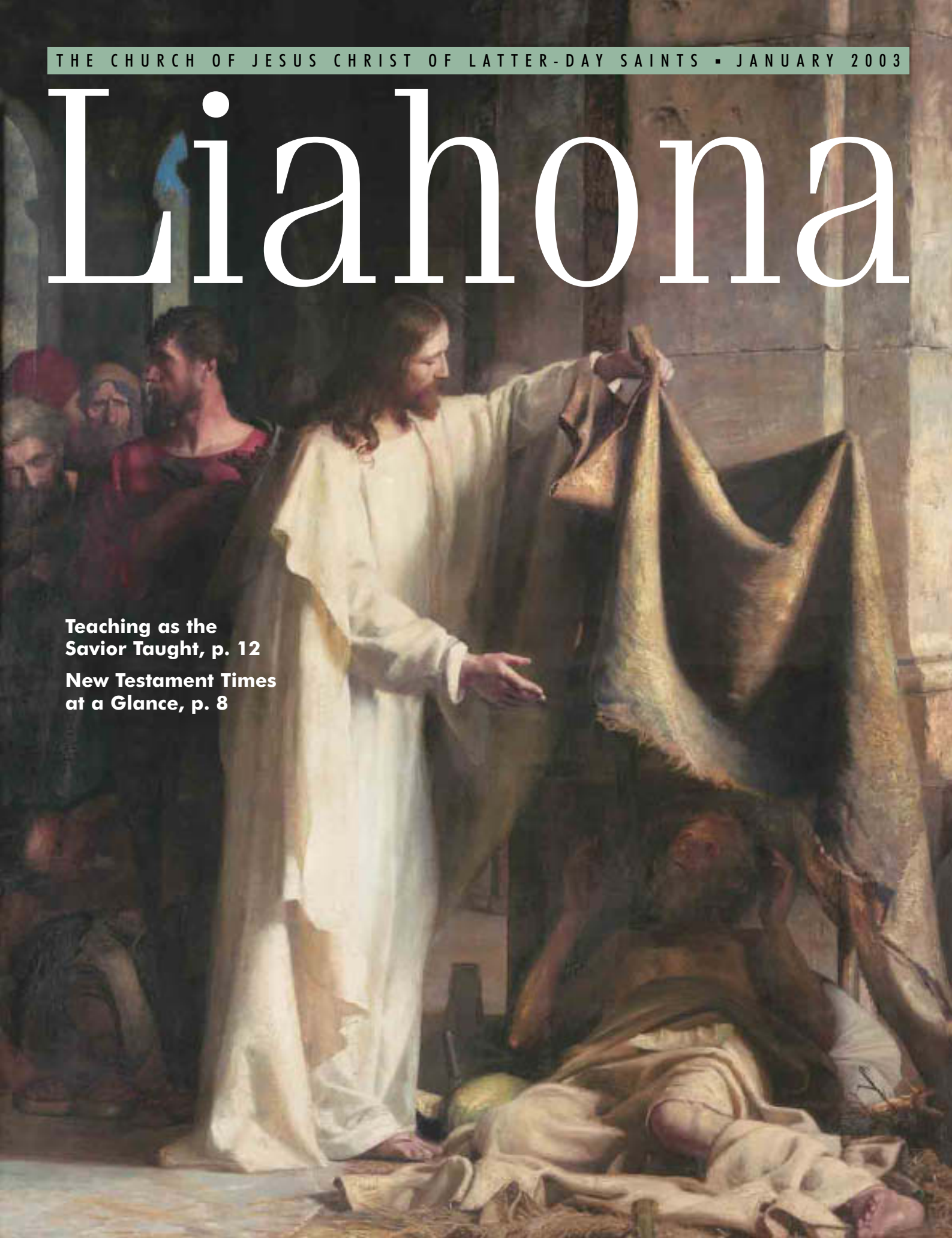


# Liahona

**Teaching as the  
Savior Taught, p. 12**

**New Testament Times  
at a Glance, p. 8**



# Liahona



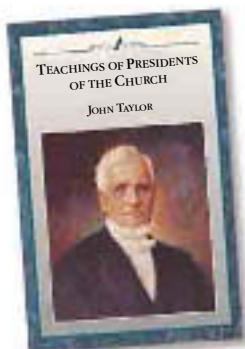
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Front: *Pool of Bethesda*, by Carl Heinrich Bloch, © courtesy of Brigham Young University Museum of Art, all rights reserved. Back: *Living Water*, by Simon Dewey, courtesy of Altus Fine Art, American Fork, Utah.



## THE FRIEND COVER

Painting by Brian Call. See "Temple Cards," p. 6.



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## INSERT

Sharing Time Poster:  
I Belong to The Church of  
Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



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**APPROVAL OF OUR CONSCIENCES**

Our family has been collecting issues of the *Liabona* (Spanish) for more than 20 years, and they have been a real comfort to us when we have needed the Spirit of God. The observations by President David O. McKay printed in the September 2001 issue contained great messages for our lives. President McKay's words inspired us to have the approval of our consciences so that when we are alone with our thoughts, we can be in the company of true friends (see "The Shape of Character: Classic Insights from President David O. McKay," p. 40). We are grateful as a family for the spiritual strength we receive from the *Liabona*.

*Hernán Toledo Martínez,  
El Mirador Ward,  
Angol Chile Stake*

**LE LIAHONA HELPED IN CONVERSION**

I am very happy to express my joy and gratitude for the fact that the last issue of *L'Étoile* (the former name of the Church's French magazine) and the first issue of *Le Liabona* (the current name of the Church's French magazine) helped put me on the path of the restored gospel, which I had been seeking for many years.

Disappointed by the false teachings that met me everywhere I turned in life, I had decided never to enter a church of any kind until Jesus Christ Himself returned and announced His gospel in person. The presentation and contents of the articles in the magazine, however, led me to the truth as restored through the Prophet Joseph Smith. I am again attending church, this time the true Church of Jesus Christ.

*Fidele Kituma-wa-Talanzambi,  
Mbuji Mayi Branch,  
Democratic Republic of Congo  
Kinsbasa Mission*

**ENJOYS NEWS OF THE CHURCH**

I like to read *A Liabona* (Portuguese), and I like the News of the Church best of all. When I read it, I learn about what is happening in the Church in other parts of the world. Those who have not subscribed to the magazine do not know what they are missing.

*Rodrigo Barros Soares,  
Nilo Wulff Ward,  
Porto Alegre Brazil South Stake*



# The Way of the Master

BY PRESIDENT THOMAS S. MONSON  
First Counselor in the First Presidency

## The Divine Commandment to Love

**D**uring the later Judean ministry of the Lord, “a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

“He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou?”

“And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.”

“And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live.”

“But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour?”

“And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.”

“And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.”

“And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side.”

“But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him,

“And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.”

“And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.”

“Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?”

“And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.”<sup>1</sup>

Times change, the years roll by, circumstances vary—but the Master’s counsel to the lawyer applies to you and to me just as surely as though we heard His voice speaking directly to us.



**T**he Master’s counsel to the lawyer applies to you and to me just as surely as though we heard His voice speaking directly to us.

### How to Fulfill the Commandment

As we study the New Testament this year, we might ask ourselves, “How might we fulfill today the divine commandment to love the Lord our God?”

The Lord declared: “He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me”; “Come, follow me”; “I have set an example for you”; “I am the light which ye shall hold up—that which ye have seen me do.”<sup>2</sup> What, indeed, did He do?

Born in a stable, cradled in a manger, He brought to fulfillment the prophecies of the ages. Shepherds came with haste to adore Him. Wise Men from the East came bearing for Him precious gifts; the meridian of time had dawned.

With the birth of the Babe in Bethlehem, there emerged a great endowment, a power stronger than weapons, a wealth more lasting than the coins of Caesar. This child was to be the King of kings and Lord of lords, the promised Messiah—even Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

The holy scriptures inform us that “Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.”<sup>3</sup> He was baptized by John.<sup>4</sup> He “went about doing good.”<sup>5</sup> At Nain He raised from death to life the widow’s son and presented him to her.<sup>6</sup> At Bethesda He took compassion on the crippled man who had no hope to get to the pool of promise. He extended His hand; He lifted him up. He healed him from his infirmity.<sup>7</sup>

Then came the Garden of Gethsemane with its exceeding anguish. He wrought the great Atonement as He took upon Himself the sins of all. He did for us what we could not do for ourselves.

Then came the cruel cross of Golgotha. In His final hours of mortality, He brought comfort to the malefactor, saying, “To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.”<sup>8</sup> He

remembered His mother in that eloquent sermon of love personified: “When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home.”<sup>9</sup> He died—the Great Redeemer died!

### Becoming like the Savior

Two questions, spoken at an earlier time, roll as thunder to the ears of each of us: “What think ye of Christ?”<sup>10</sup> and “What shall [we] do . . . with Jesus?”<sup>11</sup> I proffer these three suggestions:

**1. Learn of Him.** “Learn of me,” He pleaded, “for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.”<sup>12</sup>

**2. Believe in Him.** The writer of the proverb urged: “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”<sup>13</sup> His is the only name under heaven whereby we might be saved.

**3. Follow Him.** He brought reality to the word *compassion*. He showed us the way. He marked the path we should follow. Selfless service characterized His life.

By learning of Him, by believing in Him, by following Him, there is the capacity to become like Him. The countenance can change; the heart can be softened; the step can be quickened; the outlook enhanced. Life becomes what it should become. Change is at times imperceptible, but it does take place.

### The Savior’s Love of Neighbor

The Savior’s entire ministry exemplified love of neighbor, the second part of that lesson given to the inquiring lawyer—spoken of as the “royal law.”<sup>14</sup>

A blind man healed, the daughter of Jairus raised, and the lepers cleansed—all were



**B**ut a certain Samaritan . . . had compassion on him, And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.”

neighbors of Jesus. Neighbor also was the woman at the well. He, the perfect man, standing before a confessed sinner, extended a hand. She was the traveler; He was the good Samaritan. And so the caravan of His kindness continued.

What about our time and place? Do neighbors await our love, our kindness, our help?

A few years ago I read a Reuters news service account of an Alaska Airlines nonstop flight from Anchorage to Seattle, carrying 150 passengers, which was diverted to a remote town on a mercy mission to rescue a badly injured boy. Two-year-old Elton Williams III had severed an artery in his arm when he fell on a piece of glass while playing near his home in Yakutat, 450 miles (725 kilometers) south of Anchorage. Medics at the scene asked the airline to evacuate the boy. As a result, the Anchorage-to-Seattle flight was diverted to Yakutat.

The medics said the boy was bleeding badly and probably would not live through the flight to Seattle, so the plane flew 200 miles (320 kilometers) to Juneau, the nearest city with a hospital. The flight then went on to Seattle, with the passengers arriving two hours late, most missing their connections. But none complained. In fact, they dug into their pocketbooks and took up a collection for the boy and his family.

Later, as the flight was about to land in Seattle, the passengers broke into a cheer when the pilot said he had received word by radio that Elton was going to be all right. Surely love of neighbor was in evidence.

### Lost Opportunities

A man was asked one day, "Who is your next-door neighbor?"

He said, "I don't know his name, but his children run across my lawn and his dog keeps me awake at night!"

Another man, in a different mood, wrote silently one night in his journal: "I thought the house across the street



**J**esus Christ brought reality to the word compassion. He showed us the way. He marked the path we should follow. Selfless service characterized His life.

was empty until yesterday. Black crepe on the door made me aware that someone had been living there."

A poet set to verse the sorrow of opportunities forever lost:

*Around the corner I have a friend,  
In this great city that has no end;  
Yet days go by, and weeks rush on,  
And before I know it, a year is gone,  
And I never see my old friend's face,  
For Life is a swift and terrible race.  
He knows I like him just as well  
As in the days when I rang his bell  
And he rang mine.  
We were younger then,  
And now we are busy, tired men:  
Tired with playing a foolish game,  
Tired with trying to make a name.  
"To-morrow," I say, "I will call on Jim,  
Just to show that I'm thinking of him."  
But to-morrow comes—and to-morrow goes,  
And the distance between us grows and grows.  
Around the corner!—yet miles away . . .  
"Here's a telegram, sir,"  
"Jim died to-day."*



**H**e is the Great Physician—but He is more than a physician. He is the literal Savior of the world, the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, the Holy One of Israel, even the risen Lord.

*And that's what we get, and deserve in the end:  
Around the corner, a vanished friend.<sup>15</sup>*

#### **"Information, Please"**

Long years ago I was touched by a story which illustrated love of neighbor between a small boy named Paul and a telephone operator he had never met. These were the days many will remember with nostalgia but which a new generation will never experience.

Paul related the story: "When I was quite young, my father had one of the first telephones in our neighborhood. I remember that the shiny receiver hung on the side of the box. I was too little to reach the telephone, but I used to listen with fascination when Mother would talk to it. Then I discovered that somewhere inside the wonderful device lived an amazing person. Her name was 'Information, Please,' and there was nothing she did not know. 'Information, Please' could supply anybody's number and the correct time.

"I learned that if I stood on a stool, I could reach the telephone. I called 'Information, Please' for all sorts of things. I asked her for help with my geography, and she told me where Philadelphia was. She helped me with my arithmetic, too.

"Then there was the time that Petey, our pet canary, died.

I called 'Information, Please' and told her the sad story. She listened and then said the usual things grown-ups say to soothe a child. But I was unconsoled. 'Why is it that birds should sing so beautifully and bring joy to all families, only to end up as a heap of feathers, feet up, on the bottom of the cage?' I asked.

"She must have sensed my deep concern, for she said quietly, 'Paul, always remember that there are other worlds in which to sing.' Somehow I felt better.

"All this took place in a small town near Seattle. Then we moved across the country to Boston. I missed my

friend very much. 'Information, Please' belonged to that old wooden box back home, and I somehow never thought of trying to call her. The memories of those childhood conversations never really left me; often in moments of doubt and perplexity I would recall the serene sense of security I had then. I appreciated now how patient, understanding, and kind she was to have spent her time on a little boy.

"Later, when I went west to college, my plane made a stop in Seattle," Paul continued. "I called 'Information, Please,' and when, miraculously, I heard that familiar voice, I said to her, 'I wonder if you have any idea how much you meant to me during that time?'

"'I wonder,' she said, 'if you know how much your calls meant to me. I never had any children, and I used to look forward to your calls.' I told her how often I had thought of her over the years, and I asked if I could call her again when I came back west.

"'Please do,' she said. 'Just ask for Sally.'

"Only three months later I was back in Seattle. A different voice answered, 'Information,' and I asked for Sally. 'Are you a friend?' the woman asked.

"'Yes, a very old friend,' I replied.

"'Then I'm sorry to have to tell you. Sally has only been working part-time the last few years because she was ill.



She died five weeks ago.’ But before I could hang up, she said, ‘Wait a minute. Did you say your name was Paul?’

“‘Yes,’ I responded.

“‘Well, Sally left a message for you. She wrote it down. Here it is—I’ll read it. *Tell him I still say there are other worlds in which to sing. He’ll know what I mean.*’

“I thanked her and hung up,” said Paul. “I did know what Sally meant.”<sup>16</sup>

Sally, the telephone operator, and Paul, the boy—the man—were in reality good Samaritans to each other.

### “Follow Thou Me”

There are indeed other worlds in which to sing. Our Lord and Savior brought to each of us the reality of this truth.

To the grieving Martha He comforted: “I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.”<sup>17</sup>

If we truly seek our Lord and Savior, we shall surely find Him. “He comes to us as One unknown, without a name, as of old, by the lake-side, He came to those men who knew Him not. He speaks to us the same word: ‘Follow thou me!’<sup>18</sup> and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfil for our time. He commands. And to those who obey Him, whether they be wise or simple, He will reveal Himself in the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings which they shall pass through in His fellowship, and . . . they shall learn in their own experience Who He is.”<sup>19</sup>

### The Savior of the World

He who taught us to love the Lord our God with all our hearts, and with all our souls, and with all our strength, and with all our minds, and our neighbors as ourselves, is a teacher of truth—but He is more than a teacher. He is the Exemplar of the perfect life—but He is more than an exemplar. He is the Great Physician—but He is more than a physician. He is the literal Savior of the world, the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, the Holy One of Israel, even the risen Lord, who declared: “Behold, I am Jesus Christ, whom the prophets testified shall come into the world. . . .

I am the light and the life of the world.”<sup>20</sup> “I am the first and the last; I am he who liveth, I am he who was slain; I am your advocate with the Father.”<sup>21</sup>

As His witness, I testify to you that He lives and that through Him, we too shall live. ■

### NOTES

1. Luke 10:25–37.
2. John 14:21; Luke 18:22; 3 Nephi 18:16, 24.
3. Luke 2:52.
4. See Matthew 3:13–16.
5. Acts 10:38.
6. See Luke 7:11–15.
7. See John 5:2–9.
8. Luke 23:43.
9. John 19:26–27.
10. Matthew 22:42.
11. Matthew 27:22.
12. Matthew 11:29.
13. Proverbs 3:5–6.
14. James 2:8.
15. Charles Hanson Towne, “Around the Corner,” in *Poems That Live Forever*, sel. Hazel Felleman (1965), 128.
16. Adapted from Paul Villiard, “‘Information Please,’” *Reader’s Digest*, June 1966, 62–65.
17. John 11:25–26.
18. John 21:22.
19. Albert Schweitzer, *The Quest of the Historical Jesus* (1948), 401.
20. 3 Nephi 11:10–11.
21. D&C 110:4.

## IDEAS FOR HOME TEACHERS

After you prayerfully prepare, share this message using a method that encourages the participation of those you teach. A few examples follow:

1. Invite family members to name people who live nearby. What other people might we consider to be “neighbors”? Do your neighbors receive your love, your kindness, your help? Read one or more of the stories of modern neighborliness in this message. Share an experience of how a neighbor’s selfless service has blessed your life.
2. Write in large letters on a piece of paper: “Learn of Him. Believe in Him. Follow Him.” Show the piece of paper, and invite family members to tell stories about Jesus Christ that have helped them learn, believe, and follow His commandment to love one another.
3. Read together the parable of the good Samaritan (see Luke 10:30–35), and discuss what it teaches about loving others. You may also want to read aloud part of President Monson’s closing testimony as you end the discussion.

New Testament Times at a Glance

# THE LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST

Birth to the Final Week

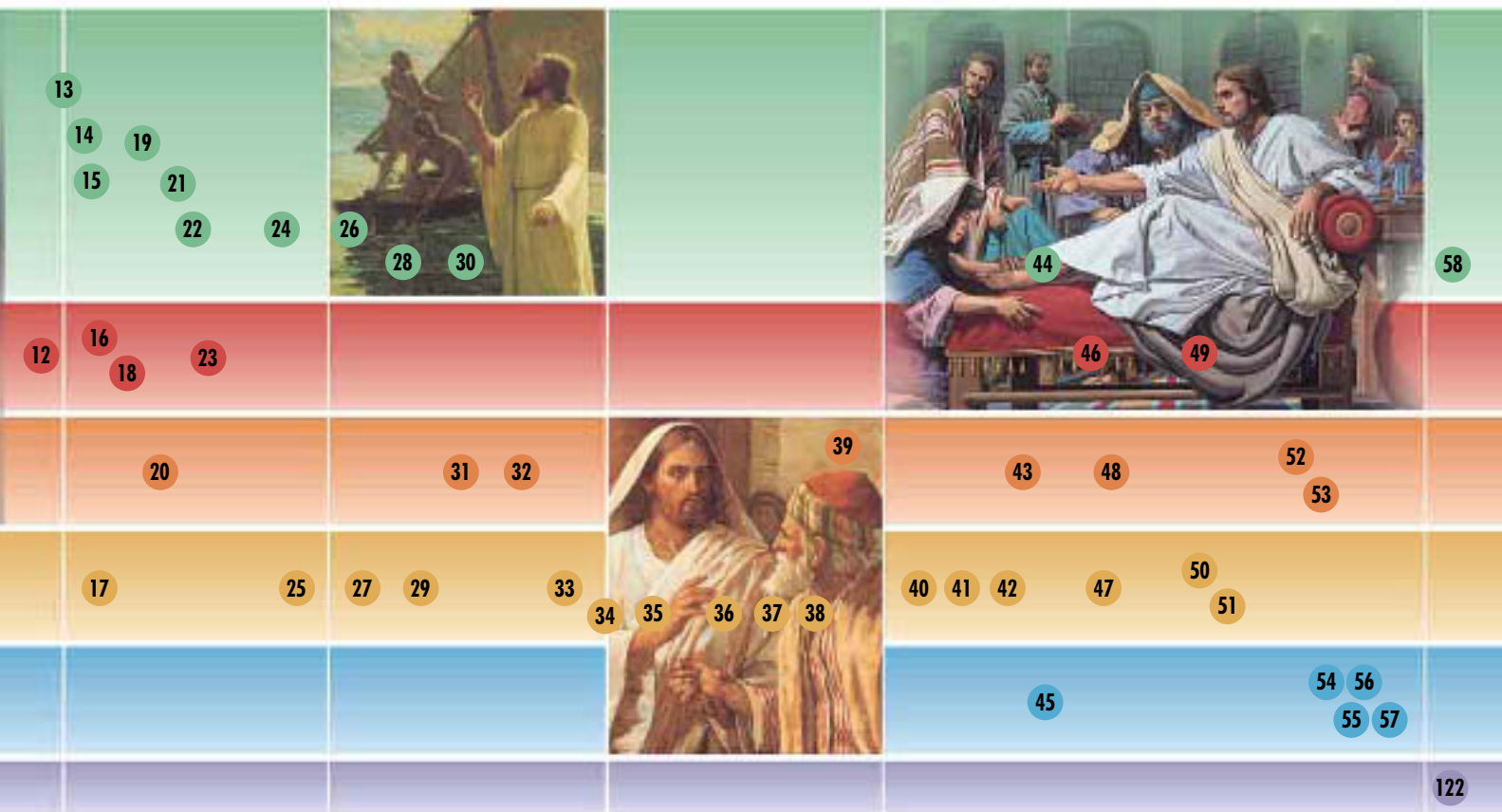


B.C.	A.D.	11	21	31 WINTER
	1			
	4			
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	6			
	7			
	TRAVELS			
	8			
	9			
117	118	119	120	121
<b>BOOK OF MORMON</b>				

*(Dates are approximate.)*

1. **Luke 1:5–38** In Jerusalem an angel told Zacharias that his wife, Elisabeth, would have a son named John. In Nazareth an angel told Mary that she would be the mother of the Son of God.
2. **Luke 1:39–80** Mary visited the home of Zacharias and Elisabeth. John the Baptist was born and named.
3. **Matthew 1:18–25** Mary returned to Nazareth. Joseph, Mary’s espoused husband, learned that she was expecting a child. An angel told Joseph to marry her and name her son Jesus.
4. **Luke 2:1–20; Matthew 2:2** Jesus was born in Bethlehem, a new star appeared, and angels announced His birth to shepherds, who went to worship Him.
5. **Luke 2:21** Eight days after His birth, Jesus was circumcised at Bethlehem and given His name.
6. **Luke 2:22–38** Joseph and Mary presented Jesus in the temple. Simeon and Anna testified that Jesus is the Christ.
7. **Matthew 2:1–12** Wise Men from the East worshiped Jesus and brought Him precious gifts.
8. **Matthew 2:13–18** Joseph and Mary were told by an angel to take Jesus to Egypt to escape Herod’s order to kill the young children.
9. **Matthew 2:19–23** Joseph and Mary took Jesus to Nazareth after Herod died.
10. **Luke 2:41–52** Jesus taught religious teachers in the temple at Jerusalem.
11. **Luke 3:1–18** John the Baptist preached in Judea and baptized in the Jordan River.
12. **Matthew 3:13** Jesus journeyed to Bethabara.
13. **Matthew 3:13–17** Jesus was baptized by John.
14. **Matthew 4:1–11** Jesus went into the wilderness to be with God. He fasted for 40 days and was tempted by Satan.
15. **John 1:35–51** Some of John the Baptist’s disciples began to follow Jesus.
16. **John 2:1** Jesus returned to Galilee.
17. **John 2:1–11** Jesus changed water to wine at a wedding in Cana.
18. **John 2:13** Jesus went to Jerusalem for the Passover.
19. **John 2:13–17** Jesus drove the money changers from the temple courtyard.
20. **John 3:1–21** Jesus taught a Pharisee named Nicodemus about being born again.
21. **John 3:22–36** Jesus preached and baptized in Judea. John bore testimony of Jesus.
22. **Luke 3:19–20** John the Baptist was imprisoned by Herod.

FROM LEFT: A LIGHT TO THE GENTILES. © GREG OLSEN. FROM THE VISIONS OF FAITH COLLECTION BY MILL POND PRESS, INC. VENICE, FLORIDA; DETAIL FROM CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE. BY HEINRICH HOFMANN; CHRIST CALLING PETER AND ANDREW. BY JAMES TAYLOR HARTWOOD; DETAIL FROM CHRIST HEALING THE MAN WITH THE WITHERED HAND. BY ROBERT T. BARRETT; WHOM HE FORGAVE MOST. BY ROGER LOVELESS.



- 23. John 4:1–3** Jesus left the Jerusalem area to return to Galilee.
- 24. John 4:4–42** In Samaria Jesus taught a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well.
- 25. John 4:46–54** In Galilee Jesus healed the son of a nobleman.
- 26. Luke 4:16–30** Jesus was rejected at Nazareth.
- 27. Mark 1:21–28** At Capernaum Jesus healed a man with an unclean spirit.
- 28. Matthew 4:18–22** Jesus called Peter, Andrew, James, and John to follow Him.
- 29. Mark 1:40–45** Jesus healed a leper.
- 30. Matthew 10:1–4** Jesus called and ordained His Twelve Apostles.
- 31. Matthew 10:5–42** Jesus taught His Twelve Apostles about their duties.
- 32. Matthew 5–7** Jesus taught the Sermon on the Mount.
- 33. Matthew 8:5–13** At Capernaum Jesus healed a centurion's servant.
- 34. Luke 7:11–17** At Nain Jesus raised a widow's son from the dead.
- 35. Matthew 8:14–17** At Capernaum Jesus healed the mother of Peter's wife and others.
- 36. Matthew 8:23–27** Jesus calmed the storm at the Sea of Galilee.
- 37. Matthew 8:28–34** Jesus commanded a legion of devils to depart; they entered into swine.
- 38. Matthew 9:1–8** Jesus healed a man who was paralyzed.
- 39. Matthew 9:10–17** Jesus preached of new wine and old bottles.
- 40. Matthew 9:18–26** A woman was healed when she touched Jesus' clothing; He also raised Jairus's daughter.
- 41. Matthew 9:27–31** Jesus healed two blind men.
- 42. Matthew 9:32–34** Jesus healed a dumb man possessed with a devil.
- 43. Matthew 11:7–19** Jesus testified of the greatness of John the Baptist.
- 44. Luke 7:36–50** A woman washed Jesus' feet with her tears at the home of Simon the Pharisee.
- 45. Luke 7:41–42** The parable of the two debtors.
- 46. John 5:1** Jesus went to Jerusalem for the second Passover.
- 47. John 5:2–16** Jesus healed a man on the Sabbath by the pool of Bethesda.
- 48. John 5:17–47** In the temple Jesus taught about His relationship with the Father.
- 49. Matthew 9:35–38** Jesus returned to Galilee, where he preached and healed.
- 50. Matthew 12:1–21** Pharisees accused Jesus' disciples of breaking the Sabbath; Jesus healed a man with a withered hand on the Sabbath.
- 51. Matthew 12:22–23** Jesus healed a man possessed with a devil.
- 52. Matthew 12:24–45** Jesus taught the Pharisees about Satan, blasphemy against the Holy Ghost, and seeking signs.
- 53. Matthew 13:1–53** Jesus used parables to teach about the kingdom of heaven.
- 54. Matthew 13:3–23; Mark 4:21–22** Parables of the sower and of the candle.
- 55. Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43; Mark 4:26–29** Parables of the wheat and tares and of the seed growing secretly.
- 56. Matthew 13:31–35** Parables of the mustard seed and of the leaven.
- 57. Matthew 13:44–52** Parables of the hidden treasure, the pearl of great price, the gospel net, and the householder.
- 58. Matthew 13:54–58** The people of Nazareth rejected Jesus a second time.

## EVENTS

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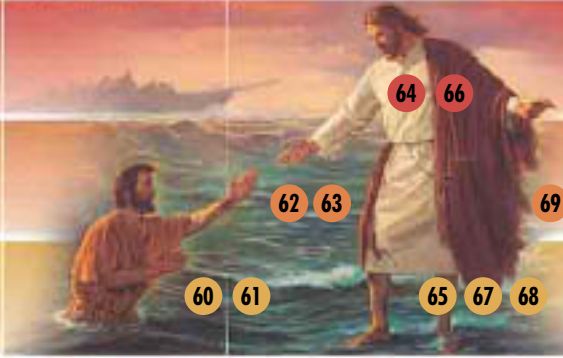
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## SERMONS

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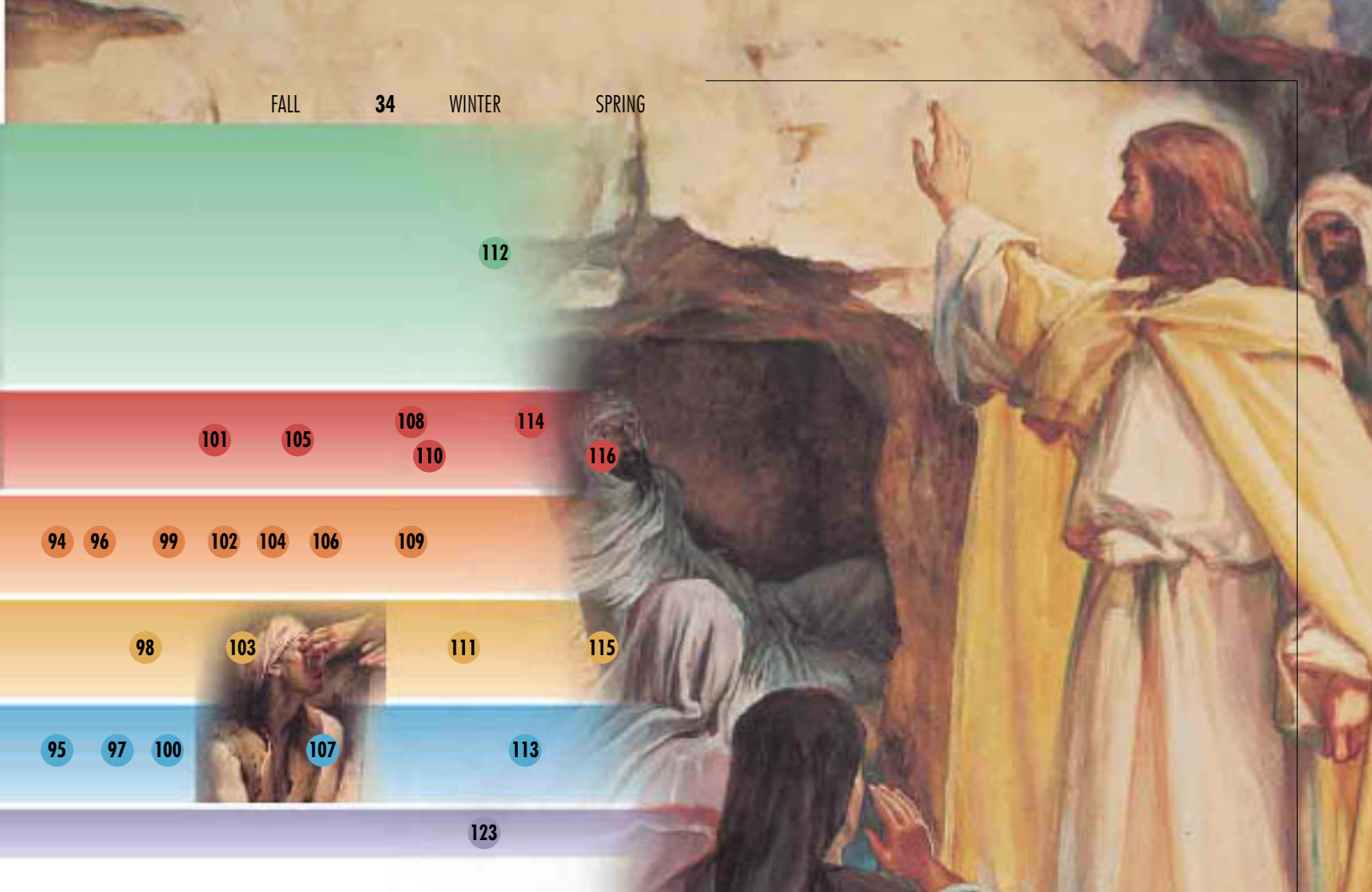
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## 122 BOOK OF MORMON

- 59. Matthew 14:1–12** Herod feared that Jesus was the beheaded John the Baptist returned from the dead.
- 60. John 6:1–15** Shortly before Passover, Jesus fed 5,000 with five loaves and two fishes.
- 61. John 6:16–21; Matthew 14:22–33** Jesus walked on the water; Peter followed, then wavered.
- 62. John 6:22–66** Jesus declared that He is the Bread of Life. Many disciples rejected Him.
- 63. Mark 7:1–23** When His disciples ate with unwashed hands, Jesus taught the Pharisees about true cleanliness.
- 64. Mark 7:24** Jesus went north to Tyre and Sidon.
- 65. Mark 7:24–30** Jesus healed a Canaanite woman's daughter.
- 66. Mark 7:31** Jesus returned to Galilee.
- 67. Mark 7:32–37** Jesus healed a deaf man who had a speech impediment.
- 68. Mark 8:1–9** Jesus fed 4,000.
- 69. Mark 8:10–21** At Magdala Jesus taught about seeking for signs; He warned His disciples about the "leaven" of the Pharisees.
- 70. Mark 8:22–26** At Bethsaida Jesus healed a blind man.

- 71. Matthew 16:13** Jesus went with His disciples to Caesarea Philippi.
- 72. Matthew 16:13–20** Peter testified that Jesus is the Christ.
- 73. Matthew 16:21–28** Jesus taught His disciples about His death, His Second Coming, and discipleship.
- 74. Matthew 17:1** Jesus took Peter, James, and John up into a high mountain.
- 75. Matthew 17:2–13** Jesus was transfigured. Peter, James, and John received priesthood keys.
- 76. Matthew 17:14, 22** Jesus and His disciples returned to Galilee.
- 77. Matthew 17:14–21** Jesus healed a "lunatic" boy.
- 78. Matthew 17:22–18:35** Jesus taught His disciples about His death, tribute money, and the principles of humility, service, and forgiveness.
- 79. Matthew 18:23–35** The parable of the unmerciful servant.
- 80. Luke 9:51–56** Jesus traveled through Samaria, Judea, and Perea on His way to Jerusalem.
- 81. Luke 10:1–24** Jesus appointed the Seventy and sent them out to preach. They returned and reported.

- 82. Luke 10:25–37** The parable of the good Samaritan.
- 83. Luke 10:38–42** Jesus rested at the home of Martha and Mary and taught them.
- 84. Luke 11:1–13** Jesus taught His disciples about prayer.
- 85. Luke 11:5–8** The parable of the friend at midnight.
- 86. Luke 11:14–12:12** Jesus again rebuked the Pharisees for seeking a sign and for hypocrisy.
- 87. Luke 12:13–21** The parable of the rich fool.
- 88. Luke 12:22–13:9** Jesus taught His disciples about seeking the kingdom of God first and about His Second Coming.
- 89. Luke 12:35–48; 13:6–9** Parables of the watchful servants and of the barren fig tree.
- 90. Luke 13:10–17** Jesus healed a woman on the Sabbath.
- 91. Luke 13:22–35** Jesus taught about the "strait gate" and about who may enter His kingdom. He lamented over Jerusalem.
- 92. Luke 14:1–6** Jesus healed a man with dropsy on the Sabbath day.
- 93. Luke 14:7–24** Parables of the wedding feast and the great supper.

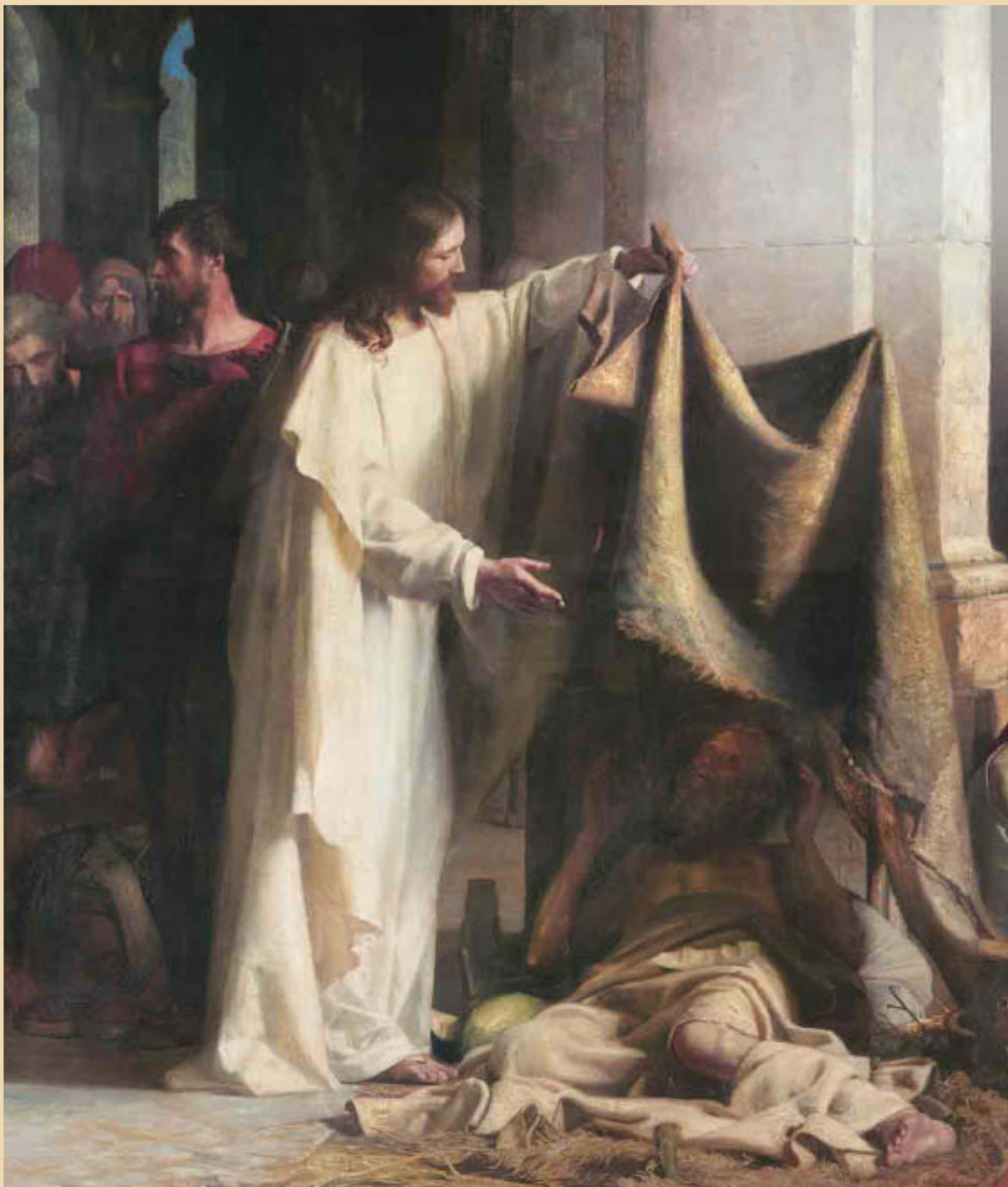


94. **Luke 14:25–35** Jesus taught the multitude about discipleship.
95. **Luke 14:28–33** Parables of the tower and of the rash king.
96. **Luke 15:1–16:31** Jesus taught and condemned the Pharisees for hypocrisy.
97. **Luke 15:1–17:10** Parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the prodigal son. Parables of the unjust steward, the rich man and Lazarus, and the unprofitable servant.
98. **Luke 17:11–19** Jesus healed ten lepers; only one returned to give thanks.
99. **Luke 17:20–18:14** Jesus taught the Pharisees about His Second Coming.
100. **Luke 18:1–14** Parables of the unjust judge and of the Pharisee and the publican.
101. **John 7:2–13** Jesus arrived in Jerusalem for the Feast of Tabernacles.
102. **John 7:14–8:59** Jesus taught in the temple. A woman taken in adultery was brought to Him. He testified that He is the Messiah.
103. **John 9:1–41** Jesus healed a man who was blind since birth and testified that He is the Light of the World.
104. **John 10:1–21** Jesus taught that He is the Good Shepherd.

105. **Mark 10:1** Jesus left Jerusalem to preach in Perea.
106. **Mark 10:2–31** Jesus discussed divorce with the Pharisees. He blessed the little children, answered the question of a rich young ruler, and taught His disciples.
107. **Matthew 20:1–16** The parable of the laborers in the vineyard.
108. **John 10:22** Jesus returned to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Dedication.
109. **John 10:23–39** Jesus taught in the temple, “I and my Father are one.”
110. **John 10:40–42** Jesus departed for Perea.
111. **Mark 10:32–52** Jesus taught His disciples and healed a blind man named Bartimaeus.
112. **Luke 19:1–10** Zacchaeus the publican hosted Jesus in his home.
113. **Luke 19:11–27** The parable of the pounds.
114. **John 11:7** Jesus returned to the Jerusalem area for the final time.
115. **John 11:1–46** Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead.
116. **John 11:54** Jesus went to the city of Ephraim.

#### BOOK OF MORMON

117. **Helaman 14–15** In America Samuel the Lamanite prophesied of the signs of Jesus’ birth and death.
118. **Helaman 16:13–14** Great signs and wonders appeared, thus beginning the fulfillment of prophecies.
119. **3 Nephi 1:15–26** With the sign of Jesus’ birth (no darkness for one night), many repented and believed in Him.
120. **3 Nephi 3–4** Nephite armies defeated the Gadianton robbers.
121. **3 Nephi 6** Nephites prospered, then became prideful and killed the prophets.
122. **3 Nephi 7:15–26** Nephi preached and many repented.
123. **3 Nephi 8:3** The righteous Nephites began to look with great earnestness for the sign of Jesus’ death.
- “New Testament Times at a Glance: The Life of Jesus Christ—The Final Week” will be published in April 2003.**



# Teaching, Preaching, Healing

BY ELDER JEFFREY R. HOLLAND  
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

**W**e quickly and rightfully think of Christ as a teacher—the greatest teacher who ever lived or ever will live. The New Testament is full of His teachings, His sayings, His sermons, His parables. One way or another, He is a teacher on every page of that book. But even as He taught, He was consciously doing something in addition to that, something that put His teaching in perspective.

Following the Savior's initial call to those first disciples (not yet Apostles), the work began. This is what Matthew says: "And Jesus went about all Galilee, *teaching* in their synagogues, and *preaching* the gospel of the kingdom, and *healing* all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people" (Matthew 4:23; emphasis added).

Now, the teaching and the preaching we know and would expect. But we may not be quite as prepared to see healing in the same way. Yet from this earliest beginning, from the first hour, healing is mentioned almost as if it were a synonym for teaching and preaching. At least there is a clear relationship among the three. In fact, the passage that follows says more about the healing than the teaching or the preaching.

Matthew continues: "And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were



*I believe  
Christ wants  
our teaching to  
lead to healing  
of the spiritual  
kind.*



POOL OF BETHESDA. BY CARL HEINRICH BLOCH. © COURTESY OF BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF ART. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them” (v. 24).

What then follows is the masterful Sermon on the Mount, six and a half pages that would take six and a half years to teach properly, I suppose. But the moment that sermon was over, the Savior came down from the mountain and was healing again. In rapid succession He healed a leper, the centurion’s servant, Peter’s mother-in-law, then a group described only as “many that were possessed with devils” (Matthew 8:16). In short, it says, He “healed all that were sick” (v. 16).

Driven to cross the Sea of Galilee by the crowds that swarmed around Him, He subsequently cast devils out of two who were dwelling in the Gadarene tombs and then sailed back to “his own city” (Matthew 9:1), where He healed a man confined to bed with palsy, healed a woman with a 12-year issue of blood (in what I think is one of the sweetest and most remarkable moments in all of the New Testament), and raised the ruler’s daughter from the dead.

Then He restored the sight of two blind men, followed by the casting out of a devil which had robbed a man of the ability to speak. That is a quick summary of the first six chapters in the New Testament devoted to Christ’s ministry. Then this verse. See if it has an echo for you: “And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, *teaching* in their synagogues, and *preaching* the gospel of the kingdom, and *healing* every sickness and every disease among the people” (Matthew 9:35; emphasis added).



That is, of course, except for a few words, exactly the verse we read five chapters earlier. Then this:

“But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

“Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;

“Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest” (vv. 36–38).

With that He called the Twelve and charged them with this directive. “Go,” He said, “to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

“And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

“*Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils:* freely ye have received, freely give” (Matthew 10:6–8; emphasis added).

We know the Savior to be the Master Teacher. He is that and more. And when He says the bulk of the harvest yet lies before us and that there are far too few laborers, we immediately think of the missionaries and others who need to teach. *But the call is for a certain kind of teacher, a teacher who heals in the process.*

Now, let me make myself absolutely clear. By “healing,” as I have been speaking of it, I am *not* talking about formal use of the priesthood or administration to the sick or any such thing as that. That is *not* the role of those called as teachers in our Church organizations.

But I believe our teaching can lead to healing of the spiritual kind. I cannot believe that so much of what Matthew wrote could be focused on the context of the Savior’s ministry to distressed, troubled, distraught people if it were for no purpose. As with the Master, wouldn’t it be wonderful to measure the success of our teaching by the healing that takes place in the lives of others?

Let me be a little more specific. As you teach, rather than just giving a lesson, please try a little harder to help that spiritually blind basketball star really see, or that spiritually deaf homecoming queen really hear, or the spiritually lame student body president really walk. Could we

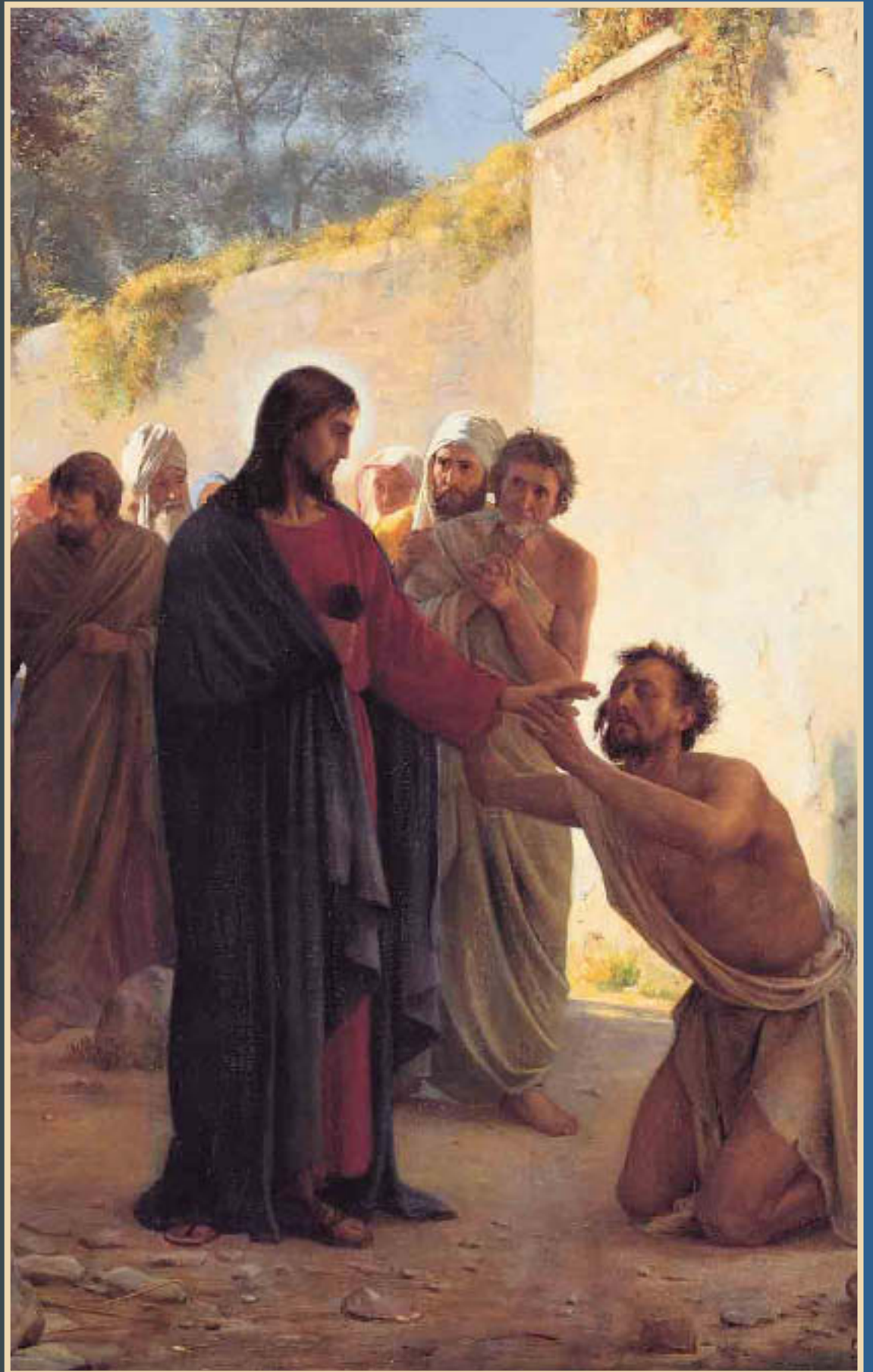




FAR LEFT: ARISE AND WALK, BY SIMON DEWEY, COURTESY OF ALTUS FINE ART, AMERICAN FORK, UTAH; LEFT: CHRIST AND THE RICH YOUNG RULER, BY HEINRICH HOFMANN

*We know the Savior to be the Master Teacher. He is that and more. His call is for a certain kind of teacher, a teacher who heals in the process.*

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wouldn't it be  
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lives of others?*



try a little harder to fortify others so powerfully that whatever temptations the devil throws at them, they will be able to withstand and thus truly in that moment be free from evil? Could we try a little harder to teach so powerfully and so spiritually that we really help that individual who walks alone, who lives alone, who weeps in the dark of the night?

### “Therefore, What?”

Perhaps a lesson from life in the Quorum of the Twelve will help me say what I want to say on this point and avoid any confusion on your part.

President Boyd K. Packer, Acting President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles and himself a master teacher, has a question he often asks when we have made a presentation or given some sort of exhortation to one another in the Twelve. He looks up as if to say, “Are you through?” and then says to the speaker (and, by implication, to the rest of the group), “Therefore, what?”

“Therefore, what?” I think that is what the Savior answered day in and day out as an inseparable element of His teaching and preaching. His sermons and exhortations were to no avail if the actual lives of His disciples did not change.

“Therefore, what?” You and I know that too many people have not made the connection between what they say they believe and how they actually live their lives.

Pray that your teaching will bring change. Pray that, like the lyrics of a now-forgotten song, your lessons will literally cause someone to “straighten up and fly right” (Nat King Cole, “Straighten Up and Fly Right” [1943]). We want them straight, and we want them right. We want them blessed, happy in this life, and saved in the world to come.

### God Is in Charge

The book of Acts, which introduces the post-Resurrection portion of the New Testament, is technically called “The Acts of the Apostles.” That is an important ecclesiastical idea in the book, namely that the Apostles were ordained representatives of the Lord



Jesus Christ and were thus authorized to continue to lead the Church in His name.

But consider what they faced. Consider the plight, the fear, the confusion, the devastation facing the members of the new little Christian Church after Christ was crucified. They may have understood something of what was happening, but they couldn’t have understood all of it. The people must have been very fearful and very confused, and the Brethren had their hands full trying to provide leadership.

Not surprisingly, from the outset (at least from the first verse of the book of Acts) the declaration was that the Church would continue to be *divinely* led, not mortally led. And that was important for the people to hear in that terrible hour of confusion and fear. Indeed, a more complete title for the book of Acts could appropriately be something like “The Acts of the Resurrected Christ Working through the Holy Spirit in the Lives and Ministries of His Ordained Apostles.” Now, having said that, you can see why someone voted for the shorter title—but my suggested title is more accurate! Listen to Luke’s opening lines:

“The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

“Until the day in which he was taken up, *after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen*” (Acts 1:1–2; emphasis added).

The direction of the Church was the same. The location of the Savior had been altered, but the direction and leadership of the Church were exactly the same. Then, having made that introductory point, we get manifestations of the Lord’s power through the Holy Ghost at every turn. The first teaching of the resurrected Christ to the Twelve in the book of Acts is that they “shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence” (Acts 1:5) and that “ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you” (v. 8).



After He ascended to heaven before their very eyes, Peter got the remaining members of the Church together—all 120 of them. (Can you see what an impact these troubles and opposition had had on their numbers?) One hundred and twenty people gathered, and Peter said, “Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the *Holy Ghost* by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas” (v. 16; emphasis added). In filling Judas’s vacancy in the Twelve, they prayed exactly the way the Quorum of the Twelve and First Presidency pray today: “*Thou, Lord*, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these . . . *thou* hast chosen” (v. 24; emphasis added). And Matthias was called.

But that first chapter which turns everyone heavenward, so clearly dramatizing the divine guidance that would continue to direct the Church, is only preparation for chapter 2. In those passages, the very name *Pentecost* comes into the Christian vocabulary as synonymous with singular spiritual manifestations and a divine outpouring of the Holy Ghost upon the people. Revelation came from heaven with the sound “as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house” (Acts 2:2), and it filled the brethren. “There appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire. . . . And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak . . . as the Spirit gave them utterance” (vv. 3–4).

Peter, as chief Apostle and President of the Church, stood and acknowledged this outpouring. He quoted Joel, saying that God would in the last days “pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

“And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy” (vv. 17–18).

Peter continued: “Ye men of Israel [he’s speaking to the larger congregation], hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you . . . this Jesus hath God raised up . . . by the right hand of God exalted, and *having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost*, he

hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear” (vv. 22, 32–33; emphasis added).

It is a magnificent passage. Those not yet baptized, moved by this Spirit, asked what they should do. Peter told them to be baptized for the remission of sins and to

“receive the gift of the Holy Ghost” (v. 38), and 3,000 of them did so. Later, when the lame man was raised to health on the steps of the temple and the crowd thought Peter and John had done something wonderful, Peter chastised them, said it was not mortal power or any holiness from the disciples that made the man to walk, but rather that of Jesus, whom these people of Jerusalem had “delivered up” and “killed” (Acts 3:13, 15). He then testified that Jesus was still leading the Church through the instrumentality of the Holy Spirit and would continue to do so until He came again in “the times of restitution of all things” (v. 21).

When 5,000 more people joined the Church, the local Pharisees and Sadducees were stunned. They demanded to know how all of this was being done. Peter gave the classic answer you must always give others. “*Filled with the Holy Ghost*,” he declared that it was done in and “by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth” (Acts 4:8, 10; emphasis added). Christ was not only directing the actions of His Apostles through the instrumentality of the Holy Spirit; He was also speaking through them by the same Spirit. This is a lesson about the governance of the Church of Jesus Christ, both ancient and modern.

The Father and the Son direct this work still, having Their impact upon Church leaders, teachers, and individuals through the means of the Holy Ghost. And it is through that same instrumentality that we must have our impact upon those we teach.

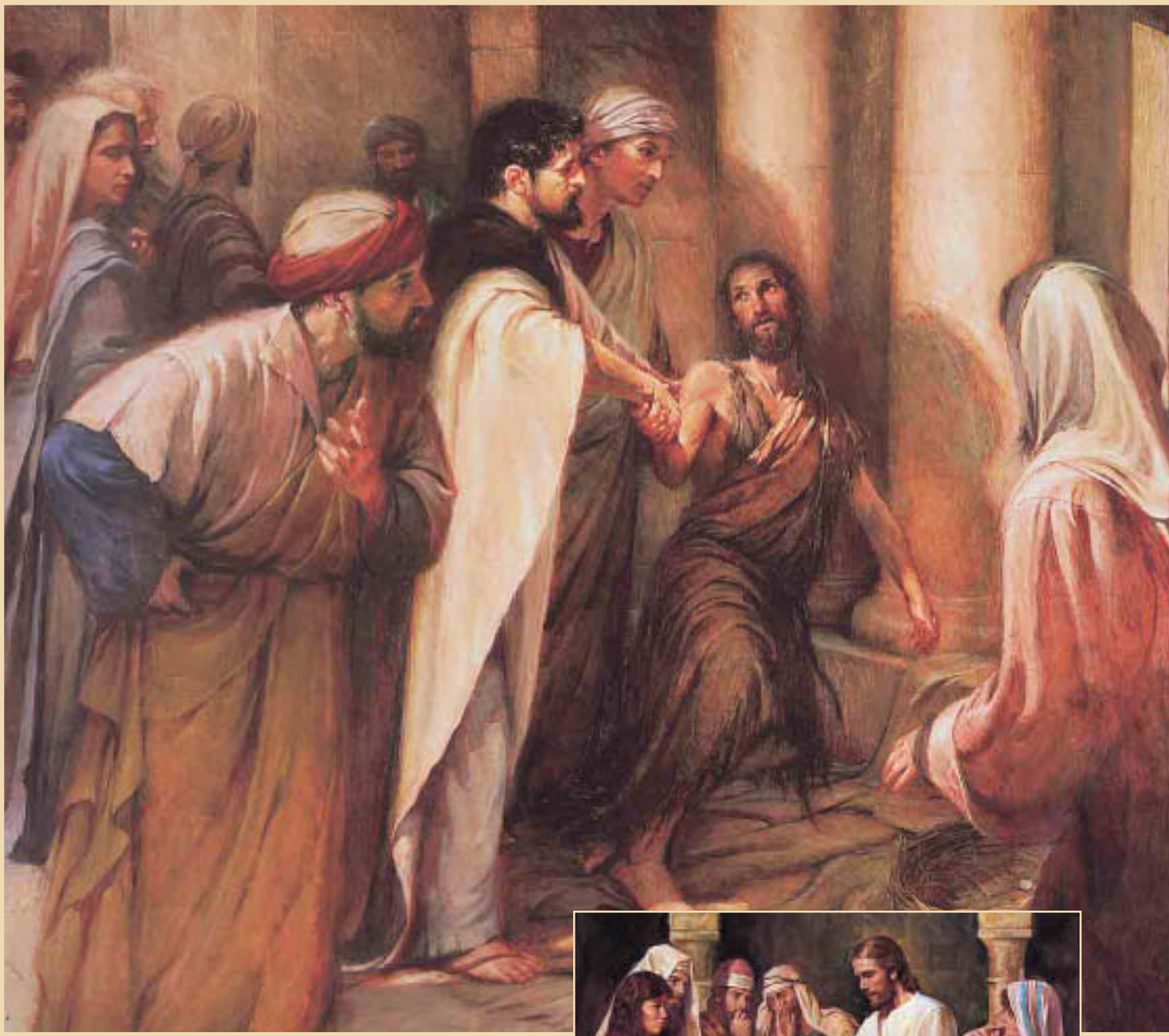
### **Teach by the Spirit**

Please teach by the Holy Spirit. If we do not teach that way, then by scriptural definition we are teaching “some other way” (D&C 50:17). And any other way “is not of God” (v. 20). Give your students the opportunity for a spiritual experience in every way you can. That is what the New

*Could we try a little harder to teach so powerfully and so spiritually that we really help that individual who walks alone, who lives alone, who weeps in the dark of the night?*



FAR LEFT: JARUS'S DAUGHTER, BY DEL PARSON; LEFT: CHRIST AND THE SAMARITAN WOMAN, BY CARL HEINRICH BLOCH, COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC MUSEUM AT FREDERIKSBORG IN HILLEROD, DENMARK



*When the lame man was raised to health on the steps of the temple and the crowd thought Peter and John had done something wonderful, Peter chastised them, said it was not mortal power or any holiness from the disciples that made the man to walk, but rather that of Jesus.*



Testament is trying to do for you. That is the message of the Gospels. It is the message of the book of Acts. It is the message of all scripture. Those spiritual experiences recorded in those sacred writings will help keep others on track and in the Church in our day, just as such experiences did for those members in New Testament times.

The scriptures say, “The Spirit shall be given unto you by the prayer of faith; and if ye receive not the Spirit ye shall not teach” (D&C 42:14). This teaches not just that you won’t teach or that you can’t teach or that it will be pretty shoddy teaching. No, it is stronger than that. It is the imperative form of the verb. “Ye *shall not* teach.” Put a *thou* in there for *ye* and you have Mount Sinai language. This is a commandment. These are God’s students, not yours, just like it is Christ’s Church, not Peter’s or Paul’s or Joseph’s or Brigham’s.

Take heart. Let the Spirit work in you in ways that you may not be privileged to see or even recognize. More will go on than you think if you are honest in your heart and trying to live as purely as you can. And when you get to those supreme and nearly impossible-to-teach moments of Gethsemane and Calvary and the Ascension, I would ask that you remember, among many things, the following two applications you could make.

### **Christ Remained True**

First, in His unspeakably wrenching and nature-shattering pain, *Christ remained true*.

Matthew said He was “sorrowful and very heavy . . . exceeding sorrowful, even unto death” (Matthew 26:37–38). He went alone into the garden, intentionally left the Brethren outside to wait. He had to do this alone. He dropped to His knees and then, the Apostle says, He “fell on his face” (v. 39). Luke says He was “in an agony” and prayed so earnestly His sweat became “great drops of blood falling down to the ground” (Luke 22:44). Mark says He fell and cried, “Abba, Father.” This is not abstract theology now. This is a Son pleading with His Father, “All things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me” (Mark 14:36).

Who could resist that from any child, especially the perfect Child? “You can do anything. I know You can do anything. Please take this cup from me.”

That whole prayer, Mark noted, was asking that if it were possible, this hour would be stricken from the plan. The Lord said, in effect, “If there is another path, I would rather walk it. If there is any other way—any other way—I will gladly embrace it.” “Let this cup pass from me,” Matthew records (Matthew 26:39). “Remove this cup from me,” records Luke (Luke 22:42). But in the end, the cup did not pass.

In the end, He yielded His will to the will of His Father and said, “Not my will, but thine, be done” (Luke 22:42). That is, for all intents and purposes, the last moment in the divine conversation between Father and Son in Jesus’ mortal ministry. From there on the die had been cast. He would see it through no matter what.

And from that last declaration in the Old World we get this first declaration in the New. To the Nephites gathered at the temple, He would say, “Behold, I am Jesus Christ, . . . the light and the life of the world; and I have drunk out of that bitter cup which the Father hath given me, and . . . I have suffered the will of the Father in all things from the beginning” (3 Nephi 11:10–11). That is His own introduction of Himself, the declaration He feels will best tell these people who He is.

If you can leave your students with one principal commitment in response to the Savior’s incomparable sacrifice for them, His payment for their transgressions, His sorrow for their sins, leave with them the necessity to obey—to yield in their own difficult domain and hours of decision to “the will of the Father” (v. 11), whatever the cost. They won’t always do that, any better than you and I have been able to do it, but that ought to be their goal; that ought to be their aim. The thing Christ seems most anxious to stress about His mission—beyond the personal virtues, beyond the magnificent sermons, and even beyond the healing—is that He submitted His will to the will of the Father.

We are all willful people too much of the time.

Therefore, the message the Savior has for every one of us is that our offering, in similitude of His offering, is a broken heart and a contrite spirit (see 3 Nephi 9:20; D&C 59:8). We must break out of our petty selves and weep for our sins and for the sins of the world. We must plead with others to yield to the Father, to yield to the Son, to yield to the Holy Spirit. There is no other way. Without likening ourselves to Him too much, because it would be sacrilegious to do, please know that the cup that cannot pass is a cup that comes in our life as well as in His. It comes in a much lesser way and to a much lesser degree, but it comes often enough to teach us that we have to obey no matter what.

### **Christ Knows the Way**

The second lesson of the Atonement that I would ask you to remember is related to the first. If those you teach feel that they have somehow made too many mistakes already, if they feel that they live and labor lower than the light of Christ can shine, teach them that God has “a forgiving disposition,” that Christ is “merciful and gracious, slow to anger, long-suffering and full of goodness” (*Lectures on Faith* [1985], 42). Mercy, with its sister virtues of repentance and forgiveness, is at the very heart of the Atonement of Jesus Christ. Everything in the gospel teaches us that we can change if we really want to, that we can be helped if we truly ask for it, that we can be made whole, whatever the problems of the past.

In spite of life’s tribulations, there is help for all of us on this journey. When Christ bids us to yield, to submit, to obey the Father, He knows how to help us do that. He has walked that way, asking us to do what He has done, but He has made it very much easier for our travel. He knows where the sharp stones and the stumbling blocks lie and where the thorns and the thistles are the most severe. He knows where the path is perilous, and He knows which way to go when the road forks and nightfall comes. He knows that because He has suffered “pains and afflictions and temptations of every kind . . . that he

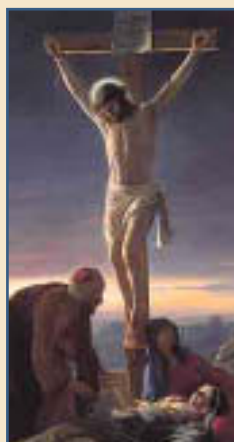
may know . . . how to succor his people according to their infirmities” (*Alma* 7:11–12). *To succor* means “to run to.” I testify that Christ will run to us, and is running even now, if we will but receive the extended arm of His mercy.

When we stagger or stumble, He is there to steady and strengthen us. In the end He is there to save us, and for all this He gave His life. However dim our days may seem, they have been a lot darker for the Savior of the world. As a reminder of those days, Jesus has chosen, even in a resurrected, otherwise perfected body, to retain for the benefit of His disciples the wounds in His hands and in His feet and in His side—signs, if you will, that painful things happen even to the pure and the perfect; signs, if you will, that pain in this world is *not* evidence that God doesn’t love you; signs, if you will, that problems pass and happiness can be ours. Remind others that it is the wounded Christ who is the Captain of our souls, He who yet bears the scars of our forgiveness, the lesions of His love and humility, the torn flesh of obedience and sacrifice.

These wounds are the principal way we are to recognize Him when He comes. He may invite us forward, as He has invited others, to see and to feel those marks. If not before, then surely at that time, we will remember with Isaiah that it was for us that a God was “despised and rejected . . . ; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief,” that “he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed” (*Isaiah* 53:3, 5).

I love this work. Cherish your opportunity to immerse yourselves this year in the majestic New Testament and in the life of Him of whom it testifies. This is His Church, and we are engaged in a great work with a magnificent privilege to love the scriptures, learn from them, and bear witness to one another that they are true. ■

*Adapted from an address given at a Church Educational System religious educators conference at Brigham Young University on 8 August 2000.*







FAR LEFT: THE CRUCIFIXION, BY CARL HEINRICH BLOCH, COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC MUSEUM AT FREDERIKSBORG IN HILLERØD, DENMARK; LEFT: CHRIST IN GETHSEMANE, BY HEINRICH HOFMANN

*The thing Christ seems most anxious to stress about His mission—beyond the personal virtues, beyond the magnificent sermons, and even beyond the healing—is that He submitted His will to the will of the Father.*

# Teens **LEADING** Teens

BY CHARLOTTE CACHAPERO

**T**he following ideas have helped me as I have served in Young Women class presidencies in my ward in the Philippines. Perhaps these principles will be helpful to you in your leadership callings.

\* *Give time.* Devote time to your responsibility, and you can accomplish almost anything.

\* *Be kind.* Treat others as you would like to be treated. Be calm and patient. Develop a spirit of friendship. Let others know they are important to you by seeking to understand their challenges and successes.

\* *Respect others.* Treat those you lead with respect. Remember that each individual is a unique child of God with potential to become as He is.

\* *Sacrifice.* Try to make decisions that take into account others' needs and opinions instead of considering only what is best for you.

\* *Study.* Study the gospel regularly and consistently. The scriptures and other good books can help you share gospel insights with those you are called to lead.

\* *Share talents.* Don't hide your light under a bushel (see Matthew 5:14–16). Share your talents and abilities, and find ways to help others share theirs.

\* *Seek counsel.* Ask the other members of your presidency as well as your parents, adult leaders, and especially Heavenly Father for guidance and support as you fulfill your calling.

\* *Do your best!* Don't let yourself become overwhelmed. The Lord called you, and He will qualify you. You will not fail if you do your best and trust in Him. ■

*Charlotte Cachapero is a member of the Plaridel Second Ward, Malolos Philippines Stake.*



## If Ye Are Prepared Ye Shall Not Fear

**P**rayerfully select and read from this message the scriptures and teachings that meet the needs of the sisters you visit. Share your experiences and testimony. Invite those you teach to do the same.

**D&C 38:30:** “If ye are prepared ye shall not fear.”

**Elder L. Tom Perry of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles:** “We have been instructed for years to follow at least four requirements in preparing for that which is to come. First, gain an adequate education. . . . Second, live strictly within your income and save something for a rainy day. . . . Third, avoid excessive debt. . . . Fourth, acquire and store a reserve of food and supplies that will sustain life” (“If Ye Are Prepared Ye Shall Not Fear,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1995, 36).

**The First Presidency:** “Members can begin their home storage by storing the basic foods that would be required to keep them alive. . . .

“Some members do not have the money or space for such storage, and some are prohibited by law from storing a year’s supply of food. These members should store as much as their circumstances allow. Families who do not have the resources to

acquire a year’s supply can begin their storage by obtaining supplies to last for a few months. Members should be prudent and not panic or go to extremes in this effort. Through careful planning, most Church members can, over time, establish both a financial reserve and a year’s supply of essentials” (First Presidency letter, 20 Jan. 2002).

**President Marion G. Romney (1897–1988), First Counselor in the First Presidency:** “It is my opinion that we Latter-day Saints, because of the knowledge we have received in the revelations, are better prepared to meet the difficulties of our times than are any other people. . . .

“For they that are wise and have



received the truth, and have taken the Holy Spirit for their guide . . . shall not be hewn down and cast into the fire, but shall abide the day.” [D&C 45:57]. . . .

“. . . Each one of us who is a member of the Church has had hands laid upon his head and has been given, as far as an ordinance can possibly give it, the gift of the Holy Ghost. . . . If I receive the Holy Ghost and follow his guidance, I will be among those who are protected and carried through these troubled times. And so will you, and so will every other soul who lives under his direction” (“If Ye Are Prepared Ye Shall Not Fear,” *Tambuli*, Jan. 1982, 1, 4–5).

**President Brigham Young (1801–77):** “Let our anxiety be centered upon this one thing, the sanctification of our own hearts, the purifying of our own affections, the preparing of ourselves for the approach of the events that are hastening upon us. . . . Seek to have the spirit of Christ, that we may wait patiently the time of the Lord, and prepare ourselves for the times that are coming” (*Deseret News*, 1 May 1861, 65).

**D&C 6:34, 36:** “Fear not, little flock; do good; let earth and hell combine against you, for if ye are built upon my rock, they cannot prevail. . . . Look unto me in every thought; doubt not, fear not.”

■ *What can we do to look to the future with faith and anticipation?*

■ *What might keep us from doing all we can to prepare temporally*

# To the Ends of the

BY RICHARD M. ROMNEY

*“God . . . looketh to the ends of the earth,  
and seeth under the whole heaven”  
(Job 28:23–24).*

**G**o to Argentina. Then head south. Keep going. Keep going. When you run out of land at the Strait of Magellan, cross the water to the island of Tierra del Fuego. Keep going. When you get to the far side of the island, stop. Now you’re at Ushuaia, which is billed as the southernmost city in the world. It’s so far south that residents commonly

refer to it as “the end of the world.”

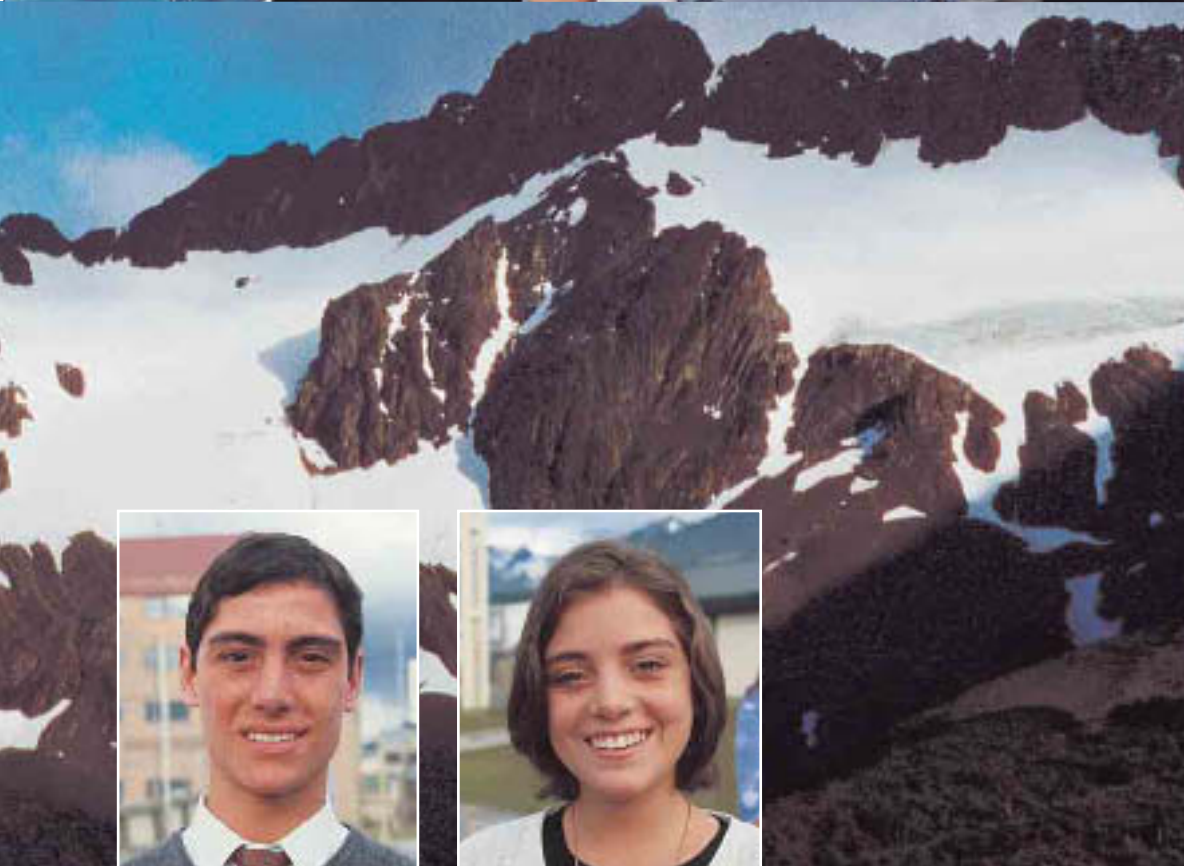
This place of glaciers, where jagged mountains plunge to the sea, has pleasant, lengthy days for two or three months each year. The rest of the year is cold, stormy, and dark.

Ushuaia is probably not the first location you think of as a home for young Latter-day Saints. But the Church is alive—and thriving—here. And Latter-day Saint youth in Ushuaia



PHOTOGRAPHS BY RICHARD M. ROMNEY

# Earth



**T**he common bond of the gospel brought Susana Martínez and Rubén Morresi and their families (above) together in a loving blend, including (below, from left) Ximena, Micaela, and Gonzalo Martínez and Manuel and Micaela Morresi.

**M**atías,  
Patricia,  
and Paola  
Quiroga (below, from  
left) have found  
happiness in the Church  
while many of their  
peers in their isolated  
town have turned to  
drugs and other  
destructive behaviors.

know they are part of the fulfillment of prophecy, that the gospel shall “roll forth unto the ends of the earth” (D&C 65:2).

#### **Finding Her Mother a Husband**

Consider the story of Ximena Martínez. A few years ago, Ximena, her sister Micaela, and her brother Gonzalo were living with their divorced mother in Buenos Aires. Ximena was 15 at the time. She had been assigned the responsibility of taking care of the yard. “But I had neglected it,” she explains. “Daniel Garrido, a nice neighbor who lived across the street, offered to help. A few days later he came, accompanied by full-time missionaries. They worked hard and made everything look beautiful. But this was only the beginning. Daniel and his wife,

Elisabet, continued to be faithful friends, and the missionaries offered to teach us about the Restoration of the gospel. How could we say no?”

That was the beginning of a journey to understanding. After studying with the missionaries, Ximena’s mother was baptized. The children soon followed her example. “I decided to change my life, to have the kind of freedom only Christ can give,” Ximena continues. “More and more, I wanted to live the gospel. But there was something missing—we needed a father, and we wanted to be sealed in the temple.

“One day at a Church dance, I talked to a friend named Martín Morresi. He mentioned that his father was a widower. Jokingly I said, ‘Well, my mother needs a husband! We



## A GREAT JOY IN MY HEART

In an area as isolated as Ushuaia, life can seem lonely. Some young people turn to drinking, drugs, or immoral behavior and eventually end up in despair. Latter-day Saint youth have found happiness in following the guidance of their Father in Heaven. Listen to three members of the Quiroga family, who were baptized two years ago:

“Being a member of the Church makes me very happy,” says Matias, age 14. “I feel deep inside me that I really am in the true Church, that Heavenly Father helps me at every moment. I have learned a great deal as a new member. My teachers have taught me a lot, and the members have been very kind.”

ought to get them to meet.’ We had only one problem—his father lived 2,000 miles [3,200 kilometers] away.

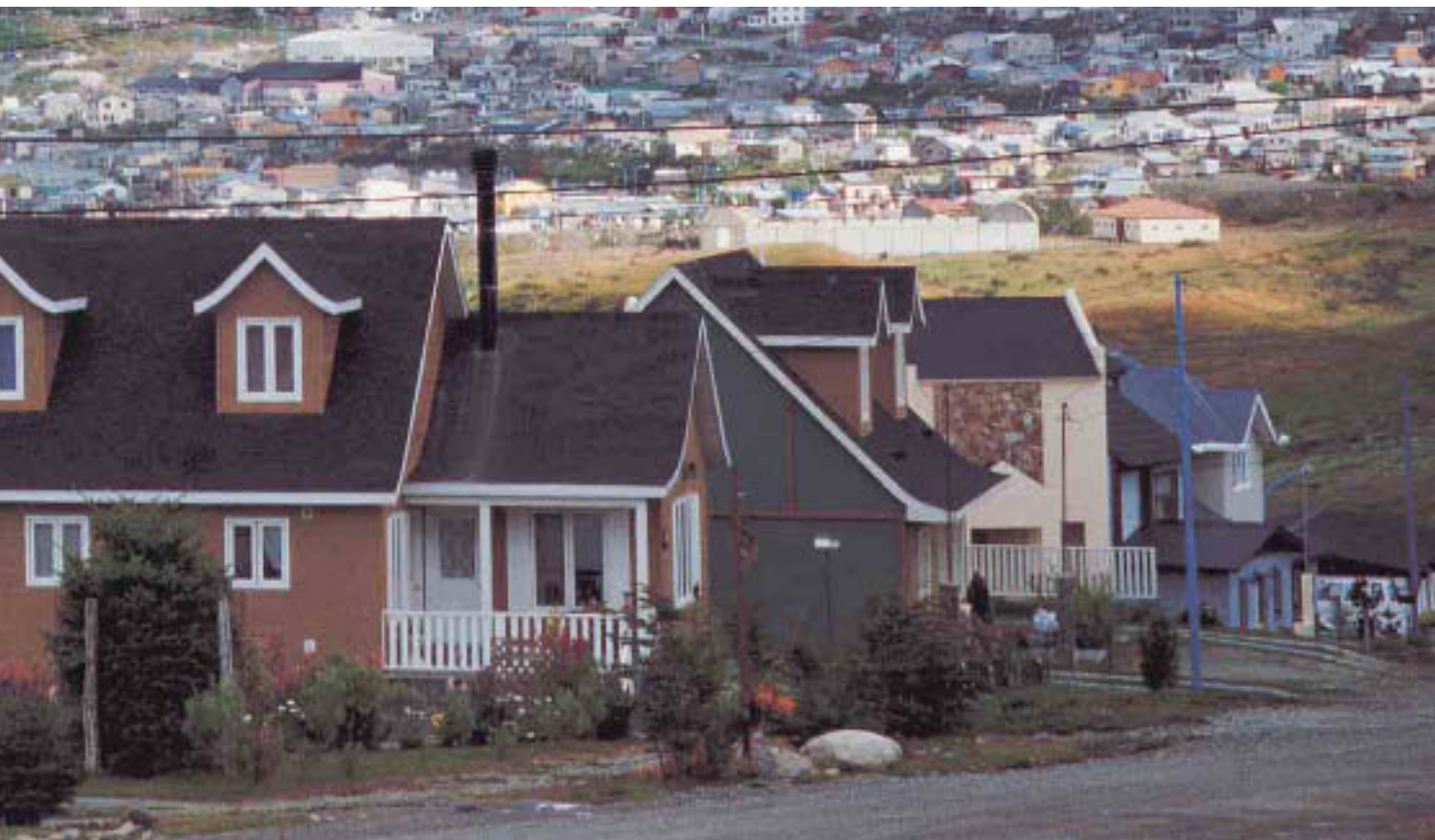
“I began to tease my mother that I had found a husband for her. Then, at a stake choir rehearsal, Martín told me, ‘My father is coming to visit Buenos Aires, and he wants to have dinner with your mother!’ I was stunned, but I won’t even tell you my mother’s reaction. However, she accepted. Martín accompanied his father, Rubén, and I

His 18-year-old sister, Patricia, agrees. “Being a Latter-day Saint has changed my life in every aspect,” she says. “I have always had faith in God, but I never felt His presence like I do in the Church. I love being in Young Women and working on my Personal Progress.”

“Before I was baptized, I asked in prayer if I was doing the right thing,” says 16-year-old Paola. “I felt a great joy in my heart. After that, I was baptized and felt the Spirit dwelling inside me. I know this is the true Church. I do not doubt it. I feel happy when I do what is right.”

accompanied my mother, Susana, and we had a wonderful evening. Rubén Morresi was attentive and respectful. I could see he was upright and faithful, a man of God.”

Three and a half months later, Rubén and Susana were married in the Buenos Aires Argentina Temple. Ximena, Micaela, and Gonzalo Martínez were sealed to them and moved with them to Ushuaia, where they joined Manuel and Micaela Morresi as new brothers and sisters.



## A RAY OF LIGHT

**T**he Morresi, Martínez, and Quiroga families aren't the only ones in Ushuaia with multiple teenagers. The Cabanillas family has four teens, and their testimonies are strong.

"I have been a member of the Church since I was eight," says Florencia Cabanillas, age 14. "I know that Jesus Christ lives and that the scriptures are the word of God. I also know that Joseph Smith was a prophet. I am very happy to have the gospel in my life and to achieve our goal as a family to be sealed in the temple."

"I know that we have a prophet, seer, and revelator today and that he receives revelation from God," says Andrea, age 15. "I know the Book of Mormon is a miracle, translated during difficult times. Joseph Smith prayed with great faith and received answers."

"Not long ago, I had the opportunity to teach about the Book of Mormon in Sunday School," says Estefania, age 17. "I had to search the scriptures, and as I did, I imagined myself there. I will never forget how Mormon felt as he saw the destruction of the Nephites. I will not forget the testimonies of the prophets. If you have not searched the scriptures, I recommend you start today!"

Sabrina, age 18, remembers the sister missionaries coming to home evening when she was 10. "They taught me simply but firmly that God reveals truth through prayer," she says. "They said I needed to kneel down and ask Heavenly Father in humility to give me a testimony. 'Me kneel down?' I thought to myself. A few days later, Mom wanted to go for a walk with my sisters and me. Even though the sun was shining and I wanted to go with them, something stopped me. I knew it was the perfect time to pray. I knelt down in the dining room. I pleaded with Heavenly Father to let me know if the Book of Mormon was true. I asked Him if the principles I was taught in church were true. Five minutes went by. After I ended my prayer I remained on my knees. Suddenly a ray of light illuminated my face. I could not understand this, because the house was dark. But there was a small window in the kitchen without a curtain, and the light was coming from there.

"I felt so happy. I realized my Father had answered my prayer in this way. Now I have a testimony of all these things, and I know they are true. I know prayer has tremendous power."





(Three older children live away from home.)

“Now I live at the end of the world,” says Ximena. “I am working with all my might to help Zion to grow here. I know the Lord’s kingdom will extend to the four corners of the earth, and this is why He has guided us to one of them.”

### **Caring Means Sharing**

Talk to other youth in Ushuaia, and you’ll find they also have a deep love for the Church and the blessings it brings them. Boris Zapata, age 12, says the gospel has taught him, as Moroni said, to “hope for a better world” (Ether 12:4). Juan Frau, age 16, talks about his appreciation for seminary. “It’s a wonderful thing to be able to study the scriptures every day,” he says.



“I had the opportunity to share the gospel with one of my school friends, Elena Ayala,” says Micaela Martínez, age 18. “When she was baptized, it filled me with happiness. If we know that Jesus Christ lives, it is beautiful to share our feelings with others.”

Here at the end of the earth, the youth of Ushuaia have received the great light of the gospel. They gladly share it with each other and with anyone else who will receive it. ■

**F**lorencia, Andrea, Estefania, and Sabrina

**Cabanillas, as well as Boris Zapata and Juan Frau (below, from left) are also part of the Latter-day Saint youth group in Ushuaia (left). Their unity shelters them in their town at the ends of the earth.**



# CALLED TO SERVE

*I had a feeling the answer was no, but why wouldn't the Lord want me to serve a mission? Wouldn't I make a good missionary?*

BY LORALEE BASSETT LEAVITT

I sat in the temple waiting to do baptisms for the dead, and I prayed. I was 20 years old, and I wanted to know: Should I serve a full-time mission? I had a feeling the answer was no, but I wanted to ask once and for all.

Suddenly I shivered all over, as if a bucket of cold water had been poured over me. No was the impression I felt. No mission for me.

Although I knew the expectation for young women to go on missions is not the same as for young men, I was confused. Why did the Spirit encourage me not to serve? Wouldn't I be good at spreading the gospel?

As some of my friends received mission calls, I sometimes wondered what my future would hold. My 21st birthday was approaching, and I couldn't help thinking, "There's still time to be interviewed and submit my mission papers."

I was studying in England when my parents called me. I could hear my mother crying as she told me the devastating news: She had been diagnosed with cancer.

A month later when I came home to the United States for the summer, chemotherapy was making Mom weak. I started helping around the house, learning to manage chores

and meals. I also spent hours talking to Mom, fearful that I might lose her. I learned that managing a household is complicated, time-consuming work, and I gained a new appreciation for Mom's efforts over the years. I barely managed to put decent dinners on the table.

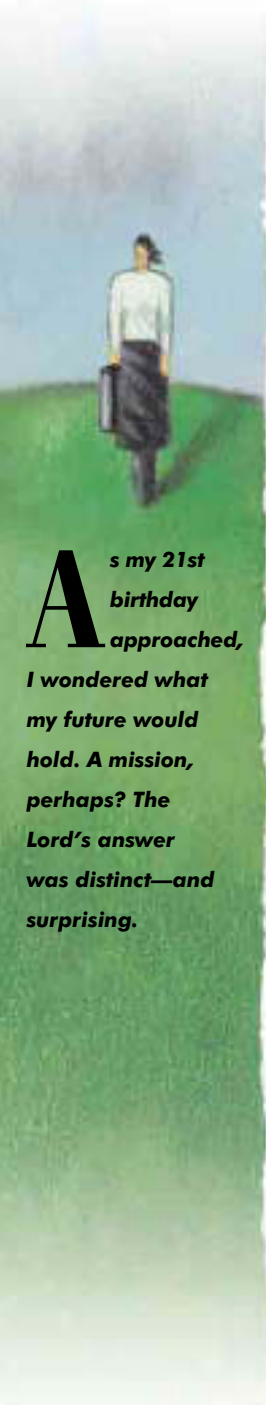
Fortunately, ward members and others in the community helped us.

Mom's treatment went on, and meanwhile our family grew closer. Mom told us stories about her youth, and we played lots of board games. We talked about the scriptures. My dad shared his fears with me as well as his testimony.

During that summer, I learned eternal lessons. I knew my place for now was at home with my family. My testimony grew as I felt Heavenly Father's love all summer long. I became better friends with the ward members I had known all my life. My family grew closer, comforted by the knowledge that our family ties would last beyond death. I thanked the Lord for answering my question about serving a mission, guiding me to serve my family. ■

*Loralee Bassett Leavitt is a member of the Bellevue First Ward, Bellevue Washington Stake.*

*Editor's note: Since her treatments, the author's mother has recovered her health.*



**A**s my 21st birthday approached, I wondered what my future would hold. A mission, perhaps? The Lord's answer was distinct—and surprising.

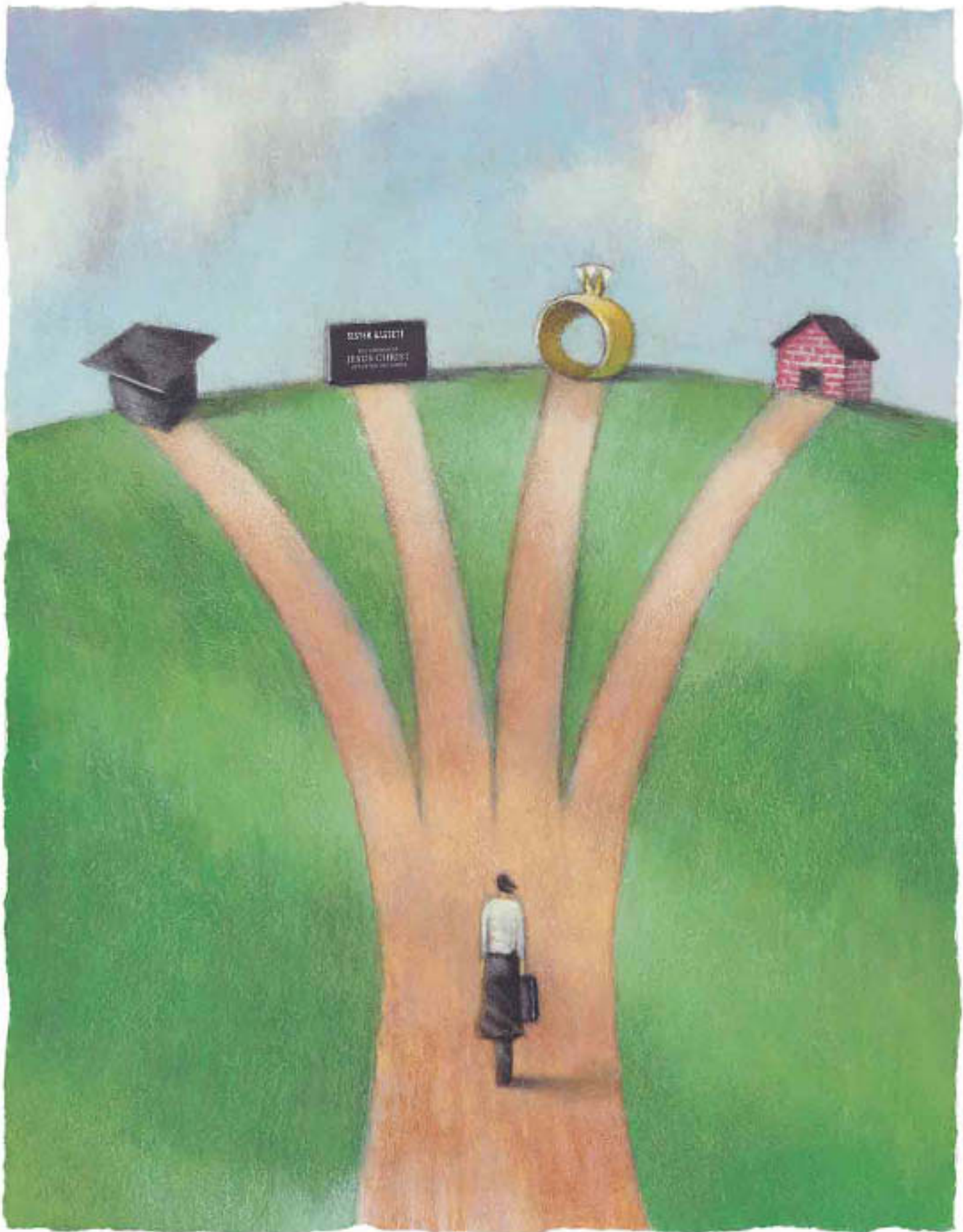
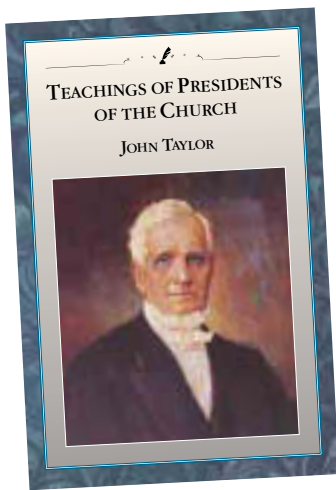


ILLUSTRATION BY GREG HALLY

# John Taylor

## DEFENDER OF TRUTH

BY KARLA C. ERICKSON



*As third President of the Church, John Taylor stood unshakable in his testimony of the Prophet Joseph Smith, leading the Church through some of its most trying times.*

John Taylor was born on 1 November 1808 in Milnthorpe, a small town in the county of Westmorland, England. His parents, James and Agnes Taylor, had 10 children, John being the second son. They reared their large family on Bible study and prayer. “Young Taylor possessed a portion of the spirit of God. . . . Manifestations of its presence were frequent, not only in the expansion of his mind to understand doctrines and principles, but also in dreams and visions. . . . When but a small boy he saw, in vision, an angel in the heavens, holding a trumpet to his mouth, sounding a message to the nations. The import of this vision he did not understand until later in life.”<sup>1</sup>

At the age of 16, he left the Church of England and later became a lay preacher for the Methodist Church. On one occasion when he was with one of his parish members on the way to an appointment, he stopped in the road and said, “I have a strong impression on my mind, that I have to go to America to preach the gospel!”<sup>2</sup> This impression remained with him.

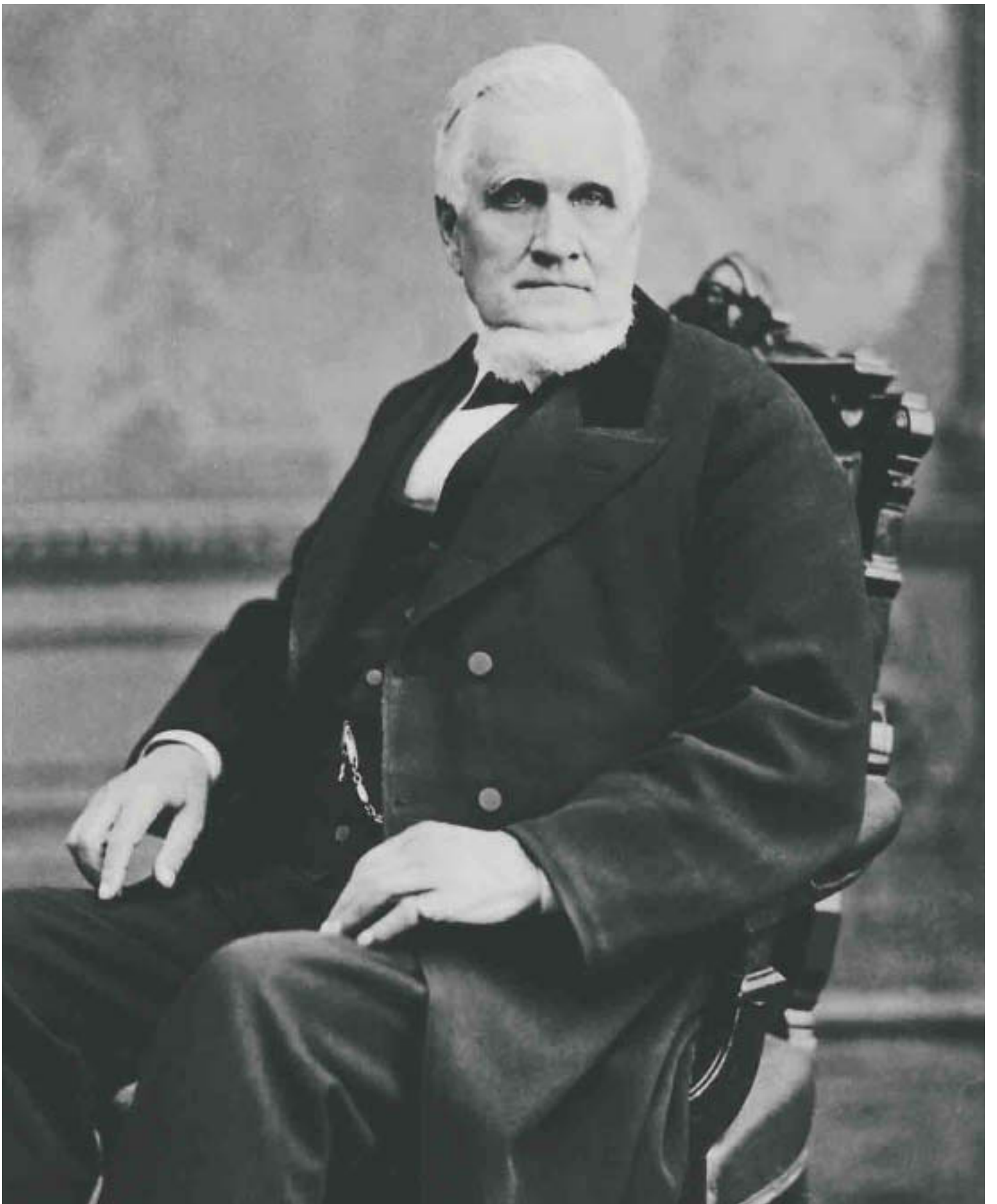
When John Taylor did leave England in 1832, he traveled to Canada, following his

family, who had emigrated in 1830. There he met and married Leonora Cannon. Canada was also where he encountered a missionary named Parley P. Pratt, an Apostle of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Many in the Methodist congregation where Elder Pratt preached were thrilled with his message until he told them of the Prophet Joseph Smith and the gold plates. Several of the men refused to listen further. John Taylor reminded them: “We are here, ostensibly in search of truth. Hitherto we have fully investigated other creeds and doctrines and proven them false. Why should we fear to investigate Mormonism? This gentleman, Mr. Pratt, has brought to us many doctrines that correspond with our own views. . . . We have prayed to God to send us a messenger, if He has a true Church on earth. . . . If I find his religion true, I shall accept it, no matter what the consequences may be.”<sup>3</sup>

John Taylor continued investigating the

**The teachings of John Taylor are the Melchizedek Priesthood and Relief Society curriculum for 2003, the fourth in the series of Teachings of Presidents of the Church.**



gospel, and on 9 May 1836 he and Leonora were baptized. In his later years, President Taylor remarked, “When I had investigated the subject, and became convinced that it was true, I said, ‘I am in for it; I must embrace it; I cannot reject the principles of eternal truth.’”<sup>4</sup>

### **Defender of Truth**

*Truth, eternal truth, is the groundwork of the Christian’s hope.*<sup>5</sup>

John Taylor served as the Church’s presiding officer in Canada for two years. In March 1837, he went to Kirtland in the United States to meet with the Prophet Joseph Smith. At the time, the Church was suffering heavy persecution, and even some of the Apostles were leaning toward apostasy. Elder Pratt approached John Taylor and

expressed some disapproval concerning the Prophet Joseph, to which Elder Taylor replied: “I am surprised to hear you speak so, Brother Parley. Before you left Canada you bore a strong testimony to Joseph Smith being a Prophet of God. . . . Now Brother Parley, it is not man that I am following, but the Lord. The principles you taught me led me to Him, and I now have the same testimony that you then rejoiced in. If the work was true six months ago, it is true today; if Joseph Smith was then a prophet, he is now a prophet.”<sup>6</sup>

On 19 December 1838, 30-year-old John Taylor was ordained an Apostle at Far West, Missouri. Elder Brigham Young and Elder Heber C. Kimball performed the ordination under the direction of the Prophet Joseph Smith, who was in Liberty Jail.

***Elder Taylor was appointed associate editor, then editor, of the Times and Seasons, the Church’s main publication at that time. John Taylor’s home in Nauvoo was adjacent to the printing office.***



***Facing an angry group opposed to the Church, Elder Taylor disarmed them with his words and boldly said, “Gentlemen come on with your tar and feathers, your victim is ready.”***



LEFT: "I AM READY" BY DEL PARSON; PHOTOGRAPH OF PRINTING PRESS BY CRAIG DIMOND; CITY OF JOSEPH, BY ERIC DOWDLE; RIGHT: JOHN TAYLOR PREACHES IN LIVERPOOL, BY ROBERT T. BARRETT; PHOTOGRAPH OF BOOK OF MORMON BY CHRISTINA SMITH

### Champion of Liberty

*We have a right to liberty—that was a right that God gave to all men.*<sup>7</sup>

On one occasion, arrangements had been made for Elder Taylor to speak to a large group near Columbus, Ohio. Shortly before the meeting, some of the brethren overheard that several men were planning to tar and feather Elder Taylor.

Undaunted, Elder Taylor stood before the congregation and began his remarks by stating:

“I see around me the sons of . . . noble sires, who, rather than bow to the behests of a tyrant, pledged their lives, fortunes and sacred honors to burst those fetters, enjoy freedom themselves, bequeath it to their posterity, or die in the attempt. . . .

“ . . . I have been informed that you purpose to tar and feather me, for my religious opinions. Is this the boon you have inherited from your fathers? Is this the blessing they purchased with their dearest hearts’ blood—this your liberty?”

Then, tearing open his vest, he said, “Gentlemen come on with your tar and feathers, your victim is ready.”<sup>8</sup>

The audience was silent, and no one moved. Elder Taylor paused for some moments, and then he continued to preach with power for nearly three hours.

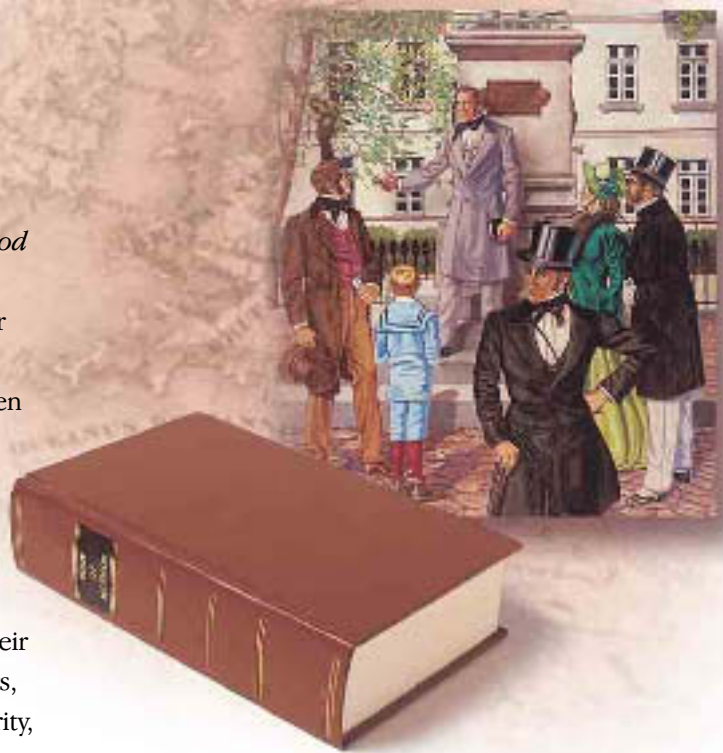
### Missionary Experiences

*[Missionaries] go forth as the angels of mercy bearing the precious seeds of the gospel.*<sup>9</sup>

Once Elder Taylor accepted the restored gospel, he was eager to share it with others. He served many missions, totaling 87 months from 1839 to 1857, trusting in the Lord to care for his family since he often had to leave them in difficult circumstances.

At age 31, Elder Taylor embarked on his first mission to the British Isles, where he was the first missionary to preach the gospel in Ireland and on the Isle of Man. He also helped prepare the first edition of the Book of Mormon published outside the United States.

Upon returning home from his first mission to



**While on his first mission to the British Isles, John Taylor helped prepare the first edition of the Book of Mormon published outside the United States.**

England, he found his wife, Leonora, gravely ill. Elder Taylor called in the elders and anointed Leonora and blessed her. Through their faith and prayers, she was restored to health.

The suffering of his family weighed heavily on Elder Taylor’s shoulders. However, it seemed that the more challenging the task, the more steadfast Elder Taylor became in spreading the gospel. He remarked: “I, myself, have traveled hundreds of thousands of miles preaching the gospel; and without purse or scrip, trusting in the Lord. Did he ever forsake me? Never, no never. I always was provided for, for which I feel to praise God my Heavenly Father.”<sup>10</sup>

Between missions, Elder Taylor was appointed associate editor of the *Times and Seasons*, the Church’s main publication at that time. After a year, he was appointed editor and remained so until 1846, when the Saints were driven out of Nauvoo. His writing skills were a blessing to the Saints. He also became editor of another paper, the *Nauvoo Neighbor*, which contained information about the arts, science, religion, and general news of the day in Nauvoo.

**Several days after the Martyrdom of the Prophet Joseph and his brother Hyrum, John Taylor discovered that one ball of shot, aimed at his heart, had smashed into the crystal of his pocket watch, preserving his life.**

Not all was well in Nauvoo, even though the Saints were prospering. Persecution was increasing, and the Prophet Joseph had been accused of being an accessory in the attempted assassination of Lilburn W. Boggs, the former governor of Missouri. Elder Taylor's allegiance to the Prophet never wavered; he showed his support through editorials in the newspapers he edited. However, mobs and apostates stirred anger into the hearts of the Missourians.

### The Martyrdom

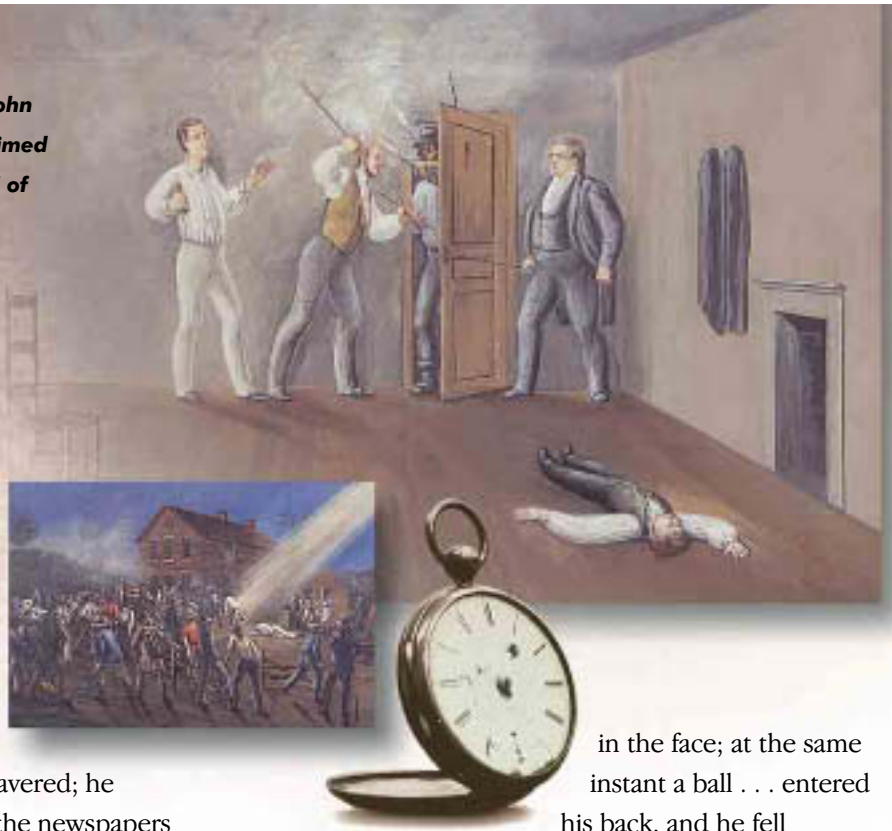
*The Seer, the Seer, Joseph the Seer!  
I'll sing of the Prophet ever dear.*<sup>11</sup>

On 27 June 1844 Elder Taylor, Elder Willard Richards, also of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, the Prophet Joseph Smith, and the Prophet's brother Hyrum were in Carthage Jail awaiting word from the governor. While the four friends waited in prison, Elder Taylor sang the hymn "A Poor Wayfaring Man of Grief." The mood was somber and melancholy. "Shortly Hyrum asked him to sing the song again, to which he replied:

"Brother Hyrum, I do not feel like singing."

"Oh, never mind; commence singing and you will get the spirit of it."

"Soon after finishing the song the second time, as he was sitting at one of the front windows of the jail, he saw a number of men, with painted faces. . . . The mob reaching the landing in front of the door, and thinking it was locked, fired a shot through the key hole. Hyrum and Doctor Richards sprang back, when instantly another ball crashed through the panel of the door and struck Hyrum



in the face; at the same instant a ball . . . entered his back, and he fell

exclaiming, 'I am a dead man!'. . .

" . . . Elder Taylor took his place next [to] the door, and with a heavy walking stick . . . parried the guns as they were thrust through the doorway and discharged. . . .

" . . . Streams of fire as thick as a man's arm belched forth from the ever increasing number of guns in the door-way, yet calm, energetic and determined, Elder Taylor beat down the muzzles of those murderous guns.

"That's right, Brother Taylor, parry them off as well as you can,' said Joseph, as he stood behind him."

But as the gunfire continued and more mobbers pushed their way up the stairs, Elder Taylor sprang for the open window.

"As [Elder Taylor] was in the act of leaping from the window, a ball fired from the door-way struck him about midway of his left thigh. He fell helpless on the window sill and would have dropped on the outside of the jail—when another shot from the outside, striking the watch in his vest pocket, threw him back into the room. . . . He drew himself as rapidly as possible in his crippled condition under the bedstead that stood near the window.

"While on his way three other bullets struck him; one a little below the left knee—it was never extracted; another tore away the flesh to the size of a man's hand from his



left hip and spattered the wall with blood and the mangled fragments; another entered the forepart of his left arm, a little above the wrist, and, passing down by the joint, lodged in the palm of his left hand.”

While he lay in pain, he heard the mob shout that the Prophet had leaped from the window.

“Dr. Richards . . . confirmed his worst fears—the Prophet was dead!

“‘I felt,’ says Elder Taylor, ‘a dull, lonely, sickening sensation at the news.’”<sup>12</sup>

Several days later, Elder Taylor discovered that one ball of shot, aimed at his heart, had smashed into the crystal of his pocket watch, preventing him from falling from the jail window. He said, “I felt that the Lord had preserved me by a special act of mercy; that my time had not yet come, and that I had still a work to perform upon the earth.”<sup>13</sup>

As a witness to the Martyrdom, Elder Taylor wrote the powerful and eloquent words that are now section 135 of the Doctrine and Covenants: “Joseph Smith, the Prophet and Seer of the Lord, has done more, save Jesus only, for the salvation of men in this world, than any other man that ever lived in it” (v. 3).

### **Trials and Afflictions**

*We have learned many things through suffering. We call it suffering. I call it a school of experience.*<sup>14</sup>

The Saints were soon forced to leave Nauvoo. Elder Taylor and his family and their group of pioneers arrived in Salt Lake City on 5 October 1847. The following August the Saints enjoyed a bounteous harvest after a serious infestation of black crickets. Amid all the worries of planting and harvesting and building homes, “many leaned on [John Taylor’s] strength in those days. When despair settled over the colony he infused it with hope; when the weak faltered, he strengthened them; when the fearful trembled, he encouraged them; those cast down with sorrow, he comforted and cheered.”<sup>15</sup> His strength was always there to help buoy up the Saints.

At age 71, John Taylor became President of the Church.

On the day he was sustained, 10 October 1880, he shared his philosophy concerning trials:

“So far as I am concerned, I say, let everything come as God has ordained it. . . .

“I used to think, if I were the Lord, I would not suffer people to be tried as they are. But I have changed my mind on that subject. Now I think . . . it purges out the meanness and corruption that stick around the Saints, like flies around molasses.”<sup>16</sup>

### **Integrity and Character**

*I love you for your integrity to the cause of Zion.*<sup>17</sup>

One issue on which President Taylor remained steadfast was that of being honest. He was someone in whom the Saints could trust.

President Heber J. Grant (1856–1945), seventh President of the Church, told of how President Taylor resolved a quarrel between two friends:

“These men had quarreled over some business affairs, and finally concluded that they would try to get President John Taylor to help them adjust their difficulties. . . .

“ . . . They . . . asked [President Taylor] if he would listen to their story and render his decision. President Taylor willingly consented. But he said: ‘Brethren, before I hear your case, I would like very much to sing one of the songs of Zion for you.’

“Now President Taylor was a very capable singer, and interpreted sweetly and with spirit, our sacred hymns. He sang one of our hymns to the two brethren. Seeing its effect, he remarked that he never heard one of the songs of Zion but that he wanted to listen to one more, and so asked them to listen while he sang another. Of course, they consented. They both seemed to enjoy it; and, having sung the second song, he remarked that he had heard there is luck in odd numbers and so with their consent he would sing still another, which he did. Then, in his jocular way, he remarked: ‘Now brethren, I do not want to wear you out, but if you will forgive me, and listen to one more hymn, I promise to stop singing, and will hear your case.’

“The story goes that when President Taylor had finished the fourth song, the brethren were melted to tears, got up, shook hands, and asked President Taylor to excuse them for having called upon him, and for taking up his time. They then departed without his even knowing what their difficulties were.”<sup>18</sup>

### **Role of a Father**

*Let us as parents train up our children in the fear of God and teach them the laws of life.*<sup>19</sup>

One of President Taylor’s sons, Moses W., described his father’s character through sharing family memories. He wrote:

**The First Presidency in 1880: President George Q. Cannon, First Counselor; President John Taylor; and President Joseph F. Smith, Second Counselor. Background: President Taylor used his writing skills to spread the message of the Restoration.**

“When gathering the fruit in the fall, father would come and inspect the baskets and selecting the largest and best fruit would say:

“‘Take the tithing out of this and be sure and pay it in full.’

“When planting trees, he was very careful to make the rows straight, each tree had to be plumb. When filling the dirt around the roots we were required to take great care of the little fibres and carefully lay each one in its place. He would remark:

“‘Take care of the little roots and the large ones will take care of themselves.’

“The first time I left home, father called me in and gave me the following counsel:

“‘Do what is right. Live your religion and the bad men will honor you for it as well as the good.’



LEFT: PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF LDS CHURCH ARCHIVES; BACKGROUND: PHOTOGRAPH BY WELDEN C. ANDERSEN; RIGHT: PHOTOGRAPH OF LOGAN UTAH TEMPLE COURTESY OF LDS CHURCH ARCHIVES; PHOTOGRAPH OF DOORKNOB BY WELDEN C. ANDERSEN

**President Taylor dedicated the Logan Utah Temple in 1884.**

**Inset: A doorknob from the temple interior is an example of pioneer builders' attention to detail.**



died on 25 July 1887 in Kaysville, Utah.

When the sad news of President Taylor's death was announced to the public, his counselors stated in the *Deseret News*:

"Steadfast to and immovable in the truth, few men have ever

"That is all he said, but it made such a strong impression on me, that it has saved me many a time from falling into temptation. At other times, he would say:

"Take the high stand and always live so that others can see that you are on a high plane."

"He had a strong desire to keep his children under the family influence and provided play grounds for us. Even when he was past seventy years of age he would join us in our games. . . .

". . . He was held in such high esteem by his children that to please him seemed to be their greatest desire."<sup>20</sup>

### **Prophet, Seer, and Revelator**

*When men go forth in the name of Israel's God, there is no power on earth that can overturn the truths they advocate.*<sup>21</sup>

When President Brigham Young died in 1877, the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles led the Church until President Taylor was sustained as Church President in 1880. During this year, the Pearl of Great Price became part of the standard works, and a new edition of the Doctrine and Covenants was published, including 27 new sections.

President Taylor continued to use his writing skills and authored *The Mediation and Atonement* in 1882.

Referring to the importance of his subject, he wrote, "Having noticed the great blessings, privileges, powers and exaltations that are placed within the reach of man, through the atonement of Jesus Christ, it next becomes our duty to enquire what is required of man to place him in possession of them."<sup>22</sup>

In 1885 President Taylor preached his last public sermon. Because of the repercussions of the antipolygamy Edmunds Act, President Taylor was forced into exile. He

lived who have manifested such integrity and such unflinching moral and physical courage as our beloved President who has just gone from us. He never knew the feeling of fear connected with the work of God. . . . He met every issue squarely, boldly and in a way to call forth the admiration of all who saw and heard him. Undaunted courage, unyielding firmness were among his most prominent characteristics, giving him distinction among men. . . .

"And though we have lost his presence here, his influence will still be felt. Such men may pass from this life to another, but the love which beats in their hearts for righteousness and for truth cannot die."<sup>23</sup> ■

*Karla C. Erickson is a member of the Mueller Park Eighth Ward, Bountiful Utah Mueller Park Stake.*

### **NOTES**

1. B. H. Roberts, *The Life of John Taylor* (1963), 27–28.
2. *Life of John Taylor*, 28.
3. *Teachings of Presidents of the Church: John Taylor* (2001), 209–10.
4. *Teachings of Presidents of the Church*, 215.
5. *Teachings of Presidents of the Church*, 213.
6. *Teachings of Presidents of the Church*, 77. Elder Pratt resolved his feelings and remained faithful.
7. *Deseret News*, 26 Apr. 1882.
8. *Teachings of Presidents of the Church*, 221.
9. *Teachings of Presidents of the Church*, 74.
10. *Teachings of Presidents of the Church*, 74.
11. John Taylor, *The Gospel Kingdom*, sel. G. Homer Durham (1943), 386.
12. *Life of John Taylor*, 137–40.
13. *Life of John Taylor*, 150.
14. *Teachings of Presidents of the Church*, 203.
15. *Life of John Taylor*, 199.
16. *Gospel Kingdom*, 332–33.
17. In Conference Report, Apr. 1906, 7.
18. "Songs of the Heart," *Improvement Era*, Sept. 1940, 522.
19. *Teachings of Presidents of the Church*, 196.
20. "Stories and Counsel of President Taylor," *Young Woman's Journal*, May 1905, 218–19.
21. *Gospel Kingdom*, 242.
22. *Teachings of Presidents of the Church*, 53.
23. *Life of John Taylor*, 410–11, 415–16.

## A Real Treasure

By Sofia Corina Rimondi de Agreda

**I**n October 1983 I was attending a party in Rosario, Argentina, when to my surprise, I noticed a young lady reading a book. It was not just any book—it looked exactly like the one I had been searching for. Rays of light actually seemed to be coming from it, as if it were saying, “Here I am.”

The young lady had not been introduced to me, but I overcame my shyness and approached her. I glanced at the open book but could see nothing except the word *Alma* at the top of the page. My heart beat with excitement. It *had* to be the right book.

“Excuse me,” I said, “but could you please let me see your book?”

Again to my surprise, she started asking me questions.

“This book?”

“Yes, that book.”

“Do you know what book this is?”

“No. That’s what I want to find out.”

“Why?”

“I’m interested in it.”

“Yes, but why?”

“Well—because. It’s very important to me.”

“But can’t you tell me why?”

I began to be exasperated. “If you don’t want to lend it to me, at least tell me the name of it.”

Again she said, “But tell me why! Why do you want to know what book this is?”

I realized I would have to explain. “I came to this country about two years ago,” I said. “I didn’t know a soul, so I spent a lot of time reading the Bible, reading it very conscientiously. The more I read, the more I became convinced that my church is in error. One day I fasted and prayed and asked the Lord if my church was the right one or if I should search for another.

“The Lord answered my prayer. I had a dream in which the Lord showed me a prophet named Joseph. I learned that he is somehow associated with the right church. The doctrine of that church is based on a book that is as important as the Bible. When I find it, I will find the true Church of Jesus Christ. The only thing I know about the book is its outside appearance and the one word I saw inside, the word *Alma*. I think it is the same book you have in your hand.”

Now the young lady was taken by surprise. She told me the book was the Book of Mormon, and understanding that my intentions were good, she at last gave the book to me. I glanced at the title. Then it was my turn to ask questions.

“Do the Mormons have this book?”

“Yes.”

“Who wrote it?”

“Several prophets who used to live on this continent.”

“Didn’t a man named Smith write this book?”

“No. By divine command he

**T**he young lady told me the book she was reading was the Book of Mormon. I glanced at the title. Then I began to ask questions.



translated the writings found on gold plates.”

“Well, then! It is a real treasure!”

“It definitely is.”

My happiness was great. Even before I read the Book of Mormon, I was sure that it was true—and that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was the true Church.

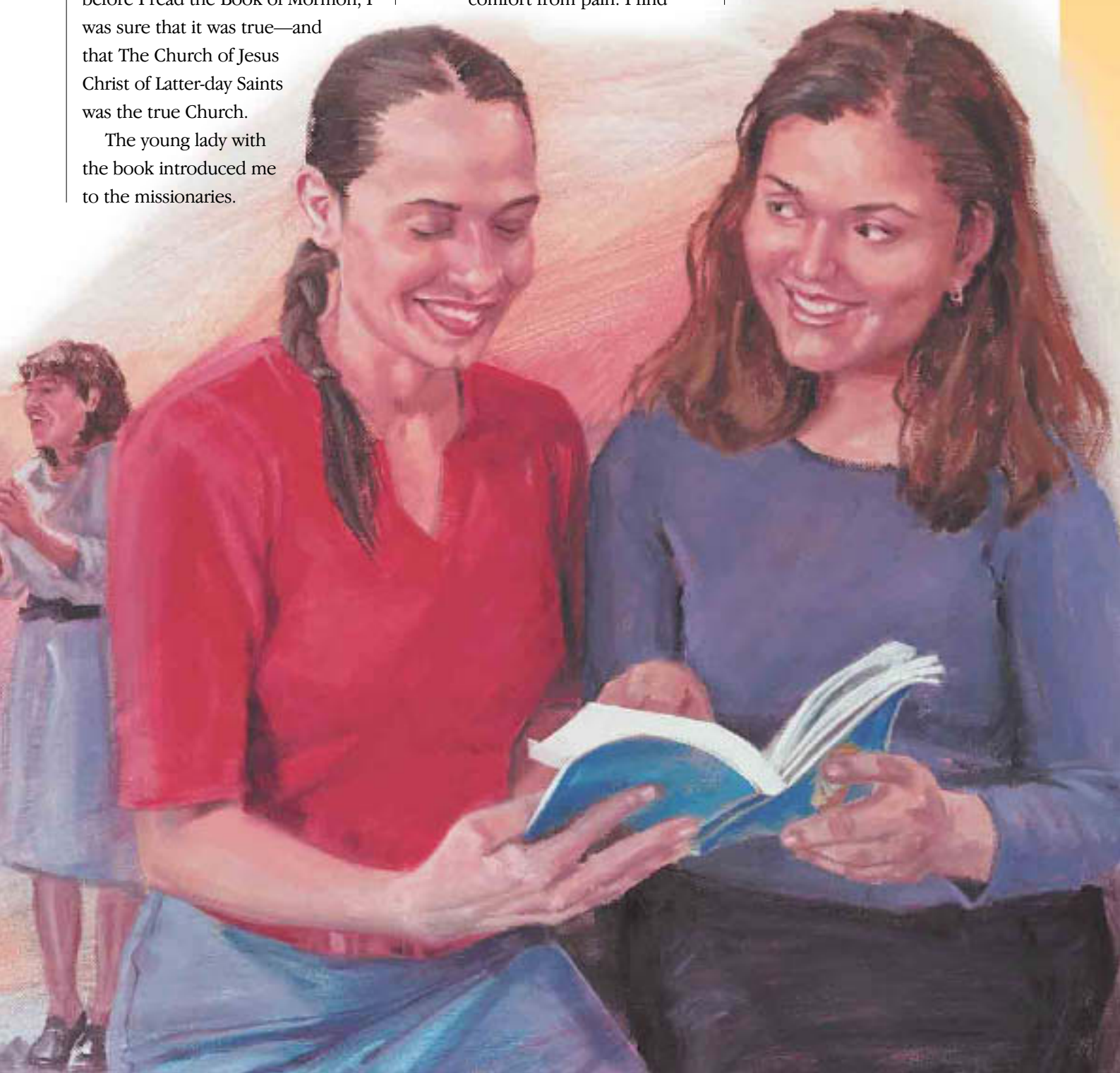
The young lady with the book introduced me to the missionaries.

They soon gave me my own copy of the Book of Mormon.

Since I found it, the Book of Mormon has been my inseparable companion. When I read it, I feel comfort from pain. I find

hope when I am discouraged, and I feel the love of God when everything seems futile. ■

*Sofia Corina Rimondi de Agreda is a member of the Mollendo Branch, Mollendo Perú District.*



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## *My Niece's Testimony*

By Irma de Mackenna

**M**y niece Mariela was only eight years old when her mother died. Afterward, her father—my brother—took her, her brother, and the children's grandmother and moved to another part of the country.

At about the same time, I dreamed of my niece's mother. Because of the dream, I felt impressed to pay special attention to Mariela. I determined to do so; however, it was difficult because she lived far away. We usually saw each other only during vacations, but at those times, I told her about the Church, about gospel standards, and about the love God has for His children.

As the years passed and Mariela became a young woman, I grew to feel a

mother's love for her. Eventually she finished her university studies and began working. The missionaries visited her several times, and I fervently hoped she would be baptized. Then she was transferred in her

**T***he next time Mariela came to see me, I showed her the family group records. I told her what temple ordinances we had done for her family members.*



employment, and she moved farther away. I continued to pray for her.

Not long after this, Mariela suffered over the deaths of three people she loved very much. Her grandmother, who had raised her, died. Later her boyfriend was killed in an automobile accident. This loss was followed shortly by the death of her father. These events plunged my niece into despair, and she lost much of her interest in life. I continued to try to encourage and comfort her and to explain that she could endure even these sad experiences.

A year after her father's death, I arranged for his temple ordinances to be performed. His wife and a daughter who had died in infancy were sealed to him, and both he and his wife were sealed to their parents.

The next time Mariela came to see me, I showed her the family group records. I told her what temple ordinances we had done for her family members. Then I explained that they would have the opportunity to accept the gospel and these ordinances that had been performed in their behalf, and I assured my niece that families can be together eternally. She was deeply moved and asked to borrow some past issues of the *Liabona* (Spanish). After that she began visiting me more regularly, and we often spoke about the gospel.

One day Mariela told me the missionaries had taught her the discussions and she had accepted the gospel. She said she was convinced

of the truthfulness of the gospel because of the importance it places on families. I wept with happiness.

I give thanks to my Father in Heaven. I believe this is what He

desired all along—the bringing of the gospel to family members on both sides of the veil. ■

*Irma de Mackenna is a member of the Quilpué Centro Ward, Quilpué Chile Marga Marga Stake.*

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## *I Relied on the Lord*

By Gnel Tamazyan

**I** was baptized on 17 November 1996 in Samara, Russia. Immediately after my baptism, I was filled with the desire to serve a full-time mission and bring souls to Jesus Christ. Eagerly I waited for a year to pass so I could talk to my branch president about a mission.

When the time came, I had the necessary interviews and filled out the missionary recommendation forms. Then I realized I had a problem. Although I had lived in Russia for two years, I was a citizen of Armenia. I had not yet served in the Armenian army, which I was obligated to do.

I began fasting and praying that God would open a way for me to serve a mission. In March 1998 I was drafted into the army and had to return to Armenia. I trusted in God, knowing that He loved me and wanted me to be obedient.

While I was in the Armenian army, I kept the covenants I had made and lived the Word of Wisdom. I often bore my testimony to the other soldiers, and I prayed throughout the

day. I fasted and asked Heavenly Father to protect me. And I also asked that I might be able to serve a full-time mission as soon as possible.

After two and a half months in the army, I became ill and was admitted to the hospital. When the doctors examined me, I was surprised to learn I had a heart disease—an illness they believed I had had since childhood. It was now affecting my lungs, liver, and spleen. My body swelled, and I looked as if I had gained considerable weight.

The diagnosis meant I might be released from the army, but the reality of a serious illness scared me. All I could do was trust God to help me.

After I had been in the hospital for a month, an Armenian member of the Church, Brother Ararat, unexpectedly visited me there. He and two missionaries gave me a priesthood blessing.

Three weeks later I was released from the army. Before long I was feeling strong enough to serve a mission.

Now I needed my military release

papers. I fasted and prayed. When I rose from my knees, I had my answer. I would rely on the Lord.

Days passed. Whenever I would inquire about my military papers, the officials would say, "Don't expect them this year. It is not possible." Still I trusted in the Lord and waited. Finally on 15 December I received word: "Come in and get your papers; they are ready."

My next problem was getting a passport. The end of the year is a difficult time to secure one, and I was

told I could not expect a passport until June. Again I prayed. And again I felt inspired to be patient and rely on the Lord.

And so I trusted, believed, and waited—but not for too long. On 5 January 1999, I received my passport, and on 7 January, my visa. I could begin my missionary service.

All I needed to do now was complete my interviews, finish some paperwork, and receive the required medical examination. Although I felt well, I feared that my heart disease might prevent me from serving. The doctor who examined me knew my medical history and ordered a test of my heart. When he looked at the results, he blurted out in surprise, "You are

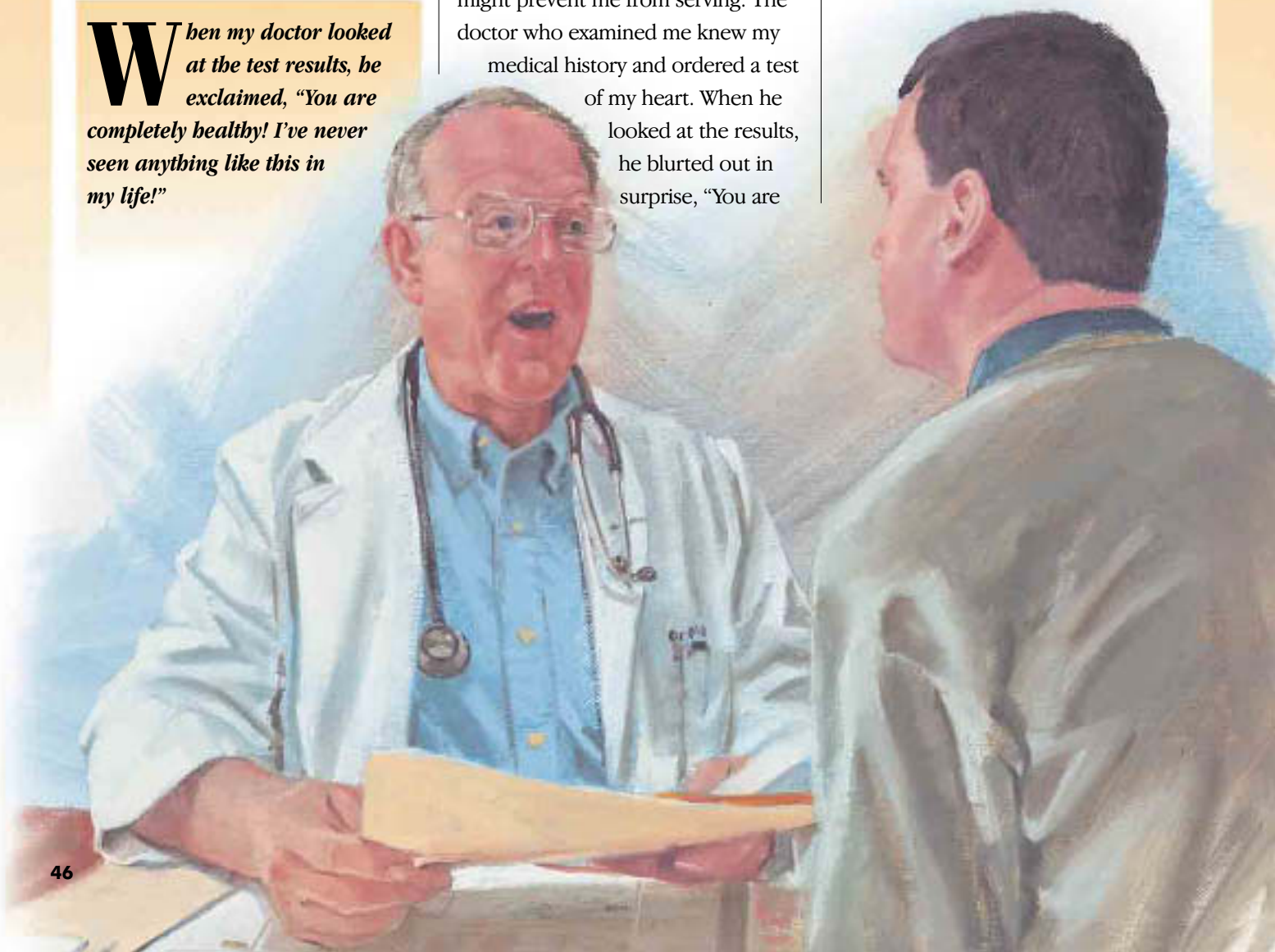
completely healthy! There is no sign of heart disease. I've never seen anything like this in my life!"

I smiled and said, "I believe in God. I received a blessing from bearers of His priesthood and was healed."

Soon I was called to serve in the Russia Moscow South Mission. I know God lives. I know He performs miracles now just as He did anciently. And I know He blesses us when we exercise faith in Him. ■

*Gnel Tamazyan is a member of the Tagansky Branch, Moscow Russia South District.*

**W**hen my doctor looked at the test results, he exclaimed, "You are completely healthy! I've never seen anything like this in my life!"





# Did You Know?



## It Happened in January

Following are a few significant events that happened in Church history during the month of January.



18 January 1827: The

Prophet Joseph Smith married Emma Hale in New York State. The couple met while he was working in

Pennsylvania and boarding with Emma's family.

19 January 1841: A revelation given at Nauvoo, Illinois, instructed the Saints to build a temple in Nauvoo (see D&C 124).

21, 28 January 1900: The Salt Lake Stake, which included 55 wards, was divided, and the Jordan and Granite Stakes were created. This was the first stake division in the Salt Lake Valley after the pioneers arrived in 1847.



## Leadership Tip

“Those who are called to lead in the ministry of the Master are not called to be chiefs or dictators,” explains President James E. Faust, Second Counselor in the First Presidency. “They are called to be good shepherds. They are to be constantly training others to take their place and become greater leaders than their teachers. A good leader expects much [and] inspires greatly . . . those he is called to lead.” President Faust suggests reading Doctrine and Covenants 121:41–43 to find “the transcending keys of leadership” contained there. (See “These I Will Make My Leaders,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1980, 35.)



## Teacher Appreciation

When schoolteachers in Kaiserslautern, Germany, wonder if holding classes, grading papers, and putting up with noisy students are worth it, the youth of the Landstuhl Military Ward, Kaiserslautern Germany Military Stake, like to remind them of their value. Each year for the past six years, the youth have expressed appreciation for their teachers' service and caring with a teacher appreciation night.

The youth chose “For the Strength of Youth” as this year's

theme. They made a memory and quote book for their teachers, thanking them for their guidance, knowledge, and service. The youth also treated the teachers to dinner in the Church cultural hall, which they decorated for the occasion, and they put on a show to entertain them. On each table they left copies of *For the Strength of Youth* for the teachers to take home. Their teachers certainly appreciate being appreciated!

# Using the January 2003 *Liahona*

## Discussion Ideas

▪ “The Way of the Master,” page 2: Share a story President Thomas S. Monson uses to illustrate the concept of loving our neighbors. Then tell about someone who was a good Samaritan to you. Ask class or family members to think of a neighbor who might need their love and service.

▪ “Teaching, Preaching, Healing,” page 12: Elder Jeffrey R. Holland reminds gospel teachers that “these are God’s students, not yours,” and He is willing to pour out His Spirit upon teachers so that their students, *His* students, can be healed. Ask class or family members how they would listen if the Lord were their teacher. Remind them that if they listen in this way, the Lord *will* be their teacher, through the Holy Ghost. What does listening to the Spirit have to do with submitting to the will of the Father?

▪ “To Do His Best,” page F7: Discuss the message of the poem Benjamin Platt quoted to his friend, that our only test in life is to do our best. Ask class or family members what it means to do our best.

HE LAID HIS HANDS UPON A FEW SICK FOLK, BY JAMES J. TISSOT

## Topics in This Issue

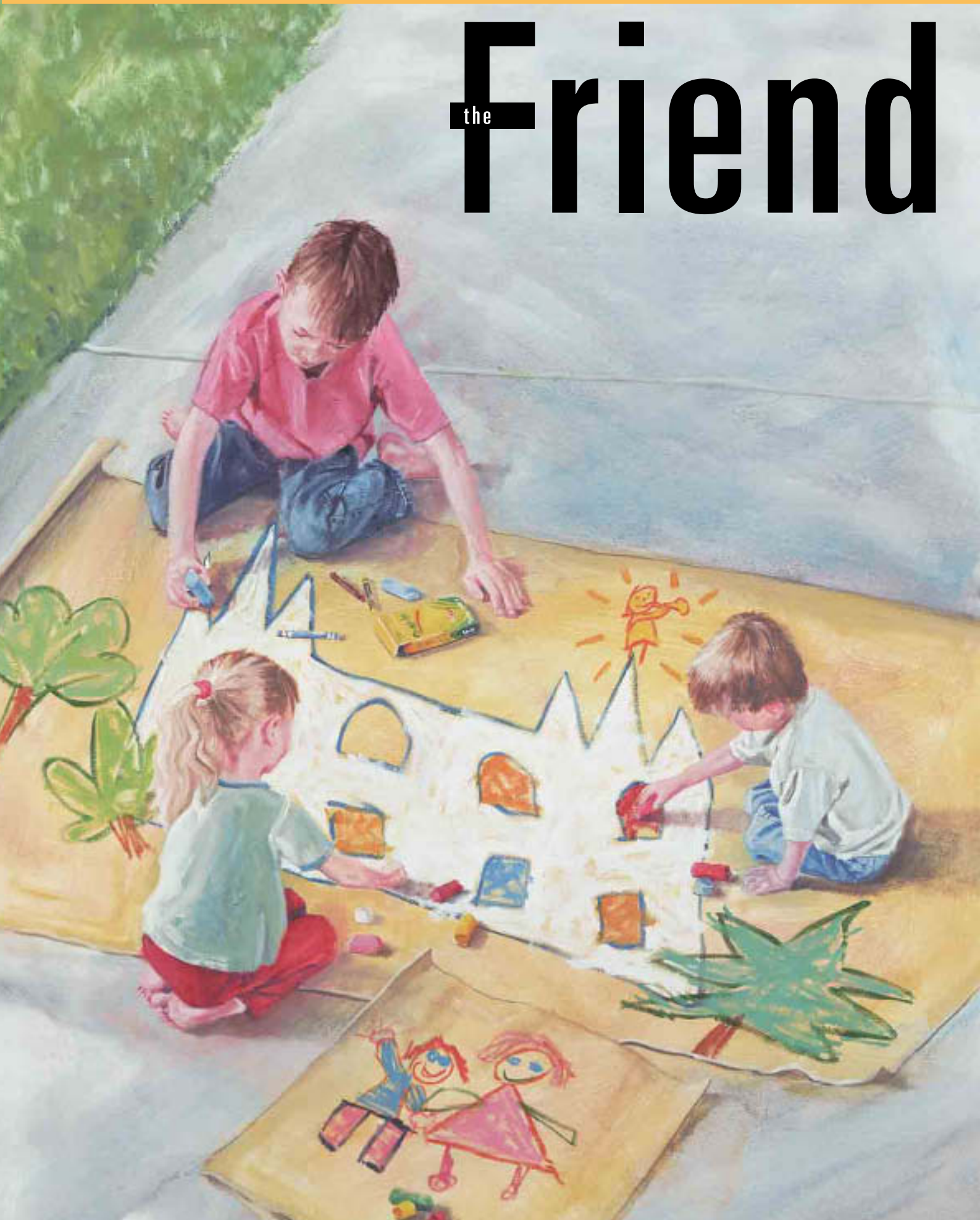
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## From the Distribution Center

Did you know that the Gospel Art Picture Kit (item no. 34730) is available to help members teach the gospel at home and in church? Each picture in the kit includes an explanation of the scriptural, doctrinal, or historical event it portrays. The pictures and their accompanying information can be easily adapted into family home evening and Sunday School lessons, Primary talks, or seminary devotionals. Check with your local distribution center for availability and price.

# the Friend



# Covenants



**President James E. Faust has made it clear that covenants are not just words we speak. If we keep our covenants, they will change our lives.**

**BY PRESIDENT JAMES E. FAUST**  
Second Counselor in the First Presidency

**W**e should always honor and keep sacred the saving covenants we make with the Lord. If we do, He has promised, “Thou shalt receive revelation upon revelation, knowledge upon knowledge, that thou mayest know the mysteries and peaceable things—that which bringeth joy, that which bringeth life eternal” (D&C 42:61).

Many covenants [have to be made and kept in order to have] happiness here and hereafter. Among the most important are the marriage covenants made between husband and wife. From these covenants flow the greatest joys of life.

The covenant of baptism, with its ordinance of confirmation, opens the gate for eternal life.

Temple covenants are the basis for attaining the greatest blessings the Lord has for us.

We have the great privilege of partaking of the sacrament, the Lord’s Supper. Renewing our baptismal covenants as we partake of the sacrament protects us against all manner of evil. As we worthily partake of the bread and water in remembrance of the Savior’s sacrifice, we witness unto God the Father that we are willing to take upon us the name of His Son and always remember Him and to keep His commandments which He has given us. If we do these things, we will always have

His Spirit to be with us (see D&C 20:77, 79). If we partake of the sacrament regularly and are faithful to these covenants, the law will be in our inward parts and written in our hearts. Let me illustrate this with a story from the *Church News*:

“A group of religion instructors [were] taking a summer course on the life of the Savior and focusing particularly on the parables.

“When the final exam time came, . . . the students arrived at the classroom to find a note that the exam would be given in another building across campus. Moreover, the note said, it must be finished within the two-hour time period that was starting almost at that moment.

“The students hurried across campus. On the way they passed a little girl crying over a flat tire on her new bike. An old man hobbled painfully toward the library with a cane in one hand, spilling books from a stack he was trying to manage with the other. On a bench by the union building sat a shabbily dressed, bearded man [in obvious distress].

“Rushing into the other classroom, the students were met by the professor, who announced they had all flunked the final exam.

“The only true test of whether they understood the Savior’s life and teaching, he said, was how they treated people in need.

“Their weeks of study at the feet of a

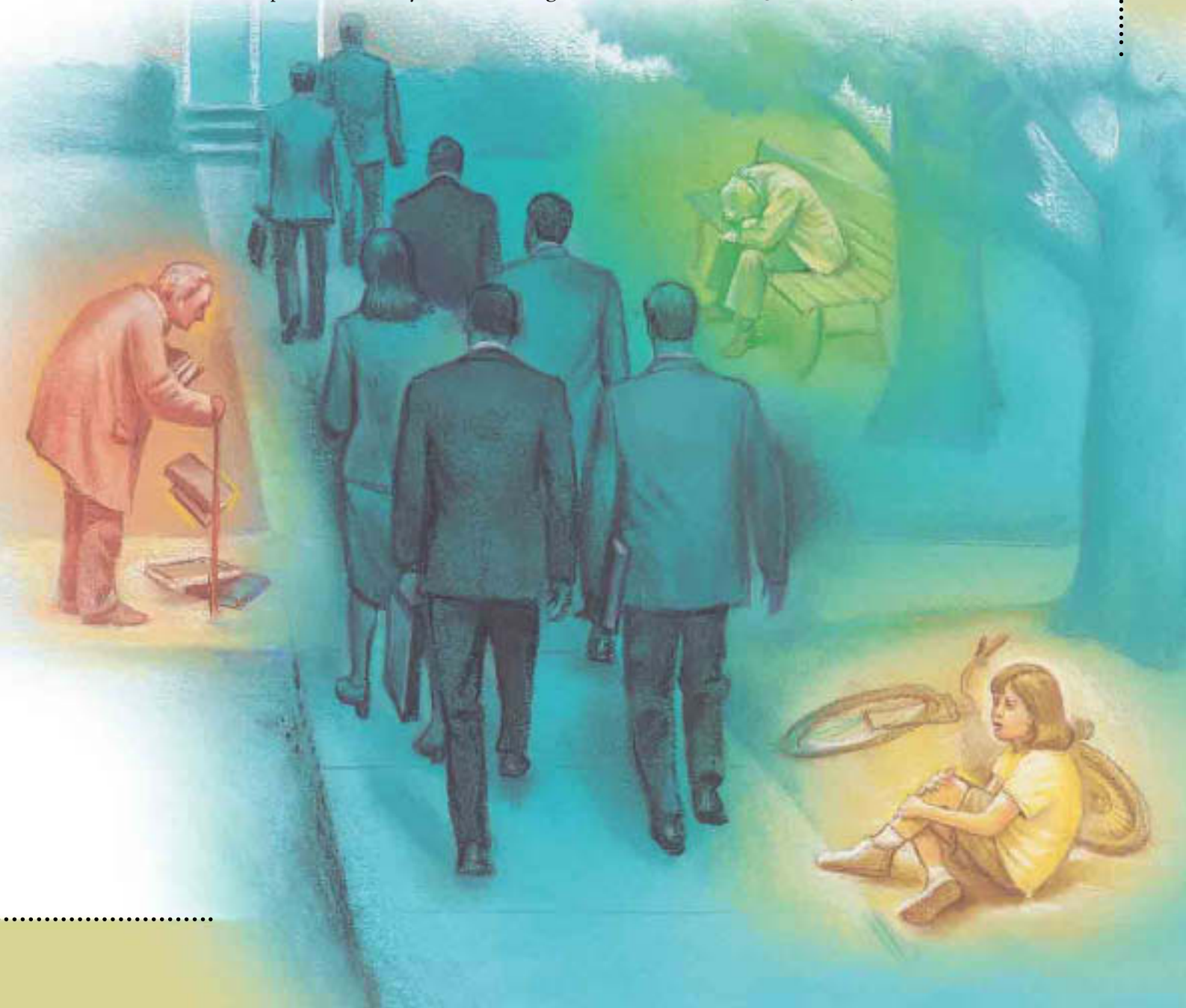
capable professor had taught them a great deal of what Christ had said and done.” They learned the letter but not the spirit. Their neglect of the little girl and the two men showed that the message of the course had not entered into their inward parts.

We must at times search our own souls and discover what we really are. Our real character, much as we would wish, cannot be hidden. It shines from within us. Attempts to deceive others only deceive ourselves. We are often like the emperor in the fairy tale who thought

he was [dressed] in beautiful garments when he was in fact unclothed.

Christlike [behavior] flows from [deep within] the human heart and soul. It is guided by the Holy Spirit of the Lord, which is promised in gospel ordinances. Our greatest hope should be to enjoy the sanctification [being made holy] which comes from this divine guidance; our greatest fear should be to [lose] these blessings. ●

*From an April 1998 general conference address.*



*I believe in the Savior;  
Jesus Christ.*



*I'll follow Him in faith.*



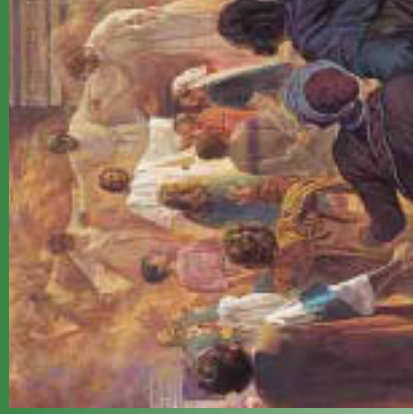
*I know God's plan.*



*I know who I am.*



*I'll honor His name.*



*I'll do what is right;  
I'll follow His light.*



*His truth I will proclaim.*



*I belong to The Church  
of Jesus Christ  
of Latter-day Saints.*

# I Belong to the Church of Jesus Christ

BY VICKI F. MATSUMORI

**“And they who were baptized in the name of Jesus were called the church of Christ” (3 Nephi 26:21).**



You belong to many groups. You belong to a family. You belong to a school. You may belong to a sports team or a performing group. But one very special organization you belong to is The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This organization is different from the rest and very valuable and sacred.

Groups often have leaders. The leader might be a president or a coach or a teacher. In The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, our leader is the Savior Himself.

When Jesus Christ was on the earth, He organized His Church. He called and “ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, And to have power to heal sicknesses” (Mark 3:14–15). Jesus gave these Twelve Apostles the authority to govern the Church after He was gone.

Today the Apostles—the members of the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve—have the same priesthood, or authority, that Jesus Christ gave His Apostles when He lived upon the earth. When today’s Apostles speak to you at general conference or send messages through your bishop or branch president, they represent Jesus Christ—the leader of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

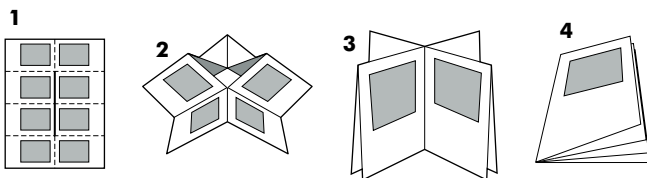
## Instructions

Make a booklet to help you remember the words to the song “The Church of Jesus Christ” (see *2003 Outline for Sharing Time and the Children’s Sacrament Meeting Presentation*). Remove page 4 from the magazine. Cut on the heavy dark line, being careful not to cut any broken lines. Then follow the illustrations to fold the pages into a booklet.

## Sharing Time Ideas

1. Help the children understand the important part they play as members of the Church. Share what President Gordon B. Hinckley said: “You who are members of this Church must have a loyalty to it. This is your church. You have as great a responsibility in [what you do] as I have in [what I do]. It belongs to you just as it belongs to me” (“A Prophet’s Counsel and Prayer for Youth,” *Liahona*, Apr. 2001, 39). Draw a picture of a body, and cut it into puzzle pieces. Place the pieces in a container, leaving one piece out. Have the children take turns choosing a puzzle piece. Assemble the body, and ask what is wrong. Have the children read 1 Corinthians 12:14–20. Discuss how every member of the Church is important. Add the final puzzle piece, and sing “The Church of Jesus Christ.” Draw a paper doll for each child to color; have the children write or draw something they can do to be a good Church member.

2. Help the children learn about the Church Jesus established while on the earth. Write the following scriptures on the chalkboard: Matthew 3:13–17; Matthew 6:9–13; Mark 3:14–15; Mark 12:41–44; Luke 22:19–20; John 5:39; Acts 5:42; 1 Corinthians 15:29; Ephesians 4:11–12; Ephesians 5:19. Then write these terms: baptism, prayer; priesthood, tithes and offerings, sacrament, scriptures, temple, baptism for the dead, apostles and prophets, and songs and hymns. Read the scriptures, and have the children draw lines from the references to the correct terms. Discuss how these aspects of the gospel are the same today; sing songs or hymns about each one. ●

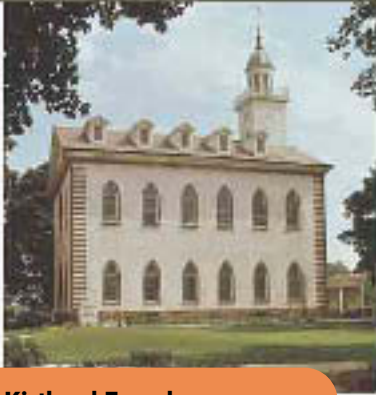


ILLUSTRATIONS

FROM TOP LEFT: CHRIST WITH CHILDREN, BY DEL PARSON; THE SECOND COMING, BY HARRY ANDERSON; CHRIST CALLING PETER AND ANDREW, BY HARRY ANDERSON; JOHN BAPTIZING JESUS, BY HARRY ANDERSON; RESURRECTED CHRIST BLESSES THE NEPHITE CHILDREN, BY ROBERT T. BARRETT; CHRIST IN GETHSEMANE, BY HARRY ANDERSON; THE LAST SUPPER, BY CARL HEINRICH BLOCH, COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC MUSEUM, AT FREDERIKSBORG IN HILLERÖD, DENMARK

# Temple Cards

In 2003 each issue of *The Friend* will contain Temple Cards. Remove the Temple Cards from the magazine, glue them to heavy paper, and cut them out. Collect the cards to remind you of the importance of temples.



**Kirtland Temple**

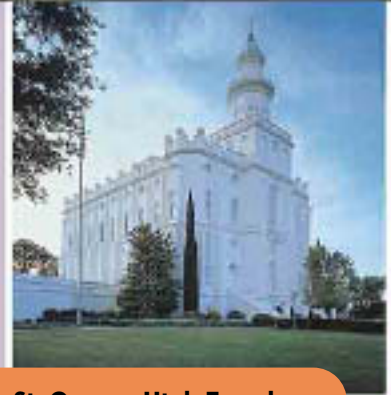
(No longer in use by the Church.)  
Dedicated on 27 March 1836 by President Joseph Smith



**Nauvoo Temple**

(The original no longer stands.)  
Dedicated on 30 April and 1 May 1846; rebuilt in 2002

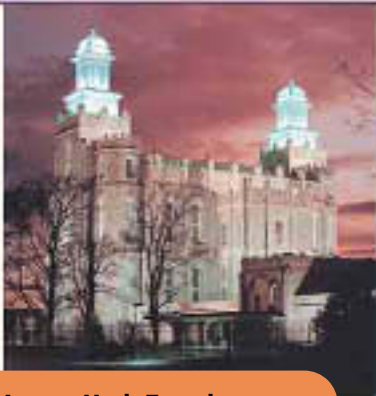
PAINTING BY STEVEN T. BAIRD



**St. George Utah Temple**

Dedicated on 6 April 1877 by President Daniel H. Wells

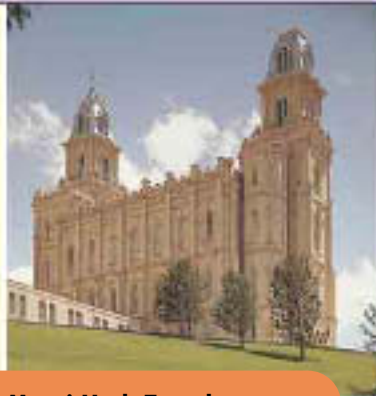
PHOTOGRAPH BY STEVE TREGEAGLE



**Logan Utah Temple**

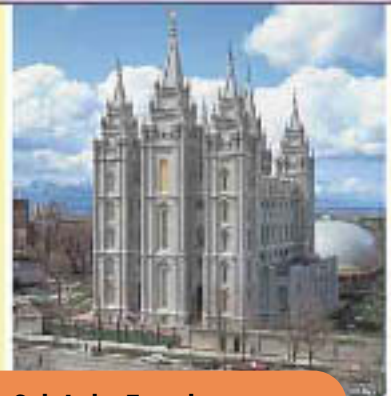
Dedicated on 17 May 1884 by President John Taylor

PHOTOGRAPH BY BRENT RASMUSON



**Manti Utah Temple**

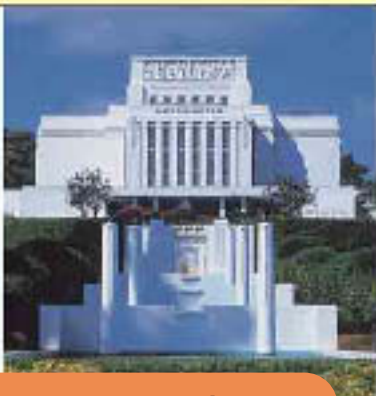
Dedicated on 17, 21 May 1888 by President Wilford Woodruff and Elder Lorenzo Snow



**Salt Lake Temple**

Dedicated on 6 April 1893 by President Wilford Woodruff

PHOTOGRAPH BY CRAIG DIMOND



**Laie Hawaii Temple**

Dedicated on 27 November 1919 by President Heber J. Grant

PHOTOGRAPH BY CRAIG DIMOND



**Cardston Alberta Temple**

Dedicated on 26 August 1923 by President Heber J. Grant

PHOTOGRAPH BY MEL EIBELSHAUSER



**Mesa Arizona Temple**

Dedicated on 23 October 1927 by President Heber J. Grant

PHOTOGRAPH BY WELDEN C. ANDERSEN





# TO DO HIS BEST

BY VIANN PRESTWICH

Come on,” Benjamin said to the other man on guard duty. “We can’t stop.” Benjamin Platt’s throat felt tight. Swallowing was difficult. He talked between clenched teeth to keep his throat from hurting. If he had felt this sick back in England, he would have gone to bed. As a member of the Martin handcart company, however, he couldn’t stop and wait to get well.

Blowing snow blocked the two men’s vision. The frozen ground was uneven, and they often stumbled.

“We have to keep moving.” Benjamin spoke with as much force as he could. “We need to check the other side of the camp.”

“Why?” his friend asked. “What are we guarding?”

“The camp’s provisions.”

The other man laughed quietly. “We have no provisions. We have nothing.”

Benjamin knew the man was right. The camp had very little. His stomach hurt with the pain of no food. His breath was shallow, his fatigue great. All he wanted to do was lie down on the frozen ground and sleep, but he knew that doing so meant sure death. So he urged himself and his companion on. They shuffled around the borders of the camp, waiting for light to ease the cold blackness.

Yesterday the handcart company had made little progress from the Platte River. Much of the snow had melted during the day, turning the trail to mud. Mud caked onto the travelers’ clothes. When the sun set behind the gloomy clouds, the heavy mud had frozen.

No one was clean. Benjamin recognized most of the handcart company by their eyes and voices rather than their faces. What was not covered with rags was covered with mud and dirt.

"I can't go anymore," his partner said now. "I've done my best, and it isn't enough."

Benjamin looked at his tired companion. Dirt caked his face and was frozen into his hair. His hands were wrapped with rags. His pants were ripped and showed skin purple from the cold. Tears slid down his face as he grieved over not being strong enough.

Benjamin put his hand on the other man's shoulder and helped him around the camp. "It's OK, Brother. Just remember a poem my father used to tell me:

*"For great and low,  
There's but one test.  
'Tis that each man  
Shall do his best."*

After one more painful tour of the camp, Benjamin's companion crawled into a tent to rest. Benjamin began his rounds again. He heard the wind blow, and the branches of a few scattered cedar trees creaked with the weight of the snow and force of the wind. As the wind heaved one hearty blow, Benjamin saw that the large tent the man had just crawled into had collapsed.

Benjamin started forward. His wife, Mary, and at least 20 other people had been sleeping in that tent too. They were all now trapped beneath tent poles, tent fabric, and heavy snow. With numb hands, Benjamin struggled to pull up the icy fabric. The snow weighed the canvas down, smothering those underneath. The tent stakes had been pounded into muddy ground. Now the ground was frozen. Those on the inside of the tent could not pull the stakes out.

Straining every muscle, Benjamin pulled harder. A small girl was screaming under the tent. A woman started sobbing as she tried to free herself from the icy canvas that was suffocating her. Unseen hands

punched upward at the tent. The group was trapped.

Scrambling frantically around the outside of the tent, Benjamin found the opening. Quickly scraping off snow, he forced himself into the opening and under the wet material. Slowly, a little at a time, he stood up with the tent on his shoulders.

Benjamin yelled, "This way. Crawl this way." Few people heard the soft voice coming through his sore throat. Benjamin shouted louder. This time, two men understood and crawled toward his voice. When they got to where Benjamin had lifted the tent, they stood up and helped him support more of the wet material. Gradually all the people in the tent crawled out into the snowy night.

With frying pans and cooking pots, the awakened Saints scooped the snow off the downed tent. Dawn streaked the sky with soft light, so they rolled the tent up and prepared for a long day's trek in the snow.

When the first three rescuers arrived from Salt Lake City seven days later, the Saints cheered. Benjamin didn't join in the cheering. His throat was raw and tight. But he had yelled his best when it had mattered most. ●

*Based on the history of Benjamin Platt, written by his daughter.*



**"The only thing you need to worry about is striving to be the best you can be. And how do you do that? You keep your eye on the goals that matter most in life, and you move towards them step by step."**

Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin  
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles  
("One Step after Another," *Liahona*, Jan. 2002, 29)



# THE TEN VIRGINS



ILLUSTRATIONS BY PAUL MANN

Jesus told a story about ten young women who went to a wedding. They waited at the door for the bridegroom (the Son of Man) to come and let them in. They did not know just when He would come.

*Matthew 25:1, 13*



The ten women had oil-burning lamps. Five of the women were wise. Besides the oil in their lamps, they had extra oil with them.

*Matthew 25:2, 4*



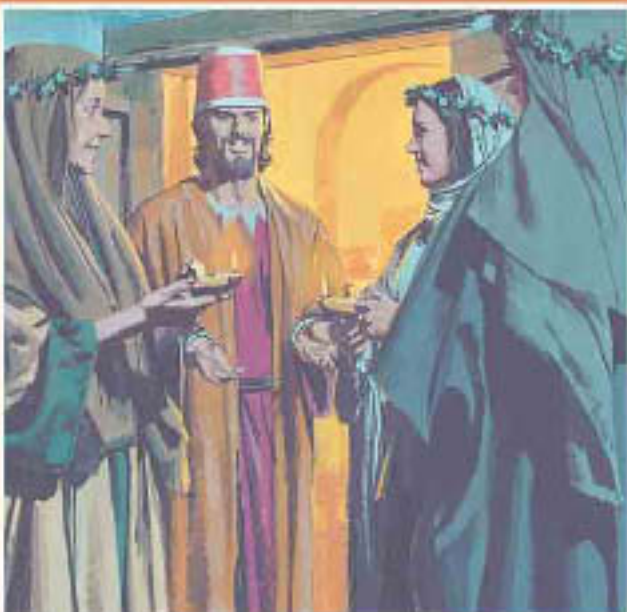
The other five women were foolish. They had only the oil that was in their lamps.

*Matthew 25:3*



The bridegroom did not come for a long time. When all the oil in the lamps was gone, the five wise women put their extra oil into their lamps. The five foolish women had to go buy more oil.

*Matthew 25:5-9*



While they were gone, the bridegroom came. He let the five wise women in the door. They went to the wedding.

*Matthew 25:10*



When the five foolish women returned, the door was closed. They could not go to the wedding.

*Matthew 25:10-13*



Jesus, the Son of Man, is the bridegroom in this story. The members of the Church are the ten women. When He comes again, some members will be like the wise women. They follow the Spirit's promptings and obey God's commandments, and so they will be ready when Jesus comes again. Others will be like the five foolish women and will not be able to be with the Savior.

*3 Nephi 25:1-2; D&C 45:56-57; 88:86, 92; James E. Talmage, Jesus the Christ, 3rd ed. (1916), 576-80*

# THE TALENTS



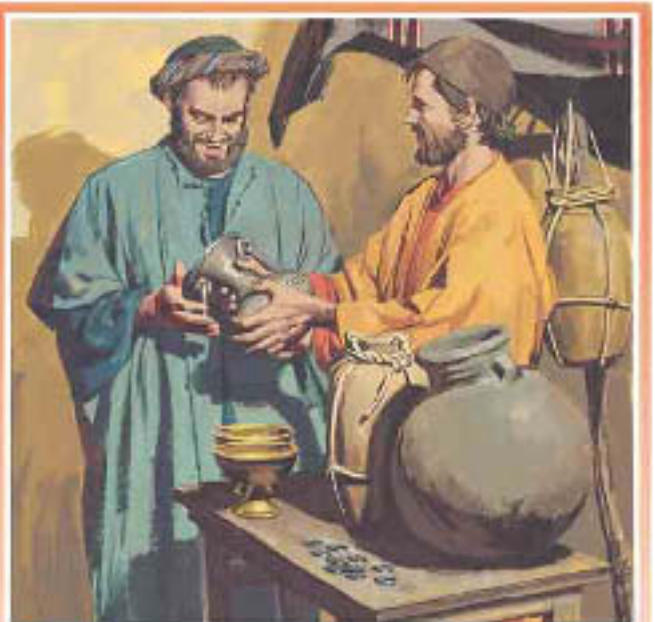
Jesus told His disciples a story about a man who gave his servants some talents, a kind of money.

*Matthew 25:14-15*



The man gave one servant five talents. He gave another servant two talents. He gave another servant one talent. Then the man went on a journey.

*Matthew 25:15*



The servant with five talents worked hard and made five more talents. Then he had ten talents.

*Matthew 25:16*



The servant with two talents also worked hard and made two more talents. Then he had four talents.

*Matthew 25:17*



The servant with one talent just buried it in the ground. He was afraid that he would lose it. He did not make any more talents.

*Matthew 25:18, 25*



When the man came home, he asked the servants what they had done with their talents.

*Matthew 25:19*



The first servant brought ten talents to the man, which made the man happy. He made the servant a leader over many things and told him to be joyful.

*Matthew 25:20–21*





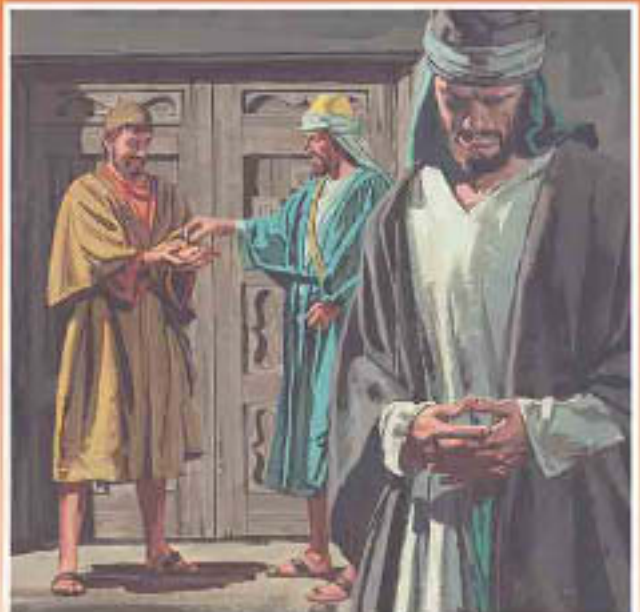
The second servant brought four talents to the man, which also made the man happy. He made the second servant a leader over many things too and told him to be joyful.

*Matthew 25:22-23*



The third servant gave the man back the talent he had buried. The man was not happy with the third servant. He said that the servant was lazy, that he should have worked hard and made more talents.

*Matthew 25:24-27*



The man took the talent from the third servant and gave it to the first servant. Then the man sent the lazy servant away. The man in the story is Jesus, and He will judge how His disciples have used the gifts they have been given.

*Matthew 25:28-30*

# Baptism



**Did you know that as a boy Elder Robert D. Hales lived in New York State but spent summers on his relatives' farms in Utah? He learned how to bale hay, ride a horse, and care for sheep and cows. Here he teaches us the importance and meaning of baptism.**

**BY ELDER ROBERT D. HALES**  
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

**A**t baptism we make a covenant with our Heavenly Father that we are willing to come into His kingdom and keep His commandments from that time forward, even though we still live in the world.

Entering into the kingdom of God is so important that Jesus was baptized to show us “the straitness of the path, and the narrowness of the gate, by which [we] should enter” (2 Nephi 31:9). “Notwithstanding he being holy, he showeth unto the children of men that, according to the flesh he humbleth himself before the Father, and witnesseth unto the Father that he would be obedient unto him in keeping his commandments” (2 Nephi 31:7).

He set the example for all of us to humble ourselves before our Heavenly Father. We are all welcome to come into the waters of baptism. He was baptized to witness to His Father that He would be obedient in keeping His commandments. He was baptized to show us that we should receive the gift of the Holy Ghost (see 2 Nephi 31:4–9).

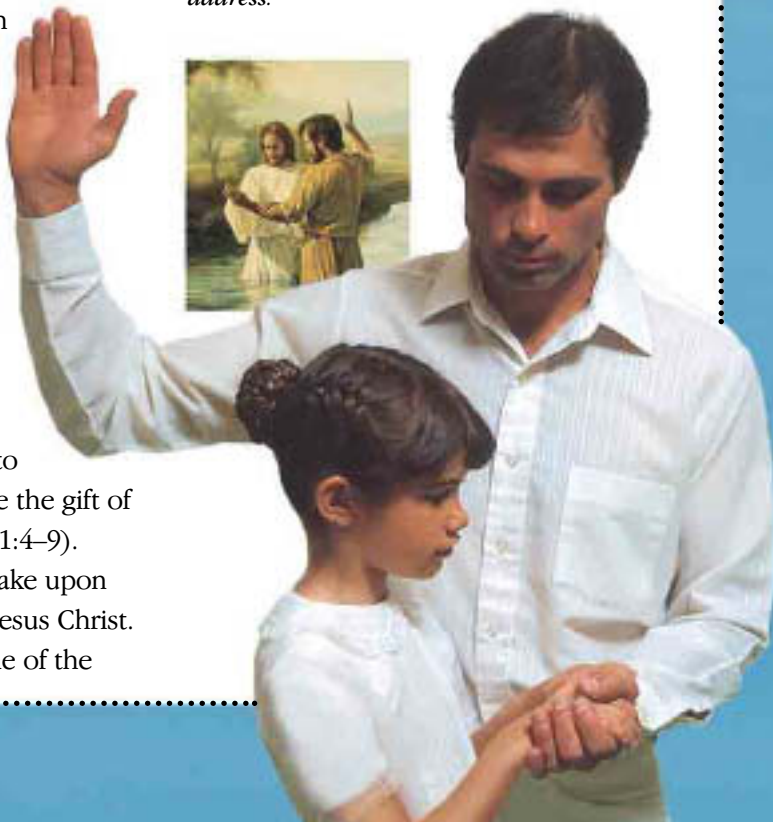
When we are baptized, we take upon ourselves the sacred name of Jesus Christ. Taking upon us His name is one of the

most significant experiences we have in life.

Each week in sacrament meeting we promise to remember the atoning sacrifice of our Savior as we renew our baptismal covenant. We promise to do as the Savior did—to be obedient to the Father and always keep His commandments. The blessing we receive in return is to always have His Spirit to be with us.

I feel great gratitude for my baptism and confirmation into The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I am grateful for the spiritual strength and guidance the gift of the Holy Ghost has given me throughout my life. ●

*From an October 2000 general conference address.*



RIGHT: PHOTOGRAPH BY WES TAYLOR, POSED BY MODELS; INSET: JOHN THE BAPTIST BAPTIZING JESUS, © GREG OLSEN, FROM THE VISIONS OF FAITH COLLECTION BY MILL POND PRESS, INC., VENICE, FLORIDA; BACKGROUND: PHOTOGRAPH BY LONGIN LONCZYNA



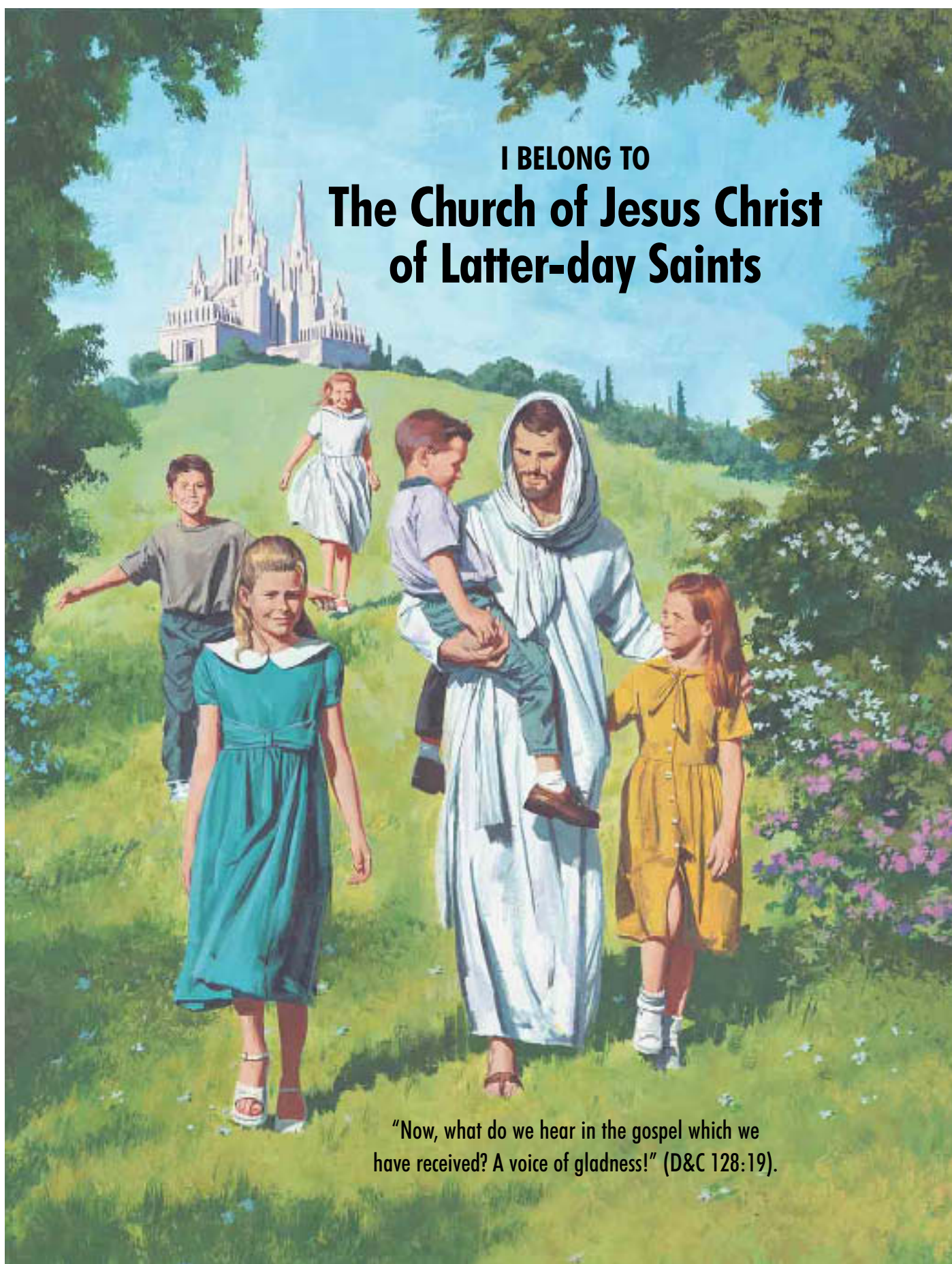
*The Presentation of Christ in the Temple*, by James J. Tissot

“And [Simeon] came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, . . . For mine eyes have seen thy salvation” (Luke 2:27–30).



“Jesus went about all Galilee, *teaching* in their synagogues, and *preaching* the gospel of the kingdom, and *healing* all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people” (Matthew 4:23; emphasis added). See Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, “Teaching, Preaching, Healing,” p. 12.

I BELONG TO  
**The Church of Jesus Christ  
of Latter-day Saints**



I BELONG TO  
**The Church of Jesus Christ  
of Latter-day Saints**

*"Now, what do we hear in the gospel which we have received? A voice of gladness!" (D&C 128:19).*



## I BELONG TO The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

**W**hen Jesus Christ lived on the earth, He taught His gospel and organized His Church. He gave each Apostle the priesthood by the laying on of hands. Because people would not believe the gospel and killed the Apostles, the Church was taken from the earth. In these latter days, the Lord called Joseph Smith to restore the gospel, the priesthood, and the Church.

As members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, we receive many blessings that help us be happy. Reading the scriptures on this year's poster and sharing them in family home evening will help you learn about the blessings and responsibilities that come from being a member of the Church. Your faith in Jesus Christ and desire to keep His commandments will become stronger too.

### Instructions

1. Open the staples, remove the poster from the magazine, and then reclose the staples.
2. Cut out the puzzle pieces and place them in an envelope.
3. At the beginning of each month, find the correct puzzle piece for that month in the envelope. Read the theme and the scripture for that month. Glue the puzzle piece in place. Plan with your parents when you can present in family home evening what you have learned.

**Additional copies of the poster are available from Church distribution centers.**

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