



FRIEND TO FRIEND

From an interview with Sister Linda K. Burton,
Relief Society General President; by Linda Davies

I Felt the Spirit

“Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 19:14).

I remember two simple events that happened when I was a little girl. Each shows how the Spirit touches hearts in special ways, no matter our age.

The first experience happened when my brother was sick. My father called a man from our ward to come to our home and help give a priesthood blessing. As our family gathered before the blessing, the man suggested that we children should leave because we might disrupt the spirit of the blessing. My father replied gently that it was important that each child be present during the blessing because our pure faith was needed.

Even at that young age, I not only felt the presence of the Spirit, but I also sensed the great love my father had for his children. My father’s love helped me believe in and understand Heavenly Father’s love for me.

A few years later, our family participated in sacrament meeting. My mother was a gifted musician. However, instead of providing a musical number herself, she gave my sisters and me the opportunity. I clearly remember the song she was inspired to have us sing:

*I think when I read that sweet story of old,
When Jesus was here among men,
How He called little children like lambs to His fold;
I should like to have been with Him then.**

As my sisters and I sang the song, I felt warm and happy inside. My tender testimony was strengthened as the Holy Ghost helped me feel that Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ loved me.

How grateful I am for the blessing of the Holy Ghost and the love of my parents and my Father in Heaven. ♦

* “I Think When I Read That Sweet Story,” Children’s Songbook, 56.

