

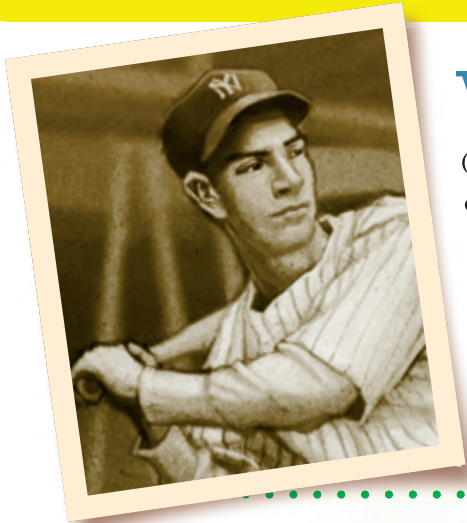


FROM THE FIRST PRESIDENCY

By President Henry B. Eyring

First Counselor in the First Presidency

Gifts *from* Heaven



When 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.

a man who is called to give patriarchal blessings

a special blessing of guidance and comfort from Heavenly Father

He said I was one of those of whom it had been said, “Blessed are the peacemakers” (Matthew 5:9).

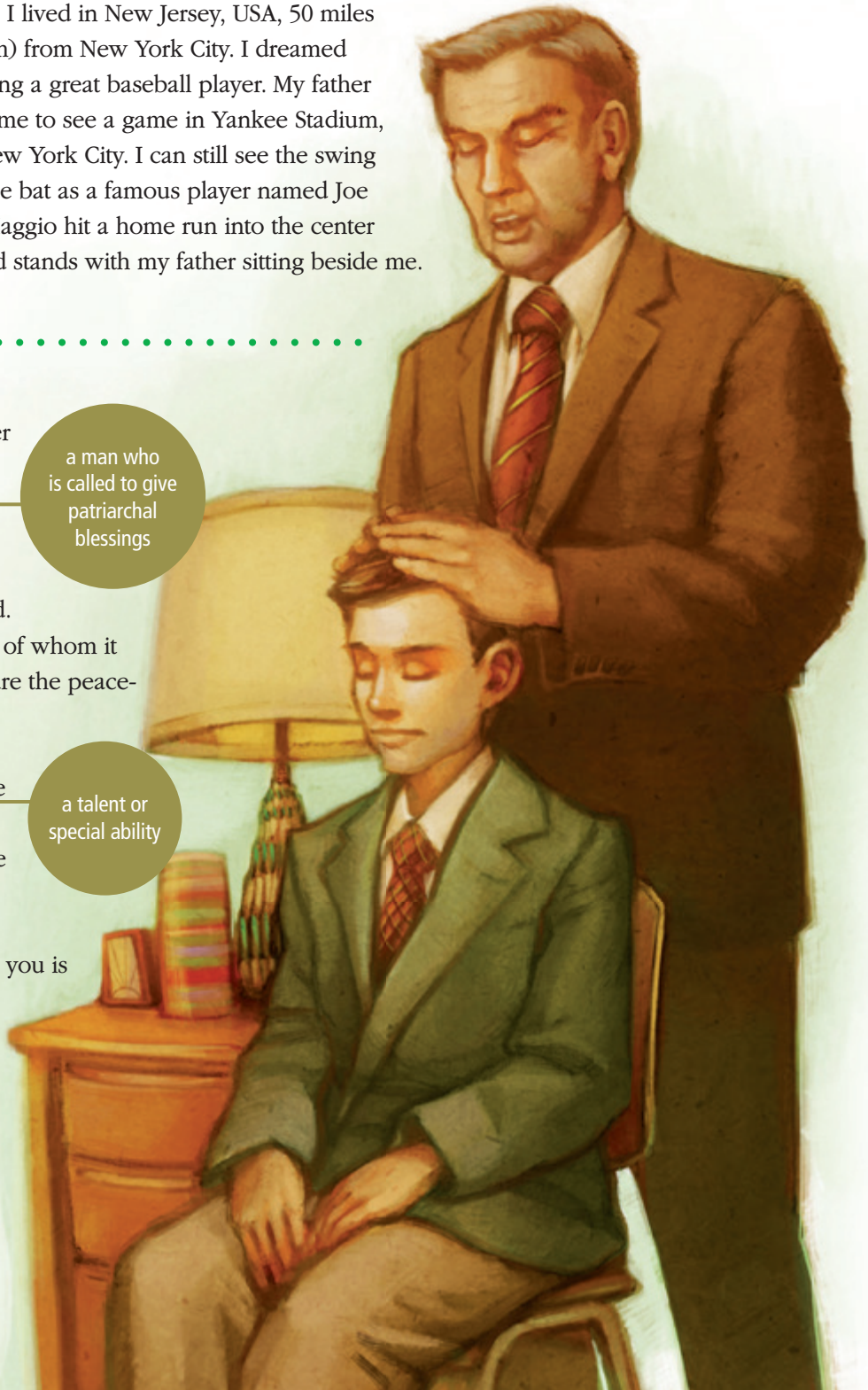
Because the Lord revealed this **gift** to me in my patriarchal blessing, I have been able

a talent or special ability

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. ♦

Adapted from “Help Them Aim High,” Ensign, Nov. 2012, 60–67.



GIFT SCRAMBLE

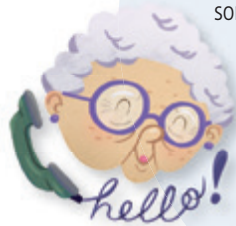
There are many spiritual gifts!
 Unscramble these gifts listed below.
 (Hint: They are all found in D&C 46:17–24.)
 Check your answers on page 48.

- somwdi _____
- seoutng _____
- hiaft _____
- oecryhpp _____
- owgndekle _____
- ilsmcear _____

READY, SET, SERVE!

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.
2. **Quick service:** cheer up a sad sibling, help put the groceries away, or call a grandparent.
3. **Secret service:** clean a sibling's room, write a note telling someone you love them, or pray for someone who needs help.



MAKING PEACE

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.

