



THE
New Era

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Luke's account records the appearance of the angel Gabriel to Mary (below).

Because the guest chambers surrounding the courtyard were filled (far right), Joseph possibly made the decision to care for Mary's delivery in the center courtyard among the animals. There, in that lowly circumstance, the Lamb of God was born.

CHRIST THE SAVIOR IS BORN

BY ELDER RUSSELL M. NELSON

Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

A closer look at the circumstances of the Savior's birth can deepen our understanding of this marvelous event.

This Christmas season, through all of our various Christmas traditions, I hope that we are focused first upon the Lord Jesus Christ. Wise men still adore Him.

We commemorate His humble birth at this time of year, even though we know it did not occur in December but in April. Scriptures declare that His mother, Mary, was espoused to Joseph. They had participated

in the first of two components of a Jewish marriage ceremony. Their espousal might be likened to an engagement in our culture, which is followed later by the second component of a marriage ceremony.

Luke's account records the appearance of the angel Gabriel to Mary when she first learned of her favored future.

"And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.





“And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus.

“He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest” (Luke 1:30–32).

Note the capitalization—God is the Highest. Jesus was to be the Son of the Highest.

Before Joseph and Mary came together, she was expecting that holy child. Joseph desired to protect her privacy,¹ hoping to spare Mary the punishment given to a woman found pregnant without a completed marriage. While he pondered these things, the angel Gabriel appeared to Joseph, saying,

“Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

“And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins” (Matthew 1:20–21).

Mary and Joseph did not need to be taught the deep

significance of the name *Jesus*. The Hebrew root from which it was derived, *Jehoshua*, means “Jehovah is salvation.” So the mission of Jehovah, soon to be named Jesus, was salvation, and His supreme destiny was to become the Savior of the world.

Now let’s consider the fond and familiar story that we read at Christmastime in the second chapter of Luke:

“And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed” (Luke 2:1).

This was really a registration of the citizenry of the empire of Rome. Herod made a decision that people should be counted in the land of their ancestors. Mary and Joseph, then living in Nazareth, had to travel southward to the city of David, a distance of approximately 70 miles (113 km). Perhaps they traveled even farther if they went around the hostile intermediate province of Samaria.

Almost certainly they traveled with relatives who likewise were summoned to the land of their ancestry. This



Instead of the four words: “wrapped in swaddling clothes” in the English text, only one word is needed in the Greek New Testament. That word is *sparganoō*, which means to envelop a newborn child with special cloth (above).

From His immortal Father, Jesus inherited the power to live forever. From His mortal mother He inherited the fate of physical death.

Those unique attributes were essential for His mission to atone for the sins of all mankind.

difficult trek was no doubt made with their animals, such as dogs and donkeys. They likely camped out several nights, as three to four days would have been required for that journey.

“And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn” (Luke 2:7).

To better understand this verse, we need to be aware of the culture of that time and region, and we need to learn one word from the original Greek text. In the Greek New Testament, the root from which *inn* was translated is *kataluma*. We don’t have an equivalent word in the English language. The Greek prefix *kata-* (or *cata-*) means “a bringing down.” We see it in English words such as *catastrophe* and *cataclysm*. When the prefix *kata-* was joined with the suffix *-luma*, it meant literally “a breaking down of a journey.” A *kataluma* was a place to rest or to lodge, or a guest chamber in a lodging place.

In those days an inn was not like a Holiday Inn or a Bethlehem Marriott. A lodging place in that part of Asia had to provide accommodations for traveling caravans, including the people and their animals. Caravans stayed at what was then, as still is, known as a *caravansary*, or a *khan*.

Such a facility is typically rectangular in shape. It has a central courtyard for the animals that is surrounded by walled cubicles where the people rest. These quarters allowed guests to be elevated slightly above their animals, with open doorways so that owners could watch over their animals.

The Joseph Smith Translation of Luke 2:7 indicates that there was no room for them in the “inns,” suggesting that all of the *katalumas* or cubicles of the caravansary were occupied.

At a caravansary, animals were secured for the night in the center courtyard. In that courtyard there would have been donkeys



and dogs, sheep, and possibly camels and oxen, along with all of the animals’ discharges and odors. Because the guest chambers surrounding the courtyard were filled, Joseph possibly made the decision to care for Mary’s delivery in the center courtyard of a caravansary—among the animals. There, in that lowly circumstance, the Lamb of God was born.

Why was reference made twice in Luke 2 to His being wrapped in swaddling clothes?² I sense a significance beyond the use of an ordinary diaper and receiving blanket.

Instead of those four words: “wrapped in swaddling clothes” in the English text, only one word is needed in the Greek New Testament. That word is *sparganoō*, which means to envelop a newborn child with special cloth, strips of which were passed from side to side.³ The cloth would probably bear unique family identification. That procedure was especially applicable to the birth of a firstborn son.

You remember the announcement of an angel at the birth of Jesus: “This shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a



manger” (Luke 2:12). His wrappings surely would have been distinctive.

What about the manger? The French word, *manger* means “to eat.” A manger is a trough or an open box in a stable designed to hold feed, provender, or fodder for animals to eat. Elevated from the floor of the contaminated courtyard, a manger was probably the cleanest site available. Such a feeding trough became the cradle for our Lord!

Now, two millennia later, though we don’t know all the details pertaining to His birth, we certainly understand the unique parentage of this Babe of Bethlehem. We declare

solemnly and with conviction: Jesus was born of an immortal Father and a mortal mother. From His immortal Father, Jesus inherited the power to live forever. From His mortal mother He inherited the fate of physical death.

Those unique attributes were essential for His mission to atone for the sins of all mankind. Thus Jesus the Christ was born to die (see 3 Nephi 27:13–15). He died that we might live. He was born that all humankind could live beyond the grave. His Atonement was wrought in Gethsemane—where He sweat great drops of blood—and on Golgotha, or Calvary, where His body was lifted up upon a cross above the place of the skull, which signified death.

This infinite Atonement would release man from the infinitude of death (see 2 Nephi 9:7). His Atonement made the Resurrection a reality and the gift of eternal life a possibility for all who would obey His teachings. His Atonement became the central act of all human history.

Our recollections of Christmas are enriched by these realities. Each one of us with a testimony of the Lord has the privilege in faith to know of His divine parentage and to testify that Jesus is the Son of the living God.

Jesus descended below all things in order to rise above all things. He expects us to follow His example. Yoked with Him, we can rise above all challenges, no matter how difficult they may be (see Matthew 11:29–30).

The time is coming when those who do *not* obey the Lord will be separated from those who *do*. Our safest insurance is to continue to be worthy of admission to His holy house. How blessed we are to have temples available. The greatest gift you could give to the Lord at this or any other time of year is to keep yourself unspotted from the world, worthy to attend His holy house. His gift to you will be the peace and security of knowing that you are worthy to meet Him, whenever that time shall come.

As a special witness of His holy name, I testify that Jesus is the divine Son of the living God. He will love you, lift you, and manifest Himself unto you if you will love Him and keep His commandments.⁴

From a devotional address given at Brigham Young University on December 10, 2002.

NOTES

1. See Matthew 1:18–19.
2. See Luke 2:7, 12.
3. See James Strong, “Greek Dictionary of the New Testament,” *Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible* (1890), p. 66, word 4683.
4. See John 14:21.

Soft and Pure

Reverently ♩ = 76-88

Words and music by Raymond D. Cook

The first system of music consists of a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written on a single staff with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a whole rest for four measures. The piano accompaniment is written on two staves (treble and bass clefs) and begins with a C4 octave chord in the bass and a C4 octave chord in the treble. The melody in the piano part consists of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.

The second system of music includes the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a repeat sign and contains three lines of lyrics. The piano accompaniment continues with the same melody as the first system.

1. Soft and pure, the light that flows from can - dle flame,
2. Soft and pure, the love that flows from Ma - ry's heart
3. Soft and pure, the ho - ly in - fant all a - dore.

The third system of music includes the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line continues with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment continues with the same melody.

Not too bright, but light e - nough to clear - ly see
For her new - born son come down from God a - bove.
Though the Son of God, He sleeps in arms ob - scure.

© 2003 by Raymond D. Cook

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Arrangement for choir available at www.lds.org/cm/music/submission

He who comes to earth this night, Clothed in meek-ness, hope, and light—
 She who mag-ni-fies the Lord, Faith-ful to His ev-'ry word—
 Mir-a-cle of hope and love, Price-less gift from heav'n a-bove—



1. 2.
 Sav-ior of all fal-len crea-tures He will be.
 Show-ers her dear babe with ten-der mo-ther's love.
 Come at last to

3.
 cleanse our hearts from

sin and make them soft and pure.



MOM'S CHRISTMAS COAT

BY RONDA HINRICHSEN



We started out to surprise Mom but ended up surprising ourselves.

The summer after I turned 16, I saw my mother trying on one of my father's old coats. "Money is tight again this year," she said, "and mine's worn out."

Right then, I knew I needed to help her. But how?

My first thought was that I could save enough money to surprise her with a new coat. After all, I was the oldest. But the longer I thought about it, the more I sensed there was one thing missing from my plan—one thing that would make the surprise even better. I should invite my two teenage sisters and my 11-year-old brother to help me.

"How about we each donate 10 percent of whatever we earn?" I said, after explaining the problem to them.

"I don't make much money," my brother said.

"That's okay. If you make \$1.00 and put in 10 cents, then you'll have done your part."

"We'll go together to buy the coat, right?" asked one of my sisters.

"Yes, at Christmas."

They looked at each other. "Let's do it."

For the next several months, we worked and saved for Mom's surprise. Sometimes we gave more than 10 percent, and sometimes 10 percent was almost more than we could give after already paying 10 percent for tithing. But no matter how hard it was, we stuck to our commitment. I particularly remember one hot afternoon when my brother, dirty and sweaty from several hours of lawn

mowing, came into my bedroom and handed me a dollar. I felt like I had just received the widow's mite (see Mark 12:41–44).

Finally, one week before Christmas, we counted our money and discovered we had more than enough for the coat, so much more, in fact, that we could buy gifts for everyone in our family. We could hardly wait to see their faces when they found their surprises.

On Christmas morning, we got up before our parents. When my youngest sisters saw the dresses we had bought for them, they twirled around the room with them, saying, "Thank-you, thank-you!"

"Wow, thanks for the toy cars, Mom and Dad!" my eight-year-old brother shouted as he examined his gift.

"What's going on?" Dad called from the bedroom.

"We didn't get you *that!*" Mom added.

Within moments, they were beside us, staring in disbelief.

Then Mom saw her coat. She picked it up. Tears slid down her cheeks. "Who did this?"

We didn't answer. We wanted it to remain a secret. Besides, I don't think we could have spoken if we'd tried.

That morning, my sisters, brother, and I felt the true spirit of Christmas, the one that comes from service and sacrifice. And we felt something else too—unity. We had worked together to reach a common goal. We had done it without complaint, and we had each given the best we had. For those few months, we had become one.

And that was the best surprise of all. **NE**



Accepting the

CHALLENGE

BY PAUL VANDENBERGHE
Church Magazines

All 38 students from one early morning seminary class in El Paso, Texas, read the Book of Mormon in response to President Hinckley's challenge; some of them read it several times during the year. Pat Sutton (above) read it three times, Jessica Bartlette (opposite left) four times, and Brooke Johnson (opposite right) eight times. Landen Hill (p. 12) read it two times, Sarah Glade (p. 12) two times, and Shane Richardson (p. 13) read it three times.

Thousands of youth throughout the Church took up President Hinckley's challenge to read the Book of Mormon.

“**M**y Young Women leaders had challenged me to finish reading the Book of Mormon by November,” says Sierra Hoffman, a Mia Maid from Albany, Oregon. “I was in the middle of it when President Hinckley gave the challenge to all members to read the Book of Mormon before the end of the year.”

She could have simply finished from where she was. And she did. Then, after completing her leaders' challenge, Sierra turned back to 1 Nephi in late November and started reading again—this time to meet President Hinckley's reading challenge. She read each night, sometimes for several hours.

“The spirit that filled my room and my heart as I read was amazing!” she says.

“Passages that I had never noticed before stood out and touched me deeply. Verses that had confused me before made sense. Tears would fill my eyes as I read about the Savior visiting the Americas.”

Sierra also noticed a change in her 10-year-old brother as he, too, began reading from the Book of Mormon daily. He became more loving, kind, and respectful. Just as President Hinckley promised when he made the challenge, there was a greater feeling of the Spirit of the Lord in the Hoffman family's home.

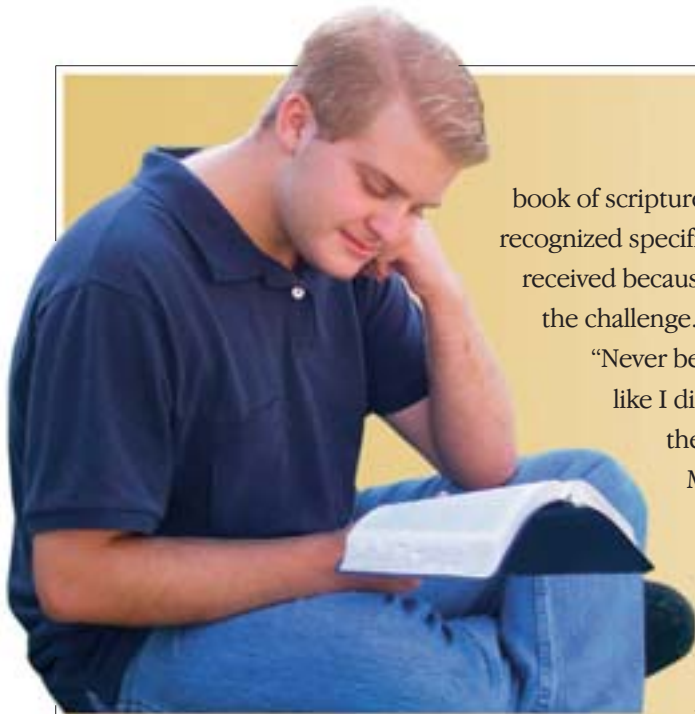
Teens Take Up the Challenge

Throughout the Church, thousands of youth like Sierra and her brother took up the prophet's challenge. And many sent stories about the blessings they received to the *New Era*. For some readers, this was their first time through the Book of Mormon. For others this was their third, fifth, or even tenth time. Regardless of the number of times these teens had read this



Sierra Hoffman says a greater feeling of the Spirit of the Lord filled their home.





book of scripture, they all recognized specific blessings they received because they accepted the challenge.

“Never before have I felt like I did while reading the Book of Mormon this time,” says Brandon Merchant, a priest from Green River, Wyoming.

“Never have I been able to relate so much information to myself and the world. I can see Satan’s traps easier; I can more quickly and efficiently answer questions from people investigating the Church. I guess it is true what they say—if you study it, the information will be available at the time you need. I understand the meanings and teachings more than I ever have. It is almost impossible to describe the great feelings and understanding that I have received.”

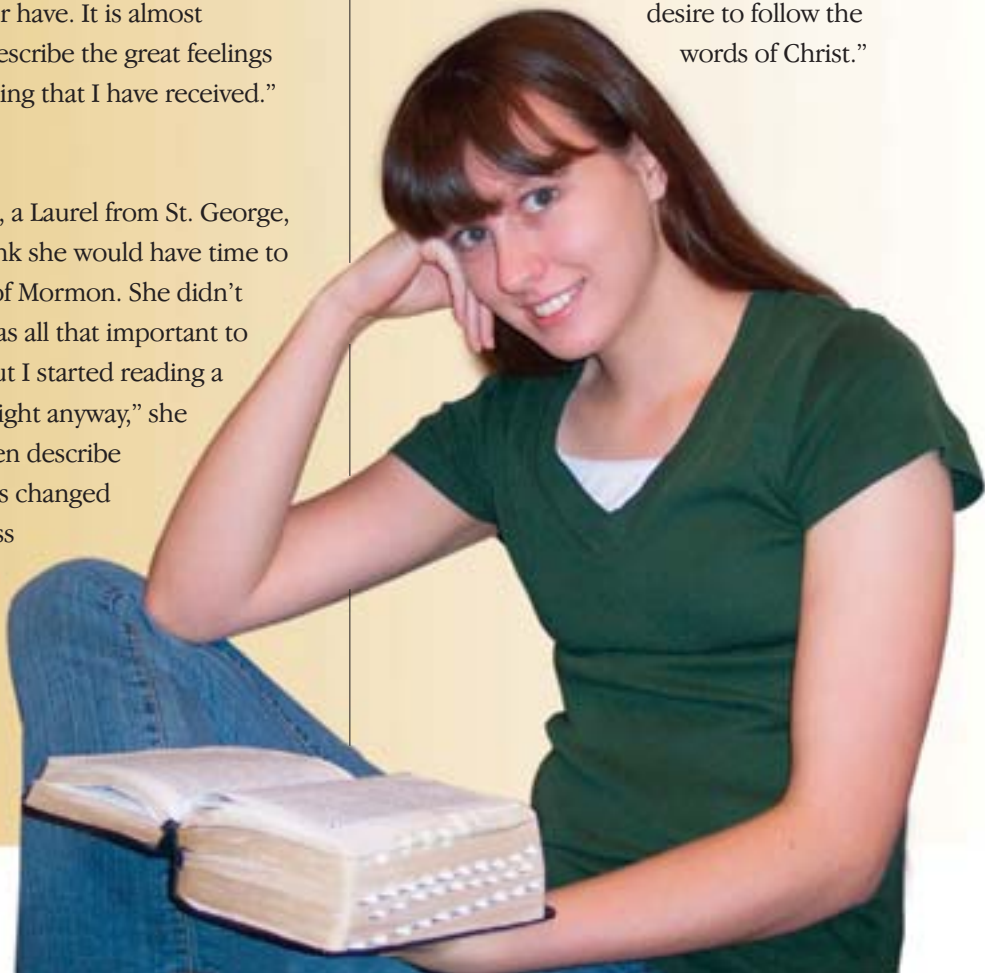
Changing Lives

Nicole Wood, a Laurel from St. George, Utah, didn’t think she would have time to read the Book of Mormon. She didn’t really think it was all that important to do it, either. “But I started reading a little bit every night anyway,” she says. “I can’t even describe how much it has changed my life. I was less stressed out in my classes. I felt happier, and, mostly, I felt closer to my Father in Heaven.”

Along with this change in her life, Nicole says she grew to love the Book of Mormon. She found it easy and exciting to apply its stories to what she was experiencing. And she felt close to the prophets who wrote so that we could learn from their experiences.

“It wasn’t just a story anymore,” explains Jessica Grosland, a Mia Maid from Springville, Utah. “I was reading it all the way through, and by the time I got to the end, I found my heart breaking along with Moroni’s as he talked about how bad the people had become.”

Jessica says she felt as if she were there with Book of Mormon people. “I took the journey with them as they went on this roller coaster of righteousness and wickedness. I felt their good and bad times were mine. I have a much better appreciation and can see them as real people now.” Most important, says Jessica, “My testimony is stronger. I feel the Spirit more, and I do have a stronger desire to follow the words of Christ.”



Brandon Merchant came to understand the meanings and teachings of the book better.



Nicole Wood felt happier and closer to Heavenly Father.

Feeling the Difference

Mitch Oakes of Ontario, Oregon, describes his experience in much the same way as other youth do: “I seemed to get more out of reading it this time than the other times. I found more scriptures that helped me in my life and with my acquaintances. At school and home, I felt more Christlike. I caused less contention with my little brother, and I felt more love for everyone. My testimony was strengthened.”

Sarah Glade, a Laurel from El Paso, Texas, says she decided to accept President Hinckley’s challenge because “the world around us is encouraging more and more behaviors that go against what the Church teaches us. Reading the Book of Mormon helps us to put on the armor of God and to be in the world but not of it.”

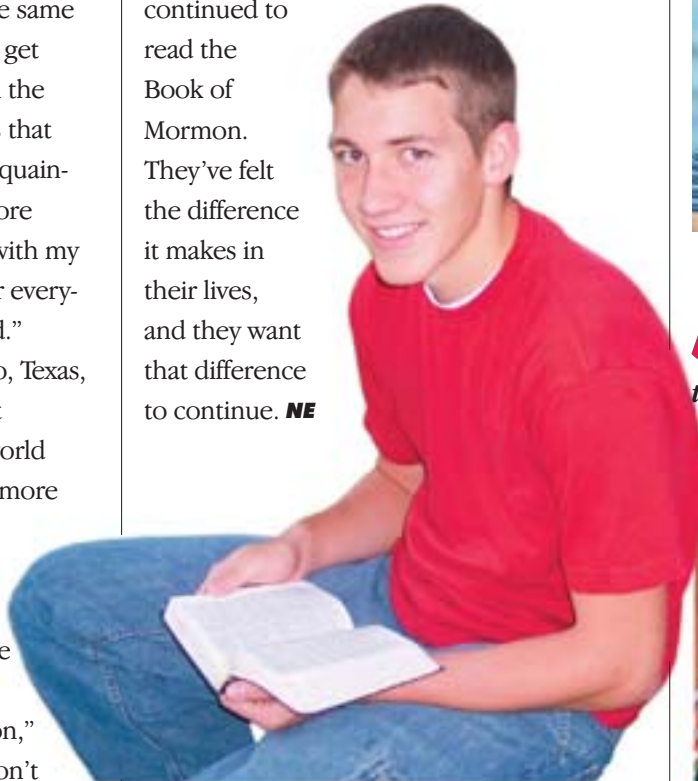
“When I read the Book of Mormon,” she adds, “everything feels right. I don’t stress about school, I’m nicer to my family, and I have more patience with others. It’s the highlight of my day, a ‘homework’ assignment that I really enjoy.”

Continuing the Challenge

In August of 2005, when President Hinckley issued the challenge to finish the Book of Mormon before the end of the year, he said: “Without reservation I promise you that if each of you will observe this simple program, regardless of how many times you previously may have read the Book of Mormon, there will come into your lives and into your homes an added measure of the Spirit of the Lord, a strengthened resolution to walk in obedience to His commandments, and a stronger testimony of the living reality of the Son of God” (“A Testimony Vibrant and True,” *Ensign*, Aug. 2005, 6).

What these youth who accepted the

challenge have in common is a life-changing experience. Most of them have continued to read the Book of Mormon. They’ve felt the difference it makes in their lives, and they want that difference to continue. **NE**



Jessica Grosland felt as if she took the journey with the ancient people.



Mitch Oakes found scriptures that helped him in his daily life.



“The Book of Mormon was written for us today. God is the author of the book. It is a record of a fallen people, compiled by

inspired men for our blessing today. Those people never had the book—it was meant for us. Mormon, the ancient prophet after whom the book is named, abridged centuries of records. God, who knows the end from the beginning, told him what to include in his abridgment that we would need for our day.”

—President Ezra Taft Benson (1899–1994), “The Book of Mormon Is the Word of God,” *Ensign*, May 1975, 63.



Sarah Glade says reading each day helps her put on the armor of God.

Q & A

“My parents are divorced, and sometimes I feel like we aren’t a ‘real’ LDS family because we aren’t sealed in the temple. I’m beginning to feel alienated from the Church. How can I deal with these feelings?”

NEW ERA

Every Latter-day Saint family is different. Each has its own strengths and weaknesses. And each is welcome in the Church. The gospel of Jesus Christ is for the perfecting of the Saints, not for perfect Saints. Here are some suggestions to help you with this challenge:

Learn from your family, and prepare for your future family. With all of our imperfections, we cannot have perfect families now. But you can learn from your family’s strengths and weaknesses. Decide now what kind of family you want when you get married. Look forward to and prepare for an eternal marriage by making the right choices today.

Live the gospel. Do all you can to make your home a place where the Spirit can dwell. One way to do that is by honoring your parents. Even though they are divorced, they are still your parents—they gave you the gift of life—and they deserve your love.

As you try to live the gospel, the Holy

■ **All families have challenges; all are welcome at church.**

■ **Set a goal to marry in the temple one day.**

■ **Live the gospel so you can have all of its blessings.**

■ **Learn from your family and love them.**

■ **Be hopeful and try to grow closer to the Lord through this trial.**

Ghost will comfort you, and the Atonement will strengthen you. The Savior atoned so we can have every blessing available to us if we are righteous. That includes the blessing of eternal families.

Your parents’ divorce won’t determine your eternal future. Your personal worthiness does. Elder Richard G. Scott of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles taught: “[The Lord] will make possible all you qualify in worthiness to receive. Do not be discouraged. Living a pattern of life as close as possible to the ideal will provide much happiness, great satisfaction, and impressive growth while here on earth regardless of your current life circumstances” (“First Things First,” *Ensign*, May 2001, 7).

Be hopeful. When you have family problems, it is easy to feel sad. But remember that this challenge, like any trial, can teach you some important lessons and help you grow spiritually and emotionally. You can feel hope



READERS

as you pray and plan for the day when your future children can enjoy the blessings of an eternal family.

The Lord designed the family for our benefit. Our families can help strengthen and guide us. Learn to love and appreciate your family. The Lord loves your family—with its unique challenges and gifts. Your experiences with them will teach you much that will benefit you not only in this life but in the eternities to come. **NE**



My parents were divorced for several years and thankfully got married again, but during that time I felt much the way you described in

your question. I prayed to Heavenly Father for strength and comfort. Through this experience I've learned to turn to and trust Heavenly Father, for He knows what is best. I've also learned to pray with an open heart when I have troubles and questions. When I finish praying I read my scriptures, for I might come to a chapter

with the answer I need. When you have those feelings of alienation, try reading the scriptures and praying for guidance.

Marie P., 13, Arizona



I also had that same feeling when my parents separated, but I overcame it. Just think that no matter what happens, Jesus is there to comfort you. He's always there to guide us to the right path and make us feel that we are loved. When you feel that, you will feel

with the answer I need. When you have those feelings of alienation, try reading the scriptures and praying for guidance.

great about being a member of the Church. Think of what Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ want you to be, and by that you can be strong.

Robert S., 15, Philippines



One of the ways to deal with these feelings is with the help of Church leaders and friends. Your leaders can help you spiritually, and your friends can help you understand

that this isn't the end of the world but rather an incentive to try and help your future family be more united. It is good to know that everything has a purpose in life and that God has an eternal love for us.

Juan B., 17, Brazil

Despite the trials that your family and parents have faced, remember that you will be accountable for your own actions in life, not those of your parents. Find comfort in knowing that one day you can get married in the temple. Don't feel like an outcast, but instead feel proud to be a member of the true Church. If you can't set aside your feelings of alienation, read Doctrine and Covenants 68:6.

Judith O., 14, Maryland



Let not your parents' divorce discourage you or make you feel like a stranger in the Church, whether your family is sealed in the temple or not.

The most important thing you should

do is to keep the faith and avoid the factors that led to the divorce of your parents so that you can be sealed in the holy temple.

Alexander H., 20, Nigeria

I grew up with divorced parents. My father was in a different branch than us, and my mother could



T**o you who have experienced divorce: Don't let disappointment or a sense of failure color your perception of marriage or of life. Do not lose faith in marriage or allow bitterness to canker your soul and destroy you or those you love or have loved. . . .**

"May God bless each of us to treat one another as befits one who refers to himself as a Latter-day Saint. May there be none among us who are made to feel as 'strangers and foreigners,' but may we all feel as 'fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God' (Ephesians 2:19)."

—President Howard W. Hunter (1907–95), "The Church Is for All People," *Ensign*, June 1989, 77.

not attend church because of her work schedule. My sister and I came to church alone. This was difficult, and it felt odd, but we continued to come. If you will hold to your testimony and keep the commandments, your life will be blessed. If you pray and seek to keep the Spirit in your heart, you will be able to overcome the trials in this life. In the end, you will be rewarded.

Jess D., 18, Nevada



The feeling of not belonging within the Church is not of God since His Church is for all His children who believe in it, notwithstanding their situation. Exclusion has no place in

the Church because everybody is accepted. It isn't easy to face a family situation like this, but the gospel offers hope and a positive perspective for each situation that we confront. Set worthy goals now, and begin to prepare yourself for when you create your own family and can establish eternal bonds.

Ixchel C., 23, Mexico

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

NEXT QUESTION

"How can I strengthen my testimony to make sure I stay true to the gospel?"

SEND US YOUR ANSWER, along with your name, birth date, ward and stake, and photograph (including your parent's written permission to print the photo, if you are under 18) to:

New Era, Q&A, 1/07

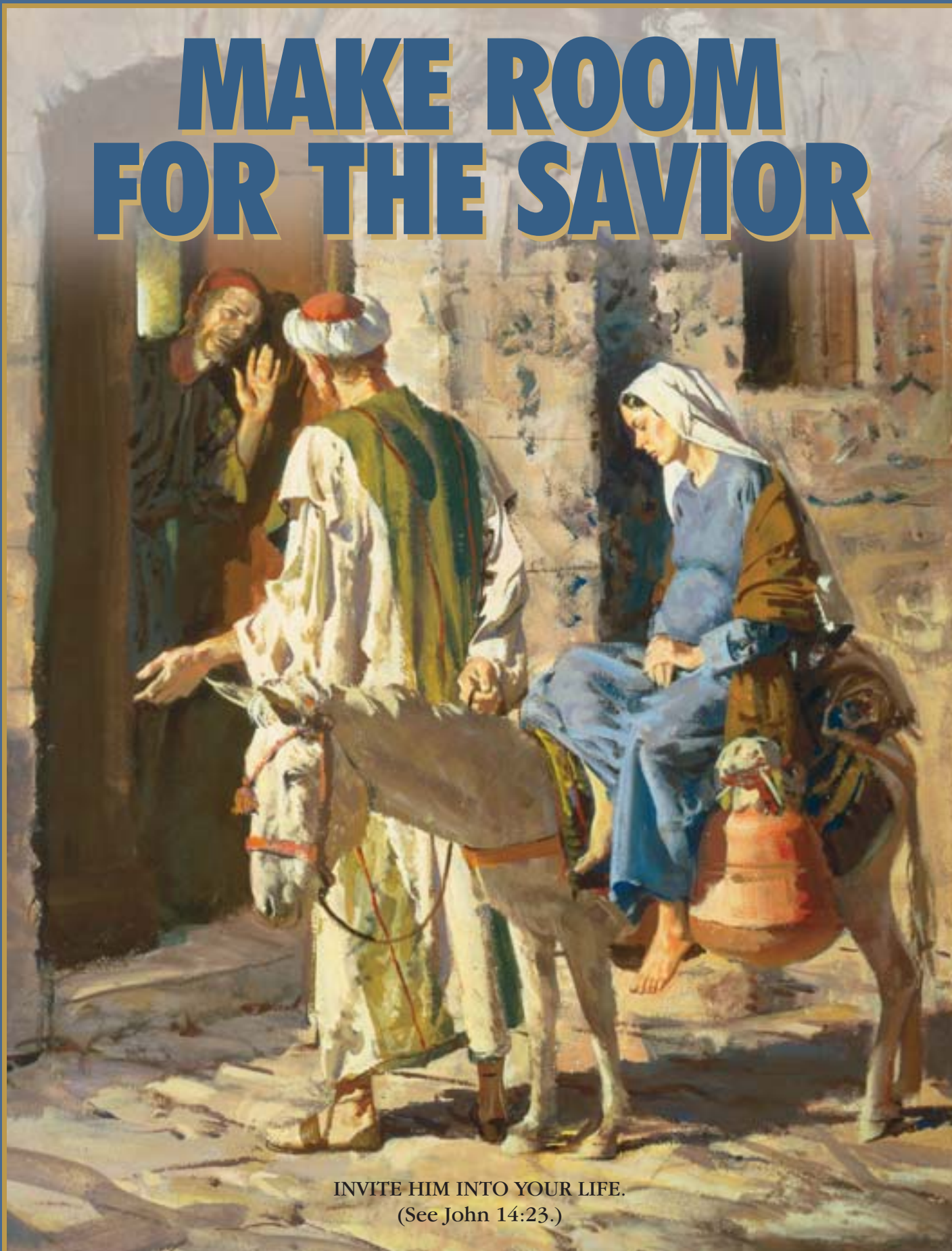
50 E. North Temple St., Rm. 2420

Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3220, USA

Or e-mail: newera@ldschurch.org

Please respond by January 15, 2007.

MAKE ROOM FOR THE SAVIOR



INVITE HIM INTO YOUR LIFE.
(See John 14:23.)



Sharing the Joy

BY CONSUELO CONESA LEONE

It was 1963, and I was serving as a full-time missionary in the Argentina North Mission. Ten elders and my companion and I served in three small branches in Mendoza.


December arrived and with it Christmas! It was my first Christmas in the mission field. We had great hopes as we all made our plans for Christmas Eve. The elders hired a man to drive us around in his four-wheeled cart, pulled by two horses. We planned to stop on street corners where lots of people would be rushing by to make their last-minute purchases.

When it was time to leave, the 12 of us climbed into the cart and sat with our feet hanging over the sides and back. The driver slowly guided the cart. We stopped every four or five blocks at the corners we had chosen. Our group then got out and formed a semicircle, sisters in front and elders behind. We opened our hymnbooks and let our voices fill the night air, time and again, with Christmas carols.

“Joy to the world, the Lord is come!” Men and women, teenagers and children, stopped to listen, caught up in the spirit of Christmas. Many of them looked surprised, as if they were remembering the real event they were getting ready to celebrate.

When the cart started to head for another stop, we noticed that many of the listeners were following us. Each time there were more and more. Through my tears, I could see their smiling faces. What joy we felt! We received many referrals and contacts, as we had hoped we would.

The crowd asked us to sing “Joy to the World” (*Hymns*, no. 201) again.



As we sang they cried, touched
by the Spirit on that unforgettable
Christmas Eve.

After more than 40 years, my
heart still overflows with gratitude
as I remember my first Christmas
as a missionary. I thank my Heavenly
Father for the gift of His Son. And I
thank Him for the knowledge that there
is indeed “joy to the world,” for “the
Lord is come!” **NE**

YOUR BEST GIFT

We'd like to hear about the best Christmas gift
you've ever given or received. What was the gift,
and why was it so special? Write to us at:

New Era, Best Christmas Gift

50 E. North Temple St., Rm. 2420

Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3220, USA

Or e-mail: newera@ldschurch.org

A WATCH, SOME BUTTONS, AND JOSEPH'S CLOAK



Items from a recent exhibit at the Museum of Church History and Art give us a glimpse into Joseph Smith's everyday life and that of his family.

BY SALLY JOHNSON ODEKIRK

Church Magazines

A gold watch, a cloak, rusty farm tools, and slate pencils from a bygone era. These common items from the 1800s are meaningful because they come from the daily life of Joseph Smith.

Because he lived 200 years ago, looking at artifacts from the Prophet's life helps us understand him better. Makenzie Head, 13, from Cedar Hills, Utah, visited the Museum of Church History and Art to see these items. She wrote that viewing artifacts from the Prophet Joseph's life "has really given me a better understanding of how he lived and the different things he had during his life that are so different from what we have now. What also amazed me were the many things that were actually used by the Prophet. It definitely strengthened my testimony of him."

Following are some photos of the artifacts that were on display or are stored at the Church museum.

The caption information comes from Mark Staker, museum curator.

Left: A replica of the gold plates that was on display at the museum. Martin Harris, one of the Three Witnesses, said three silver rings held the plates together so they could open like a book. Below: These buttons and clasps were found during an archaeological investigation at the Smith family's log home site in Palmyra, New York.



Above: A false shirtfront, made by Lucy Mack Smith for her son Joseph in 1841. This popular men's clothing element, known as a bosom, was typically worn to hide buttons or seams or to provide decoration. Left: Joseph Smith owned this gold watch but gave it to pay for legal services.



Above: This cradle was made around 1805 and is similar to what Joseph Smith's family would have used.

Right: These nails and horseshoe were found at the Joseph Smith log home site. The round metal piece attached to the handle of a scythe. As a boy Joseph Smith used a scythe to cut grain. Below: A stone fragment from the Nauvoo Temple.

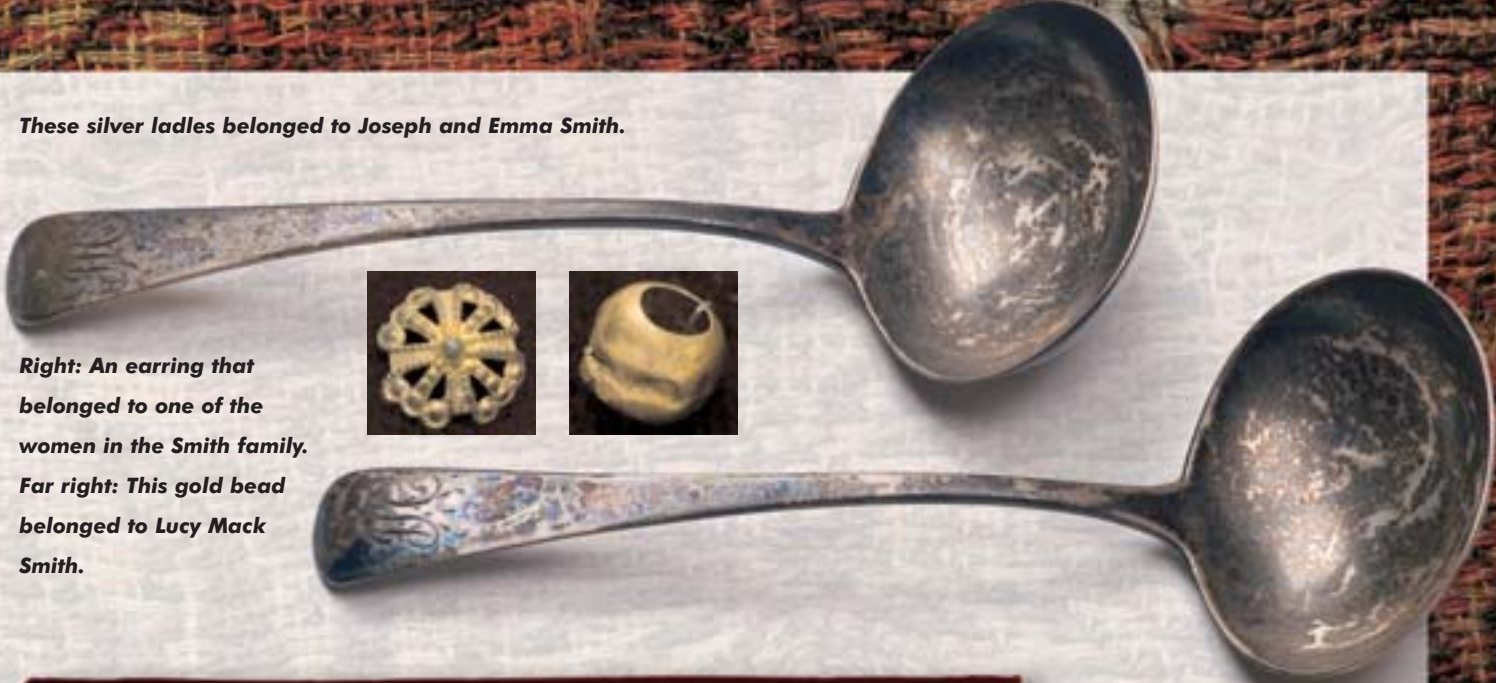


Below: Recovering from leg surgery, Joseph used a crutch like this.



Far left: These slate pencils were likely used as Joseph Smith's parents taught him to read, write, and solve math problems at home. Above: This first edition Book of Mormon was a gift from Joseph Smith to Martin Harris. It is open to the testimony of the Three Witnesses. Right: The Prophet wore this cloak as lieutenant general of the Nauvoo Legion.

These silver ladles belonged to Joseph and Emma Smith.



Right: An earring that belonged to one of the women in the Smith family.



Far right: This gold bead belonged to Lucy Mack Smith.



Left: These surgical instruments are similar to the ones used when Joseph Smith was young. He had an infection that killed a portion of his leg bone. A doctor recommended amputating his leg, but young Joseph and his mother refused.

Right: This issue of the Nauvoo Neighbor, published after Joseph and Hyrum Smith were martyred, was printed to share the details of their deaths with a general audience. Below: After the Prophet's death, locks of his hair were given to some of his friends. It was common in the mid-1800s to share locks of hair as a way to remember loved ones who had died.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF EARRING, BEAD, HAIR, AND SLATE COURTESY OF MUSEUM OF CHURCH HISTORY AND ART; PHOTOGRAPHS OF SURGICAL TOOLS AND CRUTCH BY CRAIG DIMOND; CLOAK: GIFT OF VIENNA JACOUES; SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS: GIFT OF ROLLA BURNS WILLIAMS; LOCK OF HAIR: GIFT OF CLARA W. BEEBE AND A. E. HYDE, JR.



FINDING CHRISTMAS IN SENDAI

BY DWAYNE VANCE

Shoveling snow with a frying pan was just the beginning.

I was a missionary serving in Sendai, Japan. Early in December we had a heavy snow, which was unusual for Sendai's mild climate. As my companion and I were leaving the apartment that morning, we noticed our neighbors trying to clear the snow from the parking lot so the cars could get out. No one had snow shovels, so housewives and kids were trying to remove the deep blanket of snow with whatever they had. My companion and I armed ourselves with frying pans and dustpans and joined our neighbors. I had never had so much fun clearing snow before. When the parking lot was cleared, we poured some hot water on our bike chains and gears to unfreeze them and went tracting.

As we tracted that day and throughout the month of December, I noticed my companion making notes as we left some of the houses. We were having a terrible month with very few teaching opportunities, and I finally asked him what he was doing. He replied that he was simply making a list of people who were nice to us, even if they weren't interested in our message.

As Christmas got closer, my companion and I really started to catch the spirit of the season. We went to the nearby canal bank where some evergreens were growing and cut off a branch. In our apartment, we stuck the branch in a two-liter glass bottle and hung Japanese coins on the branch as ornaments. We strung Styrofoam packing peanuts on dental floss and wrapped them around the

branch. Since the branch was too flimsy to support our tinfoil star, we suspended it from the ceiling with dental floss so it hung about two inches above the top of the branch. We decorated our wall with Christmas cards we received from home. Altogether, we thought the apartment looked very festive.

The streets became snow packed, with two ruts where the cars would drive. We would ride our bikes down the outside



No one had snow shovels, so people were trying to remove the deep blanket of snow with whatever they had. My companion and I armed ourselves with frying pans and dustpans to help. I had never had so much fun clearing snow.



Using the list of people who had been nice to us, we delivered plates of cookies and gift-wrapped copies of the Book of Mormon to them. We explained that on Christmas it's customary to give presents to your neighbors.

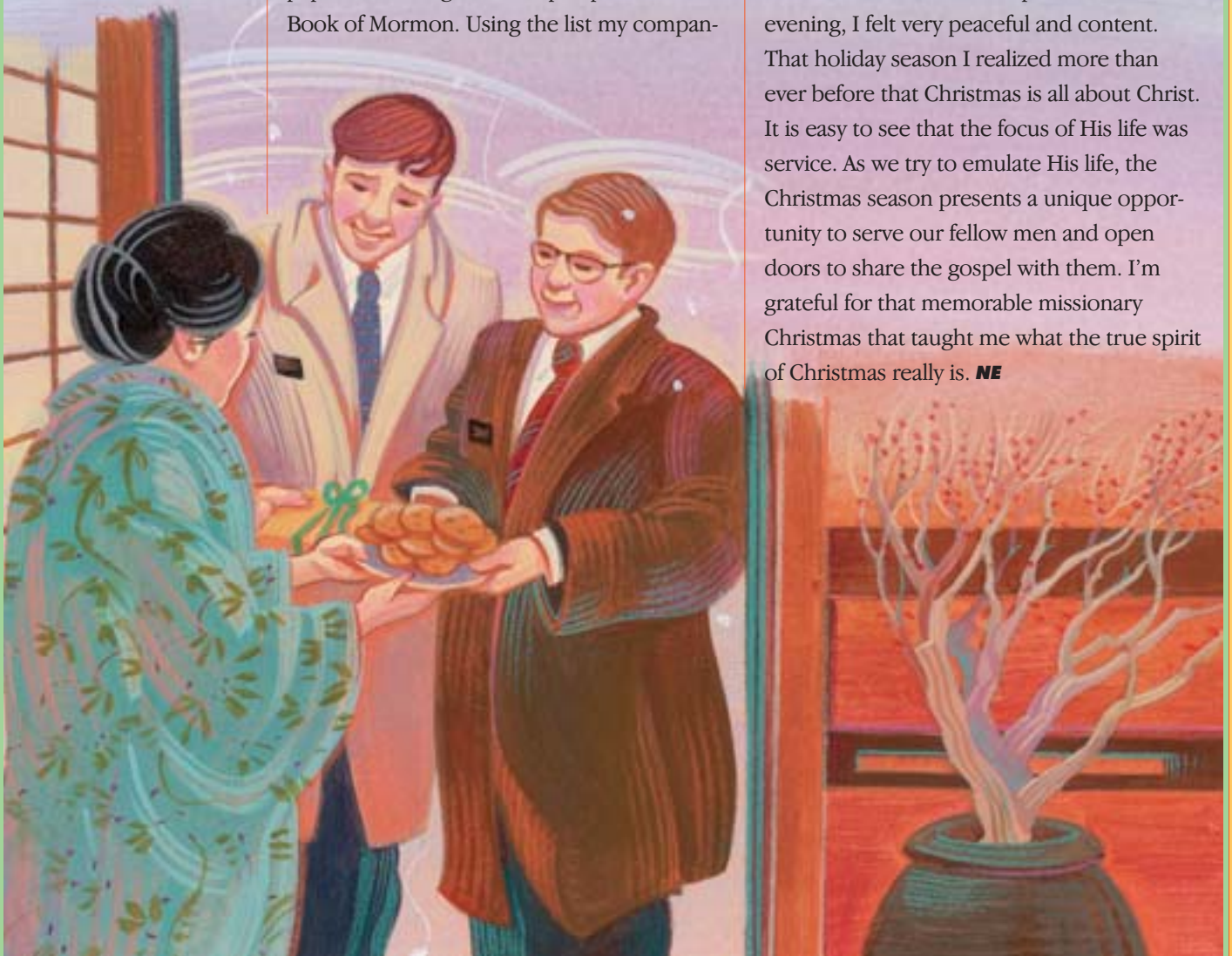
rut in the road. When a car approached, we'd climb up onto the snowbank with our bikes to let it pass. As we rode, we would sing Christmas carols at the top of our lungs, which was quite a feat in the cold winter air as we panted in our hurry to reach our destination.

On Christmas morning, my companion woke up early and made a racket in the kitchen. I was looking forward to a big breakfast, but when I finally wandered into the kitchen, all I got was a piece of toast. Instead of a Christmas breakfast, my companion had baked chocolate chip cookies to take around the neighborhood.

After we opened the presents we had received from home, we used the wrapping paper from our gifts to wrap copies of the Book of Mormon. Using the list my compan-

ion had made of people who were nice to us, we delivered plates of cookies and gift-wrapped copies of the Book of Mormon to the people on the list. Many of them were surprised to see us again, but we explained that on Christmas it's customary to give presents to your neighbors. We told them that the present we gave them was precious because it contained the word of God and His Son, Jesus Christ, whose birth is commemorated at Christmastime. Most of them seemed touched that we would return to their home with a gift, and many scrambled back inside and returned with bags of oranges or persimmons to give to us. Many of the people we visited that day accepted the discussions as a result of our service.

As we returned to our apartment that evening, I felt very peaceful and content. That holiday season I realized more than ever before that Christmas is all about Christ. It is easy to see that the focus of His life was service. As we try to emulate His life, the Christmas season presents a unique opportunity to serve our fellow men and open doors to share the gospel with them. I'm grateful for that memorable missionary Christmas that taught me what the true spirit of Christmas really is. **NE**



Rich in Spirit

The Savior said, “Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven,” not on earth, where “moth and rust doth corrupt” (Matthew 6:19–20). Materialism and selfishness are easy traps to fall into. Here are some ideas from the Clinton Ward, Morristown New Jersey Stake, on how to build up your heavenly treasure and avoid making worldly things too important in your life. “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” (Matthew 6:21).

- ❖ Put the Lord first in all things. When you do, the cares of the world won’t seem as important.

- ❖ Lose yourself in helping those in need. Your life will mean more if you serve others.

- ❖ Pay an honest and full tithe, and give a generous fast offering. You can also give to the Church’s humanitarian efforts.

- ❖ Participate in Church welfare projects or ward and stake service projects when you have the opportunity.

- ❖ Trade selfish activities for righteous ones. Instead of shopping or listening to music for hours, do your homework, read your scriptures, or make dinner for your family.

- ❖ Remember that when you die, only the things that really matter go with you—like your testimony and your character.

Possessions stay behind.

- ❖ Keep the commandments. If you have the Spirit

with you, it will be easier to resist the temptations of the world.

- ❖ Sacrifice. Make an effort to give up something you really want, to give someone else something he or she really needs. You’ll feel great.

- ❖ Eliminate envy. Worldly possessions or good looks may seem to make others happy, but true happiness and peace come only from obedience to God’s commandments.

- ❖ Stay out of debt. If you need something, save the money you need to buy it before you make your purchase.

- ❖ Love people instead of things. If your little brother breaks your favorite CD, think about which you love more—your brother or the CD—before you react.

Family is eternal, and music gets old quickly.

- ❖ For a week, give up entertainment such as television, music, movies, and Internet surfing.

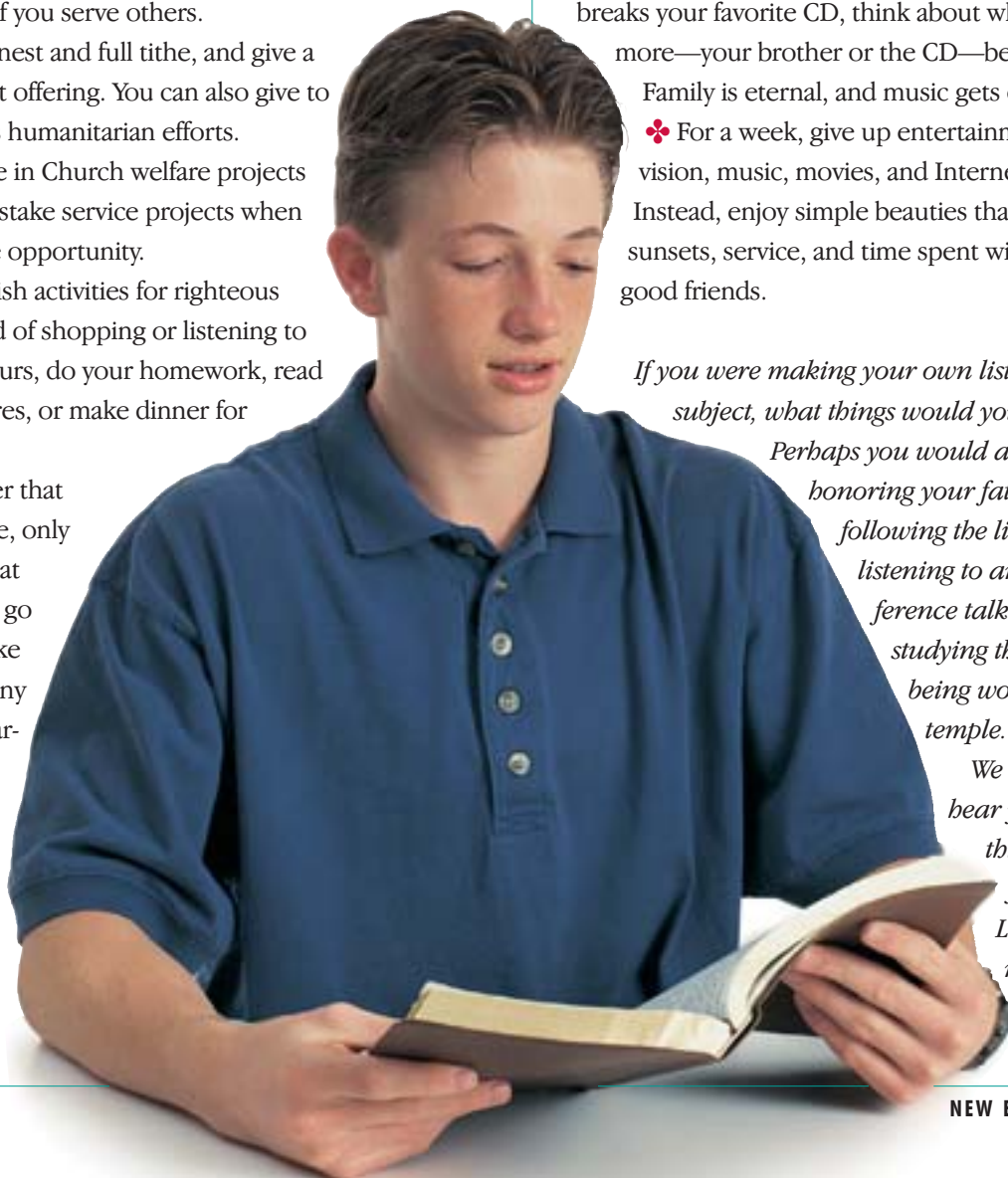
Instead, enjoy simple beauties that are free, like sunsets, service, and time spent with family and good friends.

If you were making your own list of ideas on this subject, what things would you include?

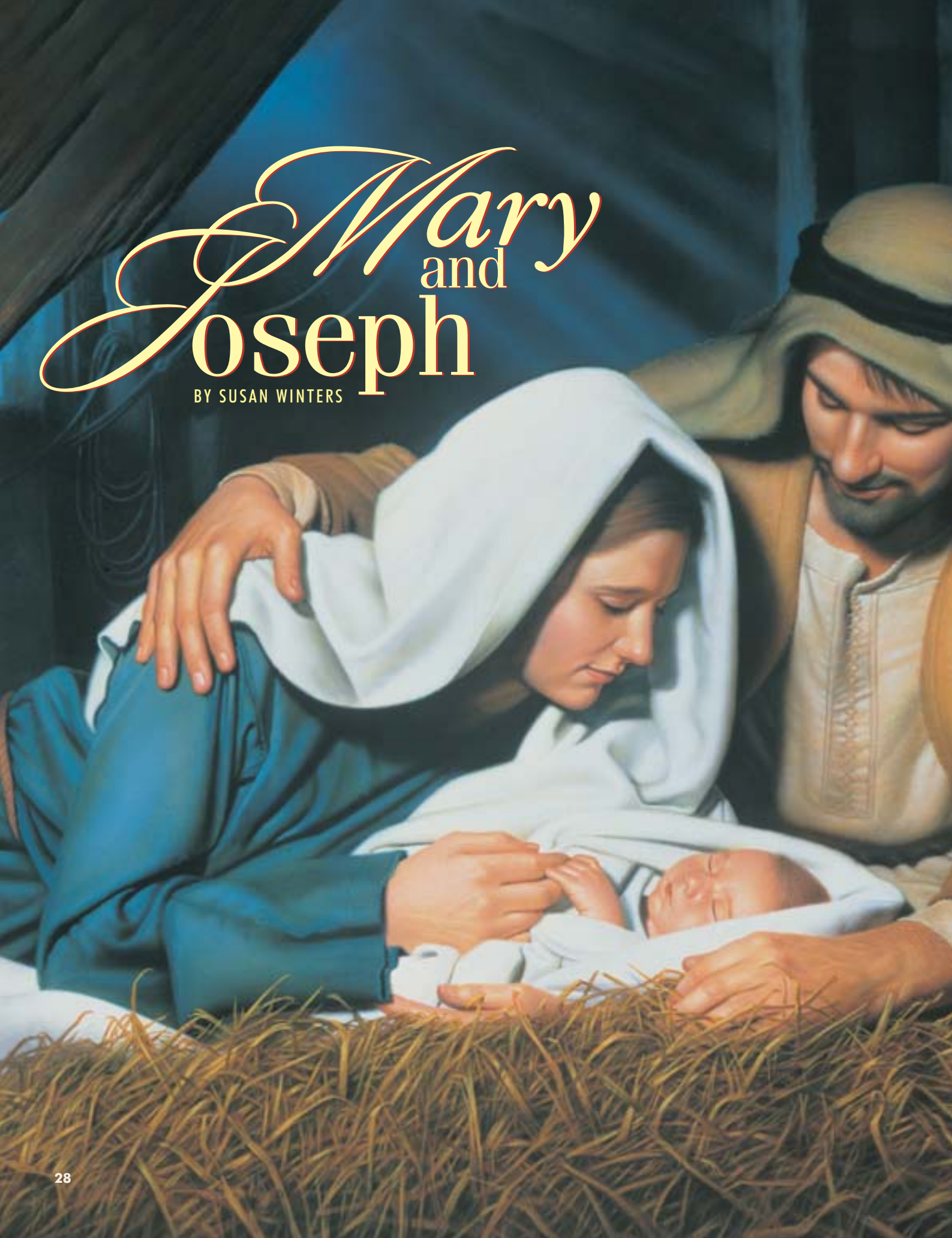
Perhaps you would add things like honoring your father and mother, following the living prophets by listening to and studying conference talks, prayerfully studying the scriptures, or being worthy to enter the temple.

We would love to bear your ideas on this or other subjects for Idea List. Contact us at newera@ldschurch.org.

NE

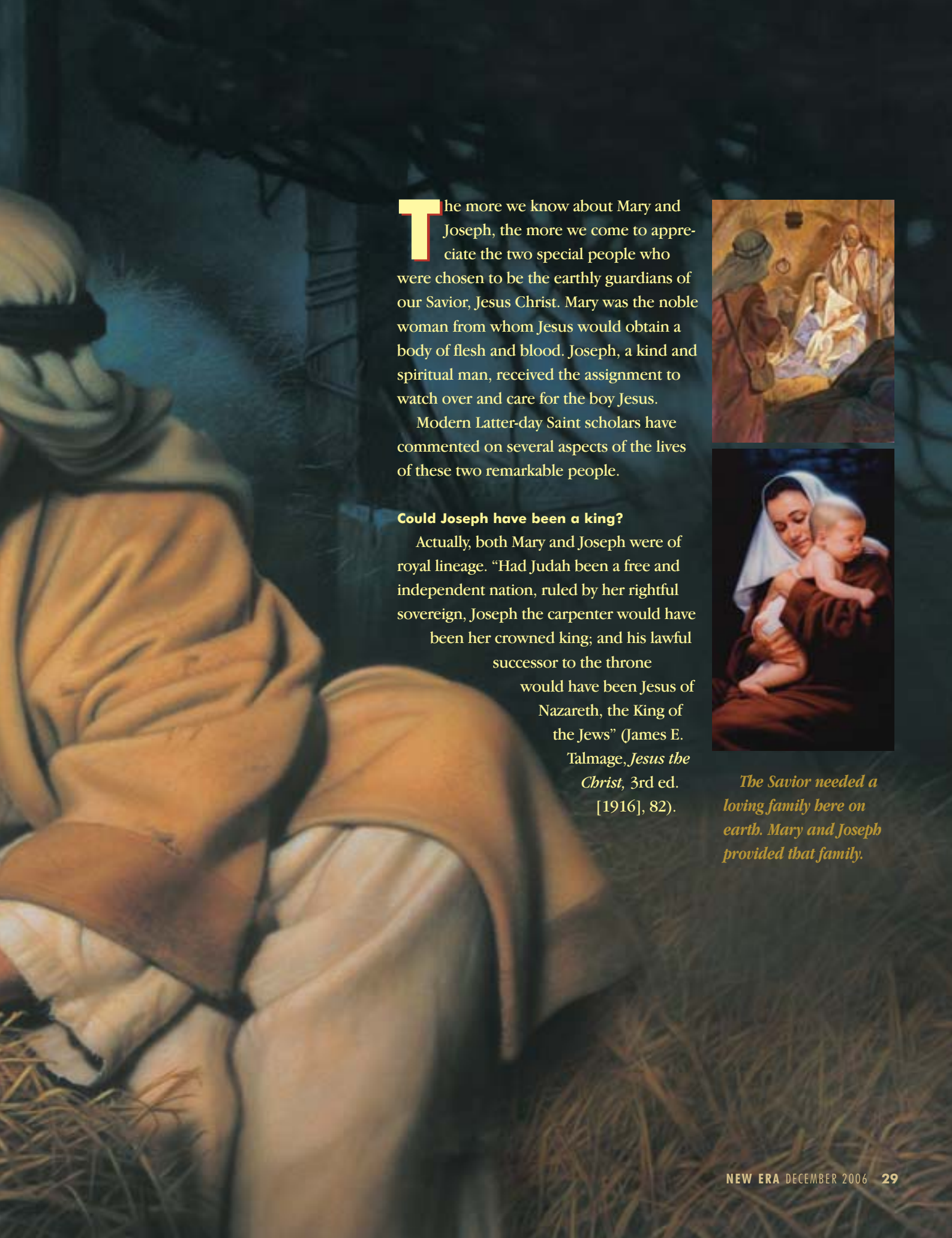


PHOTOGRAPHY BY CRAIG DIMOND



Mary and Joseph

BY SUSAN WINTERS



The more we know about Mary and Joseph, the more we come to appreciate the two special people who were chosen to be the earthly guardians of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Mary was the noble woman from whom Jesus would obtain a body of flesh and blood. Joseph, a kind and spiritual man, received the assignment to watch over and care for the boy Jesus.

Modern Latter-day Saint scholars have commented on several aspects of the lives of these two remarkable people.

Could Joseph have been a king?

Actually, both Mary and Joseph were of royal lineage. “Had Judah been a free and independent nation, ruled by her rightful sovereign, Joseph the carpenter would have been her crowned king; and his lawful successor to the throne

would have been Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews” (James E. Talmage, *Jesus the Christ*, 3rd ed. [1916], 82).



The Savior needed a loving family here on earth. Mary and Joseph provided that family.



PAGES 28-29, LEFT: HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED WONDERFUL © SIMON DEWEY—MAY NOT BE COPIED; TOP RIGHT: SHEPHERD AT NATIVITY © ROBERT BARRETT; CENTER RIGHT: MY SON, MY SAVIOR © SIMON DEWEY
PAGES 30-31, LEFT: IN FAVOR WITH GOD © SIMON DEWEY—MAY NOT BE COPIED; RIGHT: AND THE CHILD GREW AND WAXED STRONG IN SPIRIT © WALTER RANE, COURTESY OF MUSEUM OF CHURCH HISTORY AND ART; PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTINA SMITH

What were the names of Joseph’s and Mary’s fathers?

Mary’s ancestors were the same as Joseph’s. She was a descendant through the royal line of King David. “Matthew says Joseph was a son of Jacob, and Luke says that he was a son of Heli. It appears, however, that Jacob and Heli were brothers and that Heli was the father of Joseph and Jacob the father of Mary, making Joseph and Mary first cousins with the same ancestral lines” (Bruce R. McConkie, *The Mortal Messiah*, 4 vols. [1979–81], 1:316).

What does it mean that Joseph and Mary were espoused?

“Espousal among the Hebrews was significantly more binding than are our engagements today. It was entered into by written agreement and was considered the formal beginning of the marriage itself. While the couple might not actually live together for as much as a year after the betrothal—a time designed to allow the bride to prepare her dowry—the espousal was as legally binding as the formal marriage” (Gerald N. Lund, in *Celebration of Christmas: A Collection of Stories, Poems, Essays, and Traditions by Favorite LDS Authors* [1988], 31).

How old were Mary and Joseph at the time of their marriage?

“No hint of the age of either Mary or Joseph is given in the scriptural text, but from existing sources we can make some educated guesses. . . . Marriage at earlier ages than to which we are accustomed was the general rule. . . . For a girl, probably the most common age of marriage was fifteen or sixteen. Sometimes it was later, sometimes earlier, but



it is likely that Mary was around sixteen and Joseph, her espoused husband, only two or three years older than that” (Gerald N. Lund, in *Celebration of Christmas*, 31).

Why was it necessary for Jesus to have a mortal mother?

“As the Eternal Father’s Only Begotten Son in the flesh, Christ possessed the inborn power to withstand death indefinitely, and this just as naturally as that He, being the offspring of a mortal mother, should derive the ability to die. Jesus Christ inherited through the

The Christ child learned about his Heavenly Father at his mother’s knee. Joseph loved the child and was his protector.



Though Mary was the only earthly parent of Jesus, Joseph was regarded as his father and Jesus treated him as such, being “subject unto” him (see Bible Dictionary, “Joseph,” 71).

operation of the natural law of heredity the physical, mental, and spiritual attributes of His parents—

the Father immortal and glorified, the mother human. He could not be slain until His hour had come, the hour in which He would voluntarily give up His life, and permit His own decease as an act of will. . . . Consider for example this: ‘Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again’ (John 10:17–18)” (James E. Talmage, *The Vitality of Mormonism* [1919], 57).

How many brothers and sisters did Jesus have?

In the New Testament, it mentions the brothers and sisters of Jesus. “Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us?” (Mark 6:3; see also Matthew 13:55–56).

“We don’t know how many other children there were in the family, but the New Testament names four boys and lists some sisters. The Greek manuscripts are helpful here. Matthew speaks of ‘all’ (Greek: *pantai*) his sisters (Matthew 13:56), suggesting more than two. The Greek term *bai adelphia* (the sisters) is used in the manuscripts, signifying a plurality—that is, three or more sisters. If the record had intended to convey that there were only two sisters, it is probable that the word *pantai* would not have been employed, but instead the word *amphoterai*, meaning ‘both,’ would have been used” (Robert J. Matthews, *Selected Writings of Robert J. Matthews* [1999], 232–3).

Jesus could have had at least seven siblings.





Was Mary widowed?

“The last mention of Joseph is at the Passover in Jerusalem when Jesus was twelve years of age. At the wedding feast at Cana, when Jesus was about thirty, specific mention is made that Mary and Jesus were present, but no mention is made of Joseph (see John 2:1–10). Finally at the time of the Crucifixion, Mary is said to have stood at the cross with other women, but again no mention is made of Joseph. At this time Jesus gave his mother to the care of his beloved disciple, John (see John 19:25–27). The record of these events suggests that Mary was widowed sometime after Jesus was twelve years old and before he began his ministry” (Robert J. Matthews, *Selected Writings*, 233).

“There is a poignancy in the prospect of Mary’s widowhood with a family of children, all younger than Jesus. If this assumption is correct, it may be that Jesus was confronted with the responsibility in early life of providing for a widowed mother and several younger brothers and sisters. This makes most meaningful the scriptural statements that say the Lord is especially mindful of the widow and is a father to the fatherless (see Psalm 68:5; 146:9; James 1:27)” (Robert J. Matthews, *Selected Writings*, 233–4). **NE**





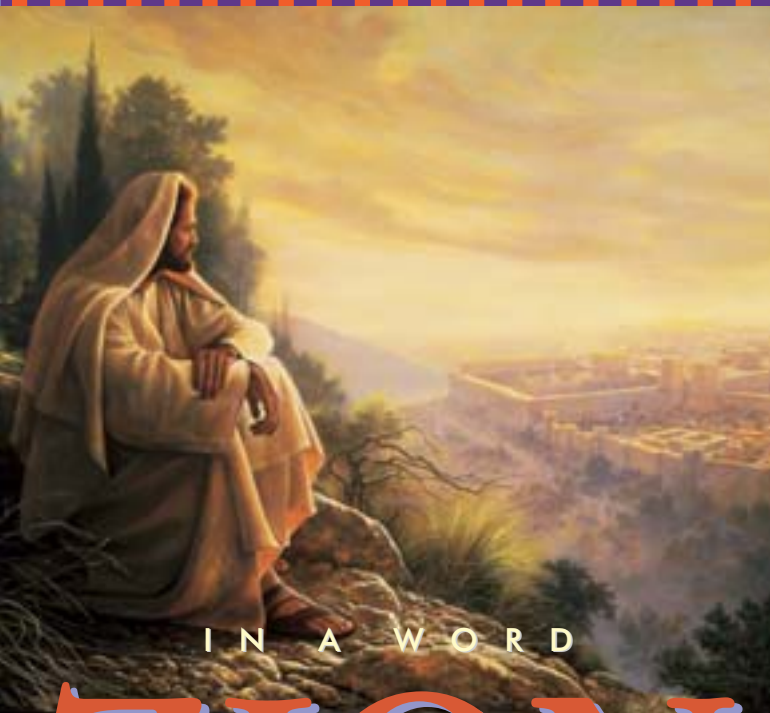
“ AS WE COMMEMORATE THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST TWO MILLENNIA AGO, WE OFFER OUR TESTIMONY OF THE REALITY OF HIS MATCHLESS LIFE AND THE INFINITE VIRTUE OF HIS GREAT ATONING SACRIFICE. NONE OTHER HAS HAD SO PROFOUND AN INFLUENCE UPON ALL WHO HAVE LIVED AND WILL YET LIVE UPON THE EARTH. ”

“The Living Christ: The Testimony of the Apostles,” Ensign, Apr. 2000, 2



SERVING IN SOUTH AFRICA

Earlier this year, the youth of the Roodepoort South Africa Stake showed their love and compassion for their community with acts of service. The Krugersdorp Second Ward visited an old-age home, handing out packets of sweets; the Roodepoort Ward cleaned up an area next to a main road; the Munsieville Branch played games and gave out food and cold drinks to the needy children in their community; the Randfontein Branch held a car wash; and the Rustenburg Ward visited the pediatric ward of a local hospital.



IN A WORD

ZION

The Lord commands us to “establish the cause of Zion” (D&C 6:6). What is Zion? One definition is “the pure in heart” (D&C 97:21). The word *Zion* is often used in this way to refer to the Lord’s people or to the Church and its stakes (see D&C 82:14). We are encouraged to build up Zion wherever we live.

Zion can also refer to specific locations:

- ❖ The city of Enoch (see Moses 7:18–21).
- ❖ The ancient city of Jerusalem (see 1 Kings 8:1).
- ❖ The New Jerusalem, which will be built in Jackson County, Missouri (see D&C 57:1–3).

WRITE AWAY!

They say this is the most wonderful time of the year. Part of the reason it’s so wonderful is all the giving and receiving that go on during the holidays. Sometimes the gifts are much more than mere presents. We’d like to hear about

the best gift you’ve ever given or received. What was the gift, and why was it so special?

Write to us at:

New Era,
Best Christmas Gift
50 E. North Temple St., Rm. 2420
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3220, USA
Or e-mail: newera@ldschurch.org

Give It Up

Since December is a special month for giving, think about giving quorum or class members a personal note letting them know that you love and appreciate them and that you value the things they contribute to your group. Write things to each of them that are sincere and specific. Then you could ask them if they have any suggestions to help you become a better listener and leader.

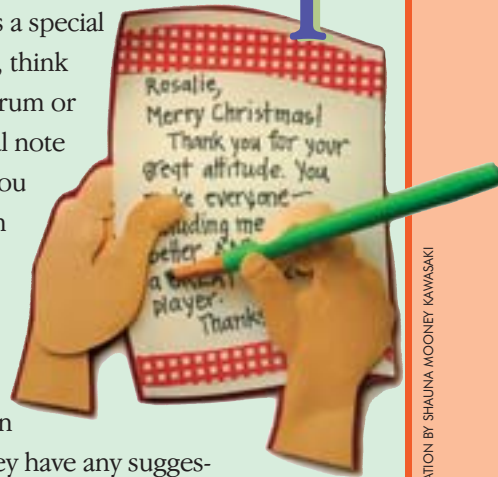


ILLUSTRATION BY SHAUNA MOONEY KAWASAKI



4,480 CHAPTERS

Accepting President Hinckley’s challenge to read the Book of Mormon by the end of last year, the young women of the Fayetteville First Ward in Arkansas decided to mark their progress with quilting squares. The young women sewed the squares together and created quilts to give away to a home for neglected and abused children.

Each square on every quilt represented 40 chapters read from the Book of Mormon. So with just a little math—7 quilts, each with 16 squares, each square representing 40 chapters—we have 4,480 chapters. “Not only were our testimonies increased,” says Linda Connor, the ward Young Women president, “we were able to serve others through this project.”

**BECAUSE OF THE
RESTORATION...**



BY MANDI ANDRE

The dictionary says the word restore means to “bring back into existence or . . . into a former or original state” (Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary, 11th ed. [2003], 1063). Many of the biblical prophets promised that in the last days God would restore the gospel one last time before the Savior’s Second Coming. In 1820 God began restoring the gospel through the Prophet Joseph Smith.

One day I began wondering how the Restoration affects my everyday life. Here’s what the Restoration did for me in just one average week.

Last Sunday my dad gave me a priesthood blessing. Because of the Restoration, I know he has been given the authority to act in the name of Jesus Christ. My dad can bless me whenever I am sick or need extra help.

On Monday I woke up for school and said my prayers. Because of the Restoration, I knew I was praying to a loving Heavenly Father and that I am His daughter, created in His image. I also read from the Book of Mormon. Because of the Restoration, I have another witness that Jesus Christ really lived. That night we had family home evening. Because of the Restoration, I am blessed with loving parents who teach me the truth.

On Tuesday I went to the temple my first time and performed baptisms for the dead. Because of the Restoration, I was able to help those who have died without the gospel to have eternal blessings.

On Wednesday I went to my closet and picked out something modest to wear. Because of the Restoration, I know that my body is sacred and that I need to be a good example to those who see me. I also have the guidance of living prophets and apostles, who have given me *For the Strength of Youth*, which contains guidelines to help me make righteous choices.

On Thursday I tried my best to live the gospel. Because of the Restoration, I have the gift of the Holy Ghost as my companion to help me always. I also have a bishop and Young Women leaders to watch over

me as special advisers. And because of the Restoration, I know about the Atonement so that when I make a mistake I can repent and be forgiven.

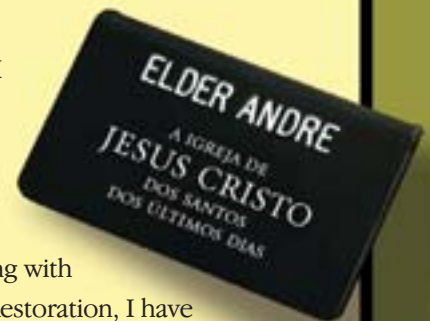
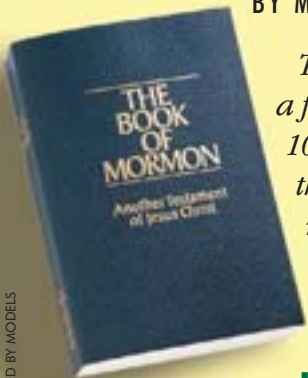
On Friday I enjoyed being with my friends. Because of the Restoration, I have friends who also want to live the gospel. These good friends are a big blessing in my life. I also have opportunities to share the gospel with my friends who are not members of the Church.

On Saturday I thought about my brother, Tyler, who is serving a mission in Brazil. I miss him very much, but because of the Restoration, I know what he is doing is right. I want to go on a mission someday too.

Today is Sunday again. Because of the Restoration, I took the sacrament and renewed my promises to follow Jesus Christ. I was reminded that I am a daughter of God and that His plan has been restored so I can one day return home to Him.

Because of the Restoration, I know the scriptures are true. I know that this is the restored Church of Jesus Christ. I know that living prophets are guiding us today. I know that through restored temple ordinances my family can be together forever.

Because of the Restoration, we are blessed every day of the week—and every day of our lives. **NE**





BY ELDER LYNN A. MICKELSEN
Of the Seventy

At this time of year my thoughts turn to the Savior and Joseph Smith, and I love to read about them in the scriptures. The most important gift I received for Christmas as a teenager was my triple combination: the Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants, and Pearl of Great Price. It was leather bound with a dedication in the flyleaf by my father. That gift was not important to me then. In fact, I was disappointed.

Since then that triple combination has become precious to me because it reminds me of the things I learned as a teenager about the Savior and His life. That triple combination went with me on my mission. It served me while I was a bishop. It became a precious possession to me and still is. I wore out the first binding, and it has been rebound.

I think the most significant scriptures are personal testimonies, like Joseph Smith's. I have never doubted from the first time I read it that Joseph Smith saw what he said he saw in the Sacred Grove.

I'm grateful Joseph prayed and had that sacred experience, the First Vision. We don't always receive visions or answers as powerful as Joseph's answer was, but our answers can be just as clear, whether they are ideas, answers to questions, or confirmations of decisions.

An Example of Prayer

I understand Joseph Smith's need to pray. I had always prayed before I went to bed at night. When I became a teenager I didn't stop believing, but I stopped taking the time to pray. One day that changed.

I had gone on a campout with some young men, and one of my good friends and I were in a tent together. I jumped into my sleeping bag, and I looked over to see my friend kneeling on his sleeping bag and praying. When he got into his sleeping bag, he said, "Lynn, don't you pray?"

I answered, "Not as much as I should." And I made up my mind then that no one

My casual approach to prayer changed one night on a campout. As I jumped into my sleeping bag, I looked over to see my friend praying. When he finished he said, "Lynn, don't you pray?"

"DON'T YOU
PRAY?"

would question again whether I prayed.

I also understand Joseph Smith's wanting to be alone as he prayed. On another occasion a few years later, I was in a similar situation, this time with a young man I didn't

know. I was nervous about praying in front of him, so I waited for him to go to bed so I could kneel and pray without him watching me.

But he wouldn't go to bed, so I finally knelt and prayed and got

into my sleeping bag. When

he got into bed a few minutes later, he said,

"Lynn, do you always pray like that?"

"Yes, I try to. If I ever hurry and get into bed

forgetting to pray, I get out of bed and kneel and pray."

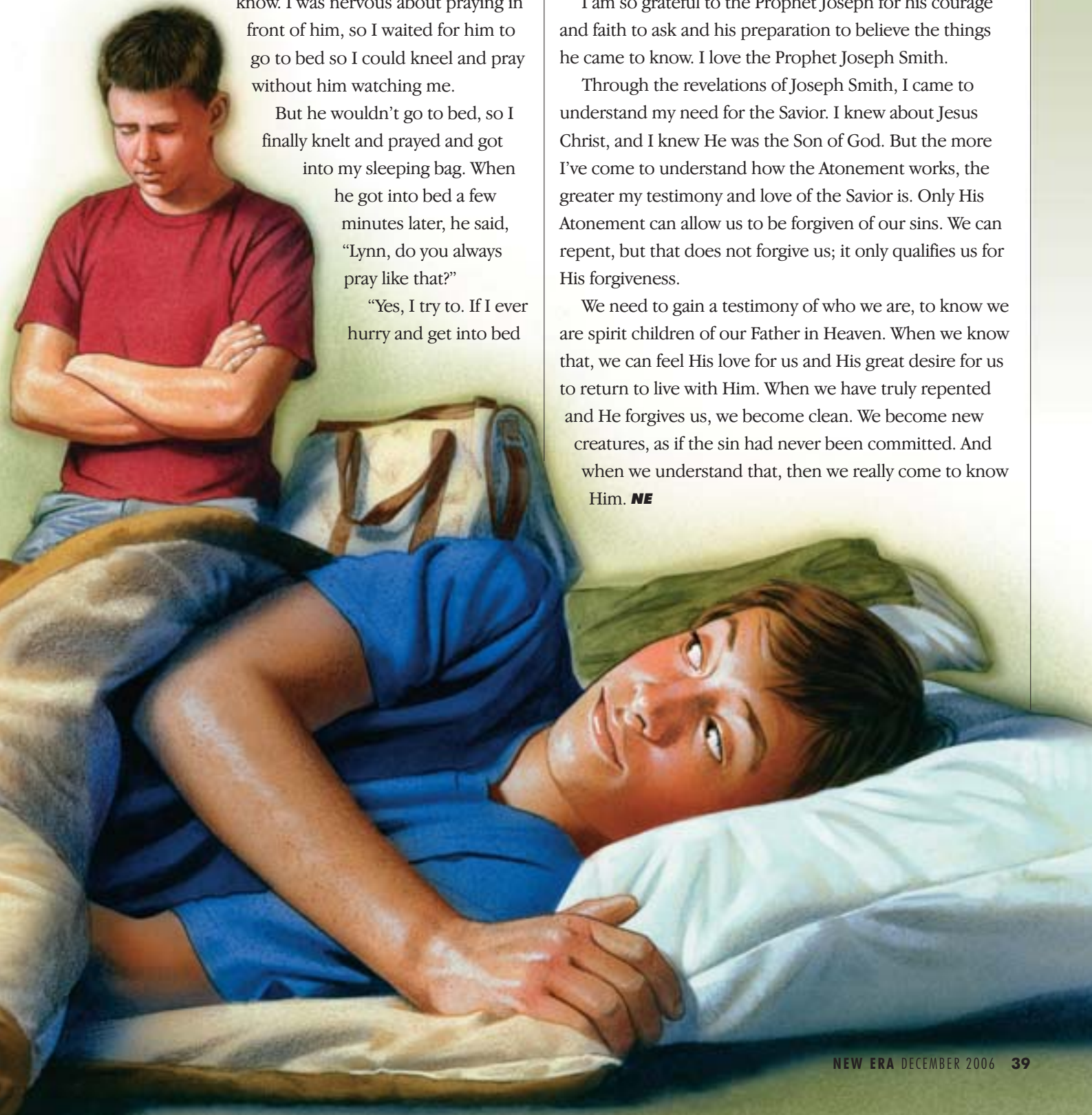
He said, "I should do that."

Knowing the Savior

I am so grateful to the Prophet Joseph for his courage and faith to ask and his preparation to believe the things he came to know. I love the Prophet Joseph Smith.

Through the revelations of Joseph Smith, I came to understand my need for the Savior. I knew about Jesus Christ, and I knew He was the Son of God. But the more I've come to understand how the Atonement works, the greater my testimony and love of the Savior is. Only His Atonement can allow us to be forgiven of our sins. We can repent, but that does not forgive us; it only qualifies us for His forgiveness.

We need to gain a testimony of who we are, to know we are spirit children of our Father in Heaven. When we know that, we can feel His love for us and His great desire for us to return to live with Him. When we have truly repented and He forgives us, we become clean. We become new creatures, as if the sin had never been committed. And when we understand that, then we really come to know Him. **NE**



SALT AND SNOW

BY JANESSA ROSE CLOWARD

Ring! Ring! sang my cell phone. “Yeah?” I answered. “You want to hit the library?” my friend Andrea asked.

I glanced up at the clock and then at the pile of homework on my desk. With finals lurking around the corner, I desperately needed a chance to study, and I couldn’t focus in my college apartment.

“Yeah, let’s go,” I said, gathering my books. I bundled myself in several layers before braving the frigid air and wading through four inches of fresh snow to Andrea’s car.

We set off for the library, grumbling about our mountains of homework. Just thinking about the next week made me nervous.

As we passed an intersection, I noticed an elderly woman shoveling snow from her sidewalks.

“Look at that!” I exclaimed. “Why is that little old lady shoveling snow all by herself?”

“We should turn around and help her,” Andrea suggested. Moments later, we pulled into her driveway.

“Can we help you with that?” Andrea asked, reaching for the shovel.

“Oh, no, I’m all right, but thank you,” she said in surprise.

“No, really,” I insisted. “At least let us finish for you. You must be freezing.”

She hesitated, but then gratefully consented to let us salt down the sidewalks.

We collected the salt and chatted with her as we sprinkled the sidewalks. The salt melted away the ice almost as quickly as our disgruntled moods.

After we finished, we went

inside to meet her husband, who was unable to shovel the snow because he was recovering from surgery. We enjoyed some eggnog, admired family photos, and told her about our families. Then out of the blue she stopped and smiled at us.

“I’m so glad you stopped by,” she confided. “It’s just so good to visit.”

We stayed with her for about an hour, then hugged her good-bye and continued our trek to the library.

“I don’t think she really needed someone to salt her sidewalks,” Andrea said as we drove away.

“No,” I said. “She needed a friend.”

As I glanced at my pile of books, I realized I had needed her, too. The stress I’d felt just an hour before was nearly gone, replaced by blissful relief.

I had been so focused on my tests that I couldn’t see how others struggled with

bigger problems like loneliness, growing older,

and even shoveling snow. I will

always be grateful for that reminder

to watch for opportunities

to serve.

NE

SCRIPTURE STUDY ON THE BUS

BY AUSTIN FULLMER

When I went on an overnight field trip with my school, I decided I would still have scripture study. I even invited three friends to join me. One was a member of the Church, but my other two friends were Baptist and had never read the Book of Mormon.

Although we had our scripture study in the back of a moving bus, I could feel the Spirit. Each of us picked out a few verses to share with the group. I chose many from the Bible but also some from the Book of Mormon and the Doctrine and Covenants.

After we finished, my friends asked to look at the Book of Mormon. I showed them the Articles of Faith as well and told them about Joseph Smith. I also took the time to look at their Bibles, which were a different version from the one we use.

I feel so blessed to know that we have both the Book of Mormon and the Bible. And I can't wait for the day when I will be able to share them both as a full-time missionary. **NE**

UNTO THE LEAST

BY RILEY M. LORIMER



I was determined to have a bad attitude as my mom picked my brother and me up from school and drove us downtown. It was Christmastime, and I was supposed to be shopping with my friends. Instead, I was headed to a homeless shelter in our city to help fulfill an assignment that our stake had been given to clean the shelter and serve food to the people there.

When we arrived, my mood darkened as I was assigned to clean out the industrial-size refrigerator, which had recently been left open and now had all sorts of mold growing inside. I rolled my eyes and sighed in disgust at the green mess before me. With rubber gloves up to my elbows, I started scrubbing halfheartedly.

As I worked, a small boy in worn clothes stepped out of the food line to watch my progress. He stood at the door and simply smiled at me. And then without a word, he walked

away. I was touched as I watched him go, and a scripture came to my mind: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matthew 25:40).

"How well would I clean if I were doing this for Christ?" I thought to myself. "How hard would I work for Him?"

A smile spread across my face, and I turned back to my task. And with new perspective, I scrubbed the fridge until it shined. **NE**

A BLESSING AWAY FROM HOME

BY KRISTEN KENNEDY

During my freshman year of college, I had an amazing experience with the priesthood. I was having the worst day possible—I had heard some bad news about a few friends from home and was waiting to hear more of the details. I was stressed with school and with

life in general. I needed comfort.

One of the girls in my dorm suggested that I ask for a priesthood blessing. I hadn't even thought of it because all my life my dad had been the one to give me blessings. I asked one of my good friends if he would give me a blessing, which he and another young man from my ward did. Afterward, I felt calm and peaceful. Things started to fall into place.

This experience helped me to see that the priesthood is the same wherever you go, and its power can help us no matter where we are. **NE**

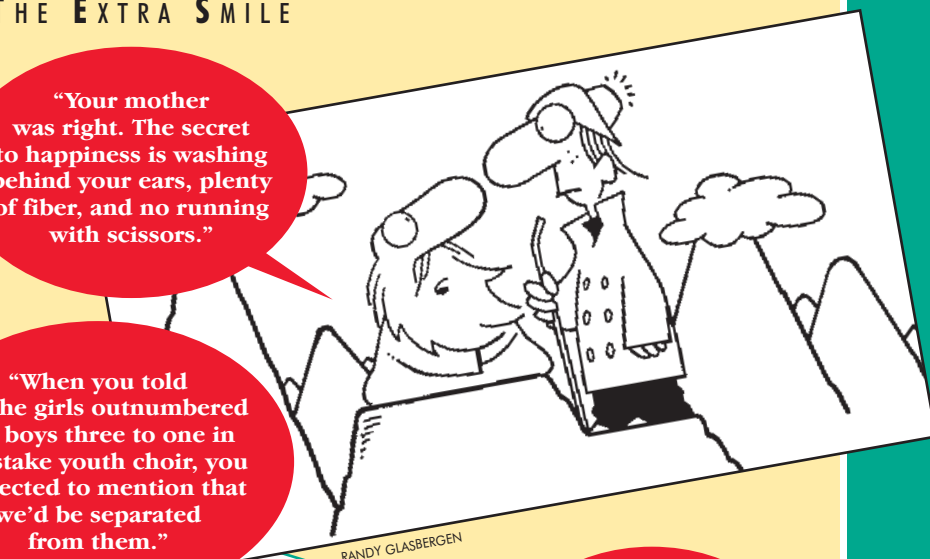
THE EXTRA SMILE



ARIE VAN DE GRAAFF

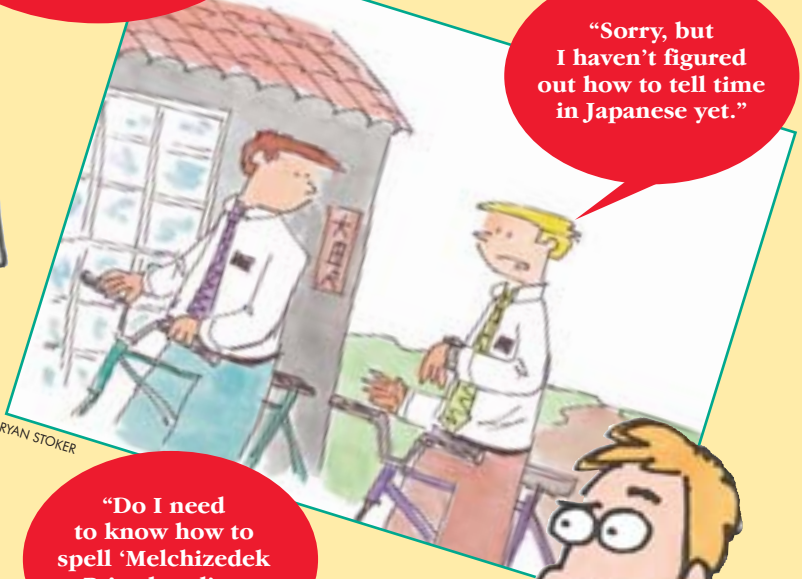
"Your mother was right. The secret to happiness is washing behind your ears, plenty of fiber, and no running with scissors."

"When you told me the girls outnumbered the boys three to one in the stake youth choir, you neglected to mention that we'd be separated from them."



RANDY GLASBERGEN

"Sorry, but I haven't figured out how to tell time in Japanese yet."



RYAN STOKER

"Do I need to know how to spell 'Melchizedek Priesthood' to receive it?"



VAL CHADWICK BAGLEY

A

Accepting the Challenge, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, Dec, 10

ACHIEVEMENT
Michael Knows, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, May, 20

ADOPTION
Adoption Decision, The, Mar, 28
Adoption Decision, The, Mar, 28

ADVERSITY
At Home in Mozambique, *Benjamin Thomas Garrison*, Jan, 18
Price for Good Things, The, *Carlos Ernesto Agüero*, Jan, 30
Questions and Answers (kids make fun of me because of the Church), Apr, 14
Questions and Answers (life is so hard), Aug, 14
Smiles despite My Trials, *María Luisa González Haro*, Jul, 40
Why Me? *Julian Brown*, Jan, 43

AGENCY
Anger Bounces Back, *Jed Layton*, Jan, 24
Mayor for a Day, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, Jan, 26
Agüero, Carlos Ernesto
Price for Good Things, The, Jan, 30
Aina, Melissa Domeyer
My Scripture Secret, Apr, 13
Allen, Kathryn
Missionary to My Grandparents, Sep, 43
Alone, *Sbeena James*, Mar, 22
Anderson, Angela Woods
Gift of Tagalog, The, Jan, 38
Anderson, Barbara
Award We Didn't Win, The, Sep, 28
Andre, Mandi
Because of the Restoration, Dec, 36
Andreasen, Laura
Pop Quiz, Jun, 8

ANGER
Anger Bounces Back, *Jed Layton*, Jan, 24
Cooling Your Anger, Feb, 9
Anger Bounces Back, *Jed Layton*, Jan, 24

ANOREXIA
My Battle with Anorexia, *Katie May Hess*, Apr, 42
Answer I Forgot, The, *David A. Pinkston*, Jan, 8
Answer in the Book, The, *Andrew Confer and Miles T. Tuason*, Jun, 44
Arise and Shine Forth, Jan, 6

ARTICLES OF FAITH
Gift of Tagalog, The, *Angela Woods Anderson*, Jan, 38
Finding the Word of God, *Tara A. Brundick*, Feb, 6
Your Right to Revelation, *Harold B. Lee*, Mar, 18

What Abraham's Covenant Means to You, *Shanna Butler*, Apr, 32
Invitation to Passover, An, *Joni M. Newman*, May, 6
Riot! *David C. Campbell*, Jun, 10
Do You Want to Copy My Homework? *Sherilyn Farnes*, Jul, 6

Asay, Aly
Lead Thou Me On, Feb, 45
At Home in Mozambique, *Benjamin Thomas Garrison*, Jan, 18

ATHLETES
Every Race I Got Faster, *Don L. Searle*, Jul, 36

ATHLETICS
To Run and Not Be Weary, *Joan Stewart*, Oct, 18
Atkin, Roy D.
I Wouldn't Cheat, Oct, 22

ATONEMENT
I Felt Broken, *Anne Perkins*, Jul, 9
My Battle with Anorexia, *Katie May Hess*, Apr, 42
Questions and Answers (how can I repent if I don't feel sorry), Jul, 14
Spotless before the Lord, *Clate W. Mask Jr.*, Jul, 42

ATTITUDE
Beyond Boundaries, *Andrea Cartwright*, Jun, 37
Decide Who You'll Be, *Wayne S. Peterson*, May, 40
Getting the Message, *Stephanie Taft*, Sep, 42
How I Learned to Be Happy, *Catherine Matthews Pavia*, Sep, 11
My Big Feet, *Angela Hirschi*, Nov, 24
What I Learned as a Corn Dog, *Cara Smith Webber*, Jul, 24

Award We Didn't Win, The, *Barbara Anderson*, Sep, 28
Away from the Edge, *Gillian Campbell*, Mar, 12

B

Bailey, Tamara Leatham
Grateful and Glad, Jun, 13
Bailly to the Rescue, *Shanna Butler*, Nov, 13
Ballard, M. Russell
Handiwork of God, The, Mar, 2
Barrick, Summer
It Mattered to Me, Jun, 38
Bassett, Zachary Z.
Being the New Guy, Jul, 41
Be Ready and Worthy, *Jeffrey R. Holland*, May, 2
Because of the Restoration, *Mandi Andre*, Dec, 36
Because We Have Them before Our Eyes, *David A. Bednar*, Apr, 2
Becoming a Latter-day Saint Teen, Oct, 13
Bednar, David A.

Because We Have Them before Our Eyes, Apr, 2
Being the New Guy, *Zachary Z. Bassett*, Jul, 41
Bentley, D. J.
Mormons Do Dance, Oct, 44
Bessey, Siân Owen
Having the Last Word, Sep, 22
Best Place to Be, The, *Taylor Moilan*, Nov, 45
Beyond Boundaries, *Andrea Cartwright*, Jun, 37
Birkin, Rebecca Rice
Open Mouth, Insert Car, Oct, 10
Blessed to Perform, *Néna Fairbanks*, Feb, 45
Blessing Away from Home, A, *Kristen Kennedy*, Dec, 41

BLESSINGS
Bright as the Sun, *Dieter F. Uchtdorf*, Jun, 2
What Abraham's Covenant Means to You, *Shanna Butler*, Apr, 32
Body Is Sacred, The, *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Nov, 2

BOOK OF MORMON
Accepting the Challenge, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, Dec, 10
Answer in the Book, The, *Andrew Confer and Miles T. Tuason*, Jun, 44
Finding the Word of God, *Tara A. Brundick*, Feb, 6
Golden Opportunity, A, *Shanna Butler*, Feb, 34
Questions and Answers (introducing the Book of Mormon to a friend), Jun, 14
To the Point, Aug, 30
Books Worth a Look, Jan, 41
Bright as the Sun, *Dieter F. Uchtdorf*, Jun, 2

BROTHERHOOD
It's a Twin Thing, *Janet Thomas*, Apr, 38
Brough, Monte J.
I Know What I Know! Oct, 34
Brown, Juliann
Why Me? Jan, 43
Brown, Sarah K.
Uncle Birl's Letter, Sep, 8
Brundick, Tara A.
Finding the Word of God, Feb, 6
Burch, Tyler C.
Call Brett Now, Oct, 28
Burgoyne, Greg
Surfing the No-Swim Zone, Aug, 8

Butler, Shanna
Bailly to the Rescue, Nov, 13
Golden Opportunity, A, Feb, 34
How to Talk about the Temple, Jan, 44
Right on Track, Jun, 24
Tattoos and Your Mission, Mar, 44
What Abraham's Covenant Means to You, Apr, 32

You're a Teacher Too, Sep, 44
By Ship, Handcart, or Tennis Shoe, *Adam C. Olson*, Jul, 26
Bytheway, John
Three Little Questions, Jul, 30

C

Call Brett Now, *Tyler C. Burch*, Oct, 28
Campbell, David C.
Riot! Jun, 10
Campbell, Gillian
Away from the Edge, Mar, 12
Can You Be Trusted? *William R. Walker*, Nov, 40
Cartwright, Andrea
Beyond Boundaries, Jun, 37

CHARITY
Two Great Lights, The, *Joseph B. Wirthlin*, Aug, 2
Charting the Plan, Jul, 33
Check the Tire, *Andrew M. Wright*, May, 9
Chesworth, Kassie
Raspberries for Sister Hair, Nov, 46

CHOICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY
Running on Faith, *Aubree Nielsen*, Jan, 42
We Believe in You! *James E. Faust*, Oct, 2
Choose a Bright Future, *John H. Groberg*, Sep, 38
Christ the Savior Is Born, *Russell M. Nelson*, Dec, 2

CHRISTMAS
Christ the Savior Is Born, *Russell M. Nelson*, Dec, 2
Finding Christmas in Sendai, *Dwayne Vance*, Dec, 24
Make Room for Him, Dec, 17
Mary and Joseph, *Susan Winters*, Dec, 28
Mom's Christmas Coat, *Ronda Hinrichsen*, Dec, 8
Sharing the Joy, *Consuelo Conesa Leone*, Dec, 18
Soft and Pure, *Raymond D. Cook*, Dec, 6
Christofferson, D. Todd
Sense of the Sacred, A, Jun, 28

CHURCH ACTIVITY
Beyond Boundaries, *Andrea Cartwright*, Jun, 37
Living Water, Feb, 17

CHURCH HISTORY
Watch, Some Buttons, and Joseph's Cloak, A, *Sally Johnson Odekirke*, Dec, 20
Clark, Cody
I Never Knew Her Name, Oct, 38
Clarke, Matthew and Janine
Why Date? Aug, 38
Class Prayer, *John Dayton*, Sep, 41
Cloward, Janessa Rose
Salt and Snow, Dec, 40
Come, Come, Ye Saints, *Kristen Gibby Walton*, Jul, 41

Come Learn and Have Fun, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, Jun, 18
Come Sit with Us, *Heidi Rose*, Nov, 6
Come unto Me, Oct, 17
COMMITMENT
Accepting the Challenge, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, Dec, 10
Ricardo Walked Alone, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, Feb, 18
Worth It! *Veronica Garcia Walker*, Oct, 42
Cone, Kimberly
Plan for Adam, A, Apr, 18
Confer, Andrew
Answer in the Book, The, Jun, 44
CONFIDENCE
I Know What I Know! *Monte J. Brough*, Oct, 34
CONVERSION
Answer I Forgot, The, *David A. Pinkston*, Jan, 8
Fighting to Find the Truth, *Don L. Searle*, Apr, 10
Plan for Adam, A, *Kimberly Cone*, Apr, 18
Cook, Raymond D.
Soft and Pure, Dec, 6
Cooling Your Anger, Feb, 9
COURAGE
By Ship, Handcart, or Tennis Shoe, *Adam C. Olson*, Jul, 26
Courage Counts, *Thomas S. Monson*, Sep, 2
Laughter Never Came, The, *Lacey McMurry*, May, 10
Learning to Hope, *Mariama Kallon and Riley Lorimer*, Nov, 10
Courage Counts, *Thomas S. Monson*, Sep, 2
COURTESY
Peace at Home, Apr, 28
COVENANTS
What Abraham's Covenant Means to You, *Shanna Butler*, Apr, 32
CREATION, RESPECT FOR
Handiwork of God, The, *M. Russell Ballard*, Mar, 2
Creative Scripture Study, May, 15
D
DANCES
Mormons Do Dance, *D. J. Bentley*, Oct, 44
DATING
To the Point, May, 34
Why Date? *Matthew and Janine Clarke*, Aug, 38
Dayton, John
Class Prayer, Sep, 41
Death, Where Is Thy Victory? Apr, 17
DEBT
Taking Credit, *Danielle Nye Poulter*, Aug, 10
Decide Who You'll Be, *Wayne S. Peterson*, May, 40
DECISION MAKING
On the Lord's Team, *R. Val*

Johnson, Mar, 26
Twice Rescued, *W. Rolfe Kerr*, Feb, 20
DISABILITIES, COPING WITH
Looking Up to Jake, *Jed Layton*, Mar, 24
Unexpected Hero, *Kelly M. Smurthwaite*, May, 36
DIVINE NATURE
The Family: A Proclamation to the World, Paragraph 3, Aug, 27
DIVORCE
I Felt Broken, *Anne Perkins*, Jul, 9
Questions and Answers (my parents are divorced), Dec, 14
Do You Want to Copy My Homework? *Sherilyn Farnes*, Jul, 6
Don't You Pray? *Lynn A. Mickelsen*, Dec, 38
DRESS STANDARDS
Sense of the Sacred, A, *D. Todd Christofferson*, Jun, 28
Durrant, Heather
Prepared for His Coming, May, 45
DUTY TO GOD
Duty to God: Building Spiritual Strongholds, *Adam C. Olson*, Aug, 22
Duty to God: Building Spiritual Strongholds, *Adam C. Olson*, Aug, 22
E
EATING DISORDERS
My Battle with Anorexia, *Katie May Hess*, Apr, 42
EDUCATION
Michael Knows, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, May, 20
Egan, Kristin
One-on-One Testimony, Feb, 46
Ellison, Danae
Model of Modesty, A, Aug, 45
ENCOURAGEMENT
Perfect Comeback, The, *Richard D. Hawks*, Apr, 8
Every Race I Got Faster, *Don L. Searle*, Jul, 36
Everyone but Sarah, *Sarah Hall*, Jul, 41
EXAMPLE
Arise and Shine Forth, Jan, 6
By Ship, Handcart, or Tennis Shoe, *Adam C. Olson*, Jul, 26
Everyone but Sarah, *Sarah Hall*, Jul, 41
Having the Last Word, *Siân Owen Bessey*, Sep, 22
Laughter Never Came, The, *Lacey McMurry*, May, 10
Learn to Share, Sep, 7
Looking Up to Jake, *Jed Layton*, Mar, 24
Mayor for a Day, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, Jan, 26
Mormons Do Dance, *D. J. Bentley*, Oct, 44
On a Russian Train, *Amylyn*

Woolley Reynolds, Aug, 28
Presentation, The, *Cindy Suman*, Mar, 8
Questions and Answers (people are questioning my decision to join the Church), Oct, 14
Unexpected Hero, *Kelly M. Smurthwaite*, May, 36
F
Fairbanks, Nena
Blessed to Perform, Feb, 45
FAITH
Bright as the Sun, *Dieter F. Uchtdorf*, Jun, 2
Faith in His Plan, *Mike Gordon*, Oct, 46
Fighting to Find the Truth, *Don L. Searle*, Apr, 10
Finding Pluto, *Hartt Wixom*, May, 44
Price for Good Things, The, *Carlos Ernesto Agüero*, Jan, 30
Ricardo Knows, *R. Val Johnson*, Sep, 12
Running on Faith, *Aubree Nielsen*, Jan, 42
Shot Down! *Robert C. Oaks*, Aug, 24
Faith in His Plan, *Mike Gordon*, Oct, 46
Falling into a Miracle, *Janet Thomas*, Sep, 18
FAMILIES
Mary and Joseph, *Susan Winters*, Dec, 28
No Place Like Home, *Faapisa M. Tupe*, Mar, 43
The Family: A Proclamation to the World, Paragraph 3, Aug, 27
FAMILY HISTORY
Putting the Puzzle Together, *Sally Johnson Odekirik*, Nov, 18
Torpedoes, Typhoons, and War Stories, *Rachel Faas Trim and Danielle Nye Poulter*, Jul, 10
Uncle Birl's Letter, *Sarah K. Brown*, Sep, 8
FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS
Harriet's Firm Foundation, *Janet Thomas*, Nov, 26
Looking Up to Jake, *Jed Layton*, Mar, 24
Missionary to My Grandparents, *Kathryn Allen*, Sep, 43
No Place Like Home, *Faapisa M. Tupe*, Mar, 43
Peace at Home, Apr, 28
Questions and Answers (siblings tell jokes about me), Sep, 14
Right on Track, *Shanna Butler*, Jun, 24
To the Point, Aug, 30
Uncle Birl's Letter, *Sarah K. Brown*, Sep, 8
Farnes, Sherilyn
Do You Want to Copy My Homework? Jul, 6

Faust, James E.
We Believe in You! Oct, 2
Featherstone, Vaughn J.
On My Honor, Feb, 10
FELLOWSHIP
Come Learn and Have Fun, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, Jun, 18
Home, *Megan Walker*, Oct, 31
Mutual Support, Jul, 17
Questions and Answers (my parents are divorced), Dec, 14
FELLOWSHIPING
Call Brett Now, *Tyler C. Burch*, Oct, 28
Including Everyone, Jan, 37
Questions and Answers (my friend doesn't feel welcome at church), Feb, 14
Fighting to Find the Truth, *Don L. Searle*, Apr, 10
Finding Christmas in Sendai, *Dwayne Vance*, Dec, 24
Finding Pluto, *Hartt Wixom*, May, 44
Finding the Word of God, *Tara A. Brundick*, Feb, 6
Five Reasons to Love Personal Progress, *Jan Pinborough*, Nov, 32
FOLLOWING THE SPIRIT
Check the Tire, *Andrew M. Wright*, May, 9
FOR THE STRENGTH OF YOUTH
Lunch Table Lesson, *Christina Lyon Kline*, Feb, 23
Up to the Challenge, *Adam C. Olson*, Sep, 24
Forget Yourself and Serve, *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Jul, 2
FORGIVENESS
Letting Grudges Go, Jul, 46
Frandsen, Ron
Passing Up Passing the Sacrament, May, 30
FRIENDS
Including Everyone, Jan, 37
Mutual Support, Jul, 17
FRIENDSHIP
Being the New Guy, *Zachary Z. Bassett*, Jul, 41
Come Sit with Us, *Heidi Rose*, Nov, 6
From Mission to Military, *Brian Marble*, Jun, 34
Fullmer, Austin
Scripture Study on the Bus, Dec, 41
FUTURE
Choose a Bright Future, *John H. Groberg*, Sep, 38
G
Garrison, Benjamin Thomas
At Home in Mozambique, Jan, 18
GENERAL CONFERENCE
Listening for Answers, Mar, 40
Getting the Message, *Stephanie Taft*, Sep, 42
Getting to Know Joseph, *Garrett Stone*, May, 45

Gift of Tagalog, The, *Angela Woods Anderson*, Jan, 38
Gillett, Elsworth
My Turning Point, Jun, 46
Glauser, Michelle
Small Blessings, Jan, 43
GOALS
Five Reasons to Love Personal Progress, *Jan Pinborough*, Nov, 32
Going Nowhere? Aug, 17
Without a Goal, Nov, 17
Golden Opportunity, A, *Shanna Butler*, Feb, 34
González Haro, María Luisa
Smiles despite My Trials, Jul, 40
GOOD WORKS (SEE SERVICE)
Gordon, Mike
Faith in His Plan, Oct, 46
GRACE
What Is the Difference between Immortality and Eternal Life?
Joseph B. Wirthlin, Nov, 8
Grateful and Glad, *Tamara Leatham Bailey*, Jun, 13
GRATITUDE
Grateful and Glad, *Tamara Leatham Bailey*, Jun, 13
My Gratitude Journal, *Danielle Nye Poulter*, Nov, 45
Small Blessings, *Michelle Glauser*, Jan, 43
Groberg, John H.
Choose a Bright Future, Sep, 38
GUIDANCE
Charting the Plan, Jul, 33
H
HABITS
Questions and Answers (Iying), Nov, 14
Hales, Robert D.
Preparing for a Heavenly Marriage, Feb, 2
Hall, Sarah
Everyone but Sarah, Jul, 41
Handiwork of God, The, *M. Russell Ballard*, Mar, 2
HAPPINESS
How I Learned to Be Happy,
Catherine Matthews Pavia,
Sep, 11
What I Learned as a Corn Dog,
Cara Smith Webber, Jul, 24
Harriet's Firm Foundation, *Janet Thomas*, Nov, 26
Having the Last Word, *Siân Owen Bessey*, Sep, 22
Hawks, Richard D.
Perfect Comeback, The, Apr, 8
HEALTH
Healthier You, A, Nov, 23
Weighing In for a Mission,
Danielle Nye Poulter, Sep, 32
Healthier You, A, Nov, 23
HEAVENLY FATHER
Small Blessings, *Michelle Glauser*,
Jan, 43

HERITAGE
Watch, Some Buttons, and
Joseph's Cloak, A, *Sally Johnson Odekirk*, Dec, 20
Hess, Katie May
My Battle with Anorexia, Apr, 42
Hill, Norman
Surviving the Storm, May, 24
Hinckley, Gordon B.
Body Is Sacred, The, Nov, 2
Forget Yourself and Serve, Jul, 2
Hinrichsen, Ronda
Mom's Christmas Coat, Dec, 8
Hirschi, Angela
My Big Feet, Nov, 24
His Final Days, Apr, 22
Holland, Jeffrey R.
Be Ready and Worthy, May, 2
HOLY GHOST
Check the Tire, *Andrew M. Wright*,
May, 9
It Mattered to Me, *Summer Barrick*, Jun, 38
Home, *Megan Walker*, Oct, 31
HONESTY (SEE INTEGRITY)
HONOR
On My Honor, *Vaughn J. Featherstone*, Feb, 10
HOPE
Learning to Hope, *Mariama Kallon and Riley Lorimer*,
Nov, 10
How I Learned to Be Happy,
Catherine Matthews Pavia, Sep, 11
How to Talk about the Temple,
Shanna Butler, Jan, 44
Hudson, Nakaiya Pharelle
My Personal Progress, Oct, 45
HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS
Bailly to the Rescue, *Shanna Butler*, Nov, 13
Learning to Hope, *Mariama Kallon and Riley Lorimer*,
Nov, 10
Surviving the Storm, *Norman Hill and Richard M. Romney*, May, 24
Hum the Right, *Daniel Pett*, Oct, 46
I
I Felt Broken, *Anne Perkins*, Jul, 9
I Know What I Know! *Monte J. Brough*, Oct, 34
I Never Knew Her Name, *Cody Clark*, Oct, 38
I Wouldn't Cheat, *Roy D. Atkin*,
Oct, 22
IDEA LIST
Becoming a Latter-day Saint Teen,
Oct, 13
Cooling Your Anger, Feb, 9
Creative Scripture Study, May, 15
Grateful and Glad, *Tamara Leatham Bailey*, Jun, 13
Healthier You, A, Nov, 23
Including Everyone, Jan, 37
Learn to Share, Sep, 7
Letting Grudges Go, Jul, 46
Listen, Learn, Live It, Mar, 41

Pray with Power, Aug, 7
Rich in Spirit, Dec, 27
IN TUNE
Soft and Pure, *Raymond D. Cook*,
Dec, 6
When the Holy Spirit Speaks,
Apr, 21
Including Everyone, Jan, 37
Independence Day, *Jack Weyland*,
Feb, 38
INDIVIDUAL WORTH
Body Is Sacred, The, *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Nov, 2
My Big Feet, *Angela Hirschi*, Nov, 24
Open Mouth, Insert Car, *Rebecca Rice Birkin*, Oct, 10
INTEGRITY
Can You Be Trusted? *William R. Walker*, Nov, 40
Do You Want to Copy My Homework? *Sberilyn Farnes*, Jul, 6
I Wouldn't Cheat, *Roy D. Atkin*,
Oct, 22
Questions and Answers (Iying),
Nov, 14
We Believe in You! *James E. Faust*,
Oct, 2
Invitation to Passover, An, *Joni M. Newman*, May, 6
Invite Him to Church? *Kate Strongin*, Aug, 44
It Mattered to Me, *Summer Barrick*,
Jun, 38
It's a Twin Thing, *Janet Thomas*,
Apr, 38
J
James, Sheena
Alone, Mar, 22
Jensen, Becca Lee
Not Just for Me, Nov, 44
Jensen, Scott B.
Sunday We Fought the Fire, The,
Aug, 32
JESUS CHRIST
Christ the Savior Is Born, *Russell M. Nelson*, Dec, 2
Come unto Me, Oct, 17
Don't You Pray? *Lynn A. Mickelsen*, Dec, 38
Harriet's Firm Foundation, *Janet Thomas*, Nov, 26
His Final Days, Apr, 22
Living Water, Feb, 17
Make Room for Him, Dec, 17
Mary and Joseph, *Susan Winters*,
Dec, 28
Source, The, *William Kim Raulinson*, Apr, 37
Johnson, R. Val
On the Lord's Team, Mar, 26
Ricardo Knows, Sep, 12
JOSEPH SMITH
Getting to Know Joseph, *Garrett Stone*, May, 45
Watch, Some Buttons, and
Joseph's Cloak, A, *Sally Johnson Odekirk*, Dec, 20

K
Kallon, Mariama
Learning to Hope, Nov, 10
Kennedy, Kristen
Blessing Away from Home, A,
Dec, 41
Kerr, W. Rolfe
Twice Rescued, Feb, 20
KINDNESS
I Never Knew Her Name, *Cody Clark*, Oct, 38
Perfect Comeback, The, *Richard D. Hawks*, Apr, 8
Sound of Giving, The, *Janet Thomas*, May, 12
Time Out! *Cbad Morris*, Nov, 30
Unexpected Hero, *Kelly M. Smurthwaite*, May, 36
Kline, Christina Lyon
Lunch Table Lesson, Feb, 23
Kunz, Jared B.
Singing for Strength, Sep, 43
L
Lagoua, Jean Brice
Wearing Two Names, Jun, 7
Lambson, Sydney V.
My Forgotten Prayer, Jun, 45
Language of the Spirit, *Phillip Young*, Aug, 46
Laughter Never Came, The, *Lacey McMurry*, May, 10
LAW
Riot! *David C. Campbell*, Jun, 10
Layton, Jed
Anger Bounces Back, Jan, 24
Looking Up to Jake, Mar, 24
Lead Thou Me On, *Aly Asay*, Feb, 45
LEADERSHIP
Mayor for a Day, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, Jan, 26
Leak, Bremen
Lost in a Whiteout, Feb, 24
Learn to Share, Sep, 7
LEARNING
Listen, Learn, Live It, Mar, 41
You're a Teacher Too, *Shanna Butler*, Sep, 44
Learning to Hope, *Mariama Kallon and Riley Lorimer*, Nov, 10
Lee, Harold B.
Your Right to Revelation, Mar, 18
Leone, Consuelo Conesa
Sharing the Joy, Dec, 18
Letting Grudges Go, Jul, 46
LINE UPON LINE
Matthew 6:9-13, Mar, 11
The Family: A Proclamation to the
World, Paragraph 3, Aug, 27
Listen, Learn, Live It, Mar, 41
Listening for Answers, Mar, 40
Living Water, Feb, 17
Looking Up to Jake, *Jed Layton*,
Mar, 24
Lorimer, Riley M.
Learning to Hope, Nov, 10
Unto the Least, Dec, 41

Lost in a Whiteout, *Bremen Leak*, Feb, 24
LOVE
Sisters Three, *Jessie Noemi P. Patria*, Mar, 42
To the Point, Aug, 30
Two Great Lights, The, *Joseph B. Wirtblin*, Aug, 2
Lunch Table Lesson, *Christina Lyon Kline*, Feb, 23
Lying, Nov, 14

M
Make Room for Him, Dec, 17
Making Progress Personal in Panama, *Adam C. Olson*, Aug, 18
Marble, Brian
From Mission to Military, Jun, 34
MARY
Mary and Joseph, *Susan Winters*, Dec, 28
Soft and Pure, *Raymond D. Cook*, Dec, 6
Mary and Joseph, *Susan Winters*, Dec, 28
Mask, Clate W., Jr.
Spotless before the Lord, Jul, 42
Mayor for a Day, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, Jan, 26
McMurry, Lacey
Laughter Never Came, The, May, 10
Michael Knows, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, May, 20
Mickelsen, Lynn A.
Don't You Pray? Dec, 38
MILITARY SERVICE
From Mission to Military, *Brian Marble*, Jun, 34
MIRACLES
Falling into a Miracle, *Janet Thomas*, Sep, 18
MISSIONARY PREPARATION
Choose a Bright Future, *John H. Groberg*, Sep, 38
On the Lord's Team, *R. Val Johnson*, Mar, 26
Questions and Answers (prepared to teach on a mission), Jan, 14
Special Language of Prayer, The, *Dallin H. Oaks*, Jan, 2
Tattoos and Your Mission, *Sbanna Butler*, Mar, 44
Time to Listen, *Janet Thomas*, Oct, 24
Twice Rescued, *W. Rolfe Kerr*, Feb, 20
Weighing In for a Mission, *Danielle Nye Poulter*, Sep, 32
MISSIONARY SERVICE
Best Place to Be, The, *Taylor Moilan*, Nov, 45
Every Race I Got Faster, *Don L. Searle*, Jul, 36
Falling into a Miracle, *Janet Thomas*, Sep, 18
From Mission to Military, *Brian Marble*, Jun, 34
Missionary to My Grandparents,

Katbryn Allen, Sep, 43
MISSIONARY WORK
Answer in the Book, The, *Andrew Confer and Miles T. Tuason*, Jun, 44
Fighting to Find the Truth, *Don L. Searle*, Apr, 10
Gift of Tagalog, The, *Angela Woods Anderson*, Jan, 38
Invite Him to Church? *Kate Strongin*, Aug, 44
Learn to Share, Sep, 7
Missionary to My Grandparents, *Katbryn Allen*, Sep, 43
On a Russian Train, *AmyLyn Woolley Reynolds*, Aug, 28
Plan for Adam, A, *Kimberly Cone*, Apr, 18
Questions and Answers (introducing the Book of Mormon to a friend), Jun, 14
Sharing the Joy, *Consuelo Conesa Leone*, Dec, 18
Three Little Questions, *Jobn Bytbeway*, Jul, 30
Model of Modesty, A, *Danae Ellison*, Aug, 45
MODESTY
Are Your Standards Shrinking? Jan, 17
Model of Modesty, A, *Danae Ellison*, Aug, 45
Moilan, Taylor
Best Place to Be, The, Nov, 45
Mom's Christmas Coat, *Ronda Hinrichsen*, Dec, 8
MONEY MANAGEMENT
Taking Credit, *Danielle Nye Poulter*, Aug, 10
Monson, Thomas S.
Courage Counts, Sep, 2
Mormons Do Dance, *D. J. Bentley*, Oct, 44
Morris, Chad
Time Out! Nov, 30
MUSIC (SEE ALSO IN TUNE)
Come, Come, Ye Saints, *Kristen Gibby Walton*, Jul, 41
Hum the Right, *Daniel Pett*, Oct, 46
Lead Thou Me On, *Aly Asay*, Feb, 45
Pop Quiz, *Laura Andreasen*, Jun, 8
Serving the Savior, *Cody Olson*, Aug, 45
Sharing the Joy, *Consuelo Conesa Leone*, Dec, 18
Singing for Strength, *Jared B. Kunz*, Sep, 43
Soft and Pure, *Raymond D. Cook*, Dec, 6
Tuning In to Happiness, *Adam M. Shorter*, Feb, 44
When the Holy Spirit Speaks, Apr, 21
MUTUAL ACTIVITIES
Arise and Shine Forth, Jan, 6
Mutual Support, Jul, 17
My Battle with Anorexia, *Katie May Hess*, Apr, 42

My Big Feet, *Angela Hirschi*, Nov, 24
My Forgotten Prayer, *Sydney V. Lambson*, Jun, 45
My Gratitude Journal, *Danielle Nye Poulter*, Nov, 45
My Personal Progress, *Nakaiya Pharelle Hudson*, Oct, 45
My Scripture Secret, *Melissa Domeyer Aina*, Apr, 13
My Turning Point, *Elsworth Gillett*, Jun, 46

N
Nance, Debbra B.
You've Always Known, Jun, 45
NATURE
Handiwork of God, The, *M. Russell Ballard*, Mar, 2
Nelson, Russell M.
Christ the Savior Is Born, Dec, 2
Newman, Joni M.
Invitation to Passover, An, May, 6
Nielsen, Aubree
Running on Faith, Jan, 42
No Place Like Home, *Faapisa M. Tupe*, Mar, 43
Not Just for Me, *Becca Lee Jensen*, Nov, 44

O
Oaks, Dallin H.
Special Language of Prayer, The, Jan, 2
Oaks, Robert C.
Shot Down! Aug, 24
OBEDIENCE
Price for Good Things, The, *Carlos Ernesto Agüero*, Jan, 30
Questions and Answers (getting a tattoo), Mar, 14
Riot! *David C. Campbell*, Jun, 10
Surfing the No-Swim Zone, *Greg Burgoyne*, Aug, 8
Two Great Lights, The, *Joseph B. Wirtblin*, Aug, 2
Odekirk, Sally Johnson
Putting the Puzzle Together, Nov, 18
Watch, Some Buttons, and Joseph's Cloak, A, Dec, 20
Olson, Adam C.
By Ship, Handcart, or Tennis Shoe, Jul, 26
Duty to God: Building Spiritual Strongholds, Aug, 22
Making Progress Personal in Panama, Aug, 18
Up to the Challenge, Sep, 24
Olson, Cody
Serving the Savior, Aug, 45
Omokhudu, Attah Y. Fred
Prophet's Influence, The, Mar, 43
On a Russian Train, *AmyLyn Woolley Reynolds*, Aug, 28
On My Honor, *Vaughn J. Featherstone*, Feb, 10
On the Lord's Team, *R. Val Johnson*, Mar, 26

One-on-One Testimony, *Kristin Egan*, Feb, 46
Open Mouth, Insert Car, *Rebecca Rice Birkin*, Oct, 10

P
PARENTS
To the Point, May, 34
Passing Up Passing the Sacrament, *Ron Frandsen*, May, 30
PATIENCE
Price for Good Things, The, *Carlos Ernesto Agüero*, Jan, 30
What Does It Mean to Be Perfect? *Cecil O. Samuelson*, Jan, 10
Patria, Jessie Noemi P.
Sisters Three, Mar, 42
Pavia, Catherine Matthews
How I Learned to Be Happy, Sep, 11
Peace at Home, Apr, 28
PEER PRESSURE
Popularity, Sep, 17
Perfect Comeback, The, *Richard D. Hawks*, Apr, 8
PERFECTIONISM
What Does It Mean to Be Perfect? *Cecil O. Samuelson*, Jan, 10
Perkins, Anne
I Felt Broken, Jul, 9
PERSEVERANCE
Questions and Answers (life is so hard), Aug, 14
PERSONAL PROGRESS
Five Reasons to Love Personal Progress, *Jan Pinborough*, Nov, 32
My Personal Progress, *Nakaiya Pharelle Hudson*, Oct, 45
Making Progress Personal in Panama, *Adam C. Olson*, Aug, 18
Petersen, Kathleen "Casey"
Place in Their Hearts, A, Jul, 18
Petersen, Wayne S.
Decide Who You'll Be, May, 40
Pett, Daniel
Hum the Right, Oct, 46
Pinborough, Jan
Five Reasons to Love Personal Progress, Nov, 32
Pinkston, David A.
Answer I Forgot, The, Jan, 8
PIONEERS
Come, Come, Ye Saints, *Kristen Gibby Walton*, Jul, 41
Place in Their Hearts, A, *Kathleen "Casey" Petersen*, Jul, 18
Plan for Adam, A, *Kimberly Cone*, Apr, 18
Pop Quiz, *Laura Andreasen*, Jun, 8
Popularity, Sep, 17
PORNOGRAPHY
Independence Day, *Jack Weyland*, Feb, 38
Who's It Hurting? Jan, 34
POSTER
Are Your Standards Shrinking? Jan, 17
Come unto Me, Oct, 17

Death, Where Is Thy Victory? Apr, 17
Going Nowhere? Aug, 17
Living Water, Feb, 17
Make Room for Him, Dec, 17
Mutual Support, Jul, 17
Procrastination, Jun, 17
What Goes Around Comes Around, May, 19
You're Never Big Enough, Mar, 17
Poulter, Danielle Nye
My Gratitude Journal, Nov, 45
Shaking Up Shakespeare, Jun, 40
Taking Credit, Aug, 10
Torpedoes, Typhoons, and War Stories, Jul, 10
Weighing In for a Mission, Sep, 32
Pray with Power, Aug, 7
PRAYER
Answer I Forgot, The, *David A. Pinkston*, Jan, 8
Class Prayer, *John Dayton*, Sep, 41
Don't You Pray? *Lynn A. Mickelsen*, Dec, 38
Lost in a Whiteout, *Bremen Leak*, Feb, 24
Matthew 6:9–13, Mar, 11
My Forgotten Prayer, *Sydney V. Lambson*, Jun, 45
Pray with Power, Aug, 7
Ricardo Knows, *R. Val Johnson*, Sep, 12
Shot Down! *Robert C. Oaks*, Aug, 24
Special Language of Prayer, The, *Dallin H. Oaks*, Jan, 2
You've Always Known, *Debbra B. Nance*, Jun, 45
PREPARATION
Prepared for His Coming, *Heather Durrant*, May, 45
Questions and Answers (preparing for the Second Coming), May, 16
Prepared for His Coming, *Heather Durrant*, May, 45
PREPAREDNESS
Procrastination, Jun, 17
Preparing for a Heavenly Marriage, *Robert D. Hales*, Feb, 2
Preparing for the Second Coming, May, 16
Presentation, The, *Cindy Suman*, Mar, 8
Price for Good Things, The, *Carlos Ernesto Agüero*, Jan, 30
PRIESTHOOD
Be Ready and Worthy, *Jeffrey R. Holland*, May, 2
PRIESTHOOD, AARONIC
Passing Up Passing the Sacrament, *Ron Frandsen*, May, 30
PRIESTHOOD BLESSINGS
Blessed to Perform, *Néna Fairbanks*, Feb, 45
Blessing Away from Home, A, *Kristen Kennedy*, Dec, 41
Language of the Spirit, *Pbillion Young*, Aug, 46

Smiles despite My Trials, *María Luisa González Haro*, Jul, 40
PRIORITIES
Going Nowhere? Aug, 17
Open Mouth, Insert Car, *Rebecca Rice Birkin*, Oct, 10
Procrastination, Jun, 17
PROFANITY
Everyone but Sarah, *Sarah Hall*, Jul, 41
To the Point, May, 34
PROGRESSION
Becoming a Latter-day Saint Teen, Oct, 13
PROPHET
Accepting the Challenge, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, Dec, 10
Listen, Learn, Live It, Mar, 41
Prophet's Influence, The, *Attab Y. Fred Omokbudu*, Mar, 43
Prophet's Influence, The, *Attab Y. Fred Omokbudu*, Mar, 43
PURITY
Body Is Sacred, The, *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Nov, 2
Putting the Puzzle Together, *Sally Johnson Odekirk*, Nov, 18

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Getting a tattoo, Mar, 14
How can I repent if I don't feel sorry, Jul, 14
Introducing the Book of Mormon to a friend, Jun, 14
Kids make fun of me because of the Church, Apr, 14
Life is so hard, Aug, 14
Lying, Nov, 14
My friend doesn't feel welcome at church, Feb, 14
My parents are divorced, Dec, 14
People are questioning my decision to join the Church, Oct, 14
Prepared to teach on a mission, Jan, 14
Preparing for the Second Coming, May, 16
Siblings tell jokes about me, Sep, 14

R

Raspberries for Sister Hair, *Kassie Chesworth*, Nov, 46
Rawlinson, William Kim
Source, The, Apr, 37
RELATIONSHIPS
To the Point, Aug, 30
Why Date? *Matthew and Janine Clarke*, Aug, 38
RELIEF SOCIETY
Come Sit with Us, *Heidi Rose*, Nov, 6
REPENTANCE
Questions and Answers (how can I repent if I don't feel sorry), Jul, 14
Spotless before the Lord, *Clate W. Mask Jr.*, Jul, 42
Wearing Two Names, *Jean Brice Lagoua*, Jun, 7

RESPECT
Invitation to Passover, An, *Joni M. Neuman*, May, 6
Questions and Answers (siblings tell jokes about me), Sep, 14
What Goes Around Comes Around, May, 19
Who's It Hurting? Jan, 34
RESTORATION
Because of the Restoration, *Mandi Andre*, Dec, 36
Watch, Some Buttons, and Joseph's Cloak, A, *Sally Johnson Odekirk*, Dec, 20
RESURRECTION
Death, Where Is Thy Victory? Apr, 17
REVELATION
Your Right to Revelation, *Harold B. Lee*, Mar, 18
REVERENCE
Sense of the Sacred, A, *D. Todd Christofferson*, Jun, 28
Reynolds, AmyLyn Woolley
On a Russian Train, Aug, 28
Ricardo Knows, *R. Val Johnson*, Sep, 12
Ricardo Walked Alone, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, Feb, 18
Rich in Spirit, Dec, 27
Right on Track, *Shanna Butler*, Jun, 24
RIGHTEOUS LIVING
Decide Who You'll Be, *Wayne S. Peterson*, May, 40
Riot! *David C. Campbell*, Jun, 10
Romney, Richard M.
Surviving the Storm, May, 24
Rose, Heidi
Come Sit with Us, Nov, 6
Running on Faith, *Aubree Nielsen*, Jan, 42

S

SABBATH DAY
Ricardo Walked Alone, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, Feb, 18
Sense of the Sacred, A, *D. Todd Christofferson*, Jun, 28
SACRAMENT
Passing Up Passing the Sacrament, *Ron Frandsen*, May, 30
Sense of the Sacred, A, *D. Todd Christofferson*, Jun, 28
SACRIFICE
Mom's Christmas Coat, *Ronda Hinrichsen*, Dec, 8
Salt and Snow, *Janessa Rose Cloward*, Dec, 40
SALVATION
Becoming a Latter-day Saint Teen, Oct, 13
Charting the Plan, Jul, 33
Three Little Questions, *John Byteway*, Jul, 30
What Is the Difference between Immortality and Eternal Life? *Joseph B. Wirtblin*, Nov, 8

Samuelson, Cecil O.
What Does It Mean to Be Perfect? Jan, 10
SCOUTING
On My Honor, *Vaughn J. Featherstone*, Feb, 10
SCRIPTURE STUDY
Because We Have Them before Our Eyes, *David A. Bednar*, Apr, 2
Creative Scripture Study, May, 15
My Scripture Secret, *Melissa Domeyer Aina*, Apr, 13
Scripture Study on the Bus, *Austin Fullmer*, Dec, 41
To the Point, Aug, 30
SCRIPTURES
Because We Have Them before Our Eyes, *David A. Bednar*, Apr, 2
Creative Scripture Study, May, 15
Finding the Word of God, *Tara A. Brundick*, Feb, 6
My Scripture Secret, *Melissa Domeyer Aina*, Apr, 13
Scripture Study on the Bus, *Austin Fullmer*, Dec, 41
Searle, Don L.
Every Race I Got Faster, Jul, 36
Fighting to Find the Truth, Apr, 10
SEMINARY
Come Learn and Have Fun, *Paul VanDenBergbe*, Jun, 18
Seminary Makes Me Happy, *Janet Thomas*, Feb, 28
Seminary Makes Me Happy, *Janet Thomas*, Feb, 28
Sense of the Sacred, A, *D. Todd Christofferson*, Jun, 28
SERVICE
At Home in Mozambique, *Benjamin Thomas Garrison*, Jan, 18
Bailly to the Rescue, *Shanna Butler*, Nov, 13
Finding Christmas in Sendai, *Dwayne Vance*, Dec, 24
Forget Yourself and Serve, *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Jul, 2
Raspberries for Sister Hair, *Kassie Chesworth*, Nov, 46
Salt and Snow, *Janessa Rose Cloward*, Dec, 40
Serving the Savior, *Cody Olson*, Aug, 45
Shaking Up Shakespeare, *Danielle Nye Poulter*, Jun, 40
Sound of Giving, The, *Janet Thomas*, May, 12
Sunday We Fought the Fire, The, *Scott B. Jensen*, Aug, 32
Surviving the Storm, *Norman Hill and Richard M. Romney*, May, 24
Torpedoes, Typhoons, and War Stories, *Rachel Faas Trim and Danielle Nye Poulter*, Jul, 10
Unto the Least, *Riley M. Lorimer*, Dec, 41
Serving the Savior, *Cody Olson*, Aug, 45

Shaking Up Shakespeare, *Danielle Nye Poulter*, Jun, 40

Sharing the Joy, *Consuelo Conesa Leone*, Dec, 18

Shorter, Adam M.
Tuning In to Happiness, Feb, 44

Shot Down! *Robert C. Oaks*, Aug, 24

SIN
Surfing the No-Swim Zone, *Greg Burgoyne*, Aug, 8
You're Never Big Enough, Mar, 17

Singing for Strength, *Jared B. Kunz*, Sep, 43

Sisters Three, *Jessie Noemi P. Patria*, Mar, 42

Small Blessings, *Michelle Glauser*, Jan, 43

Smiles despite My Trials, *Maria Luisa González Haro*, Jul, 40

Smurthwaite, Kelly M.
Unexpected Hero, May, 36

Soft and Pure, *Raymond D. Cook*, Dec, 6

Sound of Giving, The, *Janet Thomas*, May, 12

Source, The, *William Kim Rawlinson*, Apr, 37

Special Language of Prayer, The, *Dallin H. Oaks*, Jan, 2

Spotless before the Lord, *Clate W. Mask Jr.*, Jul, 42

SPIRITUALITY
It Mattered to Me, *Summer Barrick*, Jun, 38
Call Brett Now, *Tyler C. Burch*, Oct, 28
Rich in Spirit, Dec, 27

SPIRITUAL GIFTS
Gift of Tagalog, The, *Angela Woods Anderson*, Jan, 38

SPIRITUAL GROWTH
Alone, *Sheena James*, Mar, 22

SPORTSMANSHIP
Award We Didn't Win, The, *Barbara Anderson*, Sep, 28

STANDARDS
Are Your Standards Shrinking? Jan, 17
It's a Twin Thing, *Janet Thomas*, Apr, 38
Lunch Table Lesson, *Christina Lyon Kline*, Feb, 23

Stewart, Joan
To Run and Not Be Weary, Oct, 18

Stone, Garrett
Getting to Know Joseph, May, 45

Strongin, Kate
Invite Him to Church? Aug, 44

Suman, Cindy
Presentation, The, Mar, 8

Sunday We Fought the Fire, The, *Scott B. Jensen*, Aug, 32

Surfing the No-Swim Zone, *Greg Burgoyne*, Aug, 8

Surviving the Storm, *Norman Hill and Richard M. Romney*, May, 24

T
Taft, Stephanie
Getting the Message, Sep, 42

Taking Credit, *Danielle Nye Poulter*, Aug, 10

TALENTS
Every Race I Got Faster, *Don L. Searle*, Jul, 36
Shaking Up Shakespeare, *Danielle Nye Poulter*, Jun, 40

TATTOOS
Tattoos and Your Mission, *Shanna Butler*, Mar, 44
Questions and answers (getting a tattoo), Mar, 14

Tattoos and Your Mission, *Shanna Butler*, Mar, 44

TEACHERS
Having the Last Word, *Siân Owen Bessey*, Sep, 22

TEACHING
You're a Teacher Too, *Shanna Butler*, Sep, 44

TEMPLE MARRIAGE
Preparing for a Heavenly Marriage, *Robert D. Hales*, Feb, 2

TEMPLES
How to Talk about the Temple, *Shanna Butler*, Jan, 44
Five Reasons to Love Personal Progress, *Jan Pinborough*, Nov, 32
Place in Their Hearts, A, *Kathleen "Casey" Petersen*, Jul, 18

TEMPLE WORK
Not Just for Me, *Becca Lee Jensen*, Nov, 44
Putting the Puzzle Together, *Sally Johnson Odekirk*, Nov, 18

TEMPTATION
Away from the Edge, *Gillian Campbell*, Mar, 12
Up to the Challenge, *Adam C. Olson*, Sep, 24
You're Never Big Enough, Mar, 17

TESTIMONY
I Know What I Know! *Monte J. Brough*, Oct, 34
My Turning Point, *Elsworth Gillett*, Jun, 46
Questions and Answers (people are questioning my decision to join the Church), Oct, 14
Worth It! *Veronica Garcia Walker*, Oct, 42

TESTIMONY BEARING
One-on-One Testimony, *Kristin Egan*, Feb, 46

Thomas, Janet
Falling into a Miracle, Sep, 18
Harriet's Firm Foundation, Nov, 26
It's a Twin Thing, Apr, 38
Seminary Makes Me Happy, Feb, 28
Sound of Giving, The, May, 12
Time to Listen, Oct, 24
Three Little Questions, *John Bytheway*, Jul, 30

Time Out! *Chad Morris*, Nov, 30

Time to Listen, *Janet Thomas*, Oct, 24

To Run and Not Be Weary, *Joan Stewart*, Oct, 18

TOLERANCE
Invitation to Passover, An, *Joni M. Newman*, May, 6
Peace at Home, Apr, 28

Torpedoes, Typhoons, and War Stories, *Rachel Faas Trim and Danielle Nye Poulter*, Jul, 10

Trim, Rachel Faas
Torpedoes, Typhoons, and War Stories, Jul, 10

TRUST
Can You Be Trusted? *William R. Walker*, Nov, 40
Choose a Bright Future, *John H. Groberg*, Sep, 38

Tuason, Miles T.
Answer in the Book, The, Jun, 44

Tuning In to Happiness, *Adam M. Shorter*, Feb, 44

Tupe, Faapisa M.
No Place Like Home, Mar, 43
Twice Rescued, *W. Rolfe Kerr*, Feb, 20

Two Great Lights, The, *Joseph B. Wirthlin*, Aug, 2

U
Uchtdorf, Dieter F.
Bright as the Sun, Jun, 2

Uncle Bir's Letter, *Sarab K. Brown*, Sep, 8

UNDERSTANDING
Unexpected Hero, *Kelly M. Smurthwaite*, May, 36

Unto the Least, *Riley M. Lorimer*, Dec, 41

Up to the Challenge, *Adam C. Olson*, Sep, 24

V
Vance, Dwayne
Finding Christmas in Sendai, Dec, 24

VanDenBerghe, Paul
Accepting the Challenge, Dec, 10
Come Learn and Have Fun, Jun, 18
Mayor for a Day, Jan, 26
Michael Knows, May, 20
Ricardo Walked Alone, Feb, 18

W
Walker, Megan
Home, Oct, 31

Walker, Veronica Garcia
Worth It! Oct, 42

Walker, William R.
Can You Be Trusted? Nov, 40

Walton, Kristen Gibby
Come, Come, Ye Saints, Jul, 41

Watch, Some Buttons, and Joseph's Cloak, A, *Sally Johnson Odekirk*, Dec, 20

We Believe in You! *James E. Faust*, Oct, 2

Wearing Two Names, *Jean Brice Lagoua*, Jun, 7

Webber, Cara Smith
What I Learned as a Corn Dog, Jul, 24

Weighing In for a Mission, *Danielle Nye Poulter*, Sep, 32

Weyland, Jack
Independence Day, Feb, 38

What Abraham's Covenant Means to You, *Shanna Butler*, Apr, 32

What Does It Mean to Be Perfect? *Cecil O. Samuelson*, Jan, 10

What Goes Around Comes Around, May, 19

What I Learned as a Corn Dog, *Cara Smith Webber*, Jul, 24

What Is the Difference between Immortality and Eternal Life? *Joseph B. Wirthlin*, Nov, 8

When the Holy Spirit Speaks, Apr, 21

Who's It Hurting? Jan, 34

Why Date? *Matthew and Janine Clarke*, Aug, 38

Why Me? *Juliam Brown*, Jan, 43

Winters, Susan
Mary and Joseph, Dec, 28

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WINTER TREE
BY LAURA W. YAMADA

Tall, angular tree
feathered with crystal snow in
delicate dawn light.

HAIKU FOR WINTER
BY LORENA BARNEY WILSON

Gray winter branches
reach for the sun to bring back
their summer colors.



“Mary was the noble woman from whom Jesus would obtain a body of flesh and blood. Joseph, a kind and spiritual man, received the assignment to watch over and care for the boy Jesus.”

See “Mary and Joseph,” p. 28.