

Prayers and Cathedrals

By McKelle George

Based on a true story

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

Dani looked up but still couldn't see the top of the beautiful cathedral. People who belonged to a different church came here. Dani didn't understand why her family was 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, read scriptures, and pray together,” Dad said. “Like a big family at the end of the day.”

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 did. 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 what she was used to. She noticed a small table filled with candles. Dani watched a boy light a candle.

“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





“We should love all people, be good listeners, and show concern for their sincere beliefs.”

Elder Dallin H. Oaks of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “Loving Others and Living with Differences,” *Ensign or Liahona*, Nov. 2014, 27.

prayer will continue to be heard by God.”

They looked like regular candles to Dani. She was a little confused, but she wanted to be polite. She smiled 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 was singing. When they prayed, they read out of a little book. Everything seemed different than 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 10 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.

“Oh no!” Dani said a quick prayer in her heart that President Monson would be OK.

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

“Sister Monson passed away,” Dani said. “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 prayer she said in her heart and the prayer the boy said too. ■

The author lives in Utah, USA.

