

Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord (James 5:14).

See you later!” Patrick waved to the missionaries as they left his house. He always liked the feeling he had when the missionaries came over—it was a warm, good feeling.

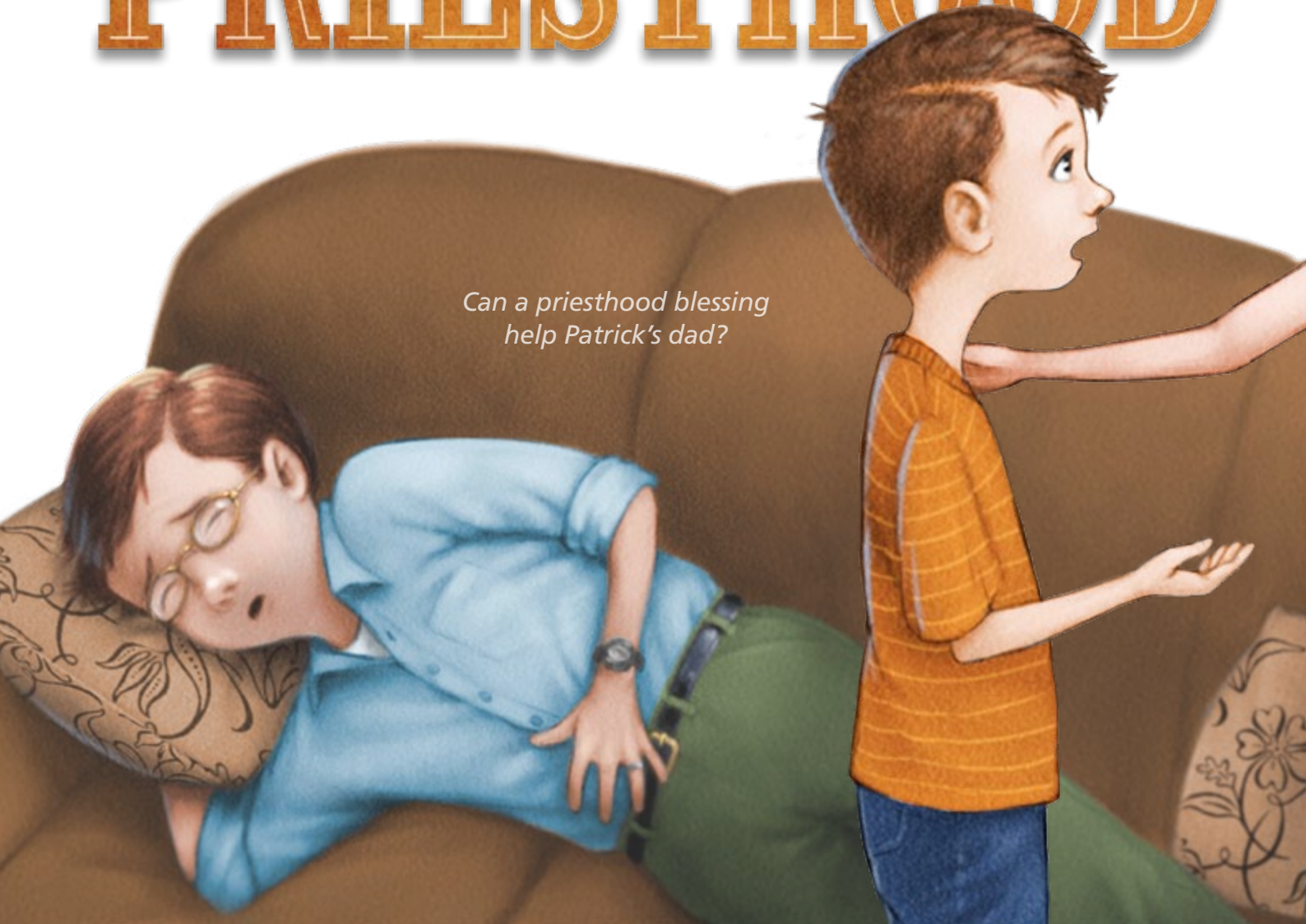
The missionaries had been coming to Patrick’s house a lot lately. They were teaching his family about Joseph Smith, the Book of Mormon, the priesthood, and all sorts of other things about The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Patrick and his mom had even gone to church with them. Patrick liked Primary because they sang and colored and listened to stories.

By Kasey Tross
(Based on a true story)

Patrick and the

PRIESTHOOD

*Can a priesthood blessing
help Patrick’s dad?*



"If Mom and Dad join the Church, I can go to Primary every Sunday," Patrick thought happily.

Mom was excited about the Church and all the things the missionaries taught. But Dad just seemed to listen because Mom wanted him to. After the missionaries taught Patrick how to pray, he knelt down every night and prayed that Dad would want to go to church.

One evening, Patrick saw Dad lying on the couch.

He didn't look so good.

"Dad, are you OK?"
Patrick asked.

"Sure, buddy," Dad said. "I just have a little stomachache. I'll be fine."

Patrick didn't think Dad looked fine. He went to find Mom.

After feeling Dad's forehead, Mom suggested they go to the emergency room.

"No, I'll be OK. I just need to—"

Dad groaned and scrunched up into a ball as a look of pain came over his face.

Patrick was worried. Then he thought of something. "Why don't we call the missionaries?" he said. "Maybe they can give Dad a blessing."

Patrick had learned about blessings when the missionaries had taught them about the priesthood. He knew the priesthood was the power to act in the name of God and that someone with the priesthood could heal the sick, just like Jesus did in the Bible.

Mom looked at Dad. When he nodded his head, she went to call the missionaries. A little while later there was a knock at the door. The missionaries said hello to Patrick and Mom. Then they went straight to where Dad was lying on the couch. The missionaries took out a small container of consecrated oil and placed a drop on Dad's head. Then they placed their hands gently on his head and gave him a blessing.

After the blessing, Dad was smiling and had tears in his eyes. He didn't look like he was in pain anymore.

Dad sat up and shook the missionaries' hands.

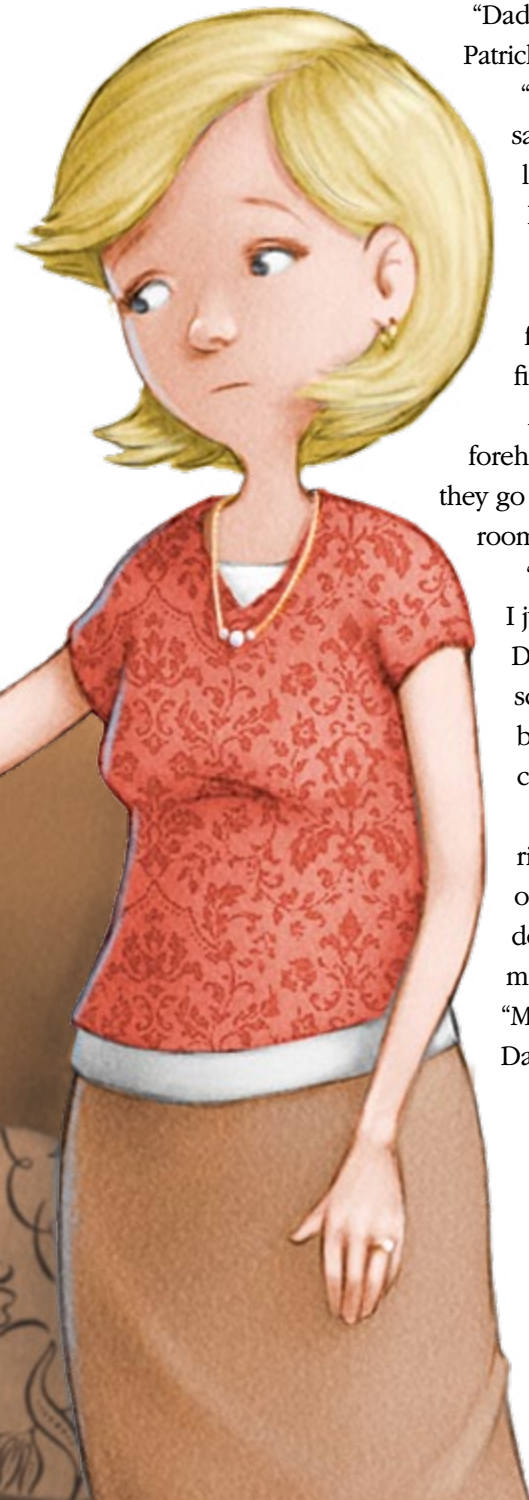
"Thank you,"
Dad said.

Patrick smiled too. That warm, good feeling was back, and he knew Dad was going to be OK.

The next morning, Patrick was excited when he realized it was Sunday. As he and Mom got ready for church, Patrick saw Dad standing in front of a mirror, tying his tie. He was going to church with them!

"Ready for church, buddy?" Dad asked Patrick.
"You bet!"

Patrick felt happier than ever before. He silently thanked Heavenly Father for answering his prayers and for sending two missionaries with the power of the priesthood to bless his family. ♦



One day I had been feeling very sick, and my dad offered to give me a priesthood blessing. He put the oil on my head and gave me a healing blessing. That night I slept well. The next morning I was able to eat some breakfast and read the scriptures with my family. I felt new and fresh. I said a prayer of gratitude. I know that the priesthood is powerful, and I am grateful my dad holds the priesthood.

Anna N., age 10, Kentucky