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

I'll Have Juice



went to a party where they served tea and juice. My mom, my sister,

and I were the only people in the group who asked for juice instead of tea. My friends asked me why, and I told them. I felt happy for the rest of the day because I didn't drink any tea.

Kiramie T., age 10, Washington

Turtle Rescue



ne afternoon when we were going home, there was a turtle in

the road. We pulled over. My mom and I picked up the turtle and put it in the swamp nearby. Now the turtle is safe.

Natalie C., age 6, Florida

Helping Out

ne Sunday
when I was
ready for church,
I noticed that
my mom was
still getting
ready and



my brothers were not ready yet.

I decided to help my mom
get my brothers ready. When
my mom thanked me, I felt
really good inside.

Claire Elise M., age 9, Ohio

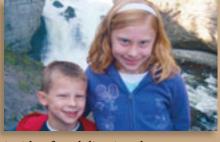
Secret Givers

ne evening my mom read "The Secret Giver" from the December 2008 *Friend* to us. We liked the story a lot and thought it was a great idea. So, we made a plan with our mom and decided who we would give gifts

to for Christmas and when we would do it. We even did some detective work to discover what some of our recipients would like. We dressed in dark clothes and planned to drop

the presents and run.

We thought that we were just having fun, but we got more than fun out of this service mission. We felt really good



inside after delivering the presents, and we were excited about doing something nice for others. We are already thinking about next year's "secret giver" mission.

Tyler and Kirsten R., ages 8 and 9, Utah

44 ILLUSTRATIONS BY SAM RICKS

Christmas Peaches

few years ago, we decided to bottle peaches for our grandpa for Christmas. We knew that he liked simple gifts and loved peaches. Mom helped us boil the peaches, peel them, and put them in jars. It was so much fun to bottle the peaches and learn something new. On Christmas,



we went to our grandpa's house and were excited to carry in the

big box of peaches. He was so happy when he unwrapped the box and saw all of the peaches inside. He told us how proud he was of us for learning how to bottle peaches. Now we give him Christmas peaches every year.

Matthew, Stephen, and Johnathan W., ages 9, 7, and 9, Utah

Warm Blankets, Warm Hearts



Christmas. my mom and I make fleece blankets for children at a homeless shelter near

us. I like to tie the blankets with my mom. When we're done, we wrap teddy bears with the blankets. Then I help my dad carry the blankets into the shelter, and we wish them a merry Christmas. It makes me feel good to spread Christmas cheer and give to people.

LeAnn W., age 5, Utah, with help from her mom

> Tell us how you're trying to be like Jesus. Turn to page 49 to find out how to send us a letter.

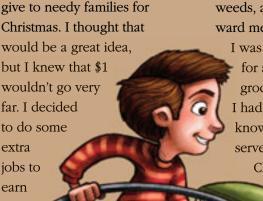
Serving for Christmas

y grandparents gave each of their grandchildren \$1 and asked us to find a way to serve someone else with it for Christmas. My mom told us that a member of our ward collected gift cards to give to needy families for Christmas. I thought that would be a great idea, but I knew that \$1

extra

earn

jobs to



money for a gift card. I cleaned windows, dusted. emptied garbage, fed dogs, pulled

weeds, and vacuumed for some ward members and neighbors.

I was able to buy a gift card for a family to use at a grocery store. I knew that I had made a good choice. I know that it's important to serve and give, especially at Christmastime.

Crew J., age 5, Arizona