

# THE *Friend*



Discover  
the story of the  
**Book of  
Mormon**

See pages 24–27



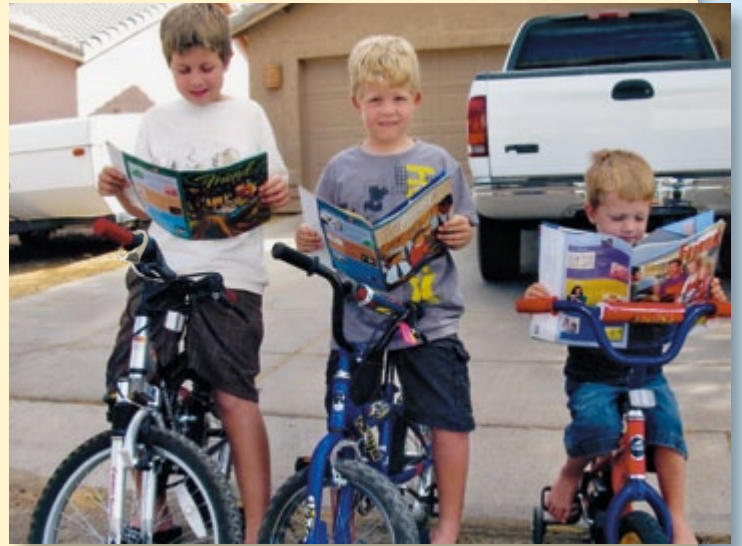
## The *Friend* Comforts Me



In January 2011 my mom died. It has been really hard without her, but we keep going, knowing that Heavenly Father loves us. When I read the *Friend* I am comforted. I can't wait to go to heaven to be with my mom and my family and Heavenly Father and Jesus.

**Lilli R., age 11, Pennsylvania**

## How We Read the *Friend*



**Jensen, Garrett, and Teagan P., ages 10, 6, and 3, Arizona**

## A Great Example



I think the *Friend* is a great example for children because it helps us choose the right and be kind to others. After I read "The Apple Adventure" (October 2011), I made a commitment that I will always listen to and follow the Holy Ghost.

**Gordon C., age 7, South Carolina**

## Always Best to Tell the Truth



I can relate to "Tickets and the Truth" in the November 2011 issue. I have lied before, and I felt bad about it. I had to fix a lot of things and then ask Heavenly Father for forgiveness.

**Grace S., age 10, Arizona**

Dear Friends,

You don't need to be older than others to set a good example for them. The stories on pages 16 and 36 tell about kids who set good examples for older members of their families.

Who has been a good example for you? How have you set a good example for someone younger or older than you are? Write and tell us your story.

Love,

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.

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May 2012

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# THE *Friend*

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



## Stories and Features

- IFC Friends by Mail
- 2 **Come Listen to a Prophet's Voice:** Canaries with Gray on Their Wings /  
President Thomas S. Monson
- 4 Night Fright
- 6 **Bright Idea**
- 8 Many Hands Make Light Work
- 10 Moving
- 12 Bulletin Board
- 14 **Stories of Jesus:** King Benjamin Teaches His People about Jesus Christ
- 16 Drive-Through Decision
- 18 Remembering a Special Day
- 20 **Special Witness:** Elder Robert D. Hales
- 21 Book Reviews
- 22 **Friend to Friend:** Fire! / Sister Cheryl A. Esplin
- 24 The Story of the Book of Mormon
- 28 Karisa's Questions
- 30 Show and Tell
- 36 Little Brother, Big Example
- 40 **Bringing Primary Home:** I Choose the Right When I Am Baptized  
and Confirmed a Member of the Church
- 42 Matt and Mandy
- 48 Guide to the *Friend*

## For Little Friends

- 32 Mom's Helping Hands
- 34 Coloring Page

## For Older Kids

- 44 Lost on the Trail
- 46 Untangling Feelings

## Music

- 7 Baptism

## Things to Make and Do

- 23 Mother's Day Activities
- 38 Funstuf: Find the Rhyme
- 39 Coloring Page
- 43 Funstuf: Keep the Commandments
- 43 Funstuf: Run, Jump, Play!
- 49 Book of Mormon Scripture Figures: Ammon,  
a Great Servant

Cover by Steve Kropp



Learn to  
play the  
Primary song  
"Baptism"  
on page 7.



You can read the *Friend*  
in lots of different places.



# CANARIES WITH GRAY ON THEIR WINGS

By President Thomas S. Monson

While I was serving as a young bishop, Sister McKee, a widow in my ward, passed away. Among her things were three pet canaries. Two, with perfect yellow coloring, were to be given to her friends. The third, Billie, had yellow coloring **marred** by gray on his wings. Sister McKee had written in a note to me: “Will you and your family make a home for Billie? He isn’t the prettiest, but his song is the best.”

Sister McKee was much like her yellow canary with gray on its wings. She was not blessed with beauty, gifted with **poise**, or honored by **posterity**. Yet her song helped others to more willingly bear their burdens.

We are sons and daughters of a living God in whose image we have been created. Think of that: *created in the image of God*.

In our world, **moral character** oftentimes seems **secondary** to beauty or charm. But from long ago the Lord’s counsel to Samuel the prophet echoes: “The Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7).

When the Savior sought a man of faith, He did not select him from the **throng** of the self-righteous who were found regularly in the **synagogue**. Rather, He called him from among the fishermen of Capernaum. Doubting,

unschooled, **impetuous** Simon became Peter, Apostle of faith. A yellow canary with gray on his wings qualified for the Master’s full confidence and **abiding** love.

The Redeemer calls you and me to serve Him here below. May a true song come from our hearts as we do so. ♦

*From “Canaries with Gray on Their Wings,” Ensign, June 2010, 4.*



## Dig Deeper

To better understand President Monson's message, match the highlighted words with their correct meanings.

**Poise**  
**Posterity**  
**Moral character**  
**Secondary**  
**Throng**  
**Marred**  
**Synagogue**  
**Impetuous**  
**Abiding**

A Jewish house of worship  
Acting suddenly, without careful thought  
Less important  
Spoiled or ruined  
All future generations  
Gracefulness  
Continuing  
Crowd  
Making right choices

## Sing Your Sweetest Song

Some people feel they are not as beautiful or as smart as others. But each person is valuable to the Lord. We can be faithful and brave and use our talents to serve others. Then we are like the yellow canary with gray on its wings. We are not perfect, but we are singing our sweetest song!  
Color the picture of Sister McKee and her special canary. Then write down three ways you can sing your sweetest song for the Lord.

**I can sing my sweetest song for the Lord by:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



*Look unto me in every thought;  
doubt not, fear not (D&C 6:36).*

## *Bang! Scritch! Scraaaaatch!*

Jesse didn't like the noises coming from outside his window. He shivered and pulled his covers over his head. Jesse regretted watching that superhero movie. He knew it wasn't real, but the bad guy in the movie was really scary.

*Screeeech!*

Jesse's eyes flew open. What was that scratching sound against his windowsill? He sat up. Was it his windowpane rattling? Jesse said a quick prayer in his mind. With his heart pounding, he tore off his covers and ran across the hall to his brother's room.

"Steve! Hey, Steve!" Jesse said as he skidded to a stop next to where his brother lay sleeping.

"Mmmph," Steve answered, not lifting his head from the pillow.

Jesse tugged on Steve's arm. "Steve, there are noises outside my window. I think something is trying to get in!"

Nothing.

Jesse talked to himself as he trudged back to his room. "There's nothing to be afraid of," he said. "Be brave."

## *Scraaaaatch!*

# Night Fright

By Kersten Campbell  
(Based on a true story)

Jesse froze. Trying to be brave, he lifted the corner of his window shade to take a peek. He searched the darkness outside of his window. He couldn't see anything, but he expected something to pop up and scare him at any moment.

He stared hard, but the only thing he saw was the top of the bush below his windowsill. Relieved, he took a deep breath and sank back down onto his bed. He closed his eyes for a moment, but then he heard another sound. *Scratch. Scratch.* He sat up. He didn't want to feel scared anymore. He said another silent prayer.

"Heavenly Father, please, please, *please* help me sleep. Please make the sounds go away."

Jesse looked at the shadows on his walls and trembled. Why weren't his prayers working?

Then he had a thought. He remembered that the Holy Ghost helps people

feel peace. Maybe feeling the Holy Ghost could help him feel better.

Jesse glanced over at his bookshelf where there was a book of scripture stories and pictures. He rushed over to the shelf and snatched the book. Turning on the light next to his bed, he began to read some of his favorite scripture stories. Jesse felt calm as he read. His room felt warmer somehow. Though he could still hear scratching outside his window, the sounds seemed to be softer and not as scary.

Jesse read another scripture story, and then another. Soon he didn't feel afraid anymore.

Heavenly Father had answered his prayers—not by making the scary sounds go away—but by giving him the idea to replace his fear with the peace of the Holy Ghost. ♦

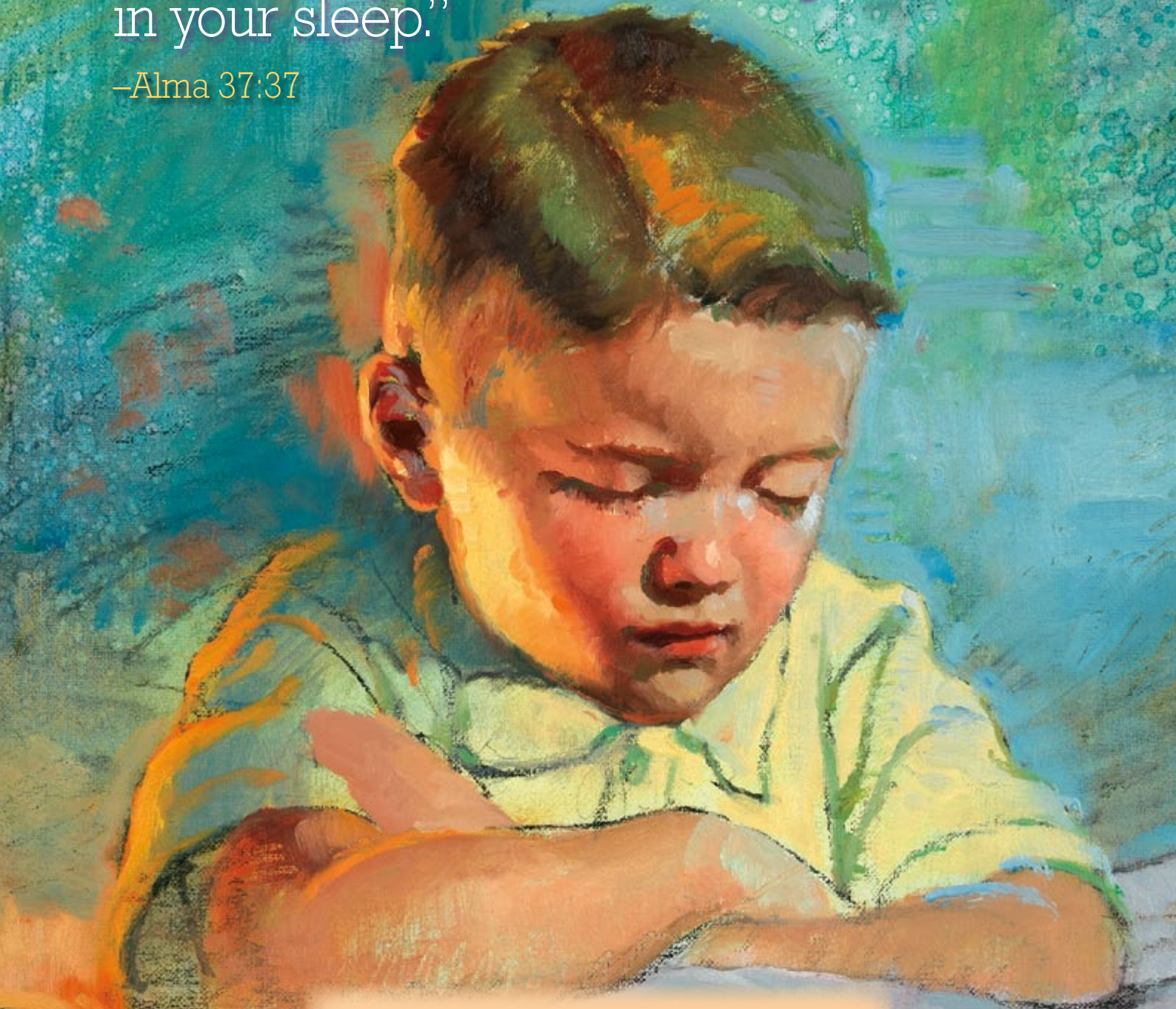


One Sunday I was reading the Book of Mormon. While I was reading 1 Nephi, I felt the Holy Ghost touch my heart. I prayed and thanked Heavenly Father for sending the Spirit to my heart. I know that Heavenly Father will send the Holy Ghost when we read the scriptures.

**Alexis A., age 7,  
California**

“When thou liest down at night  
**lie down unto the Lord,**  
that he may **watch over you**  
in your sleep.”

—Alma 37:37



**We want to see your Bright Ideas!**

Do you have a Bright Idea you'd like to share? Now is your chance! Sharpen those pencils, get out your crayons, and send us your drawings and captions before August 31, 2012. One day you might see your idea in print! Find our address on page 48. Remember to include a parent's permission.



# Baptism

I Can  
**PLAY**  
It!

(Simplified)

*Smoothly* ♩ = 62-72

Words by Mabel Jones Gabbott  
Music by Crawford Gates

1. Je - sus came to John the Bap - tist,  
2. "To ful - fill the law," said Je - sus,  
3. Now we know that we must al - so

In Ju - de - a long a - go, And was bap - tized  
When the Bap - tist ques - tioned why, "And to en - ter  
Wit - ness faith in Je - sus' word, Be bap - tized to

by im - mer - sion In the Riv - er Jor - dan's flow.  
with my Fa - ther In the king - dom up on high."  
show o - be - di - ence, As was Je - sus Christ, our Lord.

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**Practice tip:** Use the damper pedal, located on the right, to play the song more smoothly.  
The pedal marks under the bass line show when to use the pedal.

[You can print and listen to this song at \[lds.org/friend\]\(https://www.lds.org/friend\).](https://www.lds.org/friend)

By Beth M. Stephenson

(Based on a true story)

*During all the long hours till daylight is through, there is plenty indeed for my two hands to do (Children's Songbook, 272).*

I need help!"

Lizzy heard Mom yell from the kitchen and ran to see what was wrong. Mom was standing by the stove, where she had been putting jars of apricots into a pot of water. One of the jars had broken, and the glass had cut her hand deeply.

Lizzy grabbed a clean towel and wrapped Mom's bleeding hand while Daniel, Lizzy's older brother, found his keys so he could drive Mom to the hospital.

When Mom came home hours later, she explained that the glass had cut through an artery, a tendon, and a nerve. The doctors had been able to fix her hand, but

## Mom can't use her hand. Who will come to the rescue?

Mom was supposed to keep her hand dry and hold it above her shoulder for several weeks.

"We'll all need to help out even more until Mom can use her hand again," Dad said.

"What if we don't know what to do?" Lizzy's younger sister, Jamilyn, asked.

"Don't worry about that," Mom said. "I can't use my hand, but I can coach you if you need help."

Jamilyn and Lizzy looked at each other and smiled. It sounded like fun.

The next morning after family prayer, Dad left for work.

"I don't want the rest of the apricots to go to waste," Mom said. "How do you girls feel about canning fruit today?"



# MANY MAKE



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

My Gospel Standards



Mom explained how to clean the jars and fill them with apricot halves. Lizzy liked mixing the syrup and carefully pouring some into each jar. Familyn wiped the rims and tightened the lids. Soon most of the apricots were stored in glass jars. Lizzy wondered what they would do with the mushy apricots that were left over, until Mom said they would use them to make jam. Lizzy grinned as she and her sister mashed up the apricots. She loved homemade jam!

"This is the best jam I've ever eaten," Mom said during lunch as she munched on a peanut butter and jam sandwich the girls had made for her.

After lunch, the girls were eager to learn what other grown-up chores were on Mom's "to do" list. Lizzy helped Mom pay the bills. Familyn folded laundry. They had just finished pulling weeds from the rose garden when Mom introduced their final adventure of the day: making dinner. The menu included spaghetti, meatballs, and salad.

"What about your breadsticks?" Lizzy asked. Lizzy

loved Mom's homemade breadsticks that they always ate with spaghetti.

"They're a little tricky to make," Mom said. But Lizzy and Familyn begged Mom to teach them the recipe.

When Dad saw the golden breadsticks and juicy meatballs at dinnertime, he thought Mom had broken the rules about her hand.

"No, the girls did it all!" Mom said proudly.

Before long, Lizzy and Familyn could do housework and cook nutritious meals without much help from Mom. Daniel helped out with the evening chores, and Dad went grocery shopping after work. By the time Mom could work around the house again, she found things had changed at home.

"I'll make dinner tonight," Lizzy said. "I'm in the mood for spaghetti, and I like my recipe best."

"Do you need any help with the breadsticks?" Mom asked.

"No, thanks. Familyn wants to make them, and you might get in her way," Lizzy said with a smile. ♦

# HANDS LIGHT WORK

In some parts of the world, Mother's Day is celebrated on the second Sunday in May. What nice things can you do this month to show your mom that you love her? Tips for making an extra-special Mother's Day breakfast are on page 23.



# Moving

*José didn't want to move!  
How could he feel better?*

**By Megan Gladwell**  
(Based on a true story)

*Lift up your heads, and rejoice, and put your trust in God (Mosiah 7:19).*

**T**hanks for the ride!" José said. He grabbed his soccer ball and jumped out of his friend Trevor's car. "See you tomorrow," José called, waving to Trevor and his mom.

José's stomach grumbled as he walked into the kitchen. Soccer practice had been hard, and he was hungry! "Hi, Mom. When is dinner?" José asked.

"In five minutes, so hurry and wash up!" Mom answered cheerfully. "And we're going to have a family meeting tonight right after dinner."

"Really? What about?" José asked.

"You'll just have to wait and see," Dad said mysteriously as he sat down at the table. "Come on, boys, it's time to eat!" Dad called to José's two younger brothers.

After dinner, José sat on the couch with his brothers. He smiled as Lucas and Martin made silly faces. Dad squeezed onto the couch and put Lucas on his lap.

"We have something important to tell you," Mom said. "We've decided that we are going to move."

José, Martin, and Lucas stared at their parents.

"But why?" José asked.

"You know that we've been having a hard time with money," Dad explained. "Your mom and I talked and prayed about it, and we feel like this is the right thing to do."

"Grandma and Grandpa are leaving on their mission soon," Mom said. "They said we can live in their house while they're away. We're going to live there so we can save some money."

José was stunned. Martin leaped up and asked, "But what about school? What about our friends?"

"Mom found your new school, and it looks terrific," Dad said. "We'll get settled in and make new friends. It might be hard at first, but we'll get through it."

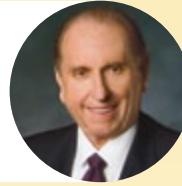
"I can't believe we're just going to leave!" Martin exclaimed.

José, who had been sitting quietly, said, "Lehi and his family had to leave their house too."



**“There will be calm and wind, sunlight and shadows, joy and sorrow. But if we really try, our home can be a bit of heaven here on earth.”**

President Thomas S. Monson



“That’s right, José,” Dad said. “Lehi and his family had to leave Jerusalem and live in the wilderness. We’re blessed to have another house to go to.”

“Can you think of other people from the scriptures who had to leave their homes?” Mom asked.

“Adam and Eve had to leave the Garden of Eden,” Martin said.

“And it was really pretty there!” Lucas added.

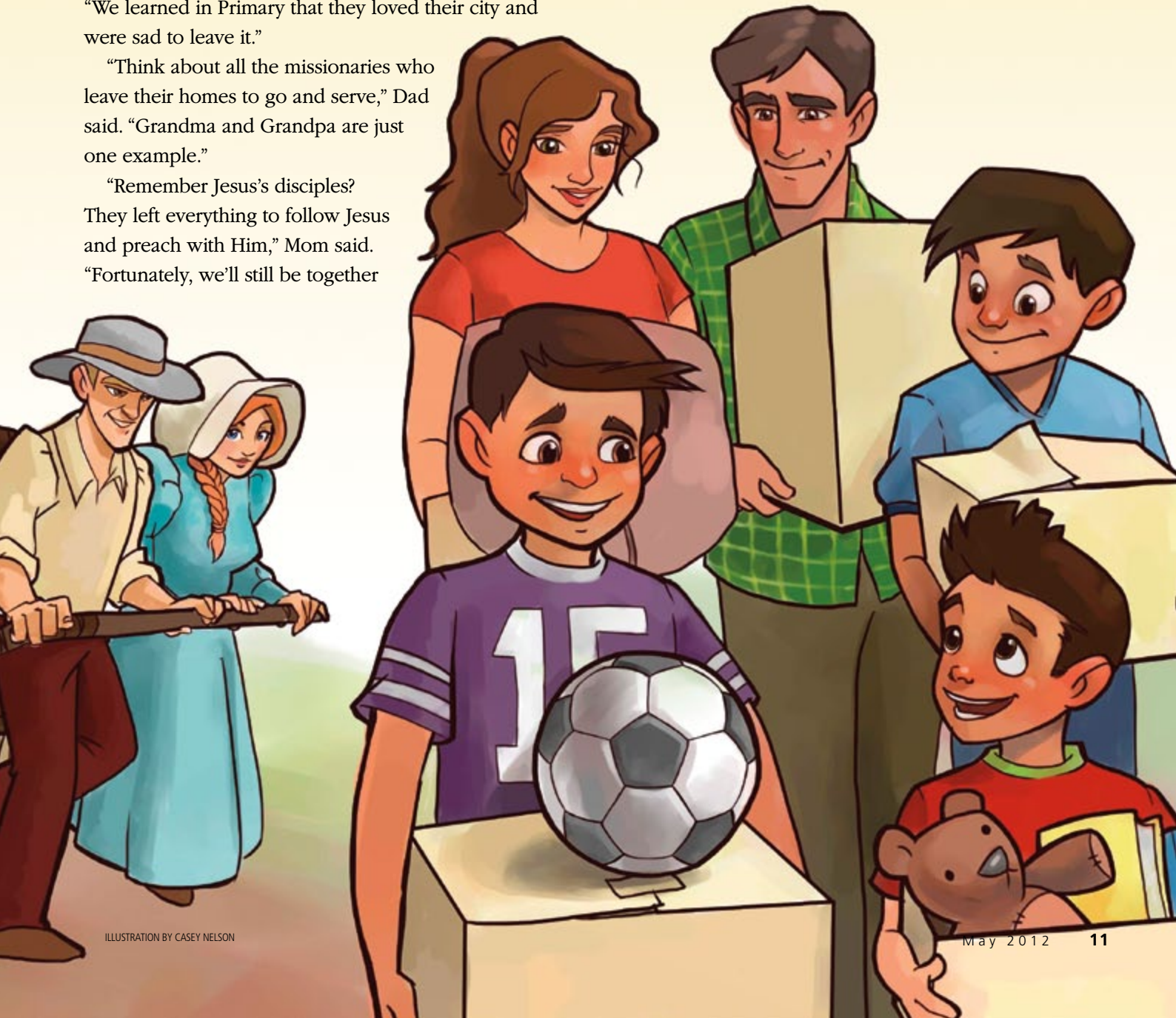
“The early Saints had to leave Nauvoo,” José said. “We learned in Primary that they loved their city and were sad to leave it.”

“Think about all the missionaries who leave their homes to go and serve,” Dad said. “Grandma and Grandpa are just one example.”

“Remember Jesus’s disciples? They left everything to follow Jesus and preach with Him,” Mom said. “Fortunately, we’ll still be together

as a family, and we know that Heavenly Father will help us through our challenges.”

José thought about his house, his school, his soccer team, and his friends. It would be hard to leave them all behind. But he knew that as long as his family was together and they trusted in Heavenly Father, everything would work out. Despite his heavy heart, José felt a glimmer of warmth as he looked at the people he loved most—his family. ♦



# Bulletin Board



## Journal Junction

Each month this year you can write a little bit of your own history in your journal. This month write about your mother or grandmother. What is her name? What does she look like? Draw a picture of her, or write down your favorite memory of her.



“The influence of your mother will bless you throughout life.”\*

—Elder Russell M. Nelson of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

## GOOD WORD

This month's good word is **Atonement**. It means the gift Jesus Christ gave us when He suffered in the Garden of Gethsemane and died on the cross. The gift blesses us with important things:

- \* When we are resurrected, our body and spirit will come back together.
- \* We can be forgiven when we repent.
- \* If we obey Heavenly Father, we will live with Him forever.
- \* If we give our best effort to serve God, He will strengthen us.

Look for this month's good word on page 14.

\*“Our Sacred Duty to Honor Women,” *Ensign*, May 1999, 38.

## MISSIONARY MOMENTS

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



One day at lunch I sat next to my classmate who is not a member of the Church. He saw me saying a prayer before eating. After that, we started to talk about the gospel and the plan of salvation. He asked me some questions too. I was glad that I shared some-

thing about the Church with my classmate. I hope he can be baptized someday.

**Blanca S., age 11, Hong Kong**



A new family moved to our block. The father had passed away, so it had been hard for them. We always try to be kind to them. My mom invited the mom to church, and her sons invite us to their birthday parties. I am happy

because they went to church with us and learned that they will see their dad and husband again and they can be an eternal family.

**Braden U., age 9, California**



## Healthy & Happy

By Jane H. Lassetter

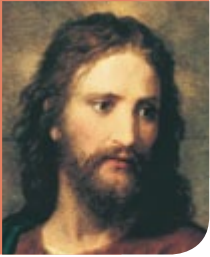
Heavenly Father wants you to take care of the wonderful body He has blessed you with. Answer these questions to help you know if you keep your body clean.

1. Do you wash your hands before you eat, after you use the bathroom, and after you sneeze or blow your nose?
2. Do you take a shower or bath regularly?
3. Do you brush your teeth twice a day?

### The Cleanest Answers

1. Washing your hands is an important thing you can do to keep from getting sick. All day long you touch things, and germs stick to your hands. When you wash your hands, the germs go down the drain instead of into your body where they could make you sick. When you wash your hands after you sneeze or blow your nose, you are washing away the germs that could make other people sick.
2. Just as when you wash your hands, germs and dirt go down the drain when you bathe regularly. When you wash your body you are helping your skin keep out germs and other dirty things that could make you sick.
3. When teeth get dirty, they start to decay. When that happens, they hurt! Brushing your teeth twice a day helps them stay healthy and strong.





# King Benjamin Teaches His People about Jesus Christ

By Diane L. Mangum

Families set up tents and unpacked. Children helped their parents look after the animals as the crowds grew bigger and bigger.

People from all over the land of Zarahemla had come to the temple, just as King Benjamin had asked. Row after row of tents faced the temple, filled with families eager to hear what the king was going to say.

The righteous king climbed to the top of the tower he had asked to be built next to the temple so the people could see and hear him. Messengers were ready to write down what King Benjamin said so they could take his

words to the people seated too far away to hear him.

The king looked out over his people and began to speak. He told them to open their ears, their hearts, and their minds so they would be ready to learn about God. He said that his son Mosiah would be the new king of Zarahemla.

Then King Benjamin told his people that an angel of God had visited him. The angel said the Lord would come to earth to live among men. He would be called Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and His mother would be named Mary.

The people of Zarahemla listened in amazement as King Benjamin taught that Jesus would work miracles such as healing the sick, raising the dead, and causing the lame to walk and the blind to see. Jesus would atone for the sins of all people. He would suffer so much that blood would come from every pore of His body. Then wicked people would crucify Him, and He would rise from the dead on the third day.

King Benjamin taught that salvation comes to each of us only through Jesus Christ.

People can find eternal happiness if they repent of their sins. If they do not repent, they will find endless misery.

King Benjamin told the people of Zarahemla that even though they were living many years before Christ would be born on earth, they could be forgiven of their sins and find joy if they believed in Christ. The people were overcome with what they heard and wanted to repent. As they repented, they were filled with joy and peace. ♦



## Salvation

**Salvation means being saved through the Atonement of Jesus Christ from death and from the sadness, guilt, and pain that come when we sin.**





### Every Nation and People

**King Benjamin prophesied that the time would come when people of every nation and language would know about the Savior Jesus Christ.**



# Drive-Through

By Marnie Spencer  
(Based on a true story)

*They observed to keep . . . the sabbath day holy unto the Lord* (Jarom 1:5).

Jacob and Abby walked to their car in the church parking lot. Their mom and younger sister, Sylvie, were waiting for them. Mom looked tired. She was going to have a baby soon, and Jacob knew she felt tired a lot.

"I'll be glad when your dad gets home from his work trip on Tuesday," Mom said.

"Me too," Jacob said.

"I'm hungry," Sylvie said.

Jacob was hungry too.

"I don't know what we're going to have for lunch," Mom said. "I didn't feel well yesterday, and I didn't go to the store like I planned to." She sighed. "I think we might need to go out for lunch today."

"Really?" Abby said.

"Just this once," Mom said. "We'll go through the drive-through. I'm too tired to cook."

Jacob sat in the back of the car, feeling confused. His family didn't go out to eat very often, and it was a real treat. But he was thinking about something he had learned in Primary a few weeks ago. He learned about keeping the Sabbath day holy. His teacher said that Sunday is the Lord's day and that the prophets have said we shouldn't go to stores, restaurants, or movies on Sunday. Jacob knew he had promised to keep the commandments. But he really didn't want to

miss out on lunch. And it wasn't as if they did this all the time.

As they got closer to the restaurant, Jacob didn't like the way he was feeling. He said a silent prayer that he would know what to do.

They pulled up to the drive-through. Mom rolled down the window and said, "I'd like a cheeseburger and a salad please."

Then Abby and Sylvie gave their orders. Jacob was next.

"Jacob, what do you want?" Mom asked.

In a quiet voice, Jacob said, "Nothing."

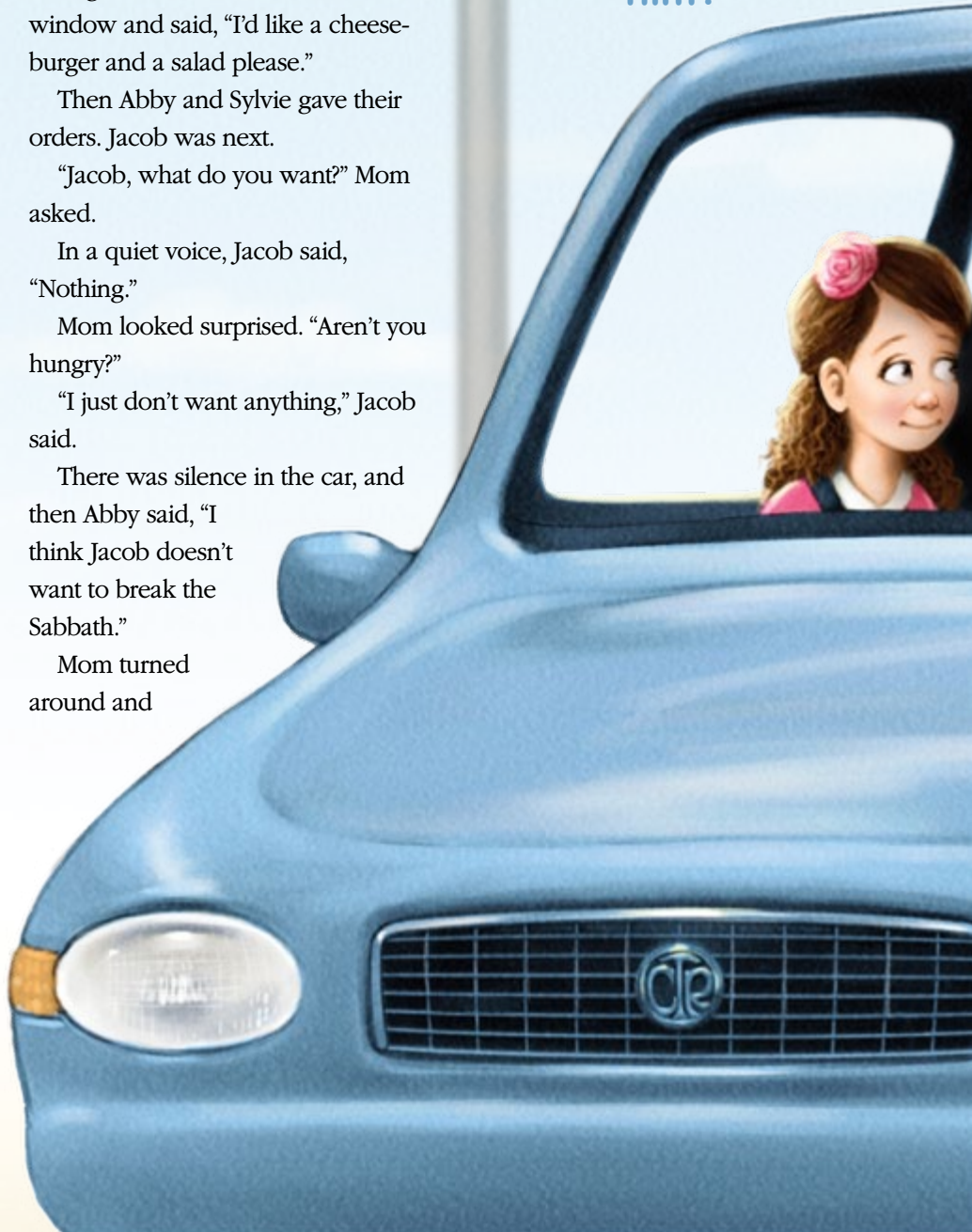
Mom looked surprised. "Aren't you hungry?"

"I just don't want anything," Jacob said.

There was silence in the car, and then Abby said, "I think Jacob doesn't want to break the Sabbath."

Mom turned around and

Should Jacob say what's bothering him?



# Decision

looked at Jacob. “Well,” she said, “Jacob is right.” She turned back to the window and said, “We’ve changed our minds. We’re going home for lunch.”

“You mean I don’t get my hamburger?” Sylvie asked as they drove away.

“You get something better,” Mom said. “You get to keep the commandments and honor the Lord’s day. We can have eggs and toast at home. That will be quick and good.”

“Maybe later Abby and I can make some cookies,” Jacob said.

“That would be fine,” Mom said. “But I’ve already had a treat today. I’ve had a reminder that we can always choose the right, even when other people are doing something they shouldn’t. You set a good example for our family today, Jacob. I’m proud of you.”

Jacob smiled as they drove home. The confused feeling was gone. He knew that what he felt now was better than any restaurant lunch. ♦



I love to ice skate. I tried out for a big skating team and I did well, but I didn’t make the team. Before the results were posted, the coach told my mom that the team would be practicing almost every Sunday. I know it was a blessing to not make it because I wanted to keep the Sabbath day holy. I decided to skate with the younger team on Saturdays. It hurt on the inside that I didn’t make the big team, but I know Heavenly Father is happy when we keep the commandments.

**Christa W., age 10, California**

Remembering a

# *Special Day*



My name is

*Allison S.,*

and I live in Nashville,  
Tennessee. I am eight years  
old, and I was just  
baptized a member of  
The Church of Jesus Christ  
of Latter-day Saints.

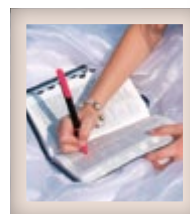
Some of my family members came to my baptism. My little sister, Abigail, and my brother, Daniel, were there. My grandparents came all the way from Utah. My mom helped me get dressed, and my dad baptized me. I was baptized in the same dress that my mom wore when she got baptized when she was a little girl.



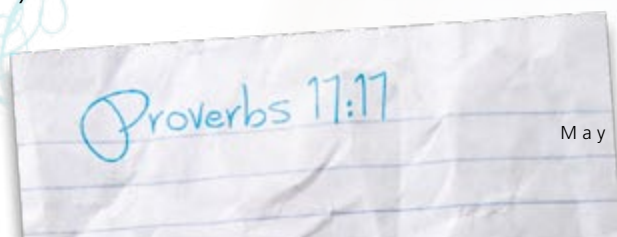
I invited some of my friends to come to my baptism too. Some of them were from school and some were from Girl Scouts. None of them are members of the Church, but I knew they would want to be there on my special day.



*All of my friends believe in the Bible, so we have that in common. I asked them to write down their favorite Bible verses and bring them to my baptism. After my baptism, I underlined the verses in my own Bible and wrote*



*my friends' names in the margins. My friend Katie gave me Proverbs 17:17, which says, "A friend loveth at all times." Another friend, Molly, brought Romans 8:28. It says, "All things work together for good to them that love God."*





SPECIAL WITNESS

# What can we do when hard things happen to us?

**By Elder Robert D. Hales**  
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

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

We were not sent by Father in Heaven just to be born. We were sent to endure and to return to Him with honor.



As we put our faith in the Lord and keep our focus on the eternities, we will be blessed to be able to accept whatever trial we are given.



There is nothing that we are enduring that Jesus does not understand, and He waits for us to go to our Heavenly Father in prayer.



If we will be obedient and if we are diligent, our prayers will be answered, our problems will diminish, and we will be close to the Lord and feel of His love and of the comfort of the Holy Ghost.



Life on earth, as we know it, is only temporary, and, if we endure it well, the Lord has promised us: "And, if you keep my commandments and endure to the end you shall have eternal life, which gift is the greatest of all the gifts of God" (D&C 14:7).



From "Behold, We Count Them Happy Which Endure," *Ensign*, May 1998, 75.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY KATIE MCDEE

# Book Reviews



## Picture Books

***The White Ox***, by Ruth Hailstone, illustrated by Dan Burr. When Emily leaves her family behind in England to travel to the Salt Lake Valley, she encounters sickness and hardship, but always adventure. When she doesn't think she can make it any farther, a mysterious friend appears to help her on her way to Zion.

***All the World***, by Liz Garton Scanlon, illustrated by Marla Frazee. The world might seem big and scary sometimes, but you have your own world of family, friends, and things that you love. Spend a day in this book's small town full of love and friendship.

***The Buffalo Are Back***, by Jean Craighead George, illustrated by Wendell Minor. A long time ago, 75 million buffalo roamed the American Great Plains. But it took less than 100 years for them to almost disappear. Find out what happened and how the buffalo are returning to the plains.

## Fiction for children ages 5–9

***Oliver and Albert, Friends Forever***, by Jean Van Leeuwen, illustrated by Ann Schweninger. Albert is the new boy at school. He can't kick or catch, so his classmates don't want him on their kickball team. But Oliver discovers that Albert is good at other things and that two people don't have to be exactly the same to be friends.

***In Aunt Lucy's Kitchen\****, by Cynthia Rylant, illustrated by Wendy Anderson Halperin. Lily, Rosie, and Tess are cousins who live with their Aunt Lucy. When they decide to start a cookie company, they don't know about the adventures awaiting them or the new friends they will make.

***A Sick Day for Amos McGee\****, by Philip C. Stead, illustrated by Erin E. Stead. Every day, Amos visits his animal friends at the zoo. But one day Amos is sick and has to stay home. See who comes to visit to cheer him up!

## Fiction for children ages 10–12

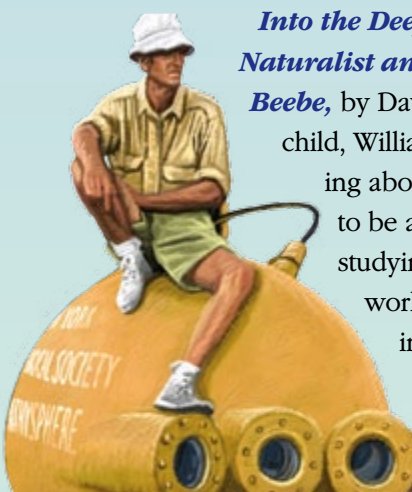
***The Castle in the Attic\****, by Elizabeth Winthrop. When the housekeeper, Mrs. Phillips, tells William she is moving back to England, William is very sad. Mrs. Phillips gives William a special good-bye gift—an old toy castle. When a tiny knight comes alive, William discovers that the castle is magic!

***The Penderwicks on Gardam Street***, by Jeanne Birdsall. The four Penderwick sisters can't imagine their father dating anyone after their mother passes away. When the girls launch the Save-Daddy Plan to stop him, they discover that saving their father is harder than they thought.

## Nonfiction

***Far-out Guide to Earth***, by Mary Kay Carson. Do you know when the first satellite launched into space or how fast the earth travels around the sun? Find out these and more far-out facts about our planet.

***Into the Deep: The Life of Naturalist and Explorer William Beebe***, by David Sheldon. As a child, William Beebe loved learning about nature. He grew up to be a famous naturalist, studying animals around the world and diving deep into the oceans to see things no one had ever seen before.



These reviews do not constitute Church endorsement of these books, but the books have been carefully reviewed to ensure that Church standards are observed. Please note: Occasionally, characters who are not members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints do not follow the Word of Wisdom. Selections where this occurs are marked with an asterisk (\*).



From an interview with Sister Cheryl A. Esplin, second counselor in the Primary general presidency; by Annie Beer



*I was led by the Spirit, not knowing beforehand the things which I should do* (1 Nephi 4:6).

**I** grew up on a farm outside of town. One evening, my parents were away at church meetings, and I was left in charge. One of my younger brothers ran into the house and told me the garage was on fire. The garage was only a few feet away from our house.

The one side of the garage where my father had been repairing a tractor was on fire, and flames had reached the car on the other side. I told my brothers to get far away from the garage so they wouldn't be hurt. Then I grabbed a broom and started beating out the fire.

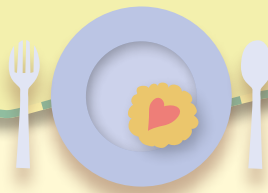
One of my brothers came to help, but he suddenly caught on fire and started to run. I yelled at him to stop and roll, but he just kept running. I chased after him and pulled him down to put out the flames. The thought came to me to have him stand in the canal near our home. I told him to do that while I put out the rest of the fire.

I know I had Heavenly Father's help in knowing what I needed to do to put out the fire that day. The doctors said that if I hadn't told my brother to stand in the cold water of the canal, he would have needed surgery from the burns. Instead he healed so well that there was only one small scar on his foot. It was a miracle.

I know that Heavenly Father listens to our prayers and that He watches over us. He stands ready to help us when we pray, listen, and follow the promptings of the Holy Ghost. ♦







# Mother's Day Activities

## Breakfast Waffle Sandwich



- 2 eggs**
- 1/8 cup milk**
- salt and pepper to taste**
- 4 frozen multigrain waffles\***
- 2 slices of cheese**

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F (177°C).
2. In a bowl, beat the eggs and the milk together.
3. Scramble the eggs in a skillet over medium heat. Season with salt and pepper.
4. Toast the waffles according to package instructions.
5. Spoon half of the eggs onto a toasted waffle. Top with a slice of cheese and one more waffle. Press down firmly. Repeat for the other sandwich.
6. Place the sandwiches on a baking sheet and bake in the oven for 5 minutes, or until the cheese melts.
7. Remove the sandwiches from the oven. Cut them in half and serve.

\*If frozen waffles aren't available, you can use toasted bread or tortillas.

Use the label below to transform a regular bottle into something special to give your mom with breakfast. Wash out a glass or plastic bottle and peel off any labels. Cut out the label below and tape it around the bottle. Fill the bottle with your mother's favorite drink, or use it as a vase to give her a Mother's Day flower. (Tip: If you are using the bottle as a vase, put pebbles and water in the bottom to keep it from tipping.)



# The Story of the **BOOK OF MORMON**

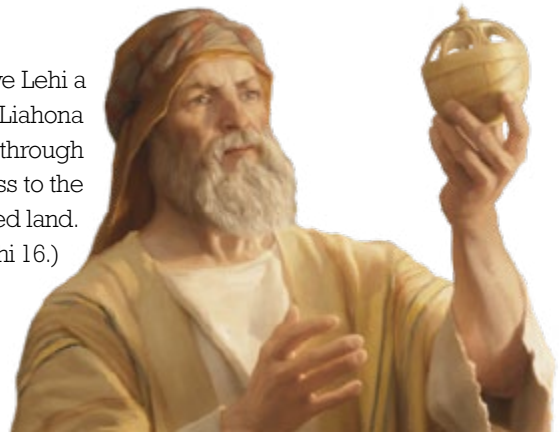


**1.** The Book of Mormon begins with a prophet named Lehi, who lived with his family in Jerusalem. Lehi warned the wicked people in Jerusalem that they would be destroyed if they did not repent, but the people didn't listen. The Lord told Lehi to take his wife, Sariah, and their sons—Laman, Lemuel, Sam, and Nephi—into the wilderness. (See 1 Nephi 1–2.)



**"I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded."**

**3.** The Lord gave Lehi a compass called the Liahona to guide his family through the wilderness to the promised land. (See 1 Nephi 16.)



**2.** After they left their home, Lehi sent his sons back to get the brass plates. People had written on them the history of their ancestors and other things the Lord had told them to write. Lehi and Nephi took good care of these plates. They also wrote on metal plates what happened to their family. (See 1 Nephi 3–5.)



**4.** The Lord told Nephi to build a boat to take his father's family to the promised land. Nephi obeyed his father and the Lord, but Laman and Lemuel did not. (See 1 Nephi 17.)

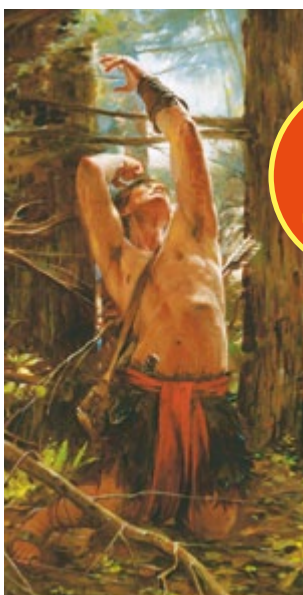
**5.** Lehi and his family sailed to the promised land. (See 1 Nephi 18.)





**6.** Laman and Lemuel continued to be disobedient. Their descendants are known as the Lamanites. Nephi continued to be obedient. His descendants are called Nephites. (See 2 Nephi 4–5.)

**7.** After Lehi and Nephi died, other people—such as Nephi's brother Jacob—were in charge of writing important teachings and events on the plates. (See Jacob 1.)



**"All the day long did I cry unto him."**

**8.** Enos prayed to be forgiven of his sins, and he was forgiven. (See Enos 1.)

**9.** King Benjamin built a tower to teach his people the gospel. (See Mosiah 2–6.)



**10.** A wicked king named Noah had the prophet Abinadi put to death. But Abinadi's teachings converted one of Noah's priests, named Alma. (See Mosiah 11–17.)



**11.** Alma escaped from King Noah's court, taught other people about the gospel, and baptized them. (See Mosiah 18.)



**12.** Alma's son Alma the Younger was not obedient. He and his friends, the sons of Mosiah, were wicked. Then an angel told them to repent. Alma and the sons of Mosiah repented and spent the rest of their lives preaching the gospel. (See Mosiah 27–28.)

**"I have repented of my sins, and have been redeemed of the Lord; behold I am born of the Spirit."**



**13.** Mosiah's son Ammon defended King Lamoni's flocks and won his trust. Then he converted many Lamanites. (See Alma 17–19.)



**"Behold, whosoever will maintain this title upon the land, let them come forth in the strength of the Lord."**

**14.** Captain Moroni wrote the title of liberty and fought to defend the liberty of his people. (See Alma 46, 48.)

**15.** Helaman led an army of 2,000 righteous Lamanite young men. (See Alma 53, 56–58.)



**"They had fought as if with the strength of God."**

**16.** A Lamanite prophet named Samuel prophesied that Jesus Christ would soon be born. (See Helaman 13–16.)



**17.** Far away in Bethlehem, Jesus Christ was born. He taught His gospel, healed and blessed people, and set up His Church. Then He was crucified and resurrected. (See 3 Nephi 1, 8–10.)

**18.** After His Resurrection, Christ visited the righteous Nephites and Lamanites. He taught them His gospel, healed them, and blessed them, just as He had in the land around Jerusalem. (See 3 Nephi 11–28.)



**19.** A 10-year-old boy named Mormon was chosen to write on the plates when he grew older. At age 24 he began combining the most important stories from all the records onto a set of metal plates. Before he died, he gave these plates to his son Moroni. (See Mormon 1.)



**20.** Moroni was a great general. He was the last Nephite to survive a battle between the Lamanites and the Nephites. Before he died, he buried the plates in a place called Cumorah. (See Mormon 6, 8.)



**21.** About 1,400 years after Moroni buried the plates, a 14-year-old boy named Joseph Smith prayed to know which church was right. (See Joseph Smith—History 1:5–16.)

**22.** Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ visited Joseph Smith and told him that none of the churches were true and complete. Joseph would help restore the true Church of Jesus Christ. (See Joseph Smith—History 1:16–20.)



**23.** Moroni visited Joseph and told him about the buried plates and that he would translate them. (See Joseph Smith—History 1:27–54.)

**“I saw a pillar of light exactly over my head, above the brightness of the sun, which descended gradually until it fell upon me.”**



**24.** When Joseph Smith was 21, he went to the Hill Cumorah and got the plates from the place where Moroni had buried them. (See Joseph Smith—History 1:59.)



**25.** Through the power of God, Joseph Smith translated the writing on the plates. He published this translation. It is called the Book of Mormon. (See title page and introduction to the Book of Mormon.)



# Karisa's Questions

**By Hilary Watkins Lemon**  
(Based on a true story)

*Behold, according to your desires, yea, even according to your faith shall it be done unto you*  
(D&C 11:17).

I guess I always knew that Mom, Dad, and Grandma were Mormons. Sometimes Grandma took me and my brother to her church, but my family didn't go to Sunday meetings. I wasn't a member of any church.

I never really talked about religion with my friends. I had seen my friend Lynsi at Grandma's church, but other than that, religion didn't come up much.

Then one day at school, Lynsi said, "Karisa, I'm getting baptized this weekend. Would you like to come?"

I couldn't go, but I started wondering what baptism was. How did Lynsi decide to be baptized? Did she have to take a test? Why did she have to be baptized at all?

A long time passed, and I couldn't hold all these questions inside anymore. I decided to ask my mom about baptism and about The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

"Well, Dad and I were baptized in that church when we were kids,





• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •  
How did you or your family learn about the gospel? See page 48 to find out how to share your experience with us.  
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

but we haven't gone to church in a long time," Mom said.

"What does a person do to be baptized?" I asked.

"Usually people who want to know more about the Church talk to missionaries. They teach people about what they believe," Mom explained.

"Can I talk to the missionaries then?" I asked.

Mom looked uncertain. "I'm not sure, Karisa," she said. "Asking the missionaries to teach you is a big commitment. You have to be willing to attend church regularly and live what they teach you. Are you ready to do that?"

"Yes, I promise, Mom!" I didn't know why I said that. The missionaries hadn't even taught me anything yet.

"We'll talk about it again later," Mom said.

The next day I couldn't tell if Mom was willing to invite the missionaries over, so I started on my homework. But all I could think about was asking the missionaries about baptism and what they believe.

A little while later there was a knock on the door. My brother Kaleb answered and called for my parents.

I was surprised when Mom, Dad, and Kaleb entered

the family room with two strangers.

Mom looked at me and said, "Karisa, these are the missionaries. Did you ask someone to send them here?"

My eyes widened as I looked at the two young men wearing dark pants, white shirts, and ties. One held a blue book with gold words on the cover. Their name tags said Elder Kamalu and Elder Hengen.

"No," I said. "But I really hoped they would visit soon."

Elder Kamalu smiled. "May we share a message with your family?" he asked my dad.

Dad nodded his head and even smiled a little. The missionaries didn't stay for very long, but they left the blue book for us to read. It's called the Book of Mormon. They asked if I would read the first page of it. I promised I would, but I still had so many questions. I couldn't wait to get more answers! ♦



*Karisa got her answers and decided to be baptized. Here she is around the time of her baptism and, recently, in front of the Idaho Falls Idaho Temple.*

# Show and Tell



## Spring!

Spring has sprung;  
Winter is done.  
Shout and cheer.  
Spring is here!  
Birds above,  
Bees in the trees,  
Flowers taking showers—  
I love, love spring!

*Emma H., age 8, Utah*



*Kaila S., age 8, British Columbia, Canada*



*Jonathan S., age 10, Ohio*



**Samuel, Grace, and Cora A.**, ages 11, 9, and 4, Utah, like to smile and have fun. Cora has disabilities, and Sam and Grace help their parents take care of her. Sam likes to invent things and mow the lawn. Grace enjoys using her imagination and helping out. They all like to go to church and learn about Jesus.



**Naomi W.**, age 11, Maryland, has earned her Faith in God Award. Her talents include ballet, piano, violin, and writing poetry. Naomi is gentle and loving, and she enjoys caring for younger children.



**Aaron H.**, age 11, Arkansas, has earned all 20 Webelos pins. He likes to play sports. Aaron has been reading the Book of Mormon and has a goal to finish it before he turns 12.



**Lilian C.**, age 3, Oregon, is a Sunbeam who is excited to be in Primary. She likes singing time and taking her scriptures to church. Lilian is a good example to her parents and her little sister, Evelyn.

Would you like to be a part of our new "Show and Tell" section? Turn to page 48 to find out how to contribute.



What blessing are you thankful for? See page 48 to find out how to send us your answer.



In my class at school there are two members of the Church—my best friend and me. We asked our teacher if we could show her a Book of Mormon. She said yes, and the next day we took a Book of Mormon to school and showed it to our teacher. I told her about Joseph Smith, and I even showed her a picture of him. Afterward I felt good because I knew I had been a good missionary.

**Clara V., age 8, Denmark**

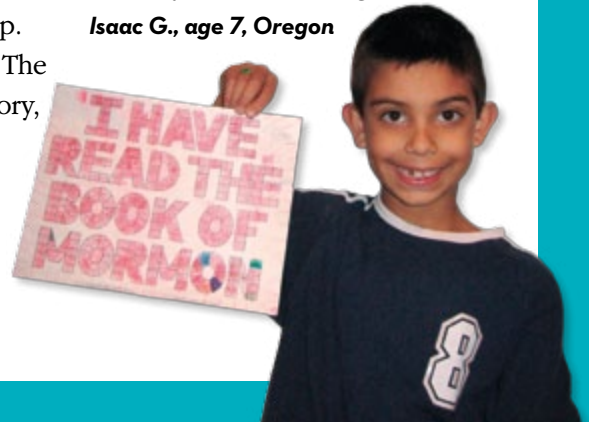


One day I came home from school very sad because I had to write a story and I didn't know what to write. My mom and I talked about how Heavenly Father could help me if I prayed and asked for help. My mom and I prayed together. The next day I was able to write a story, and it was easy. I was so happy. I told my mom that Heavenly Father had answered my prayer. The words just came to me when it was time to write!

**Evan N., age 8, Washington**

I read all of the Book of Mormon. It took me almost two years. My daddy gave me a coloring chart so I could know where I was in my reading. Each time I finished a chapter I colored a piece of the chart. When I finished the whole thing, I got my own set of scriptures with my name on it in gold letters.

**Isaac G., age 7, Oregon**



**Anna G., age 10, Argentina**



**Rockwell H., age 11, South Carolina**



**Allison B., age 7, Arizona**

# Mom's Helping Hands

By Chad E. Phares  
(Based on a true story)





# Coloring Page

*I'm glad that I live in this beautiful world Heav'nly Father  
created for me (Children's Songbook, 228-29).*





# little brother, **BIG**



*Sammy wanted to help. But how?*

# EXAMPLE

By **Kate Anderson**  
(Based on a true story)

*I will try in all I do and say to live the gospel more each day (Children's Songbook, 148).*

Sammy looked sad as he watched the pictures on TV. Floodwaters were flowing through streets and towns on the other side of Australia. Sammy thought about the boys and girls whose homes would be filled with mud. He thought about how their toys would be ruined.

Sammy went to the cupboard. He took out a shopping bag and filled it with toys he didn't play with anymore. Sammy took the bag to Mum.

"These are for the boys and girls in the floods," he said.

"That is very kind, Sammy," Mum said. "The people in the floods will

also need many other things."

Sammy and his older brother Benjamin had been saving their money for a new toy. Sammy kept his money in a jar. Sammy grabbed the jar and took out all his money.

"I want to give this to the people in the floods too," he said.

As he put the money in an envelope, Benjamin walked into the kitchen.

"What are you doing?" Benjamin asked.

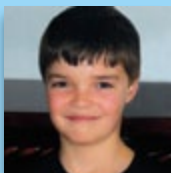
"I'm sharing money with the people in the floods," Sammy said.

"That's a good idea," Benjamin said. "I'll share my money too."

Mum drove Sammy and Benjamin to a mall where they could donate their money to the people in the flood.

"You are a good example, Sammy," Benjamin said as they walked together holding their envelopes.

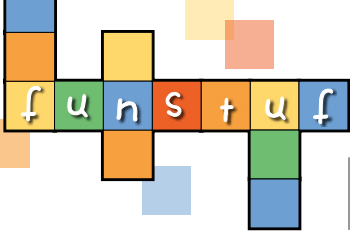
Sammy smiled. He felt good all over. He was the little brother, but he had been a big example. ◆



**Carter M., age 9, Utah**

For my birthday I got some money. That Sunday I was filling out a tithing slip, and I asked my mom and dad if I could give some of my money for humanitarian aid. They said I should if that's what the Spirit was telling me, so I did. A few days later I saw on the news that Japan had a tsunami. I was glad I listened to the Spirit and that I could help people in need.





# Find the Rhyme

By Hilary Watkins Lemon

The pairs of pictures below describe words from scriptures about Jesus Christ. Use the scriptures to help you find the answers. Write the answers below. Hint: the words in each pair rhyme. See answers on page 48.

1.



John 8:12

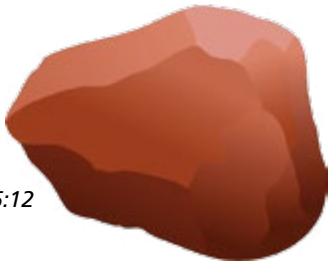
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\_\_\_\_\_



Alma 5:50

2.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Helaman 5:12



Mark 10:34



3.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Jacob 4:6

Ether 12:28



4.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 1:18



Jeremiah 51:15



5.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Doctrine and  
Covenants  
97:20



Psalms 106:8







**When I take the sacrament I renew my baptismal covenants.**

*Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins,  
and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:38).*

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

# I Choose the Right When I Am Baptized and Confirmed a Member of the Church

**A**bigail sat quietly during sacrament meeting. Today she felt sad. She was thinking about how she hadn't been nice to a girl at school. Abigail felt even worse because she had been baptized a few weeks earlier. She remembered how good she felt on her baptism day.

"I wish I could get baptized again," Abigail thought. "Then I could feel good again."



She thought about one of her favorite Primary songs: "I know when I am baptized my wrongs are washed away, and I can be forgiven and improve myself each day."\*

Abigail remembered that by fixing her wrong actions and taking the sacrament, she could be clean again—as clean as she was after her baptism! Abigail planned to apologize to her classmate. She smiled and prepared to take the sacrament. ♦

\* "When I Am Baptized," *Children's Songbook*, 103.

## Song and Scripture

- "When I Am Baptized," *Children's Songbook*, 103
- Acts 2:38





# MATT AND MANDY

This little beauty will give shade many years after we're gone. Someone will be grateful on hot days.



But what if they don't know who to thank? We should put up a sign with our names on it.



Maybe it's better they don't know. A gift from an unknown stranger may inspire them to give something to someone else.



And we don't know who planted the shade trees we enjoy. Do we ever thank those unknown tree planters?

I guess I don't.

Neither do I.



There! Well done, everyone. But there's still one thing left to do.





# LOST ON

**By Erin Hill Littlefield**

(Based on a true story)

*Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long in the land which the Lord thy God shall give thee (1 Nephi 17:55).*

**T**he Ozark Mountains! Karl could hardly wait to see them. The whole last week of school, Karl daydreamed about the backpacking adventure he was going to have as soon as school got out.

Finally, fifth grade was over, and Mom was helping Karl pack his backpack.

“Be sure to pack your bug spray,” she reminded. “And make sure to take your flashlight.”

“OK, Mom,” Karl said. But he was busy thinking about all the animals he hoped to see in the mountains.

“You need to take your whistle too,” Mom added, dropping his whistle into his backpack.

When Mom wasn’t looking, Karl pulled the whistle out of his pack. “I won’t need this,” he thought. “Mom doesn’t understand what adventure is about.”

Early the next morning, Karl and his friends rode in vans to the trailhead. When they finally arrived, all the boys cheered.

Karl was assigned to a trail group. Each group would hike and camp together with their leaders.

After hiking for several hours, Karl began to feel impatient. Several other groups had already passed his. “I’m with all the slowpokes,” Karl thought.

After lunch, Karl decided to blaze ahead. He knew he should tell an adult, but he didn’t want to be stuck with his group anymore.

A few hours later, it began to get dark. Karl couldn’t hear his group anymore. He started to retrace his steps, but as it got darker, he worried that he might fall down a steep incline or stumble near an overlook. He remembered Mom’s reminder to pack his flashlight. “I wish I’d listened better,” he thought.

It was nearly nighttime. Karl unrolled his sleeping bag and found a stick of beef jerky in

*Karl was lost!  
If only he had  
his whistle.*



# THE TRAIL



his backpack. He listened to the strange sounds of the woods at night. Karl knew he had broken an important rule by leaving his group, and he wished he had listened to Mom better before he left.

The next thing Karl knew, something bright woke him up. "You found me!" he yelled happily. But it was only a firefly dancing in front of his face. Karl felt his heart start beating fast. What if no one ever found him?

As soon as the sun rose the next morning, Karl rolled up his sleeping bag and looked through his backpack for something else to eat. At the bottom of the pack he saw the whistle his mother had given him.

"Mom must have put it back in my bag," he thought with relief. Karl knew it was best to stay where he was and wait for the others to find him. He started blowing his whistle as hard as he could, and soon he saw a search party coming down the trail.

When Karl got home, he gave Mom a huge hug. "I'll never forget how important it is to listen to you and follow the rules so I can be safe," he said. Then he handed Mom his whistle for safekeeping. ♦

**"Look to your mother. . . Listen to her. . . She will be your greatest source of wisdom."<sup>2</sup>**

Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles



# Untangling Feelings

By Marissa Widdison

Part of growing up is learning to become more independent. Even when you know that family members love you and want what's best for you, there may be times when you don't agree with what they say or do. When you are stressed, it's important to talk, share, and find solutions together. Below are examples of what scriptures and prophets teach about getting along with family members.

Try to match each story or quote below with one of the statements on the right. Then untangle the lines to check your answers.

1. President Thomas S. Monson taught, "Be honest with your mother and your father. . . . Communicate with them. Avoid the silent treatment" ("Be Thou An Example," *Ensign*, May 2005, 112).

2. When Enos wanted to better understand his father's teachings, he prayed. (See Enos 1:3-4.)

3. Elder L. Tom Perry said he and his wife would take walks around a pond to feel better when they were stressed. (See "Let Him Do It with Simplicity," *Ensign*, Nov. 2008, 7.)

4. When Nephi's father began to murmur about their trials, Nephi still worked with him to find food for their family. (See 1 Nephi 16:20-23.)







I can pray that Heavenly Father will help me and my family members understand one another.



I can talk with my parents when something is bothering me.



I can find safe, healthy ways to let go of upset feelings.



I can treat my family members with respect, even if I don't agree with them.



## 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 Thomas S. Monson's message on pages 2–3. As a family, talk about what it means to sing our sweetest song. Invite family members to write down how they can sing their sweetest song for the Lord.
3. Read "Healthy & Happy" (page 13). Role-play what happens when you take care of your body and what can happen if you don't. Talk about other ways you can take care of your body.
4. In "Remembering a Special Day" (pages 18–19), Allison remembers her baptism. Have family members share memories of when they were baptized. Younger children can talk about what they look forward to and how they can prepare for baptism.
5. "The Story of the Book of Mormon" shows many important moments from the scriptures (pages 24–27). Pick one of those moments, read the suggested chapter or chapters as a family, and act out or draw the scene.



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### Hidden CTR Ring

Did you find the ring? Look on the inside front cover!

### Sidebar References

1. "Hallmarks of a Happy Home," *Ensign*, Oct. 2001, 3.
2. "Mothers and Daughters," *Ensign*, May 2010, 19.

### Funstuf Answers

Page 38: 1) light, might; 2) rock, mock; 3) mountain, fountain; 4) birth, earth; 5) power, tower  
Page 43: "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8).

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Ammon



King Lamoni

**Ammon, a Great Servant**  
Alma 17–19



# Through **Your** Eyes



*I took this picture of these birds in my backyard. They remind me that I am blessed with the beauty in nature that God created.*

**Jaxon P.,  
age 9, Utah**

Do you like taking photos? We'd like to see your best shots about how Heavenly Father blesses your life. E-mail them to [friend@ldschurch.org](mailto: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 e-mail. 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!



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