



Thanks for the Friend



ne day I was watching a game, and it had some zombies in it. That night I couldn't sleep. I told my mom and dad, and they said I should read the *Friend*. I was still having a hard time sleeping, but then I had an idea. I asked Dad if I could have

a blessing. After he gave me one, I felt warm inside and slept fine. Thanks for the *Friend*.

Carter L., age 9, Utah, USA

A Missionary Friend



y friend got her tonsils taken out. As soon as I heard, I asked my mom if we could get my friend and her other siblings treats and coloring books. We went to the store and bought the treats and books.

When I saw my friend's smile, I

knew I had been a missionary like Sydney in the story "Art for the Heart" in the June 2012 *Friend*.

Maggie V. O., age 11, Idaho, USA

Help from the *Friend*



Thank you for publishing the very inspiring stories that you have through the years. They have helped me through school and with my friends.

Jackson R., age 10, Alberta, Canada

How We Read the Friend

We had a birthday party in honor of President Monson's birthday. Everyone loved the "Colorful Layered Cake" (August 2012).

Colby, Adda, Ava, and Cameron R., and Isaac L., ages 7, 9, 4, 5, and 13, Utah, USA



Dear Friends,

Did you know that Easter is not always on the same date—or even in the same month? It always comes on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the first day of spring. The first day of spring is on March 2O. This year the first full moon after that is on March 27, and the first Sunday after that is March 31— Easter Sunday!

This month's Friend has some special stories and activities to help you and your family celebrate the Resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ all month long.

Jesus Christ has risen!

The Friend

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.

Volume 43 Number 3 March 2013

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Learn to play the song "If the Savior Stood Beside Me" on page 7.



What can you do to serve your family today?

Cover by Ben Simonsen, based on 2 Nephi 21:6



Forget-Me-Not

By President Dieter F. Uchtdorf

Second Counselor in the First Presidency

while ago I was walking through a beautiful garden with my wife and daughter. I marveled at the glory and beauty of God's creation. And then I noticed, among all the glorious blooms, the tiniest flower. I knew the name of this flower because since I was a child I have had a tender connection to it. The flower is called forget-me-not.

I'm not exactly sure why this tiny flower has meant so much to me over the years. It does not attract immediate attention; it is easy to overlook among larger and more vibrant flowers; yet it is just as beautiful, with its rich color that mirrors that of the bluest skies.

As a child, when I would look at the little forget-menots, I sometimes felt a little like that flower—small and insignificant. I wondered if I would be forgotten by my family or by my Heavenly Father.

Years later I can look back on that young boy with tenderness and compassion. And I do know now—I was never forgotten.

And I know something else: as an Apostle of our Master, Jesus Christ, I proclaim with all the certainty and conviction of my heart—neither are you!

You are not forgotten.

No matter how insignificant you may feel, your Heavenly Father has not forgotten you. He loves you with an infinite love.

He who created and knows the stars knows you and your name.

Never forget that your Heavenly Father knows, loves, and cherishes you. •

From an October 2011 general Relief Society meeting address.



The Savior's Promise

Christ told his disciples that no one is forgotten—He remembers even the sparrows. Look up the scriptures below to fill in the blanks and find the rest of His promise. See the answer on page 48.

1. The fourth word in 1 John 4:18.

4. The last word of Psalm 71:14.

2. The third word in Mosiah 13:23.

5. The fifth word of Alma 11:14.

3. The fifth word of Helaman 14:19.

6. The fourth word of Matthew 10:29.

ye _____ therefore, ____ are of

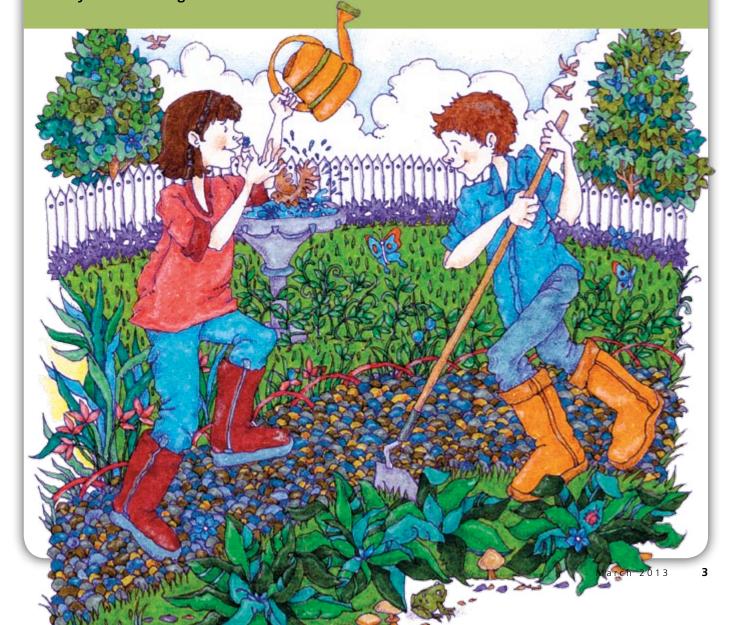
4 than many _____6

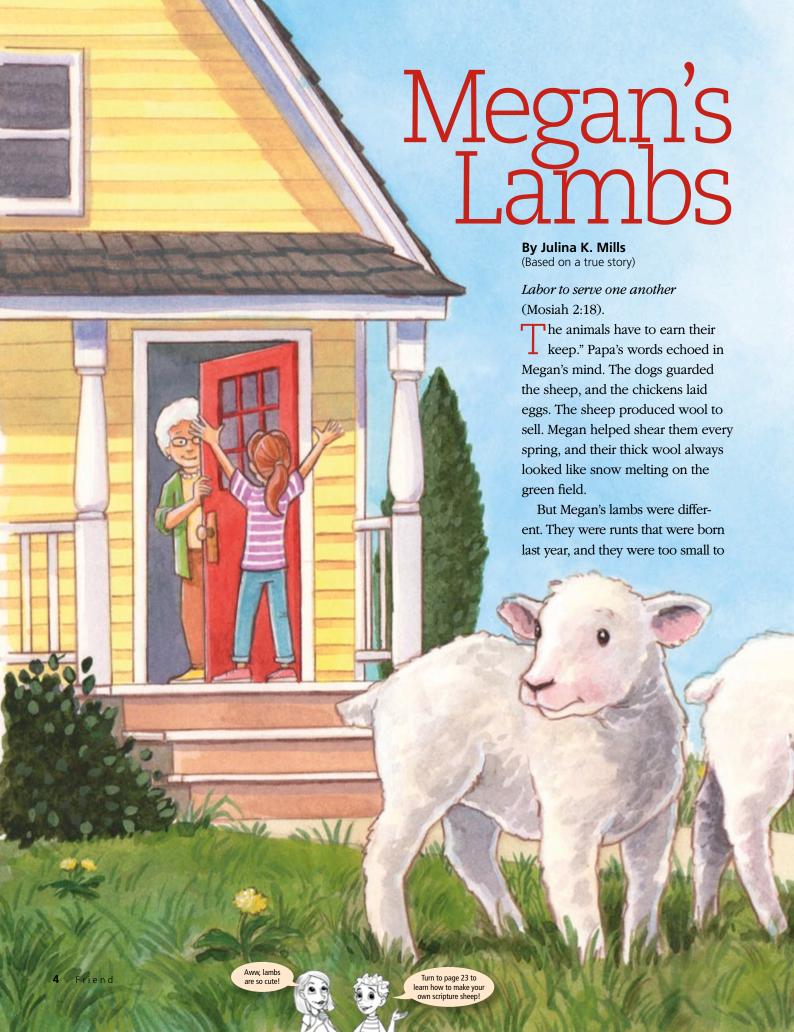
Everyone is a child of God. You can help others feel loved when you tell them why they are special to you. Write a secret note to each member of your family telling them why you love them, and hide it where they will find it!

Remembering Others

FIND THE FORGET-ME-NOTS

President Uchtdorf said that the small forget-me-not flowers are often easy to overlook. Can you find six forget-me-nots in the scene below?





produce enough wool to pay for their upkeep. Papa had wanted to take them to the butcher, but the two tiny, frail babies had captured Megan's heart. She'd pleaded to keep them, and Papa had finally agreed. "But," he had warned her, "you will have to take care of them all by yourself."

At first, everything had been OK. Megan had used her birthday money to buy hay when the lambs began to eat. But now her birthday money was gone, and Papa said it was too expensive to let the lambs graze in the field he rented outside town. Besides, Megan knew she would rarely see them if they went to the field. She sighed as she watched her lambs nibble the last bit of hay. It would be gone tomorrow, and she needed to find a way to feed her lambs.

Megan patted the white wool on the lambs' heads as she leaned against the pen. Down her street she could see Mr. Flowers tending his roses. A couple of houses down, Mrs. Wilmot hobbled slowly out to get the mail. Mrs. Wilmot was a widow who lived all alone. Sometimes Megan's brother raked leaves for Mrs. Wilmot, but he always complained because Mrs. Wilmot couldn't afford to pay him.

Megan noticed how long Mrs. Wilmot's grass was. "I'll offer to trim her lawn for her," Megan decided. "But not now. I need to find a way to feed my lambs."

Suddenly Megan had an idea. Mrs. Wilmot had grass, and Megan had sheep that needed to graze—the perfect combination! Megan patted her lambs quickly on the head and ran to Mrs. Wilmot's house. When Mrs. Wilmot answered the door, she beamed at Megan, happy to have a visitor. The words tumbled out of Megan's mouth as she explained her idea.

"Mrs. Wilmot, I think this could be great for both of us!" Megan finished. She held her breath, waiting for a response.

"I think so too!" Mrs. Wilmot said. "I could use the company, and my lawn could use the help. Bring the lambs over first thing tomorrow morning." Megan and Mrs. Wilmot smiled at each other, and Megan grinned all the way home.

The next day was the beginning of a long and wonderful friendship. Megan took her sheep over to Mrs. Wilmot's house every morning before school, and in the afternoons she stayed to visit for a while before she took her lambs home for the night. Mrs. Wilmot's lawn stayed trimmed at the perfect height, and Megan's lambs earned their keep.





My neighbor came back from a trip in the forest, where she picked mushrooms to eat. Our family got some from her, and

I helped my mother clean them. When we were done, I thought about my neighbor and how many she had to clean by herself. I knocked on her door, and she let me in, and I helped her. If Jesus lived here, He would have helped my neighbor also.

Jonatan L., age 5, Sweden Meet Jonatan at lds.org/friend. Click on "One in a Million."

Because HE Lives

By Marivic Pasigay and Marissa Widdison

(Based on a true story)

The Lord is risen indeed (Luke 24:34).

Tatoy paused under the colorful Filipino flag outside his school before heading inside.

"Good morning, class," his teacher said. "It's time for our morning prayer."

All around, Watoy's friends each touched their foreheads, chests, and shoulders to form the shape of a cross. Then they recited the prayer they always said at the beginning of class. As usual, Watoy didn't join them. Instead, he closed his eyes, bowed his head,

and said his own silent prayer. He prayed about different things each time, the way he was taught to pray at home and in Primary.

When he finished and looked up, he saw that his teacher was watching him with a confused expression on her face.

"May I talk to you after school?" she said.

Watov swallowed and nodded. Was he in trouble?

When classes had ended for the day, Watoy's teacher walked over to him.

"I see that you never cross yourself or recite our morning prayer," she said. "Will you please tell me why?"

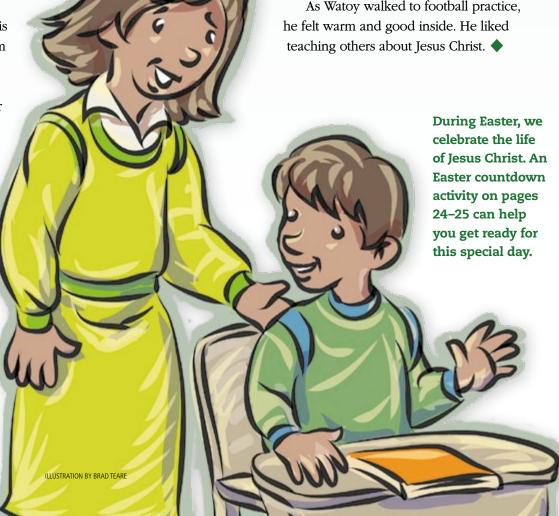
Watoy breathed a sigh of relief. His teacher wasn't upset, just curious! He thought about how to answer.

"Well," he began, "in my church, when we pray, we talk to Heavenly Father about many different things. And the cross reminds us of when Jesus died. But Jesus is not dead. He lives!"

> His teacher thought about this for a moment and then nodded slowly.

"Thank you for sharing this with me," she said.

As Watoy walked to football practice, he felt warm and good inside. He liked



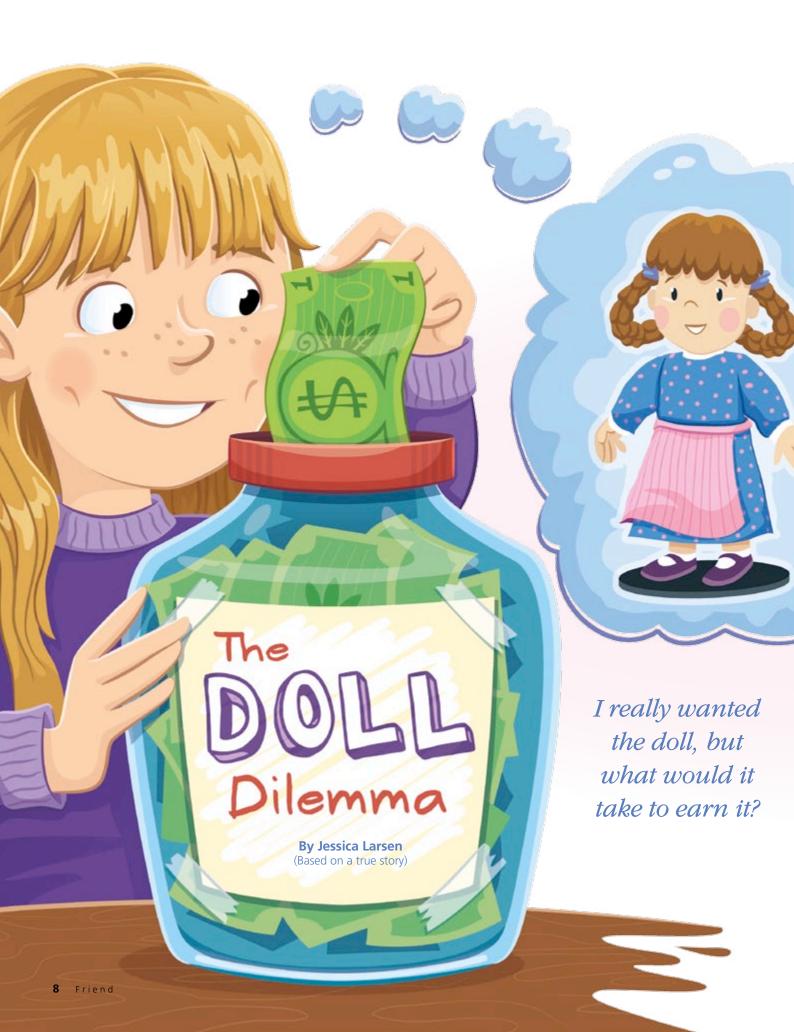
If the Savior Stood Beside Me



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Practice tip: Before playing, look at the transitions between verses. You can print out or listen to this song at lds.org/friend.



Your work shall be rewarded (2 Chronicles 15:7).

How was the party?" Mom asked as I ran into the kitchen.

"Amazing! We made sparkly headbands." I pirouetted so Mom could admire my work. "And Arianna got the best gift ever! A doll."

"Didn't you say you were too old for baby dolls?" Mom asked as she measured flour for brownies.

"Not a baby doll, Mom. This doll has long braids, and she wears Scandinavian clothes. Mom . . . ?"

"Yes, Maddie?"

"Can I have a doll like that?"

Mom mixed in the oil. "Christmas isn't for a while, honey, but you can put it on your list."

Put it on my list? But Christmas was months away! "Can I just have it now? I've been extra nice to Elise lately, and I clean the bathroom sometimes."

Mom smiled as she stirred the batter. "Being nice to your sister and cleaning the bathroom are part of being in our family, Maddie. But you could always work and earn money." The phone rang. "I need to answer this, but we can discuss it more at dinner."

I stomped off to my room. Work for it? That wasn't fair. None of my friends had to work for anything! How much did the doll cost anyway?

I found the doll in a catalog, and I blinked at the price. She was pretty expensive. I could never earn enough to buy her. Maybe I could ask Dad for her, or Grandma Ruth.

"But how would *they* pay for it?" a small voice asked in my head. "They'd have to work."

I thought of my family—Dad doing paperwork, Mom cleaning the attic, and Grandma weeding the garden. All

of them worked really hard. Maybe it was my turn. Still, I'd never saved that much before.

Inspiration struck. I glued a picture of the doll onto some heavy paper then carefully cut it into puzzle pieces. The doll looked silly with her eyes, nose, and mouth spread all over the carpet, but I just grinned. As I earned money for the doll, I could put the puzzle together and keep track of how much more I needed!

When Mom came to get me for dinner, she was impressed. "Great idea, Maddie! Now it's time to put you to work!"

I had leftover money from my birthday, so I put that in a special jar for my doll money. That was a few pieces of my puzzle. The rest of the pieces came together more slowly. I did extra jobs for Mom—sorting books, sweeping the garage, and organizing her junk drawer. One weekend, I went to my grandma's and planted flowers till my shoulders ached. I even watched my neighbors' dog while they were on vacation. Each time I earned money, I put ten percent in my tithing jar and the rest in my doll jar.

It wasn't easy to save. Sometimes I wanted to spend my money on candy or games. But I always thought of my goal, looked at my puzzle, and kept working.

Finally I put the last dollar into my jar and the last piece in my puzzle. I couldn't believe I had done it! I just stared at the completed picture and let satisfaction wash over me.

"How do you feel, my working girl?" Mom asked from the doorway.

"Great!" I said with a smile. I was excited to get my doll, but the knowledge that I worked hard to earn her was the best feeling of all.



"Those who are unafraid to roll up their sleeves and lose themselves in the pursuit of worthwhile goals are a blessing to their families, communities, nations, and to the Church." 1

President Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Second Counselor in the First Presidency

ILLUSTRATION BY KATIE MCDEE March 2013 **9**

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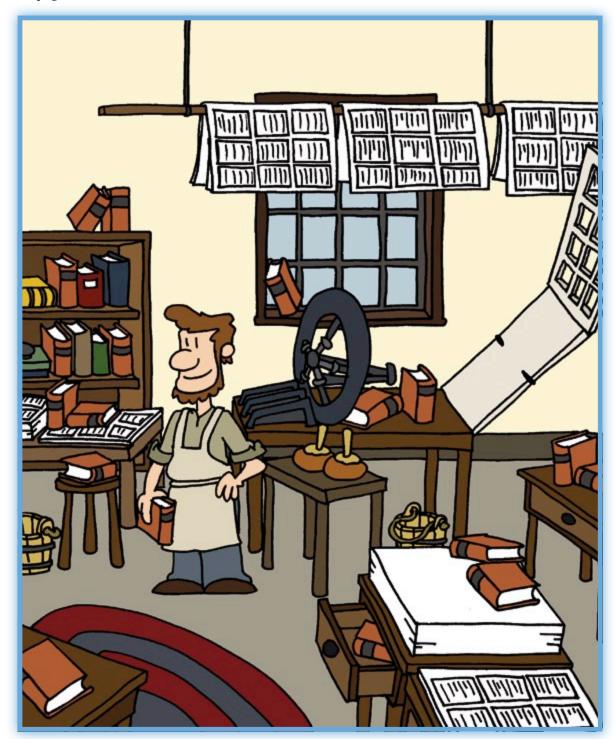
ublishing the Book of Mormon

By Arie Van De Graaff

The first 5,000 copies of The Book of Mormon were published at the Grandin Press. See how many copies of the Book of Mormon you can find in this picture. Find the answer on page 48.



Bonus: How many copies of the Book of Mormon have now been published? Find the answer on page 16.





"The BOOK OF MORMON is a **CREAT BOOK."**

—Elder L. Tom Perry
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

ILLUSTRATION BY DILLEEN MARSH

From "The Power of Deliverance," Ensign, May 2012, 94.

March 2013

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Bulletin Board

WHEN

Conference

COMES

General conference is just around the corner. Does your family have any conference traditions? The Hansen family creates a conference concession stand every year. The children earn conference coins by being ready on time, cleaning the breakfast table, and being kind. During the first session of conference, they earn coins by listening to speakers and completing quiet conference activities. Before the second session, the conference concession stand opens, and they can purchase goodies with the coins they earned. This tradition has become a family favorite!



You could make these nachos for your own conference concession stand!

tortilla chips

shredded cheese

chopped veggies (olives, peppers, tomatoes) fat-free sour cream

- 1. Put a sheet of waxed paper on a microwavable plate and cover with tortilla chips.
- 2. Sprinkle the shedded cheese and half of the veggies over the top of the chips.
- 3. Microwave for 30 seconds or until cheese is melted.
- 4. Top with a spoonful of sour cream and the rest of the veggies.

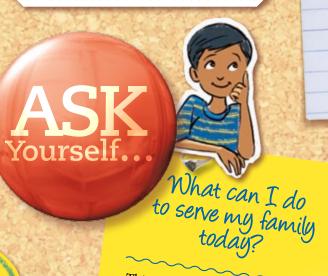
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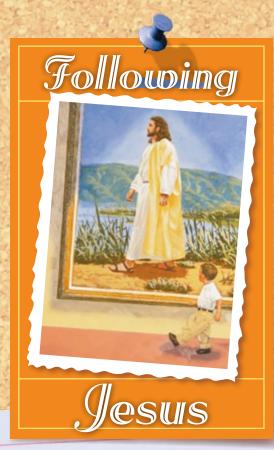
There is a story in this month's magazine about a child having a special experience with general conference. Can you find it? Solve the math problem above to figure out the page number of the story. You can check your answer on page 48.



On pages 20–21 you'll meet Katie C. and Alexandra W., who visited Temple Square with their grandmas. **The Salt Lake Temple took 40 years to build!** When the temple was finally finished, children in the area were invited to attend a special dedication ceremony, and they got to keep something signed by the prophet. You can find out what that was in next month's *Friend*, which will have lots of stories about temples.



This year general conference will be held on April 6 and 7. You can find conference stories, coloring sheets, and activities online at lds.org/friend.



BE HUMBLE

Jesus Christ said, "My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me" (John 7:16).

After healing a leper in Galilee, Jesus told the man to "say nothing" about the act (Mark 1:44). When a crowd of people wanted to make Jesus their king, He instead left and went "into a mountain" (John 6:15). People often wanted to praise Jesus for the miracles He performed. But Jesus never forgot that the glory really belonged to Heavenly Father.

This Month's Challenges:

CHALLENGE 1: Say "thank you" when someone gives you a compliment.

CHALLENGE 2: Make a thank-you card for a parent, teacher, or ward leader.

CHALLENGE 3: Write down your talents and think of ways Heavenly Father would like you to use them to help others.

Where the Book of Mormon Was Published

Come with me to explore an important place in Church history!

By Jan Pinborough

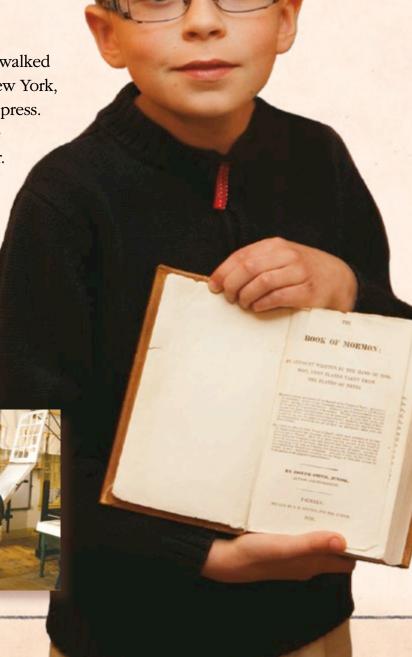
Church Magazines

On a summer day in 1829, Joseph Smith walked into a red brick building in Palmyra, New York, where Mr. Egbert B. Grandin had a printing press. The Prophet had just finished translating the words on the gold plates, and he wanted Mr. Grandin to publish the first 5,000 copies of the Book of Mormon. By the next spring, the new book of scripture was printed and ready for people to read.

Luke S., age eight, visited the Grandin Building to learn the amazing story of how the Book of Mormon was published 183 years ago this month.

Mr. Grandin's new press could print 16 pages at a time—twice as many as older presses could.

This room has replicas of the equipment used to print the Book of Mormon.





These cases hold thousands of small metal letters called type. Capital letters are called "upper case" because they were kept in the top cases.

Paste this to the "On the Trail" map in the January Friend.

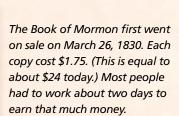




Ink balls were used to

put ink onto the type.

The typesetter had to place one letter at a time into an instrument called a composing stick.



The pages were hung up so the ink could dry.



The large pages, called signatures, went to the bindery. Here they were folded, cut into small pages, and stitched together. Today thousands of copies of the Book of Mormon are published each year in 85 different languages! Parts of the book are also translated in 23 more languages.



Joseph Smith wanted the Book of Mormon to be a fine leather-covered book stamped with gold letters, like the Bible.

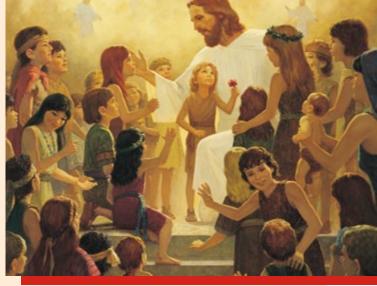
IT WASN'T EASY!

Luke's favorite story from the Book of Mormon is about Nephi getting the brass plates (see 1 Nephi 3–4). He likes how Nephi worked hard to do what the Lord asked. Luke learned something similar about publishing the Book of Mormon. "I learned it wasn't easy," he said. "They had to put all the letters into the composing stick upside down and backwards!"

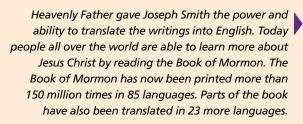
PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRENT WALTON March 2013 **15**

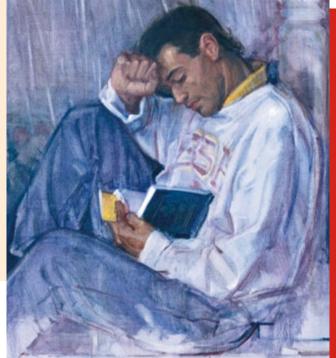
Printing the Words of Jesus Christ

In the ancient Americas, many prophets recorded their prophecies and testimonies about the Savior. They wrote about how He would be born in a land far away and how He would be crucified and resurrected. They wrote about how He came to visit them after He was resurrected.



The prophet Mormon recorded these testimonies on gold plates. Then his son Moroni hid the plates in the ground. Hundreds of years later, Moroni, who was now a resurrected being, told Joseph Smith where to find the plates.







The members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles are special witnesses of Jesus Christ.

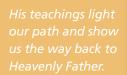
Why is Jesus Christ so important to us?

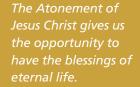
By Elder Dallin H. OaksOf the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles





He gave priesthood power to His Apostles and to others.





Through His Resurrection, we will live again.

This is the most important knowledge on earth. The Holy Ghost has revealed it to me, and He will reveal it to you.

From
"Teachings of
Jesus," Ensign,
Nov. 2011,
90–91, 93.

Ric's New Book

By Laura Byrd

(Based on a true story)

Whenever I am good and kind and help someone I see, I feel so very happy (Children's Songbook, 197).

Ric ran his hands across the gold letters on the front of his new book. His friends crowded closer.

"That's so cool!" Jake said. "I've never seen a red Book of Mormon before."

"It looks like it would fit in your shirt pocket," Jarom added.

"It does," Ric said, slipping it into his pocket and then taking it back out again. Just then the Primary president welcomed everyone to sharing time, so the boys stopped talking. But Ric couldn't help glancing down at his book from time to time.

When Primary was over, Ric stopped by the nursery to pick up his little sister. Dad was already there.

"Have you seen Mom?" Dad asked.
"No, but I hope she's ready to go,"
Ric said. "I'm hungry!"

Ric's stomach was growling by the time they found Mom, but he smiled when he saw Brother and Sister Bird standing by her. Well, Brother Bird was standing. Sister Bird was sitting in her wheelchair, as always. Mom said Sister Bird had a disease called multiple sclerosis, or MS, which made it hard for her to use her muscles. Sometimes she was in pain, but





"If you will extend yourself beyond what is easy to do, you will feel so good inside that kindness will start to become a part of your everyday life."²

Sister Mary N. Cook, first counselor in the Young Women general presidency

she always had a smile for everyone. Brother and Sister Bird were some of Ric's favorite people in the ward.

"Why, hello there, young man," Brother Bird said, shaking Ric's hand. "How was Primary today?"



"It was awesome. I got to show everyone this." Ric held up his small red book.

"What's that?" asked Sister Bird.

"It's my new Book of Mormon. My grandparents sent it to me," Ric said as he handed it to her.

"I've never seen one of these," said Sister Bird, turning the pocket-sized red book over in her hands. "It's so small and light. I love to read the Book of Mormon, but my hands get so tired holding my scriptures that I have to stop after a few minutes. But I could hold this a long time." She handed it back.

Ric looked at his cool book. Then he looked at Sister Bird.

"Here, Sister Bird. I want you to have this." Ric put the Book of Mormon back in her hands.

"Are you sure?" asked Brother Bird.

"I'm sure," he said.

"Oh, Ric, thank you." Sister Bird's eyes filled with tears. "Reading the scriptures helps me get through days when I'm in pain. Your little book will really help me." She reached out and gave him a big hug.

As they walked to the car, Mom said, "You're awfully quiet. Are you sad you gave your book away?" "Not really. It was cool, but I have another Book of Mormon at home. Besides, I think that what's inside the book is more important than what's on the outside."

Mom lovingly squeezed his shoulder.

"I just hope Grandma and Grandpa won't be sad that I gave my Book of Mormon away."

"Trust me, Ric, they won't."

Ric had a feeling his mom was right.

Alex from California and Katie from Oregon

Alexandra W. from California and Katie C. from Oregon met because their grandmas are best friends. Even though their families live far apart, these girls have a lot in common. They are both in second grade, they both love ice cream, and they both have been baptized. Both girls also had a special general conference experience that they will always remember.





Our grandmas decided it would be fun to celebrate our eighth birthdays by going to Salt Lake City for general conference. We explored the Church History Museum. At one exhibit, we helped tie a quilt. We also saw an actor dressed up as the prophet Brigham Young.

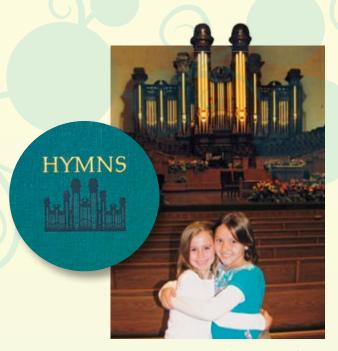


There were lots of things to see in Utah! Here we are at This Is the Place Monument, where Brigham Young told the pioneers they had finished their journey across the plains.





The most exciting day of all was Saturday morning. We walked into the Conference Center with thousands of people from all over the world. Our grandmas helped us find our seats. Suddenly everyone in the Conference Center became quiet, and we stood up to show respect as President Monson walked into the room. We saw the prophet of God! We listened to the prophet and General Authorities speak, and we heard the Tabernacle Choir sing.



Did you know that before the Conference Center was built, general conference was held in the Tabernacle on Temple Square? The organ pipes behind us should look familiar—a picture of them is on the front of every green hymnbook!

Now that we are back home again, we like to look back and remember. We remember not only the fun things we saw and did but also the special feelings we had when we heard and saw the prophet of God. We know that we have a Father in Heaven who loves us and that Jesus Christ is our Savior. And that is worth remembering!



LET'S EXPLORE!

- California, Oregon, and Utah form a triangle on the map.
- Did you know that during the 1800s Mormon pioneers settled in all three states?
- Now there are 25 temples built or under construction in these states.



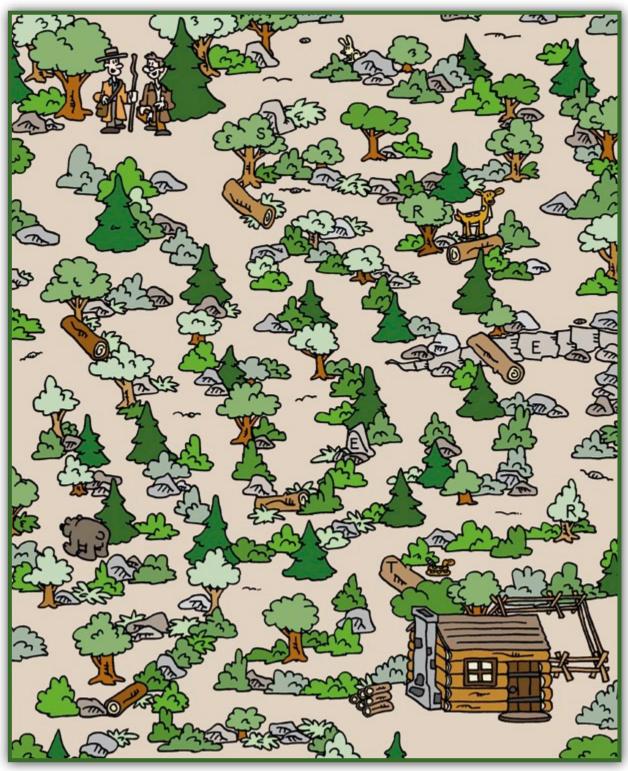


Sharing the Restored Gospel

By Arie Van De Graaff

h

Help these early missionaries share the message of the restored gospel by finding a path to the cabin in the woods. You can travel on paths or over logs, but you cannot cut through trees, bushes, or rocks. Then find and circle the letters to the word RESTORE.



Easter Activities

Loving Scripture Sheep

Jesus is sometimes called "the Good Shepherd" because He loves and cares for us like a shepherd loves and cares for his sheep (see John 10:14). You can make this sheep to remind you of Christ's love.

You will need:

1 sheet of newspaper

Tape

Cotton balls

4 straws

Glue

White paper

Black marker

- 1. Crumple the newspaper into a ball and wrap the ball with tape.
- Poke four holes in the ball and put the straws in the holes for legs. Cut the straws the same length so your sheep will stand.
- 3. Glue the cotton balls to the surface of the ball until it is covered.
- 4. Cut an oval shape and two small almond shapes out of paper and color them black for a head and ears.
- 5. Cut two small circles out of the white paper and use the marker to put a black dot in each circle for eyes. Glue or tape the eyes to the head.
- 6. Glue or tape the head and ears to the front of the body.
- 7. On the remaining paper, write a scripture that reminds you of Jesus. Here are some ideas: "The Lord is my shepherd" (Psalm 23:1); "Fear not, little flock" (D&C 6:34); or "Feed my sheep" (John 21:17). Put the scripture and sheep in a place where you will see them often.

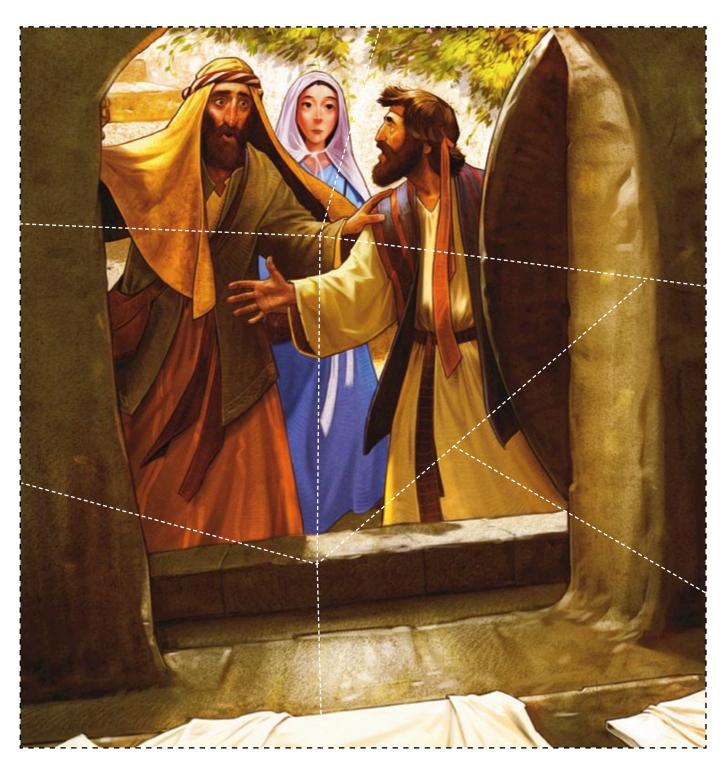


The scriptures say that Jesus ate honeycomb after He was resurrected (see Luke 24:42). This honey-flavored candy can be a sweet reminder of the joy of Easter. Remember to get an adult's help when cooking.

- 3/4 cup sugar
 - 2 tablespoons honey
- 2 tablespoons water
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1. Grease a cookie sheet.
- 2. Combine sugar, honey, and water in saucepan. Simmer over high heat without stirring until the syrup looks like caramel and reaches 300°F (150°C).
- 3. Remove pan from heat and mix baking soda into the syrup. The syrup will foam up. Stir just long enough to mix the ingredients.
- 4. Pour mixture onto baking sheet. Do not spread.
- 5. Allow the candy to cool, then break into pieces and enjoy!



Picturing Easter



You can use this countdown activity to get ready for Easter, which is a time to remember and celebrate the life of Jesus Christ and His Atonement. Cut the picture to the left into puzzle pieces as marked. Starting a week before Easter, choose one puzzle piece each day. Find where it belongs below and do what is written on that space before gluing or taping the piece in place. When your picture is complete, Easter will have arrived!

Sing a Primary song that talks about Jesus Christ. How can you follow His example today?

Read what living Apostles wrote about Jesus Christ: "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" ("The Living Christ: The Testimony of the Apostles," Ensign, Apr. 2000, 2–3).

We take the sacrament each week to remember Jesus Christ. What can you do to be especially reverent during sacrament meeting this Sunday?

Sing your favorite Christmas song. What do you remember learning about Jesus Christ's birth?

> Read John 3:16–17 with a parent and talk about what it means. How do you know Heavenly Father loves you?

Read the story "Because He Lives" on page 6. How can you share a meaningful Easter message with your friends? Draw a picture of your favorite scripture story about Jesus. You could ask your parents to help you watch The Life of Jesus Christ Bible Videos at biblevideos.lds.org to get some ideas.

Painting a Testimony

By Jessica Larsen

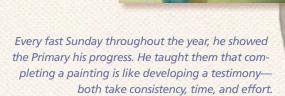
id you know there are many ways you can share your testimony? Matt Kesler, a Primary teacher and professional artist, shared his testimony by painting a portrait of the Savior for the Liberty First Ward Primary in Liberty, Missouri. He wanted the children to better understand the Savior's love for them. "It was a very special experience," Brother Kesler says. See how the painting went from idea to reality!

For ideas, Brother Kesler prayed, looked at other paintings and sculptures of the Savior, and drew many sketches.



Once he had an idea, he asked a neighbor to pose for the painting.

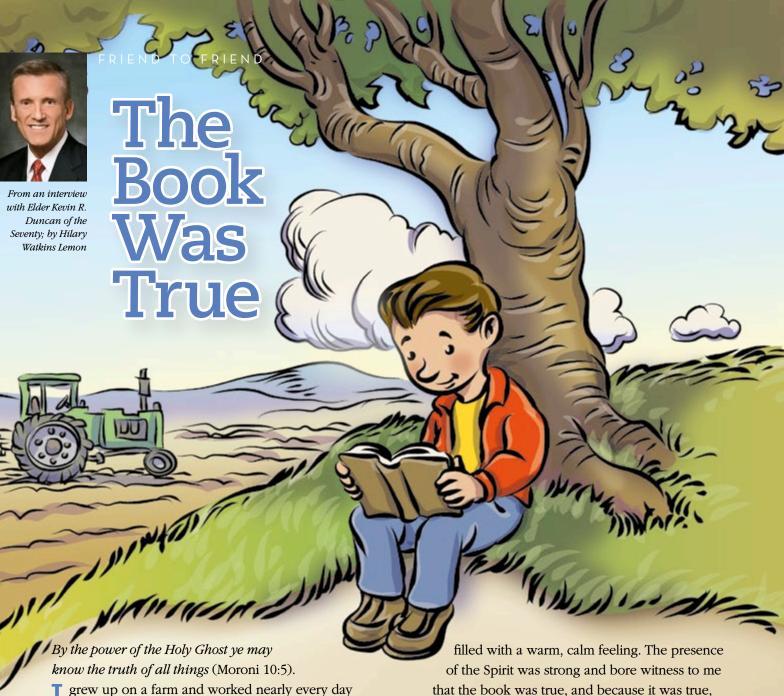






Here is Brother Kesler and the Primary with the finished work a beautiful painting and testimony that the Savior lives.

> PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF MATT KESLER



during the summer. I hoed beets, hauled hay, and worked with cattle and horses. Farm work was not my favorite summer activity. The days were very hot, and I had to work hard to get all my chores done.

One day when I was about 11 years old, I finished some of my chores early and had some time before I had to start my next task. It was hot, so I sat under a tree to rest. I don't know why, but I had the Book of Mormon with me. I picked up the book and started to read. To my amazement, I couldn't put it down. For the next three or four days I continued to have extra time during my workday. In those few days, I read the whole Book of Mormon. Every time I opened the book, I was

that the book was true, and because it was true, everything else I knew about the gospel had to be true too.

Though I was baptized when I was eight, reading the Book of Mormon on the farm marked the moment of my true conversion. I do not know why I had the Book of Mormon with me on the farm that day. I often read books back then, but the Book of Mormon struck me like no other book ever did.

To this day I still remember the testimony I received of the truthfulness of the Book of Mormon. It has become an anchor in my life. Since that day, I have faced many challenges, but I have never forgotten the moment I knew for myself that the Book of Mormon was true.

March 2013 27 ILLUSTRATION BY BRAD TEARE



mean things. Hyrum nudged her to keep moving toward the exit.

When Amanda and her brother finally got off the bus, Amanda thought the teasing would stop. Instead the older boys kept yelling through the windows. Amanda wanted to yell mean things back, but Hyrum whispered, "Just keep walking."

When the bus was finally out of sight, Amanda turned to her brother and exploded. "Didn't those boys make you mad?"

"Of course they made me mad," Hyrum said. "But they act worse if we show how much it bugs us."

"It *does* bug me. We should tell Mom and Dad," Amanda said.

"We will as soon as we get home," promised her brother. "Did you know this sort of thing happened to me last year? When I was in middle school and you were still in fourth grade, some boys at school were saying rude things to me. Mom told me to hear the hidden message."

Amanda wrinkled her face. "What hidden message?"

"Those boys are saying one thing with their mouths and hands, but Mom says the real message they're sending is they don't feel good about themselves. So they try to feel more powerful by being mean to others. My teacher said the same thing. She said people who bully others are really insecure."

"I guess those guys are really, *really* insecure then!"
"Yeah, I guess so," Hyrum said. "They announced it to the whole bus!"

Amanda thought about Hyrum's words as they turned onto their street. Hearing the hidden message may not have changed the situation, but it helped her not feel so angry about it. "Come on, I'll race you to the house!" she challenged her brother, and she sprinted down the sidewalk. She wasn't going to let the boys ruin the rest of her day.

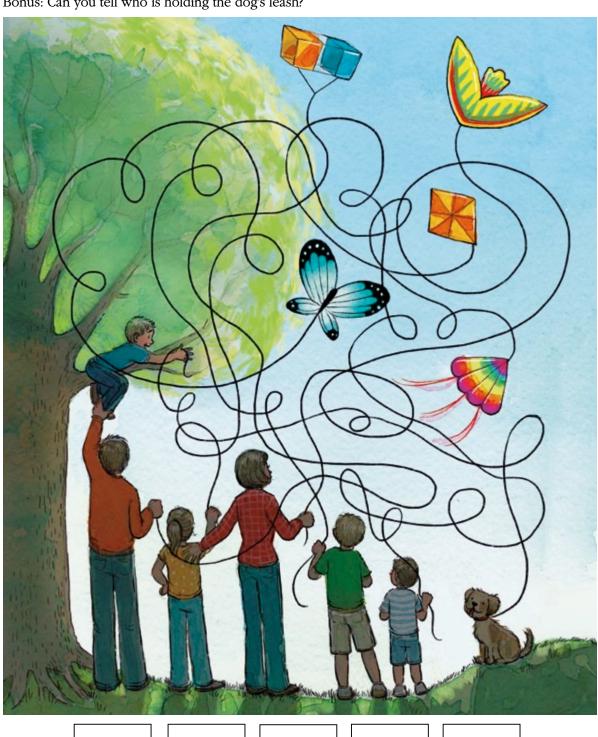


WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE BEING BULLIED:

- 1. Tell the bully to stop. In a firm voice, tell him or her never to treat you that way again. Do not try to hurt the person back unless you have no other way to protect yourself.
- 2. Tell an adult right away. This is especially important if someone hits, pushes, or threatens you. Some people won't stop bullying until they know an adult is watching. Talk to your parents about what is going on.
- 3. Try to stay in safe places. As often as possible, make sure you are near other children and adults who know you.
- 4. Pray to feel Heavenly Father's love. You are an important child of God, and you deserve to be treated with love and respect! Heavenly Father knows what you are going through and will strengthen you as you turn to Him.
- 5. Remember that this bullying won't last forever. Elder Jeffrey R. Holland said, "Every one of us has times when we need to know things will get better. . . . To any who may be struggling to see that light and find that hope, I say: Hold on. Keep trying. God loves you. Things will improve" ("An High Priest of Good Things to Come," *Ensign*, Nov. 1999, 36).
- 6. Put on spiritual armor. What can you do to strengthen yourself before you leave home each day? Praying, reading scriptures, singing Primary songs or hymns, and reading uplifting books and magazines can help you throughout the day.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY BRYAN BEACH March 2013 **29**

This family is flying kites together, but the kites have gotten all tangled up. See if you can match the kite that belongs to each family member. Then draw a picture of the kite each family member is flying. Bonus: Can you tell who is holding the dog's leash?



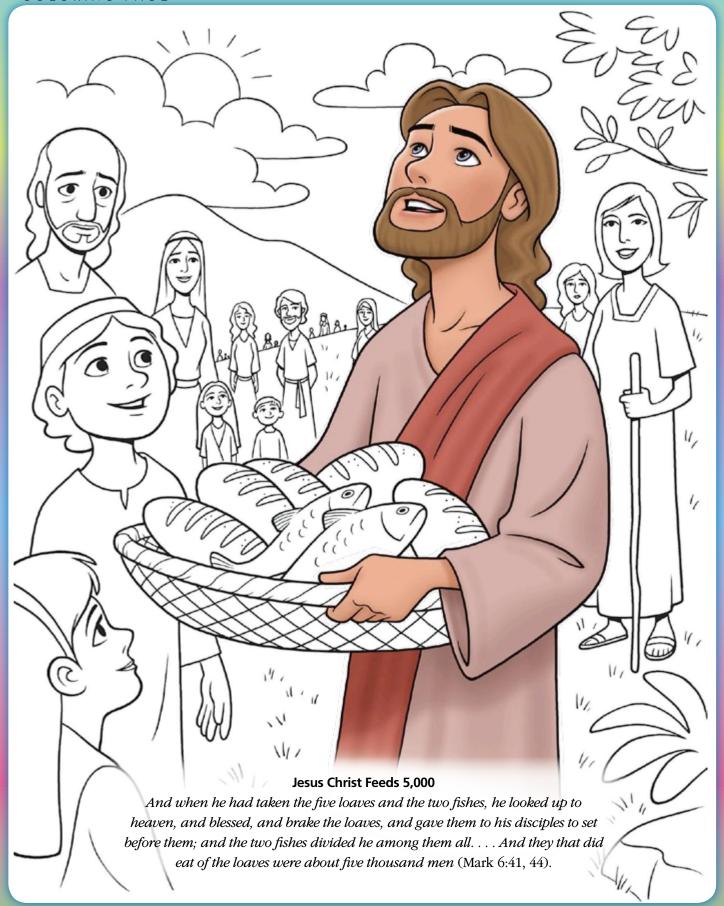


ILLUSTRATION BY JARED BECKSTRAND

March 2013 31

A Gift from Heavenly Father



Isabelle was happy that it was spring. She liked to listen to the birds. She liked to play in the green grass.

Isabelle was happy it was time for Easter. She knew Easter was a special day. On Easter we celebrate when Jesus came back to life.



In Primary, Sister
Martin gave crayons
to all the children
in class. She asked
them to draw the
greatest gift Heavenly
Father gave them.



Isabelle looked at the drawings. They were very good.

Isabelle thought about what she should draw. She was happy to have a family. She was happy to have friends. She was happy to have a house.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY DANI JONES March 2013 **33**



Then Isabelle thought about another gift that Heavenly Father gave all people. He gave everyone the gift of a Savior. Isabelle picked up her crayons. She drew a picture of Jesus Christ.

Sister Martin asked
Isabelle what she drew.
"I drew a picture of
Jesus," Isabelle said. "He
is the greatest gift."



Jesus Christ Lives

By Chad E. Phares







After Jesus Christ was crucified, He was resurrected.
This means that His body came back to life and that He will live forever. Because of His Resurrection, we will live forever too.

Look at the pictures that show some of the events from Jesus's life. Write a 1, 2, 3, or 4 in the boxes to show the order in which the events happened.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY DANI JONES March 2013 **35**

I Hope They Call Me on a Mission

2 7 7 7 8 7 9 7 10

Be better prepared for tomorrow by learning these skills today.

Cooking Basics

If you practice simple cooking now, one day you will be a kitchen pro! And that's great, because home-cooked meals are yummy, less expensive, and usually healthier. They also encourage families to spend time together.

Before you begin cooking, ask yourself:

- 1. Do I have an adult to help me?
- 2. Do I have the time, ingredients, and tools needed for this recipe?
- 3. Have I washed my hands?

SPEAK LIKE A CHEF

Some recipes use unfamiliar words. Which of these do you see in the recipe on page 23?

Bake: Cook in an oven.

Beat: Mix ingredients with a fork, whisk, or mixer.

Boil: Heat liquid until it is covered in bursting bubbles.

Chop: Cut into small pieces.

Drain: Remove all the liquid using a strainer or lid.

Grease: Lightly coat with oil, butter, or non-stick spray.

Knead: Fold and press dough until smooth.

Marinate: Soak food in a liquid.

Preheat: Turn oven on ahead of time.

Sauté: Cook food quickly in a little butter or oil.

Simmer: Heat liquid until it bubbles a little around the

edges.

Hello readers,

Now that I'm on a mission, I sometimes cook for myself and my companion. I'm glad I learned how to make basic meals as I helped my parents in the kitchen growing up. The scriptures say good food is meant to

"please the eye and to gladden the heart." and I agree! (See D&C

59:17-19)

Sincerely, Sister Chef









Don't worry, Matt.
You make friends a lot
easier than I do.

Yeah, I guess. But I still
don't know where my
new school is. Or where
my class will be. I'm sure
I'll get lost.









And guess what else. Mandy, you know how you've been looking forward to being old enough to go to the temple to do baptisms for the dead?



Well, our new home will be much closer to a temple.

(To be continued.)

ILLUSTRATIONS BY MARYN ROOS March 2013 **37**

Show and Tell

The Place We Love

Each morning with my sleepy eyes, I look around and see The people that I love the most All looking back at me.

We all hurry to the table, And we fold our arms to pray. Next our mom starts reading scriptures— That is how we start our day.

Dad runs off to work with a smile While the baby makes a fuss. Then morning chores are finished Just in time to catch the bus!

Mommy waits at home for us While through our day we roam. And finally we all return— Love begins and ends at home!

Samaria R., age 10, Arizona, USA







Amber B., age 9, Ohio,





Skyler M., age 11, Utah, USA, is one of six children in his family. He has three older siblings serving missions at the same time—a sister in Missouri, a sister in Switzerland and Germany, and a brother in Guatemala. Skyler misses his brother and sisters, but he is glad they are serving the Lord. He can't wait until he can serve a mission too!









Jordyn T., age 8, Idaho, USA





After learning about the importance of temples, the activity days girls of the **Oakdale First Ward, Modesto California North Stake,** constructed the Oakland California Temple from sugar cubes, ice-cream cones, and glue. They used approximately 1,700 sugar cubes!



Josie A., age 6, Texas, USA, has performed in the Nauvoo Pageant with her family since she was two years old! In the pageant, she enjoys singing and playing the lap harp. Josie's favorite scripture hero is Moses. Her best friend is her dad.



was very scared to do a dance recital. It was my first time on stage. My mommy told

me to say a prayer. The prayer made me happy and not scared anymore.

Sophia S., age 7, Maine, USA



hen I was six, I got stung sixteen times by a swarm of bees while I was climbing

a tree. My mom had to carry me home. At the time, my mom's friend was visiting us. She was a nurse, and she was able to take care of me. I know that the Lord always provides a way for us to be taken care of, just like when I was taken care of by my mom's friend.

Layne C., age 7, North Carolina, USA





project, we had to choose a famous person and read a book about him or her. I

chose Joseph Smith. I prepared and memorized a short speech telling about him and why he was famous. One day, all the parents were invited to see our presentations. Not many people at my school know about the Prophet Joseph Smith or The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. That day many people thanked me and told me they learned a lot.

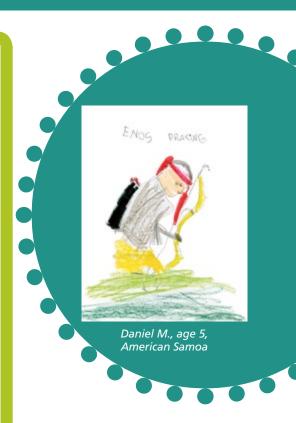
Benson S., age 8, Michigan, USA

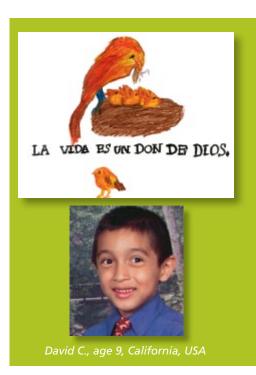


During recess, my friends asked me to swear. It was hard to say no because

they're my friends, and I wondered if they would tease me. But I still said no because I knew it wasn't right. When I was eight, I was baptized, and I made promises to Heavenly Father to be obedient. When we obey the commandments, we are following Jesus. I know next time it will be easier to choose the right because I've done the right thing already.

Jayden B., age 8, Queensland, Australia





You can use this lesson and activity to learn more about this month's Primary theme.

Jesus Christ Is Our Savior

nce when Elder LeGrand R. Curtis Jr. of the Seventy was a child, he and his sister were playing in a small boat on a river. At first their adventure was fun, but as the boat drifted farther from the shore, they realized they were floating toward dangerous waters downstream.

The children began calling for help. Their father heard them and raced to the boat to rescue them. He saved them, which was something they could not do for themselves. He did this because he loved them.

Sometimes we make wrong choices and do things that spiritually take us away from Heavenly Father. Our Heavenly Father sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to save us. Jesus Christ suffered for our sins so that we can repent and return home safely to live with Heavenly Father. The Savior did something we could not do for ourselves. He was willing to do this because He loves us.

SONG AND SCRIPTURE

- "He Sent His Son" (Children's Songbook, 34–35)
- John 3:16



PROPHETS TESTIFY OF THE SAVIOR

Match each testimony below with the picture of the prophet who said it. Write the prophet's number in the box.

"And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world" (1 John 4:14).

"Wherefore, all mankind were in a lost and in a fallen state, and ever would be save they should rely on this Redeemer" (1 Nephi 10:6).

"I know that Jesus Christ shall come, yea, the Son, the Only Begotten of the Father, full of grace, and mercy, and truth. And behold, it is he that cometh to take away the sins of the world, yea, the sins of every man who steadfastly believeth on his name" (Alma 5:48).

"And it shall come to pass that whosoever shall believe on the Son of God, the same shall have everlasting life" (Helaman 14:8).

"I saw two Personages, whose brightness and glory defy all description, standing above me in the air. One of them spake unto me, calling me by name and said, pointing to the other—*This is My Beloved Son. Hear Him!*" (Joseph Smith—History 1:17).

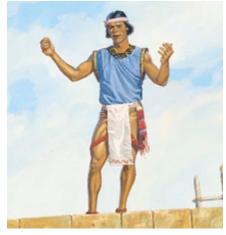
"Jesus is . . . the Only Begotten of the Father in the flesh. He is our Redeemer; He is our Mediator with the Father. He it was who died on the cross to atone for our sins" ("I Know That My Redeemer Lives!" Ensign, May 2007, 25).



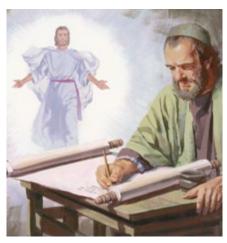
1. Alma



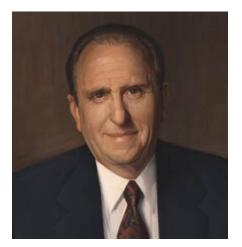
2. Joseph Smith



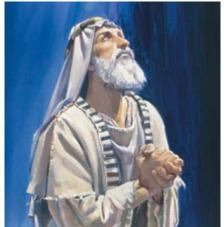
3. Samuel the Lamanite



4. John



5. President Thomas S. Monson



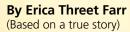
6. Lehi

LET'S TALK

Sing "He Sent His Son" and discuss the questions in the song. Consider what you can do as a family to live like Jesus Christ.

Firecracker

Sometimes Charlie's feelings would explode! How could we help him?



Let us love one another: for love is of God (1 John 4:7). ometimes Charlie played army guys nicely with our big brother, Sean. But sometimes he kicked them all over the room. Sometimes Charlie sat beside me, coloring carefully in the lines of his coloring book. But sometimes he scribbled all over his page. And mine! One thing was certain: our three-year-old brother, Charlie, was a mystery. None of us knew how to help him. 42 Friend

Charlie ***

The solution to helping Charlie came unexpectedly. As our family stood watching a fireworks display one evening, Mom started thinking about how Charlie was sort of like a firecracker. When Sean or I did something to hurt Charlie's feelings, he would "explode." And he wouldn't quit until we made him feel loved again.

The next day, when Charlie was taking his afternoon nap, Mom called Sean and me to a secret meeting. She asked Sean how Charlie had acted that morning.

"He stomped on my clay creations and ruined them!" Sean said.

"How about you, Paige?" Mom asked me.

I frowned. "Charlie spilled water all over the picture I was painting."

"Do you remember the fort you made yesterday?"
Mom asked.

"Yeah," Sean said. "It was the best fort ever!"

"We used all the blankets and chairs in the whole house," I added.

"Did you let Charlie play with you?" Mom asked.
Sean and I looked at each other and then at the floor.
We hadn't let Charlie play.

"Would you like to see a miracle happen when

Charlie wakes up?" Mom asked. "Let's think of nice things we can do for Charlie to show how much we love him."

When Charlie woke up a little bit later and wandered out of his room, we were ready.

"Hey, Charlie," I said as I hugged him. "Would you like me to read you some stories?"

"Sure!" Charlie said. He cuddled up with me on the sofa, and we looked at pictures while I read him a stack of his favorite books.

Then Sean came in, grinning. "Charlie, would you like to play a game of army guys with me?"

"OK!" Charlie shouted as he scrambled off the sofa.

Later, while Mom cooked Charlie's favorite dinner,
Dad was Charlie's "horsie" and then his "bucking
bronco." Charlie giggled and squealed, and Sean and
I laughed too. It was fun to watch Charlie having such
a good time.

After dinner, Dad stood Charlie on a chair, and we all sat around him. We took turns telling Charlie all the things we loved about him. Charlie smiled and smiled. He was so happy.

The most wonderful thing of all was that every one of us felt the same.

After that night, Sean and I tried a lot harder to invite Charlie to play with us. Sometimes Charlie messed things up, but he also sometimes made the games more fun.

Now when Sean and I forget to be kind and Firecracker Charlie starts to come back, we know that we can change things with one little word: love.



"I will honor my parents and do my part to strengthen my family."

My Gospel Standards



ILLUSTRATION BY CASEY NELSON March 2013 43



By Suellen Stout Weiler

(Based on a true story)

He that hath ears to hear, let him hear (Matthew 11:15).

OK, everyone, time to go!"

Michael stifled a groan as his family grabbed their scriptures and journals and headed to the car. Usually he loved spending time with his family, but sometimes he thought his parents asked too much. This weekend was a perfect example: all of his friends were hiking or camping for spring break, but Michael's family was watching general conference.

It was now Sunday afternoon, and they were driving back to the church to watch the final session of conference.

Michael slumped his shoulders and sighed.

Mom heard the sigh and turned to face him.

"What's up, Michael? Did David eat the last sandwich or something?"

"Why do we have to watch every session of conference? Why can't we just watch one on Sunday and read the rest in the *Ensign*?" he blurted.

> I'm ready! I have my journal and pen so I can write

down what the prophet says for *me*. "It's boring sitting through so many talks, especially since they're all for grownups! It doesn't seem like anyone ever speaks to us kids. Aren't we important?"

"The Brethren usually speak to the grownups because we have more accountability," Mom said. "But I believe that if you will listen with your heart as well as with your ears, you will hear a message from Heavenly Father just for you."

Michael felt a little encouraged, and he tried harder to listen as the session



It's time for general conference!

for Michael

It seemed like general conference was for adults.

Would this time be any different?

opened. As he listened he heard Elder Nelson talk about avoiding contention. He did sometimes argue with his little brother—was that his personal message? Then Elder Ballard spoke about

TV and how it had been invented by a Latter-day Saint. He thought that was interesting, so he wrote it down in his journal.

Suddenly Michael stiffened and stopped writing. He felt a chill run up his back, and then his whole body grew warm as he heard the prophet, President Ezra Taft Benson, start his talk.

"For my closing message at this conference, I would now like to speak to the children of the Church—yes, to you, our precious children. And as you listen, I pray that you will know that this is a personal message just for you."

Michael's mouth fell open, and he looked at Mom, who was looking at him too. Then he turned back to President Benson and listened, really listened, with his heart as well as with his ears.

"How I love you! How our Heavenly Father loves you! ... Learn to do His will and enjoy true happiness. It will help you now and throughout your life."

Michael settled back in his seat.
The prophet had spoken to him—he had received his personal message after all.

As a deacon, I know it is my responsibility to watch general conference. Last time I watched it, I enjoyed the speeches from the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles and the Quorums of the Seventy. I also liked hearing the songs and the prayers. Conference was a very spiritual experience for me.

Avery C., age 12, Utah, USA

III MANN March 2013 **45**



Sometimes no one sits by me at church, and I feel lonely and like I don't fit in. What can I do?



You should go to them and say, "Do you have an empty chair?" Then you can sit by him or her, and you can say, "Hi!" and make friends.

Brayden A., age 9, Colorado, USA



In sacrament meeting, if you ever feel this way, I have made good friends with the elderly people in my ward. They always make me smile. Also, you could sit with a family with kids around your age. Just don't be shy!

Samantha J., age 12, California, USA



I think you should try to get interested in someone else instead of waiting for them to get interested in you. One time I was in a play and I didn't see anyone I knew. Before my mom left me there, she pointed at an older girl and suggested I

go sit by her. I was very shy at first, but later we spent every rehearsal together when we could. Anyone can be a friend.

Adelle V., age 11, California, USA



First, I would pray. Second, I would look for someone else lonely. Third, I would go sit by them. This will make you happy, and the person you're sitting by will be happy too. This is also a good way to make a new friend.

Tanner E., age 10, Utah, USA



Step 1: Go sit somewhere else.
Step 2: Say, "Hi!" to someone.
Step 3: Ask if you can sit there.
Step 4: If that doesn't work, PRAY! You should always pray when you are in a sticky situation. In four easy steps you

could have an instant best friend. Good luck! **Kate W., age 10, Idaho, USA**



You could make friends by saying nice comments and smiling.

Jane H., age 7, Auckland, New Zealand



You should act first and go sit by your other classmates. They might be having the same feeling that you're having. You can also pray and ask Heavenly Father to help you decide what to do. And telling your parents about your

problem can be a great help. Good luck! Helen L., age 12, Utah, USA Responses are intended for help and perspective, not as pronouncements of Church doctrine.

NEXT QUESTION

No matter how hard I try to always be good, I still make a lot of mistakes. How can I stop feeling so discouraged when I mess up?

Do you have some advice about this? Send us your answer and photo by March 31, 2013. Find our address on page 48 or email us at friend@ldschurch.org. (Put "Question Corner" in the subject line.) Remember to include a parent's permission!

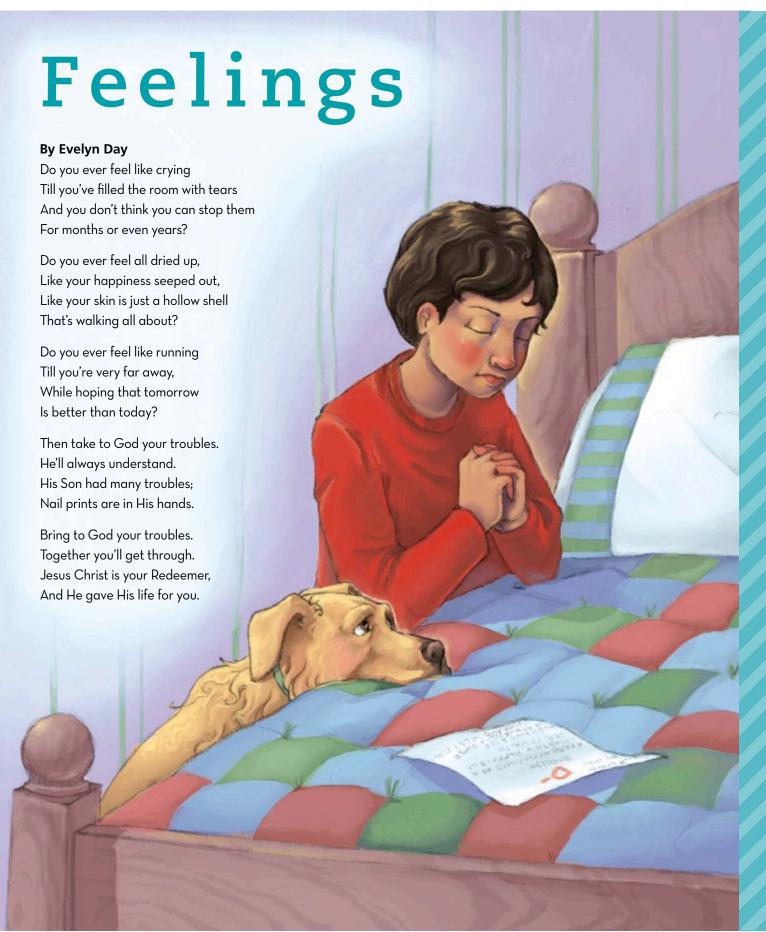


ILLUSTRATION BY KIMBERLI JOHNSON March 2013 **47**



Possible Ideas for Family Home Evening

- 1. Use the Bringing Primary Home lesson and activity to learn more about this month's Primary theme (pages 40–41).
- 2. Read President Dieter F. Uchtorf's message in "Remember the Forget-Me-Not" (pages 2–3). Talk about ways you can help others feel loved. As a family, write notes to family members and friends telling them why they are special to you.
- 3. As a family, read "Megan's Lambs" (pages 4–5). Then read John 10:1–30, where Jesus Christ tells us He is the Good Shepherd, who knows



how to take care of us. Use the craft activity on page 23 to make the scripture sheep to remind you of Christ's love for you.

- 4. Read "The Hidden Message" (pages 28–29). Discuss what you can do if you are ever being bullied.
- 5. Get ready for general conference next month by reading "A Message for Michael" (pages 44–45). As a family, plan what you will do to make sure everyone can get the most out of conference.

To send us a letter, drawing, or poem, please fill out this form and include it with your submission. Please also include a school photo or high-quality snapshot. Submissions will not be returned and may be edited for length and clarity. Children whose work is submitted should be at least three years old.

Please send your submission to:

Friend Magazine

50 E. North Temple St., Rm. 2432 Salt Lake City, UT 84150-0024 Or email: friend@ldschurch.org

The following information and permission must be included:

Full name

Age

State/Province, Country

I agree to the terms of the Friend Submission Agreement (Ids.org/friend/ parentalconsent) and grant permission for the Friend to print my child's submission and photo in print or online.

Signature of parent or legal guardian





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- 1. "Two Principles for Any Economy," *Ensign*, Nov. 2009, 56.
- 2. "Remember This: Kindness Begins with Me," *Ensign*, May 2011, 120.

Funstuf Answers

Page 3: "Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows" (Matt. 10:31).

Page 10: 18 Page 12: 44

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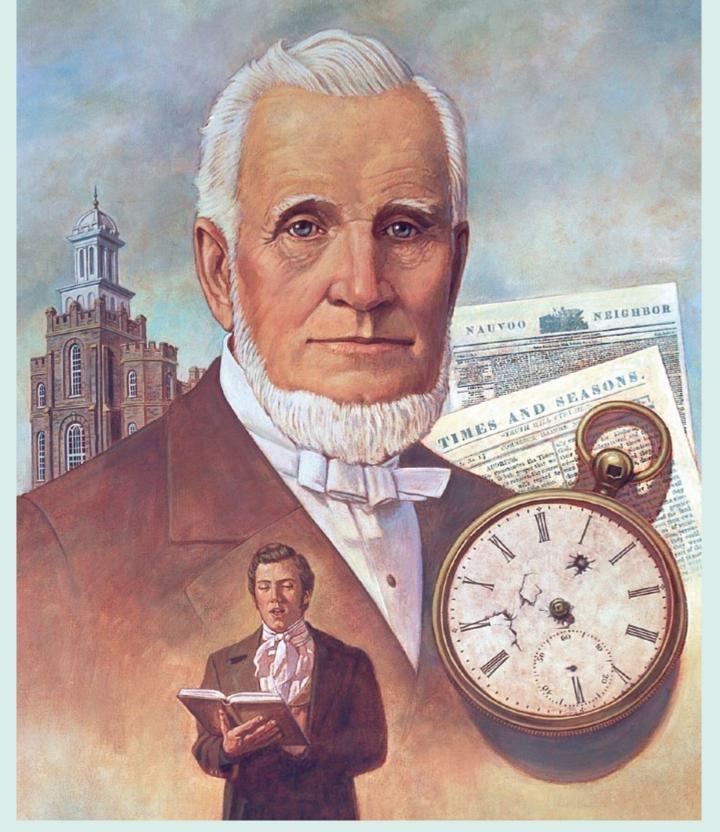
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JOHN TAYLOR

John Taylor loved to **sing.** While in Carthage Jail, Joseph Smith asked Elder Taylor to sing "A Poor Wayfaring Man of Grief" (*Hymns*, no. 29). The song comforted the Prophet before his death. John Taylor was present at the Martyrdom, and even though he was shot four times, his life was spared. He carried a **pocket watch** that broke during the Martyrdom. While serving in the Church, President Taylor edited many **Church publications** and dedicated the **Logan Utah Temple.**



This picture reminds me that God created animals big and small for us to enjoy.

Mckay L., age 10, Illinois. USA

Do you like taking photos? We'd like to see your best shots about how Heavenly Father blesses your life. Email them to friend@ ldschurch.org and include your name, age, and where you're from. Please also include a sentence explaining how your picture shows Heavenly Father's blessings in your



life. Remember, we can't publish your submission without a parent's permission in the email. If there are people in the photo, we also need to know that they gave their permission to be photographed. We're looking forward to seeing Heavenly Father's blessings through your eyes!



What's online?

• Get ready for general conference! Go to Ids.org/friend and click on "Matching Games" under "Games and Activities" to play a game that can help you learn the names of the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.



• Easter is a special time to remember Jesus Christ. Visit Ids.org/children/resources and click on "Easter" under the Resources by Gospel Topic section to find Easter games, activities, and stories!



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OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS