

the Friend

January 2002





The Sabbath Day

Sunday is my favorite day of the week because it always makes me feel so refreshed and ready for a new week. I love to go to church and learn about the Savior, Jesus Christ. It helps me to be a better person and try to do what is right. Sunday is also a good day for me and my family because we have lots of quality time together. Sometimes during the week we are busy.

No matter what, Sunday is the day to take a break from our everyday lifestyles. It's a day to slow down and set goals for the week. It's a time to laugh, share, and show that we care. I try to keep the Sabbath Day holy. To me, Sunday doesn't end when I leave church. Sunday lasts all day.

*Rickey Jarman, age 11
Kinston, North Carolina*



Nibbles

One day my friend was over, and we were playing with my hamster, Nibbles. We built him a house out of building blocks. My friend said that he needed a car. So she went in my room and put him in my doll's car and ran down the hall, pushing him in the car.

The next thing we saw was Nibbles lying in the middle of the hall. He was hurt badly. He had fallen out the back of the car. I picked him up and ran crying to my mom. My friend went home.

Mom said that he was probably going to die soon. At dinner, I was still crying. I hardly ate anything. After dinner, I went to my room and said a prayer that Nibbles would be all right. When I woke up the next morning, he was OK. At that moment, I knew that Heavenly Father had helped my hamster live. He is still alive today. Heavenly Father can help you, too.

*Rebecca Dawn Bingham, age 9
Layton, Utah*



Tricked!

I had only lived in Tokyo, Japan, a little while. It takes an hour for me to get home from school on the bus. One day a friend said that if we got off at the first bus stop, he knew the way to my house and would guide me home. I believed him. So I got off the bus at the first stop, thinking that he would get off, too. But he tricked me. He didn't get off, and I was alone.

I tried to remember the way to my house. I started to walk, but I came to a fork in the road, and I didn't know which way to go. I felt very bad and scared. I said a prayer. I told Heavenly Father that I had made a mistake, and I asked Him to help me get home. I felt better, and He helped me choose the right way to go. I got home safely and was grateful that He helped me. I learned that He really listens to our prayers and helps us solve problems.

*Ian Robert Evans, age 7
Tokyo, Japan*

The Friend welcomes your letters sharing a spiritual experience, your testimony, or your feelings about the Friend. Send them to Childviews, Friend, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3226. Please include a picture of yourself and your name, age, and address. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity.

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the Friend

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Cover by Brad Teare

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Hidden Word

(Temple) recommend: A temple recommend is a special form that says that the person whose name is on it is worthy to enter the temple. The form is given to a Church member after an interview with a member of his or her bishopric/branch presidency and stake/ district presidency. This term is found in this issue in "Stewart, a Commandment-Keeper, Too" and Sharing Time. See if you can find it.



Be faithful, and yield to no temptation (Doctrine and Covenants 9:13).

We face giant temptations, but they can be overcome. President Gordon B. Hinckley names some of these giants and explains how we can defeat them.

Some years ago I spoke to the young men of the Church about overcoming the Goliaths in their lives. I would like to

apply that same theme to all of us, for few of us do not have at least one Goliath to contend with. . . .

As you recall, the army of Israel under the leadership of King Saul was engaged in a deadly war with the army of the Philistines.

One army [camped] on one hill, the other on an opposite hill, with a valley in between. Now, the Philistines had . . . a great giant of a man named Goliath of Gath. His height was six cubits and a span. . . . That would put him somewhere in the neighborhood of nine feet tall. What a basketball center he might have made!

Clad in his armor, he came down to the valley and called out to the army of Israel:

“Choose you a man for you, and let him come down to me.

“If he be able to fight with me, and to kill me, then will we be your servants: but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall ye be our servants, and serve us. . . .

“I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.” (1 Samuel 17:8–10.)

When Saul and the army of Israel looked at this giant and heard his chilling challenge, they were frightened because they had no one of their own of such [size].

Now, while all of this was going on, Jesse, David's father, asked his young son to take some food to his three brothers in the army. When he arrived at the battleground, Goliath

came out again, issuing the same challenge, which David heard. There was fear throughout the army of Israel. David, who was no more than a boy, said to the king (and I paraphrase his language): “King, why are you so afraid of this giant? I will go and fight him.”

Saul replied, “Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he [is] a man of war [trained] from his youth” (1 Samuel 17:33).

David then persuaded Saul to let him try. He told the king of how he had fought with a lion and a bear to save his father's sheep and concluded by saying that the Lord would deliver him out of the hand of the Philistine. Saul . . . said to David, “Go, and the Lord be with thee” (1 Samuel 17:37).

Saul then placed armor on David until the boy could scarcely walk. David said to the king, “I cannot wear this,” and he took the armor off.

He then “took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had . . . ; and his sling was in his hand” (1 Samuel 17:40).

God's Power Within You



This stripling of a boy, with only a sling and five stones, and without any armor other than the armor of faith, went down into the valley to face Goliath.

“And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him: for he was but a youth. . . .

“And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves?”

And Goliath swore at David, saying, “Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.”

Then David spoke these great words: “Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.

“This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee . . . that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.” (See 1 Samuel 17:42–46.)

That was brave talk for a boy who stood against a nine-foot giant.

In anger Goliath came at him. Then David, running toward the giant, “put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth” (1 Samuel 17:49).

I would like to apply this story to our lives. There are Goliaths all around us, hulking giants with evil intent to destroy. These are not nine-foot-tall men, but . . . evil things that may challenge and weaken and destroy us. Included in these are beer and other liquors and tobacco. Those who market these products would like to enslave you into their use. There are illegal drugs of various kinds. . . . This is a . . . giant web of evil.

There is pornography [bad pictures and stories in magazines, films, TV shows, and Internet sites]. . . . [These] giants . . . would like to ensnare you. . . .

But you need not fear if you have the slingshot of truth in your hands. You have been counseled and taught and advised. You have the stones of virtue and honor and integrity to use against these enemies. . . . When they challenge you, you can hit

them “between the eyes.” . . . You can triumph over them by disciplining yourself to avoid them. You can say to the whole lot of them as David said to Goliath, “Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.”

Victory will be yours. There is not a person in this Church who needs to [surrender] to any of these forces. You are a child of God. You have His power within you to sustain you. You have the right to call upon God to protect you. Do not let Goliath frighten you. Stand your ground . . . , and you will be triumphant. . . .

When temptation comes your way, name that boastful, deceitful giant “Goliath!” and do with it as David did to the Philistine of Gath.





Ye shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord (Deuteronomy 6:17).

(A true story)

By Carolyn LeDuc

Stewart tapped his mom on the wrist. “When will Daddy be done? I’m hungry.”
“In just a few minutes, Stew.”
“What’s he doing in there, anyway? I want to go home.”
“Daddy’s talking to the bishop.”

“Why?”

“He’s answering questions like, ‘Do you tell the truth?’ ‘Are you kind to your family members?’ ‘Do you follow the prophet?’ Questions like that.”

“Why?”

“When Daddy answers questions like those, the bishop knows whether or not he is a commandment-keeper. If he *is* a commandment-keeper, he’ll get a special piece of paper, called a temple recommend. Only Church members with temple recommends can go inside the temple.”

“Oh.”

The bishop’s door opened, and Stewart’s daddy stepped out. He shook the bishop’s hand and smiled. “Your turn,” he said, looking at Mommy.

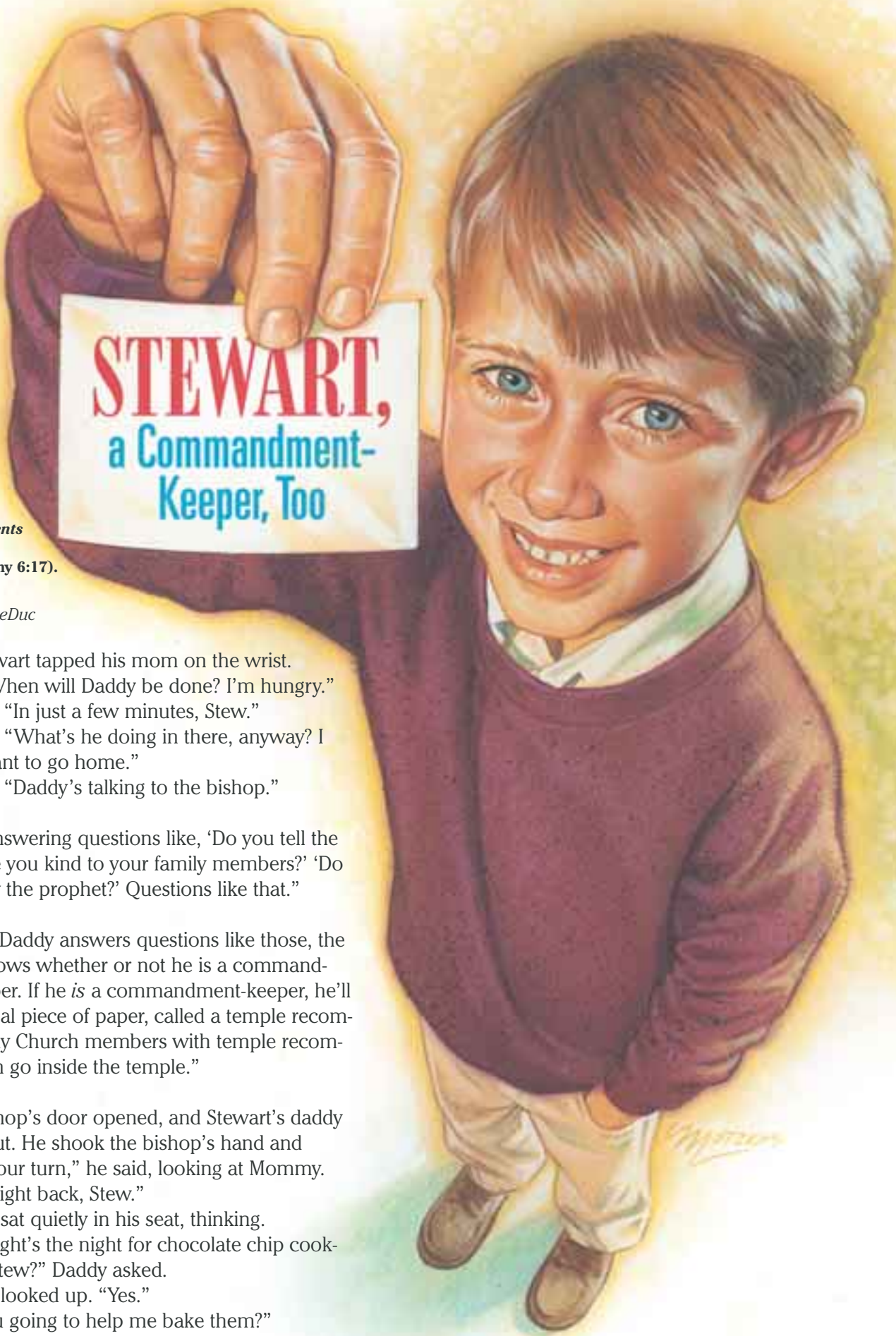
“I’ll be right back, Stew.”

Stewart sat quietly in his seat, thinking.

“So tonight’s the night for chocolate chip cookies, right Stew?” Daddy asked.

Stewart looked up. “Yes.”

“Are you going to help me bake them?”



“Yep.”

There was silence.

“Dad, are you a commandment-keeper?”

“I try to keep the commandments, Son. Sometimes I make mistakes, but I repent and try harder. It’s hard to be a commandment-keeper, but I do my best.”

“Did you get a temple rec– . . . rec– What’s that word?”

“Temple recommend. Here. Do you want to see it?” Daddy handed Stewart a small piece of paper.

Stewart looked at it carefully. “What does it say?”

“Well, I still have to talk to the stake president. But right now, it has the bishop’s name, and my name. And at the bottom, it says that I’m worthy to enter the temple.”

“Because you’re a commandment-keeper?”

“Right.”

Before long, Stewart’s mom opened the bishop’s door.

“Come on,” said Daddy. “Let’s go home and get those cookies ready to bake and eat!”

Riding home in the car, Stewart was quiet. Mom looked into the rearview mirror and saw that he looked sad. “What’s wrong?” she asked.

At a stoplight, Daddy turned to the backseat. “Stew, what’s the matter? Aren’t you excited about making our treats?”

“I wanted to tell the bishop I keep the commandments. I wanted my *own* special paper.”

Mommy and Daddy looked at each other.

“You wanted a temple recommend?” Daddy asked.

“Aren’t I good at keeping the commandments?”

“You’re very good at keeping the commandments. But you have to be twelve to go inside a temple. When you’re twelve, you’re old enough to get your own recommend and do baptisms for the dead,” Dad explained.

“So I don’t get a paper like yours till I’m twelve?”

“No.”

Stew looked out the window. Daddy and Mommy quietly looked ahead. Then Daddy had an idea. “Hey! You can still have a piece of paper that says you keep the commandments! After we get the cookies started, you come into my office!”

Stew gave his dad a cautious smile. “OK.”

Once at home, the family set to work on the cookies right away. When the first batch went into the oven, Stewart went to his dad’s office.

“Have a seat, Son. I’ll sit here, across from you.”

Stew climbed into a chair and got comfortable.

“Now let’s start with a prayer.” Daddy folded his arms and Stew followed. Daddy asked Heavenly Father that His Spirit would be with them as they talked. He told the Lord that he loved his little boy. Stew felt happy inside.



When the prayer was finished, the questions began. Daddy looked Stewart in the eyes. “First, do you believe in Jesus Christ?”

“Yes I do.”

“I do, too, Stew. He’s my very best friend. Now, do you believe that the scriptures are true, and do you read them every day?”

“Well, Mommy reads them to me, but yesterday we both forgot.”

“Do you read them most days?”

“Yes.”

“That’s great. Reading the scriptures is one of the

best ways to learn about Jesus Christ. Do you say your prayers?"

"Yes, I do."

"Wonderful. How do you feel when you pray?"

"I feel glad because Heavenly Father can hear me and answer me."

"Yes, He likes it when we pray to Him. The more we pray, the more He can help us. And you and I need lots of help, don't we?"

"Yes."

"Do you believe that Gordon B. Hinckley is a true prophet?"

"I know he is a prophet."

"How do you know?"

"Because that's what you told me."

"Heavenly Father will tell you, too, if you ask Him. I've asked Heavenly Father, and He's told me," Daddy said.

"Now, do you tell the truth?"

Stew frowned. "Well, I lied about that mess in the kitchen. But you already knew that."

"I remember. You blamed a friend for the mess, and it was really you who did it."

Stewart's shoulders drooped. "So I guess I'm not a commandment-keeper?"

"Well, did you repent of telling that lie?"

"I told you and Nathan I was sorry."

"Did you really feel sorry? Sorry enough to want to tell the truth from now on?"

"Yes."

"If we repent when we make mistakes, Heavenly Father forgives us and forgets about the mistake. We're still commandment-keepers, as long as we keep trying and keep repenting."

Stewart sat tall again. He felt thankful for repentance.

Daddy asked more questions about the commandments: "Are you good to your parents?" "Do you keep Sunday special for remembering Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ?" "Do you pay tithing?" "Do you stay away from dangerous foods and drinks?"

Soon Stewart had answered every question. Daddy held out his hand. "Congratulations! You are a commandment-keeper."

Shaking hands with his dad, Stewart beamed.

Daddy wrote some words on a small note card and handed it to Stew. "This piece of paper says that you're a commandment-keeper. Right now, you're not old enough to go into the temple, but you are worthy enough. That's terrific!"

Stewart smiled, put the note card in his pocket, and said, "When I'm twelve, I'm going straight to the temple."

"Great!"

"But right now"—Stewart grinned—"I'm only five, and I'm going straight to the kitchen. I can smell those yummy cookies and I'm starving."

"Me too! Let's go."



The Temple— *A House of the Lord*



*By Elder David B. Haight
Of the Quorum of the
Twelve Apostles*

When Elder Haight was a boy, he had chores to do, just as you do. He chopped

wood for the cookstove, raked leaves, and mowed the lawn. He also learned to play the violin and the piano. He has said some important things about the tremendous value of temples:



Temples are the most sacred places of worship on earth where sacred ordinances are performed—ordinances which pertain to salvation and exaltation in the kingdom of God. Each one is literally a house of the Lord—a place where He and His spirit may dwell, where He may come or send others to confer priesthood blessings and to give revelation to His people. . . .

Temples built especially to the Lord have been erected in all ages. Moses built a tabernacle in the wilderness for

the children of Israel. Solomon built a magnificent temple in Jerusalem. The Nephites built sacred temples. Joseph Smith built houses of the Lord in Kirtland and Nauvoo, and succeeding prophets have built temples throughout the world. These have all been . . . built under the direction and revelation of God. . . .

The moment we step into the house of the Lord, the atmosphere changes from the worldly to the heavenly. . . . It is a refuge from the ills of life and a protection from the temptations.

(Ensign, November 1990, pages 59, 61.)

MOSES' TABERNACLE IN THE WILDERNESS BY JERRY THOMPSON, HEROD'S TEMPLE BY EDWARD D. MARYON / PHOTO OF WASHINGTON D.C. TEMPLE BY CRAIG DIMOND



Friend to Friend

“Be of Good Cheer”

Wherefore, be of good cheer, and do not fear, for I the Lord am with you, and will stand by you (Doctrine and Covenants 68:6).



At age 3 (left) with his brother Aramis, age 4

From an interview with Elder Athos M. Amorim of the Seventy, currently serving as President of the Brazil South Area; by Jan Pinborough

Let me tell you how I got my unusual first name. In my family, there were three boys. My parents wanted their children to be unified, so they named us for the three main characters in a famous book, *The Three Musketeers*. This is a book about the adventures of three friends whose motto was “One for all, all for one.” My older brother’s name is Aramis, my younger brother’s name is D’Artagnan, and my name is Athos. Each of us is very different, yet we have always been very close.

When I was about ten, my older brother had a serious health problem. The blood in his hands was not circulating properly, and they hurt very badly. At that time, my family lived in a small town on the border of Brazil and Argentina. The medical facilities there were not very good, so my mother and my brother traveled to the big city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to see the doctor. Because my father had to work during the day,

my baby brother had to stay with another family. So every day I went to visit him. And every day I prayed for my older brother.

The doctors told my mother that they needed to amputate (cut off) my brother’s hands. Mother refused. “No, I know that the Lord will take care of my son,” she said. One night after my mother and brother had returned home, he was in great pain. I shared a room with him, and I remember him crying because his hands hurt so much. While he cried, Mother knelt by his bed, praying. The next morning, I saw him sleeping peacefully. Mother was also asleep, still kneeling at his bedside. We were not members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, but Mother had great faith. Eventually my brother’s hands did get better. He lost the tips of some of his fingers, but he did not have to have his hands amputated.

Mother also had great courage. And she taught us to be of good cheer. She told my brother that even though he had lost part of some fingers, he still had everything else. So my brother did not get discouraged. When he got older, his first job was as a typist. Today he is an attorney.

It is very important to be unified with your brothers and sisters and parents.

Also, when you belong to the Church, you are a member of a big family. And we must be unified. Remember the motto



Training a horse to jump

of the Three Musketeers: “One for all, all for one.”

It is also very important for you to obey your parents. I had an experience that taught me the importance of obedience. I love horses, and I love to train them to jump. As a young man, I was invited to compete in the Pan-American Games, which are something like the Olympic Games for the countries of North, Central, and South America. For two years, I worked very hard to train for this competition.



As an Army officer

Then one day not long before the games, I disobeyed my coach. I had just finished my training session, and he had told me that it was time to stop. But I decided to make a few more jumps. As I did, I fell with my horse and was seriously injured. After all my hard work, I was not able to take part in the competition. We must all learn to be obedient to our trainers—our parents, our leaders, and our teachers. They know how to help us avoid dangers and problems.

Working with horses also taught me to be patient and to never give up. Progress comes a little at a time. Once I had a colt named Planchet. Someone said, “That horse is weak. He will never be worth anything.” But someone else told me that if I would be patient and exercise my colt’s muscles, he would someday be a good horse. I fed Planchet and took care of him and loved him. For one whole year, I just walked him to strengthen his muscles. I worked and worked with him. And, sure enough, this weak colt became one of the best horses in Brazil. He won the Brazilian championship in a three-day-long competition.

You may think that you are weak now. But never give up. One day you can be strong. But you must be patient in doing simple things. Pray to the Lord. Study the scriptures a little bit each day. Love and



With his family in Brazil



obey your parents. Love and serve your family and friends.

I am a happy person. Whenever someone asks me how I am doing, I answer, “Better than I deserve to be.” Many times in the scriptures the Lord has told us to “be of good cheer” (see Doctrine and Covenants 61:36; 68:6; 78:18; John 16:33). One of

my favorite words is *enthusiasm*. This word comes from Greek words that mean “God within.” When you are of good cheer, you have the Spirit of God in your heart.

One of the most important days of my life was the day I was baptized. I was forty years old. The missionaries had knocked on my family’s door in Brazil. We were taught by the best missionaries in the world! Whenever I read in the Book of Mormon about the sons of Mosiah, who were such powerful missionaries, I think of Elder Hansen and Elder Furness. They were well-groomed, so it was easy for us to invite them into our home. They were well educated and polite. They had beautiful smiles and a good spirit with them. I love those missionaries who taught me to know the Lord. After I was baptized, they placed their hands on my head to confirm me. I cried a lot because I had never had such a wonderful feeling. And I have had this same wonderful feeling ever since.

One of the most important times of my life was when my wife and I were serving in the São Paulo Brazil Temple. We could feel the presence of the Lord in His house. Whenever I saw families being sealed, I could feel how much the Lord loves His children.

As a newlywed with his wife, Maria





Behold, the Lord thy God hath set the land before thee: go up and possess it . . . ; fear not, neither be discouraged (Deuteronomy 1:21).

DANCING *in the* SNOW



By Robin B. Lambert



(This true incident is shared with us by Layna Haymond (8) of Santaquin, Utah. She is the great-great-great-great-great-granddaughter of Amy Loader, the mother in this story.)

The cold winter winds had blown drifts of snow into our tent that morning. We didn't find out until later how lucky we were—the snow had piled up on the tops of several other tents that same night, causing their roofs to collapse on the people sleeping inside. But at the time, all Tamar and Maria, two of my sisters, and I knew was that we were terribly cold and hungry.

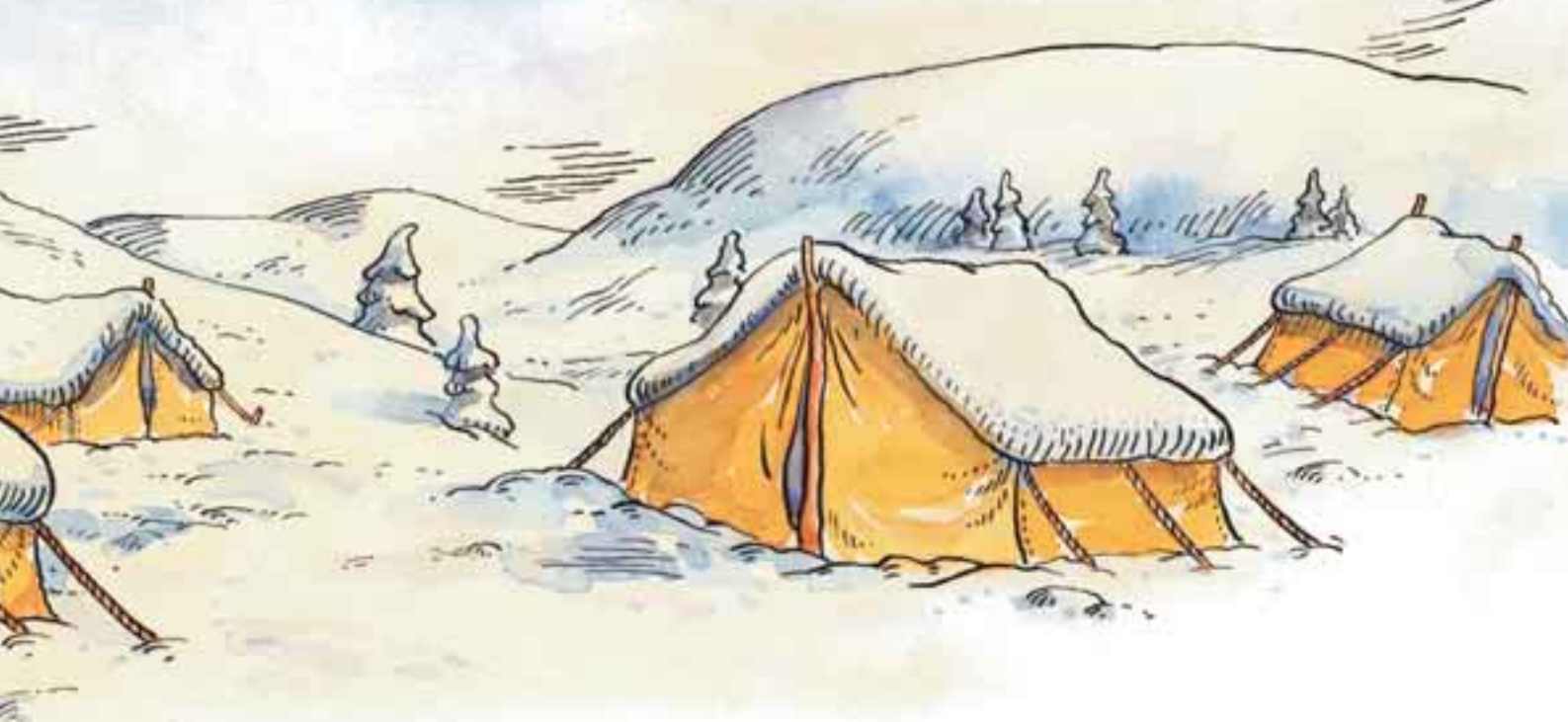
We were camped next to the Sweetwater River with our mother and other family members, on our way to the Salt Lake Valley. It had been snowing for four days straight, and until the blizzard let up, we were stuck. And what was worse, we were quickly running out of food. Everyone in our handcart company shared their supplies equally, which meant that everyone got equally small portions. We were only allowed a handful of flour each. The night before, Mama had taken a strip of rawhide off the frame of the cart and boiled it into a sort of

broth. To my brother and sisters and me, it tasted wonderful, but it did little to fill our empty stomachs. And now here we were the next morning, lying buried under a layer of quilts and a layer of snow, knowing that there would be no more food today than there was yesterday. All that stood before us was another day of cold misery.

I shut my eyes and wished that I could go back to sleep. In my dreams, at least, I was comfortable and warm. I could pretend that I was back in our lovely England, in our beautiful little cottage. I remembered the day the missionaries had spoken at our town chapel, and how Mama's and Papa's eyes had begun to burn with a light I had never seen before.

That was why we were here. Ever since their baptisms a few years ago, Mama and Papa had dreamed of joining the Saints in America. We had skimped and saved and finally were able to afford the price of passage on a boat to the United States.

Not being able to afford a horse or wagon, we signed on with a handcart company led by Mr. Edward Martin. Papa passed away early in the journey, and Mama's health was very delicate. We often had to let her rest in the handcart while



we three older girls pulled and pushed. She was so determined to reach Salt Lake that there was never any thought of turning back. But now, after trudging across half the American continent, it didn't look as if we were going to get much farther. I shuddered and tried pulling the quilt closer around me. I had never felt as weak or as miserable as I did that morning.

"Patience, are you awake?" Mama's sleepy voice came from the other side of the tent.

I groaned.

"Come, Patience, get up and help me make a fire." I could hear the rustlings as she climbed from beneath the quilt.

The thought of leaving the small warmth provided by the quilt and my slumbering sisters made me shiver even more. "Oh, Mama," I said, "I can't get up. It's too cold. And I'm so hungry! I don't think I have the strength."

"Tamar? How about you, lass?"

Tamar barely stirred beside me as she mumbled, "I don't feel well, Mama, not at all. I can't possibly get out of bed."

Mama came over and knelt next to our huddled bodies. She put a gloved hand on Maria's shoulder and shook her gently, saying, "Come, Maria, you get up."

Maria groaned. "I can't, Mama."

Mama stood up and put her hands on her hips. "Girls, this will not do!" She pursed her lips in

thought for a moment, then her face brightened. "I believe I will have to dance for you. Will that make you feel better?"

And before we could react, Mama stood on her toes and began dancing a jig, a bright lively dance from home with lots of kicking and bouncing. She also began singing an old ballad we used to sing in our





village on holidays. Mama jumped and spun around, her voice cheerful and bright in the muffled stillness of the winter morning. Tamar, Maria, and I all poked our noses out from beneath the quilt to watch her, too surprised to laugh.

Then all of a sudden, Mama's foot slipped on the snow that had drifted in through the tent door. She let out a little yelp as her feet flew out beneath her and she landed on the cold ground with a thump. "Mama!"

In seconds, all three of us girls were at her side. We were sure that she had twisted her ankle or

broken her leg or worse. But as soon as we helped her sit up, we saw that she was shaking not with pain but with silent laughter.

"Mama!" I exclaimed. "What on earth did you think you were doing, dancing like that on the snow! You could have been hurt!"

Mama chuckled again as she held us all close. "Oh, girls, I knew I had to get you out of bed somehow! I couldn't stand the thought that my girls were getting discouraged and were going to give up. I knew that that simply would not do. So I thought that I could make you all jump up if I danced for you—especially if I fell down!"

I looked at my sisters. They looked at me. I knew at that point that no matter how hard our journey got, Mama would never let us fail. We would make it to the Salt Lake Valley if she had to drag us all along behind her.

"That was a clever little trick, Mama," Tamar said.

"Yes," I said as I grabbed Maria's hand, "and now that we're out of bed, let's get that fire going before we all freeze to death!"



Journal Page *By Emily Orgill*

We invite you to keep a journal this year. Each month in 2002, you will find a journal page in the *Friend*. Fill it out, remove it, trim around its dashed lines, and glue it to a piece of colored construction paper. If desired, decorate the pages, punch holes as needed, and place in a binder or scrapbook.



January Journal 2002

All About ME!

My Full Name _____

Birth Date _____ Place _____

Age _____ Height _____ Weight _____ Eye Color _____ Hair Color _____

My Parents _____

My Favorite Things

Color _____

Food _____

Things to Do _____

My Goals for 2002

Other Things I Like

My Typical Day

I am a unique and special child of Heavenly Father. He loves me, and I love Him. I want to return to live with Him someday.



Exploring

An Old Friend!

*[The Friend] will bless the child and it will bless the home.
May I leave with you a motto: A Friend for Every Child.*

President Gordon B. Hinckley
(*Friend*, January 1996, page 42.)

By Kimberly Webb

Today about 240,000 families receive the *Friend* every month. When it arrives in your mailbox, you can read messages from latter-day prophets written especially for you. In its pages, you are introduced to people living the gospel around the world. Would it surprise you to learn that the *Children's Friend*, first published one hundred years ago, was for leaders and teachers? Have you ever wondered how the *Friend* became the magazine it is today?



Louie B. Felt



May Anderson



When the *Children's Friend* was created in January 1902, several magazines in the area were struggling to stay in business. The Primary Association wanted to print a magazine, but the First Presidency feared that not enough people would subscribe to it. They gave permission for the magazine to be printed, but they did not provide Church funds.

Two women, Primary General President Louie B. Felt and Secretary May Anderson, dove into the project with enthusiasm. They visited a little printing office in Salt Lake City and announced that they wished to print a year's worth of magazines. The printing office manager told them, "We must have something tangible to hold in case you do not pay your bills."* Sister Felt offered to give up her house as payment if the magazine failed.

Just For Fun first appeared in 1913. In 1971 the activity pages were called Funstuff.

PORTRAITS BY RAMSEY LEWIS / PHOTO BY JOHN LUKE

From 1902

to 2002

After the magazines were printed, Sister Felt and Sister Anderson ironed used wrapping paper, collected string, wrapped the magazines individually, and addressed them by hand. They carried bundles of magazines to the post office four blocks away to be mailed. Their hard work paid off! The magazine was a great success. Although the *Children's Friend* was first printed for leaders and teachers, Sister Felt and Sister Anderson soon included stories and activities for children, as well.



This January 1952 cover marked the fiftieth anniversary year of the *Children's Friend*

and marvelous gospel principles. It will be a blessing in every home into which it goes.”†

Since that time, the *Friend* has become what you find in your mailbox every month—a magazine for you, filled with messages from the prophets, family activities, uplifting stories about other children living the gospel, and articles to help you understand the scriptures. It has grown through the century to become your best *Friend*!

* *Children's Friend*, January 1952, page 20.
† *Friend*, January 1996, page 41.

In 1970, the First Presidency announced that the Primary Association would no longer put out the magazine. A

The *Children's Friend* was started by the Primary Association



new magazine, published for Primary-age children, was to take its place. President Gordon B. Hinckley, then serving in the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, said that the *Friend* “will be a new friend, a better friend, for the children of the Church, and we hope for many others. With wonderful stories and fascinating art, it will open small and delightful windows and bring . . . understanding of eternal



A continuing story called “Zippo-Zip And His Friends” appeared in 1929.





FOR LITTLE FRIENDS

A Place of Love and Beauty

By Marianne Wilson McKnight (Based on a true incident)

Who knows what this is?" Sister Gonzales held up a picture of a white building with pointed steeples.

Samantha's eyes sparkled. She knew. "That's the temple."

"Right!" the nursery leader said. "And I'm going to sing you a song about the temple." Sister Gonzales began to sing:

*"I love to see the temple,
I'm going there someday . . ."**

Samantha smiled. Yesterday, her family had gone inside that very temple to be sealed for time and all eternity. Samantha wasn't quite sure what that meant, but Daddy had explained that now they could be together as a family forever.

Sister Gonzales continued singing:

*"To feel the Holy Spirit,
To listen and to pray. . ."*

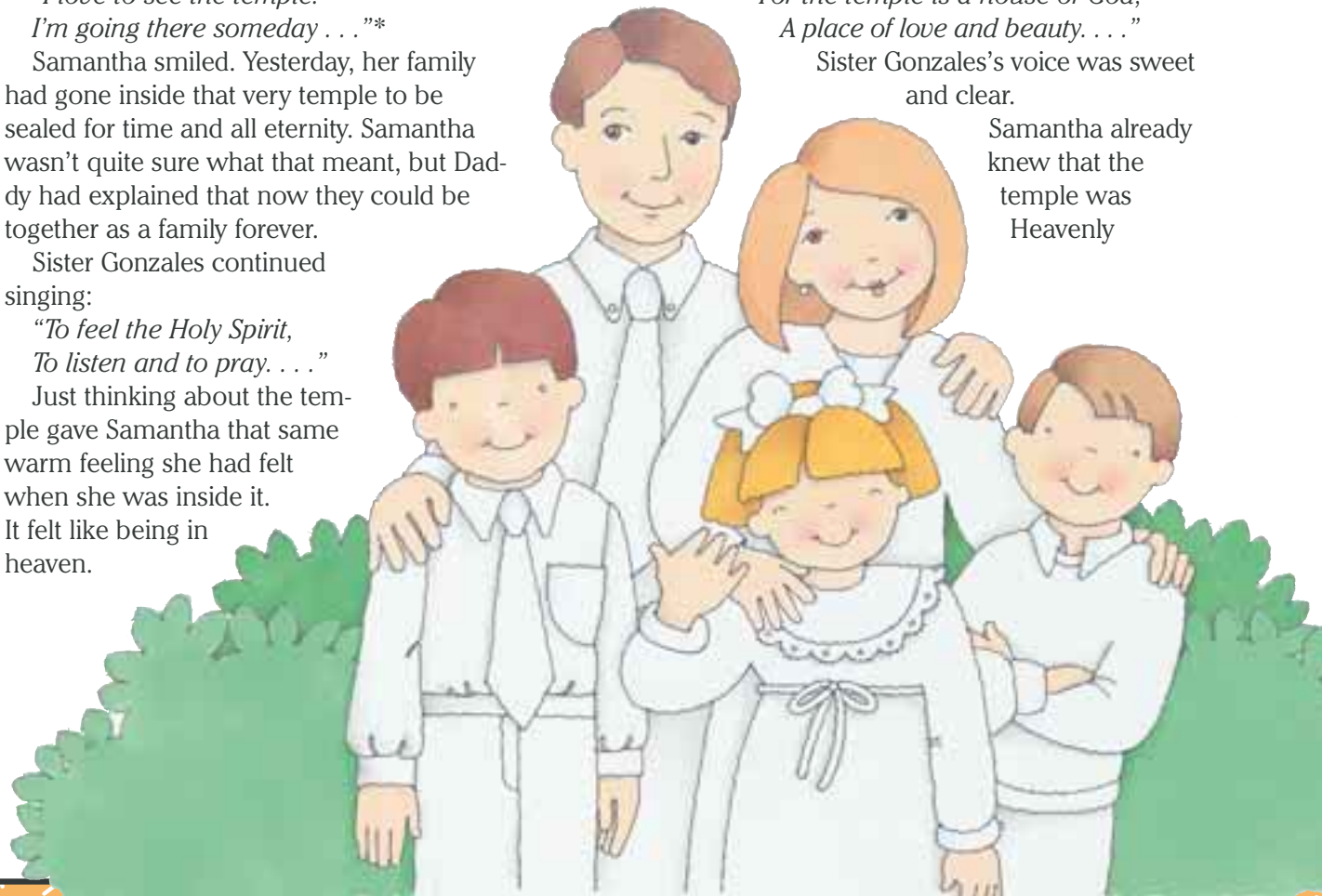
Just thinking about the temple gave Samantha that same warm feeling she had felt when she was inside it. It felt like being in heaven.

The two women dressed in white in the youth center had been very kind to her and her brothers. Samantha called them "her angels." While the children were waiting to join their parents, Sister Ferguson read stories to Samantha, and Sister Moore gave her some cookies and juice. Then they had both watched as Samantha built a temple with blocks.

*"For the temple is a house of God,
A place of love and beauty. . ."*

Sister Gonzales's voice was sweet and clear.

Samantha already knew that the temple was Heavenly



Just Like Him

Father's house. And it was a beautiful house! She thought about the sealing room with its crystal lights and mirrors. She remembered how her family had knelt around the altar as the temple sealer, dressed in a white suit, spoke the words of the sealing ordinance.

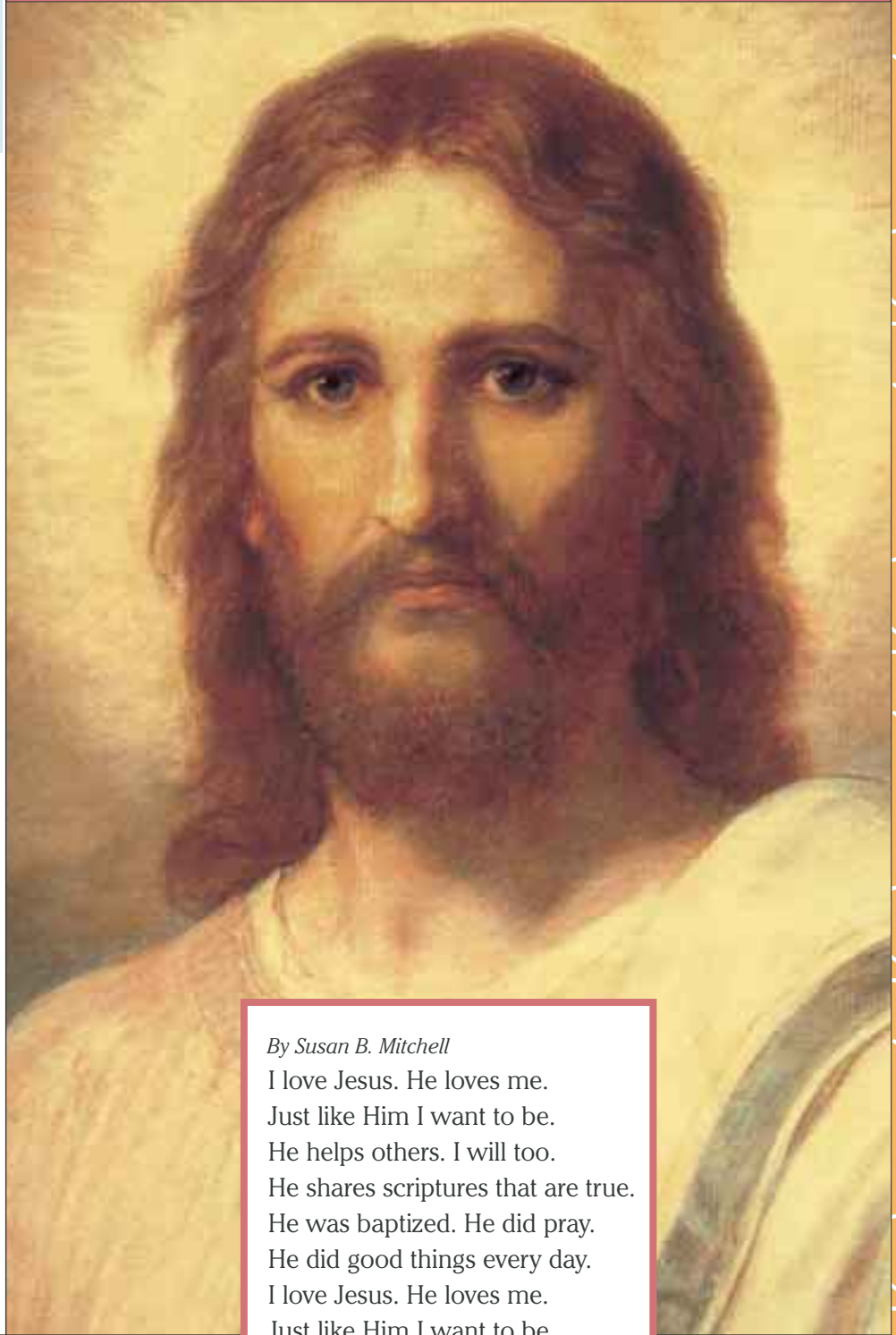
Afterward, they stood in front of the mirrors, and it seemed to Samantha that her family just kept going on and on and on. *Maybe that's what forever means*, she thought.

By now, Sister Gonzales was finishing the second verse of the song:

*"As a child of God,
I've learned this
truth:
A fam'ly is forever."*

Samantha was glad that she belonged to a forever family.

* *Children's Songbook*, page 95.



By Susan B. Mitchell

I love Jesus. He loves me.
Just like Him I want to be.
He helps others. I will too.
He shares scriptures that are true.
He was baptized. He did pray.
He did good things every day.
I love Jesus. He loves me.
Just like Him I want to be.



FOR LITTLE FRIENDS



Growing Up with the Temple

A FLIP BOOK

Photocopy page 19 onto card stock, or glue the page onto card stock and allow the glue to dry. Color all the pictures and cut them out. Stack them in order, with 12 on the bottom and 1 on the top. Make sure the right edges are even. Staple the stack near the left edge. Flip the pages to see the boy grow up with the temple.

Snowman

By Hilary Hendricks

To make this lunchtime friend, you will need: two peanut butter and jelly sandwiches made with white bread (head and body); two pretzel sticks (arms); three baby carrots (nose and feet); one large graham cracker, broken into sections (hat); raisins (eyes and buttons); three celery sticks (scarf); and more peanut butter (glue).

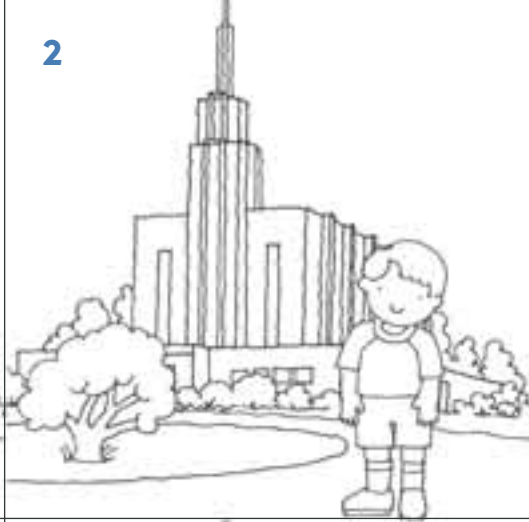
Ask an older person to cut a large circle from each sandwich. Then lay the circles on a large plate or cookie sheet, and follow the picture to make your own snowman. Use peanut butter to stick the graham crackers together. Add the other parts of the snowman by gently pressing them into the bread.



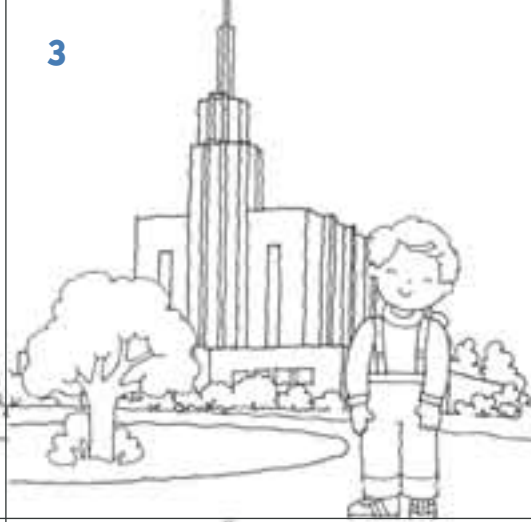
1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12



Making Friends

CÉSAR DAVID ARZATE MENDOZA*

OF
OAXACA, MEXICO

*Written and
photographed by
Melvin Leavitt*

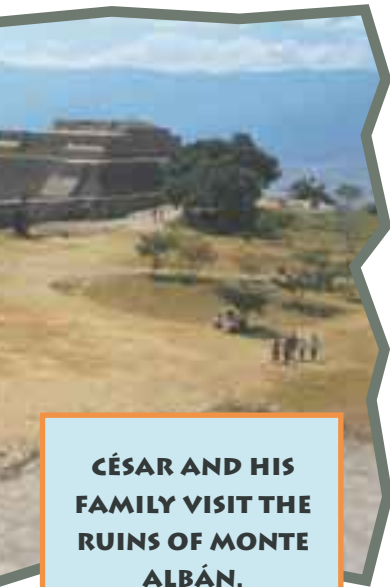


High above Oaxaca, Mexico, César Arzate (10) and his family stand gazing across Monte Albán, a mountaintop city of ancient temples, tombs, and palaces. The ruins are impressive, but the temple César loves is in the valley below.

The Oaxaca México Temple is one of the new, smaller temples of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. César, who attended both the open house and the dedication, doesn't consider it small, though. "For me it is large and very beautiful," he explains. "Size doesn't matter, anyway. What matters is that it is a sacred house of Heavenly Father." He was sealed to his parents, Ladislao and Gisela, in the Mexico City Temple when he was only six months old. He can't remember that day, and yet he treasures it.

Being baptized by his father was another highlight of César's life. "I made a promise to God that I would live an upright life, and I will keep my promise." To do so, he tries to be led by the Holy Ghost. "The Holy Ghost is a faithful Companion who tells me what is good and what is bad. His voice is so soft that only those who have faith in the Lord and really listen can hear Him. I

* IN SPANISH-SPEAKING CULTURES, THE MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME IS OFTEN ADDED AFTER THE FATHER'S FAMILY NAME.



CÉSAR AND HIS FAMILY VISIT THE RUINS OF MONTE ALBÁN.

am never afraid of being alone, because He is a Friend who is always with me.”

Oaxaca lies in a pleasant valley wrapped in the folds of the Sierra Madre del Sur mountains in southwestern Mexico. It is a charming old city of narrow streets and two-story colonial buildings with skillfully crafted iron-work on windows and balconies.

César likes Oaxaca, but it is not his lifelong home. As an officer in

the Mexican Air Force, Brother Arzate has been transferred all around the country, and César has attended eight different schools in four cities. “It’s a little hard at first, because no one knows me and so I don’t have any friends,” he admits. But then he quickly adds, “I pray to Heavenly Father and ask Him to help me make new friends and get good grades.” César loves his country and is proud of his father for helping to defend it.

The Arzates live in a nice apartment in a military compound, and César does his share of the housework. He dusts the furniture, sweeps the floor, makes his bed, cleans his room, and clears the table after meals.

He wants to be a commercial airline pilot someday, and those who know him best believe he will succeed. He is a serious, thoughtful boy who makes plans and follows them. “He doesn’t do anything on impulse,” Brother Arzate explains. “He thinks things



CÉSAR LOVES HIS SISTER, DIANA GISELA.

CÉSAR LOVES THE OAXACA MEXICO TEMPLE.



THE ARZATES ENJOY STUDYING THE SCRIPTURES.

through carefully before acting. This sometimes annoys people who must wait for him to decide. But his decisions are almost always good ones, and he doesn't turn aside from them. Spiritually, he is very centered in the Church. He pursues his goals with enthusiasm and firmness, looking for ways to move forward each day. He prays often and applies Primary lessons to his life."

César used to be rather shy, but Church activities have helped him to become more outgoing. Although friendly with everyone, he chooses close friends carefully. And these friendships last. He receives letters and telephone calls from all over Mexico.

His best friends are his brother, Daniel (5), and his sister, Diana Gisela (2). His parents can leave them in his care with total confidence that he will keep them safe and happy. Even when the family goes on an outing, César pays attention to what the younger children are doing. He does this in a caring, not-at-all bossy way, and his little brother and sister love him dearly.



CÉSAR BELONGS TO A CLOSE AND LOVING FAMILY.

Daniel is an active boy who likes sports and bubbles over with energy. He is full of curiosity, and life is one big experiment for him. He is already showing a talent for mathematics.

Diana Gisela insists on doing whatever her brothers do, so her life is a thrilling game of follow-the-leader. At the same time, she is very feminine. She likes to dress in her mother's clothes and act like a fine lady.

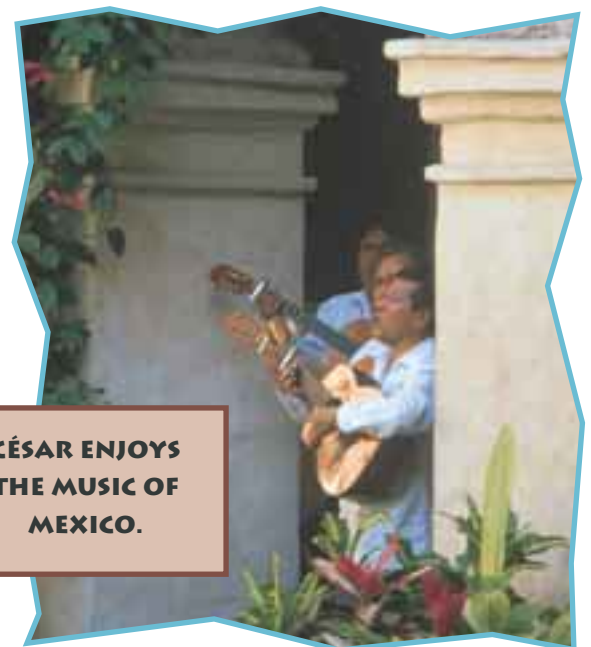
Although César looks at life seriously, he also knows how to have fun. He enjoys riding his bike



CÉSAR TAKES GOOD CARE OF HIS BROTHER AND HIS SISTER.

and playing basketball and kickball with the other children in the military compound. He likes to draw pictures, is learning to play the piano, and delights in singing Primary songs. He eagerly bashes birthday piñatas, and he loves any activity with the family—whether it's a visit to Monte Albán or a quiet game of dominoes.

Like most boys, he enjoys eating. Oaxaca is well known in Mexico for its delicious food, including its own unique tamale and seven different flavors of *mole* (a sauce made from chocolate and pepper). César's favorite food is his mom's *chiles rellenos* (stuffed peppers). He willingly gives up such treats each fast Sunday, however. "I feel good afterward," he says. "I feel blessed." He knows already that spiritual food is the only kind that lasts.



CÉSAR ENJOYS THE MUSIC OF MEXICO.

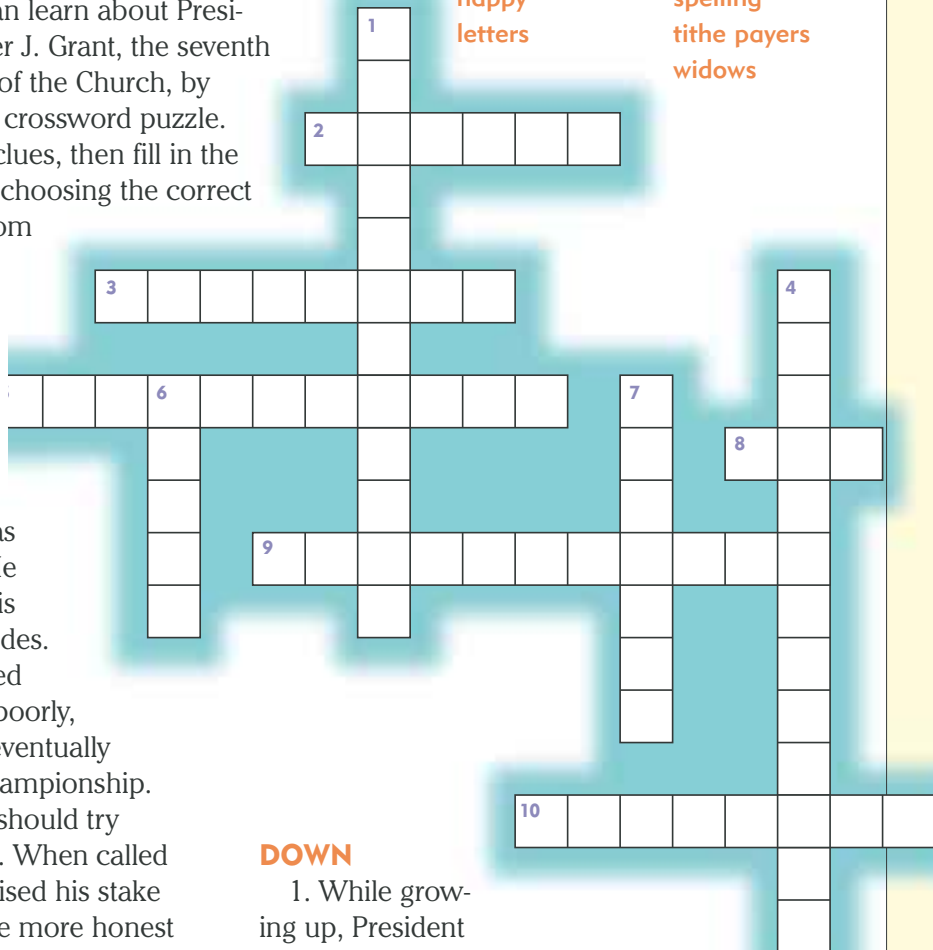


President Heber J. Grant Crossword

By Hilary Hendricks

You can learn about President Heber J. Grant, the seventh President of the Church, by doing this crossword puzzle. Read the clues, then fill in the puzzle by choosing the correct answer from the list.

- baseball
- Brigham Young
- handwriting
- happy letters
- sewing machine
- six
- spelling
- tithe payers
- widows



ACROSS

- 2. President Heber J. Grant was especially kind to _____. He gave them money, and he and his wife took them on automobile rides.
- 3. Although he was once teased because he played this sport so poorly, he practiced and practiced and eventually helped his team win the state championship.
- 5. He felt that Church leaders should try especially hard to live the gospel. When called to be a stake president, he promised his stake that he would not ask them to be more honest _____ than he would be or to keep the Word of Wisdom more firmly than he would keep it.
- 8. When he was just a few days old, his father died of pneumonia. He and his mother were so poor that they only had this many plates in their home—and two of those were cracked!
- 9. When classmates told him his _____ looked like hen tracks, he worked so hard to improve that he won a penmanship award.
- 10. He was great at math and memorization but had a harder time with this subject.

DOWN

- 1. While growing up, President Grant often attended family prayers at the home of this leader of the Church.
- 4. His mother made clothing for a living. He often stayed up until midnight to pump the pedal on her _____ while she guided the material through it.
- 6. President Grant promised children that they would be _____ when they helped other people.
- 7. He disliked leaving his family. When he had to be away for Church assignments, he wrote many of these to remind them of his love.

Thy Holy Temple

Reverently ♩ = 76-88

Words by Marvin K. Gardner
Music by Vanja Y. Watkins

mp 1. Thy tem - ple shines with heav'n - ly light A - gainst the dark-ness
tem - ple stands ma - jes - tic - 'ly, In - vit - ing me, re -

of the night. My heart re - joic - es at the sight. I love Thy ho - ly tem - ple. Each
mind - ing me To be the best that I can be. I love Thy ho - ly tem - ple. For

p *mp*
slower *a tempo*

time I see Thy tem - ple shine, I think of prom - is - es di - vine And
tem - ple mar - riage I'll pre - pare. I'll seek Thy or - di - nan - ces there. With

all the bless - ings that are mine. I love Thy ho - ly tem - ple. 2. Thy
Thee I'll cov - e - nant in prayer. I love Thy ho - ly tem - ple.

p *slower*

love Thy ho - ly tem - ple. I love Thy ho - ly tem - ple.

slower

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“I’m a Christian!”

By Christina Hoskin
(Based on a true story)

I would that ye should take upon you the name of Christ (Mosiah 5:8).

“What is a Christian?” Lisa asked Mom. They were in the car, driving to piano lessons. “What religion is that?”

“A Christian is someone who believes in and follows the teachings of Jesus Christ.” Mom glanced at her. “What’s this about?”

Lisa sighed. “Some kids asked me if I was Christian, and I told them that I was Mormon.”

“*Mormon* is a name some people call our Church members because we believe in the Book of Mormon as well as in the Bible.” Mom smiled at her. “Do you know the full name of our church?”

“Yes—it’s The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.”

“Right! It has Jesus’ name in it because it’s His Church, and we worship Him and obey His commandments. So we are definitely Christians.” Mom patted Lisa’s knee. “But I can think of two quick answers you can use to tell someone about our church.”

“What are they?”

“I know that you’ve already learned most of the Articles of Faith,” Mom said. “Tell me the first one.”

“OK. ‘We believe in God, the Eternal Father, and in His



Son, Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Ghost.’ ”

Mom smiled. “Excellent! Did you listen to what you said? You just told the whole world what Latter-day Saints believe.”

“Yes! I did!” Lisa sat up straight, “We believe in Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Ghost.”

“Good. The second way to tell people about our church is even easier. This one is a song.”

“A song?”

“Can you think of a Primary



song about the Savior and the Church?”

“ ‘Jesus wants me for a sunbeam,’ ” Lisa sang, her voice cracking on the high note.

They both laughed.

“Well, that’s a good song,” Mom said. “But I was thinking of ‘The Church of Jesus Christ.’ ”*

“Oh!”

“Let’s sing it together. Listen closely to the words and see if you can hear what we believe. Ready?”

“I belong to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

I know who I am.

I know God’s plan.

I’ll follow him in faith.

I believe in the Savior, Jesus Christ.

I’ll honor his name.

I’ll do what is right;

I’ll follow his light.

His truth I will proclaim.”

Lisa was smiling when they finished singing.

“That is easy!”

“If anyone asks you what church you belong to, tell them, ‘I belong to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.’ ”

“And I’m a Christian!”

“And you’re always going to be one of Jesus’ sunbeams, too!”

* *Children’s Songbook*, page 77.

THE LIVING CHRIST

The Testimony of the Apostles of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

We offer our testimony of the reality of [Jesus Christ’s] matchless life and the infinite virtue of His great atoning sacrifice. None other has had so profound an influence upon all who have lived and will yet live upon the earth.

He was the Great Jehovah of the Old Testament, the Messiah of the New. Under the direction of His Father, He was the creator of the earth. . . . He walked the roads of Palestine, healing the sick, causing the blind to see, and raising the dead. He taught the truths of eternity, the reality of our pre-mortal existence, [and] the purpose of our life on earth. . . .

We solemnly testify that His life, which is central to all human history, neither began in Bethlehem nor concluded on Calvary [ended on the cross]. He was the Firstborn of the Father, the Only Begotten Son in the flesh, the Redeemer of the world.

He rose from the grave to “become the firstfruits of them that slept” (1 Corinthians 15:20). . . .



We declare [solemnly] that His priesthood and His Church have been restored upon the earth. . . .

We testify that He will someday return to earth. . . . He will rule as King of Kings and reign as Lord of Lords. . . .

We bear testimony, as His duly ordained Apostles—that Jesus is the Living Christ, the immortal Son of God. He is the great King Immanuel, who stands today on the right hand of His Father. He is the light, the life, and the hope of the world. His way is the path that leads to happiness in this life and eternal life in the world to come. God be thanked for the matchless gift of His divine Son.

(*Ensign*, April 2000, pages 2–3.)

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS TESTIFY

By Charlotte G. Lindstrom

Match each Old Testament prophet with something he was known for. Then write the letters on the blanks above the corresponding numbers to spell whom they testified of.

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 1. Jonah | a. Received the Ten Commandments |
| 2. Moses | i. Built an ark |
| 3. Abraham | o. Named all living things |
| 4. Noah | r. Was the father of the twelve tribes of Israel |
| 5. Adam | s. Was swallowed by a whale |
| 6. Jacob | v. Was asked to sacrifice his son |



The _____ of the world!

1
2
3
4
5
6



PSALM WISDOM

By Donna Lugg Pape

The Book of Psalms in the Bible is a collection of sacred songs. To discover the words of Psalm 121:2, write the letter that comes in alphabetical order (A follows Z) between each pair of letters.

"L__N X__Z G__I D__F K__M O__Q
 B__D N__P L__N D__F S__U G__I
 E__G Q__S N__P L__N S__U G__I D__F
 K__M N__P Q__S C__E,
 V__X G__I H__J B__D G__I
 L__N Z__B C__E D__F
 G__I D__F Z__B U__W D__F M__O
 Z__B M__O C__E
 D__F Z__B Q__S S__U G__I."

Funstuf Answers

President Heber J. Grant Cross-word: Across—(2) widows, (3) baseball, (5) tithe payers, (8) six, (9) handwriting. Down—(1) Brigham Young, (4) sewing machine, (6) happy, (7) letters.

Old Testament Prophets Testify: The *Savior* of the world!

Psalm Wisdom: "My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth."



*Who shall stand in his holy place?
He that hath clean hands, and
a pure heart. (Psalm 24:3–4.)*

A Place of Love and Beauty

By Vicki F. Matsumori

Have you ever seen a temple lighted at night or walked on the temple grounds during the day? Do you have a picture of a temple in your home? Do you have a happy, peaceful feeling when you see a temple? Why are temples such special places? Other buildings are also built with the finest materials and landscaped with beautiful flowers. But temples are places where Heavenly Father and His Spirit may dwell. Each is a House of the Lord.

All of Heavenly Father's children who are worthy and old enough can enter the temple to learn more about His plan of happiness. In a temple, worthy members of the Church covenant with (make promises to) Heavenly Father. Heavenly Father, in turn, makes promises to them.

Members of the Church go to the temple to participate in ordinances* for themselves. Many receive these ordinances when they are preparing for a mission or marriage. They also go to the temple to perform ordinances in behalf of those who have died. For example, young people who are worthy and at least twelve years old can go to the temple to do baptisms for the dead. Children who are at least eight years old can attend temple dedications. Younger children may enter the temple to be sealed to their parents.

In each case, those who enter must be clean in body and spirit "because the Lord hath said he dwelleth not in unholy temples" (Alma 34:36).

Before you go to the temple, your bishop or branch president interviews you and asks you about your testimony and if you are keeping the

commandments and following the prophet. Only then does he sign a recommend that allows you to enter the temple to participate in ordinances or to attend temple dedications. When you are an adult, an additional interview takes place with the stake president or mission president if you want to go to the temple to be endowed,[†] married, or sealed.

Each day as you choose to live the commandments, keep your baptismal covenants, and try to be more like Jesus Christ, you are preparing to go to the temple. If you are pure and clean when you enter the temple, you will feel His Spirit. The temple will always be a place of love and beauty for you.

***Ordinance—a sacred religious act that is needed in order to be exalted in the kingdom of God.**

†To be endowed means to be given, in a sacred ordinance called an endowment, instructions on how we must live to return to Heavenly Father. The endowment teaches us again about Heavenly Father's plan for His children, the purpose of life, and the mission and Atonement of Jesus Christ.

THE TEMPLE— I'm Going There Someday

Make a temple booklet to add information to throughout the coming year.

1. Remove page 31 from the magazine. Glue it onto construction paper, then trim it.
2. Glue a photograph or drawing of yourself in the space on the front cover. Write your name on the line. Enter information about a temple dedication that you know about or learn about during the coming year on the back cover.
3. Fold the covers along the hinges and punch holes where indicated. Fold or cut paper to fit in the notebook and punch holes in the pages, aligning the holes with the ones in the covers. Place the blank pages between the two covers.
4. Thread a 2' (60 cm) piece of string or yarn through the holes and tie a bow on the front of the booklet. Record the things you learn about temples this year in your booklet and share them with your family.

My record of the dedication of the
_____ **Temple**

Dedication date:

Dedicatory prayer given by:

In the prayer, he said:

It made me think:

I can prepare to go to the temple by:

I will go to the temple.

Your name

Date

I Love to See the Temple



My Name _____
I'm
going
there
someday.

Your
picture
here

SHARING TIME IDEAS

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

1. Discuss the times when Jesus Christ went to the temple in Jerusalem during His mortal ministry. He went as a young boy and declared He was doing Heavenly Father's work (see Luke 2:41–49); He drove out the people who were defiling it (see John 2:13–17); He taught at the temple (Matt. 21:23–46; John 7:14–53).

Ask a child to step out of the room. Hide a picture that represents one of the following things we need to do to be worthy of going to the temple: baptism, paying tithing, living the Word of Wisdom, being kind to family members, sustaining the prophet, gaining a testimony of the Savior. Bring the child back into the room and have him or her search for the picture. Have the rest of the children sing "I Love to See the Temple" (p. 95), singing louder as the child gets closer to the picture and softer as he or she moves away from the picture. Once the picture is found, discuss how the principle represented will help the children prepare to go to the temple. Explain that finding the picture was easier when the child listened to those who were trying to guide him or her. Explain that it is easy to be ready to go to the temple if we study the scriptures and follow the teachings of the prophet, other Church leaders, and parents. Sing a song that relates to the picture: tithing—"I'm Glad to Pay a Tithing" (p. 150); Word of Wisdom—"The Lord Gave Me a Temple" (p. 153); love for family members—"A Happy Family" (p. 198); heeding the prophet—"Follow the Prophet" (pp. 110–111); gaining a testimony of the Savior—"The Church of Jesus Christ" (p. 77).

2. Teach the relationship between the covenants we make and the blessings we receive. Hang the following pictures from the GAK down the middle of a wall: baptism (601), gift of the Holy Ghost (602), sacrament (604), and temple marriage (609). On one side of the pictures, post a wordstrip that says I PROMISE; on the other side, THE LORD'S BLESSINGS. Divide the children into four groups. Have a teacher direct each group in reading one of the following scriptures and then discussing the covenants (promises) and blessings mentioned: Mosiah 18:8–10; D&C 121:45–46; D&C 20:75–79; D&C 109:20–23.

Prepare two containers for holding wordstrips with quotations from the above scriptures. Label one container "I Promise" and the other "The Lord's Blessings." In the I Promise container, put these twelve wordstrips: BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS, MOURN WITH THOSE THAT MOURN, STAND AS WITNESSES OF GOD, SERVE HIM, BE FULL OF CHARITY, LET VIRTUE GARNISH THY THOUGHTS UNCEASINGLY, TAKE UPON THEM THE NAME OF THY SON, ALWAYS REMEMBER HIM, KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS, NO UNCLEAN THING SHALL BE PERMITTED TO COME INTO THY HOUSE, REVERENCE THEE IN THY HOUSE, and BEAR EXCEEDINGLY GREAT AND GLORIOUS TIDINGS.

In the The Lord's Blessings container, put these ten wordstrips: BE REDEEMED OF GOD, NUMBERED WITH THOSE OF THE FIRST RESURRECTION, HAVE ETERNAL LIFE, POUR OUT HIS SPIRIT MORE ABUNDANTLY, CONFIDENCE WAS STRONG IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD, THE HOLY GHOST SHALL BE THY CONSTANT COMPANION, ALWAYS HAVE HIS SPIRIT TO BE WITH THEM, ARMED WITH THY [GOD'S] POWER, THY GLORY [WILL] BE ROUND ABOUT THEM, and THINE ANGELS HAVE CHARGE OVER THEM.

Have the children take turns choosing a wordstrip from either of the containers and reading it out loud. Have the group whose scripture the quote comes from raise their hands and tell which ordinance it pertains to. Have the child hang the wordstrip under the correct heading by the picture depicting that ordinance. Repeat until all of the wordstrips are in place. Sing "Covenants Are Promises," (*Friend*, Aug. 1999, p. 38) or "Keep the Commandments," (pp. 146–147). Bear your testimony of the blessings we receive from keeping our covenants.

For younger children: Divide the children into three groups. Have a Primary leader assigned to each group prepare in advance simple materials (props, costumes, flannel-board figures, etc.) for the children to present their story. Have the leader tell the story to their group, then help the group prepare to share the story with the rest of the Primary. Stories: "Abraham Covenants with the Lord" (Gen. 22:1–18; *Friend*, Aug. 1998, pp. 34–35); "Joseph 'Holds to the Iron Rod'" (Gen. 39–41; *Friend*, July 1998, pp. 42–43); the people of Ammon bury their weapons, (Alma 23–24; *Friend*, Aug. 2000, pp. 34–35).

3. Learn "I Love to See the Temple" (p. 95) by cutting out four pieces of

paper to form a simple foundation and three spires of a temple. On the foundation, write "love" and "see." On the left spire, write "feel," "listen," and "pray." On the middle spire, "House of God," and on the right spire, "prepare" and "young." For younger children, use simple pictures instead of words. Ask the children to discover which three senses are mentioned as you sing the first two lines of the song. As you sing, place the foundation and the first spire on a flannel board. Have the children name which senses were mentioned. Explain how feeling with your hands is different from feeling the Spirit. Have everyone sing the first two lines. Ask them to find three things that a temple is (a House of God, a place of love, a place of beauty) as you sing the next line. Add the middle spire as the children sing the third line with you. As you sing the final line, have the children discover what their sacred duty is ("prepare myself while I am young"). Place the final spire on the flannel board as the children sing that line. Sing the entire first verse several times. As you do, remove the strips one by one until the children can sing the song without the wordstrips. Teach the second verse in a similar manner.

4. Check with your priesthood advisor first to see if this activity will work in your meetinghouse without disrupting others in the building. If not, designate areas of the children's meeting room to represent the rooms mentioned. Divide the children into groups and take them on a tour of the meetinghouse, much as they might go on a tour of a temple during an open house. (See *Friend*, Feb. 1993, pp. 2–4 and Jan. 2001, p. 22.) Ask them to be reverent and listen to the guides who will explain how a temple is similar to and different from a meetinghouse. Have an adult accompany each group, as well as a guide at each of the following stops:

Chapel—a gathering place in both buildings.

Classroom—similar to an ordinance room because it is where we are taught what Heavenly Father wants us to know and do.

Baptismal font (if there is not one in your building, use a picture)—in a meetinghouse baptisms are performed for the living; in the temple baptisms are performed for the dead.

Kitchen—in a meetinghouse, a place to serve food for ward or stake activities; in some temples there are cafeterias where food is served.

Bishop or branch president's office—the bishop or branch president is responsible for his ward or branch; each temple has a temple president's office. The temple president is responsible for the temple and the work done there. If possible, have the bishop or branch president explain what a temple recommend is at this stop.

Return to the Primary room and explain that temples have some other special rooms, such as the celestial room and sealing rooms. Have the children sing "I Love to See the Temple" (p. 95). Invite a speaker to talk about his or her experiences at a temple open house or dedication.

5. Tell the story "Samuel's Scriptures" (*Friend*, Jan. 1998, pp. 2–3). Have the children mark D&C 131:2–4 in their scriptures. Hand out pieces of paper cut to fit in the children's temple booklet (see Sharing Time, pp. 30–31). Have the children list five reasons why they want to be married in the temple. Ask them to add this sheet to their temple booklets.

For younger children: Enlarge the game board in the back of the *Primary 2* manual. Change the beginning space to "Not Preparing to Go to the Temple" and the ending space to "Preparing to Go to the Temple." Color the spaces on the board five different colors, and in a sack have five small pieces of paper the same colors. Divide into two or more teams. Provide a marker for each team. Play the game, having a team member take at random a piece of paper, move their marker as directed, and return the colored paper to the sack. Read what the square says and briefly discuss why what is written will or will not help us prepare to go to the temple. The arrow on each square indicates which direction the team will move on its next turn. Have the teams take turns and continue playing until all the teams reach "Preparing to Go to the Temple." If possible, give the children copies of the game board to color and take home to play as a family home evening activity.

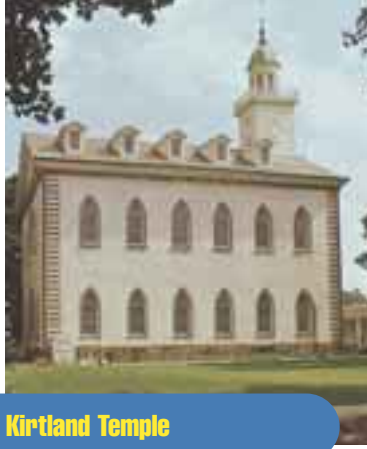
6. Additional *Friend* resources: "Keeping My Promise," Aug. 1998, pp. 12–13, 11; "Temple Light," Aug. 1999, p. 19; "I Can Keep My Covenant," Aug. 1999, pp. 44–46; *Friend to Friend*, May 2000, pp. 6–7; "Sticking to Standards," May 2000, p. 47. Additional resources: "Nauvoo's Holy Temple," *Ensign*, Sep. 1994, pp. 59–62; "Building Temples, Building Lives," *Ensign*, Oct. 2000, pp. 23–27.



Temple Cards



Each month in 2002, you will find a Temple Cards page in the *Friend*. Remove the page from the magazine, glue it to heavy paper, and cut out the cards. If you collect all 108 cards this year, you will have a picture-history of Latter-day Saint temples around the world.



Kirtland Temple

(No longer in use by the Church)
Dedicated: March 27, 1836

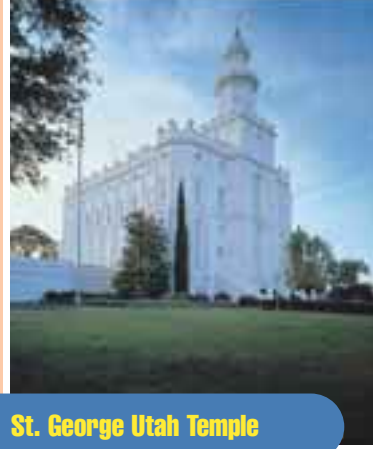
PHOTOGRAPHER UNKNOWN



Nauvoo Temple

(Original—no longer stands)
Dedicated: April 30, May 1, 1846

BY STEVEN T. BAIRD



St. George Utah Temple

Dedicated: April 6, 1877

PHOTO BY STEVE TREGEAGLE



Logan Utah Temple

Dedicated: May 17, 1884

PHOTO BY STEVE TREGEAGLE



Manti Utah Temple

Dedicated: May 17, 21, 1888

PHOTOGRAPHER UNKNOWN



Salt Lake Temple

Dedicated: April 6, 1893

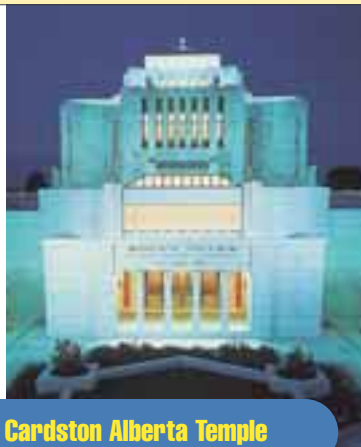
PHOTO BY CRAIG DIMOND



Laie Hawaii Temple

Dedicated: November 27, 1919

PHOTO BY CRAIG DIMOND



Cardston Alberta Temple

Dedicated: August 26, 1923

PHOTO BY MEL EBELSHAUSER



Mesa Arizona Temple

Dedicated: October 23, 1927

PHOTO BY WELDEN C. ANDERSEN



The Seagull Story

The locusts came in a big, dark cloud.
They ate the crops all day.
The pioneers were very sad.
All they could do was pray.

Then in came another cloud.
It was white with wings that flew.
They were seagulls sent from God,
And all the locusts they chewed.
Now there is a monument
In a Temple Square "street"
Of these giant seagulls
And the bugs that they did eat!
Teague Kerr, age 10
Paso Robles, California

So Many Colors

Green is a color.
Blue is a color.
And purple is a color, too.
Pink is a color.
Yellow is a color.
Red is a color, too.
There are so many colors
in the world.
Amber Seidel, age 7
Idaho Falls, Idaho

What Is a Prophet?

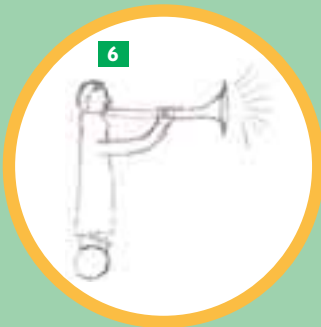
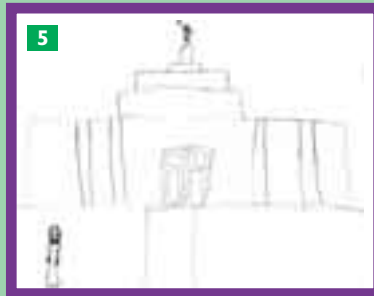
A prophet is someone who helps decide
Whether to stay or whether to hide.
How to pray in night or day,
How to help someone on their way,
How to know the Spirit well—
He will help you so you can tell.
He will guide you with words of delight.
He will help you feel the spirit and walk in the light.
He will always tell the truth,
Helping children in their youth.
Andrea Barlow, age 11
Kaysville, Utah

Prophets

Heavenly Father is very kind and has chosen great men
to lead
because He knows the prophets are what we need.

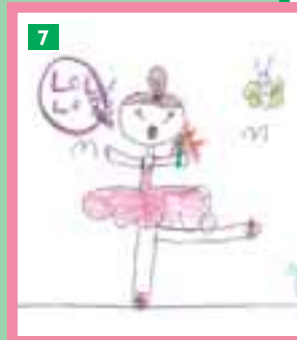
The prophet tells us what Heavenly Father wants us to do
because He wants us to be happy and know what's true.

I will do what the prophet tells me to do
because I know that it is true.
Janelle Badger, age 8
Kirkland, Washington



My Jesus

Listen closely.
Jesus will come again
Any moment.
I love Him very much.
What could we do without Him?
He gave us trees.
He gave us food.
He loves me, and I love Him.
I can't wait until I see Him again.
Brianna Marie McEwen, age 6
Fountain, Colorado



Horses

Put on your saddle.
 You're ready to go.
 Faster and faster,
 Faster you go.
 Then you stop,
 And you realize
 You said, "Whoa."
Tait Morgan, age 10
Gresham, Oregon

Drawings

- 1 Nichole Arnson, age 10
Queen Creek, Arizona
- 2 Jordan Lord, age 9
Keedysville, Maryland
- 3 Ashlee Brereton, age 11
Riverton, Utah
- 4 Will Henrie, age 7
Farmington, New Mexico
- 5 Jessica Dahr, age 12
Kingston, Nova Scotia, Canada
- 6 Jim Hutchinson, age 10
South Lyon, Michigan
- 7 Hayley Briggs, age 6
Mooresville, North Carolina
- 8 Jethro Lawrence, age 7
Winlock, Washington
- 9 Cami Palmer, age 8
Cookeville, Tennessee
- 10 Andrew Aposhian, age 5
Austin, Texas
- 11 Rachel Hall, age 9
Charlestown, Indiana
- 12 Derek Munsey, age 8
Highlands Ranch, Colorado
- 13 Hannah Hoyt, age 7
Ferndale, Washington
- 14 Andrew Greenman, age 8
Burley, Idaho
- 15 Melina Wade, age 9
Greenwood, Nova Scotia, Canada
- 16 Cody Christensen, age 6
Yucaipa, California
- 17 Alexis Halladay, age 9
St. George, Utah
- 18 Joseph Compton, age 8
Marquette, Michigan
- 19 Jessi Barker, age 10
Evanston, Wyoming
- 20 Ramey Hall, age 7
Dublin, Ohio

New Year's Eve

Dad's sleeping in his chair on New Year's Eve,
 And nephews are trying hard to keep awake
 Until the hour strikes at midnight!

I enjoy the candy piled high in dishes,
 While I'm trying to keep awake
 Until the hour strikes at midnight!

Watching a football game on New Year's Eve—
 Who won this time? Why do we keep awake?
 Dad's sleeping in his chair on New Year's Eve.

As seconds are counted down on New Year's Eve,
 10, 9, 8, 7—start jumping, keep 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, awake!
 And the hour struck midnight!

People make a happy wish for long life, health,
 On what was the eve of another new year.
 While nephews are ushered to bed, barely awake,
 Dad's sleeping in his chair on New Year's Eve,
 And the hour struck at midnight!
PD Clifton, age 8
Walled Lake, Michigan

14



16



15



3



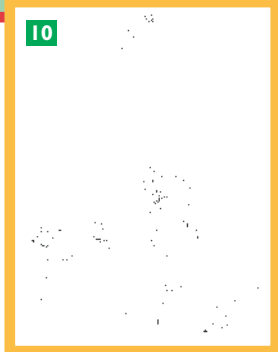
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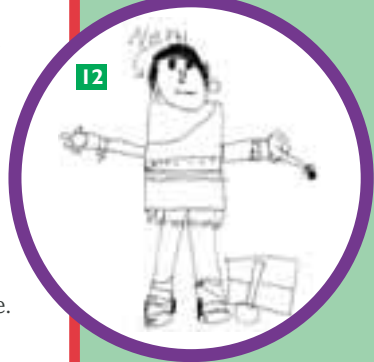
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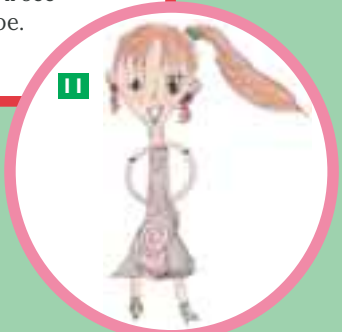
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12



11



The Road

Along the road that leads to the graves
 Are flowers all in a row.
 They represent the love for the dead.
 They're for the days gone by.
 They're for the months, the years,
 The hours of love made by and by.
Caitlin Naomi Warner, age 11
Lawson, Missouri

Twelve Hours

Twelve hours knows the day.
 Twelve hours knows the night.
 The sun and moon and their Creator,
 Our Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ, do not
 sleep.
 We may not know, but They let it show.
 They watch us every day and night.
Amanda Affleck, age 11
San Antonio, Texas

The Scriptures

The scriptures are special books.
 I do believe you can get hooked.
 They touch you, teach you, and lots more.
 I hope they're books that you will adore.
 By reading them every day, you'll see
 The scriptures are the place to be.
MarLyn Goodrich, age 9
Orem, Utah

Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. (Malachi 3:8.)



Sharing the Boot Money



By Elder Douglas L. Callister of the Seventy

Years ago, our family purchased some land in beautiful Cache Valley, Utah. We called it the “farm.” We had always lived in large cities, so the thought of spending a part of each summer at the farm seemed very exciting.

In a family home evening, we talked about things we wanted to do at the farm. We decided that every family member should have cowboy boots. We agreed, however, that all of the children would earn the money to pay for their own boots by doing chores.

One Saturday morning, our six-year-old son, Paul, happily announced at breakfast that he had completed all of his chores. He had enough money to buy the boots he had seen at the western



store. He was the first child to earn enough money, and he was very proud. "Can we go to the store today, Dad?" he asked.

Paul had been taught about tithing as early as he could understand how to count money. I asked if he had paid his tithing on the money he had earned. His hands began to shake, and his face turned white. He had not returned to the Lord His share as tithing. Paul's disappointment in thinking he might have to wait was very great.

He had often paid tithing. He understood tithing, but it never occurred to him that Heavenly Father would expect him to share his precious boot money. I think I even saw a tear in his eye.

I did not tell Paul what he must do. He already knew what Heavenly Father expected. I simply waited for him to choose the right. After a long pause, he asked for more chores so that he could be honest with the Lord before he bought his boots. It was another week before the new assignments were completed and the boots could be bought.

After deciding to share his boot money with Heavenly Father, Paul had learned forever to pay his tithing.

Some lessons we have to learn only once.

My father also taught me a great lesson about tithing. For many years, we worked together at the same office. We traveled to work together in the car—a father and three sons. It gave us a chance to stay close and talk about the gospel. When we

arrived at the office, our father always made certain that each of us began the day by reading the scriptures.

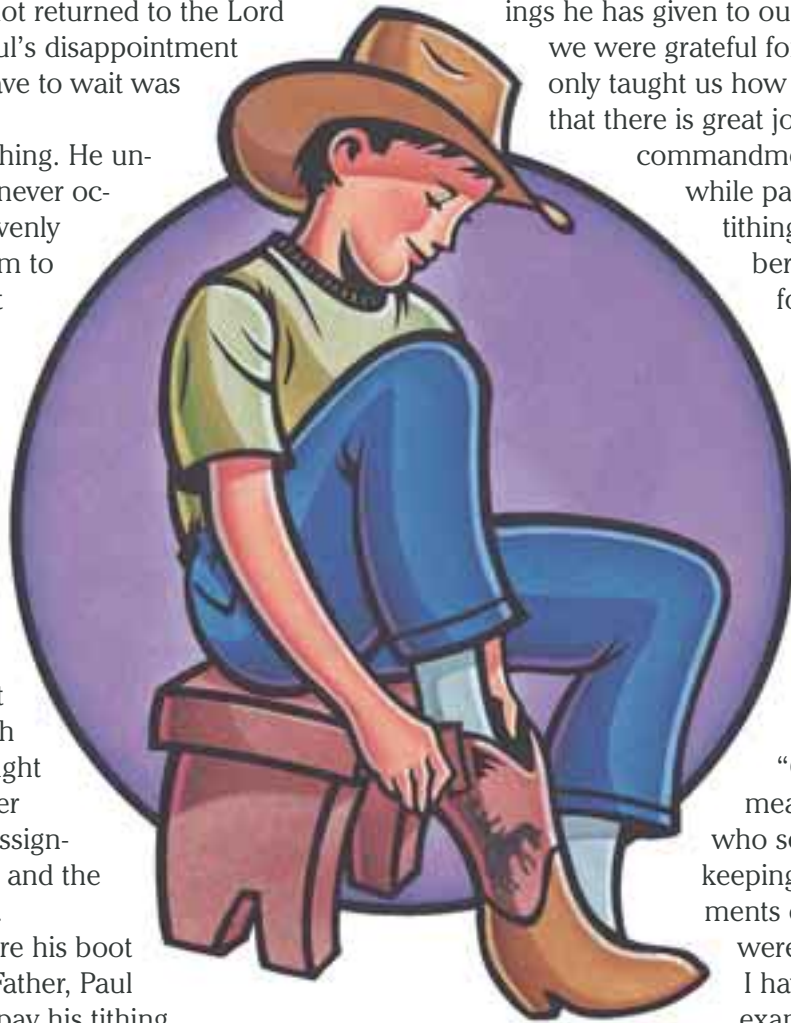
One day as we were traveling home, he surprised us with these words: "My sons, I paid my tithing today. I wrote 'thank you' on the tithing check. I am so grateful to the Lord for the blessings he has given to our family." As sons, we were grateful for a father who not only taught us how to obey, but also that there is great joy in keeping the commandments. Many times

while paying my own tithing, I have remembered my father and followed his example by adding the words *thank you* to the tithing check.

At the very beginning of the Book of Mormon, Nephi tells us that he was "born of goodly parents" (1 Nephi 1:1).

"Goodly parents" means good parents who set an example in keeping the commandments of God. My parents were very good. I hope I have been as good an example to my children.

We can learn about tithing at home. This is where we are taught that Heavenly Father expects us, even as children, to share our boot money. He has given us all things, so we ought to be very grateful when we return to Him an honest tithing.





From the Life of President Harold B. Lee

Heeding the Holy Ghost

Harold B. Lee grew up on a farm. One day, he followed his father out into the fields.

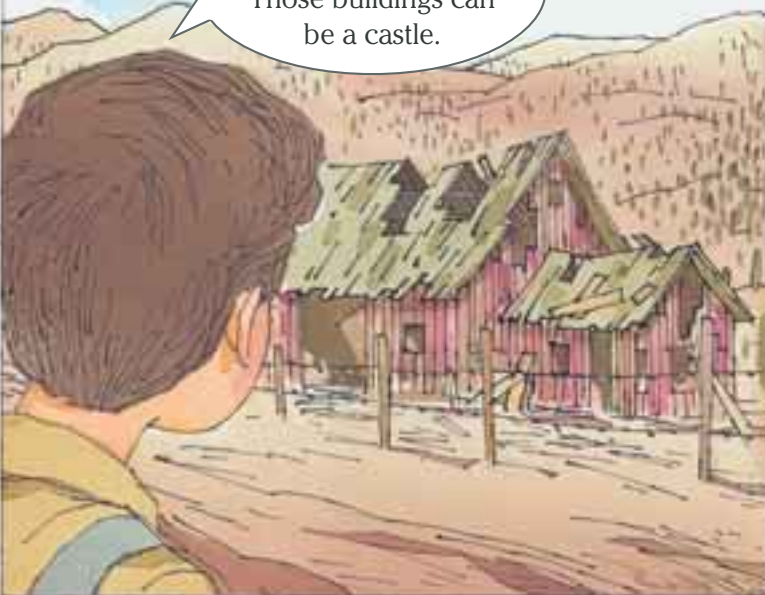


While he waited for his father to finish working, Harold played in the dirt and made toys out of pebbles and sticks.



After a while, he grew bored. He looked across the barbed-wire fence into the neighbor's yard and saw some broken down buildings and sheds.

I should go exploring!
Those buildings can
be a castle.



Harold jumped up and ran toward the fence. Then he heard a voice.
"Harold, don't go over there."





What, Papa?

He spun around, but his father wasn't there. He looked in every direction, but he was alone.

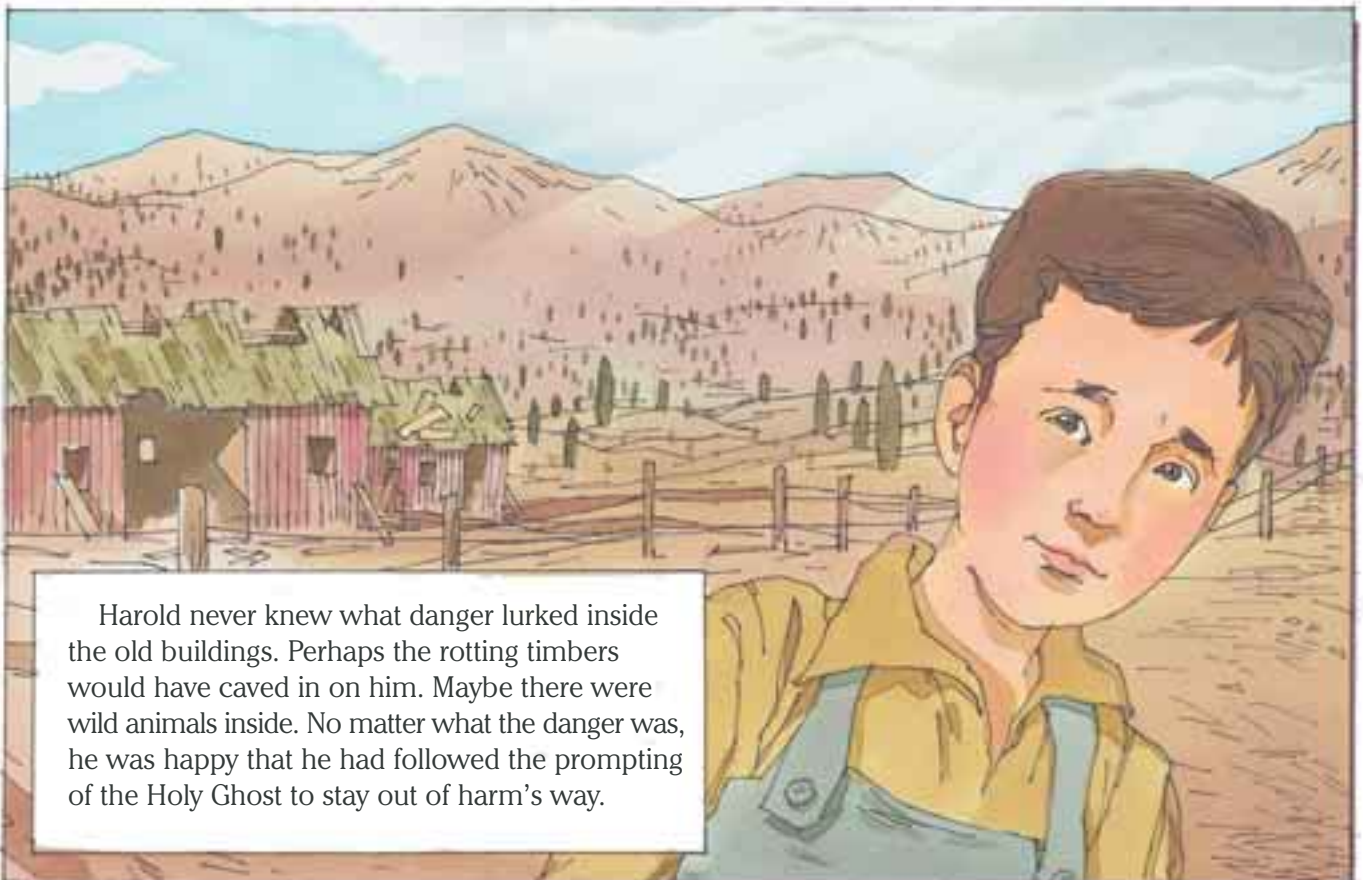
He wondered why he shouldn't go into the old buildings. He didn't know why, but he knew that the Spirit had warned him. He ran back from the fence.



When his father came, he found Harold right where he had left him.

Ready to go home, Harold?

Yes, Papa.
Let's go.



Harold never knew what danger lurked inside the old buildings. Perhaps the rotting timbers would have caved in on him. Maybe there were wild animals inside. No matter what the danger was, he was happy that he had followed the prompting of the Holy Ghost to stay out of harm's way.

New Temples



President Hinckley wants all worthy Church members to have temple blessings. He feels bad that members who live far away cannot go to the temple often. He said that these people “make tremendous sacrifices to visit the temples. They travel for days . . . in cheap buses and on old boats. They save their money and do without to make it all possible.”*

He and his counselors and the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles prayed to know how they could help more people participate in temple work. The prophet said that “the answer . . . came bright and clear.”† Heavenly Father told them to build many small temples all over the world instead of only a few large ones. President Hinckley has dedicated close to seventy temples.

Seeing new temples built makes President Hinckley happy because temples bring blessings. In 1985, he traveled to Mexico City for the temple dedication there. He had visited Mexico before, and he remembered how poor some of the people were. This didn’t stop them from coming to the temple dedication, smiling brightly and dressed in

their best clothing. They knew that they would be blessed because a temple had been built in their country. President Hinckley was impressed by their joy. He said, “What a wonderfully uplifting experience it was to be with them and to witness the miraculous power of God in their lives.”‡

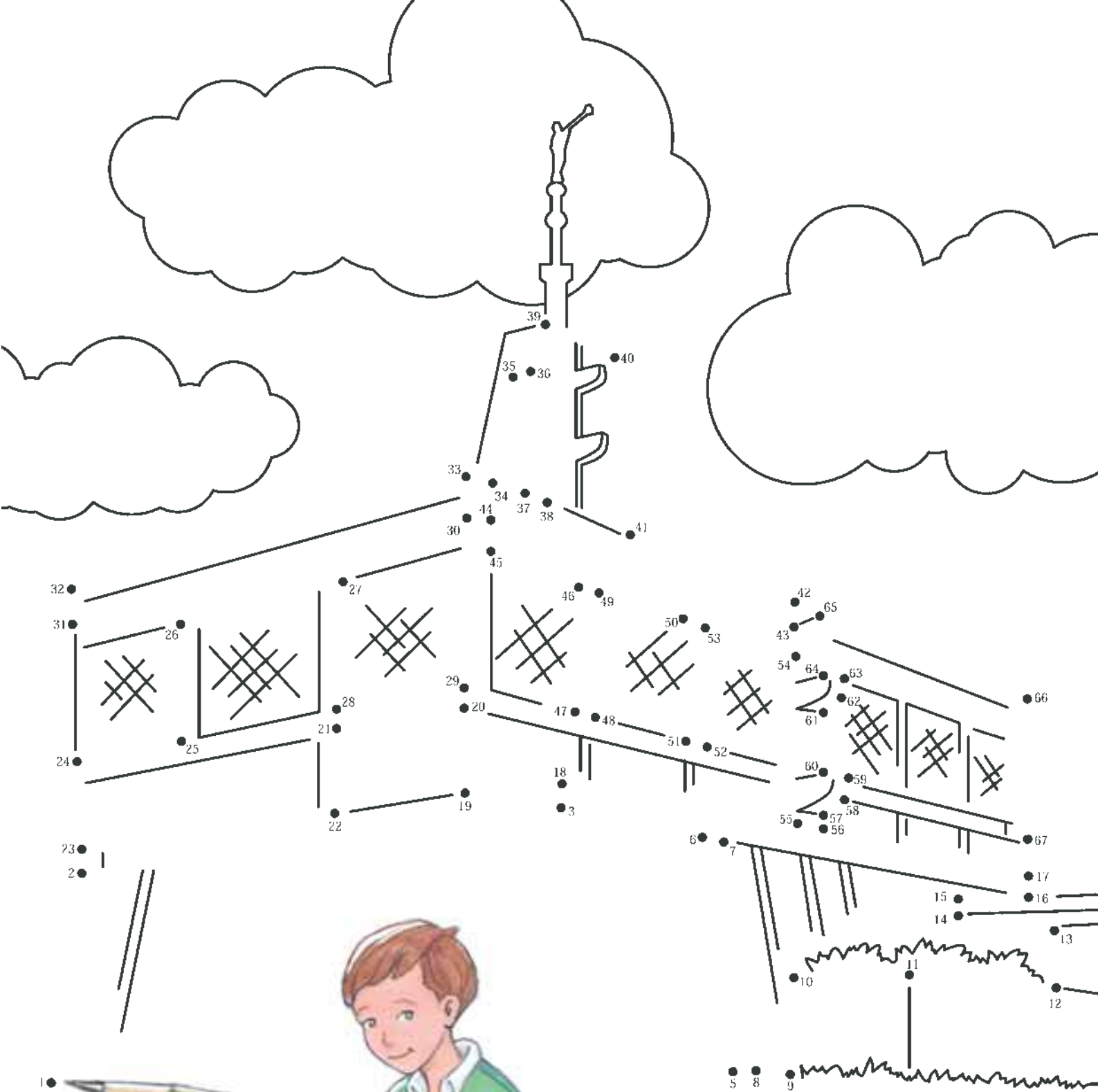
Temples bring blessings because there we are taught more about Heavenly Father’s plan. We participate in ordinances and make covenants; the Holy Ghost strengthens us as we obey. We can help in the building of more temples by paying a full tithing and by living the gospel.

**Ensign*, May 1998, pages 87–88.

†*Ensign*, November 1997, page 49.

‡*Ensign*, November 1985, page 54.

To remind you that President Hinckley loves to see new temples built, complete the dot-to-dot picture on page 41, then color it.







The lights dimmed, and a hush fell over the audience. All eyes watched as Elise seemed to float across the stage in a soft, blue dress that swirled around her like a mist. She danced as if no one was watching.

Lacy sat quietly as musicians played, quartets sang, and families performed comedy acts and wonderful musical numbers. The more she saw, the worse she felt. If only she had a talent! The ward talent show was the best activity of the year, and Lacy was never able to be a part of it.

All the way home, Lacy was quiet. Finally Mom said, "That was one of the best talent shows yet."

"Your friend Elise sure can dance, Lacy," her brother Ryan added. "She seems to float."

I wish he was talking about me, Lacy thought.

"I hate going to the talent show, Mom," Lacy tearfully admitted later that night. "I'd rather stay home than go and see all the things that others can do. I can't do anything. Our family can't do anything, either. The Billings family sings together. The Myerses have their own family band. All my friends either sing, dance, or play an instrument. I feel like a loser." Lacy sobbed into her pillow.

"Lacy," Mom quietly reminded, "we all have talents. They may not be performed on a stage, but they are wonderful. You must find yours and then use them. That's why Heavenly Father gave them to you. Why don't you think about the things that you do well, and we'll talk later." Mom quietly slipped from the room to care for their newest foster child, three-year-old Brittany.

Sometime during the night, Brittany slipped into Lacy's bed. "Bwitney scared," she said. "Bwitney scared at night." Lacy gently pulled the covers up over her trembling little body and patted her back.

By Kay Timpson
(A true story)

For all have not every gift given unto them; for there are many gifts, and to every man is given a gift by the Spirit of God (Doctrine and Covenants 46:11).

During Primary on Sunday, Brittany wanted Lacy to stay with her, so Lacy sat in the Sunbeam class with her. "Children, we have a

new Sunbeam to welcome to Primary. Lacy, would you like to introduce your new sister to us?"

Brittany squeezed Lacy's hand as they walked to the front. "This is Brittany, my new sister." As the children sang "Hello! Hello! Hello! Hello! Hello! Hello! We welcome you today," Brittany hid her face in Lacy's dress.

"Why is your new sister so shy?" Lacy's friend Alan asked after Primary. "She acts like she's afraid of the world!"

"She is afraid. How would you feel if you had to move to a new home where you didn't know anyone, not even your new family? She's just a little girl. She's still getting used to us."

Alan poked Lacy in the arm as he ran down the hall. "You're going to have the biggest family in the world if you guys get any more kids."

Later, Lacy was helping Brittany get ready for bed. "Wead to Bwitney, please, Lacy." Lacy laughed and hugged Brittany. "Sure! Go get a book. I'll read you one story."

Brittany came running back with a book of Bible stories. Pointing to the picture of Noah, she said, "This one, Lacy."

"You really like that story, don't you? This time, why don't we be the animals? The bed can be the ark. We'll climb onto the ark and look for our stalls."

Brittany hung her head down low and made her arms into an elephant's trunk. Lumbering onto the ark, she bellowed, "I hungwy! I firsty! I sleepy."

"Caw! Caw! I need my nest. I need some seed," Lacy crowed as she flapped her arms and "flew"

around the ark.

When the girls finished the story, it was bedtime for Brittany. “Tuck me in, please, Lacy.”

Stepping into the room, Mom said, “Prayers first, Brittany.”

“Lacy help me,” Brittany told her.

“Is that OK, Mom?” Lacy asked quietly.

Mom nodded with a smile.

Brittany knelt by her bed. It amazed Lacy how easily all her sisters and brothers learned to pray. With a little prompting, Brittany began. “Dear Heavenly Father, please bless Lacy. She loves me. Amen.”

Tears stung Lacy’s eyes. A million thoughts flashed through her mind. She knew a little about each of the children who had joined her family before they came. All of them had suffered more than Lacy could imagine. Each had brought her or his own special spirit into her family, and Lacy loved them all. She enjoyed helping to care for them. She read to them and played games with them. She helped them to dress and did their hair. Most of all, she tried to help them to be happy, to feel safe, and to know that Heavenly Father loved them.

Lacy hugged Brittany as she tucked her in. “I really do love you, Brittany. You’re a wonderful sister.”

Mom,” Lacy said later. “I think I know what one of my talents is.”

“You have many talents, Lacy. Which one do you mean?”

“Well, it’s really an easy thing. You can’t watch it or listen to it, and you’d never be able to do it in a talent show. I’m not even sure it’s a *talent*. But I know I’m good at it—our whole family is good at it—and it helps people.”

“Lacy, not all talents are meant to entertain people. Some are meant to *bless* them. Which talent are you talking about?”

“I love all the kids who come to live with us. I love them so much that I want to help make their lives better. If they get to stay forever, then I get to keep helping. If they have to leave, I pray that what they have learned and felt here stays with them forever. Is that a talent, Mom?”

“Lacy, it’s only one of your talents, but it’s surely one of the best of them.”



FRIENDS IN THE NEWS



Macy Maxfield, 7, Meridian, Idaho, likes to go to Primary, read, play with her little sister Clarin, and ride her scooter. This is a surprise from her big sister Madison.



Javier Ibanez, 8, Buenos Aires, Argentina, always wears a tie to church. He enjoys his Valiant class and likes to sing with the Primary children. In *fútbol* (soccer), he plays the goalie.



Wynter Rzechula, 4, Stanwood, Washington, enjoys going to Primary and school, taking ballet lessons, and playing with her friends and brother, Joshua.



Casey Tyler Truman, 11, Goodlettsville, Tennessee, has received his Webelos badge and Arrow of Light award. He plays second base in baseball and has a baseball card collection.



Leigh Kamaleiokalani Funn, 6, Salt Lake City, Utah, is looking forward to being baptized and likes to listen to the prophet. She enjoys cheerleading and is a great helper to her family.



Justin Ray Judd, 8, Pima, Arizona, enjoys wrestling and horseback riding. He wants to be a world-champion bull rider when he is older.



Michawn Tuia, 9, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, plans to graduate from BYU someday, like her two older sisters. She likes to read the scriptures, play the piano, listen to music, and play sports.



Brandon Goeders, 6, Newmarket, Ontario, Canada, enjoys family home evening and reading the scriptures. He has fun riding his bike, playing with friends, and water skiing with his family.



Emily Brown, 7, Hillsboro, Oregon, has memorized six articles of faith. One of her favorite family activities is role-playing scripture stories. She also likes to read, dance, sing, and play games.



Joseph O. Reed IV, 8, Orlando, Florida, is proud to be a Cub Scout. He has a brown belt in Tae Kwon Do and likes to demonstrate his skills. He also enjoys basketball, swimming, and roller-blading.



Rylea Taylor, 7, Spring Creek, Nevada, has a beautiful singing voice and is an excellent reader. She loves her family and likes to ride the horses at her grandparents' farm in Idaho.



Bridger Pennington, 5, Sandy, Utah, likes to ride his scooter to his friend's house. He has a talent for break dancing and for painting ceramics. His dad is his Primary teacher.



Janet Morales Luna, 4, Oaxaca, Mexico, enjoys singing, painting pictures of monkeys, jumping rope, and taking care of the family's two dogs, Nila and Chirrisquiopo. She helps her mother cook and clean.



Trevor Crookston, 7, Las Vegas, Nevada, has a winning smile and enjoys posing for pictures. Using the computer, reading, and drawing are his hobbies. He's spiritually sensitive and a peacemaker.



Rachel Stewart, 6, Great Falls, Montana, loves animals and is kind to all around her. She wants to be an artist, tells wonderful stories, and helps her mom make bread.



Andres Romeu, 8, Buenos Aires, Argentina, knows that prayer is talking to Heavenly Father. He wants to be a missionary and a *fútbol* (soccer) player someday. He reads the Book of Mormon.



Claire Hacker, 7, Kingwood, Texas, would like to be a teacher when she grows up. Art and reading are her favorite activities.



Jordan P. Salzman, 8, Worland, Wyoming, has a kind heart, especially toward those who are feeling sad or lonely. He likes to hunt with his father and draw. He plays soccer and baseball well.



Emily Williams, 11, Huntersville, North Carolina, is working on her Gospel in Action award and enjoys Achievement Day activities. She likes to draw, dance, and listen to music.



Turner Holcombe, 6, New Providence, New Jersey, looks forward to being baptized at age eight and to receiving the priesthood at age twelve. Nephi seeking the brass plates is his favorite scripture story.



Korinne Baxter, 8, Oakdale, California, has earned her Gospel in Action award. She enjoys Primary and Achievement Day activities. She also likes to read, draw, and play the piano.

Please send submissions to Friends in the News, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3226. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least six months. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published. Upon request, material not published will be returned to sender if a self-addressed, stamped envelope is enclosed.

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



THE AUDITION



By Emily Cruff

All my life I have wanted to be a dancer. I sat and danced to music even before I could walk. And as soon as I could walk, I danced

around in circles, even if the only music I could hear was Mom humming while she went about her day.

I have taken dance lessons since I was three, and I have always dreamed that when I was big enough, I would dance in the *Nutcracker Ballet* at Christmastime.

When I turned eight, soon after I had been baptized, I joined a new ballet school. I was very excited to learn that this school held workshops for children who wanted to try out for the *Nutcracker*.



Emily Cruff, age 8
Salt Lake City, Utah

My mom checked to see if I needed to be older or dance with the school longer, but we were told that everything was fine. I signed up right away for the extra classes I needed, and I practiced every time I had a chance. I felt wonderful—I was going to audition for the *Nutcracker*! My dreams were coming true.

I kept going to class and practicing until it was almost time for the audition. I was very excited the day my ballet teacher gave me the form to fill out for it. I handed it to Mom right after class and asked if we could turn it in right away. I

was so excited that I hadn't taken the time to read it. Mom said that we could, but then, as she read over the form, she discovered that children trying out had to be at least nine years old. She said that maybe we should ask some more questions before we filled out the form.

She called, and sure enough, I would have to be nine. We were also told that many moms just took their children and filled out the form as if they were nine. Mom made another call to the ballet school to ask what to do about the extra classes I had signed up for to prepare me for the audition. She was told that she could withdraw me from the class, keep me in and say that I was nine at the audition, or keep me in and not audition and just use the extra classtime in preparation for next year's audition. They said the choice was ours to make.

When Mom finished talking to the ballet school, we went to my room, where it was quiet. She gave me a long look that let me know that she knew that this was very important to me. She said, "Emily, you have wanted to dance in this ballet all of your life. You are a very good girl. Our family has had many lessons on choosing the right. You have had Primary lessons on it, too. A few



month ago, you were baptized and given the gift of the Holy Ghost. You are old enough to make an important choice. You need to pray to Heavenly Father and listen for the prompting of the Holy Ghost. Heavenly Father gave us agency so we could choose, but we also have to accept the consequences of our choices. I cannot go to the rehearsal and say that you are nine when you are not. This is a choice that you must make. I trust that you are a good girl. I love you.”

Then she left me in my room to think. I wondered if she would come back soon to tell me that I could go and make it all right, or to tell me that I couldn't because it would not be honest. She didn't.

Two more weeks went by, and I had decided many times that it would be all right if I went to the audition because I am tall and look like I am nine. Heavenly Father would understand, just this once, wouldn't He? After all, I have always wanted to do this. It was my dream.

I decided just as many times that I would not go to the audition because that would be dishonest.

I felt like I was riding a seesaw up and down—go to the audition, or not. I prayed and prayed and tried to listen for the Holy Ghost. I thought a lot about what Jesus would want me to do. How would He feel about my choice?

The week before the audition, I came out of class excited about a new step I had learned. I showed it to Mom, and she pulled me quietly onto a bench a little out of the way of the other children going to and from classes. She told me that the time had come. I needed to make my final choice.

I gave a big sigh. “I'm not going to the audition, Mom,” I said. “It wouldn't be honest to say that I'm nine when I'm really eight. I tried to figure out a way to make it work, but I can't. I want to be honest.” It was really hard to say out loud that I wasn't going to the audition. But once I did, I felt better than I had for weeks.

“I understand, and I think that you made a choice that you can be pleased about. I know that Heavenly Father and I are pleased with your choice,” she said. Then Mom asked what I wanted to do about the extra classes that would be starting.

I told her, “I'm still going to take the classes. That way, I can be even more prepared for next year. Besides, it can't hurt to learn more steps—I have a

recital this coming spring. Maybe the classes can help me prepare for that.”

One of the other girls in my class went to the audition and was chosen to dance in the ballet. She is nine. Sometimes I wonder if I would have made it if I had auditioned. Then I remind myself that I made the right choice and that I can try out next year.

Who knows—maybe with an extra year of practice, I'll have an even better chance of being chosen for the *Nutcracker* next Christmastime. Maybe if you see it, you'll see me dancing and know that it is me. I'll be wearing a big smile.

BAD LANGUAGE AND LYRICS

By Terry Hurst



Terry Hurst, age 9
Gilbert, Arizona

Last Christmas, I received some money from my great aunt. I paid my tithing and then thought about what I would buy. Since I was given a compact-disc (CD) player for Christmas, I decided to get a CD to go with it. A few days later, Mom took me to the store. I found a CD that I thought I'd like and bought it.

When I got home, I started listening to it. The first song was fine, but the next one wasn't. It had bad language and lyrics, so I stopped listening to it. When Mom asked how I liked the new CD, I told her that I didn't feel good about it. I remembered the “My Gospel Standards” poster in my room and that I'd promised to listen only to music that would be pleasing to Heavenly Father.

We checked the rest of the songs, and then I saw a sticker on the CD wrapper that said, “Cannot be returned after opened.” I showed it to Mom. She said, “We are still going to try to return it.”

We went back to the store and waited in the return line. Mom told the people about the lyrics and asked if we could please return the CD. The man said that he would let us just this once. I felt happy inside, and I knew that Mom did, too.



FOUNDATIONS

By Hilary Hendricks

Last year in general conference, the prophet said there'd be a temple built close to our home. We waited eagerly!

We watched as workers piled the soil and poured a gray foundation deep in the ground. "Why take so long?" I begged an explanation.

My mom, who helped to build our house, said that she knew the reason: "Foundations keep tall buildings strong through every storm and season."

Now as the temple walls rise high, I think of our warm home kept strong by temple covenants—foundations of our own.

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 Family Home Evening Ideas. The overall Primary theme for 2002 is "The Temple—I'm Going There Someday," and the theme for January is "I love to see the temple."



FAMILY HOME EVENING IDEAS

1. Read together "God's Power Within You" (pages 2–3) by President Gordon B. Hinckley. Make a list of some of the temptations that each family member faces, and talk about ways you can overpower them.
2. Invite your parents to express their feelings about the temple. They may want to use the poem "Foundations" (page 48). Then tell the story "Stewart, a Commandment-Keeper, Too" (pages 4–6). Talk about the importance of living worthily so that you can receive temple blessings. Begin your collection of temple cards (page 33).
3. Talk about some of Elder Athos M. Amorim's experiences as he learned to "Be of Good Cheer" (pages 8–9). Then share the story "Dancing in the Snow" (pages 10–12). Resolve to be of good cheer, to have hope, even when times are hard.
4. Make copies of "All About Me!" (page 13) for each family member. Share some family stories about your

ancestors, and then fill out your journal pages together. Continue to keep a journal throughout the year.

5. Have a younger family member memorize and present the poem "Just Like Him" (page 17). Share some of the experiences from Child-views (IFC) and Trying to Be Like Jesus Christ (pages 46–47). Decide one thing each of you can do during the coming week to be more like Him.

6. Discuss the important things for which tithing money is used by the Church (temples, missionary work, meetinghouses, blessing people's lives in many ways). Read the story "Sharing the Boot Money" (pages 36–37). Fill out a tithing donation slip together.

7. Make your favorite recipe from a past issue of the magazine for refreshments.



See pages 36–37.

TOPICAL INDEX TO THIS ISSUE OF THE *FRIEND*

- (f) = Funstuff
- (FLF) = For Little Friends
- (m) = music
- (p) = poster
- (v) = verse



The Friend

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The *Friend* is available each month in Braille, or as a Talking Book, for the visually impaired. For more information, write: Manager, Special Curriculum, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3200.

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*A temple is literally a house of the Lord. . . .
A place where the Lord may come, it is the
most holy of any place of worship on the earth.
Only the home can compare with the temple
in sacredness.*

(Bible Dictionary—Temple)



The Temple— I'm Going There Someday



*For behold, this is my work and my glory—
to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life
of man (Moses 1:39).*

DECEMBER

**When Jesus comes again,
He will come to the temple.**

*And if you are faithful, behold,
I am with you until I come—
And verily, verily, I say unto you,
I come quickly (Doctrine and
Covenants 34:11–12).*

NOVEMBER

**I am thankful for temple
blessings.**

*Let the hearts of all my people
rejoice, who have . . . built this house
to my name (Doctrine and Covenants
110:6).*

OCTOBER

**I prepare to go to the temple
as I follow Heavenly Father's
plan for me.**

*We believe that the first principles
and ordinances of the Gospel are:
first, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ;
second, Repentance; third, Baptism
by immersion for the remission of
sins; fourth, Laying on of hands for
the gift of the Holy Ghost (Articles of
Faith 1:4).*

SEPTEMBER

**I will live now to be worthy
to go to the temple and serve
a mission.**

*He that hath my commandments,
and keepeth them, he it is that
loveth me (John 14:21).*

MAY

My body is a temple.

*Know ye not that ye are the temple
of God, and that the Spirit of God
dwelleth in you? . . . For the temple
of God is holy, which temple ye are
(1 Corinthians 3:16–17).*

JUNE

**Temples are a sign of the true
Church.**

*I command you, all ye my saints, to
build a house unto me (Doctrine and
Covenants 124:31).*

JULY

**Temples bless Heavenly Father's
children throughout the world
today.**

*And many nations shall come, and
say, Come, and let us go up to the
mountain of the Lord, . . . and he will
teach us of his ways, and we will walk
in his paths (Micah 4:2).*

AUGUST

**We serve others through
temple work.**

*And he shall turn the heart of the
fathers to the children, and the heart
of the children to their fathers
(Malachi 4:6).*

APRIL

**The temple brings the
blessing of heaven to earth.**

*And, if you keep my commandments
and endure to the end you shall have
eternal life, which gift is the greatest
of all the gifts of God (Doctrine and
Covenants 14:7).*

MARCH

**The temple is the house of
the Lord.**

*Establish a house, even a house
of prayer, a house of fasting, a
house of faith, a house of learn-
ing, a house of glory, a house of
order, a house of God (Doctrine and
Covenants 88:119).*

FEBRUARY

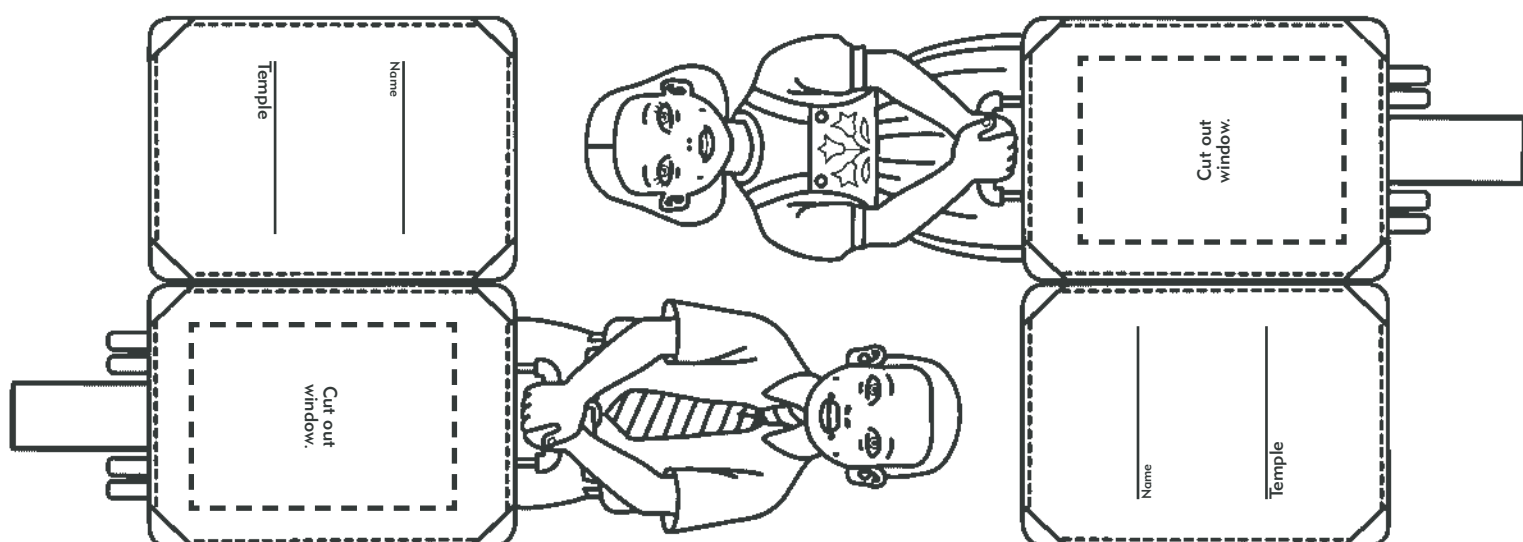
**My family can be together
forever through the blessings of
the temple.**

*And I will give unto thee the keys
of the kingdom of heaven: and
whatsoever thou shalt bind on
earth shall be bound in heaven
(Matthew 16:19).*

JANUARY

I love to see the temple.

*Who shall stand in his holy place?
He that hath clean hands, and a pure
heart. (Psalm 24:3–4).*



January

President Gordon B. Hinckley loves to see new temples built.

February

Elijah restored the sealing keys (see Doctrine and Covenants 110:13–16).

March

The temple is the house of the Lord.

April

Samuel received revelation in the temple (see 1 Samuel 3:1–18).

May

I'll keep my body pure.

June

Solomon built a temple (see 1 Kings 8:12–21, 55–61).

July

President Lorenzo Snow (1814–1901) prophesied that temples would be built throughout the earth.

August

Malachi taught that the hearts of the children would be turned to their fathers.

September

The bishop or branch president guides us to be worthy to go to the temple.

October

Knowledge and understanding of the plan of salvation were restored through the Prophet Joseph Smith.

November

My family can be together forever.

December

The Savior will come again to His temple.

The Temple—I'm Going There Someday

In recent years, the Church has been building more and more temples. Temples are places of love and beauty. Heavenly Father wants all of us, His children, to have the opportunity to go to His temples and receive all that is necessary to be with our families forever and to return to live with Him someday. In temples, we are taught Heavenly Father's plan for us. There we can be sealed together as eternal families, and we can perform the ordinances necessary to provide our ancestors with these same blessings.

You can begin preparing now to go to the temple by increasing your faith in Jesus Christ, learning to recognize and follow the promptings of the Holy Ghost, and keeping the commandments. As you memorize and learn about the scriptures on the poster, be prayerful. Your love for temples and your desire to live worthily to go there someday will grow.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Remove the poster from the magazine. Cut along the dotted lines above the name of each month.
2. Cut out the pictures at the side of the poster and place them in an envelope.
3. Cut out and color one of the two figures holding a suitcase. Cut out the window in the front of the suitcase. On the back of the suitcase, fill in your name and the name of the temple you are preparing to attend. Fold the suitcase in half and glue the side and the bottom edges together. Leave the top open.
4. If possible, glue the poster onto lightweight cardboard. Be careful not to put glue around the slots in the poster where the suitcase will go. If you wish, glue a picture of the temple closest to your home over the illustration of the Salt Lake Temple. Hang up the poster.
5. Starting in January 2002, at the beginning of each month, read the theme and memorize the scripture on the pathway. Pack the picture for the month in your suitcase, with the picture showing through the window. Slide the suitcase into that month's slot on the pathway to the temple. As the year progresses, your suitcase will become filled with things that will teach you more about the temple and help you prepare to go there someday.

Additional copies of the poster (stock no. 22959) are available for 25¢ each from the Salt Lake Distribution Center, 1999 West 1700 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84104-4233.

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