calm the mad, do your good deeds, and  
say your prayers. God bless you. At Christmas,  
your  
dreams  
come  
true.

Spencer L. R., age 8, Idaho

**Falling Snow**

Cold, white flakes  
Blow on my nose,  
Creep down my back,  
Freezing my toes.  
I sled, I slide,  
I build, I hide.  
Snowman's carrot nose,  
Pebble mouth, coal eyes,  
Sticks for arms—  
He looks so wise.  
Falling, falling—it's so cold!

Cannon G., age 10, Arizona

**Once in a Stable**

Once in a stable far, far away,  
Lay our Savior asleep on the hay.  
Mary wondered what miracles He would perform.  
But for now, He sleeps, safe and warm.  
As Joseph watched the babe happily,  
He may have wondered what this infant's future would be.  
Joseph hoped that Jesus would bring good cheer  
To parents old and children dear.  
On a hill some shepherds woke with fright.  
Then they saw a beautiful sight:  
A choir of angels coming to sing  
Of the Lord Jesus and the peace He would bring.  
As the years since that sacred night go by,  
The shepherds grow old and the Wise Men die.  
But the resurrected Messiah still lives and reigns  
Since His birth on Bethlehem's plains.

Holly H., age 11, California

**Joseph Smith Haiku**

Joseph Smith the boy  
Prayed to Heavenly Father,  
Yearning to find truth.  
Joseph Smith the man,  
Prepared in premortal realms,  
Called to serve the Lord.  
Prophet Joseph Smith  
Brought forth the Book of Mormon,  
Established Zion.  
Joseph and Hyrum,  
Both killed at Carthage Jail,  
Martyrs for the cause.  
Prophet Joseph Smith  
Served the Lord with all his heart;  
Righteous example.

Christine B., age 11, Utah

Please send submissions to Our Creative Friends, *Friend Magazine*, Rm. 2430, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, United States of America. A written statement signed by a parent or legal guardian granting permission to publish the child's submission must be included. 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 a year. 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, nor can they be returned.

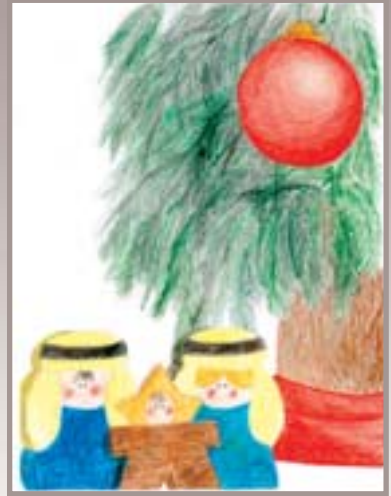




Jennifer E., age 9, Texas



Brody P., age 9, Arizona



Meghan B., age 11, California



Min Chian Y., age 9, Taiwan



Brandy K., age 11, Michigan



Spencer K., age 5, Idaho



Emma A., age 8, Washington



Micah I., age 10, Wyoming



Bryant K., age 7, Iowa



Dorothy S., age 7, Utah



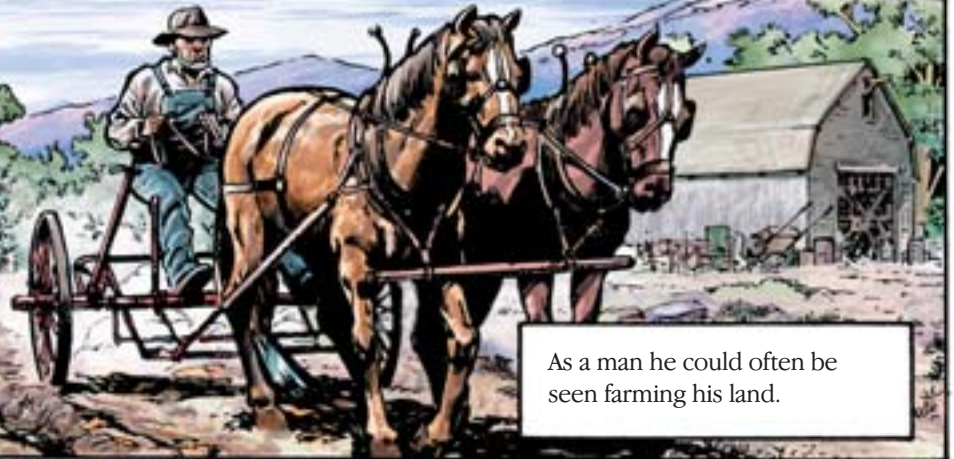
Jena C., age 8, Colorado



FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF

# A Hard Worker

Wilford Woodruff loved working with his hands. When he was a boy, he learned the value of hard work from his father and grandfather.



As a man he could often be seen farming his land.

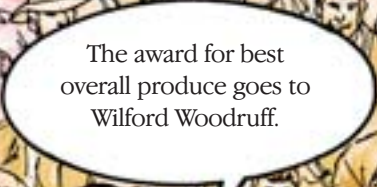
In 1855, Wilford owned a farm in the Salt Lake Valley. After harvesting wheat, potatoes, and corn, he created an organization to encourage more variety in local crops.



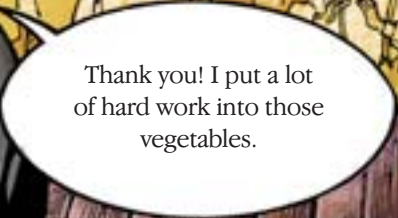
I hereby call to order the first meeting of the Horticulture Society, which is meant to promote the growing of fruit in our territory.

Over the years, he won many awards for his farm projects.

Some of his prizes were for best-fenced and cultivated farm, best acre of sugar cane, best squash, best sugar beets, best bush beans, best cantaloupes, best apples, and best grapes.



The award for best overall produce goes to Wilford Woodruff.



Thank you! I put a lot of hard work into those vegetables.

Wilford didn't let old age get in the way of his work. One of his favorite activities was gardening outside with his children and grandchildren.

Grandfather, may I help?

Of course. Take that hoe over there, and help me get rid of these weeds.

One day, Wilford was upset when one of his grandchildren finished hoeing a patch of vegetables a little before he did—even though he was 90 years old!

Grandfather, I'm all finished.

I'm getting old. That's the first time in my life that one of my grandchildren has ever outdone me in hoeing.

After he died, many people remembered Wilford Woodruff as a man who worked hard, both in his garden and for the Lord.

President Woodruff loved to work hard.

He was just as devout with the scythe or the sickle as he was with the hymnbook or at the pulpit.

All honorable work was God's work, whether it was digging a ditch, preaching a sermon, or writing a history.

*Adapted from Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Wilford Woodruff (2004), 225, 227; Susan Arrington Madsen, The Lord Needed a Prophet (1990), 68; Emerson Roy West, Profiles of the Presidents (1974), 134–35; and Preston Nibley, The Presidents of the Church (1974), 123.*

*Be of good cheer, little children (D&C 61:36).*

# It Makes Them Happy

BY PATRICIA R. JONES

**T**he Prophet Joseph Smith enjoyed playing games with children. This was no surprise to those who knew the Prophet; he often showed his love for children. He once helped two children out of thick mud when they were stuck. He played with and loved little babies. When the Prophet played with children, he made the games fun, both for those participating and those watching.

One day Joseph played a game of ball with some of the young men in Nauvoo. The Prophet's older brother Hyrum saw him. Hyrum had a great love for his brother, and he didn't like to see people given a chance to find fault with him. Hyrum was afraid that if people saw Joseph having fun with the young men, they might think this wasn't what a prophet should do.

After the ball game, Hyrum approached

Joseph and said that such conduct was not proper for a prophet of the Lord. He spoke out of love, wishing to guide his brother.

The Prophet looked lovingly at Hyrum. He knew Hyrum was concerned about him, and he trusted and often listened to the advice of his older brother. But this time Joseph simply answered him in a mild voice. "Brother Hyrum, my mingling with the boys in a harmless sport like this does not injure me in any way, but on the other hand it makes them happy and draws their hearts nearer to mine; and who knows but there may be young men among them who may sometime lay down their lives for me!"\*

The Prophet Joseph was right. When persecution again started for him, two young men in Nauvoo risked their lives to discover the Prophet's enemies and their plots against him. The young men showed how much they had come to love the Prophet by how much they risked their own safety for his. Joseph Smith dearly loved children, and they loved the Prophet too. ●

\*In Lorenzo Snow, "Reminiscences of the Prophet Joseph Smith," *Deseret Semi-Weekly News*, Dec. 23, 1899, 1.



"Men who knew Joseph best . . . loved and sustained him as a prophet."

**Elder Dallin H. Oaks of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Joseph, the Man and the Prophet," *Ensign*, May 1996, 73.**



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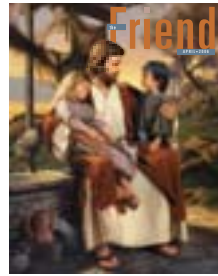
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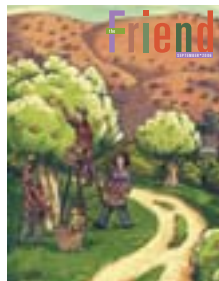
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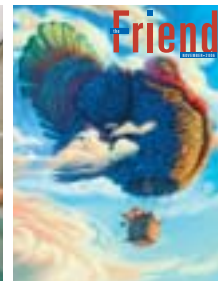
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Firm Decision, A, E. Israel Pérez (FF), *Melvin Leavitt*, Apr, 8

First Presidency, The

Christmas Light, Dec, 2

Fisherman, The, *Wendy Ellison*, Aug, 4

Follow the Prophet, *Pat Grabam*, Oct, 40

Follow the Prophet (ST), *Linda Magleby*, Mar, 18

Follow the Signs (PV), *Thomas S. Monson*, May, 2

Ford, Cindy

I Want to Follow the Prophet, Oct, 7

Forever Family, A: Julischka Schlatter of Möhlin, Switzerland, *Kimberly Webb*, May, 18

Fortune Cookies, *Claudia G. Remington*, Mar, 28

Frame Your Life with Faith (PV), *Thomas S. Monson*, July, 2

FRIEND TO FRIEND

Answers to Prayers, Vicki F. Matsumori, *Jennifer Rose*, Nov, 8

Blessed by the Priesthood, Douglas L. Callister, *Marissa A. Widdison*, July, 8

Firm Decision, A, E. Israel Pérez, *Melvin Leavitt*, Apr, 8

Guided and Prepared, Gerald A. Mead, *Kimberly Webb*, Jan, 8

Legacy of Love, A, Yoshihiko Kikuchi, *Monica Weeks*, Sept, 6

Life Lessons, Lynn A. Mickelsen, *Marissa Widdison*, May, 8

My Brother Gary, Marlin K. Jensen, *Melvin Leavitt*, June, 8

Remembering Promises, *Jay E. Jensen*, Dec, 8

Savior's Love, The, Cheryl C. Lant, *Kimberly Webb*, Mar, 8

Seeking Him in Prayer, D. Todd Christofferson, *Marissa A. Widdison*, Feb, 8

Standing for Righteousness, Wolfgang H. Paul, *Kimberly Webb*, Oct, 8

Testimony of Heavenly Father, A, Margaret S. Liffirth, *Rebecca Taylor* and *Emily Metbeny*, Aug, 8

Friendly Experiment, A, *Rebecca Cornish Talley*, July, 28

FRIENDS BY MAIL

Baptism Decision, Mar, IFC

Bedtime Stories, July, IFC

Best Letter, The, June, IFC

Blessing of Comfort, Feb, IFC

Campout, The, Jan, IFC

Canal Warning, Jan, IFC

Embarrassing Arrest, An, Nov, IFC

Excited, Dec, IFC

Fasting for Adam, May, IFC

Feeling the Holy Ghost, Mar, IFC

Finding a Friend, Aug, IFC

"Giraffe Lesson" Lesson, The, Sept, IFC

Hear of Texas, The, July, IFC

Heavenly Father Listened, Aug, IFC

I Felt the Spirit, Apr, IFC

I Love You, Apr, IFC

I Want to Be Like Nephi, Oct, IFC

Kylie's Kindness, Dec, IFC

Love Note, Mar, IFC

More Temple Cards, Feb, IFC

Natalie's Missionaries, Nov, IFC

Peacemaker's Prayer, A, June, IFC

Prayer for Jake, A, Dec, IFC

Prayer in a Fort, Feb, IFC

Praying for Ginger, Jan, IFC

Primary Talk about Grandma, A, Oct, IFC

Prompting in the Park, A, Sept, IFC

Reading Help, Dec, IFC

Rescued, Apr, IFC

Second Family, A, Mar, IFC

Sideswiped! May, IFC

Singing in a Snowstorm, June, IFC

Stairs and Prayers, Oct, IFC

Stairs Warning, May, IFC

Stuck in a Tree, Sept, IFC

Thankful for Prayer, July, IFC

Thanks! May, IFC

Warm Inside, Nov, IFC

Warning in the Woods, Aug, IFC

Wrong Turn, Nov, IFC

FRIENDS IN THE NEWS

Jan, 31; Feb, 48; Mar, 26; Apr, 41; May, 27; June, 44; July, 19; Aug, 27; Sept, 26; Oct, 37; Nov, 22; Dec, 23

FRIENDSHIP. *See* LOVE AND KINDNESS

FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF

Becoming a Bible Scholar, Mar, 12

Catching Fish and Saying Prayers, Feb, 40

Hard Worker, A, Dec, 40

Inspired Prophet, Sept, 44

Keeping a Record, Nov, 44

Light Continued with Us, The, Oct, 28

Listening to the Spirit, Aug, 28

Martyrdom of the Prophet, The, June, 40

Saved by Providence, Jan, 10

Successful Missionary, A, May, 40

They Were Speaking the Truth, Apr, 36

This Is the Place, July, 10

FUNSTUF

Jan, 23, 35, 48; Feb, 13, 23, 31; Mar, 7, 21, 41; Apr, 10, 27, 40, 48; May, 26, 48; June, 19, 23; July, 26; Aug, 23, 26, 37; Sept, 19, 23; Oct, 23, 45; Nov, 7, 21, 26; Dec, 26

## G

Game of Catch, A, *Paul Horwinski*, Nov, 10

GAMES. *See* THINGS TO MAKE AND DO

Gardner, Marvin K.

Abel & Camila León Sifuentes of Trujillo, Peru, Jan, 28

GENERAL CONFERENCE

Conference Matching Game, *Britney Schetselaar*, Apr, 12

They Spoke to Us, June, 42; Dec, 28

Giles, Elizabeth

Hold On, Sept, 11

My Journal Full of Pictures, July, 36

Giving Our Best, *Colleen M. Pate*, Sept, 28

Go Back to the House, *Britney Schetselaar*, Mar, 32

GOALS

My Goals, 2006, *Britney Schetselaar*, Jan, 24

Goldrup, Ray

Rainbows in Great-Grandma's Bedroom, Sept, 16

Right Path, The, May, 36

Gospel Is a Gift to Share, The (ST), *Linda Magleby*, May, 10

Graham, Pat

Follow the Prophet, Oct, 40

I Can Live with My Father in Heaven Again, Feb, 24

GRATITUDE

Paolo's Birthday, *Jane McBride Choate*, Apr, 20

Greatest Treasure, The, *Ronda Gibb Hinrichsen*, May, 28

Growing a Good Seed, *Lisa H. Fernelius*, Mar, 6

Guess Who? (SW), Jan, 15; Feb, 17; Mar, 17; Apr, 7; May, 21; June, 13; July, 15; Aug, 19; Sept, 39; Oct, 13; Nov, 27; Dec, 17

GUIDE TO THE FRIEND

Jan, IBC; Feb, IBC; Mar, IBC; Apr, IBC; May, IBC; June, IBC; July, IBC; Aug, IBC; Sept, IBC; Oct, IBC; Nov, IBC; Dec, IBC

Guided and Prepared, Gerald A. Mead (FF), *Kimberly Webb*, Jan, 8

# H

Hall, LaFond  
Prayer, July, 7

Happy Book, The, *Laura Lundy*, Feb, 32

Hard Worker, A, Dec, 40

Harvey, Shirley A.  
Colors of Our World, Feb, 7

He Lives (PV), *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Apr, 2

He Sent His Son (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Dec, 14

Heaps, Stacie A.  
Room for Three, Dec, 4  
Sammy's Sabbath Dilemma, Apr, 34

HEAVENLY FATHER. *See also* FAITH, JESUS CHRIST, PRAYER, *and* TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS

He Sent His Son (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Dec, 14

Heavenly Father Hears and Answers Prayers (ST), *Linda Magleby*, July, 16

I Will Trust in Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ—Their Promises Are Sure (p), Jan, insert

Heavenly Father Hears and Answers Prayers (ST), *Linda Magleby*, July, 16

Heavenly Heroes, *Pat Burton*, May, 17

Helping Eli Be Brave, *Hilary M. Hendricks*, Nov, 34

Hendricks, Hilary M.  
Helping Eli Be Brave, Nov, 34

Heroes in the Snow: The Martin Handcart Company, *Britney Schetselaar*, Nov, 30

HIDDEN PICTURES  
Building a Snowman, *Adam Koford*, Feb, 23

I Like to Look for Rainbows, *Beverly K. Cochran*, June, 34

Noah's Ark, *Terri Adams*, Nov, 21

Sledding Hidden Picture, *Robert Peterson*, Jan, 48

Welcome to Family Home Evening, *Val Chadwick Bagley*, Sept, 23

Hilmo, Tess  
No Ordinary Home Teacher, Apr, 42

Hinckley, Gordon B.  
He Lives (PV), Apr, 2  
Thankful for Missionary Work (PV), June, 2  
Truth Will Prevail (PV), Sept, 2  
Walk the High Road (PV), Jan, 2

Hinrichsen, Ronda Gibb  
Come, Apr, 31  
Greatest Treasure, The, May, 28  
Through the Window, Jan, 32

His Burden Was Made Light, *Sandra Dawn Brimball*, Mar, 10

Hold On, *Elizabeth Giles*, Sept, 11

Hold to the Iron Rod, *Jane McBride Choate*, Aug, 10

Holding a Grudge, *Mary Button Hopkins*, Nov, 13

HOLY GHOST. *See also* BAPTISM *and* PRAYER

Baskets and Boxes, *Caleb Warnock*, Aug, 14

Go Back to the House, *Britney Schetselaar*, Mar, 32

Jump in the Stream! *Steven M. Lund*, Aug, 40

Life Lessons, Lynn A. Mickelsen (FF), *Marissa Widdison*, May, 8

Listening to the Spirit, Aug, 28

My Companion, *S. Melissa Ochsensbirt*, May, 42

Snow, *G. C. Buckner*, Jan, 4  
Then Sings My Soul, *Britney Schetselaar*, Aug, 30

HONESTY. *See* CHOOSE THE RIGHT

Hopkins, Mary Button  
Holding a Grudge, Nov, 13

Horwinski, Paul  
Game of Catch, A, Nov, 10

How I Knew, *Matthew Mangum*, May, 4

Hoyt, Myrna M.  
Feed My Sheep, Dec, 34

Hurst, Rebekah  
Birthday Card, The, May, 30

# I

I Can Live with My Father in Heaven Again, *Pat Grabam*, Feb, 24

I Can Repent and Be Happy (ST), *Linda Magleby*, Apr, 14

I Want to Be a Missionary Now: Andrew Gibson of Fairview, Pennsylvania, *Monica Weeks*, June, 20

I Want to Follow the Prophet, *Cindy Ford*, Oct, 7

I Will Follow the Prophet Today (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Oct, 14

I Will Trust in Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ—Their Promises Are Sure (p), Jan, insert

Inspired Prophet, Sept, 44

INTEGRITY. *See* CHOOSE THE RIGHT

It Makes Them Happy, *Patricia R. Jones*, Dec, 42

# J

Jared's Journal, *Lilia M. Crouch*, Aug, 20

Jensen, Jay E.  
Remembering Promises (FF), Dec, 8

JESUS CHRIST. *See also* FAITH, HEAVENLY FATHER, PRAYER, *and* TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS

Blessed Christ Child, The, *Rebecca Todd Archibald*, Dec, 13

Fisherman, The, *Wendy Ellison*, Aug, 4

He Lives (PV), *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Apr, 2

He Sent His Son (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Dec, 14

I Will Trust in Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ—Their Promises Are Sure (p), Jan, insert

Jesus Is My Savior, *Blythe Rackham*, Apr, 26

Miracles, *Linda Sherwood*, Apr, 30

Savior's Love, The, *Cheryl C. Lant* (FF), *Kimberly Webb*, Mar, 8

Week for the Christmas Story, A, Dec, 24

Jesus Is My Savior, *Blythe Rackham*, Apr, 26

Johnson, R. Val  
Brave in the Gospel: Eduardo, Mariana, and Marcella Dourado of Recife, Brazil, Aug, 34

Jones, Patricia R.  
Butter Dish, The, June, 16  
Family Home Evening with a Friend, Oct, 42  
It Makes Them Happy, Dec, 42  
Valentine from the Heart, Feb, 10

Jordan's Job List, *Vicki H. Budge*, Sept, 36

JOURNALS. *See* FAMILY HISTORY

Journey to Baptism, Oct, 18

Jump in the Stream! *Steven M. Lund*, Aug, 40

# K

Keep the Commandments (ST), *Linda Magleby*, June, 36

Keeping a Record, Nov, 44

Kind and Caring Heart, A: Melinda Tsai of Gaithersburg, Maryland, *Callie Buys*, Sept, 20

KINDNESS. *See* LOVE AND KINDNESS

Kindred, Sheila  
Message in the Storm, Apr, 4  
My Very Own Prophet, Mar, 4  
Promises to Elizabeth, Part 1: The Blessing, Nov, 4  
Promises to Elizabeth, Part 2: Elizabeth's Decision, Dec, 10  
Secret Journal Friend, May, 14  
Water in the Desert, July, 4

KITCHEN KRAFTS. *See also* RECIPES

Baked Spring Catch, Apr, 45

Broccoli Bacon Salad, July, 23

Caramel Corn, *MaryAlice Wallis*, Feb, 22

Carrot Fries, Feb, 22

Carrot-Raisin Slaw, Jan, 47

Cherry Chocolate Parfaits, July, 23

Chewy Os, *MaryAlice Wallis*, Jan, 47

Chicken-Stuffed Rolls, June, 26

Chunky Cinnamon Applesauce, Feb, 22

Cinnamon Fruit Snack, Apr, 45

Clam Chowder, Oct, 17

Coconut Cranberry Dessert, June, 26

Corn-bread Soufflé, Oct, 17

Cracker Snacks, June, 26

French Toast Sandwich, May, 45

Fresh Peach Jam, Sept, 43

Fruit Pizza, Aug, 48

Grandma's Pie Dough, Nov, 41

Grandma's Play Dough, Nov, 41

Ham Fettuccine, *Julie Wardell*, Mar, 48

Jumbleberry Pie, Nov, 41

Layered Breakfast, May, 45

Morning Sunshine Shake, May, 45

Spicy Mango Sauce, Apr, 45

Spring Bunnies, *Margaret Woods*, Mar, 48

Squash Muffins, Sept, 43

Strawberry Smoothies, Feb, 22

Stuffed Zucchini, Sept, 43

Sweet-Onion Rings, Aug, 48

Tomato Pie, July, 23

Tuna-Salad Wraps, Jan, 47

Turkey Cheeseburgers, Aug, 48

Kratz, Marilyn  
Best Friends, Mar, 34

# L

Lamb, Jane  
My Home, June, 7

Latter-day Prophets Speak (PV), Oct, 2

Leavitt, Melvin  
Firm Decision, A, E. Israel Pérez (FF), Apr, 8

Looking Ahead: Isaac Gomez of Provo, Utah, Mar, 14

My Brother Gary, Marlin K. Jensen (FF), June, 8

Legacy of Love, A, Yoshihiko Kikuchi (FF), *Monica Weeks*, Sept, 6

Letchworth, Beverly J.  
Look and Listen, Mar, 36

Life Lessons, Lynn A. Mickelsen (FF), *Marissa Widdison*, May, 8

Light Continued with Us, The, Oct, 28

Lighthouse, The (PV), *Thomas S. Monson*, Feb, 2

Listening to the Spirit, Aug, 28

Living the Gospel: Vehina and Ranitea Teihoarii of Takaroa, French Polynesia, *Richard M. Romney*, July, 20

Look and Listen, *Beverly J. Letchworth*, Mar, 36

Looking Ahead: Isaac Gomez of Provo, Utah, *Melvin Leavitt*, Mar, 14

Lost in a Cave, *Carolyn Argyle*, Feb, 42

LOVE AND KINDNESS. *See also* FAMILY SERVICE, *and* TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS

Being Brave, *Charmayne Gubler Warnock*, Jan, 38

Best Friends, *Marilyn Kratz*, Mar, 34

Birthday Card, The, *Rebekah Hurst*, May, 30

Do As I'm Doing, *Kate Niemann*, Sept, 46

Family Home Evening with a Friend, *Patricia R. Jones*, Oct, 42

Fences and Choices, *Naomi Myrup*, May, 6

Fortune Cookies, *Claudia G. Remington*, Mar, 28

Game of Catch, A, *Paul Horwinski*, Nov, 10

Happy Book, The, *Laura Lundy*, Feb, 32

Holding a Grudge, *Mary Button Hopkins*, Nov, 13

More Blessed, *Rachel C. Murdock*, Mar, 44

My Friend Linda, *Heidi Renouf Brisco*, Feb, 36

No Ordinary Home Teacher, *Tess Hilmo*, Apr, 42

Paolo's Birthday, *Jane McBride Choate*, Apr, 20

Rainbows in Great-Grandma's Bedroom, *Ray Goldrup*, Sept, 16

Room for Three, *Stacie A. Heaps*, Dec, 4

Ten-Dollar Hug, *Holly K. Simmons*, Mar, 46

Tommy Likes 2 Share, *Mindy Riley*, Jan, 18

Lund, Steven M.  
Jump in the Stream! Aug, 40

Lundy, Laura  
Happy Book, The, Feb, 32

# M

Magleby, Linda  
Follow the Prophet (ST), Mar, 18

Gospel Is a Gift to Share, The (ST), May, 10

Heavenly Father Hears and Answers Prayers (ST), July, 16

I Can Repent and Be Happy (ST), Apr, 14

Keep the Commandments (ST), June, 36

My Life Has a Plan (ST), Feb, 14

Promises in the Scriptures (ST), Jan, 20

Magleby, Linda *and* Elizabeth Ricks  
Comfort and Courage from the Scriptures (ST), Sept, 12

Scriptures Show the Way, The (ST), Aug, 16

Magnificent Promises (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Nov, 14

MAKING FRIENDS  
Abel & Camila León Sifuentes of Trujillo, Peru, *Marvin K. Gardner*, Jan, 28

At Home in the Hills: Yasmin Dengg of Hallwang, Austria, *Kimberly Webb*, Nov, 18

Brave in the Gospel: Eduardo, Mariana, and Marcella Dourado of Recife, Brazil, *R. Val Johnson*, Aug, 34

Forever Family, A: Julischka Schlatter of Möhlin, Switzerland, *Kimberly Webb*, May, 18

I Want to Be a Missionary Now: Andrew Gibson of Fairview, Pennsylvania, *Monica Weeks*, June, 20

Kind and Caring Heart, A: Melinda Tsai of Gaithersburg, Maryland, *Callie Buys*, Sept, 20

Living the Gospel: Vehina and Ranitea Teihoarii of Takaroa, French Polynesia, *Richard M. Romney*, July, 20

Looking Ahead: Isaac Gomez of Provo, Utah, *Melvin Leavitt*, Mar, 14

Rebekah Nielsen of Moscow, Idaho, *Barbara Nielsen*, Feb, 28

Zest for Life: Tristan Desforages of Raleigh, North Carolina, *Julie Wardell*, Oct, 34

Mangum, Matthew  
How I Knew, May, 4

Marty and Chipper Go to School, *Margaret Shauers*, Sept, 30

Martyrdom of the Prophet, The, June, 40

MATT & MANDY  
Jan, 41; Feb, 39; Mar, 40; Apr, 17; May, 13; June, 39; July, 41; Aug, 33; Sept, 15; Oct, 33; Nov, 17; Dec, 27

McKay and the Whale, *Holly K. Simmons*, Jan, 16

Message in the Storm, *Sheila Kindred*, Apr, 4

Metheny, Emily *and* Rebecca Taylor  
Testimony of Heavenly Father, A, Margaret S. Liffarth (FF), Aug, 8

Milk Money, *Caleb Warnock*, July, 38

Miracles, *Linda Sherwood*, Apr, 30

MISSIONARY WORK. *See also* FRIENDS BY MAIL, EXAMPLE, TESTIMONY, *and* TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS

Candy Apples, *Pam Moody*, Apr, 38

Gospel Is a Gift to Share, The (ST), *Linda Magleby*, May, 10



I Want to Be a Missionary Now: Andrew Gibson of Fairview, Pennsylvania, *Monica Weeks*, June, 20

Legacy of Love, A, Yoshihiko Kikuchi (FF), *Monica Weeks*, Sept, 6

Successful Missionary, A, May, 40

Thankful for Missionary Work (PV), *Gordon B. Hinckley*, June, 2

They Were Speaking the Truth, Apr, 36

Through the Window, *Ronda Gibb Hinrichsen*, Jan, 32

Valentine from the Heart, *Patricia R. Jones*, Feb, 10

Zest for Life: Tristan Desforges of Raleigh, North Carolina, *Julie Wardell*, Oct, 34

Monson, Thomas S.

Follow the Signs (PV), May, 2

Frame Your Life with Faith (PV), July, 2

Lighthouse, The (PV), Feb, 2

Moody, Lorena

Enos Experiment, The, Sept, 4

Moody, Pam

Candy Apples, Apr, 38

More Blessed, *Rachel C. Murdock*, Mar, 44

Murdock, Rachel C.

More Blessed, Mar, 44

MUSIC

Don't Ever Forget to Pray, Apr, 11

My Brother Gary, Marlin K. Jensen (FF), *Melvin Leavitt*, June, 8

My Companion, S. *Melissa Ochsenbirt*, May, 42

My Friend Linda, *Heidi Renouf Brisco*, Feb, 36

MY GOSPEL STANDARDS. See also TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS and GUIDE TO THE FRIEND Keep the Commandments (ST), *Linda Magleby*, June, 36

My Home, *Jane Lamb*, June, 7

My Journal Full of Pictures, *Elizabeth Giles*, July, 36

My Life Has a Plan (ST), *Linda Magleby*, Feb, 14

My Sister, My Example, *Shanna Butler*, July, 44

My Very Own Prophet, *Sheila Kindred*, Mar, 4

Myrup, Naomi

Fences and Choices, May, 6

## N

Nets Full of Fish, *Caleb Warnock*, Feb, 18

New Heart, A, *Claudia G. Remington*, Jan, 12

Nielsen, Barbara

Rebekah Nielsen of Moscow, Idaho, Feb, 28

Niemann, Kate

Do As I'm Doing, Sept, 46

No Ordinary Home Teacher, *Tess Hilmo*, Apr, 42

Noah and the Ark, *Stacey A. Rasmussen*, Feb, 34

North Star, The, *Wendy Ellison*, June, 30

## O

OBEDIENCE. See CHOOSE THE RIGHT

Ochsenhirt, S. *Melissa*

My Companion, May, 42

OLD TESTAMENT. See also SCRIPTURES

First Family, *Rich Latta*, Feb, 13

Garden of Eden, *Mariam Joyce Grisham*, Sept, 32

Jonah and the Whale Cutouts, Jan, 17

McKay and the Whale, *Holly K. Simmons*, Jan, 16

Noah and the Ark, *Stacey A. Rasmussen*, Feb, 34

Noah's Ark Picture Puzzle, *Donna Lugg Pape*, Feb, 13

Old Testament Animal Matchup, *Julie Wardell*, Nov, 35

Old Testament Bookmarks, *Val Chadwick Bagley*, Dec, 33

Old Testament Scripture Pictures, *Britney Schetselaar*, Jan, 23

Olds, Sara V

A in Integrity, An, Feb, 46

Year without Gifts, A, Dec, 20

Osborn, Elizabeth Hervey

Ben Obeys, Oct, 30

OUR CREATIVE FRIENDS

Jan, 26; Feb, 26; Mar, 22; Apr, 28; May, 34; June, 28; July, 32; Aug, 42; Sept, 40; Oct, 26; Nov, 32; Dec, 38

## P

Palmer, Alison

What Jesus Sees, June, 4

Paolo's Birthday, *Jane McBride Coboate*, Apr, 20

Pate, Colleen M.

Giving Our Best, Sept, 28

People Who Love You and Serve You, Apr, 24

Perfect Match, A, *Kay Timpson*, Oct, 20

Perfect Treasure, The, *Jennifer Rose*, Aug, 44

Pictures and Prayers, *Kimberly Webb*, July, 34

Pie Dough to Play Dough, *Cindy Bechtold*, Nov, 38

PIONEERS. See CHURCH HISTORY

PLAN OF SALVATION

Greatest Treasure, The, *Ronda Gibb Hinrichsen*, May, 28

Heavenly Heroes, *Pat Burton*, May, 17

I Can Live with My Father in Heaven Again, *Pat Grabam*, Feb, 24

Message in the Storm, *Sheila Kindred*, Apr, 4

My Life Has a Plan (ST), *Linda Magleby*, Feb, 14

Promised Blessings, *Ronda Gibb Hinrichsen*, Apr, 48

POSTER

I Will Trust in Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ—Their Promises Are Sure, Jan, insert

PRAYER. See also FRIENDS BY MAIL and TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS

Answers to Prayers, Vicki F. Matsumori (FF), *Jennifer Rose*, Nov, 8

Catching Fish and Saying Prayers, Feb, 40

Enos Experiment, The, *Lorena Moody*, Sept, 4

Heavenly Father Hears and Answers Prayers (ST), *Linda Magleby*, July, 16

His Burden Was Made Light, *Sandra Dawn Brimball*, Mar, 10

Lost in a Cave, *Carolyn Argyle*, Feb, 42

Milk Money, *Caleb Warnock*, July, 38

Nets Full of Fish, *Caleb Warnock*, Feb, 18

Pictures and Prayers, *Kimberly Webb*, July, 34

Prayer, *LaFond Hall*, July, 7

Seeking Him in Prayer, D. Todd Christofferson (FF), *Marissa A. Widdison*, Feb, 8

Snow, *G. C. Buckner*, Jan, 4

Water in the Desert, *Sheila Kindred*, July, 4

Prayer, *LaFond Hall*, July, 7

PRIESTHOOD. See also AARONIC PRIESTHOOD

Blessed by the Priesthood, Douglas L.

Callister (FF), *Marissa A. Widdison*, July, 8

Blessing, The, *Jane McBride Coboate*, Jan, 44

No Ordinary Home Teacher, *Tess Hilmo*, Apr, 42

Seat at the Front, A, *Callie Buys*, June, 32

PROMISES. See also BAPTISM and TEMPLES

Magnificent Promises (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Nov, 14

Promises in the Scriptures (ST), *Linda Magleby*, Jan, 20

Promises to Elizabeth, Part 1: The Blessing, *Sheila Kindred*, Nov, 4

Promises to Elizabeth, Part 2: Elizabeth's Decision, *Sheila Kindred*, Dec, 10

Remembering Promises (FF), *Jay E. Jensen*, Dec, 8

Promises in the Scriptures (ST), *Linda Magleby*, Jan, 20

Promises to Elizabeth, Part 1: The Blessing, *Sheila Kindred*, Nov, 4

Promises to Elizabeth, Part 2: Elizabeth's Decision, *Sheila Kindred*, Dec, 10

PROPHETS OF THE CHURCH. See also COME LISTEN TO A PROPHET'S VOICE and FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF

Edward and the Prophet, *John Allen*, Oct, 10

Fifteen Prophets, *Joany Erickson*, Mar, 7

Follow the Prophet, *Pat Grabam*, Oct, 40

Follow the Prophet (ST), *Linda Magleby*, Mar, 18

Hidden Hymn Writers, *Callie Buys*, Apr, 40

I Want to Follow the Prophet, *Cindy Ford*, Oct, 7

I Will Follow the Prophet Today (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Oct, 14

Martyrdom of the Prophet, The, June, 40

My Very Own Prophet, *Sheila Kindred*, Mar, 4

North Star, The, *Wendy Ellison*, June, 30

Prophets Strengthen Families, *Lois T. Barbolomeu*, Oct, 23

Protecting the Prophet, May, 32

They Spoke to Us, June, 42; Dec, 28

This Is the Place, July, 10

Protecting the Prophet, May, 32

PROTECTION

Light Continued with Us, The, Oct, 28

Saved by Providence, Jan, 10

## R

Rackham, Blythe

Jesus Is My Savior, Apr, 26

Rainbows in Great-Grandma's Bedroom, *Ray Goldrup*, Sept, 16

Rasmussen, Stacey A.

Noah and the Ark, Feb, 34

Rebekah Nielsen of Moscow, Idaho, *Barbara Nielsen*, Feb, 28

RECIPES. See also KITCHEN KRAFTS

Apple Rings, Mar, 35

Barking Banana, *Renée Roy Harding*, May, 31

Honey Butter, *Beverly B. Nichols*, May, 31

Ice-Cream S'mores, June, 35

Remembering Promises (FF), *Jay E. Jensen*, Dec, 8

Remington, Claudia G.

Fortune Cookies, Mar, 28

New Heart, A, Jan, 12

REPENTANCE. See also FRIENDS BY MAIL

Clean Again, *Arne Bentley Waddoups*, Oct, 4

I Can Repent and Be Happy (ST), *Linda Magleby*, Apr, 14

McKay and the Whale, *Holly K. Simmons*, Jan, 16

RESTORATION. See CHURCH HISTORY

RESURRECTION. See PLAN OF SALVATION

Ricks, Elizabeth

He Sent His Son (ST), Dec, 14

I Will Follow the Prophet Today (ST), Oct, 14

Magnificent Promises (ST), Nov, 14

Ricks, Elizabeth and Linda Magleby

Comfort and Courage from the Scriptures (ST), Sept, 12

Scriptures Show the Way, The (ST), Aug, 16

Right Path, The, *Ray Goldrup*, May, 36

Riley, Mindy

Tommy Likes 2 Share, Jan, 18

Romney, Richard M.

Living the Gospel: Vehina and Ranitea Teihoarii of Takaroa, French Polynesia, July, 20

Room for Three, *Stacie A. Heaps*, Dec, 4

Roper, Shanna

Teach Me the Scriptures, Aug, 7

Rose, Jennifer

Answers to Prayers, Vicki F. Matsumori (FF), Nov, 8

Perfect Treasure, The, Aug, 44

Rytting, Jenny Rebecca

Sent Home from School, Sept, 8

## S

SABBATH DAY. See also FRIENDS BY MAIL and TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS

Flannel Board Sunday Box, June, 18

Sammy's Sabbath Dilemma, *Stacie A. Heaps*, Apr, 34

Sunday Box: Fishing for Old Testament Facts, Aug, 24

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## Guide to the *Friend*



*The Guide to the Friend can help you find stories or articles for preparing lessons or talks for church or for family home evening. Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned in the Family Home Evening Ideas. The Primary theme for December is "Heavenly Father fulfilled His promise to send a Savior."*



## Family Home Evening Ideas

Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned below.

1. Read or retell the story "Room for Three" (pp. 4–5).

Think about people you know at home, school, church, or in your neighborhood who may feel lonely. Plan ways to include them, to let them in.

2. Talk about all the ways the bishopric serves the members of your ward. Then make each of them a treat or a simple gift (see "Christmas Workshop," pp. 6–7) and deliver your offerings with a Christmas carol and good wishes.

3. Read the poem "The Blessed Christ Child" (p. 13). Why did the angels appear to shepherds? Discuss how we can be like them. One way is to recognize signs of the Savior's Second Coming and be prepared to meet Him.

4. Cooperate as a family to complete the activity "The Gifts and Fruits of the Spirit" (p. 26). Talk about the ways you have been blessed by spiritual *gifts*. Then discuss how you know when you are feeling the Spirit because of spiritual *fruits*. How can

spiritual fruits help you know what is right? Read the secret message to find out. Write the names of spiritual gifts and fruits on strips of red and green paper. Create a paper chain to decorate the Christmas tree or another part of your house to remind you to seek the companionship of the Holy Ghost.

5. Pair off with a family member and look at each other's face for several seconds, trying not to smile. How hard is it? Read "Christmas Smiles" (pp. 30–31). Being selfish makes us unhappy while loving others makes us smile. Decide this season to smile often, sharing your love and Christmas greetings with as many people as you can.



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



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Read the First Presidency's Christmas message to you.

## page 6

Learn how to make some holiday treats.



## page 24

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