

THE *Friend*



FRIENDS by MAIL



Glad I Found “A Bump in the Road”



Every night my family reads the Book of Mormon. Sometimes I also read the *Friend*. One of the stories I found in the *Friend* is called “A Bump in the Road” (June 2010). I loved it. I read it to my mom and my newborn sister.

Lindsey C., age 6, California

I Love the *Friend*



I love reading the *Friend*. When I am angry, I can read it to calm me down. Also, the *Friend* has good stories that are fun to read. They help me feel the Spirit.

Elise E., age 11, Nebraska

A Priesthood Blessing



My family and I were roasting hot dogs around a campfire when I fell out of my chair and burned my arm. I got a third-degree burn on my elbow. It hurt so bad. My sisters hugged me and tried to make me laugh while my brother

went to get my dad’s consecrated oil. My dad gave me a priesthood blessing. He blessed me to heal quickly and feel no more pain. The pain went away. When we went to the hospital, the doctors and nurses were surprised that I was cheerful and talkative. I made them all laugh. I know the blessing helped me to heal quickly. I am thankful my dad has the faith to use the power of the Lord to bless me.

Elias A., age 5, California

How I Read the *Friend*

Nathan and Ryan F., ages 8 and 6, Utah



Was there a letter or a story in this month’s issue that helped you? Tell us about it. Turn to page 48 to find out how.

Dear Friend,

Volume 41 Number 3
March 2011

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Dieter F. Uchtdorf

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THE *Friend*

See the
Guide to the *Friend*
on page 48 for
family home
evening ideas.



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

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In the October 2010 general conference, President Thomas S. Monson asked us to prepare to be missionaries. Look for this symbol on the pages that talk about missionary work.

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Look for the *Friend* mouse to see which features are online at friend.lds.org.



Hidden CTR Ring

Clue: Each month someone decides where to hide the CTR ring in the *Friend*.

Cover by Jim Madsen



By President
Henry B. Eyring

First Counselor in the
First Presidency

Count Your Blessings

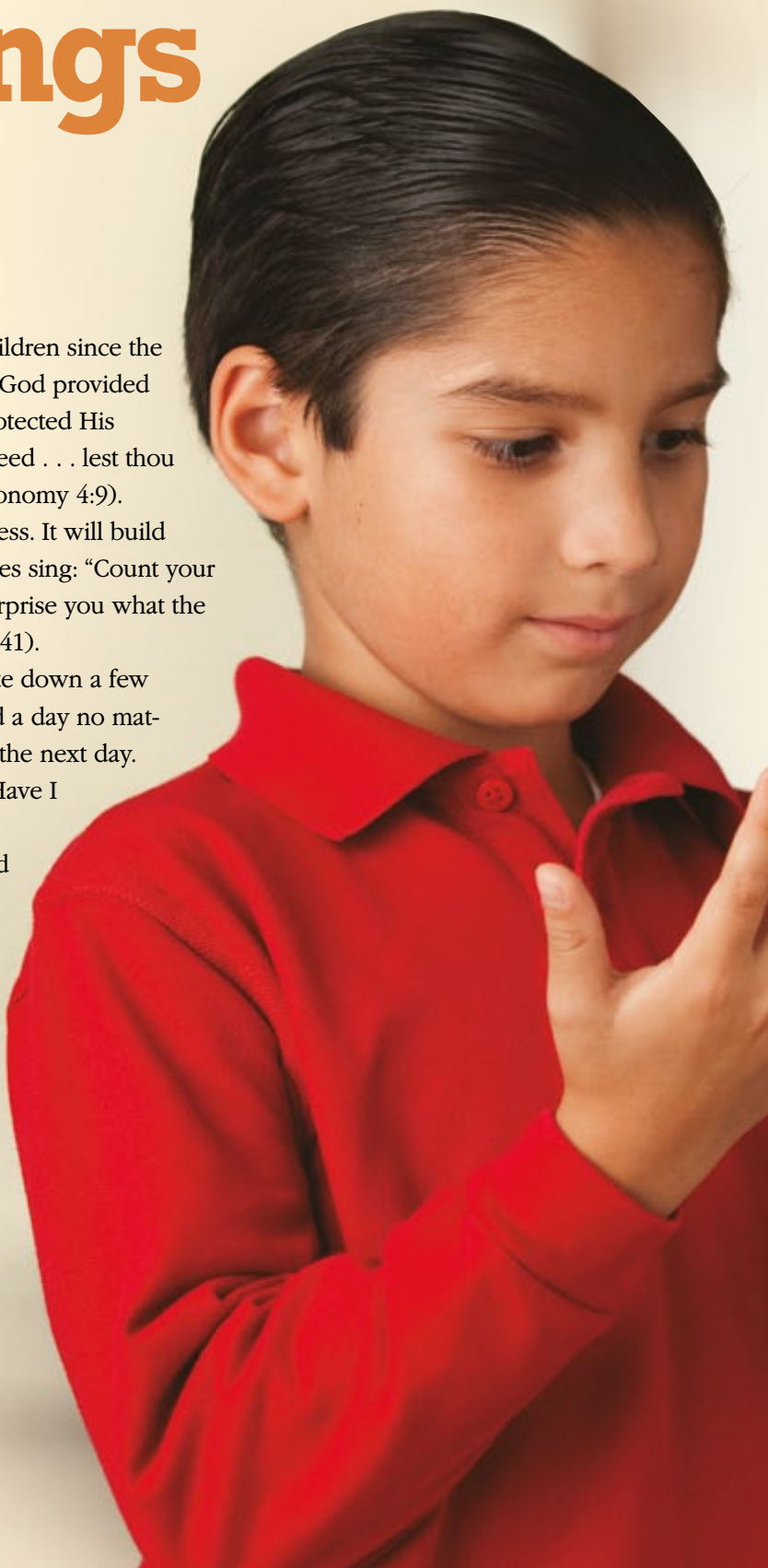
Forgetting God has been a problem among His children since the world began. Think of the times of Moses, when God provided manna and in miraculous and visible ways led and protected His children. Still the prophet warned the people: “Take heed . . . lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen” (Deuteronomy 4:9).

Find ways to recognize and remember God’s kindness. It will build our testimonies. You remember that song we sometimes sing: “Count your many blessings; name them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord has done” (“Count Your Blessings,” *Hymns*, no. 241).

When our children were very small, I started to write down a few things about what happened every day. I never missed a day no matter how tired I was or how early I would have to start the next day. Before I would write, I would ponder this question: “Have I seen the hand of God reaching out to touch us or our children or our family today?” As I would cast my mind over the day, I would see evidence of what God had done for one of us that I had not recognized in the busy moments of the day. I realized that trying to remember had allowed God to show me what He had done.

The Holy Ghost helps us see what God has done for us. I testify that God loves us and blesses us more than most of us have yet recognized. I know that is true, and it brings me joy to remember Him. ♦

From an October 2007 general conference address.



AND IT WILL SURPRISE YOU!

You can learn to notice the blessings that Heavenly Father gives you the same way President Eyring did—by writing them down.

1 Place a notebook or journal and a pen or pencil by your bed.

2 Each night before you pray and go to bed, write down:

- The date.
- Two or three good things that happened that day.
- How you think these good things are blessings from Heavenly Father.

3 When you pray, be sure to thank Heavenly Father for the good things you remembered. You can also tell your family members about the blessings you found!



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY WESTON COLTON; ILLUSTRATIONS BY KEITH CHRISTENSEN

HOW THE LORD BLESSED THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL

The book of Exodus in the Old Testament tells about how the Lord helped His chosen people when they had problems. Match each problem with a blessing that the Lord sent to help His people.

PROBLEMS

1. The Lord's chosen people were slaves in Egypt.

2. Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, wouldn't let them leave.

3. Pharaoh let the people go, but then his army chased them to try to bring them back.

4. The people were thirsty in the wilderness.

5. The people ran out of food, and they were hungry.

6. The people needed help in following the Lord.



BLESSINGS

A. The Lord sent many plagues to Egypt, and Pharaoh finally released the people.

B. The Lord gave Moses the Ten Commandments. He let all the people hear His voice and showed Himself to some of them.

C. The Lord told Moses to hit a rock with his staff, and water came out.

D. The Lord told Moses to lead the people out of Egypt to the promised land.

E. The Lord parted the Red Sea so the people could escape.

F. The Lord sent the people a food that tasted like bread and honey. It was called *manna*, and they found it on the ground each morning.

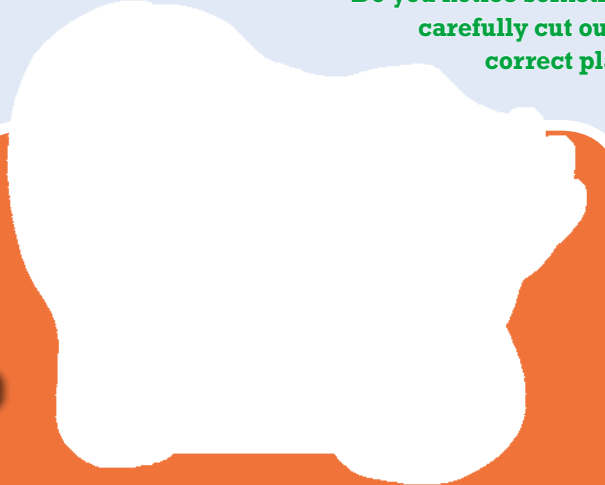
Answers: 1. D; 2. A; 3. E; 4. C; 5. F; 6. B.

The Sticker Book

By Jennifer Ricks
(Based on a true story)

Do you notice something missing from this story? Go to page 14, carefully cut out the “stickers,” and glue or tape them in their correct places.

1



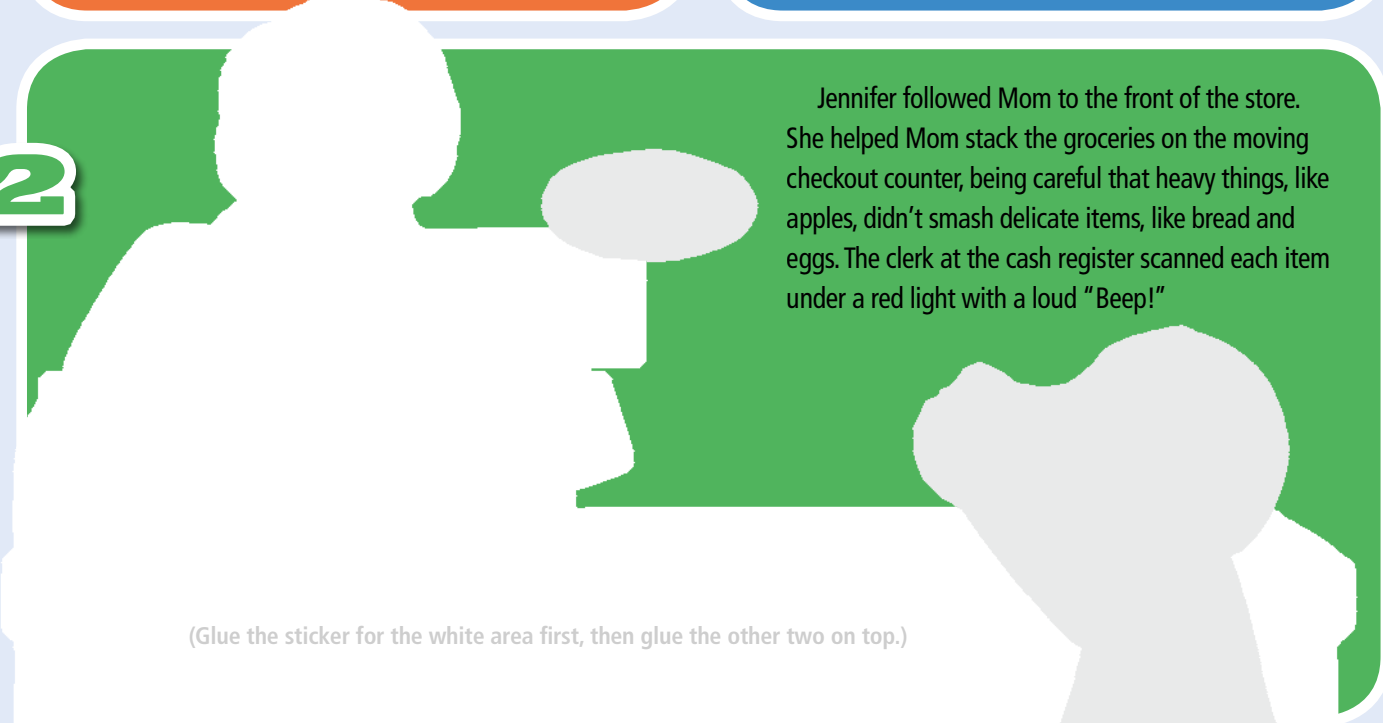
I found the apples, Mom!” Jennifer called.
“Thank you, Jennifer,” Mom said as she put the bag of apples in the shopping cart. Jennifer felt good inside. Helping Mom shop was fun.
“Do we need anything else?” Jennifer asked.
“Nope, I think that’s it,” Mom said.

3



While she waited for Mom to pay for the groceries, Jennifer looked at the fun things at the check stand— toys, magazines, and shiny packages of candy. Then something caught her eye: a magazine-sized book with pictures and stickers from one of her favorite movies.
“Mom, can I have this?” Jennifer asked, holding up the book.

2



Jennifer followed Mom to the front of the store. She helped Mom stack the groceries on the moving checkout counter, being careful that heavy things, like apples, didn’t smash delicate items, like bread and eggs. The clerk at the cash register scanned each item under a red light with a loud “Beep!”

(Glue the sticker for the white area first, then glue the other two on top.)

Jennifer's mom looked at the book. "No, Jennifer. I am not going to buy that for you."

"Why not?" Jennifer asked.

"Please put it away for now. We'll talk about it at home," Mom said.

In the car, Jennifer wondered why Mom had said no about the sticker book. After they got home and put the groceries away, Mom sat by Jennifer on the couch.

"I know you wanted me to buy that book for you," Mom said. "I know that it's your favorite movie and I can tell that the sticker book is something you really want. And that's why I said no."

Jennifer looked confused.

4



"I think it is something that you should earn for yourself," Mom said.

"What do you mean?" Jennifer asked.

"Do you know how much the sticker book costs?"

Jennifer shook her head.

"Well, that's the first thing you need to find out," Mom said.

"The first thing before what?" Jennifer asked.

"Before you start earning the money to buy the sticker book for yourself."

Next time they were at the grocery store, Jennifer found the price tag on the sticker book. Back at home, Mom gave Jennifer a notebook to keep track of her money

and wrote the price of the sticker book next to the word "GOAL."

Then Jennifer went to work. She washed windows and took out the garbage. She pulled weeds in the backyard and scrubbed spots on the carpet. When Mom paid her for

5



the extra chores, Jennifer kept track of her earnings in the notebook. She put 10 percent of what she earned in a gray tithing envelope to give to the bishop. Then she put the rest of her money in a white envelope for the sticker book.



6

After several weeks, Jennifer looked inside her white envelope. She finally had enough money! She felt very grown up at the store as she carefully counted out the exact amount in bills and coins to pay for the sticker book.

When she got home, Jennifer placed the sticker book in her special drawer. She had worked long and hard to buy it, and she wanted to take good care of it. It made Jennifer feel good to know that she had earned something for herself. ♦





Jesus Begins His Ministry

From Matthew 4:1–17; Luke 4.

By Diane L. Mangum

After He was baptized, Jesus left the Jordan River and went to the wilderness of Judea. There He would be alone and prepare to begin His mission.

In the wilderness Jesus **fasted** for 40 days and nights. It was a time when He could feel close to His Heavenly Father. By the end of the 40 days Jesus was very hungry, and Satan came to tempt Him.

Satan taunted Jesus. He said that if Jesus really was the Son of God, He should turn stones into bread so He could eat. Jesus did not listen to Satan. Instead, He answered Satan with the words of a scripture: “It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”

Next, the Spirit took Jesus to the top of the temple in Jerusalem.

Satan came again to tempt Jesus. Satan dared Jesus to prove He was the Son of God by jumping from the top of the temple and calling for angels to catch Him.

“Thou shalt not tempt the

Lord thy God,” Jesus told Satan.

Satan tempted Jesus a third time. From the top of a high mountain Jesus saw all the lands and peoples of the earth. Satan said that Jesus could have power over the whole world if He would worship Satan.

“Get thee behind me, Satan,” Jesus answered again with scripture. “For it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.” Jesus had overcome all of Satan’s temptations.

Now it was time for Jesus to begin His mission to teach the gospel. Jesus walked to the land of Galilee and went to Nazareth, the town where He grew up. He went to the **synagogue** and read scriptures out



Fasting

Fasting is choosing to go without food and water for a time to develop spiritual strength. Moses fasted for 40 days on Mount Sinai when he received the Ten Commandments from the Lord (see Exodus 34:27–28).

Queen Esther fasted >> for strength and courage to talk to the king about the safety of her people (see Esther 4:16).



Synagogue

A place where Jewish people meet each week to worship God.





loud that foretold that He would be the Savior. Many people were angry. They did not think that someone they knew as a boy could be the Messiah.

Jesus went to other cities. When He spoke, people were astonished at the power of His words. He healed many sick people, and they knew they had been healed by the Son of God. Jesus Christ's great work of spreading the gospel had begun. ♦

Kindness to

By Patricia R. Jones
(Based on a true story)

Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? (Matthew 6:26).

President David O. McKay loved horses. One of his favorite horses was named Sonny Boy. Even when he was President of the Church, he kept horses on his farm in Huntsville, Utah, so he could ride them whenever he visited.

Once, someone stole a hand-carved saddle from President

McKay's saddle house on the farm. President McKay valued the saddle greatly and felt very sad when it was stolen. After that, he was very careful to keep his saddle house locked.

One hot summer day, several members of President McKay's family were visiting the farm. Two of his sisters were driving past the saddle house when they saw that a window had been left open. Fearing that another theft would happen, they stopped and closed the window.

Later that day, they told President



All Creatures



McKay what they had done, hoping he would be as relieved as they were. But the prophet's forehead creased with worry as they explained what they had done.

"I left that window open on purpose," President McKay told his sisters. "There is a birds' nest inside, and that is the only entrance the parent birds have to carry food to their babies. I think I shall just have time to run over."

"We can easily run over and open the window again. It's no trouble," one of his sisters offered. She knew that President McKay needed to leave soon to get back to Salt Lake City.

"It's all right," he said. "I must pick up a rope that needs repairing anyway."

President McKay reached for his sister's hand, gave it a squeeze, and left to rescue the bird family. Before long he had gone there and come back home again.

"Was everything all right?" his sister asked when he returned.

"It was just as I expected," President McKay said. "One bird was outside trying to get in, and another was inside attempting to get out." He patted her arm gently. "But, all's well now."

President McKay was a very kind person. He knew that Heavenly Father was mindful of all of His creations, and he had a special love for Heavenly Father's creations too. ♦

"Man's greatest happiness comes from losing himself for the good of others."¹

President David O. McKay (1873–1970)



“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” —Matthew 5:16



To help you remember President Monson's call to prepare to serve a mission, photocopy or cut out this certificate, sign it, and keep it as a reminder, perhaps on your wall or in your journal.

I WILL PREPARE

PRESIDENT THOMAS S. MONSON ASKED
US TO PREPARE TO SERVE A MISSION.

I WILL:

- **Keep myself CLEAN and PURE and WORTHY to represent the LORD.**
- **Maintain my HEALTH and STRENGTH.**
- **PRAY and STUDY the scriptures.**

I WILL PREPARE TO SERVE A MISSION.

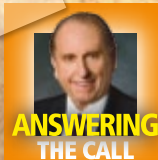
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Bulletin Board

MISSIONARY MOMENTS

Even though you won't serve a full-time mission until you are older, there are things you can do now to be a missionary. Here are some things children like you have done to share the gospel.



My brother and I are the only members of the Church in our school. As part of one class we talk about religions. I volunteered to do a presentation about our Church.

The day of my presentation I

said a prayer that I would do well and that the Spirit would be there. In my presentation I talked about the Book of Mormon, prayer, baptism, the Holy Ghost, the sacrament, temples, and our prophet. I really felt the Spirit during the presentation. It felt good to talk about our Church.

Hanna A., age 10, Germany



One time for a class project we each chose a person who made an impact on Arizona. Spencer W. Kimball was on the

list. I knew he had been a prophet, so I chose him. I wrote a speech and dressed up like President Kimball. I presented my speech as students from the whole school came to my display. I am thankful for prophets and what they do.

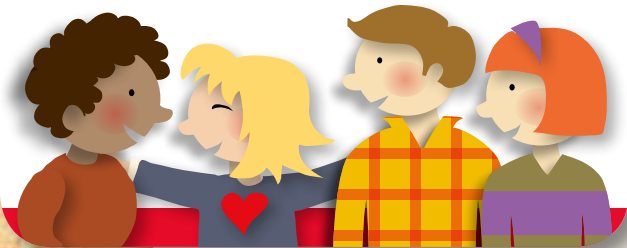
Jared M., age 11, Arizona

Online Survey Results

On a *Friend* website survey we asked if you live in a place where it snows in the winter. There were 2,000 people who responded! What is your winter like? Draw a picture of something you like to do in the winter, whether or not it snows.



HELLO
my name is



Journal Junction

This month, write about some good friends. What are their names? How did you meet them? What do you like to do together? What are some things they are good at? Write about what you think makes a good friend.

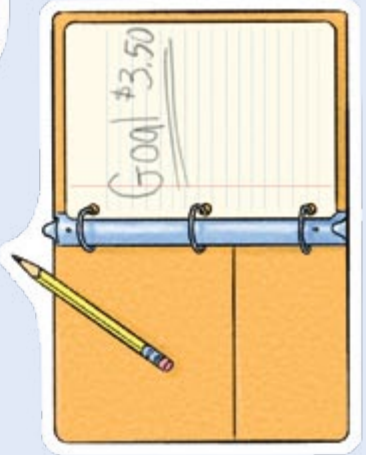


“The right friends have a powerful influence on your life. Choose your friends wisely. Make certain they will help build within you the right standards with which to govern your life.”*

-Elder L. Tom Perry of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

*“Good Friends,” *New Era*, Feb. 1993, 6.

Carefully cut out these "stickers" for the story on pages 4 and 5!



Special Witness



Elder David A. Bednar of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles shares some thoughts on this subject.

HOW CAN THE GOSPEL HELP ME BE HAPPY?

The source and cause of true happiness are gospel truth and obedience to eternal law.

In this life we experience tenderness, love, kindness, happiness, sorrow, disappointment, pain, and even physical limitations in ways that prepare us to live again with our Father in Heaven. There are lessons we must learn and experiences we must have on earth.

Heavenly Father's plan of happiness is designed to provide direction for His children, to help them become happy, and to bring them safely home to Him.

Obedience to the principles of the gospel invites the constant companionship of the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost helps us to know, to understand, and to live the teachings of Jesus Christ.

For your happiness and protection, I invite you to study and live more diligently the Savior's gospel. We should not only live the gospel, but we should *love* living the gospel. As we do so, we will receive countless blessings, greater strength, and true happiness.

You know what is right and what is wrong, and you have the responsibility to learn for yourself "by study and also by faith" (D&C 88:118) the things you should and should not do.

The Activity Day Answer

By Rebecca Barnum

(Based on a true story)

Ye receive no witness until after the trial of your faith
(Ether 12:6).

What an awful day! Today at school I didn't talk to anyone, I didn't play with anyone at recess, and I didn't sit with anyone at lunch. My family has been living in this new town for two weeks, and I still don't have any friends!

As I walked up to my new house, I saw my younger sister playing with the girl from across the street. She waved. "Hi, Rosa!"

I turned my head and didn't say anything back. Three girls on our street are the same age as my younger sister. How many girls on our street are my age? None. Not one!

I pushed through the front door and dropped my backpack on the floor.

"Sister Garcia called from the Primary to remind you about activity day today," Mom said.

"I don't want to go to activity day," I grumbled. "I just spent all day with kids I don't know. I don't want to spend another hour with girls I don't know!" Talking to people you don't know might be easy for some people but not for me.

"I know it's been hard moving here and leaving all your old friends," Mom said. "I've been praying that we will make some new friends soon."

"Me too," I said. "I pray for that every night, but so

far Heavenly Father hasn't answered my prayers. It's like He isn't listening."

Mom squeezed my hand. "**Maybe the call from Sister Garcia is your answer,**" she said.

"How can that be the answer to my prayers?" I asked.

"Sometimes when we pray, Heavenly Father expects us to do something to help answer our prayers," Mom said. "It's called acting in faith. We have to do more than just pray. Sometimes we have to act in faith before we get the blessing."

"Could it be possible?" I thought. "Could going to activity day really be the answer to my prayers?"

Later, Mom asked me if I wanted a ride to the activity. I took a deep breath and nodded. Even though I was afraid, it felt like the right thing to do.

My heart was beating fast as we arrived at the



"God will not always reward you immediately according to your desires. Rather, God will respond with what in His eternal plan is best for you."²

Elder Richard G. Scott of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles



church. Sister Garcia welcomed me and led me to a chair at the table. Her kind voice and warm smile helped me feel better.

A girl across the table looked at me. "Hi, I'm Teresa," she said. "Are you new?"

There was a lump in my throat, so I just nodded.

"I think I've seen you at school," Teresa said. "What class are you in?"

I swallowed nervously. "Mrs. Lee's class," I told her.

"I'm in the class right next door!" she said.

We talked about our classes and our favorite subjects. As we talked, I was surprised at how much we

had in common. We even both liked roller-skating!

When Mom picked me up after the activity, I jumped into the car.

"Mom, can I play with my new friend Teresa?" I waved at Teresa, and she waved back.

Mom thought it was a great idea, and later that evening, my new friend and I roller-skated up and down my street.

That night as I knelt by my bed, I thanked Heavenly Father for answering my prayers. At first I was scared to go to activity day, but I'm glad I did. I'm glad I was brave enough to act in faith. ♦

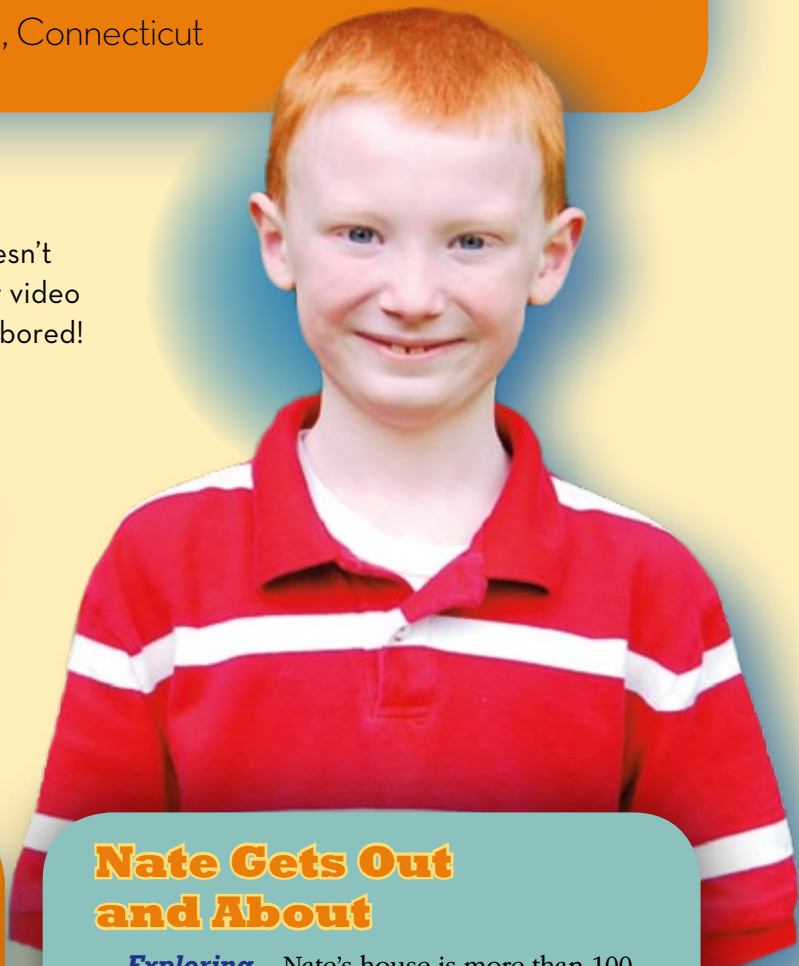


Out and About

with **Nathan S.** of South Windham, Connecticut

By Jan Pinborough
Church Magazines

The TV at eight-year-old Nathan S.'s house doesn't get any channels. His family doesn't have any video games either. But that's OK. Nate's too busy to be bored! Here's why:



Nate Collects

U.S. coins—His grandpa got him started collecting. Now Nate has all 50 state quarters and a penny collection that goes back to 1941.

Litter—On the Church's day of service, Nate collected five bags full of trash—and two hubcaps. His dream career? To be a recycling scientist.



Jokes—"Why did the farmer call his pig Ink? Because he kept running out of the pen." That one cracked everyone up when Nate told jokes at the ward talent show.

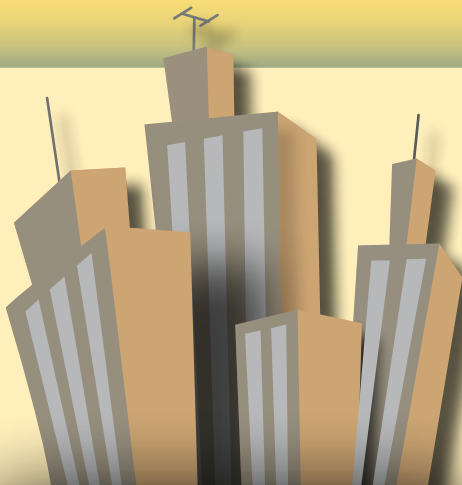
Nate Gets Out and About

Exploring—Nate's house is more than 100 years old. He's seen wild turkeys, rabbits, snakes, and even a llama out back.

Playing—Nate and his friend Victor made up a fun superhero game, which they play in the car on their 45-minute ride to Cub Scouts.

Around town—Nate knows why a bridge nearby has giant metal frogs on its posts. In 1754, people thought enemy soldiers were attacking in the middle of the night. The next morning, they realized it was just the loud screeches of frogs!





Nate Learns

Road trips—“I’m a city mouse,” says Nate. He loves riding subways, seeing Times Square, and eating pretzels in New York City.

Books—Anything about science or nature fascinates Nate. His mom is a librarian, so he gets to go to “Mom’s library” for story time and other special programs.

Scouts—He’s just one paw short of earning his Wolf.



Nate Likes Family, Friends, and Church

Siblings—A space inside a row of lilac bushes is a perfect playhouse for Nate; his brother, Evan; and his sister Annalynn. He’s always happy to hold his baby sister, Jenika.

Helping—Thursday is his day to take the trash outside. He also unloads the dishwasher and gets his brother’s and sisters’ pajamas out each night.

Being a missionary—Nate invites his teachers from school to special events at church, such as his baptism. When he was offered iced tea at a friend’s house, he asked for water. After all, Nate says, “What do we go to church for?”



Nate's Favorite Things

Color: Red

Primary song: “Called to Serve”

Scripture story: Jonah and the whale

Food: Macaroni and cheese

Animals: Horses and fish

Sports: Running, biking, baseball

By Jane McBride Choate
(Based on a true story)

Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee (Isaiah 41:10).

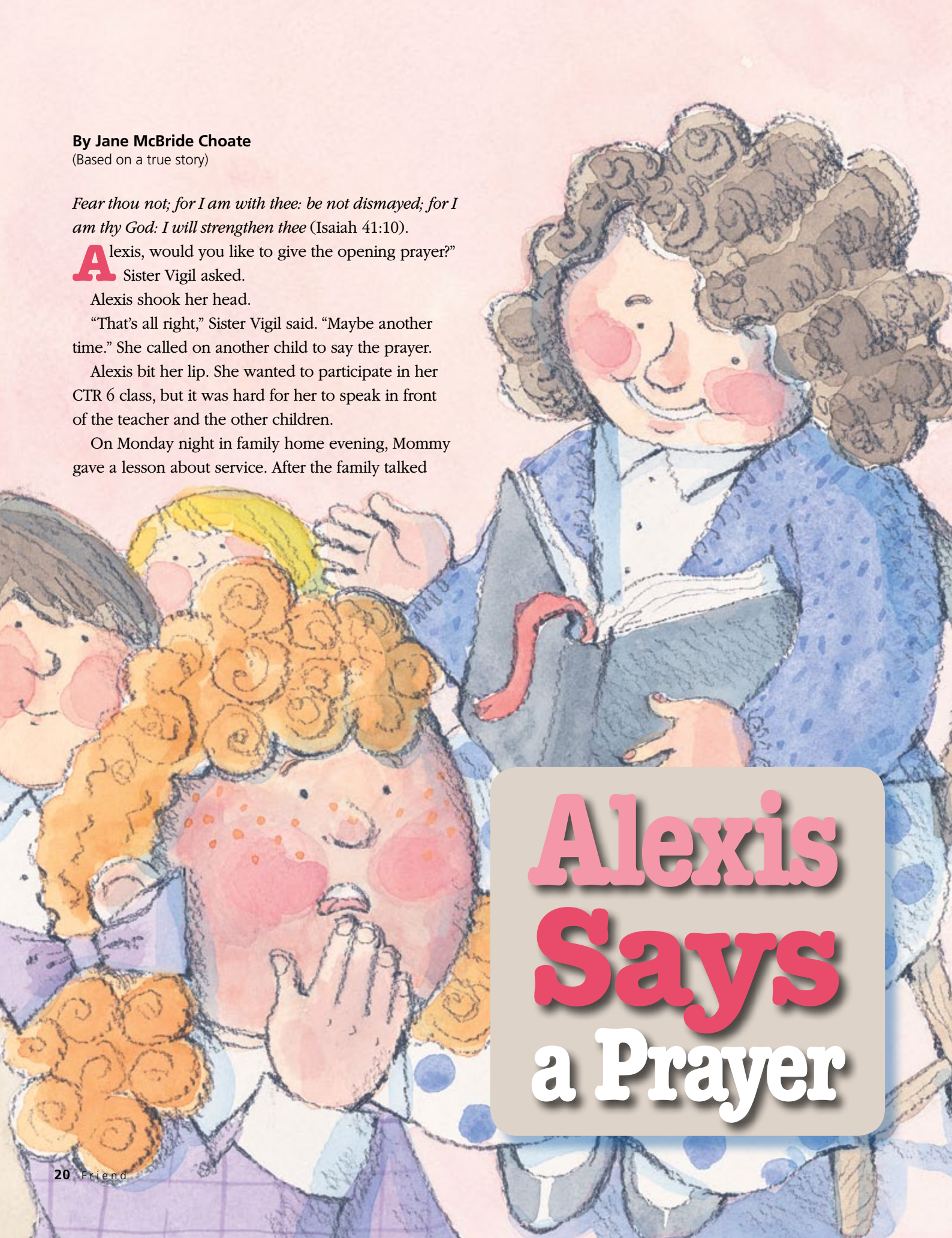
Alexis, would you like to give the opening prayer?" Sister Vigil asked.

Alexis shook her head.

"That's all right," Sister Vigil said. "Maybe another time." She called on another child to say the prayer.

Alexis bit her lip. She wanted to participate in her CTR 6 class, but it was hard for her to speak in front of the teacher and the other children.

On Monday night in family home evening, Mommy gave a lesson about service. After the family talked

A colorful illustration of a woman with large, curly brown hair, wearing a blue sweater, reading a book. She is surrounded by children. One child in the foreground has orange curly hair and is looking up at her. Another child with blonde hair is visible behind them. The style is soft and painterly.

Alexis Says a Prayer



about ways to serve each other, Mommy opened the Book of Mormon and read from Mosiah 2:17: “When ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only in the service of your God.”

After family home evening, Daddy asked Alexis to sit between him and Mommy.

“Sister Vigil told us that you don’t feel you can say a prayer in Primary class,” Daddy said.

Alexis nodded.

“You are a big helper in our family,” Daddy said. “If you think of saying a prayer as serving your teacher and the other children, that might help you not to be afraid.”

Alexis wanted to be able to say a prayer in class, and maybe even to give a talk in opening exercises someday.

“Do you think I could learn to say a prayer in Primary class?” she asked.

“Yes!” Mommy said. “We can help you, and you can ask Heavenly Father for His help. Then have faith that He will give you what you need.”

During the week, Alexis’s parents called on her to say family prayers and blessings on the food at mealtimes. The following Monday, Alexis gave a short lesson in family home evening about tithing. She volunteered to

recite a poem in her first-grade class. Sometimes she stumbled over the words, but she never gave up.

When Alexis knelt by her bed at night, she asked Heavenly Father to help her not to be afraid to speak in front of others.

“I think I can say a prayer in Primary class today,” she told Mommy a month later as they walked into the church building.

Mommy squeezed Alexis’s hand.

After sacrament meeting, Alexis hurried to her classroom. “Could I say the prayer today?” she asked her teacher before the other children arrived.

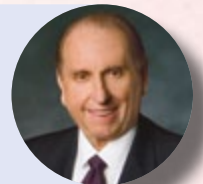
Sister Vigil smiled. “Of course you can.”

When class started, Alexis walked to the front of the room, folded her arms, and bowed her head. She said a simple prayer and closed it in the name of Jesus Christ. “Amen,” she said.

“Amen,” the other children said. ♦

“Have the moral courage to be a light for others to follow.”³

President Thomas S. Monson



ARTICLE OF FAITH

3

We believe that through the Atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved, by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel.



Jesus Christ came to earth to live as a mortal man. He suffered and died for us. His suffering is called the Atonement. Jesus was resurrected and came to life again. Because of what Jesus did for us, we all can live forever with Heavenly Father. We need to obey Heavenly Father's commandments and repent when we make a mistake.

Color the picture using the number of each colored word below.

- Atonement.** Jesus suffered for the sins of all men and women. Because of the Atonement, we can repent and be clean of our sins and mistakes.
- Saved.** In the scriptures, saved means to be resurrected and have the opportunity to return to live with Heavenly Father again.
- Obedience.** This means that you follow Heavenly Father's commandments. When you obey Him, you show your love for Him.
- Laws.** Another word for commandments.
- Ordinances.** These are sacred actions done by worthy priesthood holders for members of the Church. Baptism, confirmation, and the sacrament are ordinances.
- Gospel!** The gospel is the "good news" that Heavenly Father has a plan of happiness for you.



confetti pizza pie

Celebrate spring, which arrives in the Northern Hemisphere on March 20. The “confetti” on this pizza is made of some favorite spring veggies.

- 2 cans refrigerated crescent rolls**
- 1 8-ounce (227-g) package nonfat cream cheese**
- 1/2 cup nonfat mayonnaise**
- 1/3 packet buttermilk dressing mix**
- cucumber**
- red, yellow, and green peppers**
- sugar snap peas**
- 1 package matchstick-cut carrots**

1. Wash your hands with soap and water.
 2. Take the cream cheese out of the refrigerator to soften.
 3. Preheat the oven to 375°F (190°C).
 4. Open the crescent rolls. Press the dough into a round pizza pan or a cookie sheet. Bake for 10–12 minutes.
 5. Put the cream cheese and mayonnaise in a mixing bowl. Sprinkle on the dressing mix. Mix until the mixture is smooth and creamy.
 6. Have an adult help you cut the cucumber, peppers, and peas into thin slices. Then cut the slices and the carrots into small pieces.
 7. Spread the cream cheese mixture on the cooled pizza crust.
 8. Sprinkle on the veggie confetti.
- Enjoy!

Remember to ask an adult for help when you make a Kitchen Crafts recipe!

In Australia, March 1 is the first day of fall.

Behind the Scenes of the *Friend*

By Megan Withers Roxas

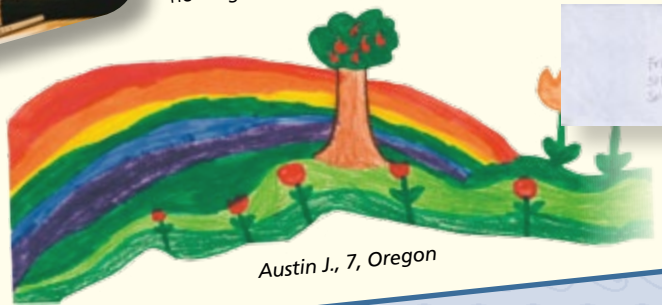
Do you eagerly wait for the *Friend* to come in the mail each month? Many children around the world love getting the *Friend* each month—just like you! But have you ever wondered how the magazine is created before it is delivered? Matt and Mandy will give you the inside scoop on this behind-the-scenes tour!



Who writes the *Friend*?

Parents, grandparents, and Primary leaders write many of the stories in the *Friend*. They submit their story or poem, and the staff members of the *Friend* read and discuss it. If the staff feels it is something that you would like to read, the story is selected to be published in a future issue of the magazine. The *Friend* staff also writes articles, including some of the Funstuff activities and puzzles.

The letters, poems, and drawings children send are also a very important part of the magazine. The *Friend* loves hearing from you!



Austin J., 7, Oregon

The *Friend* is great to use for family home evening lessons!

Once a month, the staff members have a meeting to decide what will appear in the magazine. Every meeting begins with a prayer to invite the Spirit to help the staff know what should be in the magazine. Heavenly Father loves each of you, and He helps the staff know how to make the magazine the best for you.



How does the *Friend* staff decide what will appear in each month's issue?

« The *Friend* receives hundreds and hundreds of stories, poems, photos, and drawings each year!





Dear friends,
I am going to tell
you about a story
called "So, I've
made my family
I was making
me to I make one
r my my mom
s do you want to
your whole to
of potatoes?
said yes and I
inside
page 6.



Who makes sure the magazine doesn't have misspelled words or other errors?

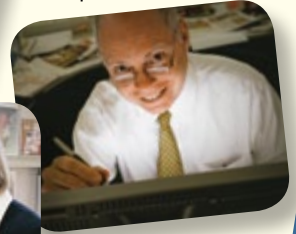
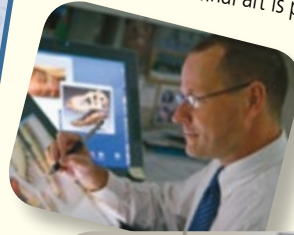
After the stories, games, and activities are selected, they are reviewed and edited several times by the staff. One person—called the **copyeditor**—makes sure there are no commas in the wrong place or misspellings. When the text is complete, it is reviewed by General Authorities and other staff assigned to work with the *Friend*.



How is the *Friend* designed and the art illustrated?



When the *Friend* designers receive the edited articles, they read them and sketch possible designs for the articles. They do this in a special computer program. The designers then assign themselves or freelance artists to create the final illustrations. The final art is put in place in the magazine and then sent to General Authorities for review.



When the magazine is ready to be printed, it is sent to the Church's print center in Salt Lake City, Utah. A very large machine called a **web press** prints the *Friend*. First the cover is printed and folded, then a 32-page section, then a 16-page section. Another machine then takes the cover and inside pages and "saddle stitches" (staples) them together and trims them to size. The magazine is then ready to be delivered to your mailbox!

How is the magazine printed?



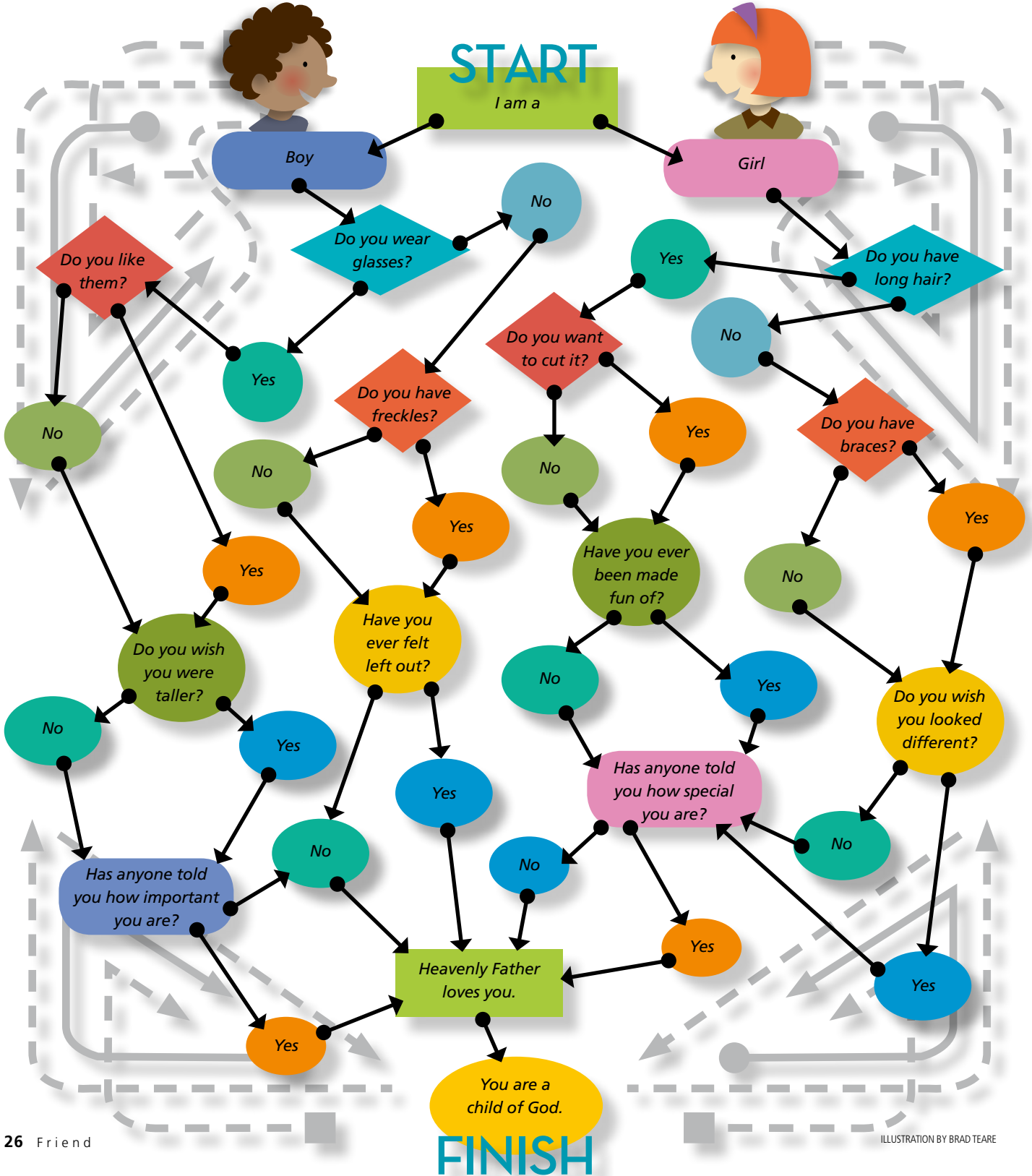
You could share your *Friend* with a nonmember friend.



An Important Similarity

By Chad E. Phares

Although we are all different, we all have something in common. Follow this chart to find out what it is.



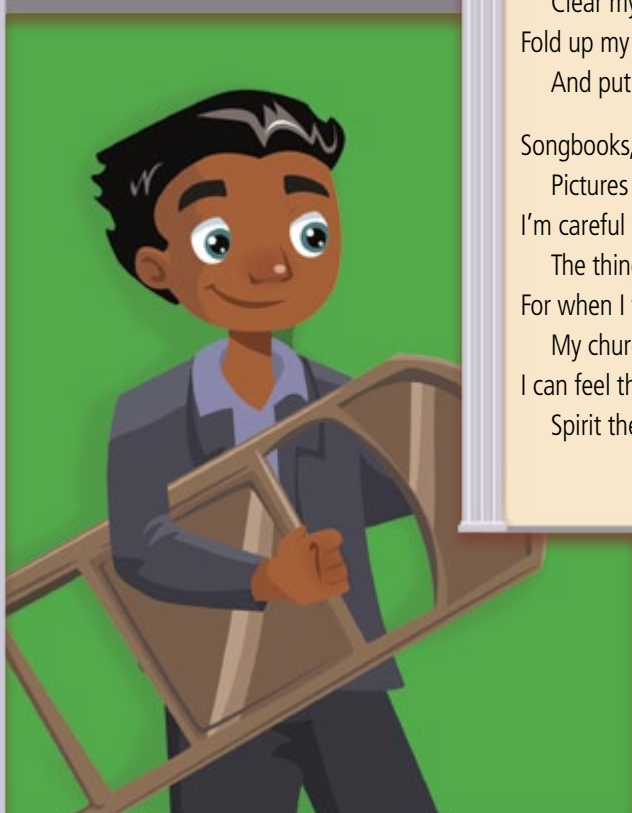
MY CHURCH



By Karen A. Kimball

I go to church
To worship there.
I always treat
My church with care—
Pick up my papers,
Clear my trash,
Fold up my chair
And put it back.

Songbooks, scriptures,
Pictures too:
I'm careful with
The things I use.
For when I treat
My church with care,
I can feel the
Spirit there.



By Lindsay Stevens
(Based on a true story)

I'll walk with you. I'll talk with you. That's how I'll show my love for you (Children's Songbook, 140–41).

I stared as a new boy entered the Primary room.

A woman pushed him in a wheelchair toward the front of the room.

"Everyone, this is David," Sister Olive said. "He and his grandmother have just moved into our ward."

David smiled and waved to the Primary. I tried not to stare. David's body was covered in red scars, and he carried a cane across his lap. His right hand was just a nub, and his left ear was completely missing. I had heard about David. When he was a baby, he had been burned in a fire. Whenever he grew, he had to have surgeries because his skin did not stretch with him as he got bigger.

David's grandmother wheeled him to the end of the row of the CTR 7 class. I was in the back in the Valiant 11 class, too far away to try to help David feel welcome. Would any of the children in his class be brave enough to talk to him?

Just then, Joseph jumped out of his chair. He sat down on the seat next to David and started talking to him. Sister Olive had to tell them to be quiet so we could start singing time.

Sister Olive took out a big black paper music note.



JOSEPH'S NEW

"We're going to play 'Hide the Note,'" she said. "I will choose one person to hide this note somewhere in the Primary room and another person to leave the room so he doesn't know where the note is hidden. When the second person comes back into the room, we'll all sing louder when he gets closer to the note."

"And quieter when he gets farther away!" Joseph said.

"That's right," Sister Olive said. "Who wants to hide the note?"

Almost everyone raised their hands. We really liked this activity.

"Julia, you can hide the note," Sister Olive said. Julia jumped up from her chair and walked to the front of the room.

"Who wants to find the note?" Sister Olive asked. We all raised our hands again. "David, you can be our finder."

"I'll help!" Joseph volunteered. He wheeled David outside and closed the door.

Julia hid the music note under the piano. It was a good hiding place.

Sister Olive called David and Joseph back into the



FRIEND

room. Joseph slowly wheeled David down the aisle, and we started singing quietly.

David pointed to the left with his cane and Joseph wheeled him left, toward the CTR 6 class. We sang more quietly. David pointed to the right with his cane and Joseph wheeled him right, toward the Sunbeams. We sang even quieter. David looked confused. He thought for a moment and then pointed his cane backwards, toward the piano. Joseph wheeled him closer and closer to the piano, and we sang louder and louder.

David pointed his cane at the piano, and we all sang

as loudly as we could. Joseph looked all over the piano until he finally found the music note on the ground, under the piano legs.

“We did it!” David cheered. He grinned from ear to ear and patted Joseph on the back.

“We make a great team,” Joseph said.

David and Joseph sat down and Sister Olive chose other children to hide and find the note. I could tell that David and Joseph had become friends. Joseph didn't seem to notice David's wheelchair. To Joseph, David wasn't different. ♦



Trying to Be Like Jesus

Checking Everything



I was at the grocery store with my mom and my brothers. We got to the checkout stand, and

my mom was paying for our groceries. I saw that my two-year-old brother was holding a bag of doughnuts that my mom forgot to pay for. Before we left the checkout line, I told my mom that she had forgotten to pay for the doughnuts. She was thankful that

I had been honest, and I felt very happy that I did the right thing by speaking up.

Tristan C., age 7, California



Missionary Service



My cousin and I were trying to be like Jesus by helping the missionaries make dinner

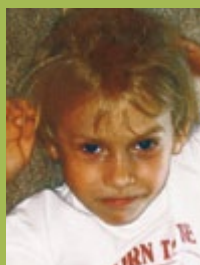
with the Relief Society for zone conference. We set the tables and plated the food. We loved serving the missionaries, and I could feel the Spirit. My cousin is not a member of the Church, so I gave her a tour of the chapel, and she loved it. She looked like she had felt the Spirit and was having a good time.

Chloe P., age 9, Western Australia, Australia

A Good Helper

One day when I was at a pizza place with my cousin Seth, there was a little girl trying to get a drink from the drink dispenser. I walked over to her and asked her if she needed help. She said yes. So I reached up and pushed the handle of the drink she wanted. She said thank you. I felt warm and happy inside. I am glad I can help others.

Meadow M., age 6, Missouri



Tell us how you're trying to be like Jesus. Turn to page 48 to find out how to send us a letter.

The **POWER** of Kind Words

If we love one another, God dwelleth in us (1 John 4:12).

I was baptized when I was 17 years old. My first responsibility in the Church was to pass the sacrament. I was very excited to exercise the priesthood and to do my part.

On my first Sunday to pass the sacrament, I tried to do my very best. But about halfway through passing the water, I realized I had been taking the tray back from the members too quickly. They didn't have time to put their empty cups back into the tray.

I felt terrible. I felt like I had failed in my duty.

When the meeting was over, an older gentleman, Brother Ostos, came up to me and gave me a hug. He said, "Rafael, you did wonderfully."

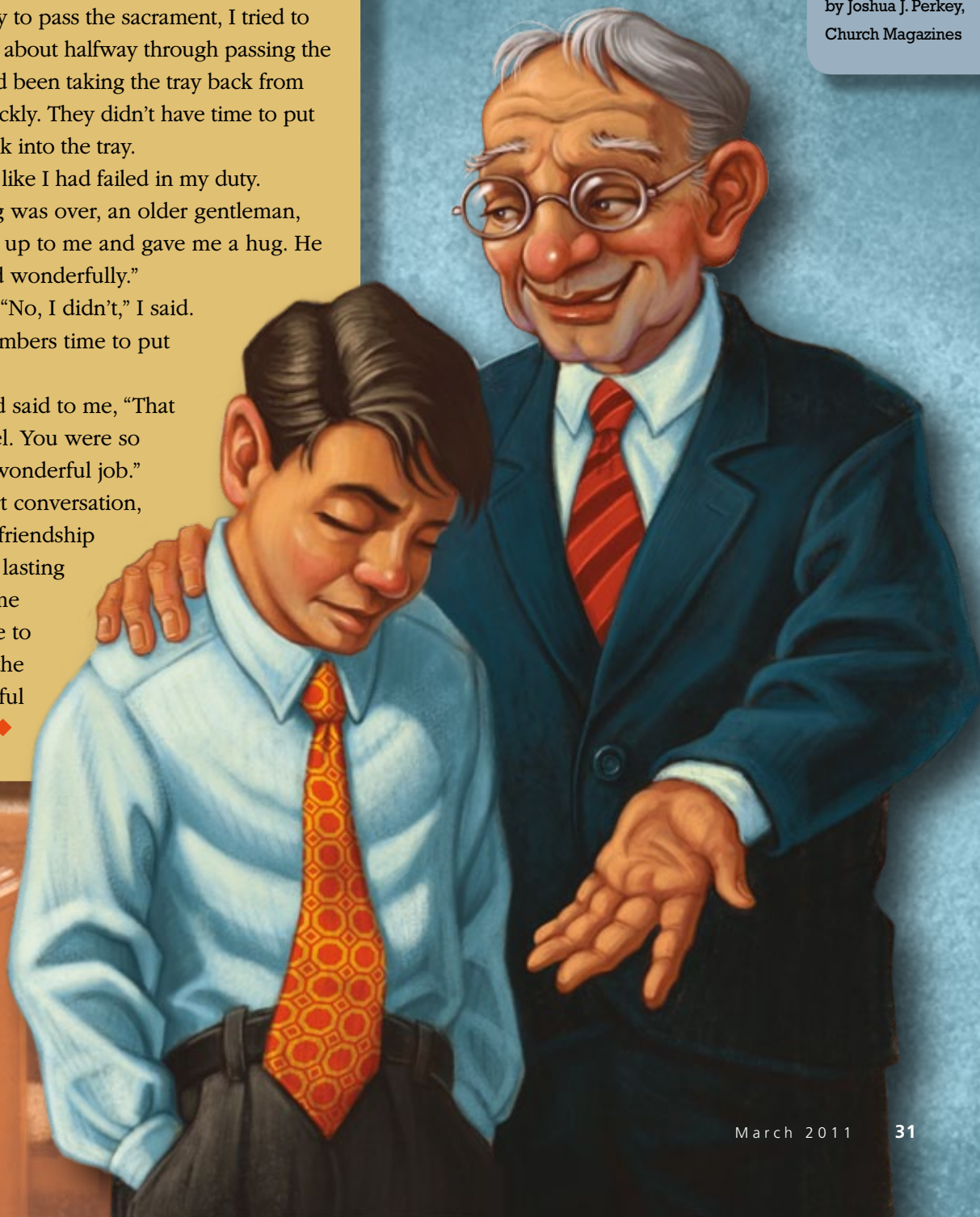
I shook my head. "No, I didn't," I said. "I didn't give the members time to put the cups back."

He just smiled and said to me, "That doesn't matter, Rafael. You were so reverent. You did a wonderful job."

It was such a short conversation, but this good man's friendship and support made a lasting impression. It gave me strength and courage to continue serving in the Church. How powerful kind words can be! ♦



From an interview with Elder Rafael E. Pino of the Seventy; by Joshua J. Perkey, Church Magazines





Daniel's Example of Prayer

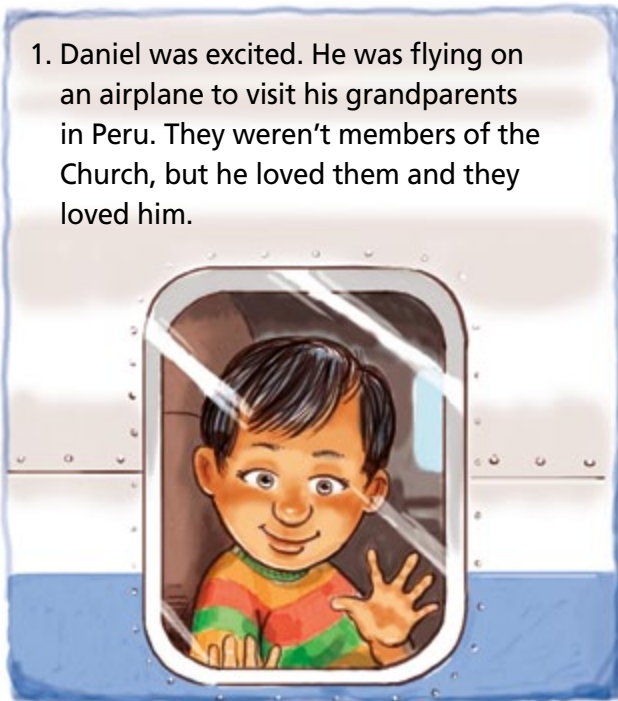
By Laurie Williams Sowby

(Based on a true story)

Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers

(1 Timothy 4:12).

1. Daniel was excited. He was flying on an airplane to visit his grandparents in Peru. They weren't members of the Church, but he loved them and they loved him.



2. When Daniel got to Peru, he was happy to see his grandparents. He also was a little homesick. Things were different in Peru than at home in Spain. But he knew one thing could be the same.



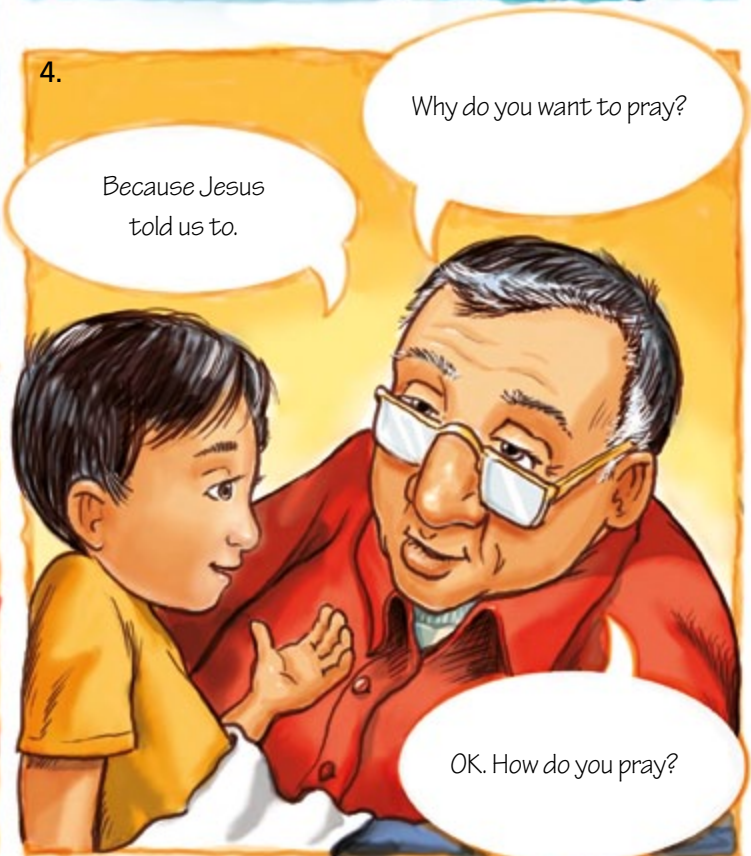
4.

Why do you want to pray?

Because Jesus told us to.

3.

Can we have prayer before bedtime?



OK. How do you pray?

5.

We need to kneel down, bow our heads, and close our eyes.



6.

We can thank Heavenly Father for our blessings and ask Him to help us.



7. Daniel's grandparents were so impressed that they prayed every morning and night during Daniel's visit.



8. Daniel felt happy when he prayed with his grandparents. He knew Heavenly Father was happy too.



BEING A GOOD EXAMPLE

Daniel is learning to show a good example. Draw a happy face in the circles next to the pictures of Daniel showing a good example. Draw a sad face in the circles next to the pictures of Daniel showing a bad example.

HELPS FOR PARENTS

- Read the story "Daniel's Example of Prayer" with your child. Share an experience when someone's good example helped you.
- Share the story of Abinadi from the Book of Mormon (see Mosiah 11–17). Explain that Abinadi's strong example and teachings helped Alma believe in Heavenly Father.



Scripture Matching

The scriptures include stories about prophets and other people who are examples of how to be obedient to Heavenly Father. Follow the lines to find which book of scripture the account of each prophet is found in.

Book of Mormon



New Testament



Old Testament



Pearl of Great Price



Daniel



Joseph Smith



John the Baptist



Nephi

PICTURING THE PROPHET



By Amber Swensen
(Based on a true story)

My word shall not pass away, but shall all be fulfilled, whether by mine own voice or by the voice of my servants, it is the same (D&C 1:38).

We get to hear the prophet speak today!” Chase said to his little sister, Amelie.

Amelie was excited too. They had learned about prophets in family home evening just last Monday. A prophet is a person who has been called by God and speaks for Him. The prophet receives commandments

and revelations from God and then shares them with Heavenly Father’s children. Mom had shown Chase and Amelie pictures of President Monson. They decided to draw their own pictures of the prophet too.

Now Chase and Amelie were going to a devotional to hear President Thomas S. Monson speak to them.

“Let’s bring our pictures,” Chase said.

Chase and Amelie took their pictures of President Monson off the refrigerator door.



“This is going to be more fun than the circus or the zoo!” Chase said.

When they got to the devotional, Chase and Amelie stared at all the people in the huge stadium. Almost all of the seats were filled. Chase and Amelie had to sit behind the stand. All they could see was the back of President Monson’s head.

President Monson spoke about prophets God had called in the latter days. The prophets were righteous men who followed God.

After the closing prayer, President Monson turned to leave the stadium. He headed right toward Chase and Amelie! They excitedly held up their pictures so President Monson could see them.

President Monson smiled when he saw Chase and Amelie’s pictures.

“Oh, how nice,” he said. “How about

a high five?” President Monson held up his hand to Chase and Amelie.

Chase and Amelie each gave President Monson a high five. They were so happy to meet the prophet. They truly knew that he was a prophet of God. ♦



“This is the true Church of Jesus Christ. There is a living prophet, Thomas S. Monson. And there are both true servants and angels to help you along the lighted path.”⁴

President Henry B. Eyring, First Counselor in the First Presidency



I’ve never met President Monson, but I know he’s a prophet.




High five!



The Gospel Blesses My Life

Art from the International Children's Art Exhibit

 Entries are on display at the Museum of Church History and Art in Salt Lake City, Utah, through January 16, 2012.

 See more entries online at friend.lds.org.



Loryn S., 9, Arizona



James W., 6, Indonesia



Andreza A., 10, Brazil



Nils E., 12, Alberta, Canada



Madison H., 10, Texas



Ethan N., 5, Utah



Zeniff F., 9, Mexico



Erdenejargaliin O., 8, Mongolia



Benjamin P., 10, Chile



Jennifer S., 11, France



Elijah A., 7, Missouri



Sandra S., 9, Iowa



Clara F., 6, Nevada



Jeneum K., 8, New South Wales, Australia



Kim R., 11, Philippines



Berkeley L., 7, Arkansas



Bailey H., 12, North Carolina



Jose V., 5, Peru

Heavenly Father Speaks to Us through His Prophets

By JoAnn Child and Cristina Franco

What I the Lord have spoken, I have spoken; . . . whether by mine own voice or by the voice of my servants, it is the same (D&C 1:38).

If you needed to ask someone to give an important message to people you love, what kind of person would you ask? You would probably choose someone who is honest, responsible, and trustworthy.

Heavenly Father gives His message to His children on the earth through prophets. He knows His prophets are honest, responsible, trustworthy, and righteous.

In the scriptures we read the writings of many prophets who wrote the inspired messages given by Heavenly Father to His children. Let's learn about some of the prophets' writings in the scriptures.

Malachi delivered to the people the Lord's message of paying tithes and offerings (see Malachi 3:8–10).

Alma the Younger left his position as chief judge to be a missionary throughout the land (see Alma 4:15–20). He shared God's message with many people.

Moroni gave Heavenly Father's



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

Joseph Smith was given a special message from Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ (see Joseph Smith—History 1:11–20). Joseph Smith spent his life declaring that message to all people.

We are blessed to have a prophet today. We can hear messages from Heavenly Father as we listen to the prophet.

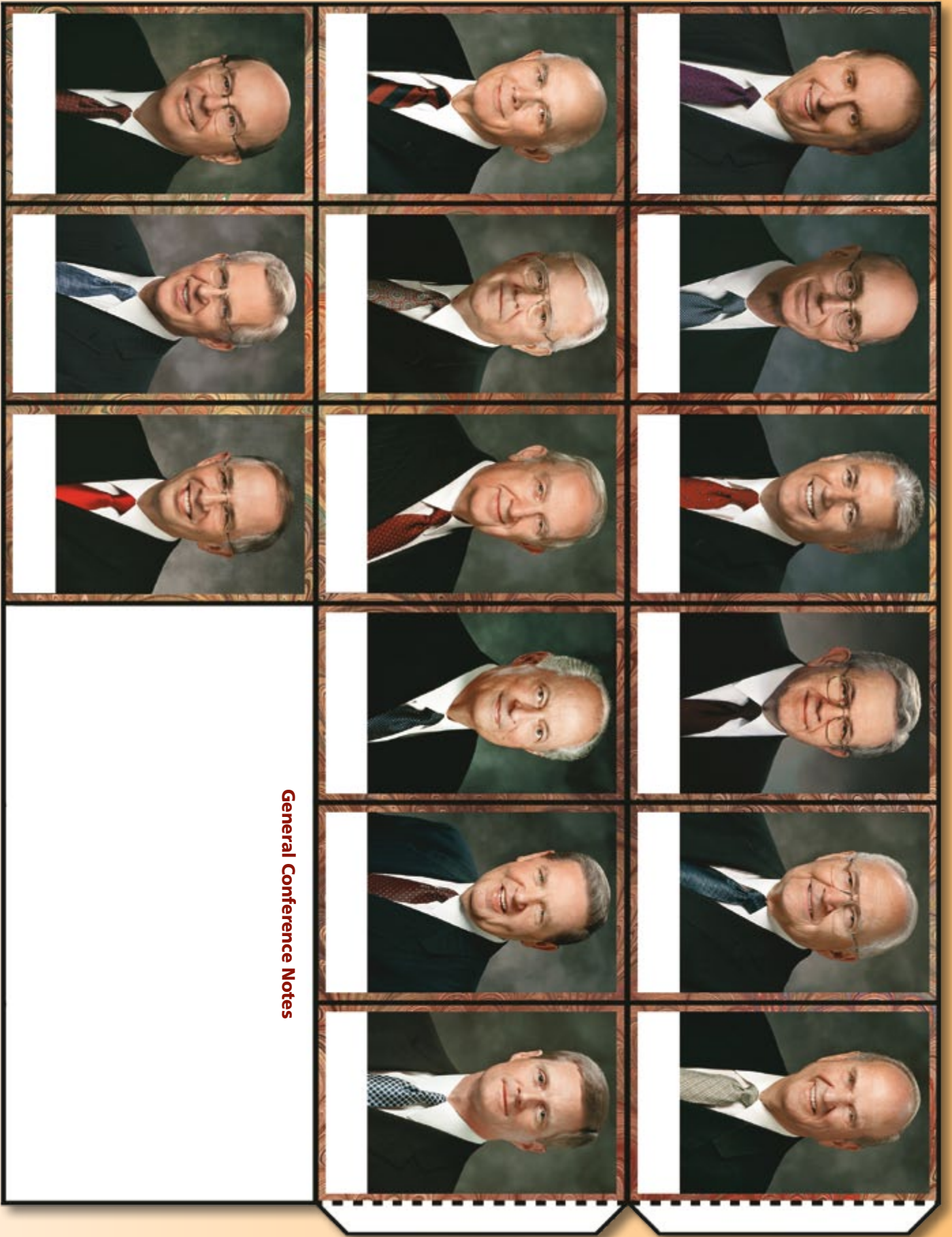
Activity

Cut out the strips of paper with the pictures of the First Presidency and Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. Glue the ends of the strips to the beginning of the next one. Fold the paper back and forth on the lines to make a booklet.

Using the list below, write the name of each General Authority under his picture. Listen to their talks at general conference and use the booklet to take notes. Share your thoughts about general conference during a family meal or family home evening. ♦

Thomas S. Monson
Henry B. Eyring
Dieter F. Uchtdorf
Boyd K. Packer
L. Tom Perry
Russell M. Nelson
Dallin H. Oaks
M. Russell Ballard
Richard G. Scott
Robert D. Hales
Jeffrey R. Holland
David A. Bednar
Quentin L. Cook
D. Todd Christofferson
Neil L. Andersen





General Conference Notes



MATT AND MANDY

HEY! let's go spray some graffiti like the big guys.

NO! That's against the law, and it's wrong. Let's help Mrs. Gibbs clean her yard instead.

OOOH, it's wrong!

Come on, guys, are you with me or with Chicken Boy here?

It's not chicken to do the right thing!

LATER...

So I couldn't convince one single person to do the right thing.

You're wrong about that.

How do you know? You weren't even there!

You convinced one very important person—yourself. And some of those boys might remember your example.

Plus, you set an example of courage for me.

So I'm kind of your hero?

Don't get carried away!



Crossword Shakeup

By Amie Jane Leavitt

This isn't a normal crossword puzzle. Instead of only writing words across and down, you can also write them upward, around the corner, and with a single letter. The spaces for the answers are shaded with different colors. Find the answers on page 48.

Across

1. A righteous son of Lehi (see 1 Nephi 1:1).
3. "___ what is right."
6. The ninth and fourteenth words in Alma 37:35.
10. One of the things that helped the sons of Mosiah have success as missionaries (see Alma 17:3).
16. We should listen ___ the words of the prophets.

1						2	3	
4	5	6			7			
	8	9	10					
				11	12	13		14
15		16						

Singles

5. First letter
15. Last letter

Up

7. In 1 Nephi 3:7, Nephi said, "I will ___ and do."

Down

4. What men wear to church around their necks.
8. Jesus Christ is the ___ of God (see Ether 12:18).
11. In Acts 2:21, it says, "and ___ shall come to pass."
14. Ether 2:10 says, "For behold, this ___ a land which is choice above all other lands."

Around the Corner

2. A priest in King Noah's court who repented (see Mosiah 18:1).
9. Adam was the first (see Genesis 1:27).
12. A shortened version of "often" (see 1 Nephi 18:3).
13. The light of the body (see Luke 11:34).

Run, Jump, Play! All Hands on Deck

1. Use string or yarn to mark three areas of your play space—the ship on one side, the deck in the middle, and the shore on the other side.
2. Take turns being the captain. When the captain calls orders, the crew obeys: "Attention!" (all stand up straight); "Salute!" (all salute); "All hands on deck!" (all run to the deck area and sit down); "All hands on ship!" (all run to ship area and sit down); "All hands on shore!" (all run to shore area and sit down).





Eli's Operation

All they who receive this priesthood receive me, saith the Lord (D&C 84:35).

By Jane McBride Choate

(Based on a true story)

Eli looked at the pile of homework his friend had dropped off after school. Eli had missed another week of school because of an ear infection.

That evening Eli's parents came into his room. His mom sat on the side of Eli's bed and took his hand. "Eli, the doctor thinks you need an operation," she said.

"What kind of operation?"

"He wants to put tubes in your ears to keep you from getting more infections," Mom said. "It won't hurt, and you'll be out of the hospital in a day." She squeezed his hand.

Eli trusted his parents. But the idea of having an operation scared him. He thought about the story he had heard in Primary about Joseph

Smith. When Joseph was seven years old, the bone in his leg became infected. The infection got worse until the doctor decided that he must remove part of the bone or Joseph might lose his leg or even die.

In Joseph Smith's day, doctors gave people liquor to help numb the pain during an operation, but Joseph refused the liquor the doctor suggested he drink. And he refused to be tied to the bed. He said that if his father held him, he wouldn't move. Joseph's father held him tightly in his arms throughout the painful surgery. The operation was successful, and Joseph recovered.

Eli thought about Joseph's courage and faith in his father. "Can I have a blessing, Dad?" he asked. Eli knew a priesthood blessing could help him. At the beginning of the school year,

Eli's father had given him a blessing.

"That's a great idea," his father said.

Eli's mother folded her arms and bowed her head. Eli felt his father's hands on his head. His father's voice grew in confidence as he blessed Eli that he would not be scared and that he would recover completely.

When the blessing was over, Eli was no longer afraid. "I can have the operation now," he said.

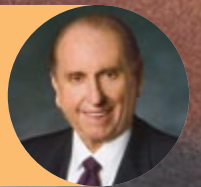
Three days later he went to the hospital and returned home the next day. The ear infections soon stopped, and Eli quickly made up the schoolwork he had missed.

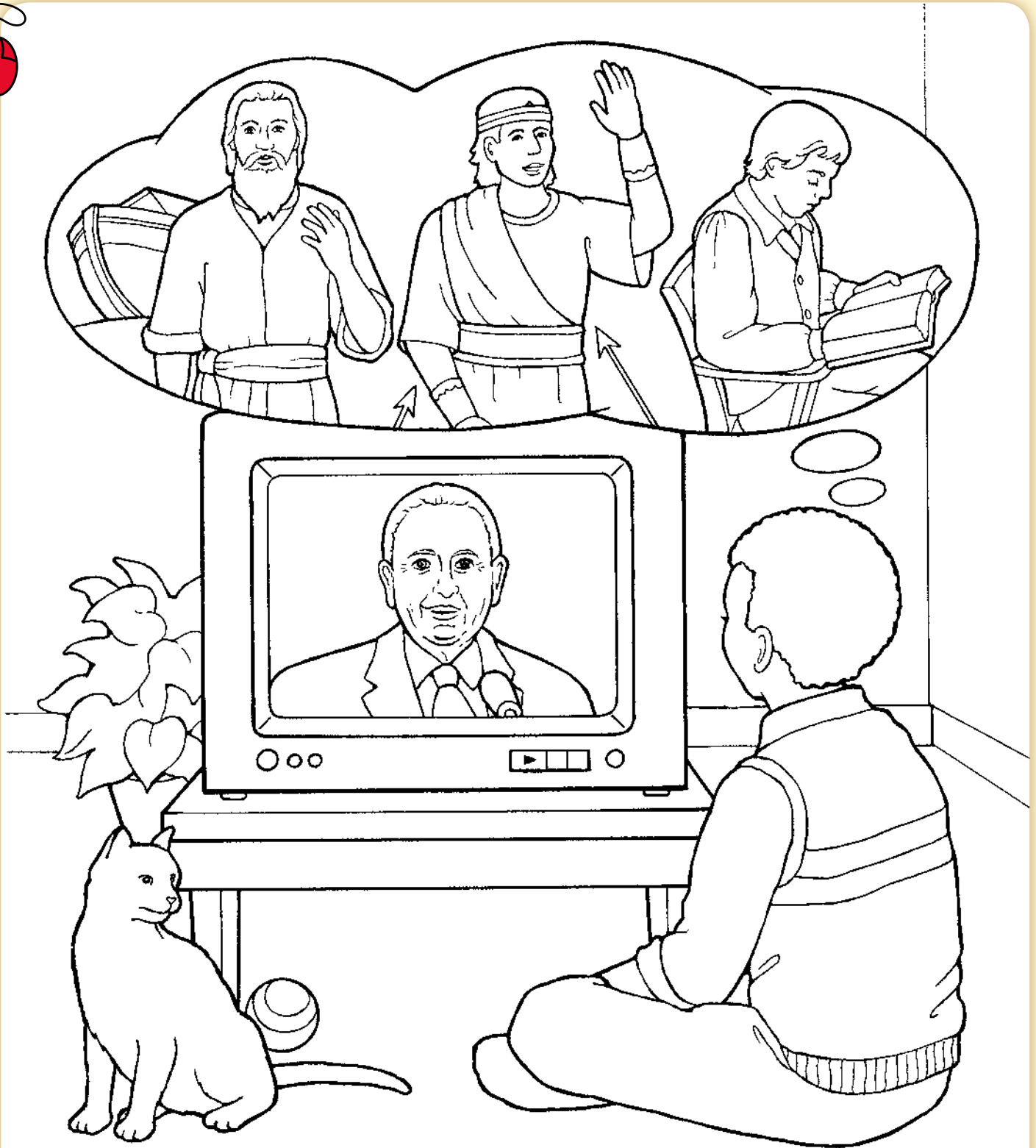
Eli was grateful that he was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and that he could be blessed through the priesthood. ♦



**"The priesthood is . . . an opportunity to
bless the lives of others."⁵**

President Thomas S. Monson





Prophets speak for Heavenly Father.

*What I the Lord have spoken, I have spoken, . . . whether by mine own voice
or by the voice of my servants, it is the same (D&C 1:38).*

ILLUSTRATION BY BETH WHITTAKER

Friends in the News



Jaycee Z., 8, Utah, is the oldest of three children. She is an example to her younger sisters and others around her. She also likes playing with her friends, riding her bike, and laughing.



Sadie R., 4, Germany, likes to sing Primary songs. She is a wonderful big sister to her brother and baby sister. She also likes to read books, swim, and play with friends.



Lindsay Ward

At an activity, the Primary children of the Lindsay Ward, Porterville California Stake, looked up scriptures and found items about the scriptures in "treasure boxes." The Primary presidency challenged them to take their scriptures to church every Sunday.

Would you like to be a friend in the news? Turn to page 48 to find out how.



Newburgh New York Stake

The activity day girls from the Newburgh New York Stake got together for a day of fun—luau style! They made beach bags, strung flower leis, sewed Hawaiian dolls, and learned to hula.



Jack, Evan, and Clayton B., 4, 1, and 7, California, love learning about and living the gospel. Jack's favorite Primary song is "Follow the Prophet." Evan is always ready to remind the family to say prayers. Clayton's favorite Book of Mormon prophet is Captain Moroni. The brothers also like to play at the beach and the park with their cousins and friends.



Joshua and Amy J., 7 and 6, Oregon, like going to school and reading the scriptures. They enjoy camping in the summertime with their parents, grandma, and grandpa. Joshua's favorite Primary song is "Book of Mormon Stories." Amy enjoys going to the Portland Temple grounds to see the beautiful flowers. They both look forward to serving missions.



Possible Ideas for Family Home Evening

1. Read “Daniel’s Example of Prayer” (pages 32–33). How was Daniel a good missionary to his grandparents? In the October 2010 general conference, President Thomas S. Monson asked us to start preparing for a mission. What can you do to prepare for your mission? Have each member of the family sign the certificate on page 11 to encourage them to begin preparing now to serve the Lord.

2. Read “Alexis Says a Prayer” (pages 20–21). How did Alexis overcome her fear of praying in front of her Primary class? Is there something that makes you nervous? How do you think Heavenly Father can help you overcome your nerves?

3. Sing “Reverence Is Love” (*Children’s Songbook*, 31). Why is it important to be reverent at church? Read the poem “My Church” (page 27). Discuss how being reverent and taking care of your church building show respect for the Lord.

4. Use the “Bringing Primary Home” lesson and activity to learn more about this month’s Primary theme (pages 40–41). Make the General Authority booklet in preparation for conference next month. You can use it to take notes on what the Lord has inspired His Apostles to teach us.



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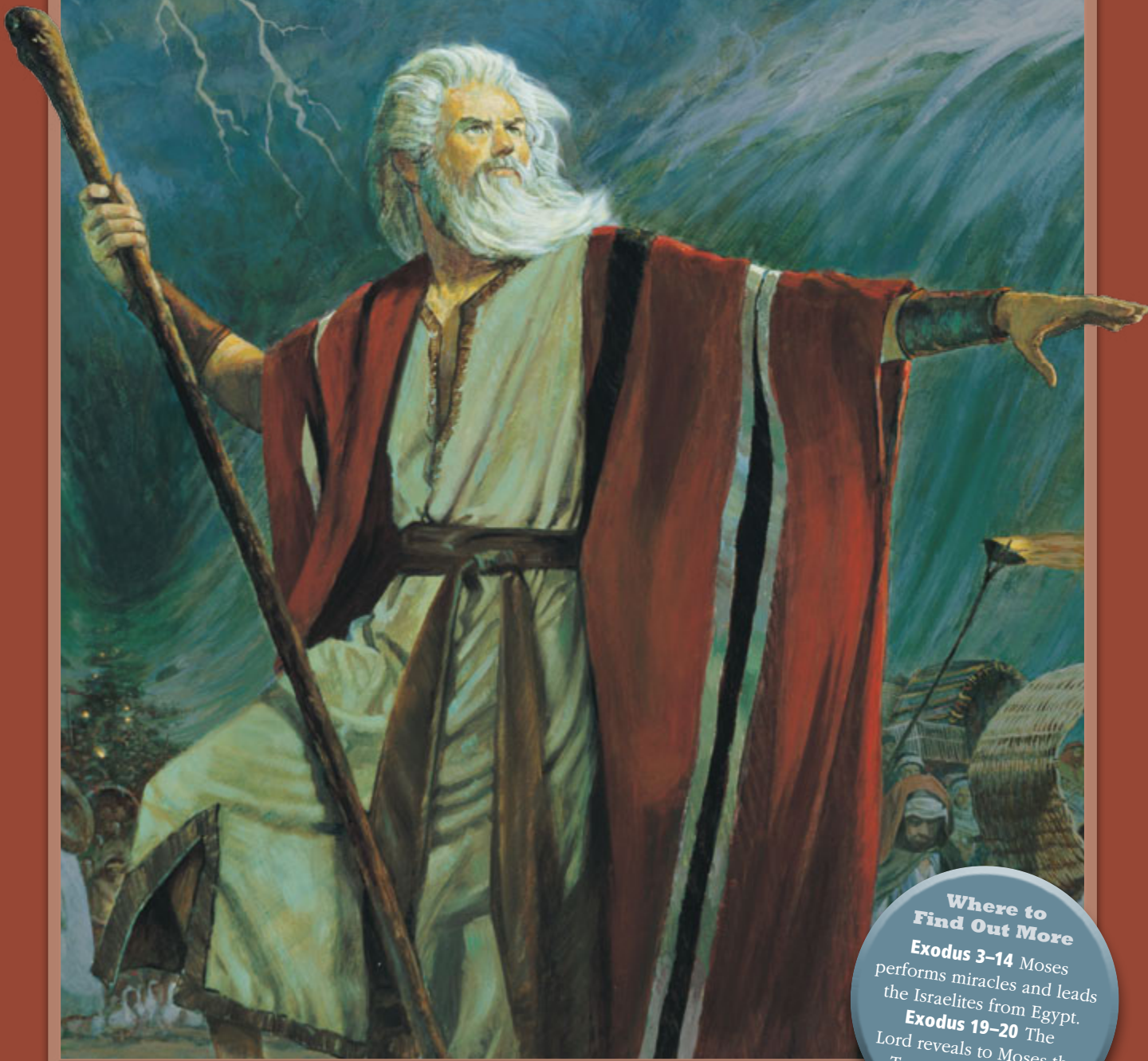
Sidebar References

1. In Conference Report, Oct. 1963, 8.
2. “The Sustaining Power of Faith in Times of Uncertainty and Testing,” *Ensign*, May 2003, 77.
3. “Examples of Righteousness,” *Ensign*, May 2008, 65.
4. “Walk in the Light,” *Ensign*, May 2008, 125.
5. “Priesthood Power,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1999, 50.

Funstuf Answers

Page 43: 1) Nephi, 2) Alma, 3) do, 4) tie, 5) a, 6) thy, 7) go, 8) Son, 9) man, 10) prayer, 11) it, 12) oft, 13) eye, 14) is, 15) z, 16) to.

Moses



Cut here

Where to Find Out More

Exodus 3–14 Moses performs miracles and leads the Israelites from Egypt.

Exodus 19–20 The Lord reveals to Moses the Ten Commandments.

The Lord gave Moses power to perform miracles. He parted the Red Sea so the Israelites could escape Egypt. Later he received the Ten Commandments. You may not always understand why the Lord wants you to do certain things in your life, but if you are obedient and have faith as Moses did, the Lord will bless you.

What's online this month?



friend.lds.org

For Children



ONE MILLION Did you know there are about one million Primary children all over the world? You can learn about some of them by clicking on **One in a Million** on friend.lds.org.

PLAY GAMES Click **Games** on friend.lds.org to play the website's newest game—"Spot the Similarities." While you're there, don't forget to try out all of the other fun activities.



For Parents

Bringing Primary Home

BRINGING PRIMARY HOME The feature in the *Friend* formerly called "Sharing Time" is now called "Bringing Primary Home." It is designed to give parents ideas for how to reinforce the monthly Primary theme at home. Visit the "Serving in the Church" section of lds.org for more information on the Primary themes.

NEW WEBSITE Visit lds.org for videos, music, news, events, and more.

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

For Teachers and Leaders



ARTICLES OF FAITH HELPS Find activities for helping children understand the Articles of Faith in each *Friend* magazine. At friend.lds.org, children can play Articles of Faith Memory Quest and listen to the Articles of Faith songs from the *Children's Songbook*.

USE FRIEND VIDEOS You can use videos from the *Friend* website in lessons and Sharing Time presentations. Visit feeds.lds.org/LDSFriend and click on a video link. When the video opens, click on **File** in the menu bar and select **Save As**. You can then save the video to your computer for later use.



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