



THE
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COVER STORY:
WHERE DO FAST
OFFERINGS GO? P. 32

MEET THE PROPHET, P. 2

THE REASON FOR THE
BOOK OF MORMON, P. 6

ARE YOU BEING
NOTICED? P. 22

PRAY AND RUN, P. 24

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Henry B. Eyring,
Dieter F. Uchtdorf

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COVER STORY:
WHERE DO FAST OFFERINGS GO?, p. 32

Called to Serve:
Man of Faith, Man of Compassion 2

President Thomas S. Monson, 16th President of the Church.

The Message:
Why the Book of Mormon? 6

President Henry B. Eyring
The Book of Mormon is both clear in doctrine and full of invitations to come to the Savior.

Skating with Jennifer 10

Laura Kohn and Susan Winters
Helping others with Personal Progress is a great way to move forward.

What Joseph Taught:
The Everlasting Priesthood 13

A chain of authority and power exists from Adam down to the present time.

Q&A:
Questions and Answers 14

I know it's important to study the scriptures. How do I find the time?

New Era Poster:
Be Big, Don't Belittle 17

Leading and Learning 18

Janet Thomas

Young elders quorum presidencies learn leadership by doing.

A Note to the Good Guys,
A Note to the Good Girls 22

Kjerstin Wittwer and Rhett Wilkinson

Choosing to be good? Who's going to notice?

On Your Mark . . .
Get Set . . . Pray! 24

Christa Skousen

We all prayed in our own ways, but just praying together helped us be united.

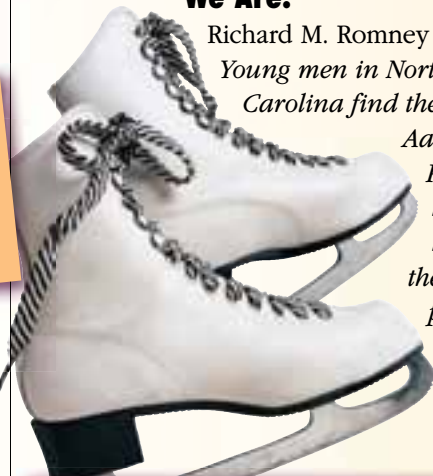
We Are! 26

Richard M. Romney

Young men in North

Carolina find the

Aaronic Priesthood helps them prepare.



SKATING WITH JENNIFER, p. 10

Where Do Fast Offerings Go? 32

Ever wonder just where the fast offerings go and what they are used for?

What's Up? 34

Stand-Up Students 36

Danielle Nye Poulter

Standing up for what they believe is an everyday thing for these students.

The Extra Smile 39

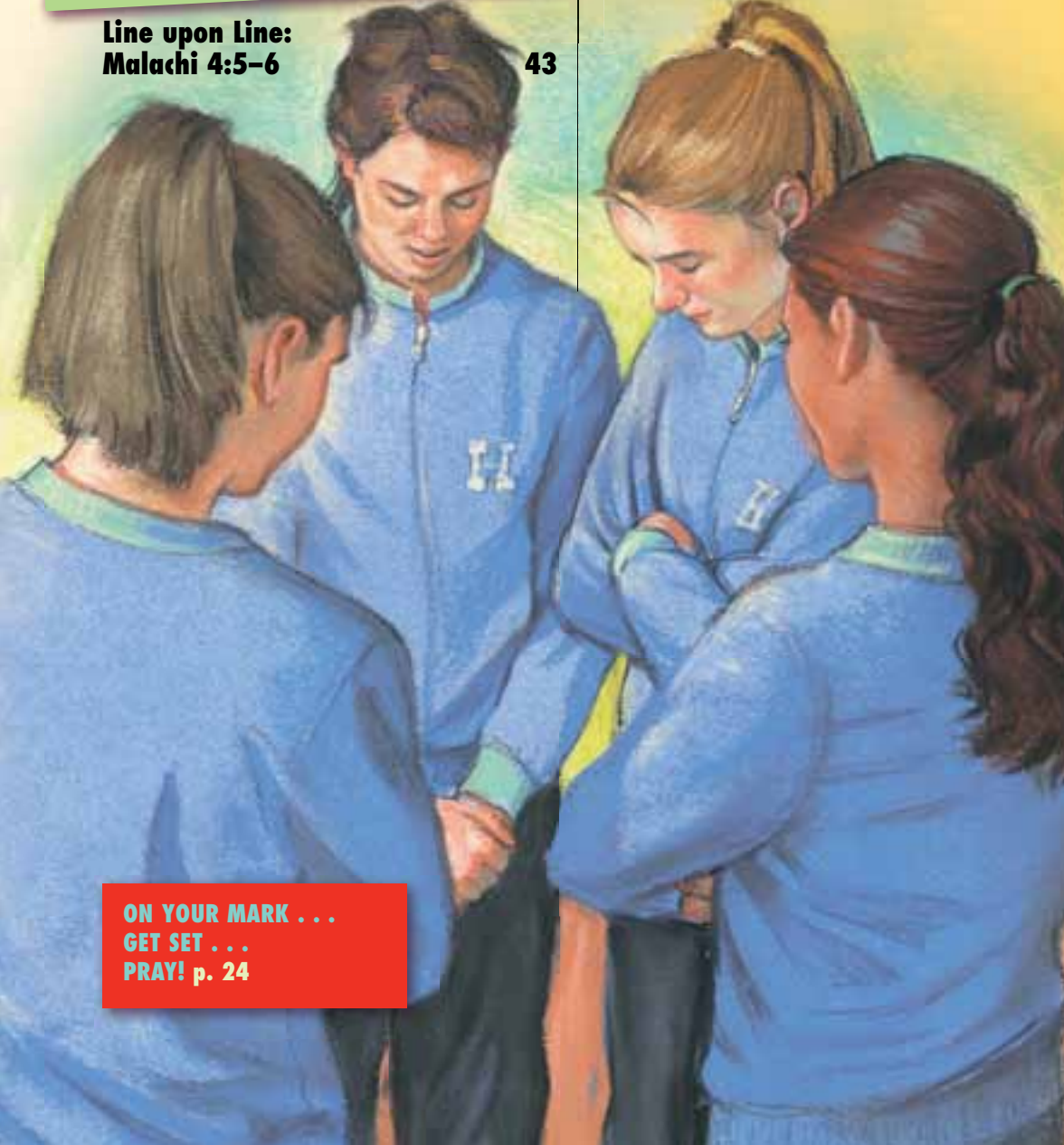


LEADING AND LEARNING, p. 18

My Family Treasure Hunt 40

Rosalie Westenskow
Family history looked boring until I dug into it and found treasure.

Line upon Line: Malachi 4:5-6 43



**ON YOUR MARK . . .
GET SET . . .
PRAY! p. 24**

Instant Messages 44

Choosing clean language; caring by mail; no longer a nobody.

What's in It for You 47

We've Got Mail 48

Poem: Butterfly 49

Dean Mills

Photo 49

Emma Smith

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MAN of FAITH, MAN of COMPASSION

Thomas S. Monson, 16th President of the Church

Although he loved to play softball in his youth, President Thomas S. Monson was a tall, skinny boy who felt disappointed each time he was chosen last for the team. He was not particularly athletic at first, but one day that changed.

“As a boy, I played team softball in elementary and junior high school. Two captains were chosen, and then they, in turn, selected the players they desired on their teams. To be selected fourth or fifth was not too bad, but to be chosen last and relegated to a remote position in the outfield was downright awful. I know. I was there.

“How I hoped that the ball would never be hit in my direction, for surely I would drop it, runners would score, and teammates would laugh.

“As though it were just yesterday, I remember the moment when all that changed in my life. The game started out as I have described: I was chosen last. I made my sorrowful way to the deep pocket of right field and watched as the other team filled the bases with runners. Two batters then went down on strikes. Suddenly, the next batter hit a mighty drive. The ball was coming in my direction. Was it beyond my reach? I raced for the spot where I thought the ball would drop, uttered a silent prayer as I ran, and stretched forth my cupped hands. I surprised myself. I caught the ball! My team won the game! This one experience bolstered my confidence, inspired my desire to practice, and led me from that last-to-be-chosen place to become a real contributor to the team” (*Ensign*, May 1989, 43).

Rather than reveling in his newfound skills on the playing field, President Monson instead took notice of

another boy who became the last chosen and helped him develop his skills. Such Christlike compassion, shown from his boyhood, characterizes the life of President Monson, who on February 4, 2008, was named the 16th President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Developing Compassion

Thomas S. Monson, born in Salt Lake City on August 21, 1927, learned caring and sensitivity from his parents, G. Spencer and Gladys Condie Monson. He remembers that nobody would ever be turned away from their door. It was a time of great economic difficulty, and some transients inevitably would make their way to the Monson home every week. His mother would host them as though each had been an invited guest.

His mother’s caring example was not lost on young Thomas Monson who, while growing up during the Great Depression, became aware of the hardships of those around him.

“He was the kind who accomplished what most boys don’t,” according to President Monson’s boyhood bishop, John R. Burt. “He’d meet with his quorum counselors and stir things up, even as a youngster. Usually you have to do a lot of prodding with young boys, but not with Tom” (*Ensign*, Feb. 1986, 13).

Although times were tough during the Depression, there were also happy times for the Monson family. They spent their summers at a cabin near Provo, Utah, where he developed a love for swimming and fly fishing. Other interests that continued from boyhood include raising



President Thomas S. Monson has served as an Apostle for 44 years and as a counselor in the First Presidency to three Church Presidents. (Below) President Monson as a young man. (Next page) As a naval recruit, and with his wife, Frances, in front of the Salt Lake Temple.





Birmingham roller pigeons (performing birds that roll over backward while flying) and watching football, basketball, and baseball.

President Monson graduated from West High School in Salt Lake City, served in the U.S. Navy during the closing months of World War II, and studied business management at the University of Utah. In 1948 he graduated and on October 7 married his sweetheart, Frances Beverly Johnson, in the Salt Lake Temple. (You can read the story of how they met in the *New Era* article “Whom Shall I Marry?” Oct. 2004, 4.) The couple later became the parents of three children and have nine grandchildren.

A Lifetime of Service

The compassion and sensitivity developed in President Monson’s boyhood continued to be a major part of his life when he was called to be a bishop at age 22. Bishop Monson’s Sixth-Seventh Ward had more than 1,000 members, including 85 widows.

Every Christmas the young bishop took a week of his personal vacation time to visit and bring a gift to each of the widows in his ward. He continued to visit these sisters at Christmas for the next 47 years until the last widow passed away in 1998.

At age 27, President Monson was called as a counselor in the Temple View Stake Presidency, and a few years later he was called to serve as president of the Canadian Mission. On October 4, 1963, he was ordained an Apostle at age 36 (the youngest Apostle in 53 years), and on November 10, 1985, he became a counselor in the First Presidency at age 58 (the youngest in the 20th century).

Looking to the Savior

President Monson has a favorite painting of the Savior, which has always hung in his various offices. “Positioned on the wall of my office, directly opposite my desk, is a lovely print of the Savior, painted by Heinrich Hofmann. I love the painting, which I have had since I was a 22-year-old bishop and which I have taken with me wherever I have been assigned to labor. I have tried to pattern my life after the Master. Whenever I have a difficult decision to make, I have looked at that picture and asked myself, ‘What would He do?’ Then I try to do it. We can never go wrong when we choose to follow the Savior” (*Ensign*, Nov. 2004, 67). **NE**

New FIRST PRESIDENCY



When it was announced on Monday, February 4, that President Thomas S. Monson would become the 16th President of the Church, a new First Presidency was also announced.

President Henry B. Eyring

President Henry B. Eyring was named as the First Counselor. He had been serving in the First Presidency as the Second Counselor under President Gordon B. Hinckley since October 2007.

Born in Princeton, New Jersey, Henry, or Hal as he was called, was raised with his brothers as the only young people in his branch, which met in their home. His family moved to Utah, where President Eyring attended the University of Utah. While in the Air Force and assigned to Albuquerque, New Mexico, he was called as a district missionary in the Western States Mission and served for nearly two years.

After his military service, President Eyring attended Harvard and received masters and doctoral degrees. He married Kathleen Johnson, and they became the parents of six children.

President Eyring was a professor in the Graduate School of Business at Stanford University. He served as president of Ricks College, then served as the Church's Commissioner of Education, a member of the First

Quorum of the Seventy, in the Presiding Bishopric, and as a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.

President Dieter F. Uchtdorf

President Dieter F. Uchtdorf was named as the second counselor. He has been a General Authority since April 1994 and has been a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles since October 2004.

Raised in Zwickau, Germany, President Uchtdorf was baptized at eight years old, two years after his family joined the Church.

As a teenager, President Uchtdorf followed his love of flying. He would go to the airport and, at the indulgence of staff, was allowed to look into the cockpits and dream of flying in the freedom of the skies. He started with an engineering education, followed by six years in the German Air Force. At age 29 he became a captain with Lufthansa, where he rose quickly to become director of the training school, chief pilot, and senior vice president of flight operations.

At the same time, he held several Church callings such as president of the Frankfurt Germany Stake, then as president of the Mannheim Germany Stake, and finally as a General Authority in the Second Quorum, First Quorum, and Presidency of the Seventy. President Uchtdorf and his wife, Harriet Reich, have two children. **NE**

Why THE BOOK OF

BY PRESIDENT HENRY B. EYRING
First Counselor in the First Presidency



We must not forget that the Lord Himself provided the Book of Mormon as His chief witness.

When I was a young man I wondered why the Lord needed to have the Prophet Joseph Smith translate the Book of Mormon to begin the Restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ. I knew that God the Father and Jesus Christ had spoken with him. I knew that Peter, James, and John had restored the Melchizedek Priesthood, that prophets had brought the keys, and that Joseph had been taught by apostles and prophets from earlier dispensations. With all of that, I wondered what the place of the coming forth of the Book of Mormon in all of that was.

It Is a Powerful Missionary Tool

Then I began missionary work. One of my early companions told me the story of his conversion. I remember his words, which were something like this: “The missionaries had taught me. I had read the Book of Mormon. The missionaries challenged me to set a date for baptism, but I could not decide. Finally, I knew I had to make a choice. So, I knelt down and prayed to know if the Book of Mormon was true. I told God that I was desperate, that I knew this was the most important decision I had ever made, and that I needed His help.

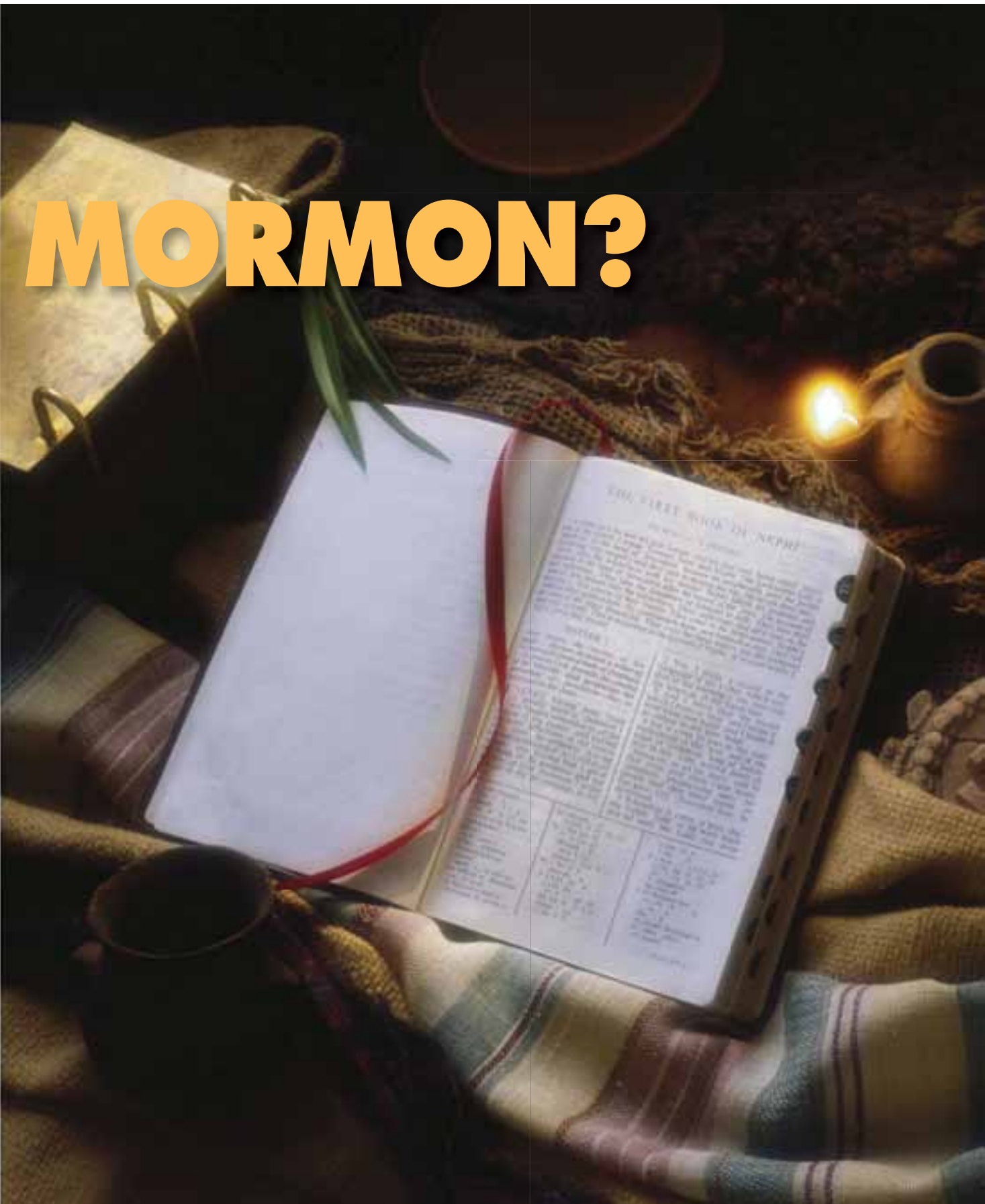
The Spirit testified to me that the Book of Mormon was true, that Joseph Smith was a prophet, that the Church was true, and so I was baptized.”

It took a missionary experience for me to understand the place of the Book of Mormon in the Restoration and in our work. I came to understand why the Prophet Joseph called missionaries and sent them out to teach with the Book of Mormon. I came to know that what President Benson said about the Book of Mormon was true. He said this: “We must not forget that the Lord Himself provided the Book of Mormon as His chief witness. The Book of Mormon is still our most powerful missionary tool. Let us use it” (*The Teachings of Ezra Taft Benson* [1988], 204).

It Testifies of Christ

The Book of Mormon has been at the center of missionary work since the gospel was restored through the Prophet Joseph. We use it every day in missionary work. One fact about the Book of Mormon being the key to power in each part of missionary work is this: the Book of Mormon is a testament of Jesus Christ. The title page tells us that. It says that the purpose of the book

MORMON?



The Book of Mormon is filled with references to the kindness of the Savior and has great power to allow the Holy Ghost to give us assurance that the Lord is reaching out to all of us.

is to show what great things the Lord has done for His people, to help them know that the covenants the Lord has made with His people are still in force, and to convince all people that Jesus is the Christ.

There are thousands of references to the Savior in the Book of Mormon. The testimony of Jesus permeates every page. So, whoever reads it is reading words which testify of the Savior.

It Brings the Spirit

The mission of the Holy Ghost is to testify of Jesus Christ. So, since the Book of Mormon is another testament for Jesus Christ, whenever we use it, we invite the Holy Ghost to come. The very nature of the Book of Mormon invites the Spirit.

Here is one passage from the Book of Mormon which conveys that we value this message beyond anything else we have or could have:

“And he will take upon him death, that he may loose the bands of death which bind his people; and he will take upon him their infirmities, that his bowels may be filled with mercy, according to the flesh, that he may know according to the flesh how to succor his people according to their infirmities” (Alma 7:12).

Each of us feels something a little different as we hear those words because we have different infirmities and different experiences for which the Lord gives us succor. The Book of Mormon is filled with references to the kindness of the Savior and has great power to allow the Holy Ghost to give us assurance that the Lord is reaching out to all of us. Everyone knows they will someday need such comfort. The Book of Mormon gives that assurance over and over again.

It Teaches and Invites

The Book of Mormon is both clear in doctrine and full of invitation to come to the Savior. The best way to answer concerns is always simple declaration of the truth, combined with warm invitation. The Prophet Joseph Smith described the Book of Mormon as being that sort of book. He said, “I told the brethren that the Book of Mormon was the most correct of any book on earth, and the keystone of our religion, and a man would get nearer to God by abiding by its precepts, than by any other book” (*History of the Church*, 4:461; quoted in the Introduction to the Book of Mormon).

When missionaries teach people about the Book of Mormon, they make the promise that Moroni makes:

“And when ye shall receive these things, I would exhort you that ye would ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not true; and if ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost.

“And by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things” (Moroni 10:4–5).

We can promise them even more. We can promise that the Spirit will not only tell them that the book is true, but it will also tell them what they can do to find greater happiness. This is the promise in 2 Nephi 32:3:

“Angels speak by the power of the Holy Ghost; wherefore, they speak the words of Christ. Wherefore, I said unto you, feast upon the words of Christ; for behold, the words of Christ will tell you all things what ye should do.”



We can also promise that reading the Book of Mormon will bring power to resist temptation or produce feelings of love within our families. President Benson said it this way, and the promise is sure: “There is a power in the book which will begin to flow into your lives the moment you begin a serious study of the book. You will find greater power to resist temptation. You will find the power to avoid deception. You will find the power to stay on the strait and narrow path. The scriptures are called ‘the words of life’ (see D&C 84:85), and nowhere is that more true than it is of the Book of Mormon. When you begin to hunger and thirst after those words, you will find life in greater and greater abundance. These promises—increased love and harmony in the home, greater respect between parent and child, increased spirituality and righteousness—these are not idle promises, but exactly what the Prophet Joseph Smith meant when he said the Book of Mormon will help us draw nearer to God” (*The Teachings of Ezra Taft Benson*, 54).

All good people long for those promises. Let us testify to them that the realization of those promises is possible for them. The book is about covenants which will lead them toward the happiness they so much desire.

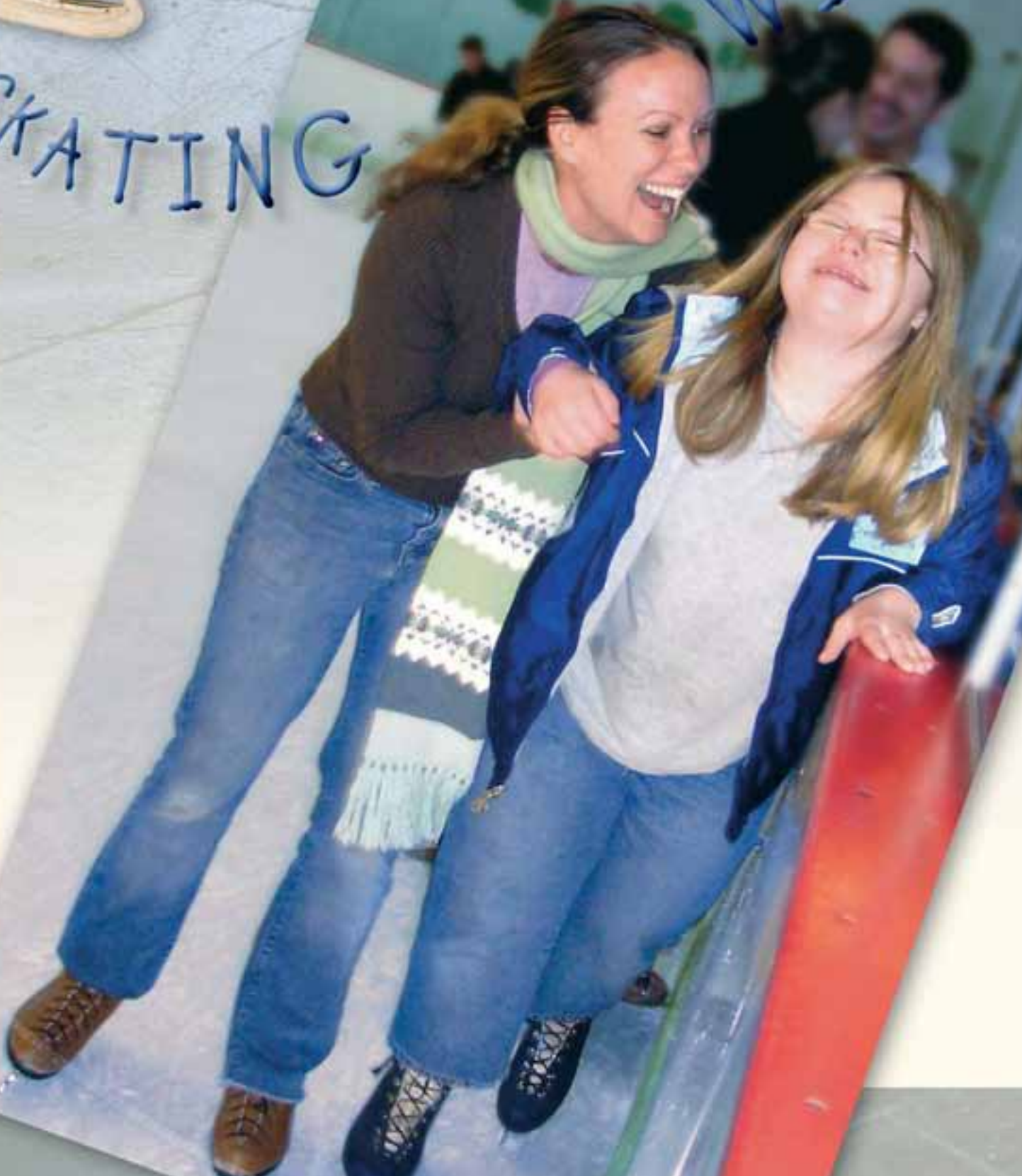
Conversion depends upon our feeling the Spirit. The words of the Book of Mormon invite the Holy Ghost. There is great converting power in the word of God. Alma taught us that the word of God was “more powerful . . . than the sword, or anything else” in changing people’s hearts (Alma 31:5).

I testify that the Book of Mormon is another testament of Jesus Christ and that it will lead us to come closer to Him. I testify that the Book of Mormon testifies of the Bible and restores precious truths taken from it. I testify that the Book of Mormon leads us to make commitments and feel that love which will lead us toward living better lives. And I testify that by earnest prayer we may know that the Book of Mormon is true, that Joseph Smith was a prophet, that President Thomas S. Monson is the living prophet today, and that God the Father lives and that He loves us. **NE**



SKATING

WITHH



JENNIFER

BY LAURA KOHN
AND SUSAN WINTERS

Young women in California find that it's easy to adapt when you care enough to make progress personal.



It's not unusual to see two girls giggling as they try to stay up on ice skates.

But how often do they do it while working on Personal Progress?

In this case, it's one of many things young women in the Centerville

Ward of the Fremont Stake in northern California have done to help one of their own. The skating activity was tailor-made to fit the needs of Jennifer Beck, who has Down syndrome.

Motivated by the spiritual growth and blessings they had seen others receive through participation in Personal Progress, the stake Young Women presidency prayerfully sought guidance about how to help Jennifer, a Mia Maid. Their prayers were answered when they found the following instruction:

"Value Experiences and Value Projects may be modified according to personal or local circumstances, interests, and needs with the prior approval of parents and Young Women leaders. . . . After careful consideration by parents and leaders, modifications may be appropriate to meet the needs of young women with disabilities" (*Guidebook for Parents and Leaders of Youth* [pamphlet, 2001], 19–20).

That was how to bring Personal Progress to Jennifer!

The young women and their leaders were asked to read through the Value Experiences in the Personal Progress book and to select one that they felt they could help Jennifer complete. They were encouraged to modify the selected value experience to better suit Jennifer's abilities by asking themselves, "What is the intent of this Value Experience? What is it that Jennifer is supposed to learn from this experience?"

Each young woman made a written commitment to carry out the Value Experience they would share with Jennifer. All of the commitments were organized onto a calendar indicating who would meet with Jennifer each month and what experience would be completed. This commitment calendar ensured that Jennifer would experience Personal Progress on a regular basis without being overwhelmed. It also helped the Young Women presidency, Jennifer, and her parents to track what she had accomplished.

Since then, Jennifer has had regular Personal Progress experiences that have helped her feel the Spirit and better understand her own divine nature. "Suppose 23 girls took a special interest in you," her mother, Judy, says. "When people spend time with Jennifer, she feels a bond that makes her life much richer."

The young women and leaders who have partnered with Jennifer have also received

Jennifer and Sister Laura Kohn (left) have fun ice skating while working on Jennifer's Individual Worth experience. These friends (above, left to right) Ashley Hess, Sister Kerri Laufer, Jennifer Beck, Jana Beck, and Sarah Topham enjoy a special friendship. Jennifer and Natalie Kirk (below) are working on her Integrity experience.



PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF LAURA KOHN, EXCEPT WHERE NOTED; ICE RINK BY CRAIG DIMOND; ICE SKATES BY GETTY IMAGES; AND PHOTOSHOP

unexpected blessings. “When I met with Jennifer to complete the sixth Value Experience, in Choice and Accountability, I felt like I received more than I gave,” remembers one of the stake leaders. “Hearing her simple yet pure understanding of the Young Women theme and what it means to be a daughter of God taught me so much about His love for each one of us. I felt her testimony of Jesus Christ when I met with Jennifer to create a collection of pictures of the Savior for a sacrament picture book.”

Laura Dunford worked with Jennifer to teach her the principle of tithing. “We made a little box for savings, one for spending money, and most importantly, one for tithing,” Laura explains. “It was really fun. Jennifer is wonderful, and I love her.”

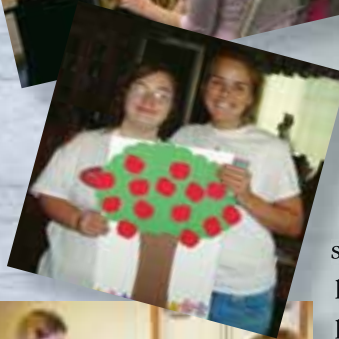
Emily Topham helped Jennifer perform service. “I knew she liked to cook, so I decided to help her make a pizza dinner for her family. We laughed a lot, and afterward she told me her family enjoyed the yummy food. We were both happy to make someone smile.”

At Christmastime Jennifer was able to participate in a hand-bell concert at an inter-stake pageant. This was a thrilling experience, one she remembers and often talks about.

Jennifer also recalls working in the ward nursery, learning about service by collecting donations for a humanitarian project, learning about listening to clean music and watching appropriate movies, and of course ice skating.

With diligent effort and some help from her friends, Jennifer Beck completed her Personal Progress goals and received her Young Women Medallion. The young women and their leaders in the Freemont Ward appreciated this opportunity to share spiritual experiences with Jennifer, and they continue to be blessed by her sweet testimony and loving spirit. They truly have become united. **NE**

Jennifer (right) makes progress on her goals by learning to lead music, creating a family tree with Charlotte Olsen, learning to play hand bells with Julie Seimbrenner, and delivering meals to the needy with Ashley Hess and Brittany Carlile.



WHAT JOSEPH TAUGHT

THE EVERLASTING PRIESTHOOD

Joseph Smith taught us about the nature and purpose of the priesthood.

In 1829 the Prophet Joseph Smith received the Aaronic Priesthood from John the Baptist and the Melchizedek Priesthood from Peter, James, and John. Throughout his life, the Prophet's understanding of the power and authority of the priesthood grew. Here are some of his teachings about the priesthood.*

CHAIN OF AUTHORITY

"There has been a chain of authority and power from Adam down to the present time. . . .

"How have we come at the Priesthood in the last days? It came down, down, in regular succession. Peter, James, and John had it given to them and they gave it to others. Christ is the Great High Priest; Adam next."

THE MELCHIZEDEK PRIESTHOOD

"There are two Priesthoods spoken of in the Scriptures, [namely], the Melchizedek and the Aaronic or Levitical. Although there are two Priesthoods, yet the Melchizedek Priesthood comprehends the Aaronic or Levitical Priesthood, and is the grand head, and holds the highest authority which pertains to the Priesthood, and the keys of the Kingdom of God in all ages of the world to the latest posterity on the earth, and is the channel through which all knowledge, doctrine, the plan of salvation, and every important matter is revealed from heaven. . . .

" . . . The Melchizedek Priesthood . . . is as eternal as God Himself, having neither beginning of days nor end of life."

REVELATION THROUGH THE PRIESTHOOD

"One great privilege of the [Melchizedek] Priesthood is to obtain revelations of the mind and will of God. . . .

" . . . A man can do nothing for himself unless God direct him in the right way; and the priesthood is for that purpose." **NE**

* From *Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Joseph Smith* (2007), 104–5, 108–9.

Q & A

*“I know it’s important to study the scriptures.
How do I find the time?”*

NEW ERA

Your days are busy: you need to eat, go to school, do homework, spend time with family, study scriptures, pray personally and as a family, attend Church activities, and perhaps practice sports or musical instruments and hang out with friends. How do you find time to do it all?

What you accomplish each day is up to you; you can decide what is important to you and where to devote your time. You may be surprised at how much you can accomplish if you prioritize your activities.

Find a time of day for scripture study when you are alert and receptive to the Spirit. Ideally, you would find a quiet time and place at home, but you could also use time on a bus or in a car or during part of your lunchtime. It works best to set the same time each day.

With scripture study as a priority, you will find time to make it happen. As a result you will receive incredible blessings: greater insight, knowledge, and access to the Spirit.

- **Prioritize by deciding what’s important to you.**
- **Find a free time of the day when you are alert and spiritually receptive.**
- **With scripture study as a priority, you will find the time to do it.**

You will have the armor of God as a protection. You will feel the Savior’s love as you learn of His gospel in the scriptures. The reward is definitely worth the effort. **NE**

READERS

Be Committed

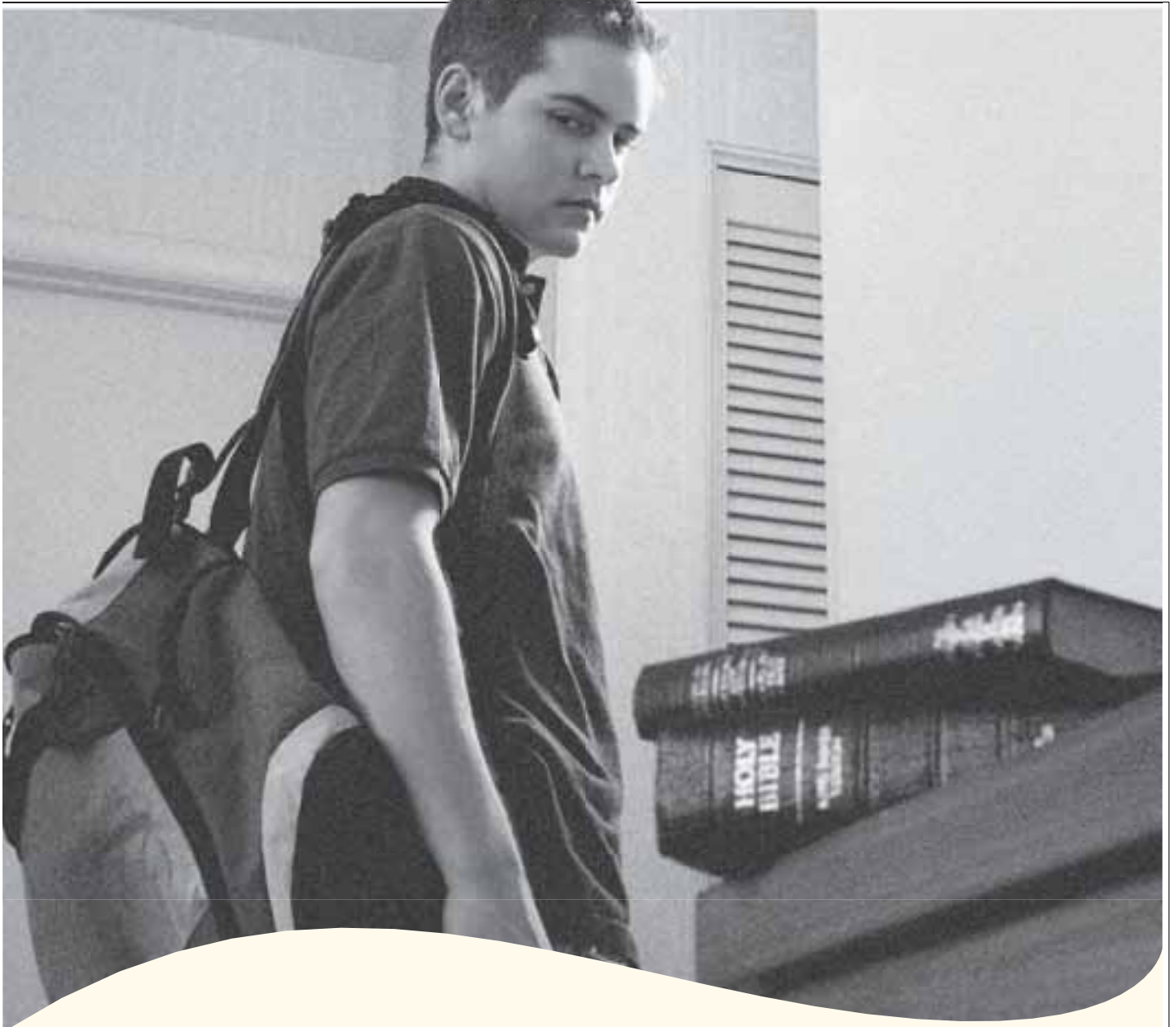


I found that reading my scriptures early in the morning helps me to live my standards throughout the day. You have to be committed and willing to do it. If you put your scriptures where you can see them each morning or night, you will be reminded to read them.

Tyler S., 14, Idaho

It Gives You Strength

Finding time to read the scriptures is essential because it gives you the strength for coping with the challenges and problems of today’s world. Satan wants you to be too busy with



other things so you won't read your scriptures. If you set a certain time of day and you stick to it, it becomes natural to you and not such a burden.

Alicia K., 16, West Virginia

No Distractions



I had a hard time reading and studying my scriptures, but I prayed for help in finding time to read. I got my answer

when we had stake conference.

A speaker said to read 20 minutes

a day with no distractions, and it will be a great blessing in your life. I did that and ever since then I have had many things happen that have a good effect on my life.

Lindsey D., 15, New Mexico

Anytime Is a Good Time



Anytime is a good time to read the scriptures. The scriptures will mean more to you and will be of more importance to you if you

show Heavenly Father that you are

determined to study them. Sometimes you may not want to read your scriptures, or you may come up with an excuse not to, but learning to overcome those feelings and learning to love the scriptures will greatly influence how you feel the Spirit.

Amberly R., 16, Maine

Set Priorities and Pray

First, find a time that works for you. I have to do it in the morning before school. I fall asleep at night. Make sure you study at the same time every day.

Second, make it a priority. It isn't a matter of having time, it is a matter of making time and putting your priorities first. Third, pray for help. God will bless you to find the time to do everything He has asked of you.

Cindy L., 16, Utah

Do It First



Reading the scriptures is like paying tithing. If you don't do it first, you will be hard-pressed to do it later. I heard someone say that you always have time for what you put first. When I am short on time, I always try to set my alarm earlier than I need to. That way I know I will be able to fit scripture study in.

Ryan H., 17, Nebraska

Make Time

Most people I know make time to watch TV, play sports, or hang out with friends. If you make time for these things, you can certainly find time to improve your life by reading the scriptures daily. Personally, I enjoy reading the scriptures before I go to bed. It calms me down and helps me have good dreams.

Shannon J., 18, Idaho

Choose a Topic

Honestly and sincerely studying and searching the scriptures just once can make you yearn to do it again. You will be determined to make time for it. A good and easy way to start studying is to get a book like True to the Faith and pick a topic to study and read the scriptures that correspond. It truly is an awakening of the mind.

Preston P., 18, Idaho



Perhaps what is more important than the hour of the day is that a regular time be set aside for study. It would be ideal if an hour could be spent each day; but if that much cannot be had, a half hour on a regular basis would result in substantial accomplishment. A quarter of an hour is little time, but it is surprising how much enlightenment and knowledge can be acquired in a subject so meaningful. The important thing is to allow nothing else to ever interfere with our study."

President Howard W. Hunter (1907-95), "Reading the Scriptures," *Ensign*, Nov. 1979, 64.

Discover and Rediscover



President Kimball said, "I am convinced that each of us must discover the scriptures for ourselves—and not just discover them once, but rediscover them

again and again" (Ensign, Sept. 1976, 5).

Create time to study the scriptures "in a determined and conscientious manner, and we shall indeed find answers to our problems and peace in our hearts" (Ensign, Sept. 1975, 3).

Study and search the scriptures, and we will come to know and love Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ and His love for us.

Patience N., 23, Nigeria

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

NEXT QUESTION

"Sometimes the humor between my family members and friends crosses over into teasing that hurts. How can we break this habit and improve our relationships?"

Send your answer by August 15, 2008, to:

**New Era, Q&A, 8/08
50 E. North Temple St., Rm. 2420
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3220, USA
Or e-mail: newera@ldschurch.org**

The following information and permission must be included in your e-mail or letter:

FULL NAME

BIRTH DATE

WARD (OR BRANCH)

STAKE (OR DISTRICT)

I grant permission to print response and photo:

SIGNATURE

PARENT'S SIGNATURE (IF YOU ARE UNDER 18)

BE BIG DON'T BELITTLE



**You always stand taller when you lift another.
(See Ephesians 4:32.)**

LEADING



This elders quorum president and his two counselors are young but eager to serve.

Junjiro, Steve, and Cassidy know what it is like to be elders. They did, after all, just come home from missions. Now, at school, they were all set to throw themselves into their education when a new learning experience presented itself. They were called to serve as the elders quorum presidency in the BYU–Hawaii First Ward.

“I was excited about the calling because I felt like the Lord trusted me,” said elders quorum president Junjiro Makise, originally from Japan. “I knew He would not give me a calling that I could not handle. And I could do something to help all the members of the ward.”

Called to serve as counselors were Stephen Dangerfield from Moscow, Idaho, and Cassidy Matthew from the Marshall Islands. Alvin Singh is the secretary. The new presidency set out to learn how to be leaders. They followed the pattern they had learned in the Aaronic Priesthood and while on their missions—they turned to the scriptures and to the Lord in prayer.

“I had a good example in my life,” said Junjiro. “That was my father. He had been the bishop and the stake president when I was growing up. He said that in a leadership position, you have to be an example and participate in everything. It’s not just

Just called to serve as the elders quorum presidency in their ward, Cassidy Matthew, Stephen Dangerfield, and Junjiro Makise (left to right) are meeting this new challenge with enthusiasm, relying on what they have learned from parents, Church leaders, and their missions.

telling the members what to do but showing by example. You have to do all the things that you ask them to do. You have to be at the activity or at the service project. Then they will do the things you ask them to do more willingly because they know you are doing them as well.”

“My father always drove me to Church activities,” said Junjiro. “Sometimes I just wanted to stay home and play with my friends, but he was always there to take me. Because of my father, I developed the habit of participating in all Church activities. To me, he was what a leader should be.”

Junjiro follows his father’s advice. If he asks the members of the quorum to volunteer for service or to teach a lesson or come to an activity, he is there himself offering support. He said, “Before my calling, I didn’t know the members of my quorum very well. Now I worry about how I can help them to do their part.”

Making an Amazing Difference

When Junjiro was called, he approached the Lord, as the bishop suggested, in deciding upon his counselors. Two names came up: Stephen Dangerfield and Cassidy Matthew. He felt the influence of the Spirit in asking to serve with these fine young men.

BY JANET THOMAS
Church Magazines

LEARNING





Junjiro conducts in elders quorum meeting (above) and with his counselors spends time visiting the members of his quorum personally.

Steve had been serving as a district supervisor for home teaching. “I knew he was on top of things and would get things done,” said Junjiro. Cassidy was newly called as the membership clerk in the ward. But when Junjiro talked to the bishop about him, the bishop said if that’s what the Lord wants, then that’s how it will be. The presidency is united in their goal to serve the elders of their ward.

Steve said, “I think the biggest thing you learn in this sort of position is how significant each person is. It doesn’t need a huge effort on each person’s part, just doing home teaching or coming to activities. It’s fulfilling your responsibilities. You don’t need to go beyond what you’re asked to do. But just doing what you are assigned makes an amazing difference.”

The first challenge facing this presidency was just getting to know all the members of their quorum. Since they are all students, turnover is significant. People finish a semester or a school year and then return home or go on to school in other places.

At first, the quorum was combined from three wards for the summer semester. “Our quorum,” said Steve, “is a good bunch of guys. They all want to be friends.”

On Sundays, Steve often has to assign

the quorum to service or welfare projects. He appreciates those who are willing to serve. “They are valiant—or they have flexible schedules,” said Steve, with a smile. The presidency strives to include everyone and leave no individual overlooked.

Learning to Care

For Cassidy, it was a surprise when he was called to the presidency. “I got a call asking me to come for an interview with the bishop,” said Cassidy. “I knew something was going to happen, but I didn’t know what it was. I had served in the elders quorum presidency in my small branch back home in the Marshall Islands before my mission, and I learned a lot. But here, in such a large quorum, I have learned even more.

“The thing that has impressed me most was when we looked at all the names on the list and discussed what we were going to do to help each person. It meant a lot to me that we were talking about the needs of each person. It hit me that I was thinking more about others than I was about myself.”

Even in a student ward, this elders quorum presidency is young. But they all see it as a chance to grow. “There are a lot of people in the ward,” said Junjiro, “who know more than we do, and they know more about how to run activities. At first, we looked at our weaknesses. They are hard to get over, but then we gained confidence, and now we just need to keep going.”

And that’s just how this presidency is working. They are pushing ahead, getting to know everyone, trying to get them all involved, finding ways to help fulfill the needs of those in the ward. They are leading by example. **NE**





A Note to the Good Guys

BY KJERSTIN WITWER

Dear Good Guy, I know you're out there. I've seen you helping your little sister with her homework, carrying your mom's groceries in from the car, hanging out with your brother—even if he is a pain sometimes—and holding the door for me. I'm impressed by the fact that you read and know your scriptures, and you seem to enjoy them.

I think it's pretty cool that you're an Eagle Scout. I have brothers, and I know how much work that is. It's awesome that you're willing to put that much effort into something.

I have resisted, on several occasions, the urge to clap out loud when I see you singing in church—too few guys do, and honestly, I find it really attractive that you're willing to sing hymns that you would any other music.

I'm reassured knowing that you're blessing and passing the sacrament worthily. I can't do that for myself, it's comforting to know that you're worthy to use the priesthood you hold. It's a big deal, and I'm glad you respect that.

I like it when you show up to Mutual, Sunday School, and seminary. Not only am I glad that you don't take the Church of Jesus Christ for granted, but I'm glad that I get to see you.

I don't say it enough, but listen to me now. I like who you are and the things you stand up for. I like your strength and convictions. If you ever get discouraged and think being a good guy is more trouble than it's worth, remember that I'm keeping an eye on you. I'm striving to be good so you'll respect me.

I respect you and will stay strong in return. Don't ever stop being a good guy. You're the best.

Faithfully yours,
An admirer

HOW ABOUT YOU?

These letters demonstrate the admiration and respect that grow when you live according to Church standards, as discussed in *For the Strength of Youth*. There the First Presidency praises and encourages the youth of the Church, saying:

"We promise that as you keep these standards and live by the truths in the scriptures, you will be able to do your life's work with greater wisdom and skill and bear trials with greater courage. You will have the help of the Holy Ghost. You will feel good about yourself and will be a positive influence in the lives of others" (pamphlet, 2001, 2).

Have you had an experience that has helped you feel better about yourself because you stuck to your standards? Share it with us at newera@ldschurch.org

A Note to the Good Girls

BY RHETT WILKINSON

Dear Good Girl,
I know you're out there. I've seen you sitting at lunch with someone who looks lonely, caring for your younger siblings, and speaking kind words. I know you think it goes unnoticed, but trust me—I am impressed.

I think it's cool that you don't dress like a lot of other girls. It is much more comfortable for us guys when a girl dresses modestly (and yes, girls who dress modestly are very attractive) and uses good language. Immodest dress and nasty or mean talk just make it awkward and embarrassing for me.

I'm glad you're comfortable with who you are. There are just way too many girls out there who aren't. I can tell in your eyes and in your smile that you know you're a daughter of God. That, to me, is beautiful.

I like that you study hard in school and that you're finishing your Personal Progress. You probably thought I would never notice, but I do. This shows me that you are serious about becoming a wonderful wife, mother, and woman of God.

I'm glad you're not afraid to stand up for what you think is right, and you do not just "follow the crowd." Sometimes it might feel like you're the only one, but you're not. You are an example to more than just me.

Thanks for sticking to your convictions. More than anything, you help motivate me! You make me want to live up to the teachings of Jesus Christ and the standards you have set and continue to live by. I've been watching you. I can't help noticing. Don't ever give up.

Sincerely,
An admirer

ON YOUR MARK GET SET

BY CHRISTA SKOUSEN

Our coach was counting on us to break the school record, and we had done all we could to prepare. Or had we?

This was a big meet. A look of fear plastered across my face was the style I sported every race day, but today I was also shaking. Our coach was banking on my long-distance team to break the school record for the 4 x 800 meter relay.

I spent the earlier part of the meet taking all the necessary precautions: warming up, stretching, staying hydrated, and saying silent prayers over and over again in my head. As I sat in a quiet, shady spot stretching my calves (and calming my nerves), my teammate Kyra approached me.

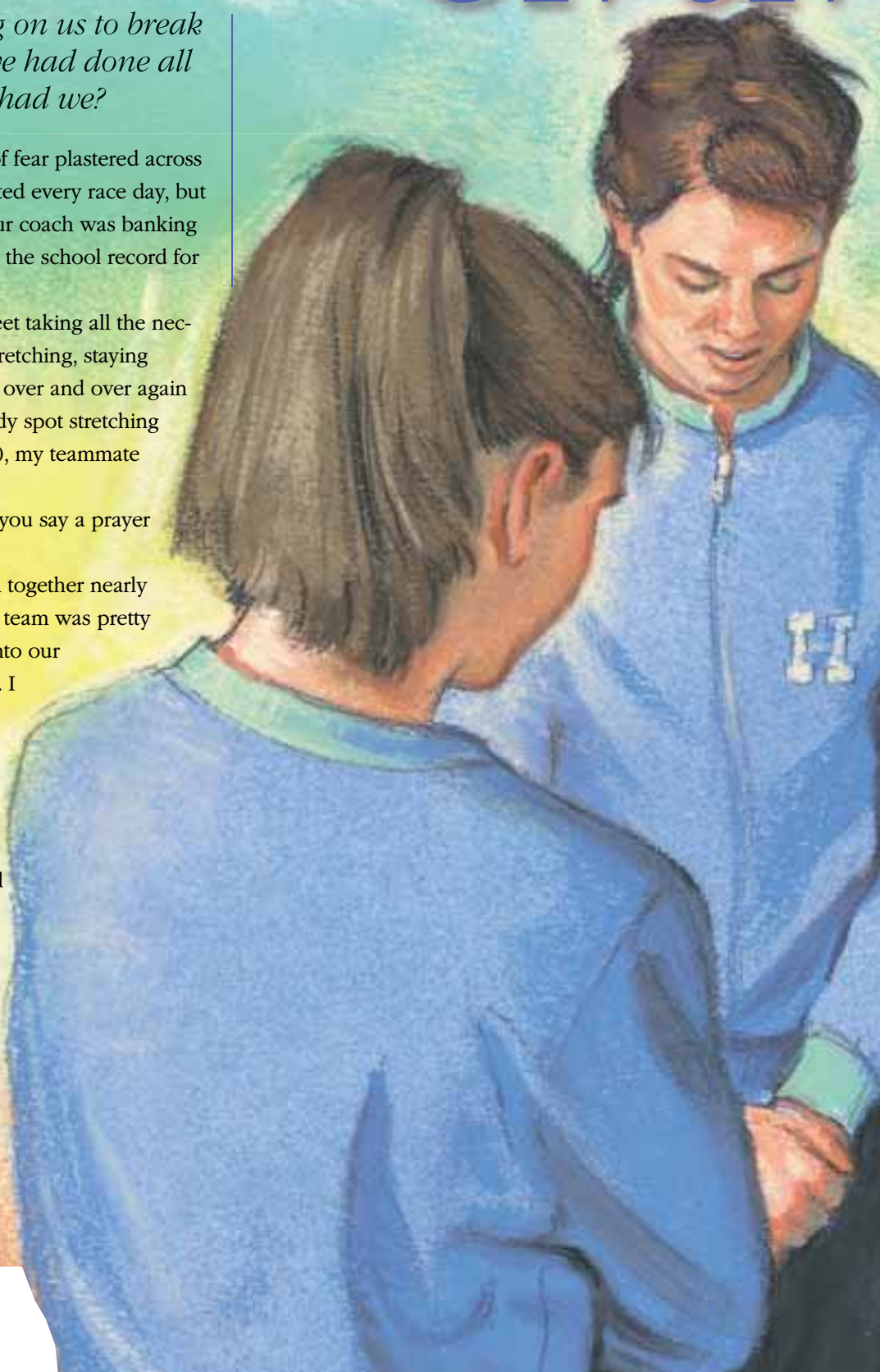
“Christa, I have a question. Will you say a prayer with us?”

Rachel, Kyra, Meridith, and I ran together nearly every day. Even though our school team was pretty big, we four girls usually split off into our own group to run longer distances. I was the first Latter-day Saint these girls had ever met, so Kyra’s question surprised me.

Grinning, she said, “I was thinking that each of us could each say a prayer because today we need all the help we can get!”

So I stood up and followed the other girls away from the rest of the team. We huddled together and proceeded to take turns saying our individual prayers. Rachel went first and sang a beautiful prayer she had learned in Hebrew school. Then Kyra recited a prayer she had learned as a child.

When it was my turn I closed



Pray!



my eyes, folded my arms, and said a prayer in my own words.

“Dear Heavenly Father, we are grateful to be on this team together. Please help each of us to be strong and to run to the best of our abilities. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.”

Once I finished I felt a quiet stillness that replaced the feelings of awkwardness I had felt just moments before.

At first I was worried about saying a prayer in front of my friends, but afterward I felt an overwhelming sense of gratitude.

When we had finished, we all ran one last warm-up lap together. Everyone started talking nervously about the race, but my mind kept traveling back to the prayers we had shared just a few minutes before. I was impressed with my friends’ sincerity and faithfulness in their own religions. They had been raised to think of prayer in one way, and I in another. Until that moment I had never really thought deeply about the way Latter-day Saints pray.

How grateful I am for the knowledge I have that I can communicate with my Father in Heaven like I would with a friend. When I am feeling sad or frustrated or even nervous before a race, I can always ask Him for help, and He is always there to listen. From that day on, prayer became a regular part of our preparation before every meet. We did end up breaking the school record that day. But what I remember most is the newfound appreciation I gained for the direct line of communication we can all have with our Heavenly Father. **NE**

WE ARE!

BY RICHARD M. ROMNEY
Church Magazines

Who is using the priesthood to prepare for the future? Young men in North Carolina know the answer.

Andrew Hill, David Christison, and Lauren DellAquila (left to right, this page) tell how fellowshiping led Lauren back to church and into the waters of baptism. Andrew Roberts and Hope Riner (next page, bottom) experienced fellowshiping within their own family when he baptized her.

This story about the Aaronic Priesthood begins with a young woman, 16-year-old Lauren DellAquila of the Cary Second Ward, Apex North Carolina Stake. Lauren hadn't come to Church for years. She had never been baptized and confirmed, "but I just knew in my heart that the Church was true."

She also knew David Christison, 16, and Andrew Hill, 15, who attend the same school, are Latter-day Saints. "I'm in marching band with David and had a couple of classes with Andrew last year," she says. And she knew they stood by their beliefs. "It meant a lot to see their example, because most teens at our school don't have values like they do," Lauren explains.

An Invitation

Then one day after band, some other classmates were making unkind comments about the Church. Lauren told them if they really wanted to know the truth, they shouldn't repeat rumors; they should find out for themselves. Afterward, David thanked her and asked how she knew so much about the Church. "She said that when she was really young she went to Church, but then her parents divorced and she stopped coming," David says. "So I invited her to come again."





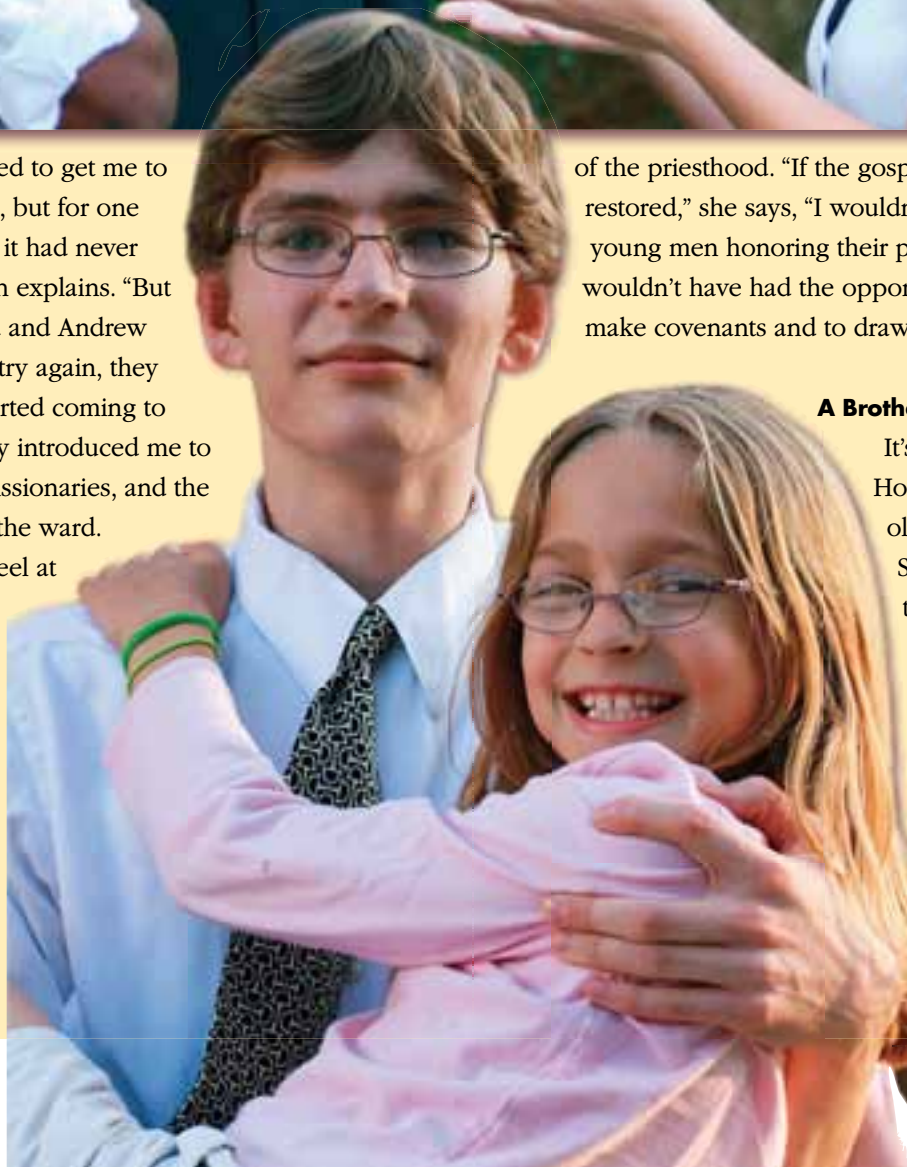
“People had tried to get me to come back before, but for one reason or another it had never happened,” Lauren explains. “But when I told David and Andrew that I did want to try again, they were excited. I started coming to meetings, and they introduced me to the bishop, the missionaries, and the young women in the ward. They helped me feel at home.”

Soon Lauren was baptized and confirmed, and today she’s a happy, confident Laurel who recently gave a sacrament meeting talk about the importance

of the priesthood. “If the gospel had not been restored,” she says, “I wouldn’t have seen two young men honoring their priesthood. And I wouldn’t have had the opportunities I have had to make covenants and to draw close to the Savior.”

A Brother’s Example

It’s a similar story for Hope Riner, an 8-year-old in the same ward. She benefited from the good example of her 17-year-old half-brother, Andrew Roberts. He joined the Church a little over a year ago and was recently ordained a priest, which meant he could baptize her.





“When we live up to our high and holy calling, when we show love for God through service to our fellowmen, when we use our strength and talents to build faith and spread truth, we magnify our priesthood. . . . As we lift and strengthen and build convictions of righteousness in those whose lives we touch, we magnify our priesthood.”

President Gordon B. Hinckley (1910–2008), “Magnify Your Calling,” Ensign, May 1989, 47.

“I felt great about it, because we have a strong bond already,” Hope says. “I was glad my brother could use the priesthood to help me.”

“It was an incredible experience,” Andrew says. “I know I need to be an example to my sister, not only as a brother, but also as an example of the kind of young man she should have as friends and the kind of man she will marry one day. By my example, I’m preparing her to understand how the priesthood can bless her life.”

Both Lauren and Hope know that the young men in their ward—as well as in

the Cary Third Branch (Spanish speaking), which is dependent on their ward—take the priesthood seriously. “They don’t just talk about it,” Lauren says. “They live it.”

Deacons, Teachers, and Priests

Maxwell Guerra, 13, is another example. He’s a member of the branch but serves as the deacons quorum president of the ward. On any given Sunday, he’s meeting with the presidency and the quorum adviser to keep track of the quorum members, plan activities, and make sure all the deacons needed will be there to pass the sacrament. After church



CHLOE’S CREW

Every Sunday, priests from the Cary Second Ward visit one of their best friends. Chloe Hodge is 91 and lives in a care facility.

“We always come with a message from *Preach My Gospel*, because that’s what the bishop recommended,” Erick Wells says. “And she always has a message for us from the scriptures. Then we prepare and bless the sacrament so she can partake.” In fact, the last 15 young men to become priests in the ward have blessed the sacrament for the first time while visiting Chloe.

“I remember going to see her right after I was ordained a priest,” David Christison recalls. “I think it’s a real

blessing, because we sense how much joy the sacrament can bring into someone’s life.”

Sister Hodge, who joined the Church when she was 23, still remembers being baptized in a pond after waiting for the winter ice to melt. But what is obvious as she speaks today is the warmth she feels from these young men—and vice versa.

“Sunday is a perfect day for me because I look forward to them bringing me the emblems of the Lord’s Supper,” Sister Hodges says. “They tell me what happened at church, and for that short period of time, I feel like I’m at the ward again. It’s a wonderful feeling.”



As deacons quorum president, Maxwell Guerra (this page, top foreground) knows holding the Aaronic Priesthood means taking an active role. He keeps track of quorum members, welcomes new deacons, and follows the example of others, like the priests who visit Chloe Hodge (previous page).

on a recent fast Sunday, he helped another deacon collect fast offerings and then visited Alma Parraga, who is about to turn 12 and will soon be joining the quorum.

Andrew Hill, mentioned earlier, is president of the teachers quorum, and he loves the fellowship he finds there. "It's more than just getting along with each other," he stresses. "We strengthen each other and learn from each other." Any assignment, he has found, is easier with teamwork, and that includes home teaching. "One of the great things we do in the Church is to look after each other," he says. "It's a powerful thing when an Aaronic Priesthood holder and a Melchizedek Priesthood holder become a team, with a responsibility to watch over families and individuals."

The teachers also spend time preparing the sacrament, and Andrew says that has special significance for him. "Priests bless the sacrament," he says, "and deacons pass the sacrament. But teachers set a tone of reverence by having everything ready before the meetings begin." Being involved with something so sacred is a great privilege for the Aaronic Priesthood, Andrew says.

Of course, the bishop of the ward is the

president of the Aaronic Priesthood. In the Cary Second Ward, Matthew Watkins is the first assistant to Bishop Charles N. Anderson. Matthew says he feels one of the most



POWER AND SERVICE

The Aaronic Priesthood quorums in the Cary Second Ward are experiencing first-hand the power of the priesthood and the joy of service. All Aaronic Priesthood holders are challenged to do the same.

"You have been called to make a difference in the world," the First Presidency has said. "As a son of God, with the power of the Aaronic Priesthood, you can be a wonderful force for good. You can provide service, giving of your time, talents, and energies without thought of reward" (*Aaronic Priesthood: Fulfilling Our Duty to God, Deacon* [2001], 4.)

Having a strong quorum is more than just getting along together, according to teachers quorum president Andrew Hill (this page, top) and first assistant in the priests quorum Matthew Watkins (this page, below). “We strengthen each other and learn from each other,” Andrew says. The same is true for Erick and Michael Wells (next page) who strengthen each other as brothers in the priesthood and brothers at home.



important things the priests do is to study the gospel together. He is grateful when the bishop helps the priests to understand gospel principles. “The priests help teach each other, too,” he says. “Each Sunday I feel like I understand more and more.” In particular, he remembers a lesson about fasting. “It helped me see how important it is to get close to the Spirit.” He also enjoys providing music for priesthood meeting. “Music is another way of getting close to

the Spirit,” he explains.

Someone to Look Up To

Another priest, Erick Wells, 18, recently ordained his younger brother, Michael, 12, to the office of deacon. “I wanted Erick to ordain me,” Michael says, “because he’s one of the greatest examples in my life. He never does anything wrong that I’ve noticed, so everything he does, I know I can do too.”

Erick smiles at the tribute.





“I really enjoyed being able to use my priesthood to confer it on Michael,” he says. “I feel a great responsibility to be an example not only to my family but to other people as well so that I can share in the gospel with all of them.”

Erick says the goal of all young men in the Church should be “to obtain both the Aaronic and Melchizedek Priesthoods, make covenants in the temple, be missionaries, prepare for a lifetime of service, and live faithfully with their families so that they can be together with Heavenly Father again.” Matthew agrees. “The Aaronic Priesthood lifts us to a higher sense of what we need to be doing,” he says.

And that’s what’s happening in the Cary Second Ward. Ask these young men who is using the priesthood to make a difference right now, and they can truthfully answer, “We are!” Ask them who is using the priesthood to prepare for the future, and the answer is the same. **NE**

How has the priesthood made a difference in your life? E-mail your experience to us at newera@ldschurch.org.



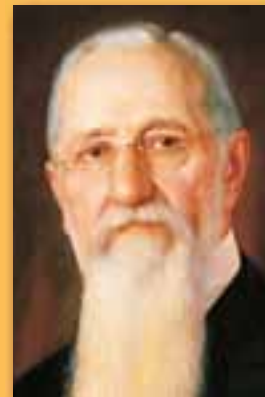
WHO SHOULD DO IT?

Section 20 of the Doctrine & Covenants spells out more than a dozen duties for deacons, teachers, and priests. See if you can match the following responsibilities with the appropriate office in the Aaronic Priesthood. (Hint: see D&C 20:46–60).

1. Invite all to come unto Christ.
2. Lead meetings when no Melchizedek Priesthood is present.
3. Ordain other priests, teachers, and deacons.
4. Receive assistance from deacons.
5. Encourage attendance at meetings.
6. Preach, teach, expound, exhort, and warn others.
7. Baptize.
8. Discourage members from sin and from being unkind, lying, gossiping, or saying mean things.
9. Administer the sacrament.
10. Go home teaching.
11. Remind members to pray and to take care of family duties.
12. Give assistance to the elders of the Melchizedek Priesthood.

1. Deacons and teachers (verse 59).
 2. Priests, or teachers when no priest is present (verses 49 and 56).
 3. Priests (verse 48). Please note, however, that often fathers ordain their sons.
 4. Teachers (verse 57).
 5. Teachers (verse 55).
 6. Deacons, teachers, and priests (verses 46, 50, and 59).
 7. Priests (verse 50).
 8. Teachers (verse 54).
 9. Priests (verse 46).
 10. Priests and teachers (verses 47 and 53).
 11. Teachers (verse 55).
 12. Priests (verse 52).

Answers:



PAINTING BY A. SALZBRENNER

“[The priesthood] is nothing more nor less than the power of God delegated to man by which man can act in the earth for the salvation of the human family, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost, and act legitimately; not assuming that authority, nor borrowing it from generations that are dead and gone, but authority that has been given in this day in which we live by ministering angels and spirits from above, direct from the presence of Almighty God.”

President Joseph F. Smith (1838–1918), *Gospel Doctrine*, 5th ed. (1939), 139–40.

WHERE DO **FAST OFFERINGS** GO?

How your donation gets from the envelope to those in need.

Have you ever wondered what is done with fast offering money? Here's a quick look at what happens after you fill out the donation slip.



1. Aaronic Priesthood holders help collect fast offerings and then turn them in to the bishopric. Members also include fast offerings in their donations to the Church.



2. The bishopric then deposits all the donations in a bank account. The funds are carefully accounted for and managed by Church employees. Each ward is then given funds according to the needs of its members.¹



3. With the help of the Relief Society president and other ward leaders, the bishop determines the needs of the families in the ward. Usually the bishop does not give money to the person being assisted but pays directly for the things the person needs. A family can receive help in the form of commodities (like groceries), payment of certain obligations (like rent or medical bills), or other aid.



4. If a Church facility such as a bishops' storehouse or a Deseret Industries store is nearby, the bishop or Relief Society president can help a family fill out an order form so that the family can obtain specific items from those facilities.²



6. Those who receive help are expected to work for what they receive, if they are able. For example, they may stock shelves at the bishops' storehouse, help clean Church property, or perform other assignments from their bishop.



5. With a bishop's order form, the family can go to a bishops' storehouse to get necessary groceries or to a Deseret Industries store to get clothing and other goods.

NOTES
 1. This procedure is followed in many areas of the world, but in some places it is not feasible, so other arrangements are made.
 2. Although ward fast offering funds are not directly used when items are obtained from bishops' storehouses, the items themselves are paid for in part by fast offering money. If wards and stakes do not spend all of the fast offerings they collect, those funds are used to pay for various welfare programs, such as food for bishops' storehouses.



WE GIVE OUT OF LOVE

It is our understanding of the principle of love that encourages us to give generously to the fast offerings, a wonderful, revealed system in which on the first Sunday of each month, we voluntarily refrain from eating two meals and contribute the cost of those meals to our bishop. He then has the resources to help him help those in need. The system is mostly painless, and it raises our appreciation for those who are without and provides a means to satisfy their daily requirements. May the Lord continue to bless us with the desire to love one another and give generously based on the principle of the fast."

Elder L. Tom Perry of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Building a Community of Saints," Ensign, May 2001, 36.

SUMMER OF SERVICE

PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF THE EAGLE EIGHTH WARD



Last summer the priests quorum of the Eagle Eighth Ward in Eagle, Idaho, took part in a four-day high-adventure service project on the Duck Valley Indian Reservation. Over the course of the four days the young men painted two homes, built wheelchair ramps and railings for four homes, replaced the windows in the home of a local minister, and built a sand volleyball court, fire pit, two tables, and two barbecue grills at the branch meetinghouse. At an inter-tribe rodeo, the priests also distributed over 420 blankets, boots, and winter coats that had been collected by one of the priests for his Eagle Scout project.

The young men and their leaders also visited local members' homes and shared spiritual lessons. On Sunday, local leaders asked them to provide talks and lessons for the branch services. Trent Anderson, one of the priests, said of the experience, "This high adventure helped me learn more about charity, service, and the culture of another people. We finished all the work we had expected and even some other projects given us while we were there. It helped our testimonies grow by trusting in the Lord and in His power."



THE CHURCH IN USA KENTUCKY

The Prophet Joseph Smith likely preached in Louisville, Kentucky, on his way to Missouri. He stayed in the city for three days and later visited it again in 1832. In 1835, two missionaries baptized 22 people there. Brigham Young and Wilford Woodruff preached in Kentucky in July 1843. Though persecution existed, some 1,170 members of the Church lived in the state in 1900.

Automobiles and road improvements caused Bradfordsville, Kentucky, to become a main gathering place for Church

members. One traditional Church-sponsored activity in Bradfordsville was a July 4th fish fry with fiddle and banjo music and food for up to 200 people, including many who were not members of the Church.

Here are a few facts about the Church today in Kentucky:

Membership	29,866
Missions	1
Temples	1
Congregations	73
Family History Centers	21

Information from Newsroom at www.lds.org.

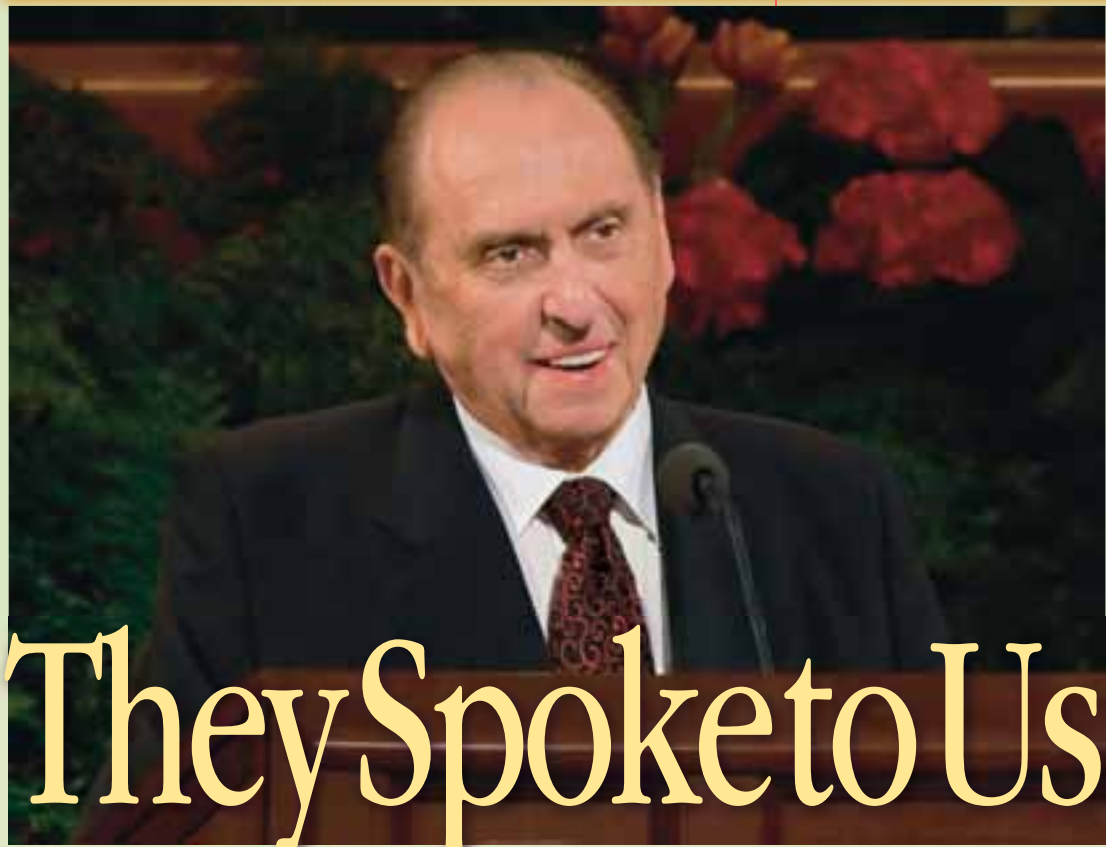
BY THE NUMBERS

22,011

Number of Duty to God awards issued in 2006.

“THE PRIESTHOOD IS NOT REALLY SO MUCH A GIFT AS IT IS A COMMISSION TO SERVE, A PRIVILEGE TO LIFT, AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO BLESS THE LIVES OF OTHERS.”

President Thomas S. Monson,
“Our Sacred Priesthood Trust,” *Ensign*, May 2006, 57.



They Spoke to Us

Many of the general conference talks have messages directed to you, the youth of the Church. Here are just a few examples. Read all the conference talks in the May *Ensign* and *Liahona* magazines. You can also read, listen to, or watch them online at www.lds.org.

- “My young friends, be strong,” says President Monson. He calls on you to resist temp-

tation and to be an example for good. See “Examples of Righteousness.”

- President Henry B. Eyring says the choices you make every day and every hour “keep you walking in the light or moving away toward darkness.” See “Walk in the Light.”
- Read about how to overcome the “Heartbreak Hills” in your life in Sister Elaine S. Dalton’s talk, “At All Times,

in All Things, and in All Places.”

- “Do I need to lower my standards to keep my friends?” Read what Elder W. Craig Zwick says about this question one teen asked his mother. See “We Will Not Yield, We Cannot Yield.”

To read what other youth are saying about the April general conference, go to www.newera.lds.org.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF LAURA J.

MY FAVORITE SCRIPTURE

ALMA 57:21
is my favorite scripture because the 2,000 stripling soldiers are such great examples for me of obedience and faith. One of my goals is to be like them and to “obey and observe to perform every word of command with exactness.”

Laura J., 17, California, USA

Tell us about your favorite scripture in one or two sentences. Send it to newera@ldschurch.org.

STAND-UP

BY DANIELLE NYE POULTER



Lara and Jenna (left to right, this page) know they are noticed as Latter-day Saints at a private high school affiliated with another religion. Jenna's brother Cameron (lower photo) joins them in setting a good example as they participate in music programs and other activities.

NTS STUDENTS

For these LDS teens at a private religious high school, standing for truth is part of daily life and has eternal rewards.

Standing as a witness of truth takes on new meaning when everything at your high school is connected to religion—a religion other than your own. Not only does it mean being an example of how Latter-day Saints believe and act, but it also means respecting the beliefs of others and rejoicing in the truths you share.

For Lara Wolford, 18, Cameron Cabe, 18, and his younger sister, Jenna Cabe, 16, standing up for the truth they know is part of daily life. They attend Lehman High School in Sidney, Ohio, where the curriculum is Catholic, as are most of the students and faculty. Lara, Cameron, and Jenna, who are members of the Sidney Ward, Dayton Ohio East Stake, join their fellow students for weekly mass (worship services) and daily religion classes where the Bible is the textbook.

A Priceless Gift

While being “different” has its difficulties, at a school where religion is a major focus, these teens have learned that having all eyes on you is a great way to teach by example.

“A lot of my friends and some of my teachers have told me that they respect how I stand up for what I believe in,” says Lara. “They know how I live and that I won’t lower my standards.”

That attention can sometimes lead to interesting opportunities to share the gospel. “I have one friend in particular who asks a lot of questions about the Church, so I gave him a Book of Mormon and a *Finding Faith in Christ* video for Christmas,” says Lara. But it didn’t end there. “When my other friends found out about that, they all wanted one!” Lara happily provided copies of the

Book of Mormon to anyone who asked.

“They kept them in their lockers or book bags, and would pull them out and read them if they had some free time. One friend pulled his out in religion class one day to answer a question about Mormons.”

Cameron and Jenna’s mother, Darla, witnessed the result of Lara’s missionary work. She says, “One day I walked in the front door of the school to pick up Cameron from an after-school activity. Three non-LDS students who were waiting in the lobby for their rides were sitting there reading the Book of Mormon! When I asked them about it, they said that they had some questions and had decided to read it for themselves.”

Finding Your Own Testimony

Cameron used another student’s question about his beliefs as an opportunity to gain a sure testimony for himself. In his freshman year someone asked how he could believe that Joseph Smith really saw what he claimed to have seen. Cameron studied the history of the Church and began reading the scriptures every night. He explains what happened a little while later when that student asked him the same question again:

“He said, ‘Don’t you think that’s silly that something like that happened so close to the present time?’ And I said, ‘No, I don’t think it’s silly. I think it’s great.’ Later on, he told me that he ended up having more respect for me and other LDS students because of that.”

Lara has also had frequent opportunities to bear her testimony as she explains her beliefs to friends. “I share my testimony a lot, because when I am answering questions about why we do this or why we believe this, my

Cameron explains that for several years his family and Lara's family both encouraged the school to change its policy about having one of the performances of the school musical on Sunday. Finally, when Lara's father directed the musical, he again said he felt it wasn't right to hold it on Sunday, and the school agreed to change. The Cabes' and Wolfords' persistence in standing up for what they believe paid off.



testimony just comes out. It's the best way to answer!"

Besides bearing her testimony, Jenna likes to be prepared. "I always have a copy of the Book of Mormon, a *For the Strength of Youth* pamphlet, and a copy of the Articles of Faith in my backpack so that if anyone ever asks questions, I can show it to them."

Good People Everywhere

Lara, Cameron, and Jenna have had many opportunities to share what they know, but attending a Catholic high school has also given them the chance to learn more about the beliefs of others.

Since Lara also attended a Catholic elementary school, she and her classmates have had plenty of time to get to know one another's beliefs. "Over the 11 years that I've gone to Catholic school, there has always been a mutual respect between me and my classmates. We enjoy our similarities and respect our differences. I think the greatest form of respect is showing a sincere love for each other."

Cameron, Lara, and Jenna try to show respect for their classmates' religion by praying when they do at mealtime and by joining them in prayer before classes.

They have also participated in Catholic mass as part of the school's choir and orchestra. Jenna says of the weekly mass held each Friday at the school, "We don't say the [Catholic] prayers with them, but we respect them. We stand when they stand and are reverent."

And their classmates have returned the favor. Lara says, "They have prayed for my family during their school masses. When my brother was on his mission, they

prayed for him that he would have a successful mission."

Teachers and a Priest

While some of their beliefs are different, Cameron, Lara, and Jenna have appreciated seeing the truth observed by other faithful people and in the process have learned more about their own religion.

Cameron says answering difficult questions about the Church has made him pay more attention in seminary so that he has answers ready. "It makes me ask a lot of questions so that I understand it. It's a learning experience for me, also."

Seeing his friend's reactions when he tells them he's a priest has also made him appreciate the priesthood he holds. "They think it's interesting that someone my age can be a priest," he says. "It's more of a responsibility, but it's good because it makes me want to be on my best behavior even more."

For the LDS students at Lehman High School, sharing the gospel and respecting their friends of other religions go hand in hand. Lara says, "I have a strong respect for anyone who lives their religion, and it gives me an opportunity to see what my friends believe and an opportunity to share what I believe."

While attending a parochial (private religious) high school, is a unique experience, Lara believes that when it comes to standing for truth, what really matters is inside your heart, not your high school.

"It doesn't matter whether you go to parochial or public school," she says. "It is easy to be LDS in high school anywhere if you have your own testimony." **NE**

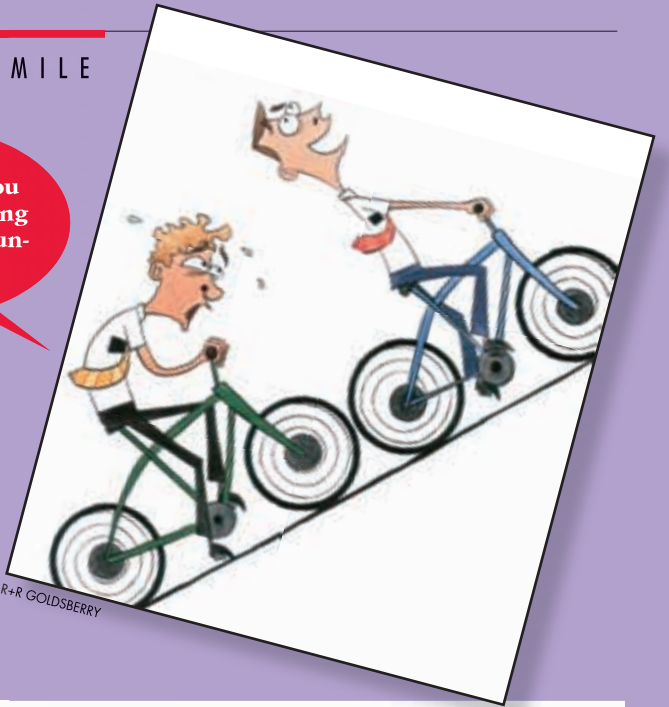
Editor's note: Cameron Cabe is now serving as a full-time missionary in the Utah Ogden Mission.

THE EXTRA SMILE

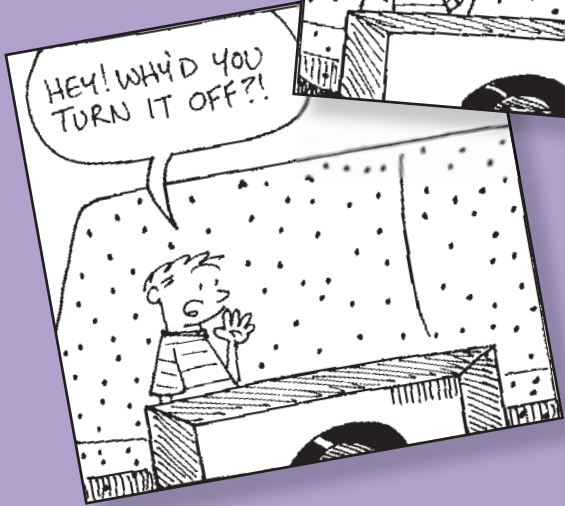


RYAN STOKER

"Elder, would you please stop singing 'High on the Mountain Top!'"



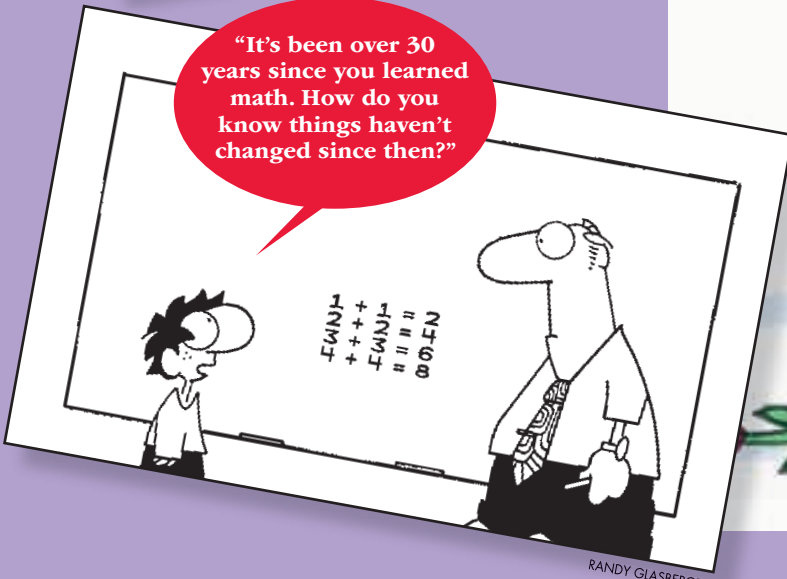
R+R GOLDSBERRY



"No, really. I meant it as a compliment when I called you an 'eight-cow wife!' "



VAL CHADWICK BAGLEY



RANDY GLASBERGEN



My Family Treasure Hunt

BY ROSALIE WESTENSKOW

On the surface, it seemed boring, but when I dug deeper, I uncovered something precious.

Walking down the steps that led to the basement of our meetinghouse, I caught sight of my mother, hunched over a strange-looking machine, peering at illuminated pages in a darkened room and straining to read old documents. Still a young child, I didn't understand what my mother did every Tuesday night for two hours in this quiet room. I had been sent to retrieve her from the church's depths because Mutual had ended and my family wanted to go home. My mother's dedication to family history confused me for

years. I often heard Church leaders stress the importance of participating in family history, but it seemed like an overwhelming task to me. Besides, it looked so boring.

“What satisfaction could she possibly receive from poring over lists of dead people’s names,” I wondered one afternoon as a teenager after dropping her off at the family history center. I continued in this vein of skepticism until, little by little, I began to wade into the waters of my ancestry.

The first time I felt the appeal of family history occurred during the Christmas break of my freshman year at BYU. One evening, as the rest of the family boisterously played a board game in the living room, I found myself seated at the kitchen table with my mom and older sister. The conversation soon turned to relatives, particularly my mother’s dad and his parents.

My great-grandparents, Orla and Roger, died in their 20s, leaving my grandfather and his brother in the care of Roger’s family. After Orla’s death, her father, Robert, died of appendicitis. A short time later, her mother fell, cracked her skull, and suffered several strokes, becoming bedridden. Orla’s oldest sisters, Thelma and Ena, then carried the full burden of supporting the family—a difficult task for two young, unmarried women in the late 1920s.

It was all so fascinating to learn about people I felt connected to but had never met. I was amazed by the trials my family had faced. Hearing it all made my own problems seem so small in comparison.

Several months later, with my mother’s

story crowded into the recesses of my mind by school and work, I received an assignment in one of my classes at Brigham Young University to find 8 to 10 primary documents containing the name of one of my ancestors.

My genealogical training to that point consisted of singing the Primary song “Family History—I Am Doing It,” but grades weren’t negotiable in my mind, so I began at the only place I could think to start—Orla’s family. I looked her up on a pedigree chart and traced her line back until I found her grandfather, Joseph Argyle Jr.

One afternoon, I made the trek across the BYU campus to the library and into the family history library. I explained to a worker who Joseph Argyle was and the little information I knew about him.

For the next two hours, that worker guided me through a treasure hunt, which took us all over the library. We searched records of Mormon passengers on emigrant vessels, discovering that Joseph and his family crossed

In a few hours in the family history library, I was introduced to a hunt for treasure of a very personal kind.





There are more resources to search out your ancestors than there have ever been in the history of the world. . . . With those opportunities there comes greater obligation to keep our trust with the Lord. . . . The names which will be so difficult to find are of real people to whom you owe your existence in this world and whom you will meet again in the spirit world. . . . Their hearts are bound to you. Their hope is in your hands.”

President Henry B. Eyring, First Counselor in the First Presidency, “Hearts Bound Together,” Ensign, May 2005, 79–80.

the Atlantic on a ship. Later that year, he traveled to Salt Lake Valley with the Ellsworth handcart company, which we found in a record book of handcart companies. We looked through the Endowment House records (found where he received his temple ordinances), the Utah death index (he lived to 84), and old Church membership records (there he was).

In an online database of Utah newspaper archives, I found a front-page obituary for my great-great-great grandfather. Published in the *Davis County Clipper* in February 1927, every sentence contained an interesting fact, such as Joseph’s contribution to the building of the Salt Lake Temple.

“He has the credit of having hauled the largest stone put in that building which weighed 13,000 pounds,” the article read.

I began to get a glimpse of the impact we can have on future generations when I discovered he had 88 descendants at the time of his death, a number which increased exponentially in the past 79 years.

Every time I found another document with my ancestors’ names on it, I felt a little tingle of excitement run through my body. It was like a mystery novel, putting all the pieces together, little by little beginning to understand who this man was. I became so immersed in learning about my



ancestor, I didn’t leave until late in the afternoon, almost missing work!

I completed the assignment and received an A, but even more importantly, I created a tangible connection with one of my relatives. Joseph Argyle left his home, sailed across the ocean, traveled to Utah and helped build the temple, all because he believed in the gospel of Jesus Christ, a legacy which I inherited and which gives me the strength to fight my own battles in the 21st century.

I am a link in the chain of Joseph Argyle, and I can pass on his example to strengthen my children and their children. There are others I can help as well. The temple work for the vast majority of my ancestors has yet to be completed, and hundreds, even thousands, of my ancestors are waiting for me to do my part. **NE**

For more information on how to get started on your family history, visit your local family history center or go to www.familysearch.org.



TOP: PHOTOGRAPH BY GETTY IMAGES; BOTTOM: PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN LUKE

MALACHI 4:5-6

The Old Testament prophet Malachi foresaw Elijah's role in latter-day temple and family history work.

Elijah

“The spirit, power, and calling of Elijah is, that ye have power to hold the key of the revelation, ordinances, oracles, powers and endowments of the fullness of the Melchizedek Priesthood and of the kingdom of God on the earth; and to receive, obtain, and perform all the ordinances belonging to the kingdom of God, even unto the turning of the hearts of the fathers unto the children, and the hearts of the children unto the fathers, even those who are in heaven.”

Joseph Smith, *Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Joseph Smith* (2007), 311.

Elijah

To learn how Malachi's prophecy was fulfilled, read Doctrine and Covenants 110:13-16.

Great and dreadful day

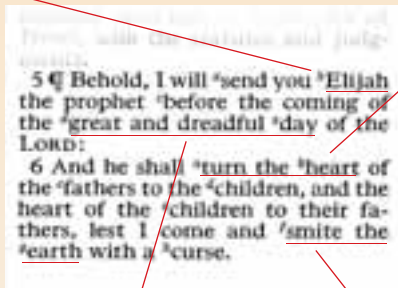
This refers to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Elder Spencer V. Jones of the Seventy said, “In contemplating ‘the great and dreadful day of the Lord’ (D&C 2:1), we may have a tendency to overlook the ‘great’ and accentuate the ‘dreadful’ ” (*Ensign*, June 2005, 58). It will be “great” because Christ will come again in glory, and it will be “dreadful” because the wicked will be destroyed (see the scriptures in the Topical Guide under “Day of the Lord”).

Turn the heart

Joseph Smith said that there needs to be “a welding link of some kind or other” between the fathers and the children. What could bring about this link? Read Doctrine and Covenants 128:17-18 to find out.

What do you know about your family history? You can get started by:

- Asking your parents and grandparents about their families.
- Filling in a four-generation chart.
- Going to www.familysearch.org.
- Visiting a family history center.
- Beginning to write your own family history for your posterity.



Smite the earth

When the angel Moroni visited the Prophet Joseph Smith, he quoted this scripture but changed this phrase to “if it were not so, the whole earth would be utterly wasted at his coming” (D&C 2:3; see also JS—H 1:39). What can we learn from each of these statements?



Editors' note: This page is not meant to be a comprehensive explanation of the selected scripture verse, only a starting point for your own study.

STANDING AS A WITNESS

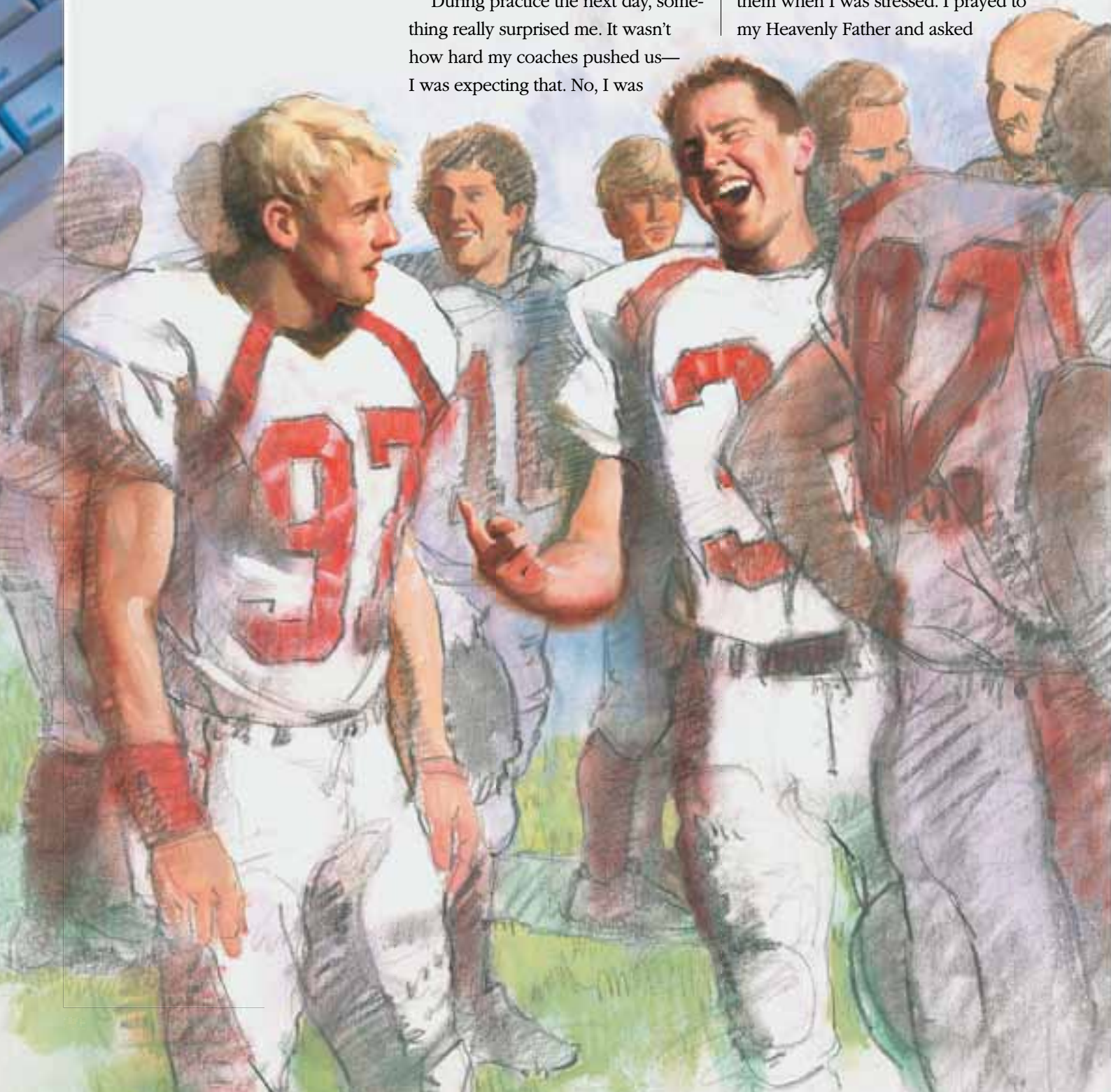
BY DON HARSH

It was the day before my football team's first practice of the season. That night I was so excited I couldn't sleep. I had saved up my money over the summer so I could pay all the fees myself. And now, at the age of 14, I was finally going to fulfill my dream.

During practice the next day, something really surprised me. It wasn't how hard my coaches pushed us—I was expecting that. No, I was

shocked at the filthy, vulgar language all the players and coaches were using. At first I tried to ignore it and not let it bother me, but after awhile it started to take its toll.

I found myself thinking those words, and even worse, repeating them when I was stressed. I prayed to my Heavenly Father and asked



Him to help me be strong. Then, I made a promise to myself and to the Lord that I wouldn't swear.

Later in the season we played a game against our biggest rivals. Right before the game started, our coach gathered us together to say a cheer. He told us the cheer that he wanted us to say, and unfortunately it required us to say a swear word. I remembered the promise that I made to myself and to Heavenly Father. I decided to say the cheer except for the swear word. I would just replace it with a more appropriate word.

When the cheer was over, the player next to me noticed what I had said and started to make fun of me. He went up to the coach and said, "Harsh is Mormon, and he's not man enough to swear. He's too churchy!"

I thought the coach would get mad at me or start to make fun of me as well, but instead he stood up for me and told my teammate, "Hey, leave Harsh alone. He has a lot of heart and can show you up on the football field any time!"

I was surprised. I thought my coach would respect me if I swore like everyone else. But actually, he respected me more because I was true to my standards.

I don't know how big of an impact my example had on my teammates and coaches, but I realized later how strong that experience made me. Now, a few years later, it is easier for me to stand up for what I believe. I also realize that when we make a decision to obey the commandments, we are not alone. The Holy Ghost will help and support us through our trials. **NE**

LETTERS TO MISAKI

BY CYNTHIA ALLEN SMITH

When I was a new missionary serving in Kobe, Japan, I noticed an unusual box hanging in the middle of the Church bulletin board.

"What is that?" I asked my companion.

"It's a mailbox," she explained. "Our Sunday School teacher Brother Nakatani" has an eight-year-old daughter named Misaki. She was hospitalized a few months ago with cancer."

We began writing letters every week. Writing in Japanese was difficult for me. But as I wrote, I thought of what I would say to my own little sister, and somehow the words came easily.

One Sunday, Brother Nakatani pulled us aside and told us that Misaki loved our letters and wanted to meet us. He gave us the address of the hospital and told us when to be there. We stood behind a glass wall and spoke to Misaki through a telephone. She wore a little hat to cover her bald head. She looked frail but laughed and talked with us.

Not long afterward I was transferred to another area. I continued to write to Misaki. Sometimes I worried about my Japanese and wondered if the letters were difficult for her to read.

On the last month of my mission I was transferred to a ward in Misaki's stake. I ran in to the stake president and immediately asked about Misaki.

"A few months ago we almost lost her," he said. "But now she can go to

school again. Her hair is growing back, and she is doing just fine."

A few days later my companion and I went to church to help with a stake Primary activity. While we were there I saw Brother Nakatani.

"How is she?" I asked.

"She's here," he said. "Do you want to see her?"

I recognized her right away. A hat covered her head, but this time I could see dark tufts of newly grown hair underneath.

"Misaki Chan!" I called.

She looked up and smiled as I knelt beside her.

"Do you know who I am?" I asked.

She looked puzzled. I pointed to my nametag.

Misaki's face brightened, and she clapped her hands with joy. Then, she pulled out the missionary packet that all Primary children had received and asked for my autograph. At that moment, I knew that every letter I had sent to her had been worth it. Each of my letters, imperfect as they were because of grammar and spelling errors, had brought her happiness.

Whenever I hesitate and fear that my kindness to others will be misunderstood, I remember the letters to Misaki. No matter how small or imperfect, kindness is always worth it. **NE**

* Names have been changed.



OUTSIDE LOOKING IN

BY MARCIE JESSEE

Welcome to Podunk, USA,” I thought glumly as I sat on my back porch. It was a warm day for February, but I wasn’t enjoying it. I was too distracted by the sight of the cows 50 feet away.

My parents had moved, with my three sisters and me, to Jefferson City, Missouri. My eyes filled with tears as I thought of the distance that now separated me from the comfort of my friends and my old life.

Just the day before we had gone over to the high school to meet with my counselor. She smiled sympathetically and informed me that I was too late for cheerleading tryouts and that my new school didn’t even have a show choir. Those two activities meant the world to me, and the thought of not being able to do them made me want to walk the 1,000 miles back to Maryland.

“How will anyone get to know the real me?” I thought. I wouldn’t be the same person now that I wasn’t going to be on the sidelines at the games or singing with my friends in the choir.

“I am officially a nobody from nowhere,” I concluded.

I stared blankly at the scriptures on my lap, hoping for some peace from my depressing thoughts. As I flipped through the pages, my eye landed on a scripture I had highlighted: “The Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7).

I realized that when Heavenly Father sees me cheering for the team or singing on the stage, that is just part of my outward appearance. Those activities don’t determine who I am. He sees the real me, His daughter, someone who is trying hard to make the right choices and be a good example for her sisters.

The next day when I started at my new school, I walked confidently through the crowded halls. I realized that the Lord knows my heart and that I’m never alone. **NE**

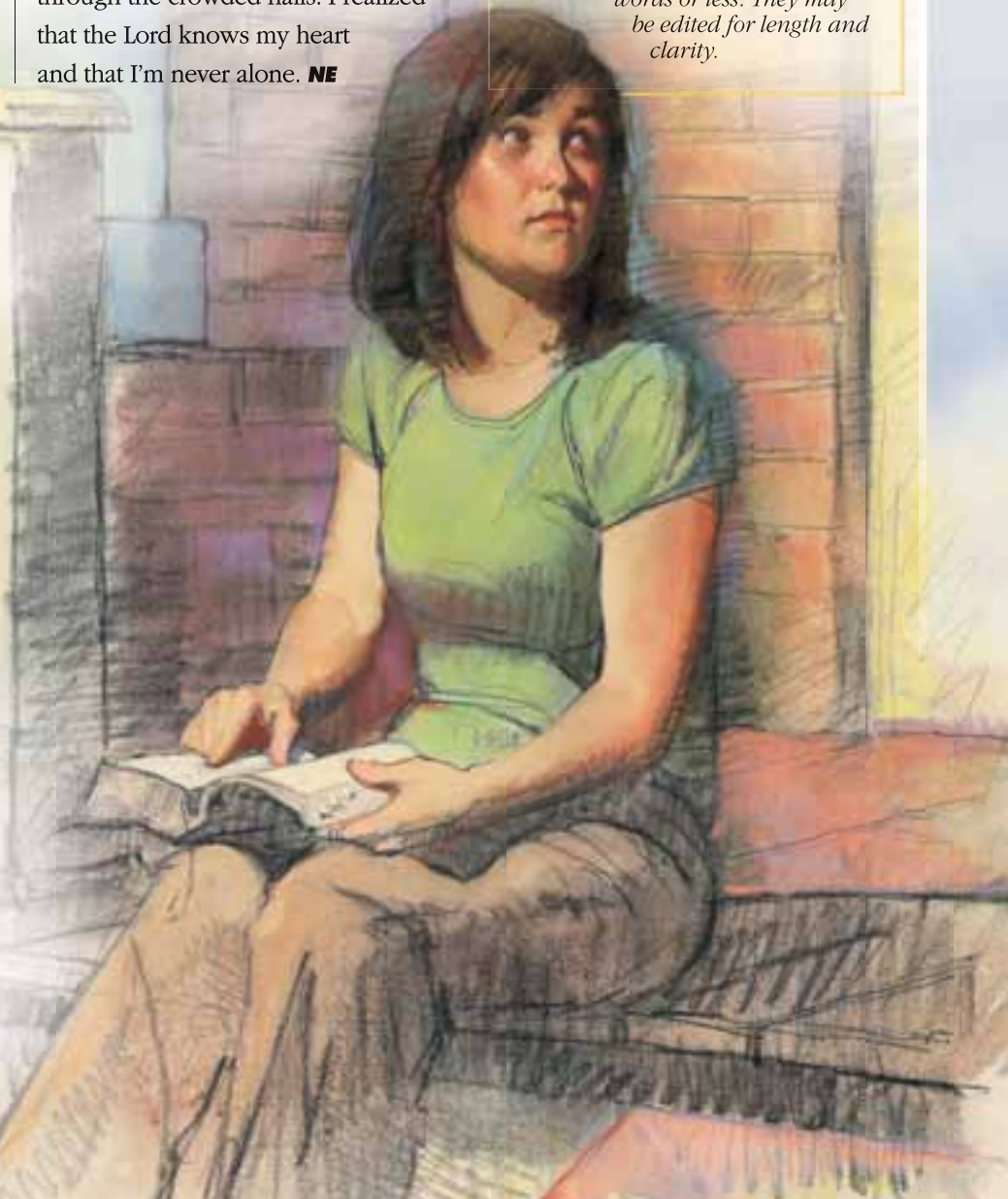
INSTANT MESSAGES features personal experiences, insights into favorite hymns and scriptures, and other uplifting thoughts. If you have a personal experience that has strengthened your testimony and you’d like us to consider it for Instant Messages, please e-mail it to

newera@ldschurch.org

or send it to:

New Era, Instant Messages
50 E. North Temple St., Rm. 2420
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3220, USA

Please limit submissions to 400 words or less. They may be edited for length and clarity.



Personal Progress or Duty to God

- Read D&C 20:38–67 and make a chart listing the duties of the deacons, teachers, and priests in the Aaronic Priesthood as explained in these scriptures. (See page 31 of this issue for a quiz.) Be aware of ways you can help Aaronic Priesthood members fulfill their duties.

Mutual Activity Idea

- Organize a service project and include your non-member friends. Also include them in the planning. You might look to the community as a focus for your service.
- For a joint activity, invite the priest serving as the first assistant to the bishop to read aloud “A Note to the Good Guys” on page 22. Have everybody add to the list

of things they have noticed about boys who make good choices. Invite the Laurel president to read “A Note to the Good Girls” and again add to the list. You might also invite the bishop or another ward leader to give some concluding remarks about the importance of good choices.

Family Home Evening Idea

- To answer President Henry B. Eyring’s question “Why the Book of Mormon?” on page 6, have your family read together the title page of the Book of Mormon and the first three paragraphs of the Introduction. Then read together 2 Nephi 25:26. And finally, read the whole chapter of 3 Nephi 11. If you have young children in your family, use art or illustration when you read in 3 Nephi about Christ’s appearance in the New World.

SUNDAY LESSON HELPS

In addition to the Resource Guides (online at www.lds.org/gospellibrary, in the Shortcuts section), Young Women and Aaronic Priesthood teachers may find these resources helpful in enhancing lessons 20–24.

Young Women Manual 3

Lesson 20: Understanding a Missionary’s Responsibilities

The March 2007 issue is a special issue on missionary work.

Lesson 21: Learning to Share the Gospel

Chris Larson, “A Friendly Invitation,” *New Era*, Apr. 2007, 41.
Gretchen Stone, “They Brought Me Back,” *New Era*, Mar. 2008, 34.

Lesson 22: Eternal Perspective

“Charting the Plan,” *New Era*, July 2006, 33.
John Bytheway, “Three Little Questions,” *New Era*, July 2006, 30.
Q&A (learning from my patriarchal blessing), *New Era*, May 2007, 14.

Lesson 23: Overcoming Opposition

Juliann Brown, “Why Me?” *New Era*, Jan. 2006, 43.
David A. Edwards, “Face Trials with Smiles,” *New Era*, Feb. 2008, 18.
Cristoffel Golden Jr., “You’ll Be Tested and Taught,” *New Era*, Feb. 2005, 42.

Lesson 24: Agency

Q&A (rules versus agency), *New Era*, Nov. 2007, 14.
Poster: “Choose,” *New Era*, June 2007, 19.
Kjerstin Wittwer and Rhett Wilkinson, “Notes to the Good Guys and Girls,” *New Era*, this issue, 22.

Aaronic Priesthood Manual 3

Lesson 20: Tithing—A Spiritual Test

“Tithing and Other Offerings,” *New Era*, Apr. 2007, 46.
H. Bryan Richards, “The Windows of Heaven,” *New Era*, Apr. 2007, 42.
“Where Do Fast Offerings Go?” *New Era*, this issue, 32.

Lesson 21: The Role of the Quorum

Carlos Wilmer Mendoza Vasquez, “The Least of the Leaders?” *New Era*, Jan. 2008, 32.
Richard M. Romney, “We Are!” *New Era*, this issue, 26.

Lesson 22: Duties of Priests

Don Searle, “We Stick Together,” *New Era*, Mar. 2005, 20.
Adam C. Olson, “Having Been Commissioned . . .,” *New Era*, May 2004, 28.

Lesson 23: Preparing for the Melchizedek Priesthood

Jeffrey R. Holland, “Be Ready and Worthy,” *New Era*, May 2006, 2.
Janet Thomas, “Leading and Learning,” *New Era*, this issue, 18.
What Joseph Taught: “The Everlasting Priesthood,” *New Era*, this issue, 13.

Lesson 24: Follow the Prophet

Jade Swartzberg, “A Prophet on the Earth,” *New Era*, Dec. 2007, 6.
Robert Marcum, “The Guide,” *New Era*, Mar. 1990, 11.

MY FAVORITE SCRIPTURE

I'm very grateful for receiving spiritual encouragement every time I read the *New Era*. I am serving a mission in West Africa, and many times I hear about problems from investigators and less-active members I meet. I had been searching in the scriptures about how to answer their concerns, and then I found the one I needed in "My Favorite Scripture" (Nov. 2007). We shared this scripture with one of our less-active members, and he felt the Spirit, and decided to become strong again in the Church. I'm so thankful for this powerful scripture (Alma 36:3), and want to thank the author for sharing it.

Elder Tuvaifale, Sierra Leone

EXTRA SMILE

My favorite thing to read in the *New Era* is the "Extra Smile." It used to be the only thing I read in the magazine, but somehow, when I flip through the *New Era*, I end up actually reading the other articles.

Spencer M., location not given

FROM ALASKA

I just wanted to write and say thank you so much for the recent articles about Alaska in the *New Era* (Sept. and Nov. 07). I am a true Alaskan, and I'm so happy to see stories of my lifestyle and state portrayed in the *New Era*.

Denali L., Alaska

FUN AND SPIRITUAL

I love to read the *New Era* because it is so fun and spiritual. I especially liked the September 2007 issue. It was really cool. Thank you for the uplifting articles.

Meghan C., Utah

"I'm very grateful for spiritual encouragement every time I read the New Era."

TATTOOS

I really liked the January 2008 issue of the *New Era*. One of the stories, "No Need for Tattoos," really inspired me to look at my "temple." My friends know my standards, but sometimes they try to tempt me with bad decisions that I know I will regret later in life. In the story, the therapist said the author could get tattoos to cover his scars. I thought the idea of ruining your temple just for the comfort of no visible scars was a silly idea. Staying fast to my standards is my priority.

Laurel Z., California

DON'T CHANCE IT

Thank you for the article "Don't Chance It" (Jan. 08). It really helped me to understand that gambling is more than just the stuff you see in casinos. The article helped me grow closer to the Savior and helped get my friends away from bad habits.

Tyler S., Idaho

TOUCHED MY HEART

I've loved the *New Era* since I turned 12 and received the January 2006 issue. One of my favorite articles was "The Least of the Leaders" (Jan. 08). This simple story touched my heart, and I want to thank you for it.

Catherine C., Arizona

We love hearing from you. Write us at the following address. Please include the names of your ward and stake (or branch and district).

New Era

We've Got Mail

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Or e-mail us at newera@ldschurch.org

Submissions may be edited for length and clarity.

ILLUSTRATED BY SCOTT GREER



BUTTERFLY

BY DEAN MILLS

A little butterfly,
So frail a thing
Floats as if a sigh
Has breathed upon its wing.

A little butterfly
Once in a cocoon,
Not then knew I
That beauty comes so soon.



COMING NEXT MONTH

- *Bagpipes in Nauwoo—then and now.*
- *How do we handle the Goliaths in our lives?*
- *Read about the mission companions who get a second chance.*
- *Why shouldn't I try alcohol or cigarettes just once but never do it again?*

Just a few of the articles waiting for you in the upcoming June 2008 New Era.

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4



7