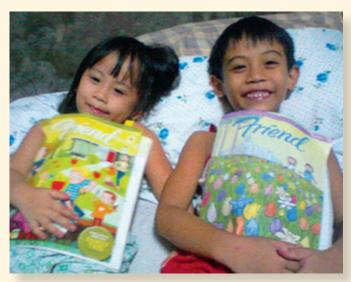






How We Read the Friend Still Loving the Friend

Te read the *Friend* every night before we sleep. Princess and Prince B., ages 3 and 6, Tarlac, Philippines



Dear Friends,

One of our favorite things is reading letters from you! Every month we receive letters telling us how our readers are trying to follow Jesus by helping others and being brave in living the gospel.

On page 11 you can read about a girl who answered someone else's prayer just by being a friend.

If you'd like to write to us, just turn to page 48 to find out how.

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.



am grateful for the *Friend*. I'm lalmost 12, and I still enjoy the Friend. I love it and have fun reading it. I love every last bit of it and especially enjoy Funstuff and Matt & Mandy.

Aaron R., age 11, California, USA

Studying the Friend



am homeschooled, and we use the *Friend* as part of our religion studies. My favorite part is doing the activities, such as "One Scoop at a Time" (July 2013) and our family "Blessing Banner" ("Bringing Primary Home," July 2013).

Jillian P., age 6, Texas, USA

Celebrating Gratitude



Ty family and I made the "Gratitude Tree" from the November 2013 Friend. My dad got brown bags for the trunk and the branches. My brother Mickey and I made the leaves while Dad made the trunk and branches. I liked writing down what I'm thankful for on the leaves.

Esther, with Mickey, Benjamin, and Gabriel F., ages 7, 5, 3, and 1, Washington, USA



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

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All rights reserved. The Friend (ISSN 0009-4102) is published monthly by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 50 E. North Temple St., Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-0024, United States of America. Periodicals Postage Paid at Salt Lake City, Utah.

To subscribe: By phone: Call 1-800-537-5971 to order using Visa, MasterCard, Discover Card, or American Express.

Online: Go to store.lds.org.

By mail: Send \$8 U.S. check or money order to Distribution Services, P.O. Box 26368, Salt Lake City, UT 84126-0368.

To change address: Send old and new address information to Distribution Services at the above address, or change the address by phone at the number listed above. Please allow 60 days for changes to take effect.

Submit manuscripts or art to:

Friend Editorial, 50 E. North Temple St. Rm. 2432, Salt Lake City, UT 84150-0024, United States of America. Unsolicited material is welcome, but no responsibility is assumed. For return, include self-addressed, stamped envelope. Children's submissions will not be returned. Email: friend@ldschurch.org.

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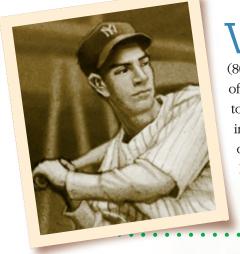
POSTMASTER: Send all UAA to CFS (see DMM 707.4.12.5). NONPOSTAL AND MILITARY FACILITIES: Send address changes to Distribution Services, P.O. Box 26368, Salt Lake City, UT 84126-

Canada Post Information: Publication Agreement #40017431.



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

Gifts from Heaven



Then I became a deacon at the age of 12, I lived in New Jersey, USA, 50 miles (80 km) from New York City. I dreamed of being a great baseball player. My father took me to see a game in Yankee Stadium, in New York City. I can still see the swing of the bat as a famous player named Joe DiMaggio hit a home run into the center field stands with my father sitting beside me.

But another day I spent with my father shaped my life forever. He took me to the home of an ordained patriarch. The patriarch led me to a chair, placed his hands on my head, and gave me a patriarchal blessing as a gift from God.

He said I was one of those of whom it had been said, "Blessed are the peacemakers" (Matthew 5:9). a special blessing of guidance and Because the Lord comfort from

revealed this gift to me in my patriarchal blessing, I have been able to recognize it and look for opportunities to use it to bless others.

God knows our gifts. My challenge to you is to pray to know the gifts you have been given, to develop them, and to use your gifts to serve others. lacktree

Adapted from "Help Them Aim High," Ensign, Nov. 2012, 60-67.



a man who

is called to give

patriarchal

blessings

Heavenly Father



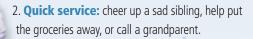
There are many spiritual gifts!
Unscramble these gifts listed below.
(Hint: They are all found in D&C 46:17-24.)
Check your answers on page 48.

somwdi	
seoutng	
hiaft	
oecryhpp	
owgndekle	
ilsmcear	



Heavenly Father gives us gifts and talents so that we can serve others. Try using your special talents to do these three kinds of service:

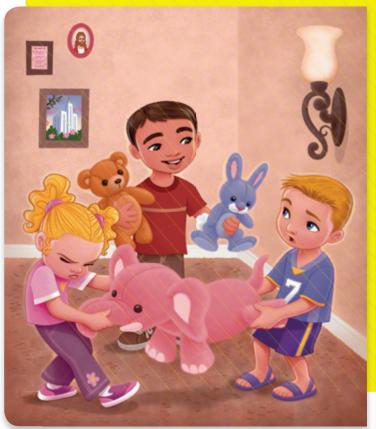
1. **Planned service:** plan a time to take cookies to someone, visit a nursing home, or clean up a park.



3. **Secret service:** clean a sibling's room, write a note telling someone you love them, or pray for someone who needs help.



President Eyring learned from his patriarchal blessing that he had a gift as a peacemaker. Find five differences between these two pictures of a child being a peacemaker. For each difference you find, name one gift or talent Heavenly Father has given you.







By McKelle George (Based on a true story)

"Ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (John 13:35).

ani craned her neck back all the way, but she still couldn't see the top of the beautiful building. Her dad said it was called a cathedral. People who belonged to a different church came here. Dani didn't understand why she and her family were visiting this church on a Friday, but Dad said they were going to something called Evensong.

"What's that?" Dani asked.

"It's a meeting where people sing songs, read scriptures, and pray together," Dad said. "Like a big family before going home for the night."

Dani liked how that sounded. She and her family were visiting England. Last Sunday they went to a ward in a city called York. In Primary all the kids knew the same scriptures and songs Dani

Prayers and



CATHEDRALS

did—but they said them with really cool accents. She knew the ward she visited was part of Jesus's true church, just like her ward at home.

But this cathedral was very different from the church buildings she was used to. Once they were inside, she saw how tall the ceiling was. The windows were made from beautiful colored glass. Then she noticed a small table filled with little candles. Dani watched a boy light a candle and add it to a row.

"Why are you lighting candles?" Dani asked him.

The boy smiled. "I light a candle when I pray for special things. As long as the flame burns, I hope the prayer will continue to be heard by God."

Dani gave the candles a closer look. They looked like regular candles to her. Even though she was a little confused, she wanted to be polite. She smiled back at the boy.

Dani and her family sat down, and soon Evensong started. She saw the same boy a few rows away. Then she realized she didn't know any of the songs everyone else was singing. When they prayed, they read out of a little book. Dani thought everything seemed different from what she was used to.

But the music was beautiful, even if it wasn't familiar. Then a man got up to read the scriptures. He was wearing robes, instead of a suit and tie like Dani's bishop. But as he started reading, Dani realized she knew this story! He was reading

about Jesus healing the ten lepers.

"Dad," Dani whispered, "I love this story."

Dad smiled. "Me too."

Then the man in robes said a prayer. He asked God to bless those who were sick and in need. Just like Dani did! He also asked a special blessing on leaders of his church. Dani remembered how her family always asked Heavenly Father to bless President Thomas S. Monson and his counselors.

A warm feeling came into Dani's heart. She knew Heavenly Father was telling her He loved *all* His children and heard *all* their prayers, even if they went to a different church and didn't have the fulness of the gospel.

As they got up to leave, Dad checked his phone. He looked sad as he read his messages. "Sister Monson passed away," he said quietly.

"Oh no!" Dani said a quick prayer in her heart that President Monson would feel comfort and be OK.

"Are you all right?" someone asked. It was the same boy from before. He had heard Dani, and he seemed worried.

"Sister Monson passed away," Dani told him. "She was the wife of our prophet, President Monson."

"I'm sorry," he said kindly. "I'll light a candle for him."

Dani smiled and thanked him. She thought it was nice of the boy to say a special prayer for President Monson. She knew Heavenly Father would hear the silent prayer she said in her heart and the prayer the boy said too.

The author lives in Utah, USA.



ead "Prayers and Cathedrals" (page 4). In this story Dani learns that Heavenly Father loves and listens to All His children, no matter who they are, where they live, or whether they have a fulness of the gospel.

What Can Your Family Do?

Here are some ways your family can learn about other religions and cultures. What ideas can you come up with?

- Take a field trip around your town or city. How many types of churches do you see? Is there one you can go inside?
- Check out books from the library about other cultures and religions.
- Make a recipe from another country.
- Look up what holidays happen this month. Is there one your family wants to celebrate?
- Invite a family in your neighborhood to dinner or dessert. Learn about what you have in common with them.

TRY THIS!

Make a new friend in your class or neighborhood. Instead of looking at how different you are, look at what you have in common. Maybe you like to play the same sports or both like to read. If you don't have much in common, there are lots of new things you can learn from each other!

Latkes

These potato pancakes (pronounced lot-kuz) are made to celebrate the Jewish holiday Hanukkah. Serve them plain or with sour cream and applesauce. Be sure to get an adult's help. (Makes about 12 small latkes.)

1 large baking potato, peeled 1 small onion, peeled 1/4 cup flour

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon pepper 1 large egg

oil, for frying



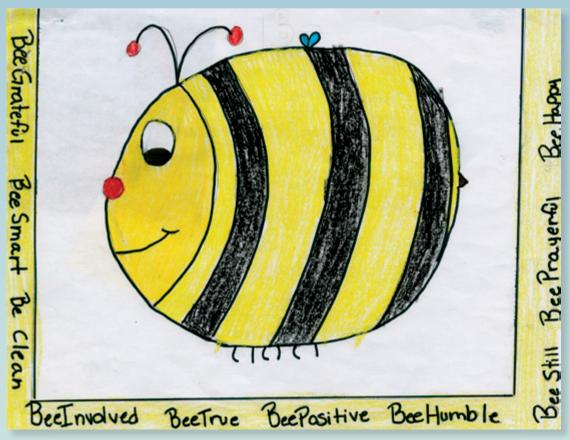
- 1. Shred the potato and onion in a food processor or with a hand grater. Wrap the shredded potato and onion in a clean cloth and squeeze dry.
- 2. Mix the flour, salt, pepper, and egg in a large bowl. Stir in the potato and onion.
- 3. Heat 2 tablespoons of oil in a frying pan on medium. Drop spoonfuls of batter into the pan and flatten them with a spatula.
- 4. Cook until the edges are golden brown, then flip and cook until the bottom is brown. Drain on paper towels. Cook the rest of the batter, adding oil as needed.

Let's go on a field trip for family home

evening!

We can have latkes for our treat.





—Makayla R., age 11, Utah, USA



-Kodyn W., age 10, Massachusetts, USA

FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD



In the summer of 2012, the Olympics came to my country. We rode the train to London to watch

the events inside the stadium. I got to see many athletes receive medals. One of them even gave me a high five! We were so tired afterwards we fell asleep on the train.

From an interview by Amie Jane Leavitt

I live in England, but my family comes from several places. My dad is British. My mum grew up in Hawaii, USA. She has both Maori (from New Zealand) and British ancestors. Both my grandpas are British, my

In the summertime, our granny's garden is full of big, juicy strawberries, and she lets us eat as many as we want.

Hello, friends!
Signature Sault.

from England

granny is British, and my nana is Maori. My mum gave me a Maori middle name, Tamaiti O Iharaera. This name means "Child of Israel." I love my family and am proud of my heritage.

This is a "Christmas cracker." It's a party favor that's kind of like a firecracker!
Two people pull it apart and out burst all sorts of fun things like candy, party hats, and stickers.

Learn how to make a Christmas cracker on page 20!



My dad and his family are not members of the Church, but they still came to my baptism. I could feel a strong spirit that day. My mum's parents flew all the way from the USA to be there. In fact, my mum's dad baptized me.





Cut out the stamp and add it to your passport from the January issue.

I LOVE TO SEE THE TEMPLE

There are two temples in England. The London England Temple was the first one built in the United Kingdom. It was dedicated in 1958. Fifty years later, in 2008, an eightfoot statue of the angel Moroni was added

by helicopter to the spire. The Preston England Temple was dedicated in 1992.





READY TO GO!

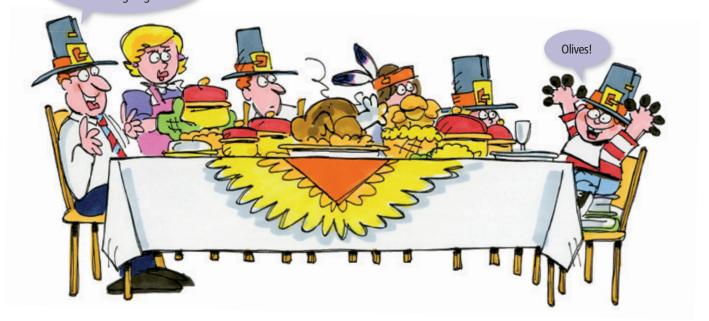
Saul's bag is packed with some of his favorite things. Which of these things would you pack in your bag?





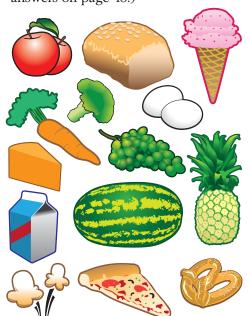
Being Thankful

What are you thankful for on this bounteous Thanksqiving?

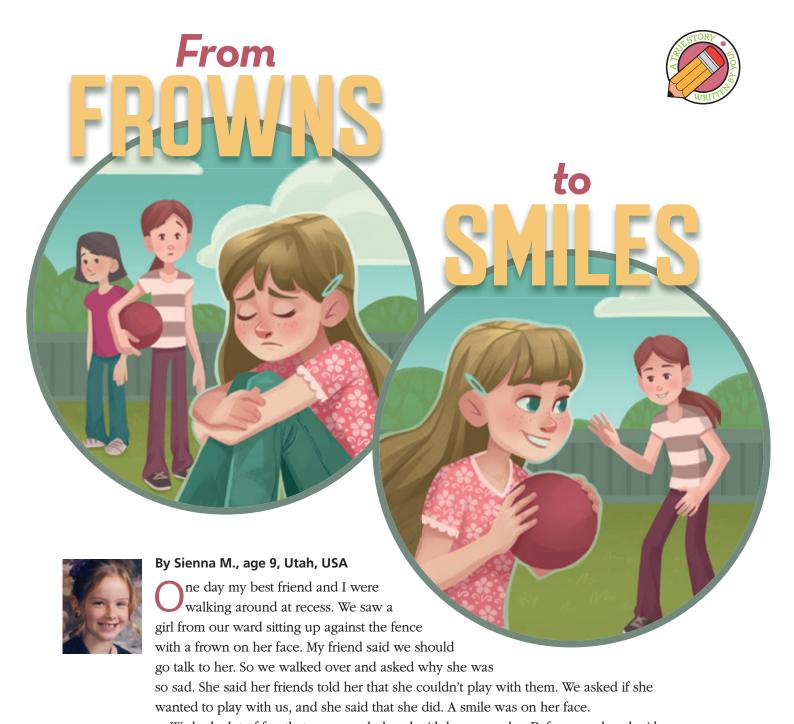


Searching for Food

Do you like olives too? There are lots of foods to be thankful for! Look for the foods below in the word search. Then see if you can find three extra foods that don't have pictures. (Find the answers on page 48.)



E Η L N E A L K E P B L E F H E M S L R L L N W R B J E S M G Η E \mathbf{T} M Z Ι P P A N M A P Z E K F Ι B F Η S E \mathbf{E} \mathbf{E} D U M \mathbf{E} I F I M M



We had a lot of fun that recess and played with her every day. Before we played with

her, we hadn't known that she was so fun. I felt good inside to play with someone who had looked sad.

We didn't know she had been praying for a friend.

A few days later, my mom and I rode our bikes to the park. We saw my new friend there too. She and I played

on the playground while our moms talked.

After we left, my mom told me what her mom had said. The girl's friends had been mean to her over the last few days. She and her mom had been praying that she would find some friends, and my friend and I were the answer to her prayers. I felt warm inside and was happy that I had played with her.



Lucy is dressed in her church clothes, but you can also dress her in her school uniform or her Victorian-era dress. Glue this page onto heavy paper before you color and cut out the pieces.



CONFERENCE

NEWS



SPEAKS

May we have the courage of a Daniel, that we might remain true and faithful despite the sin and temptation which surround us.

4 Challenges

- Be wise in how much time you spend on the Internet (Elder Quentin L. Cook).
- Remind your parents to pray (Sister Neill F. Marriott).
- Be respectful and kind to people of other religions, races, and cultures.

 Never bully or insult others (Elder Dallin H. Oaks).
- Make your home a place where the Spirit is welcome (Sister Linda K. Burton).

Conference Quotes



"The Creator of seas, sands, and endless stars is reaching out to you this very day!"

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



"Following the prophet is always right."

-Sister Carol F. McConkie, first counselor in the Young Women general presidency



"Make the decision today to act and say, 'Yes, Lord, I will follow Thee!'"

-Elder Eduardo Gavarett of the Seventy



Near and Far

People heard conference

in 198 countries

in 94 languages

on TV, radio, computer, tablet, and phone

Girls from South Korea sang "I Love to See the Temple" for the general women's meeting.

A Conference First!

Match each speaker with the language he spoke in conference. Check answers on page 48.

Cantonese (Chinese)
Spanish

Portuguese

Elder Hugo E. Martinez Elder Carlos A. Godoy

Elder Chi Hong (Sam) Wong

Elder Eduardo Gavarret

主動去救援

*"Reach out to rescue."

CONFERENCE NOTES

Here are some great stories and pictures from the October 2014 general conference. What were your favorite stories?







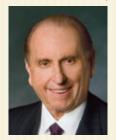
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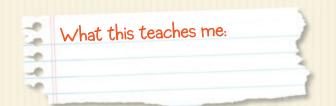


Follow Jesus



President Thomas S. Monson encouraged us to follow the example of Jesus Christ. We follow in His footsteps when we resist temptation, obey, serve others, and pray. We can find comfort by remembering that Jesus knows how it

feels to be disappointed or in pain. When we follow the example of Jesus Christ, we can return safely to our Heavenly Father to live with Him forever.



Share Gospel Goodness



Elder David A. Bednar told a story about two of his sons. Once, when the younger brother got a little hurt playing outside, the older brother took care of him. He washed the scrape, put on medical ointment, and bandaged his brother's whole

arm. The younger brother was so happy to feel better that he went outside and started putting ointment and bandages on his friends, so they could be happy too! Elder Bednar explained that this is like missionary work. Because the gospel has blessed our lives in many ways, we want to share that blessing with others.

What this teaches me:



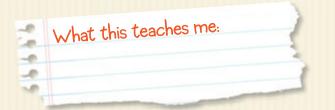


Love the Sacrament



A group of young women once asked Sister Cheryl A. Esplin what she wished she had known when she was young. Sister Esplin said that part of her answer would be that she wished she had understood the sacrament better. She said that when

she takes the sacrament now, she sometimes thinks about a picture of the Savior with His arms outstretched, as if He wants to give us a hug. When we listen to the sacrament prayers and promise to follow Jesus, the sacrament can be a sacred and special time for us.

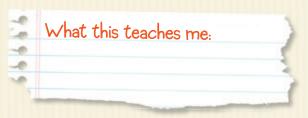


Grow Your Testimony



Some of the tallest trees in the world are in the Redwood National Park in the western United States. Elder Craig C. Christensen pointed out that even these huge trees began as tiny seeds. This is like our testimonies. Although our testi-

monies may start with one simple experience, they can grow big and strong over time as we nourish our spirits. We can help our testimonies grow by praying, studying the scriptures, and paying attention to the promptings of the Holy Ghost.



Show and tell CONFERENCE EDITION!



when President Monson said that it's less important that you walk where

Jesus walked, but it's very important that you walk as He walked. I loved when he said that. It means to follow Jesus's example. I want to walk like Jesus.

Alise N., age 9, Sweden



liked Elder Kacher's talk. He talked about how there are many currents in this world and not all of

them are good. Bad currents pull us away from our loving Heavenly Father. Elder Kacher told how he was converted and followed a new current. If you understand the gospel, you will know which currents to follow.

Charlie T., age 10, Maryland, USA



hen President Monson spoke, I told my mom that I felt the Spirit.

Adriana H., age 4, North Carolina, USA



t is neat that we got to listen to the prophet from our home in Guyana. We especially liked hearing the General Authorities speak in their native languages. It's really good that the gospel is spreading around the world! Did you know that the church has been in Guyana for about 25 years?

Rose and Simon T., ages 6 and 5, Guyana



y favorite thing about conference is building a tent and watching in our family room. I love conference because it makes me a better boy.

Owen W. with his brother, Isaac, both age 4, Republic of Ireland



Brynn and Ellie T., ages 5 and 3, Arizona, **USA**, liked watching conference while they colored in their tent by the TV. Listening to conference made them happy!



v favorite conference was by Elder Scott. He talked about the tools Heavenly Father

has given us to help us exercise faith, like prayer, scripture study, family home evening, and going to the temple. I like when my family has family home evening because we get to spend time together and learn about Jesus. I know my family loves me when they make time for family home evening.

Haley H., age 8, Idaho, USA



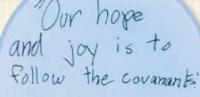
Nathan, Bowman, Andrew, Audrey, and Claire F., ages 4, 12, 10, 2, and 6, Texas, USA, love watching general conference. At the beginning of each talk, they paste a picture on their "conference wall" of the Church leader who is speaking. At the end of the talk, they write a sentence about the message that was shared. By the end of conference, they have a whole wall to remind them of the wonderful things they learned!



y favorite conference talk was by Sister McConkie. She told the story of when Elijah went to the widow's

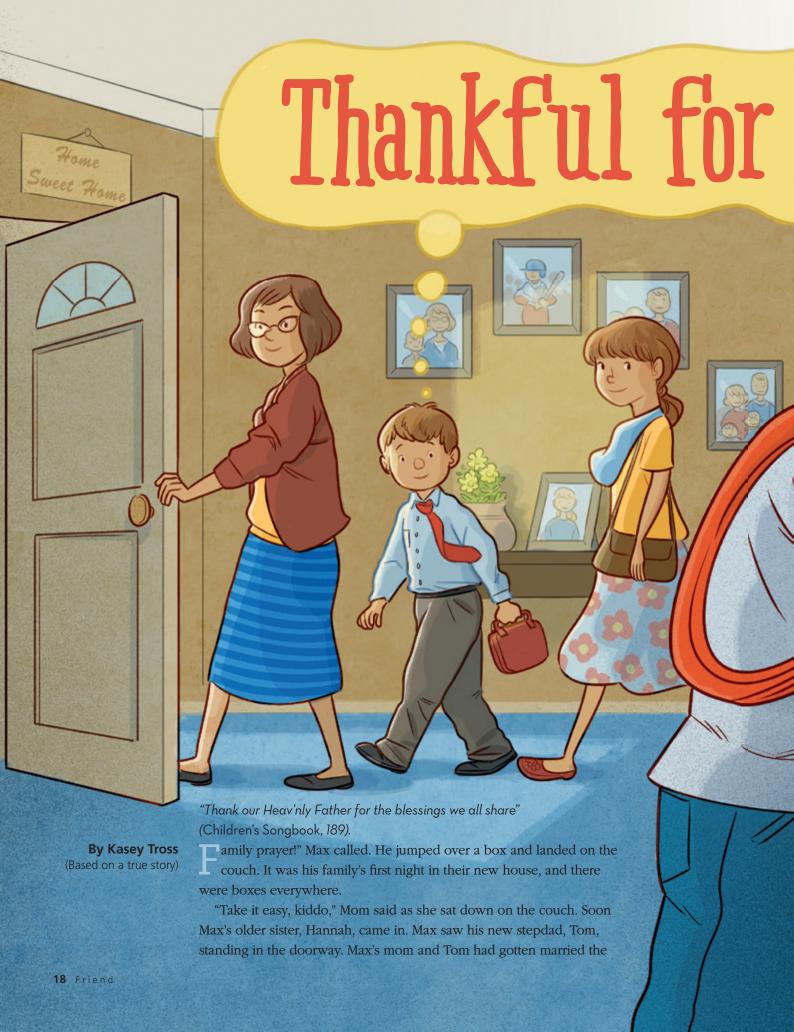
home and asked for bread. The widow gave Elijah her last bread, and afterwards found that she was blessed with food and drink for many days. This has taught me to trust the Lord and His prophets.

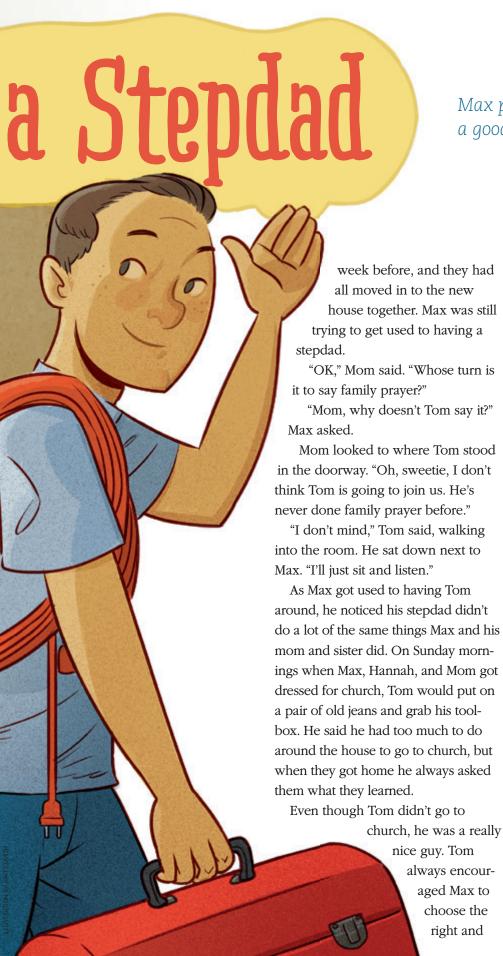
Isobel P., age 8, England





Katelyn B., age 9, Utah, USA, drew this picture of Sister Stevens while watching the general women's meeting.





Max prayed that he could be a good example to Tom.

listen to his mom and his Primary teachers. As months passed, Max prayed he could be a good example so that maybe one day Tom would want to learn more about the Church.

When Thanksgiving came around, Max and Tom spent the afternoon raking leaves in the yard. The air was chilly. As they finished up, Mom called from the front door, "Boys! Dinner's ready!"

"Race you!" Tom said to Max. Max grinned as they ran into the house, where the smell of turkey, stuffing, and pumpkin pie greeted them. They washed up and sat down at the table with the rest of the family.

"Happy Thanksgiving, everyone!"
Tom said. He looked around the table.
"I was thinking that maybe I could say
the blessing on the food this time, if
that's all right with you."

Mom's eyes widened with surprise. "Of course," she said, smiling. "I think we would all like that very much."

Tom looked at Max and winked. Max grinned and folded his arms.

As Tom prayed, Max silently thanked Heavenly Father for blessing their family with such a great stepdad. He had a feeling that this Thanksgiving was just the start of lots of good things to come.

The author lives in Virginia, USA.

Bulletin

Fun Facts about ENGLAND

Have you met Saul from England on page 8? Here are some fun facts about this British nation.

- England is one of four countries in the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland).
- Brigham Young, John Taylor, and Wilford Woodruff served missions in England together in 1840.
- London, the capital of England, is one of the largest cities in Europe.



Ireland

England

WaleS



Can you match the names of these English landmarks with the pictures? Buckingham Palace, Stonehenge, the London Eye, and Big Ben. (Answers on page 48.)

CHRISTMAS CRA

These crackers aren't the kind you eat—but you can eat what's inside! They're tube-shaped party favors filled with goodies and are a fun part of British celebrations. Be sure to get an adult's help.

You will need:

1 empty cardboard roll, about 5 inches (13 cm) long a 10x6-inch (25x15-cm) sheet of wrapping paper

goodies to put in your cracker (paper crown, candy, small toys, etc.)

- 1. Place the cardboard roll lengthwise on the paper. Make sure there's an equal amount of paper on both ends of the roll.
- 2. Tape one edge of the wrapping paper to the cardboard. Roll it and tape the other side to make a tube.
- 3. Tie a ribbon around the wrapping paper at one end of the cardboard.
- 4. Fill the cardboard tube with goodies, and then tie the other end of the tube
- 5. To open the cracker, have two people each take an end and pull until it cracks in two!

Last year, a pageant was held in England that told the story of the history of the Church in the British Isles. You can see pictures and read more about it in the July 2014 Friend.



TOAD IN THE HOLE

Everyone will hop to the table when you cook this British dish! Remember to get an adult's help.

(Makes 4–6 servings.)

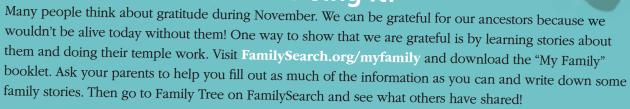
- 1 1/2 cup flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 1 1/2 cup milk
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 pound (454 g) pork or beef sausage links
- 1. In a large bowl, mix together the flour, salt, and pepper. Make a well in the center of the mixture and pour in the eggs, milk, and melted butter. Whisk until smooth. Let stand for 30 minutes.
- 2. Grease a 9x13-inch (23x33-cm) baking dish and put it in a cool oven.

 Preheat the oven and the pan to 425°F (220°C).
 - 3. Meanwhile, brown the sausages in a frying pan. When the sausages are brown and the oven is hot, carefully pull out the oven rack. Put the sausages in the pan and pour the batter over them.
 - 4. Cook for 20–30 minutes or until the batter is golden.



What if a friend asked you to share your favorite scripture story? Which would you share?

FAMILY HISTORY: I Am Doing It!



In part one, Allie, the granddaughter of both President Brigham Young and President Lorenzo Snow, traveled to the Sandwich Islands (Hawaii) with her family so her father could begin his missionary service there.

By Jessica Larsen

(Based on a true story)

October 1883, Laie Plantation, Oahu, Hawaii

loha," Father said when he found Allie feeding the family cow, Spot.

"Aloha!" Allie replied. She and her family had lived on the Sandwich Islands for just a few months, but the Hawaiian word already felt familiar on her tongue.

"I have wonderful news. The king of Hawaii, King



Father and admired all of their hard work on the mission house. Braided ferns covered the railings. Exotic flowers added bright splashes of color. The Hawaiian flag floated grandly in the breeze.

"I'm sure the king will love it,"



Kalakaua, is coming to visit our new chapel, right here in Laie."

"The king!" Allie squealed.

"Yes," Father said. "Now let's go find your mother and brother so we can tell them the exciting news. We have a lot of work to do before he arrives."

The next few days were a blur of activity. Father finished painting the chapel. Mother and Sister Partridge prepared a breakfast at the mission house for the visitors' arrival.

"It will be fit for a king," Mother declared. Allie giggled—never had those words been so true!

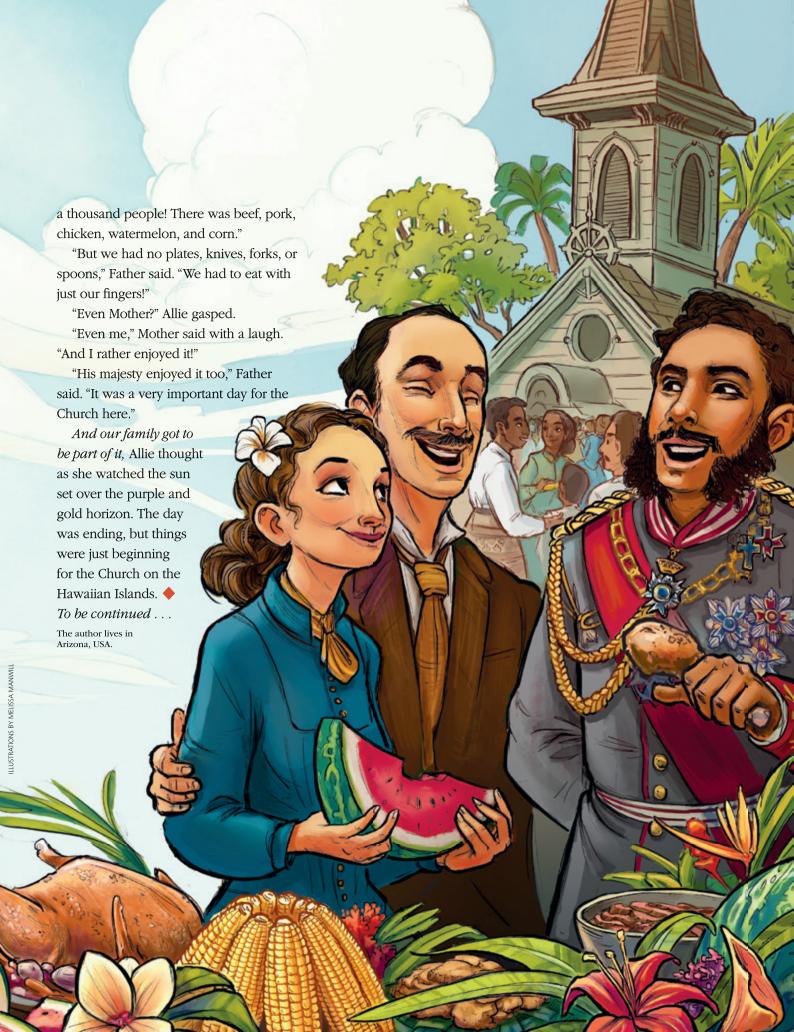
Meanwhile, hundreds of Saints came to Laie from all over the Hawaiian Islands for this special meeting. Hawaii now had over 3,600 Latter-day Saints. Nearly 300 had

Allie said. "I can't wait to hear all about his visit."

October 6, 1883, dawned bright and clear. Allie watched as Mother dressed in her best dress and left with Father to welcome the king at the mission house. Hours later, they returned with quite a story to tell.

"Hundreds of Saints lined the road and cheered as the king arrived," Father said. "After the king ate breakfast with us, your mother and I took him to the chapel. It was so full that five hundred people had to stand outside the building!"

"Three choirs from different islands sang, and the king himself spoke to the crowd," Mother added. "He thanked the Church for honoring the laws of the land and told us to continue our good works. Then we had a feast for more than



SCHOOLS/ARO

eavenly Father wants us to learn and to develop our skills and talents. This is one way we can become more like Him. There are lots of ways to learn, and lots of ways to go to school!



If you live in Cuba, you might get to school on a horse-drawn school bus.



Many students around the world learn with computers.



Some with Scotl and ı feel t

Some children have school in their own home.



Uros children in Peru take a boat to their school on a nearby island.

Listen to Giordayne from Jamaica talk about her school at friend.lds.org.



Some children go to boarding school and live in dormitories with the other students.

ND THE WORLD



e schools are built for children disabilities. One school in and is made with cork, stone, wood so blind students can heir way around easily.



Some children in India ride the train to school.



In part of Russia, children go to school in a portable tent while their families herd reindeer.



Even kids living in temporary shelters can find places to learn and read together.



In some countries, moving libraries travel to bring books to thousands of children in different schools.



In Kenya, some children do their homework by firelight in their family's manyatta, a traditional home plastered with mud.



In countries in the southern hemisphere, like Australia and Brazil, summer vacation is from December to February.

I love learning.



How fun to go to school by boat!



Be Generous



What Jesus Taught

When Jesus taught the Sermon on the Mount, He said that we should be generous with others, just like Heavenly Father is generous with us (see Matthew 5:40–45). He said if someone takes away our coat, we should also give him our cloak. If someone asks us to go with him for a mile, we should go with him for two miles. If someone asks to borrow something, we should give it willingly. This is part of loving others.



This Month's CHALLENGES

Do an extra chore without being asked.

Share a treat with a friend.

l challenge myself to	

Following Jesus Today



In school I had to think of something good to say about someone I had bad feelings toward. This person had ripped off my flag in Capture the Flag, and I felt defeated. After I thought about it, I was able to write that she was good at Capture the Flag. Then I felt better. And, hey—she was good at Capture the Flag!

Trent L., age 10, Utah, USA



Some of my classmates didn't like a boy in my class because he had problems they didn't understand. On Valentine's Day, I received two suckers and he had nothing, so I gave my suckers to him. At Christmastime, my family helped me do Secret Santa for his family. I felt very happy inside.

Emily J., age 12, Idaho, USA

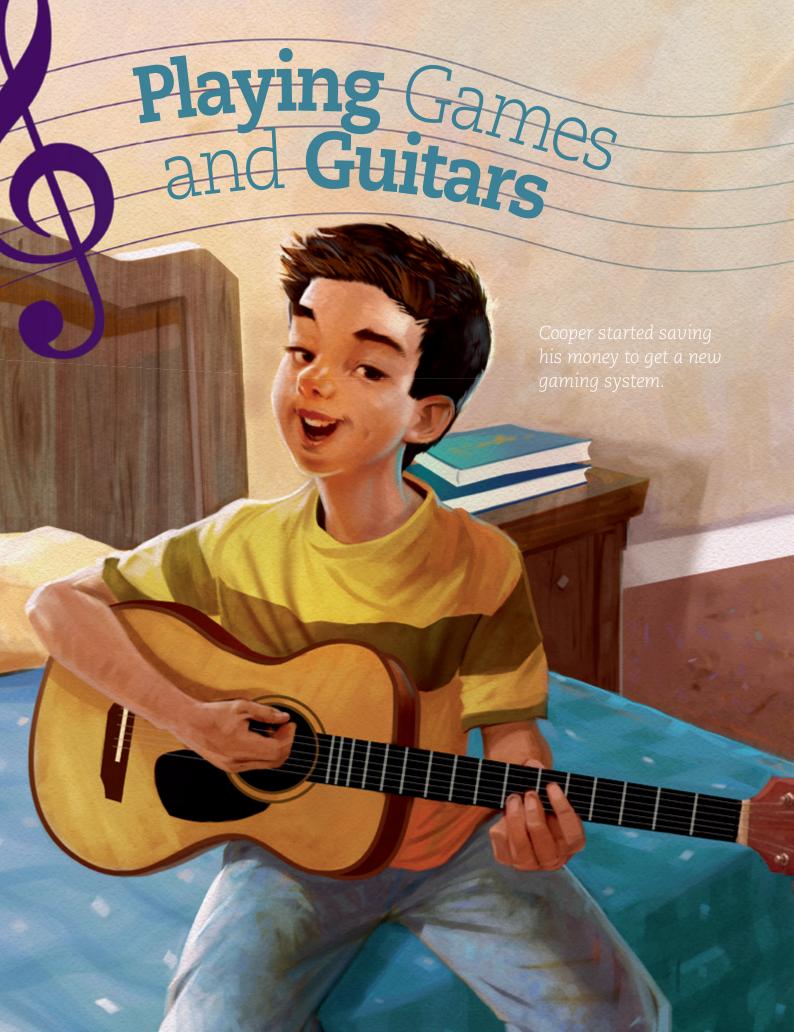


Hidden Picture

By David Helton

These neighbors are celebrating Thanksgiving together! Can you find these hidden things?





By Kimberly Reid

(Based on a true story)

"That every man may improve upon his talent, that every man may gain other talents" (D&C 82:18).

Ooper's video game system was getting old. Whenever he raced cars, the screen froze and he had to restart the game.

"Can I get a new game system for my birthday?" Cooper asked Dad.

Dad shook his head. "I don't think it fits into our budget. Remember how we spent quite a bit of money last year to buy your guitar and pay for music lessons?"

Cooper frowned. He wasn't taking music lessons anymore.

"What if I earn the money?" Cooper asked. "Then maybe you could help me order one online."

"That sounds like a good idea," Dad said.

Cooper went to work doing extra chores and mowing lawns for neighbors. He saved all summer.

Finally he had enough money, and Dad sent it to an online seller advertising the best price for the gaming system Cooper wanted.

Cooper couldn't wait. Whenever the mailman came, Cooper checked the mailbox. When a delivery truck came down his street, Cooper hoped it was bringing a package for him. But none of the trucks stopped at his house. Weeks went by.

"When is it going to get here?" Cooper asked.

Dad looked worried. "I'm not sure. The seller never sent me the tracking number."

A few days later, Dad told Cooper some bad news. "I think the seller we chose is dishonest. I can't contact him on the phone or through email."

Cooper couldn't believe it. "You mean he stole my money?"

"It looks that way."

Cooper hoped it wasn't true. At night he prayed for a way to still get the gaming system he'd earned. The next day he asked Dad if he could have one for Christmas, but Dad just said, "I'm sorry this happened. Next time we'll both know to be more careful."

It seemed there was only one thing left to do: start



"I hope none of us spend money for that which is of no worth nor labor for that which does not satisfy."

Elder Michael John U. Teh of the Seventy "Where Your Treasure Is," *Ensign*, May 2014, 107.

saving money again. But school had started and Cooper didn't have as much time for extra chores. "It isn't fair," he complained to himself as he sat moping in his room one afternoon. Then he noticed something he hadn't paid much attention to for a while—his guitar.

Cooper picked it up and tuned it. He strummed a few chords and played through the songs he'd learned. It didn't take long because he hadn't had many lessons. He sat with the guitar on his lap, his fingers itching to play something new. He wondered if he could make up a song of his own.

A few hours later, Cooper played his brand new song all the way through. It felt so great that he couldn't wait to write another one.

Cooper practiced his guitar all winter. He read books about playing the guitar. And when he had time, he earned a little extra money.

When spring came, Dad said, "How are the savings coming? Are you ready to pick out a new gaming system?"

Cooper thought about it. "I don't know if I want one anymore."

Sometimes he played video games at his friends' houses, but he hadn't really missed playing them at home. Playing guitar was fun, and he felt like he'd accomplished something great every time he wrote or learned a new song.

"I think I'll leave the money in savings until I know what I want to use it for," Cooper said.

"Sounds smart."

Cooper was surprised at how much fun he was having playing his guitar. All year long, his plan had been to play video games. Now he didn't even miss them. Heavenly Father hadn't helped him get the video game system, but He had blessed Cooper with something better—the ability to be happy without it.

The author lives in Utah, USA.

I Want to Be an

My name is Jessica Day George, and I'm an author.

From an interview by Linda Davies

What do you do in your job?

I have the best job in the world! Every day I get to make up stories. When you're an author, you can write about whatever you want. Some of my books are for kids, and some are for teenagers, and all of them are fun for the right sort of grown up. The important thing is to write a book that *you* would want to read.

What do you like best about your job?

only instead of just one friend, you get to

share that dream with friends all over

the world!

One of the things I love is that writing tells you *why*. Why did the 12 princesses dance until their shoes wore out? Why are dragons so cool? It's like telling a friend about an amazing dream you had,

Author

What did you have to learn to do this job?

The most important thing a writer needs to know is how to write, and you learn to write by reading. You soak in ideas, you see how characters talk to each other, and you understand how to tell a story. Then you have to write every day to keep those writing muscles strong. When you read and read and write and write, you become a stronger writer.

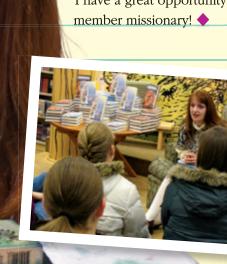
How does your job serve others?

I love the characters in my books. When I think about them, I give them noble, inspiring qualities.

That makes the story uplifting to my readers. And because the gospel is part of my life, I could never write any other way.

I used to think that if I sat in my

room, writing, I couldn't share the gospel through my work. But as an author, I travel all over to talk about my books. When my readers find out I live in Utah, they always ask, "Are you a Mormon?" I always say an enthusiastic "YES!" As an author, I have a great opportunity to be a member missionary!



I Hope They Call Me on a Mission

I Can **PLAY** It!



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Ready for Sunbeams



Rachel was playing with her friends in the nursery when she heard the children next door in Primary singing. She dropped her toy and ran to the wall to hear better.

Rachel clapped her hands. "I know that song," she said. She started singing "I Am a Child of God." Then another song started. She listened carefully to learn the words.

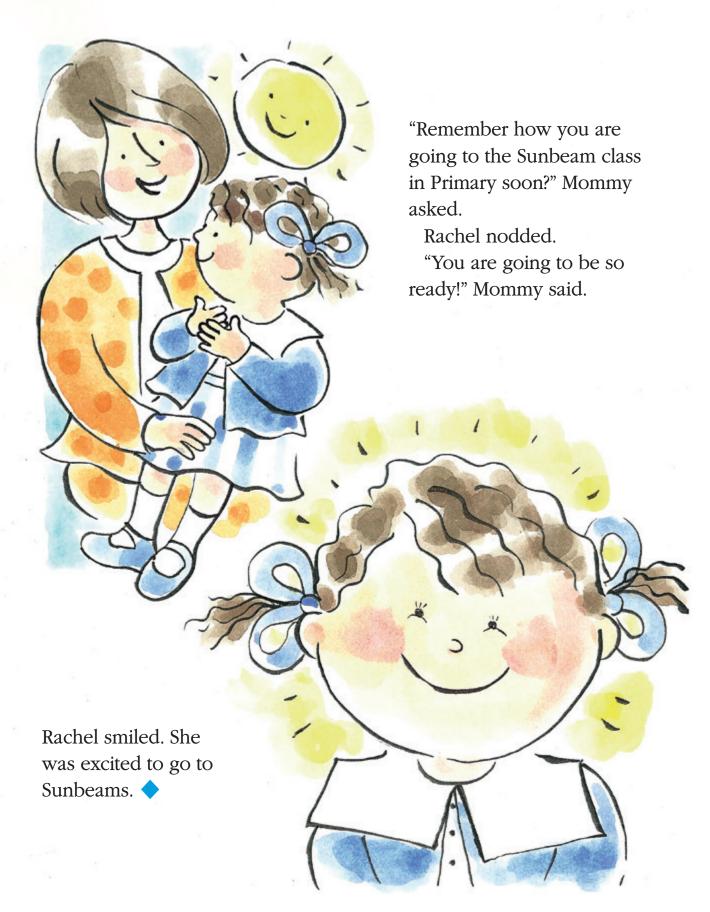






When Rachel got home, she started singing the new song. "I know He lives! I will follow faithfully. My heart I give to Him. I know that my Savior loves me!" "How did you learn that song?" Mommy asked.

"I listened to the Primary," Rachel said.





Better Than WORDS

By Susan Denney

(Based on a true story)

"I help you, and you help me, and that's the way that it's supposed to be" (Children's Songbook, 263).

artin was born in the United States. But then his family moved to a country in Europe called the Czech Republic. The people there spoke Czech. Martin knew some of the Czech words his Primary teacher used. He could say *ahoj*, which meant "hi." But he mostly spoke English.

Martin loved his school. He had an English teacher and a Czech teacher. There was a big playroom with fun wooden toys.

One day Martin was playing with puppets when a new boy came into the classroom. The English teacher said, "This is Josef. It's his first day of school. He doesn't know much English yet."

Josef had a worried look on his face. Martin thought he must be scared on his first day of school. Maybe Josef couldn't understand the English teacher.

The teacher led Josef to a table with wooden puzzles on it. Without meaning to, Josef knocked over the whole



stack of puzzles. *Crash!* The puzzle pieces flew everywhere! Josef looked like he might cry.

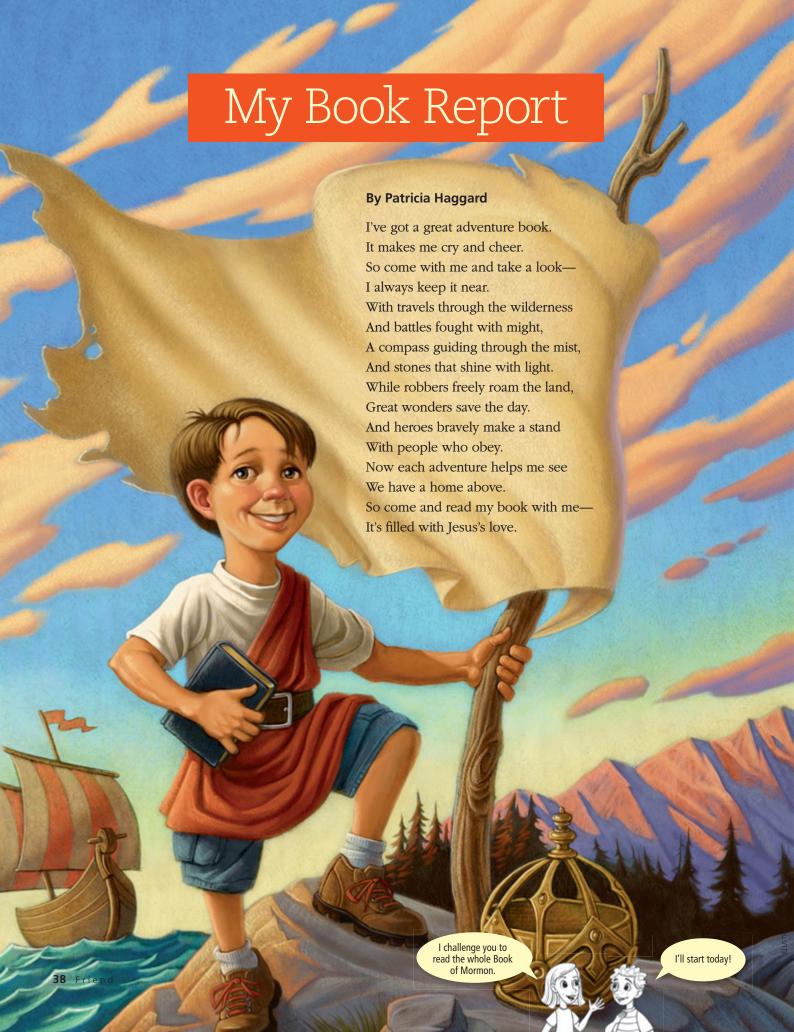
Martin wanted to tell Josef not to feel bad. It was just an accident. But Martin didn't know how to tell him in Czech. He stopped playing with his

finished all the puzzles. They put them back on the table.

For the first time that day, Josef smiled. Martin felt very happy. He had made a new friend without saying a word.

The author lives in Pennsylvania, USA.







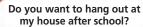
Glue these thank-you cards to heavy paper and cut them out. Write a message or draw a picture to thank your family or friends for something they've done. Print more copies at **friend.lds.org**.











Yeah. What do you wanna do?

Just hang out, I guess. Why? What do you wanna do?

Well, don't you think doing stuff is a lot more fun than not doing stuff?

Like what?

Well, after school I like to have a snack.







Or ride my bike.

Or work on my rock collection.

Or read for fun.

Then I try to get my homework done before dinner so I don't have it on my back all night. My dad calls it the homework monkey. Hey, we could work on that assignment together, if you want.

> Cool. How about we go to your house?



FRIEND TO FRIEND

By Elder Enrique R. FalabellaOf the Seventy

"That's So Easy, Grandpa!"

"Search the scriptures; for in them . . . ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me" (John 5:39).

ne day I asked my granddaughter Raquel what she thought about setting a goal to read the Book of Mormon. Raquel had recently learned how to read.

"But, Grandpa," she said, "it's so hard. It's a big book."

Then I asked her to read me a page. I took out a stopwatch and timed her. It took her only three minutes to read the page.

We read the Book of Mormon in Spanish, and the Spanish version of the Book of Mormon has 642 pages. I told her it would take her 1,926 minutes to read the whole book.

This might have scared her even more, so I divided that number by 60 minutes. I told her she would need only 32 hours to read the book. That would be less than a day and a half!

Then she said to me, "That's so easy, Grandpa!"

It took Raquel, her brother, Esteban, and our other grandchildren a little more time to read the Book of Mormon. That is because when we read it, we need to take

time to pray and to think about

what we have read.

Just like Raquel and Esteban, we can all learn to love the scriptures. Then each of us can exclaim: "How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" (Psalm 119:103).

Adapted from "The Home: The School of Life," Ensign, May 2013, 102–104.



Living the Teachings of JESUS CHRIST Strengthens Me and My Family

By Erin Sanderson

7hen Jesus Christ was on the earth, He taught many wonderful things. He taught about being kind when He healed people who were sick. He taught about forgiving when He ate dinner at a Pharisee's house. He taught about faith when He walked on water. He taught about love when He gathered children around Him. He taught about service when He washed His disciples' feet.

You can be like Jesus by doing the things He taught. You can



be kind and look for the good in others. You can be polite. You can say, "I'm sorry." In these small ways you can make a difference in your family. Living the teachings of Jesus can help make you and others happy. By following His example, you can help strengthen your family.

Jesus said that we should never be tired of doing good because great things grow from small things. Strengthening your family is a great thing!

The author lives in Utah, USA.

THE ROAD TO A STRONG FAMILY

Cut out the game board and puzzle. Glue onto heavy paper. Mix up the puzzle pieces and place them upside down near the game board. You will need a different-colored button for each player, and a die or number cube.

To play: Each player chooses a button and places it on START. Take turns rolling the die and moving your game piece forward that many spaces. When you land on a space that tells something that will strengthen your family, choose a puzzle piece and place it in the center of the game board or move a misplaced puzzle piece. If you land on a STOP space or on a space that tells something that will not strengthen your family, the next player takes a turn. Keep playing until the puzzle is finished.

SONG AND SCRIPTURE

- "I'm Trying to Be Like Jesus" (Children's Songbook, 78–79)
- John 13:15

IDEAS FOR FAMILY TALK

Share your favorite stories about Jesus. What example did He set for us in these stories? How can following His example strengthen your family?



By Vicki H. Budge

(Based on a true story)

"Listen to the still small voice! He will guide you always" (Children's Songbook, 107).

Emma looked at the bright yellow rubber raft on top of the van and felt a little shiver run down her back. She'd never been rafting before, and she didn't know what to expect.

"You'll like the Big Eddy," Dad was saying. He pulled their lifejackets out of the van and handed one to Emma. "It's beautiful and exciting. Someone takes your picture right when your raft crashes through the Big Eddy."

Emma didn't like that word-crash.

"Let's hurry, Dad," her little brother Zachary said. He didn't look nervous at all, but Emma's stomach churned.

A raft passed them going down the river, and Emma could hear one of the men yelling over the rushing water.

"The guide in the back tells them when to paddle forward or backward, and when to stop so they won't tip over,"

Dad said.

Dad was going to be the guide in their family's raft. She hoped he knew the right directions to tell them.

Mom and Dad put the raft into a calm place in the river and they all jumped in. The water was moving slowly for now, and Emma started to relax.

The raft bobbed around and up and down through the current. Everyone paddled when Dad said to paddle. A little water splashed up on them. Emma and Zachary laughed. Maybe this would be fun after all.

Suddenly the raft started going faster, and the sound of the water got louder. They were getting close to the Big Eddy!

Dad shouted instructions for them to go through the next rapid sideways. They paddled on the right side of the raft, but something went wrong. When the river curved, the current washed them to the other side. They tried to go back, but instead, the raft banged into a log on the riverbank.

Emma, Zachary, and Mom yelled as the water pushed



against the raft. At first the water pushed them back into the river, but then another wave crashed them back against the log.

Dad tried so hard to get them out of the whirlpool that he fell overboard and the river swept him downstream toward the Big Eddy. The next surge of water tossed Mom out. Emma was terrified, but she felt prompted to grab Zachary and point to the log. Somehow they both scrambled onto it just before the raft flipped upside down and slipped out into the rapids again.

Another raft came down the river, and the guide had the people in the raft steer over until they were next to the log. "Get in!" yelled the guide.

Zachary held back, his eyes wide. Emma was frozen in place. They both clung to the log, unable to move.

Then she remembered President Packer's words from a conference talk she had taped to her closet door at home. He said that the Spirit will show us what to do so we don't have to be afraid.

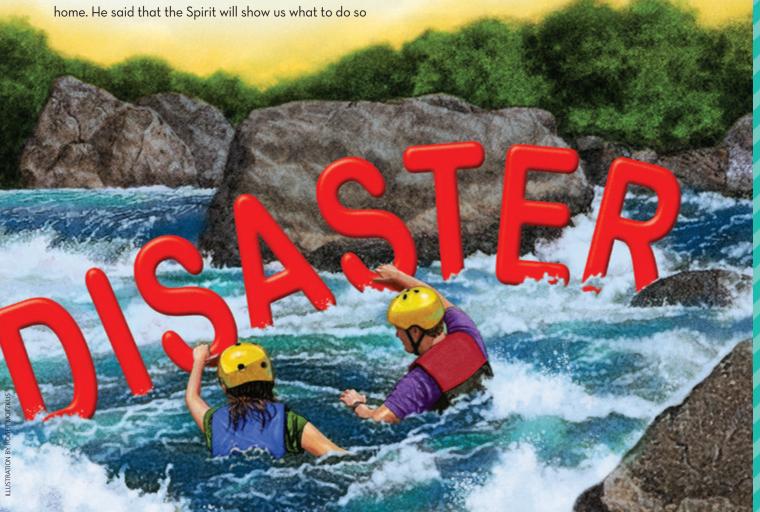
As she thought about those words, Emma felt less afraid. She thought that she should hold Zachary's hand and they would make it to the raft safely. She gripped Zachary's hand, and with the help of the guide, they scrambled into the bouncing raft. They huddled together until the guide got the raft to a calm pool of water where Mom and Dad were anxiously waiting. Dad's arm had a cut on it, and both of Mom's knees were scraped up, but they were OK.

They all hugged. "I'm so glad you're safe," Dad said.

"I was really scared, but the Spirit helped me feel brave," Emma said. "He told me what to do."

The author lives in Utah, USA.

When has the Holy Ghost helped you? Write and tell us!





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

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

How does Heavenly Father guide us?

Prayer is the source of our personal guidance from a loving Heavenly Father. We pray to our Heavenly Father in the name of Jesus Christ, and He answers us through His Holy Spirit.

Heavenly Father also guides us through the teachings and counsel of living prophets and apostles.

When we do what is right and partake of the sacrament, we are promised that we will always have His Spirit to guide us.





From "Two Lines of Communication," Ensign, Nov. 2010, 83-86.

QUESTION CORNER

I keen trying to read the scriptures but they don't sound

I keep trying to read the scriptures, but they don't sound anything like the books I like to read.

How can I understand the scriptures better?

When I find a word I don't know, I translate it to a word I do know. Then I remember that word for the next time I read the Book of Mormon.

Eden W., age 8, Tennessee, USA

You can put together a family home evening lesson about scripture language. For your lesson you can put a bunch of "scripture" words on a poster and take turns telling each other what the words mean.

Adam L., age 7, Tennessee, USA

You should pray to Heavenly Father before you read the scriptures everyday and ask Him to help you understand. That's what I do, and it helps a lot!

Audrey B., age 10, Metro Manila, Philippines

I try to picture scriptures in presentday life. I imagine how I would feel in that situation and how I would try to handle it.

Hannah E., age 11, Massachusetts, USA

When I read the scriptures, I like to pretend that I'm a character in the story. I imagine that I'm there with Nephi going to get the brass plates, or Captain Moroni writing the title of liberty. I have grown to love the scriptures because these guys have become my friends.

Heath G., age 7, Washington, USA

I understand the scriptures better
when I talk about what I read with
my parents. Each night my parents
ask me what I learned and how it
applies to me. We discuss as a
family, and then we write notes in a
scripture journal.

Austin K., age 6, Utah, USA

Watch illustrated scripture stories at friend.lds.org.

Responses are intended for help and perspective, not as pronouncements of Church doctrine.

NEXT QUESTION

I know we're supposed to love our enemies, but a girl at school is always mean to me. How can I think nice thoughts about her and be kind?

Do you have some advice about this? Send us your answer and photo by November 30, 2014. Find our address on page 48 or submit your answer at friend.lds.org. (Put "Question Corner" in the subject line.) Remember to include a parent's permission!

How to Write to the Friend

To send us a letter, drawing, poem, or photograph . . .

1. Fill out the form below and include it with your submission.

2. Include a school photo or high-quality snapshot.

3. We might edit your submission for length or clarity, and we can't return it to you.

4. You must be at least three years old to send us a submission.





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:

First and last name

Age State/Province, Country

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

Signature of parent or legal guardian

Email of parent or legal guardian

Through Your Eyes



This picture reminds me of God's creations and how He gave us the lovely seasons.

Monica A., age 10, Wisconsin, USA

The Last Laugh

Brad has been having trouble getting up for school on time, so his little brothers have agreed to help!





VISIT friend.lds.org!

- Play games and watch videos.
- Read the Friend online.

Funstuff Answers

Page 3: wisdom, tongues, faith, prophecy, knowledge, miracles

Page 10: chocolate, bananas, spaghetti

Page 13: Cantonese: Elder Wong; Spanish: Elders Gavarret and Martinez; Portuguese: Elder Godoy

Page 20: A, Stonehenge; B, Big Ben; C, Buckingham Palace; D, the London Eye

Hidden CTR Ring

Did you find the ring? Look on page 36!



DANIEL

Daniel 1, 5-6

Glue this page to heavy paper or cardboard. Then cut out the figures and attach them to craft sticks or paper bags. You can use them to help act out your favorite Old Testament stories. Use the king figure from the October 2014 scripture figures.



Dear Parents and Teachers, In last month's general conference, Elder Oaks taught, "We should love all people, be good listeners, and show concern for their sincere beliefs."* We can help children look for the good in other people and respect religions and cultures that are different from their own. Start by reading "Prayers

fun ideas and recipe on page 6. Respectfully yours,

The Friend

* "Loving Others and Living with Differences," Ensign, Nov. 2014, 27.

Order the Friend at store.lds.org!



Family Home Evening Ideas

BRINGING PRIMARY HOME: You can learn about this month's Primary sharing time theme on page 42. You'll find a short lesson and ideas for talking with your children, along with a fun activity.

and Cathedrals" on page 4 and trying the

THE BOOK OF MORMON: Read "'That's So Easy, Grandpa!'" (page 40). Talk about the importance of taking time to read the scriptures, and then read the poem "My Book Report" (page 38).

GIVING THANKS: Read "Following Jesus: Be Generous" (page 26) and talk about how we can be generous with expressions of gratitude. Use the "Thank-You Cards" (page 39) and have children write thank-you notes to their family and friends.

PATRIARCHAL BLESSINGS: Is someone in your family or ward preparing to receive a patriarchal blessing? Use "Gifts from Heaven" (page 2) to help children understand more about what a patriarchal blessing is. Find other childfriendly resources about this topic at lessonhelps.lds.org.



- Visit "Resources for Teaching Children" at lessonhelps.lds.org for stories, activities, and media to use at home and in Primary.
- Find videos and games for kids at friend.lds.org.

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