



the Friend

MAY • 2006



YOUNG



Friends by Mail



Sideswiped!



Before my Cub Scout pack left for day camp, we said a prayer that we would be safe on the drive. About halfway there, a big truck moved into our lane without signaling. We got sideswiped! I felt a big bump and heard a loud honk, but our leader was able to stop the car safely on the side of the road. We were late for day camp, but no one was hurt. I was really glad we said a prayer before we left.

Larsen O., age 8
Minnesota

Thanks!



Even though I'm 12, I still love reading the *Friend*. If I am worried or feel unsafe, the *Friend* is always there. Not long after the December 2004 tsunami, my family and I were watching the news on television. There were pictures of children who lost their parents or who were lost themselves. I began to feel sick and shaky. I asked my brother to read the *Friend* to me. The *Friend* helped me stop shaking that night, and it has also helped me with other things. THANKS!

Jessica C., age 12
Washington

Stairs Warning

One day I was working at the kitchen table and I had a feeling to check on my little brother. I looked up and saw him in his walker heading for the stairs. I ran over and pulled him away before he could fall. I know that the Holy Ghost whispered to me so that I could



help keep my brother safe. I am thankful that when I was baptized I was able to receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Spencer D., age 9
Arizona



Fasting for Adam

One Sunday I learned about fasting and prayer in my Primary class. That night we found out that my little brother, Adam, had the chicken pox. He was only five months old, and we were worried that he would get very sick. I asked my mom if I could fast and pray for him. Mom and I decided to fast and pray together. Even though Adam was sick all week and got covered with chicken pox, he always acted happy.



I'm glad that I learned about fasting and prayer so that we could ask Heavenly Father for extra help. I know that Heavenly Father heard our prayers.

Katie P., age 8
California

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Cover by Steve Kropp

the friend

A children's magazine published by
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



See the Guide to
the *Friend* (inside back
cover) for family home
evening ideas.

HIDDEN CTR RING

As you look for the
CTR ring hidden in
this issue, think
about how you can
share your testimony of
the gospel.





Follow the Signs

BY PRESIDENT THOMAS S. MONSON

First Counselor in the First Presidency



There is a battle taking place in the lives of young [people] today. In simple terms, it is the struggle between doing right or doing wrong.

Our journey through mortality will at times place us in harm's way. Is there a road map to safety? Are there those to

whom we can look for help? May I offer to you six road signs which, when observed and followed, will guide you to safety. They are:

1. *Choose good friends.*
2. *Seek parental guidance.*
3. *Study the gospel.*
4. *Obey the commandments.*
5. *Serve with love.*
6. *Pray with purpose.*

1. *Choose good friends.* Friends help to determine your future. You will tend to be like them and to be found where they choose to go. Remember, the path we follow in this life leads to the path we follow in the next. The friends you choose will either help or hinder your success.

2. *Seek parental guidance.* Your mother, your father, your family all love you and pray for your eternal happiness.

3. *Study the gospel.* Develop a yearning to know the Lord, to understand His commandments, and to follow Him. Then shadows of despair are dispelled by rays of hope, sorrow yields to joy, and the feeling of being lost in the crowd of life vanishes with the certain knowledge that our Heavenly Father is mindful of each of us.

4. *Obey the commandments.* Make up your mind to serve God. Learn His word and follow it.

5. *Serve with love.* Jesus was the epitome of service. It was said of Him that He "went about doing good." (See Acts 10:38.) Do we do likewise?

6. *Pray with purpose.* With God, all things are possible. Remember the prayer of the Prophet Joseph, offered in that grove called sacred. Look around you and see the result of that answered prayer. Prayer is the provider of spiritual strength. Prayer is the passport to peace.

Chart your course, be cautious, and follow the safety measures outlined. In so doing, we will sail safely the seas of life and arrive at home port—even the celestial kingdom of God. ●

From an April 1998 general conference address.



A young boy with short brown hair, wearing a green and blue long-sleeved shirt, is seated at a dark wood piano. He is looking at an open book on the music stand. The book's cover features the title "How I Knew" in large, bold, red letters. The piano keyboard is visible in the foreground, and the boy's hands are positioned over it. The scene is lit with warm, soft light, creating a focused and intimate atmosphere.

How I Knew

BY MATTHEW MANGUM

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things (John 14:26).

My name is Matthew. I guess I was a typical boy growing up. I liked to play games and be outside when I didn't have to be in school. When I was eight years old my brother Raymond and I started taking piano lessons. I didn't like sitting in front of that old piano and practicing every day before I could go outside and play with my brother and my cousins Chance and Brian, who lived down the street. It wasn't nearly as much fun as riding bikes and climbing trees, especially during summer break. But I did it because Mom insisted.

One day I was just begging to go outside and play. "Please, Mom, Chance doesn't have to practice the piano. Why do I have to?"

"Because it's good for you. Now I want you to practice some of the Primary songs that I gave you yesterday. And hurry, Raymond needs to practice too, before you boys can go play."

"All right, but only for 20 minutes today, OK?"

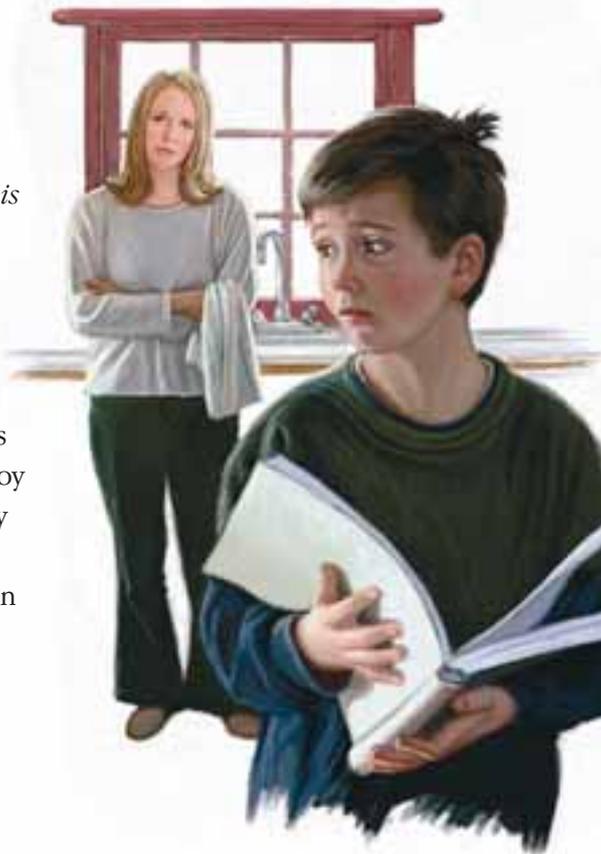
"OK."

So there I was dragging my feet over to that old piano. At least it was only the Primary songs today. I liked the Primary songs. They always cheered me up



"A testimony is a witness or confirmation of eternal truth impressed upon individual hearts and souls through the Holy Ghost."

Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Pure Testimony," Ensign, Nov. 2004, 40.



when I was sad or scared, but I still would rather have been outside playing with my cousins.

I opened the book and started plunking out the notes to the song "Search, Ponder, and Pray." I slowly got the hang of it, and it began to sound a little bit like the song I learned in Primary. Softly, I started to sing along. "I love to read the holy scriptures, and ev'ry time I do, I feel the Spirit start to grow within my heart—a testimony that they're true. Search, ponder, and pray are the things that I

must do. The Spirit will guide, and, deep inside, I'll know the scriptures are true.' " Then I felt a feeling that I'd never felt before. As I started singing the second verse, tears began running down my cheeks. "So, prayerfully I'll read the scriptures each day my whole life through. I'll come to understand. I'll heed the Lord's command and live as he would have me do. Search, ponder, and pray are the things that I must do. The Spirit will guide, and, deep inside, I'll know the scriptures are true.' " *

Later I realized just what it was I was feeling that day. The Holy Spirit had testified to me that the scriptures are true. Heavenly Father had blessed me with the gift of the Holy Ghost, and through that gift came my testimony of the truthfulness of the scriptures. I'll always be grateful

that my mom made me practice the piano that day instead of letting me go out to play. ●

**Children's Songbook*, 109.

BY NAOMI MYRUP

(Based on a true story)

Remember . . . brotherly kindness (D&C 4:6).

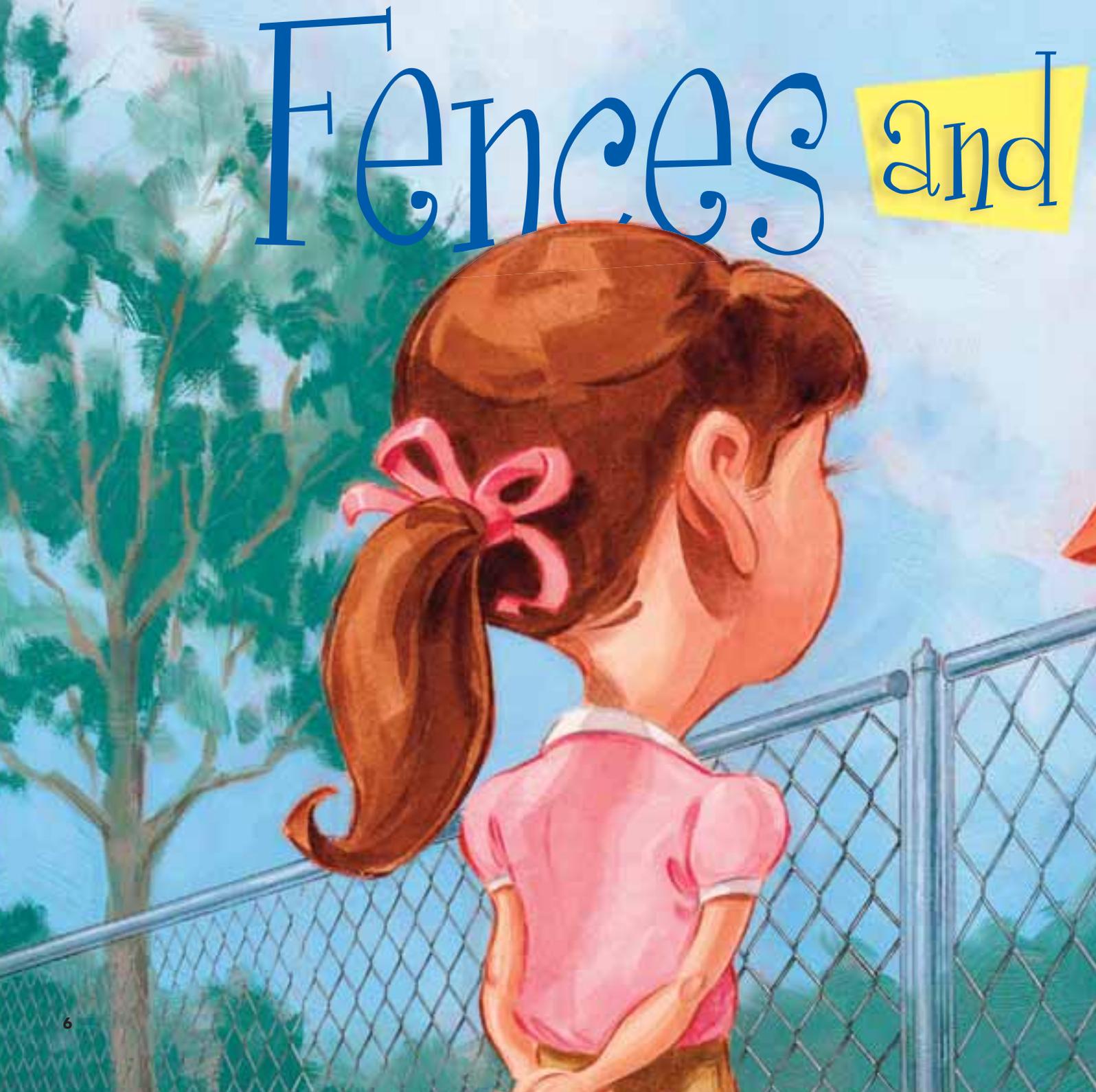
I adored my big brother, Jeremiah. I followed him everywhere. He was an older, wiser six-year-old to my four-and-a-half-year-old self. He knew all sorts of things, like the best place to find bugs and where the water was just right for playing in. If he went over to his

friend's house I tagged along. He didn't mind most of the time.

Then one day Phillip, our next-door neighbor, invited Jeremiah over to play. A fence separated our yards, and when we played together we just climbed over it instead of going around. Jeremiah climbed over, and I started to follow.

"Only you can come this time," Phillip told Jeremiah.

Fences and



“I don’t want your sister to play with us.”

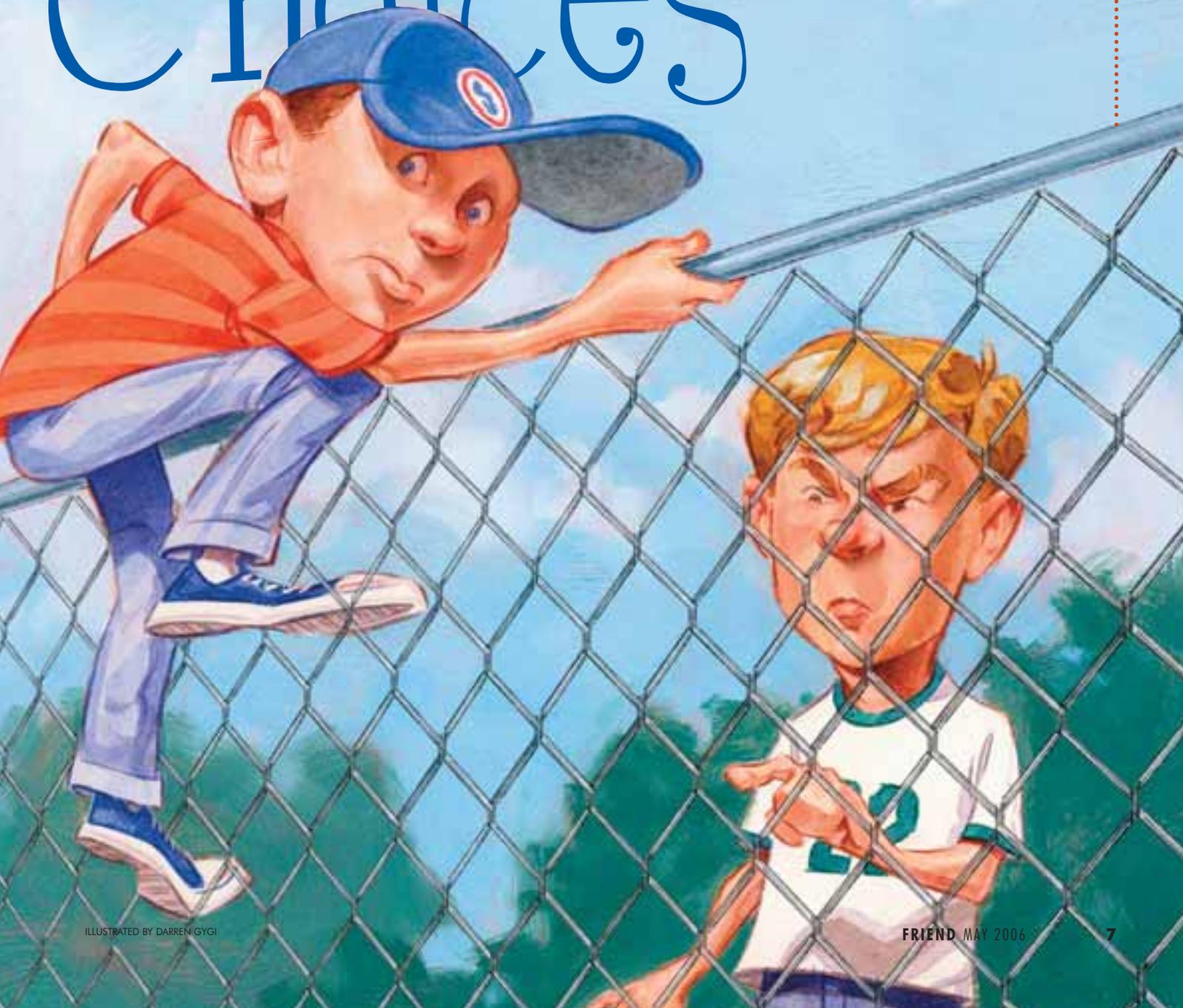
My face went bright red. I looked down and tried to dig a hole in the ground with the toe of my shoe. What would I do while they were playing together? Why didn’t Phillip want me to play too?

“Well, if my sister can’t play then I can’t either,” Jeremiah said. Just like that, he climbed back over the fence. “Nobody is mean to my little sister. Come on,

Naomi, let’s go find some frogs by the creek.”

Jeremiah put his arm around my shoulder and smiled at me. I smiled back. We spent the day playing near the creek behind our house. Jeremiah never mentioned not going over to Phillip’s house to play. It was like it never happened. The next day when Phillip invited Jeremiah over, he included me too. ●

Choices



Life Lessons



From an interview with Elder Lynn A. Mickelsen of the Seventy, currently serving as Executive Director of the Temple Department; by Marissa Widdison

They shall have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost (1 Nephi 13:37).

When I was growing up, my father kept a cow to provide milk for the family. When my father decided I was old enough, it became my job to milk the cow. Every morning and night I would go out carrying two buckets—an empty one for the milk and one with some grain. The grain was supposed to keep the cow busy while I milked her, but I could never milk as fast as the cow could eat the grain.

I remember one cow in particular who didn't like me at all. She always seemed to know when the milk bucket was almost full,

and at that moment she would kick the bucket over and run off. She destroyed all of my hard work in a flash. With my hands aching and my eyes burning with tears of frustration, I would return to the house with an empty bucket.

One day, Dad came to my rescue. He put a rope around the cow's leg and tied it tight to a post so she couldn't kick or run away. At first she fought against the rope, but after a while I didn't even need to tie her leg to the post. I could just throw the rope on the ground by her back feet, and she would stand quietly until I picked up the rope and let her go.



I learned a great lesson from this. If we keep the commandments when we are young, we will train ourselves to stay close to our Heavenly Father, just as the rope trained our cow to stay close to the post. Then when we have temptations or difficult times in our lives, we will automatically respond by choosing the right. Instead of feeling restricted, we will be thankful that God gave us commandments to keep us in the right place.

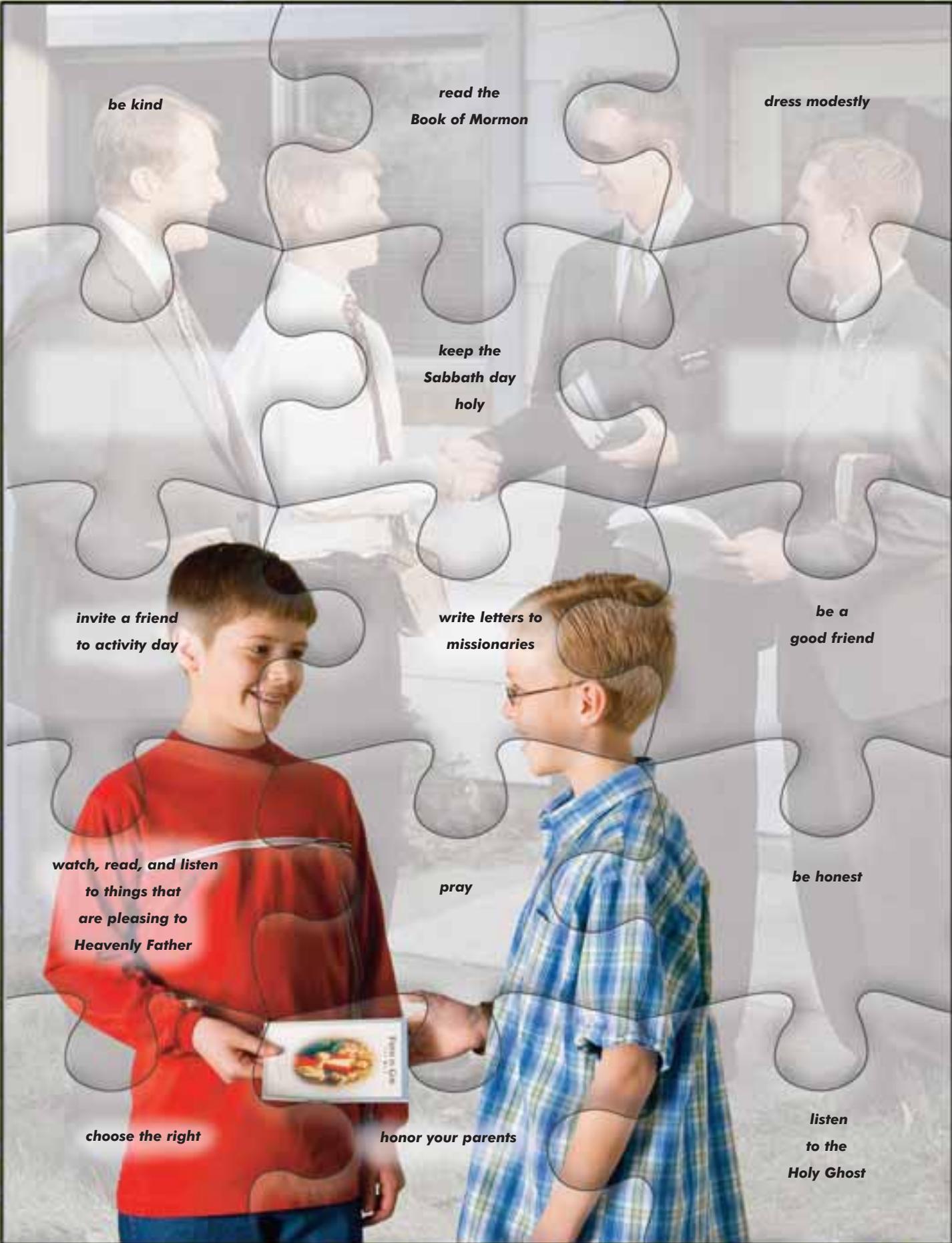
Other experiences I had as a boy taught me that the Holy Ghost can help us stay close to Heavenly Father. I had a friend named Ralph who was a few months older than I was. We went to school in a one-room redbrick schoolhouse, and Ralph and I would walk there together. One day we talked about his recent baptism and confirmation. He told me how clean he felt when he was baptized. I asked him what it was like to receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, and he said, "It's like a voice that whispers in your

ear, teaching you the truth." I never forgot Ralph's explanation. I wanted to have what my friend had.

Later, after I was baptized and confirmed, I attended a banquet where President George Albert Smith was invited to speak. After the banquet, my dad and I stood in a long line to shake President Smith's hand. When my turn came, President Smith looked down at me, took my hand, and spoke to me. I don't remember what he said, but I will never forget how I felt. The Holy Ghost testified to me that he was a prophet of God.

I am grateful for the Holy Ghost. When we obey the commandments, the Holy Ghost dwells with us. He purifies us and teaches us the truth, and this helps us stay close to our Heavenly Father. ●





be kind

*read the
Book of Mormon*

dress modestly

*keep the
Sabbath day
holy*

*invite a friend
to activity day*

*write letters to
missionaries*

*be a
good friend*

*watch, read, and listen
to things that
are pleasing to
Heavenly Father*

pray

be honest

choose the right

honor your parents

*listen
to the
Holy Ghost*

The Gospel Is a Gift to Share



BY LINDA MAGLEBY

Verily, verily, I say unto you, this is my gospel; and ye know the things that ye must do in my church; . . . for that which ye have seen me do even that shall ye do (3 Nephi 27:21).



Heavenly Father loves us. He gave us the gospel of Jesus Christ to help us, to make us happy, and to lead us back to Him. The gospel is a wonderful gift. Have you ever thought of all of the blessings you have because of the gospel of Jesus Christ?

Because of the gospel, you know that you are a child of God and that He loves you. You learn to have faith in Jesus Christ and follow His example. Because of the gospel you can pray to Heavenly Father anytime, anywhere, and receive answers to your prayers.

Because of the gospel, you know that Heavenly Father has a plan for you to return to live with Him. You learn that Jesus made it possible for each of us to repent of our sins and be forgiven.

Because of the gospel, you can be baptized and receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost will help you choose the right and comfort you.

The Holy Ghost will testify to you of truth.

Because of the gospel, you can attend church and take the sacrament. Because of the gospel, your family can be sealed together forever in a temple of God.

What wonderful blessings you have because of the gospel of Jesus Christ! Can you think of other blessings the gospel brings to your life? There are many! Heavenly Father wants all of His children to have the blessings of the gospel. You can share this precious gift with others. You can be a missionary now by being a good friend to others, being a good example, and inviting friends to come to Primary and activity days with you. ●

Activity

Remove page 10 and paste it to heavier paper. Cut out the puzzle pieces. On the blank pieces, write ways you can share the gospel.

Note: *If you do not wish to remove pages from the magazine, this activity may be copied, traced, or printed from the Internet at www.lds.org. Click on Gospel Library.*

Sharing Time Ideas

(Note: All songs are from *Children's Songbook* unless otherwise noted; GAK = Gospel Art Picture Kit, *TNGC* = *Teaching, No Greater Call*.)

1. Sing "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" (p. 57). When the Savior was on the earth, He taught the people how they should live so that they could be happy and someday return to live with Heavenly Father. We can learn about the teachings of Jesus in the scriptures. Divide the children into groups. Write one of the Savior's teachings and the scripture reference on pieces of paper and give one to each group (for example: service, Matthew 25:35–46; love one another, John 13:34; honor our parents, John 19:25–27; keep the commandments, Matthew 7:21, 24–27; kindness, Luke 10:25–37; and respect others and their property, Matthew 19:18). Invite them to read the scripture(s). Ask the children to make simple puppets (see *TNGC*, pp. 176–77) and prepare to use them to show how we can apply the Savior's teachings in our lives. After each puppet presentation, invite each group to sing a song that reminds them of the Savior's teachings.

2. Use an object lesson to teach about the Apostasy. Before Primary place on a table objects that represent things lost in the Apostasy, such as GAK 208 (baptism), a sacrament cup (the sacrament), tithing envelope (tithing), miniature temple or temple picture (temples and church buildings), necktie (bishop and other priesthood holders), scriptures (understanding of scriptures), backpack (missionary work), flashlight (revelation), and a vial of consecrated oil (priesthood blessings). Cover the table with a cloth. Review the events leading to the Apostasy. Let the children look at the items on the table, and ask them to try to remember all of the items. While the children sing "The Church of Jesus Christ" (p. 77) or "The Sixth Article of Faith" (p. 126), use the cloth as a visual barrier and remove some of the items listed above. Invite the children to look at the table and try to remember which items are missing. As each item is mentioned, ask the children what they think it might represent in terms of the Apostasy. Discuss how that ordinance or blessing was lost. Ask about the remaining items. Express gratitude for the restoration of all these things.

For younger children: Give each class a puzzle made from a picture representing each of the ordinances or blessings mentioned above. Before giving the children the puzzle, remove one piece. Explain how missing a piece from a puzzle is like what happened at the time of the Apostasy: gospel teachings were not complete, and people couldn't see the entire picture. Give the classes the missing puzzle pieces as they sing a Primary song that goes with each picture, such as "When I Am Baptized" (p. 103) or a song about the Restoration of the gospel, such as "The Golden Plates" (p. 86).

3. Before Primary, gather these pictures: GAK 403 (The First Vision), GAK 404 (Moroni Appears to Joseph Smith in His Room), GAK 406 (Joseph Receives the Gold Plates), GAK 407 (John the Baptist Conferring the Aaronic Priesthood), GAK 408 (Melchizedek Priesthood Restoration), GAK 416 (Translating the Book of Mormon), Primary picture 5-19 (printing the Book of Mormon), and Primary picture 5-20 (organization of the Church). Prepare eight numbered pieces of paper. Write the title of each picture on one of the eight papers. Cover the pictures and titles and place them on a bulletin board or on the floor in random order, four rows with four items each. Play a matching game with the children. Explain that Heavenly Father restored the gospel and the priesthood through Joseph Smith. Behind the papers are pictures of events from the Restoration and papers with descriptions of the pictures. Have the children take turns choosing two pieces of paper. If they match, remove them from the others. If they don't match, cover them again and allow the next child to choose two papers. When all

of the pictures and descriptions have been matched, put them in the order that they happened. Briefly tell or have the children tell what happened in each picture. Sing "The Church of Jesus Christ" (p. 77). For younger children who do not read, put a colored border on matching pictures and titles. Testify of the Restoration of the gospel.

4. Ahead of time, make small booklets for each child by cutting one sheet of paper in half, placing one half on top of the other half, and folding in the center. Secure the pages together with a staple or string tied through punched holes. Each booklet should have four pages. Prepare 13 pieces of paper with the first 10 words of each article of faith. The scriptures teach us the gospel. The Articles of Faith are part of the scriptures and are found in the Pearl of Great Price. Invite the children to locate them in the scriptures and read one or more of them. Ask, "How can the Articles of Faith help us learn the gospel and share it with others?" From *Primary* 5, p. 209, find the key words of the Articles of Faith and write them on the board. Discuss briefly what we learn about the gospel from the key words of the Articles of Faith. Play a game by having the children sing "I Want to Live the Gospel" (p. 148) as they pass two or three of the papers you prepared with the first 10 words of each article of faith. Stop the music at any point. Ask the children with the papers to stand and finish the article of faith they are holding, or ask another child for help. When the article of faith is completed, take that paper away and add another. Continue as time allows. Pass out the booklets and tell each child to write "The Articles of Faith" on the cover. Have them write key words for two articles of faith on each page, and invite them to look for these principles in the scriptures as they study on their own or with their families. When they find a scripture reference that teaches each principle, they can write it in their booklet under the key word.

5. *Song Presentation*: "Holding Hands Around the World" (*Friend*, July 2002, 44–45). Teach the chorus first. Divide the children into four groups. Tell the first group to join hands and echo the first phrase back to you after you sing it: "We are children holding hands around the world." Tell the second group to march in place and extend their arms as if they were holding a large flag and echo, "Like an army with the gospel flag unfurled." Tell the third group to gesture with their arms toward heaven as they echo, "We are led by His light," and place their hands on their hearts as they echo, "And we love truth and right." Ask the fourth group to think of something they do to build the kingdom—help others, bring friends to Primary, pay tithing, etc. Choose one action to mimic as they echo back to you, "We are building the kingdom of God." Sing the chorus by groups, then exchange phrases and sing again. Sing the first verse for them in phrases and clap the rhythm. Have them repeat each phrase, clapping and singing with you. Gather or draw simple pictures to illustrate the words: for example, Primary picture 3-65 (children singing in Primary), GAK 600 (The World), a smiley face, a bell, a flashlight. Have one child demonstrate "standing tall," another child "walking strong," and another holding a CTR shield for "choosing right." Or have all the children stand for "standing tall," march in place for "walking strong," and hold up their CTR rings for "choosing right." Have them sit down on the two rest beats. Follow the same approach to teach the second half of the verse.

6. *Friend* references: "Other Teachings at the Last Supper," Feb. 2003, 13–14; "Believing in Jesus Christ," Apr. 2003, 16–17; "I Belong to the Church of Jesus Christ," Jan. 2003, 32–34; "The Restoration of the Priesthood," May 2003, 39; "The Life of Joseph Smith," June 2003, 24–25; "The Book of Mormon," Mar. 2004, 43; "Scriptures in a Suitcase," June 2004, 28–30; "Book of Mormon Scripture Pictures," July 2004, 23.

MATT & Mandy



You come to me with a sword and a spear and a shield.

But I'm going to knock your big ugly head off, Goliath!

Oh no! That's Mrs. Zeigler's window!

Let's get out of here!

KEERASH

No, that's wrong. I've got to go tell her what I've done.

We'll both go. I was playing the game too.

Mrs. Zeigler, we were playing David and Goliath, and I broke your window.

We both did.

I know you did. And you were afraid of me. Your fear was as big as Goliath. But you stood up to that fear and told me the truth.

We'll pay for your window.

Of course you will. I would expect no less from giant-slayers.



Secret Journal Friend



Jody's
journal

BY SHEILA KINDRED
(Based on a true story)

For a book of remembrance we have written among us (Moses 6:46).

Jody had five older brothers and sisters. When Jody was little, being the youngest was fun because she got special attention. But now that Jody was getting bigger, being the youngest sometimes meant being overlooked.

For example, today when Jody came home from school she had lots of exciting things to tell her mother, but Mom was busy in the garage helping Jody's brother Derek repair his bike. Later, before dinner, Jody's oldest sister, Lisa, was in the kitchen with Mom. Lisa was helping fix dinner, chatting endlessly about boys. After dinner, Jody's sister Amber needed help with her math homework.



Then it was time for family prayer, and Jody was off to bed.

On days like these, Jody was grateful she had her secret journal friend. That night she wrote:

Dear Secret Journal Friend,

I wish I could spend more time with Mom. She is always busy with the family, but I wanted to tell her about school today. I got 100 percent on my spelling test, we did gymnastics in P.E., and in art, I made a beautiful flower out of tissue paper. I like my teacher a lot, but I love my mom.

Your friend,

Jody

Jody felt better when she had finished writing. She put the journal next to her bed, said her prayers, and went to sleep.

The next day, when Jody got



home from school, her mother wasn't there. Lisa told her that their sister, Ellen, who shared a room with Jody, had gotten sick and Mom had taken her to the doctor.

When Jody went into her bedroom to drop off her backpack she saw her journal on her pillow. She opened the journal and read the reply from her secret journal friend.

Dear Jody,

Your mom loves you very much too, and wants to spend more time with you. Why don't you invite her out for ice cream on Friday night? You know how much she likes rainbow sherbet.

From,

Your Secret Journal Friend

Jody smiled. The ice cream was a good idea. It sounded like fun. But right now Jody was worried about her sister. She wanted to do something to make her feel better.

Jody took out her pencil and wrote:

Dear Secret Journal Friend,

I am sorry that Ellen is sick. I want to give her my tissue-paper flower, even though I made it for Mom. Do you think Mom would mind?

Your friend,

Jody

Then Jody remembered something else she was feeling bad about and wrote:

P.S. Today in art I got mad at my friend, Sara, because she spilled my paints. I even pulled her hair. Later I told her I was sorry. Will you still be my friend even when I do bad things?

The next day after school Jody found Ellen resting in their bedroom and gave her the brightly colored flower. Ellen's eyes lit up and she grinned.

"Thanks, Jody," Ellen said. "It's really pretty. It makes me feel cheerful just looking at it."

Jody smiled. Then she sat down on her bed and started reading her journal.



“What are you doing?” Ellen asked.

“I’m reading a message from my secret journal friend,” Jody told her.

“Your secret friend?” Ellen asked. “I think I saw your secret friend writing in your journal today. Do you want me to tell you who it is?”

“No thanks,” Jody responded. She took her journal out to the living room couch so she could be alone. She sat down and read:

Dear Jody,

I’m sure your mother won’t mind you giving away her flower. She will be very proud of you for being such a thoughtful sister.

From,

Your Secret Journal Friend

(who loves you always, NO MATTER WHAT)

Jody turned to a blank page, thought for a moment, then wrote:

Dear Secret Journal Friend,

Ellen liked the flower. I’m glad I gave it to her. Last night I prayed that she would feel better, and now she does!

I used to wonder how Heavenly Father can bear everyone’s prayers when there are so many people in the world, but now I think I know. Because Heavenly Father loves us no matter what, He will always find a way to answer our prayers.

Then Jody wrote in extra big letters:

I LOVE YOU, MOM!

Thanks for being my secret friend and my mother.

Love,

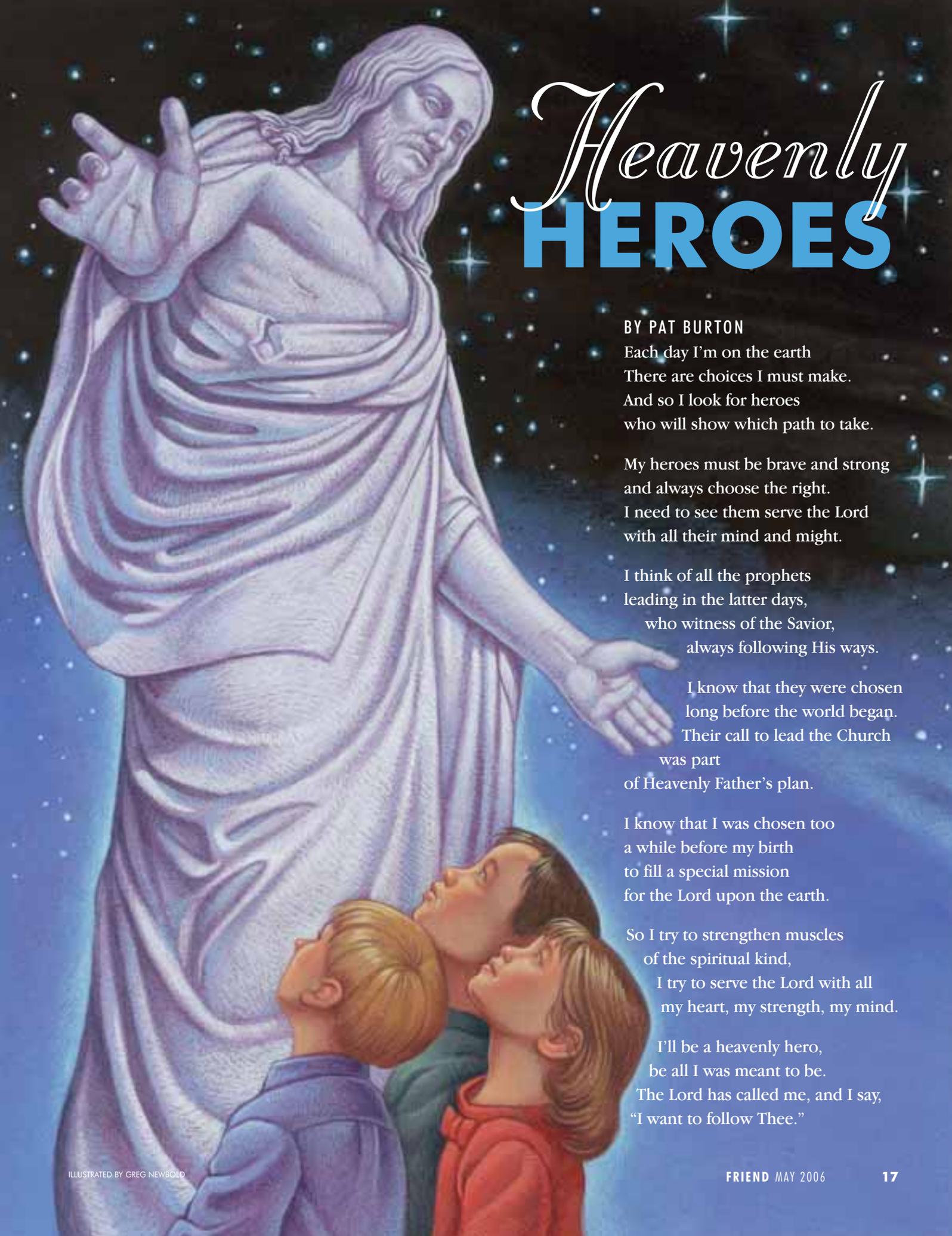
Jody

P.S. Don’t forget—tonight is ice-cream night! ●



“Build relationships with your family . . . through open and honest communication.”

Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “Keeping Life’s Demands in Balance,” Ensign, May 1987, 15.

An illustration of Jesus with long hair and a beard, wearing a white robe, standing against a dark blue night sky filled with stars. He has his right hand raised in a gesture of blessing or teaching. In the foreground, three children (two boys and one girl) are looking up at him with admiration. The boy on the left has blonde hair and is wearing a blue shirt. The girl in the middle has dark hair and is wearing a green shirt. The boy on the right has brown hair and is wearing a red shirt.

Heavenly HEROES

BY PAT BURTON

Each day I'm on the earth
There are choices I must make.
And so I look for heroes
who will show which path to take.

My heroes must be brave and strong
and always choose the right.
I need to see them serve the Lord
with all their mind and might.

I think of all the prophets
leading in the latter days,
who witness of the Savior,
always following His ways.

I know that they were chosen
long before the world began.
Their call to lead the Church
was part
of Heavenly Father's plan.

I know that I was chosen too
a while before my birth
to fill a special mission
for the Lord upon the earth.

So I try to strengthen muscles
of the spiritual kind,
I try to serve the Lord with all
my heart, my strength, my mind.

I'll be a heavenly hero,
be all I was meant to be.
The Lord has called me, and I say,
"I want to follow Thee."



A Forever Family

The Schlatters live an hour from the Swiss capital.

Julischka Schlatter of Möhlin, Switzerland

BY KIMBERLY WEBB
Church Magazines

Julischka Schlatter, 8, lives about an hour away from Bern, Switzerland’s capital. She could tell you about the city’s quaint medieval streets, its old cathedrals, and the Glockenspiel, a clock tower built in 1530. But instead, she will probably tell you about the beautiful white building on a hill nearby. Here President David O. McKay dedicated the first European temple 50 years ago, and Julischka is glad he did! At age 6 she entered the Bern Switzerland Temple with her mother,

Chantal, and stepfather, Philipp, to be sealed together as a family.

“I remember the beautiful room and bright chandelier,” she says. She remembers wearing white and seeing her parents waiting for her in the sealing room. She especially remembers listening to the temple sealer’s words.

“That day was very special,” Julischka’s mom says. “I didn’t receive just a husband for time and eternity,

Julischka enjoys drawing and playing with her cat.

Below: The Glockenspiel in downtown Bern



but my daughter too.”

The Schlatter family became even more grateful for the temple when Julischka’s baby sister passed away. A talented artist, Julischka drew a picture of her family and included her little sister in the drawing because she knows they can be together again someday. The picture hangs in the Schlatters’ kitchen for everyone to see, showing Julischka’s testimony of eternal families.

Julischka doesn’t just show her testimony—she talks about it. If friends don’t know which church she belongs to, they soon find out! “She isn’t afraid to talk about the gospel,” her dad says. “One day she came home sad because she’d had a discussion with a boy at school. He didn’t believe in Jesus.” Julischka bore her testimony to him and encouraged him to believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God.

Another time, a religion teacher at school taught that Jesus didn’t really suffer pain or sadness because He was too perfect to struggle. Julischka raised her hand and said, “I





Julischka loves the Book of Mormon and the story of Jonah in the Old Testament.

believe that He knows everything we go through. And furthermore, He visited the people in America.” She told her class a little about the Book of Mormon.

When she was baptized, she invited a neighbor friend who is not a member of the Church to attend. Just before the baptism, she looked up and saw her friend grinning at her from ear to ear. What else does she remember about her baptism? “The water wasn’t cold, like Dad said it would be!” Heavenly Father’s love made her feel warm.

One reason it’s easy for Julischka to share her testimony is because “she is very strong and independent,” her mom says. “She’ll try anything because she believes she can do it.”

Maybe that’s because she knows she receives Heavenly Father’s help. When asked if she’s gotten answers to prayer, she nods excitedly. “Yes, because I’ve always wanted to play the flute and now I’m learning the pan flute, and I’ve always wanted a cat.” The Schlatters’ new pet is a white cat named Filou.

Even if she couldn’t play an instrument or own a pet, Julischka says she would have a testimony because her testimony comes from the scriptures. She loves reading about the miracles Jesus performed, and her favorite

scripture story is Jonah and the whale. She wishes her next sibling could be named Jonah—even though it’s expected to be a girl!

Julischka will be able to share some of her favorite activities with her new sibling: walking in the woods, swimming, playing at the park, and singing her favorite song, “Angels We Have Heard on High.” At Julischka’s request, the Schlatters often sing it for family home evening. “The neighbors must think we celebrate Christmas all year long,” Julischka’s mom laughs.

Perhaps the song reminds Julischka of the “angels” in her own family, including a sister who has gone back to heaven and another sibling waiting to be born.

Julischka knows that if her family lives worthy of temple blessings, it doesn’t matter whether family members are in heaven or on earth. They are still family—and can be for eternity. ●



Playing the pan flute

GUESS WHO



1 His favorite hymn, “Redeemer of Israel,” was sung at his first general conference as a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.

2 Growing up, he helped his dad in the yard by mowing the lawn, pulling weeds, and raking leaves. He also helped his mom with household chores.

3 He loves reading the Book of Mormon. His favorite scripture story is in 3 Nephi 11 when Jesus Christ appears to the people in the land of Bountiful. He also enjoyed reading adventure novels when he was growing up.

4 Teaching is one of his great joys. He taught business classes at the University of Arkansas, and even when he became president of a college, he taught a religion class every term.

5 He and his parents took long vacations together to visit sites in the United States and Canada. His favorite trip was to the Sacred Grove in New York.

6 He was president of Ricks College in Rexburg, Idaho, and led the school’s

transition to Brigham Young University–Idaho.

7 When he was a boy he liked to visit his grandparents on their dairy farm. He would sit with his grandparents in their backyard and eat pomegranates and watermelon.

8 He is the youngest and newest member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.

9 While he was president of Ricks College, he and his wife, Susan, invited students to family home evenings. Over the years, they had family home evening with more than 35,000 students!



Read the clues about this member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. Then find the answer on page 48.

The members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles are prophets, seers, and revelators and stand as special witnesses of Jesus Christ. They have the responsibility to testify of Him to the whole world.

Words of Wisdom

“A love for the scriptures will come to you as you study daily with your family and by yourself. My desire is that you will receive a testimony, that you will receive protection and guidance, and that you will learn to bear the word of the Lord as you study the scriptures every day.”

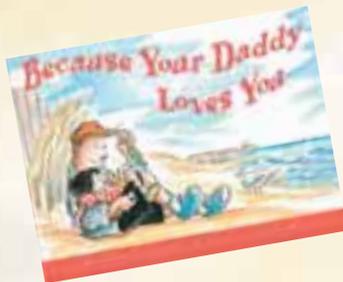
BOOK REVIEWS



Picture Books

The Giant Hug,
by Sandra Horning,
illustrated by Valeri

Gorbachev. When Owen the pig wants to send his grandma a hug through the mail, everyone who handles the letter gets involved. Watch as the hug travels from one end of the country to another, and see what Grandma sends back to Owen!



Because Your Daddy Loves You,
by Andrew Clements, illustrated by
R. W. Alley. When things go wrong, a
daddy could do a lot of things, but
he always chooses the loving way to
solve problems.

Imagine a Night and
Imagine a Day, by Sarah
L. Thomson, illustrated
by Rob Gonsalves. These
beautifully illustrated companion
books show the power of the imagi-
nation. What do you think: Do these
books represent dreams, or do they
show a new way of looking
at the world?

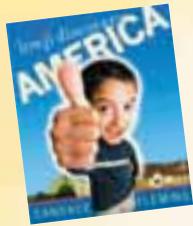


*Henry and the Kite
Dragon*, by Bruce
Edward Hall, illustrated
by William Low. Henry
and his neighbor,
Grandfather Chin,
make beautiful kites that
they fly over the narrow streets of
New York City's Chinatown. But not
everyone likes the kites. Find out
why other children try to bring the
kites down.



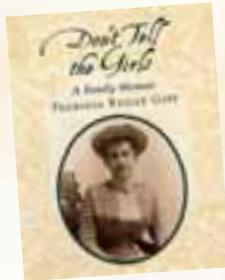
For Children Ages 5 to 9

*Lowji Discovers America**, by
Candace Fleming. Nine-year-old



Lowji used to live in the big city of Bombay in India. When his family moves to the United States, Lowji learns how to adapt to a different culture and make new friends.

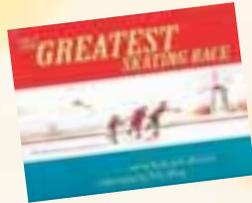
*Don't Tell the Girls: A Family Memoir**, by Patricia Reilly Giff. Using her own family's stories as a starting point, this well-known children's author follows clues to discover her family's past. Illustrated with family photos and documents, this is a book that will help young readers want to find out about their own family history.



*Down Girl and Sit: Smarter Than Squirrels**, by Lucy Nolan, illustrated by Mike Reed. These silly adventures of a dog who thinks her name is



Down Girl, and her next-door neighbor, Sit, will keep dog lovers laughing as the doggy duo tries to keep the world safe from dangerous squirrels and other menacing creatures.



The Greatest Skating Race, by Louise Borden, illustrated by Niki Daly. During

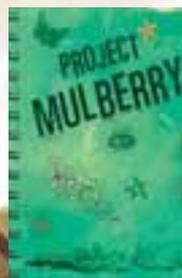
World War II, a young Dutch boy gets the assignment of a lifetime. He must skate along the frozen canals and cross the Belgian border in order to guide two children to the safety of their aunt's house.

For Children Ages 10 to 12

Far Traveler, by Rebecca Tingle. After the death of her mother, Aelfwyn has to escape from her uncle the king. Disguised as a bard, she journeys across 10th-century Britain and into the life of the northern ruler, King Wilfrid.



Project Mulberry, by Linda Sue Park. While working on a project for an after-school club, Julia, a Korean American girl, and her friend Patrick not only learn about



silkworms, but also about tolerance, patience, and friendship.

Nonfiction

Stars Beneath Your Bed: The Surprising Story of Dust, by April Pulley Sayre, illustrated by Ann Jonas. Did you know that the dust under your bed might be made of the scales from a butterfly's wing? Or it might have come from a distant galaxy! Discover the surprising beginnings of dust—without the sneezes.



Hummingbird Nest: A Journal of Poems, by Kristine O'Connell George, illustrated by Barry Moser. A mother hummingbird wove a nest, then laid her eggs and waited for her babies—all on the back patio! These poems record the remarkable spring when one family watched a hummingbird family grow.



These reviews do not constitute official Church endorsement of these books, but the books have been carefully reviewed to ensure that Church standards are observed. Warning: Occasionally, characters who are not members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will drink coffee or tea. Selections where this occurs are marked with an asterisk ().*





To play the game, you will need two teams and one reader. Each team has a trunk. The reader reads an entry from Grandma's journal (listed below) that matches a

BY HILARY HENDRICKS

Celebrate family history by playing this game with your family.

Instructions

Remove pages 24–25 from the magazine and cut out the two trunks. Glue the trunks to two envelopes. Then cut out the game pieces and glue them to heavy paper. Spread out the game pieces faceup.

game piece. A player from one team takes a turn and guesses which item the entry describes. If the player is correct, put that game piece in the team's trunk. If the wrong piece is picked, it must be put back and the other team is given a chance to choose the correct piece, and then take the next turn. When all the pieces are gone, the team with the most pieces wins.

Note: You may wish to create your own game using entries from an ancestor's journal and drawings or photos for game pieces.

Journal Entries

It's winter and I can't go out to play. But Mother says she'll help me make a rag doll!

Grandmother is teaching me to make bread. First we sift the flour, then we pour in water and yeast. We stir until our arms ache.

Today I graduated from Brigham Young Academy. Mother gave me a rose to carry and Father gave me a fountain pen.

I don't like that George Bacon! Yesterday he dipped my braids in black ink, and today he pulled out my hair ribbon.

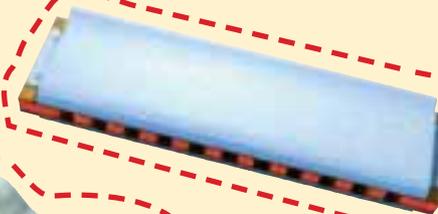
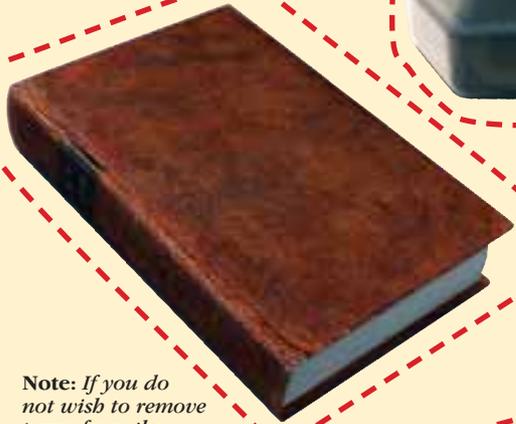
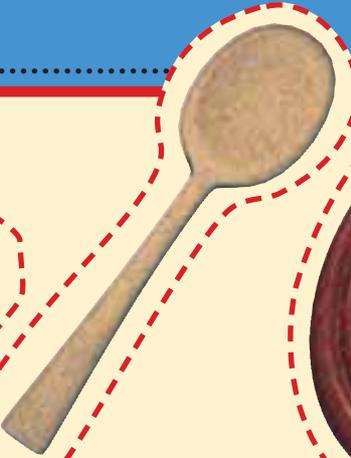
This evening George Bacon walked by my house, playing softly on his harmonica.

George and I are to be married tomorrow! Mother will let me borrow her beautiful gold pin to wear.

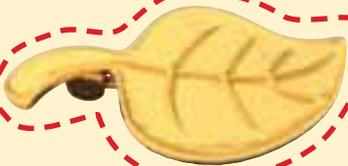
I plan to study the scriptures each night. I want to know for myself that the Book of Mormon is true.

George came calling tonight. We had a lovely visit. After he left, I found his handkerchief in the corner of a chair. I wonder if he means for me to keep it.

Father passed away this week. After the funeral Mother gave me Father's silver pocket watch to remember him by.



Note: If you do not wish to remove pages from the magazine, this activity may be copied, traced, or printed from the Internet at www.lds.org. Click on Gospel Library.



Tonight Mother showed us Martha's baby shoes. Martha became very ill on the way to America and died before reaching land. She's my older sister.

We promised our three sons a treat if they helped with the chores all summer, so today George took them into town to buy a bag of penny marbles.

Tonight I looked at my parents' wedding portrait. I have my father's nose and my mother's eyes. I pray I also have their faith and goodness.

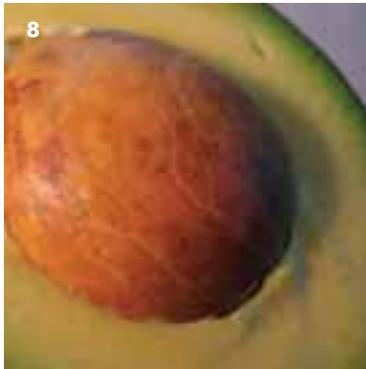
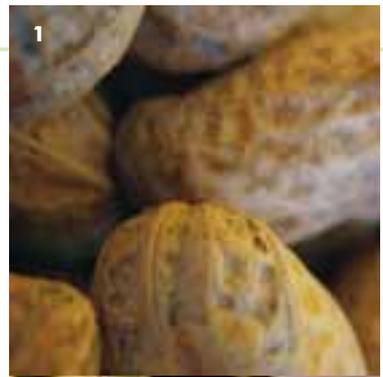


Word of Wisdom Picture Puzzler

BY KIMBERLY WEBB
Church Magazines

These are close-up photos of things you might like to eat. Do you recognize them? If so, write what they are in the blanks. When you are finished, write down the circled letters to discover one important thing you can do to obey the Word of Wisdom. (See answers on page 48.)

1. _ ● _ _ _ ● _
2. _ _ _ _ _ ● _ ●
3. ● _ _ _ ● _
4. _ _ _ _ ● _
5. ● _ _ _ ● _ _ _ _ _
6. _ _ _ _ _ ● _ _ _
7. _ ● _ _ ● _
8. _ _ _ _ _ ● _



Friends in the News



Coley H., 6, North Carolina, is saving his money so he can go on a mission someday. He likes to ride his bike, work on cars, and garden with Papa Coley.



Hannah C., 4, Singapore, enjoys playing, cooking, helping Mom with housework, dancing ballet, and going to church. She likes to participate and give the prayer in Primary.



John P., 10, Utah, is a great student and friend. He enjoys Scouting, fishing, hunting, pitching at his baseball games, and helping his mom cook. He wants to be a professional golfer someday.



Abby W., 9, West Virginia, has two dogs and three cats. She likes to swim, have parties, and go to movies.



Elie Christophe B., 11, Quebec, Canada, displays perseverance and a great spirit of service. His favorite sport is soccer and his favorite color is black.



Brittany W., 5, Montana, enjoys playing with her friends, riding her bike, and playing games with her mommy. Brittany is a very good worker, and her favorite Primary song is "I Love to See the Temple."



Joshua M., 8, Hawaii, likes to dance, read, play with his neighborhood buddies, and visit his grandparents on Molokai. He loves The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



Evann C., 10, Nevada, enjoys dancing, taking pictures, and playing games on the computer. She likes to attend church and learn about the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Jamie G., 5, Oklahoma, is a kind friend and a good brother. His parents love him very much. He likes to go to school, ride his bike, and read books.



Melinda H., 9, Idaho, enjoys giving talks in Primary, attending activity days, and playing the piano. She is a great help with her younger sister.



Bryce I., 5, Wisconsin, has moved seven times since he was born. He likes to make new friends and share the gospel with them. He enjoys playing with his little sister and riding his bike.



Laurie T., 9, Arizona, knows how to make people smile. Her favorite page in the *Friend* is Friends in the News. She enjoys reading books and jumping on the trampoline.



Alec W., 7, California, is a wonderful big brother to Maclaine. Alec likes country music and singing time in Primary. He especially likes to sing "The Church of Jesus Christ."



Janette H., 8, Alberta, Canada, enjoys creating projects from plastic paste, playing outside, writing on chalkboards, and reading. She is a happy girl who likes to help people be cheerful.



Jace Alber M., 9, Florida, was baptized in the Atlantic Ocean. He likes soccer, Scouts, and *Boy's Life* magazine. He loves his five sisters and is grateful that he has his own dog.



April Elaine C., 6, Utah, enjoys reading the scriptures with her family every night. Playing with her baby brother is fun. She doesn't complain when asked to do a chore.



Grady R., 7, Missouri, likes to sing Primary songs and always reads Friends in the News. Football and wrestling with his dad and brother are two things he enjoys doing.



Emma T., 4, New York, likes to go on walks in the Sacred Grove. She enjoys giving talks and singing songs in Primary. Dancing and playing with her little sisters are enjoyable too.



James L., 5, China, and his family are the only Church members in their city. Primary is held in their home, and he is a big help. He likes to sing, act, learn Chinese, and build things.



Jolyn Renee G., 8, Washington, loves her cat, Bob. She enjoys playing the piano, helping others, and riding her grandma's horses.



Colton W., 5, Idaho, is delighted to receive the *Friend* in the mail each month. Colton and his dad have fun working the puzzles and finding the CTR ring.



Elizabeth W., 11, Japan, plays the piano and the flute. She has fun creating her own movies and acting in them. Elizabeth likes to spend time with her nephews and is a great missionary to her friends.

Please send submissions to Friends in the News, Friend Magazine, Rm. 2430, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, United States of America. A written statement signed by a parent or legal guardian granting permission to publish the child's photo must be included. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least a year. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Children whose photos are submitted should be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned.



The Greatest Treasure

(A Read-Together Story)

BY RONDA GIBB HINRICHSSEN

If you keep my commandments and endure to the end you shall have eternal life, which gift is the greatest of all the gifts of God (D&C 14:7).

Child: God has given us great treasures.

Parent: One of those treasures is

Both: The true Church of Jesus Christ.

Parent: The Church of Jesus Christ is a treasure, because it teaches us what we need to do to live with Heavenly Father again.

Child: Jesus told many parables about this treasure.

Parent: One was about a man who found a treasure hidden in a field.

Child: The man was excited. He wanted to keep the treasure. But he had a problem. He did not own the field.

Parent: He also didn't have enough money to buy the field.

Child: The man thought about the treasure. He knew it was worth more than all he had.

Parent: So, he sold everything, and bought the field.

Child: Finally, he owned the treasure. He was very happy.*

Parent: In another parable, Jesus told about a

merchant who was searching for beautiful pearls.

Child: One day, he found a pearl that was greater than all the other pearls. Jesus called it "a pearl of great price."

Parent: The man wanted that pearl, but it was very expensive. The only way he could get it was to do the same thing that the man who had found the treasure had done—he had to sell everything he owned.

Child: So, the merchant sold all that he had and bought the pearl.**

Parent: Both of these men found great treasures, and both of them gave up everything they had to get them.

Child: God has given us a great treasure.

Both: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Child: He wants us to treasure it.

Parent: How?

Child: By learning and obeying the commandments.

Both: No matter what.

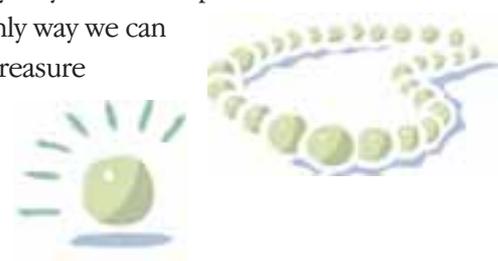
Child: That is the only way we can keep it.

Parent: That is the only way we can receive God's greatest treasure of all—

Both: Eternal life.

*See Matthew 13:44.

**See Matthew 13:45–46.



Needle Punch Card

BY JULIE WARDELL

To make a needle punch card, you will need: a pencil, an envelope, an extra-large sewing needle, a pen, and a piece of paper.

1. With a pencil lightly draw a simple shape or design on the envelope (heart, flower, butterfly, initials, dots, etc.). Using the needle, poke holes spaced slightly apart on the lines you have drawn on the envelope (see illustrations).

2. Write a message on the piece of paper and sign it. Then lightly draw a design on the paper and needle punch it. Fold the paper and place it in the envelope.





BY REBEKAH HURST

was looking at the when she that her had a birthday soon.
 wanted **2** buy her a , but she did have any . looked
 under the cushions, in her , **&** in her , but she could find any
. She sat on her **&** a few ran her face.
 crying. “**Y R U** crying, ?” asked. “Because I do have any
2 buy a birthday ,” said. “Oh, , it’s the that counts,” said.
 decided **2** all her s about her on . Then used her
 to color the paper **YELLOW & BLUE**. d when she the pretty
 birthday she had made. “ was right. It is the that counts!” declared .

Honey Butter

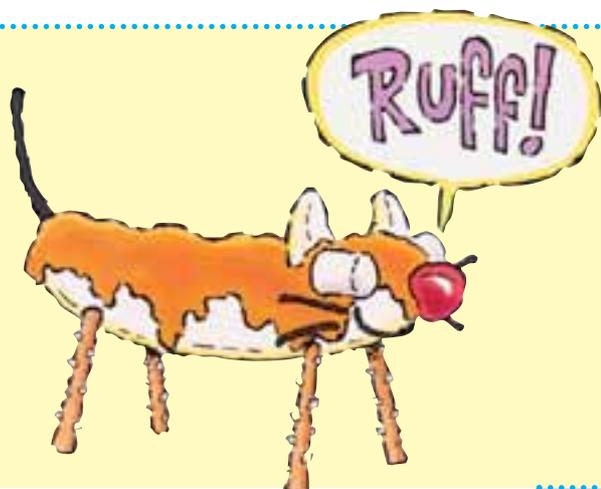
BY BEVERLY B. NICHOLS

1/4 cup honey

2 tablespoons soft butter or margarine

**2 tablespoons frozen whipped topping, thawed
toast**

Mix the first three ingredients together until smooth. Spread the mixture on the toast. The honey butter also tastes good on rolls, French toast, waffles, or pancakes.



Barking Banana

BY RENÉE ROY HARDING

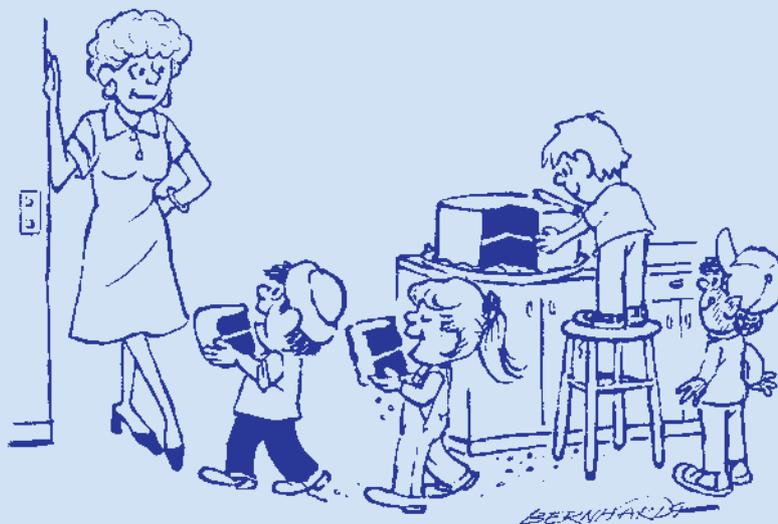
Body: a peeled banana spread with peanut butter and covered with chocolate sprinkles

Ears: a slice off the bottom of the body and cut in half

Eyes: cereal pieces or mini marshmallows

Nose: half of a maraschino cherry or a raisin

Legs, whiskers, and tail: black shoe-string licorice or pretzel pieces



Mom, we're playing follow the leader.





The prayers of the faithful shall be heard
(2 Nephi 26:15).

William eased onto the floor and carefully laid his gun at his side. “Good-night, Brother Joseph.”

“Sleep well,” the Prophet replied.

William doubted he’d be able to sleep at all. Even when he did rest here on the Smiths’ floor, he often

slept fitfully, awakening in starts to watch and listen.

Lying on his back, he stared at the dark ceiling and strained to hear anything suspicious outside—footsteps approaching, horse hooves plodding closer, muffled voices. But the only sounds were chirping crickets and water lapping against the nearby riverbank. William only wished life in Nauvoo could be as peaceful as it seemed tonight.

PROTECTING THE PROPHET

(Based on the life history of William Somerville)

Lately persecution against the Saints, especially Joseph Smith, had become so great that William now slept in the Nauvoo House as the Prophet’s bodyguard. He lay with his feet braced against the bedroom door, which swung inward. That way an intruder would have to awaken William before being able to reach Joseph.

Eventually William’s eyes drooped closed and he fell into an uneasy sleep, but not for long.

“William, are you awake?” Joseph whispered.

William’s eyes flew open to see the Prophet crouched next to him. He reached for his weapon, but Joseph placed a calming hand on his shoulder. “Why don’t you go home and get some rest in your own bed tonight?”

William blinked in disbelief. “Will you be safe?”

Joseph smiled. “I should think so. The Lord has revealed to me that little children have been praying for my welfare, and He will honor their faith by protecting me. Your guard service will not be needed tonight.”

As William walked down the quiet Nauvoo streets toward home, he glanced up at the stars and grinned. He was grateful to know that he was not the only one helping to protect the Prophet. ●



Our Creative Friends

The Gospel

The gospel is right.
 You should follow it day through night.
 Even though you can't see it with your sight,
 It is right.
 The things in it are true.
 It will help you when you don't know what to do.
 The gospel is a tool to take you eternally home.
 If others don't believe it,
 Believe in it on your own.

Tauna T., age 10
Virginia

Mom

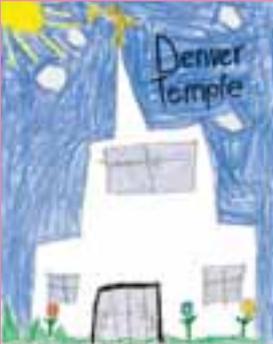
Our mom's the greatest!
 You probably think so too.
 When we need some love,
 She's there for me and you.

Bethany B., age 11
Oregon

My Mom

My mom is like the flowers that pop up in the spring.
 My mom is like a butterfly with a pretty design on each wing.
 My mom is like the sun that shines each and every day.
 My mom is like the moon—in the dark you light my way.
 I love my mom!

Kaylie Y., age 9
Utah



Brett E., age 7, Colorado



Hannab L., age 8, Florida



Rachel E., age 10, California



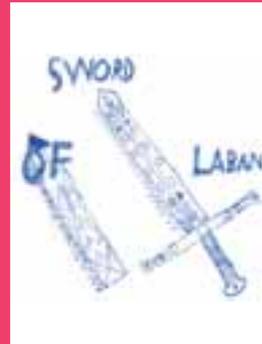
Nicolas B., age 3, New Hampshire



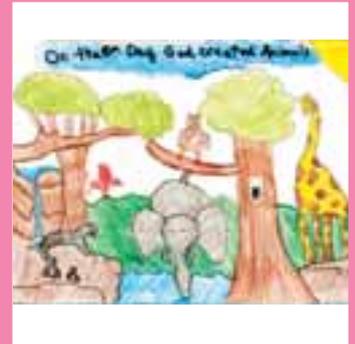
Chandelle M., age 9, Alberta, Canada



Kimberly S., age 8, Washington



Joshua C., age 11, Idaho



Cory O., age 11, Illinois



Kayla C., age 11, Tennessee



Bill D., age 8, Wyoming



Laura Rose B., age 11, Missouri



Mitch H., age 7, New Mexico

I Love My Family

Fun and loving
And
More than just great.
I have the best time with my family
Living in harmony.
You are the best!

*Chris L., age 9
California*

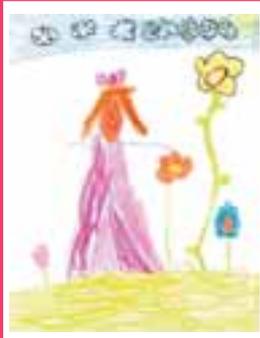
Please send submissions to Our Creative Friends, Friend Magazine, Rm. 2430, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, United States of America. A written statement signed by a parent or legal guardian granting permission to publish the child's submission must be included. If an adult helps with a child's submission, credit should also be given to him or her. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least a year. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Children whose writings and drawings are submitted should be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned.



Lauren S., age 11, Ohio



Jenalyse B., age 10, England



Alexa D., age 5, Texas



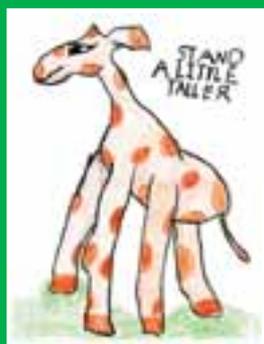
William G., age 7, Utah



Matthew J., age 8, Virginia



Gabrielle B., age 8, Nova Scotia, Canada



Zadi Layne C., age 8, Nevada



Cole M., age 7, Georgia



Matt B., age 10, Washington



Kaylee N., age 9, New York



Dayson D., age 8, Hawaii



Hannah M., age 7, Utah



Trevin J., age 9, Arizona



The **RIGHT** **PATH**

BY RAY GOLDRUP

(Based on a true story)

Walk in the strait path which leads to life (2 Nephi 33:9).

Eric couldn't stop grinning as he walked off the soccer field, the field where his team had just won the league championship. Eric was hot and tired but he knew he had played his best.

As he picked up his bike, he thought of his dad's familiar words: "Not much of what is important in life comes easily," his father said. "Our effort puts a shine in things—such a shine sometimes that they glow for years and years in our hearts."

"This game will definitely glow for years!" Eric thought.

"Hey, Eric!" a voice called from behind him. He turned around and grinned at his teammate, Clay. "Where are you going?" Clay asked. "The victory party is at the coach's house."

"I can't go," Eric said. "I promised Davy I'd come over right after the game. I was going to spend the rest of the day and evening with him."

Clay looked upset. "How much fun can you have with someone who's sick all the time, and can't even leave the house? We just won the championship, Eric.

Isn't that worth something?"

"Yeah, sure."

"Coach said a reporter is coming to the party. He's going to take our pictures and interview us. We're going to be in the newspaper!"

Eric's eyes widened. "Really?" Clay's excitement was contagious. "I guess I could just see Davy later tonight," he said.

"You can't," Clay said. "Don't forget the coach said if we won the game he would take us on an overnight campout to Big Bear Falls. Well, the campout is tonight. You don't want to miss out on that, do you?"

"No way!" Eric said.

"Davy's just a sick kid with nowhere to go and nothing to do, except ruin somebody else's fun," Clay said, spinning a soccer ball on his finger. "Come on, Eric. It's time to celebrate!"



Eric eyed the spinning soccer ball. The more he looked at it the more his mind began to spin, and he got caught up in the moment. "OK, let's go!" he said. He jumped on his bike and headed across the field toward the rest of his team.

During the reporter's interview, Eric looked at the clock in the coach's living room. It was three o'clock. He had promised Davy he would be to his house by one. He knew Davy would be disappointed. He always looked forward to Eric's visits with excitement. But because of school, homework, soccer practice, and family and church activities, it was hard for Eric to spend a lot of time with Davy. But today Eric was going to spend the whole afternoon and evening, and Davy had been marking off the days on the calendar for weeks.

The reporter asked each boy how it felt to be part of a winning team. When Eric's turn came, he didn't answer. He was thinking of the time he and his father were hiking in the Big Bear Mountains. They had come to a three-way fork in the trail and had to decide which path to follow. "Like most things in life, Eric," his dad said, "it comes down to choices. It's getting late, so . . ."

Eric studied the three paths. One was overgrown and hard to see in the evening shadows. It looked jungly and mysterious. The second was straight, narrow, and clearly defined, but uninteresting. The third trail was wide and curving with room to wander.

"What will it be?" Eric's dad asked.

"The wide one, I guess," he said. "There are lots of turns so it will be more exciting, not knowing what's ahead."

They started down the path, but 20 minutes later it ended at the edge of a cliff. Below them in the distance they could make out the small lake where their family had set up camp. Shadows crept across the woodlands below and the sun had sunk behind the mountains.

"Now which path, Eric?" his dad asked.

"How about the jungly one?" Eric suggested. "It looked cool."



They made their way back to the original path, then started down the dark, overgrown trail.

After a few minutes, though, the path was lost in the tangles of underbrush. “What do you think we should do now?” Eric’s dad asked. “It’s getting dark and we’re no closer to camp than we were two hours ago.”

Eric pulled a thorn from his shirt and rubbed a scratch on his arm. “I guess we better get back to the path we were on in the first place.”

His dad nodded, and the two started back. They finally set their feet back on the original path and faced the trails at the triple fork. It was dark now, but the stars lit up the final path. “What do you say we take that third trail, Eric?”

Eric glanced around uneasily at the darkening woods and took hold of his father’s hand. “Yes,” he said. “I can see the path clearly because it’s straight, and it’s narrow so we won’t wander off it.”

As they made their way through the night, Eric’s dad spoke up. “The Savior said that we should always take the straight and narrow path for the very reasons you pointed out. We can clearly see our way and won’t stray from the path unless we choose to. This path is like the iron rod in Lehi’s dream, isn’t it? Straight and true. And look,” he said, pointing toward the stars. “They light the path, like the prophets we have to guide us back to Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.”

They paused on a small knoll above the lake, and looking down they could see a glowing light in the darkness where Eric’s mother had started dinner over the campfire. “Kind of looks like the tree of life in Lehi’s dream, don’t you think?” his dad asked. “A welcome sight to any weary, faithful traveler on the road of life. And just like the food your mom is preparing, the Lord has filled His living tree of life with sustenance

to nourish our spirits and lift us up in our darkest hours.”

Eric squeezed his father’s hand, and his eyes filled with warm tears.

“What are you crying for, Eric?” Clay laughed. Eric looked around and suddenly realized he was still in the coach’s living room surrounded by his teammates.

The reporter quickly wrote on his notepad and said, “It’s his way of saying what it feels like to be part of a winning team.”

“What it is,” Eric said, “is my knowing that I want to be a part of another winning team, as well.”

The boys looked confused. “*Another* winning team?” one of them blurted. “What team is that?”

Eric whispered something to the coach, waved goodbye, and left the room.

“What did he say, Coach?” Clay asked.

Their coach smiled. “He told me the name of the other team he wanted to be a part of—the Lord’s team. And he said to be a part of it, he needed to be somewhere else. Any of you boys know where that is?”

“Davy’s place, I think,” Clay said slowly.

The coach’s smile deepened.

Two weeks later, Davy passed away quietly in his sleep.

A few weeks after that, Eric and his father were hiking in the Big Bear Mountains. When they reached that familiar triple fork in the trail, Eric paused and studied the straight, narrow path. He took his dad’s hand and they stood quietly for a few moments.

“Which path do you want to take, Eric?” his dad asked.

“The straight and narrow one, Dad,” he said.

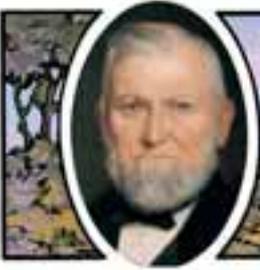
“You’re sure?” his father asked, smiling.

“It’s one thing I am sure about,” Eric smiled back. “It *is* the right way.” ●



“If we stay within the lines that God has marked, he will protect us, and we can arrive safely at our destination.”

Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “The Straight and Narrow Way,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1990, 64.



FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF

A Successful Missionary



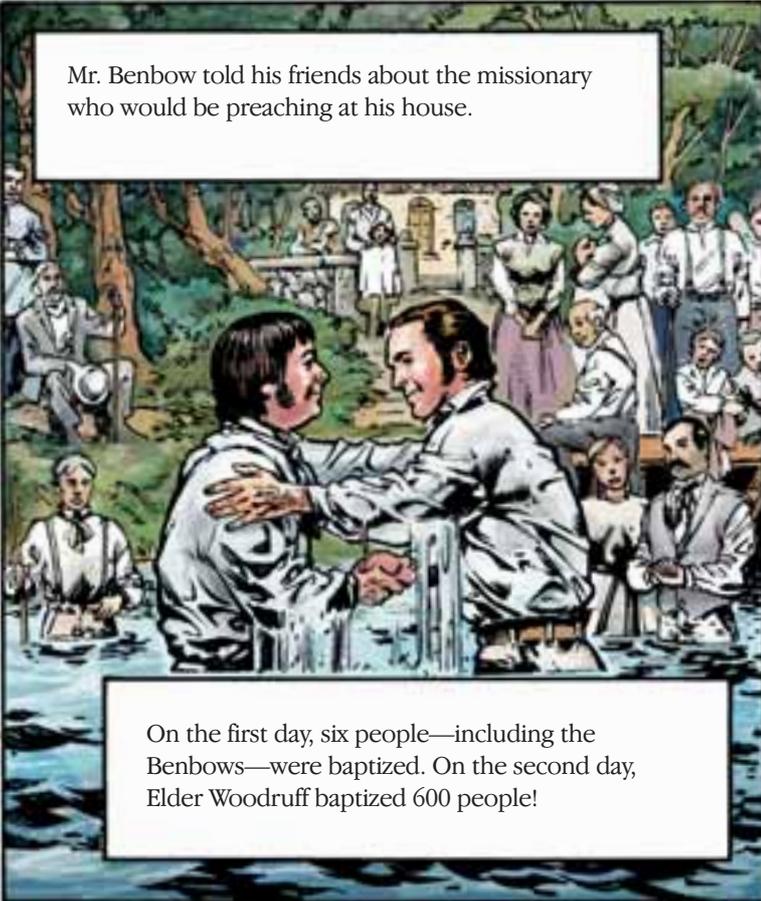
Wilford Woodruff was a very influential missionary, bringing thousands of people into the Church. While serving in England in 1840, he met the Benbow family. After hearing his message, the Benbows talked with Elder Woodruff about the gospel until 2 a.m.

I thank the Lord that you have found us! We, and hundreds of our friends, have been searching for the true gospel of Jesus Christ.

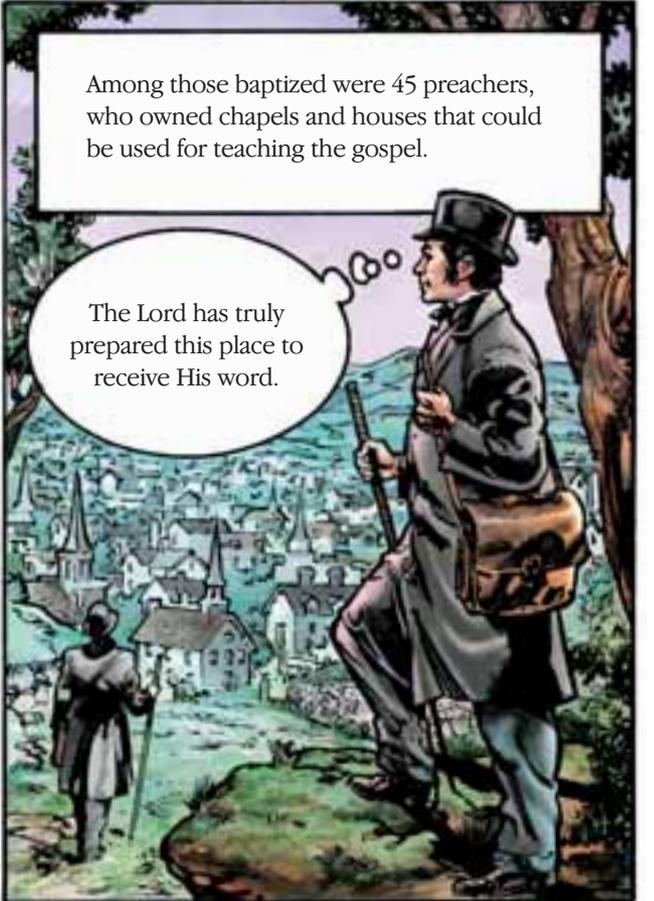


Mr. Benbow told his friends about the missionary who would be preaching at his house.

Among those baptized were 45 preachers, who owned chapels and houses that could be used for teaching the gospel.



The Lord has truly prepared this place to receive His word.



On the first day, six people—including the Benbows—were baptized. On the second day, Elder Woodruff baptized 600 people!

One Sunday, nearly a thousand people came to listen to Elder Woodruff speak. The leader of a local church was angry and asked a constable to arrest Elder Woodruff.

I've come to arrest you for preaching illegally to the people.

I have a license that allows me to preach. Our meeting is about to start, but if you would like to sit here, I'd be happy to talk to you more after the meeting.

As the constable listened, he felt the Spirit. Elder Woodruff then asked if anyone would like to be baptized.

Mr. Woodruff, I would like to be baptized.

The constable returned to the leader of the local church and told him he would not arrest Elder Woodruff. The leader sent two of his clerks to spy on Elder Woodruff, but they got baptized as well. After that, he did not dare send anyone else!

Adapted from Leon R. Hartsborn, ed., Classic Stories from the Lives of Our Prophets (1971), 120–123.

My Companion



BY S. MELLISSA OCHSENHIRT

(Based on a true story)

The Holy Ghost . . . shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance (John 14:26).

I skipped up the sidewalk to the church wearing the new white dress Grandma bought me for my special day. The afternoon was warm, and the air was fresh. Flowers were beginning to bloom. Spring was finally here. I held Mom's hand as we walked through the door. "This is a great day," I said.

"It sure is, Megan." Mom squeezed my hand and gave me one of those winks she saves for when she's really happy. I was about to be baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and I felt wonderful.

I thought of a recent family home evening lesson on baptism. Dad opened his scriptures to the Doctrine and Covenants and read, "And this is my gospel—repentance and baptism by water, and then cometh the baptism of fire and the Holy Ghost, even the Comforter, which showeth all things, and teacheth the peaceable things of the kingdom" (D&C 39:6).

"The Holy Ghost speaks to us in a still, small voice," Dad explained. "And if we obey Heavenly Father's commandments and listen to that voice, we will be happy."

Inside the church, I changed into a white jumpsuit, and Mom put my hair in a braid so it wouldn't float to the top of the water. Then we took our seats for the baptismal service. Everyone sat quietly while Sister Larsen played hymns and Primary songs on the piano. Even my baby sister sat still. After the opening prayer, my big brother Preston and Grandpa Larsen sang my favorite Primary song, "I Am a Child of God."* As I sang I knew that Heavenly Father loves me. I was grateful

that He blessed me with a family that loves me.

When it was Grandpa Ochsenhirt's turn to give his talk, he spoke directly to me. "The Holy Ghost will help you learn what is right and wrong so that you can make the right choices," he said. "He will also give you the strength to choose the right. And if you try to keep Heavenly Father's commandments, the Holy Ghost will be with you as a constant companion."

That made me think about school.

Schoolwork is hard for me, and I get frustrated because I have to try harder than other students.

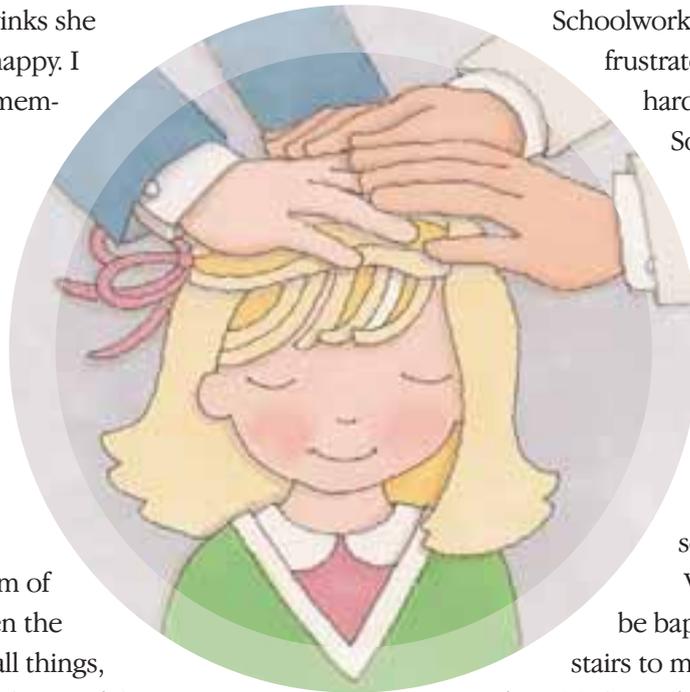
Some of my classmates tease me when I don't do well on tests, and I want to say mean things back. And since I don't like being teased, sometimes I'm tempted to look at my friend's paper and get the right answers. Could the Holy Ghost help me handle school better?

When it was time for me to be baptized, I walked down the stairs to meet my dad in the baptismal font. My heart felt large and warm. I glanced at Mom and saw that her eyes were filled with tears. Dad smiled at me, hugged me, and helped me stand the way he had shown me. Then he said the simple prayer and lowered me under the water. Afterward, Mom met me at the top of the stairs with a towel. She wrapped it around me and squeezed me tight.

"I have a great feeling inside, Mom," I said.

She hugged me again. "That's the Holy Ghost telling you that you're doing the right thing."

After I changed out of my wet clothes, the men in the family who hold the Melchizedek Priesthood laid their hands on my head. They confirmed me a member of the Church and gave me the gift of the Holy Ghost.





I seemed to be surrounded by a peaceful glow.

For many weeks I felt clean and happy. I loved talking about my baptism and how my heart seemed to be growing. My family and Primary teacher reminded me often that the Holy Ghost would help me know what was right and wrong.

A few days ago I had to take a test in school, and I was really nervous. I kept thinking how easy it would be to copy from the girl sitting next to me. I knew that cheating was wrong, but I was desperate to get a good score. Then I remembered that the Holy Ghost would help me. I said a prayer in my heart asking for strength to make the right choice.



“We need the Holy Ghost as our constant companion to help us make better choices in the decisions that confront us daily.”

Elder Robert D. Hales of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “The Covenant of Baptism: To Be in the Kingdom and of the Kingdom,” *Ensign*, Nov. 2000, 8.

The rest of the day, I felt as happy as I had at my baptism. After school, I ran to our car and gave Mom a hug. “I got 100 percent on my test!” I exclaimed.

“That’s great!” Mom said.

“And I didn’t even cheat.”

Mom frowned. “You wanted to cheat?”

“Well, I thought about it,” I admitted. “But I had a feeling inside that it was wrong. So I prayed for help and just tried my best.”

Mom smiled. “I’m glad you listened to that feeling.”

I’m glad too.
Really glad. I always want to be worthy of my companion—the Holy Ghost. ●

kitchen krafts

With the help of another adult or an

older sibling, make one of these recipes and

serve your mother breakfast in bed.

French Toast Sandwich

- 1 egg
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1/8 teaspoon vanilla
dash of cinnamon
- 2 slices thick white bread
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 tablespoon strawberry-flavored cream cheese
- 1 tablespoon strawberry or raspberry jam
- 1/4 teaspoon powdered sugar

1. Whisk the egg, milk, vanilla, and cinnamon together.
2. Use a butter knife or a heart-shaped cookie cutter to cut the shape of a heart in one slice of bread.
3. Melt butter in skillet over medium heat.
4. Dip the two slices of bread and the heart-shaped piece of bread in the egg mixture on both sides and grill until toasted. Remove from heat.
5. Spread cream cheese and jam on the whole piece of toast. Place the toast with heart-shaped cutout on top to make a sandwich with a red heart peeking through. Spread cream cheese and jam on the heart-shaped piece of toast and place on the plate next to the sandwich. Sprinkle powdered sugar over the plate.

Layered Breakfast

- 2/3 cup fruit-flavored yogurt, divided
- 4 tablespoons rolled oats
- 1 small banana, sliced
- 1/2 cup berries of your choice, divided

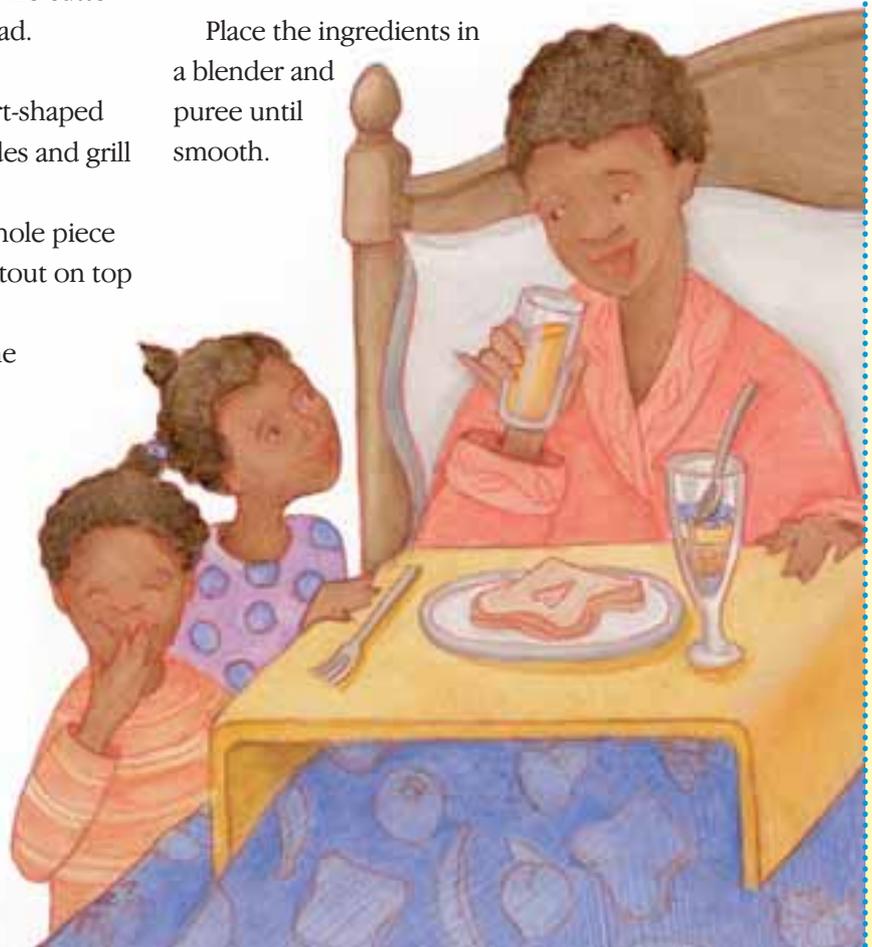
1. Put 1/3 cup of yogurt in the bottom of a glass.
2. Layer with 2 tablespoons of rolled oats, half of the sliced banana, and 1/4 cup of berries.

3. Repeat with the remaining 1/3 cup of yogurt, 2 tablespoons of rolled oats, banana slices, and 1/4 cup berries.

Morning Sunshine Shake

- 2 cups orange juice
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 small banana
- 1/4 cup peach slices
- 1/4 cup chopped pineapple
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 12 large ice cubes

Place the ingredients in a blender and puree until smooth.





Trying to Be Like Jesus

He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life (John 8:12).

Seminary Sacrifice



By Paige N.

This year I sometimes have had to get up at 5:45 a.m. so I could ride with my mom while she drove my sister and some others to early-morning seminary. Once we get to the church my mom and I wait in



the parking lot until seminary is over, then drive the kids to school. Some days I go to school right after my mom's car-pool duty, so I have to be super organized the night before, with my clothes all laid out and my homework all done.

Even though I've had to give up an hour of sleep, I'm glad I can help my sister get to seminary and also help my parents by not complaining about it. My sacrifice hasn't been totally hard because my mom and I have played games, worked on cross-stitch, and watched the sun rise as we waited.

*Paige N., age 10
California*

When I Am Tempted

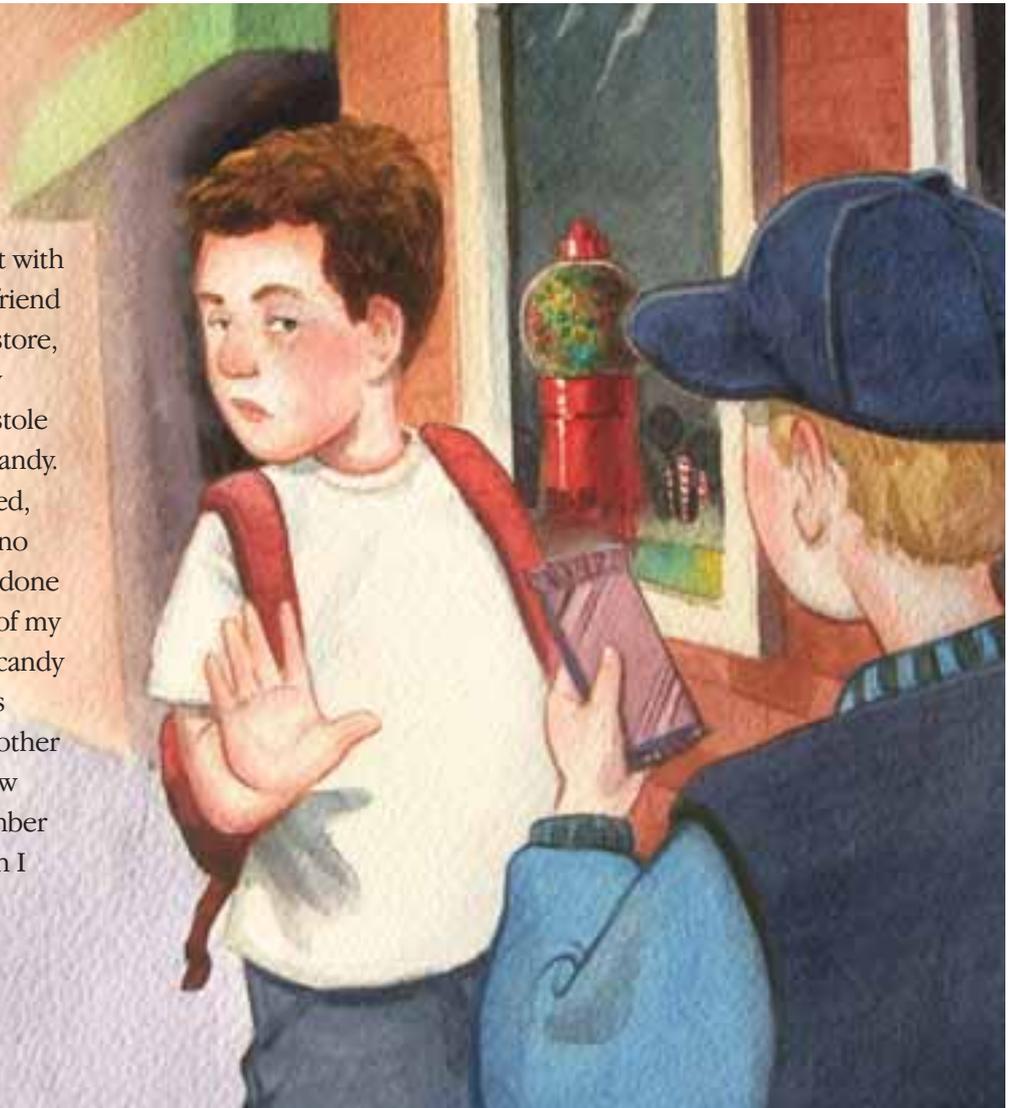
By Joshua B.



I went with my friend to the store, and my friend stole some candy. He asked,

"Do you want some?" I said no because I knew that he had done something wrong. Because of my example, my friend put the candy back. When I was little, I was tempted to steal candy and other things that I wanted. But now when I am tempted I remember how much better I feel when I choose the right.

*Joshua B., age 8
Maryland*



I Didn't Go

By Matteo C. with help from his mum

Someone in my class at school invited me to their birthday party. I wanted to go, but I knew I shouldn't because it was on a Sunday. I felt good inside because I didn't go.

*Matteo C., age 5
Scotland*



I Will Honor My Parents*

By Mallory H.



One night my mom was really stressed. My little sister and I had an idea. We would do

all of Mom's chores. We started by making her bed. Then we did the laundry for her. It was hard to keep it a secret. Soon we finished. When we told her, she was so happy! We were happy too. I felt the Spirit that day, and I know we chose the right.

*Mallory H., age 8
Idaho*



Scooting Over

By Melody A.

Last year in my fourth-grade class there was a boy whom nobody respected. At lunch our table always got really crowded, and no one would scoot over for him. I knew that this wasn't right, so whenever he asked me to scoot over, I did. One day one of my friends asked, "Why do you always scoot over for him?" I answered, "That's what I'd like someone to do for me." I know that when I scooted over he appreciated it. I felt good inside too, because I believe that it was what Jesus would have done.

*Melody A., age 11
Arizona*



Good Example for Grandpa

By Julie M.

One summer we visited my Grandpa Joe, who is not a member of the Church. When we were beginning to eat breakfast, I said: "Wait, Grandpa Joe! We forgot to thank Heavenly Father for the food." He looked surprised but closed his eyes while I blessed the food. I



always try to be a good example for Grandpa Joe, and now when I go to his house, he waits for me to say the prayer. I know that others watch what I do, and I hope to always make Heavenly Father happy as I teach by my example.

*Julie M., age 8
British Columbia, Canada*

*See My Gospel Standards, *Faith in God* guidebook, back cover.



Women of the Gospel

BY MARYALICE WALLIS

Do you know who these great women are? Match the names in the numbered column with the description in the lettered column. Use the Index and Bible Dictionary

in your scriptures to help you. Then write the correct letter in the numbered spaces below to reveal an important message about mothers. (See answers on page 26.)

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Naomi | E. Mother of Jesus |
| 2. Rebekah | H. Mother of John the Baptist |
| 3. Abish | R. First mother on earth |
| 4. Elisabeth | L. Witnessed the Savior after His Resurrection |
| 5. Sariah | O. Wife of the Prophet Joseph Smith |
| 6. Eve | E. Mother of Nephi, Laman, Lemuel, and Sam |
| 7. Mary Magdalene | V. Sister of Moses |
| 8. Emma Hale Smith | T. Servant to Lamoni |
| 9. Miriam | O. Wife of Isaac |
| 10. Mary | M. Mother-in-law to Ruth |

Honor your with .
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



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Guide to the Friend



The Guide to the Friend can help you find stories or articles for preparing lessons or talks for church or for family home evening. The Primary theme for May is "Heavenly Father gave me the gospel of Jesus Christ, promised before the world was."



Family Home Evening Ideas

Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned below.

1. Name some signs you see frequently. What do they instruct you to do? How do they keep you safe? Read President Thomas S. Monson's message "Follow the Signs" (pp. 2–3). What instructions does he give to help us be safe spiritually? Draw six signs to remind you of his counsel and place them around the house.

2. Play "Grandma's Trunk" (pp. 24–25). Then have each family member write down a favorite memory on a piece of paper and find a small object to represent that memory. Put the objects in a box and the papers in another container. Take turns reading a memory and guessing the matching object.

3. Think of someone your family knows who needs help. Write a list of things you could do for that person and decide which act of service you'll perform this week. Then write another list of things this person might need help with that you cannot do yourself. How can you help with those items? Read "Protecting the Prophet" (pp. 32–33) to find out.

4. What does it mean to make a sacrifice? Read "Seminary Sacrifice" in the Trying to Be Like Jesus section (p. 46).

Sacrificing is not easy, but it shows our love for others and Heavenly Father. If you can think of a sacrifice you have made, draw a picture of a blessing that came because of it. If you cannot think of a sacrifice you have made, draw a picture of something you will give up in order to bless someone else this week and write in your journal the blessings that come because of it.

5. Complete the activity "Women of the Gospel" (p. 48). Then divide into teams and use the Topical Guide, Bible Dictionary, and Index to find out one more fact about each woman listed. How is your own mother, grandmother, aunt, or teacher also an example of righteous traits? Remember to honor these women with gratitude and love.



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(IFC) = inside front cover
(v) = verse

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The Friend

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Key 040204

What's in the *Friend* this month?



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What signs does President Monson tell us to follow?

page 14

Jody has a secret friend. Can you guess who?



page 32

Find out how children helped the Prophet Joseph Smith.

