

the Friend

APRIL 2002





Music and Costumes



I love to dance, and since I live in a small town, my mom drives me to Weatherford, Texas, every Thursday to take jazz and tap lessons, and on Friday for ballet.

I have moved up to Level 2, which means I have a different teacher on Thursday. We've been working on a dance for a competition. We compete for a trophy.

We had learned half the dance, when the teacher put it to music. The music wasn't the best choice, and one girl dropped out because

her mom didn't like it. Then we learned some more steps. One day at an extra practice, the teacher asked me, "Have you seen the costume yet?" When I saw the picture of it, I knew that I wasn't going to wear it.

When my mom (who hadn't seen the costume) and I were home, we talked about it. We decided that it was too immodest. She called the studio the next day to tell them that I would not be participating in the dance. I hope that my decision helped the other dancers choose the right.

*Christy Abraham, age 9
Azle, Texas*

Temple Report

When my class was studying architecture this year in school, each student was assigned to prepare both a report and a three-dimensional model of a famous building or other structure. Since my parents were married in the Salt Lake Temple, it is very special to my family. My dad had the great idea of using sugar cubes to make my model of it. We thought that sugar cubes were perfect because their white color symbolized the purity of the temple. I realized that the shape of the cubes was

also appropriate because the Salt Lake Temple was built using huge granite boulders that were cut by hand into blocks.

My five-year-old brother, Rollins, decided to make a temple, too. We thought his turned out to look a lot like the Manti Utah Temple.

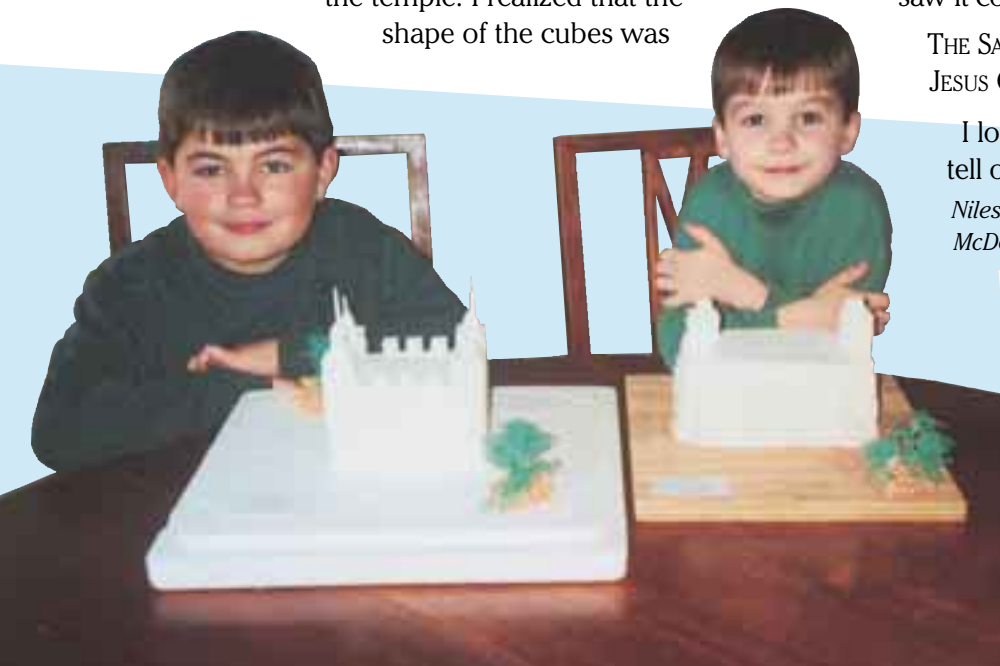
Presenting the report let me tell my class a little about the Church and the importance of temples. My model was even put on display in the school media center for a few weeks! Everyone who saw it could read the label we made for it:

THE SALT LAKE TEMPLE OF THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS.

I look forward to my next chance to tell others about the Church.

*Niles Wimber, age 8
McDonough, Georgia*

The *Friend* welcomes your letters sharing a spiritual experience, your testimony, or your feelings about the *Friend* magazine. Send them to Childviews, *Friend*, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3226. Please include a picture of yourself and your name, age, and address. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity.



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the Friend

A children's magazine published by
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Cover by David Deitrick

Hidden Word

Dedicate, dedicated: When a temple is completed, it is dedicated, or given to the Lord as His house, in a special prayer. This term appears in Exploring, "Holy Place," Making Friends, "Blessings of Heaven on Earth," and Temple Cards in this issue. See if you can find it.

Come Listen to a Prophet's Voice

From a LOG FARMHOUSE

The Church of [Jesus] Christ in these last days . . . [was] organized and established . . . in the fourth month, and on the sixth day of the month which is called April (Doctrine and Covenants 20:1).



The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was organized in 1830. President Hinckley reviews its miraculous growth as foretold in prophecy.

I have tried to picture in imagination that April 6 of 1830, the day the Church was

organized. The few who believed in Joseph's mission gathered on that day, which was designated by divine revelation as "being one thousand eight hundred and thirty years since the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the flesh" (Doctrine & Covenants 20:1).

One wonders whether any of that group, other than Joseph Smith, who saw the prophetic vision, had any idea of the greatness of the thing they were beginning. From a rural area in Fayette, New York, from the simple Whitmer log farmhouse, there was to grow an organization worldwide in its scope and numbering millions in its membership.

As we think of the growth of the Church, our minds are drawn to the epic and painful movement from the farmlands of rural New York to the



valley of the Great Salt Lake, and [from there] to the nations of the earth.

Following the organization of the Church, persecution soon raised its ugly head. A decision was made to move to Kirtland, Ohio.

There the early members built their beautiful temple, and in its prayer of dedication the young prophet invoked [called on] the powers of heaven that the Church "may come forth out of the

wilderness of darkness, and shine forth fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners" (Doctrine and Covenants 109:73). But the fulfillment of that prayer would not come quickly. The peace of Kirtland was shattered by insults, financial distress, the tarring and feathering of their leader.

In Missouri they built another center. This was to have been Zion. That dream was blasted with rifle fire, the burning of homes, the wolf cries of the night-riding mobs, the illegal expulsion order, followed by the painful march across the bottomlands of the Mississippi and the crossing of the river to the temporary asylum (place of safety) in Illinois.

Their prophet did not make that journey with the fleeing exiles. During the bitter winter of 1838-1839, he was imprisoned in the cold, miserable basement cell of a Missouri jail, the

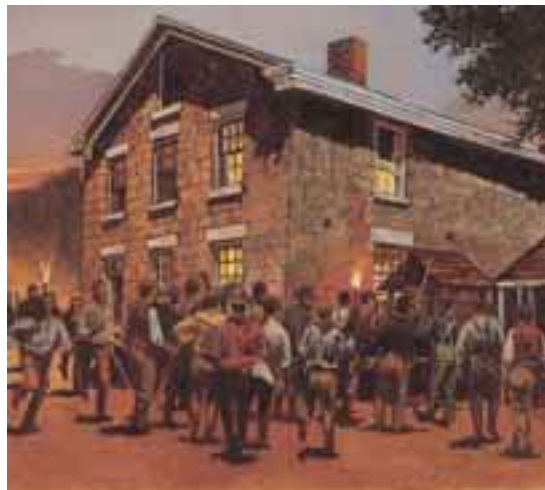
"While the pure in heart, and the wise, and the noble, and the virtuous, shall seek counsel, and authority, and blessings constantly from under thy hand" (Doctrine and Covenants 122:1-2).

My [young friends], all of us who are part of this great kingdom established among the nations of the earth are the fulfillment of that prophecy, as is the Church itself.

Joseph never saw the day of which we are a part, except through the vision of a seer. He died that sultry June 27, 1844, at Carthage, Illinois. I give you my testimony of him. He was the ordained servant of God, raised up to be the mighty prophet of this dispensation.

The Church organized [172] years ago stands today a tower of strength, an anchor of certainty in an unsettled world. Its future is secure as the church and kingdom of God.

May we live its teachings and work to fulfill the



victim of a false arrest.

[Feeling abandoned, helpless, and] lonely, he cried out, "O God, where art thou?" (Doctrine and Covenants 121:1).

In the [Lord's answer] to that prayer came these remarkable words of prophecy:

"The ends of the earth shall inquire after thy name, and fools shall have thee in derision, and hell shall rage against thee;

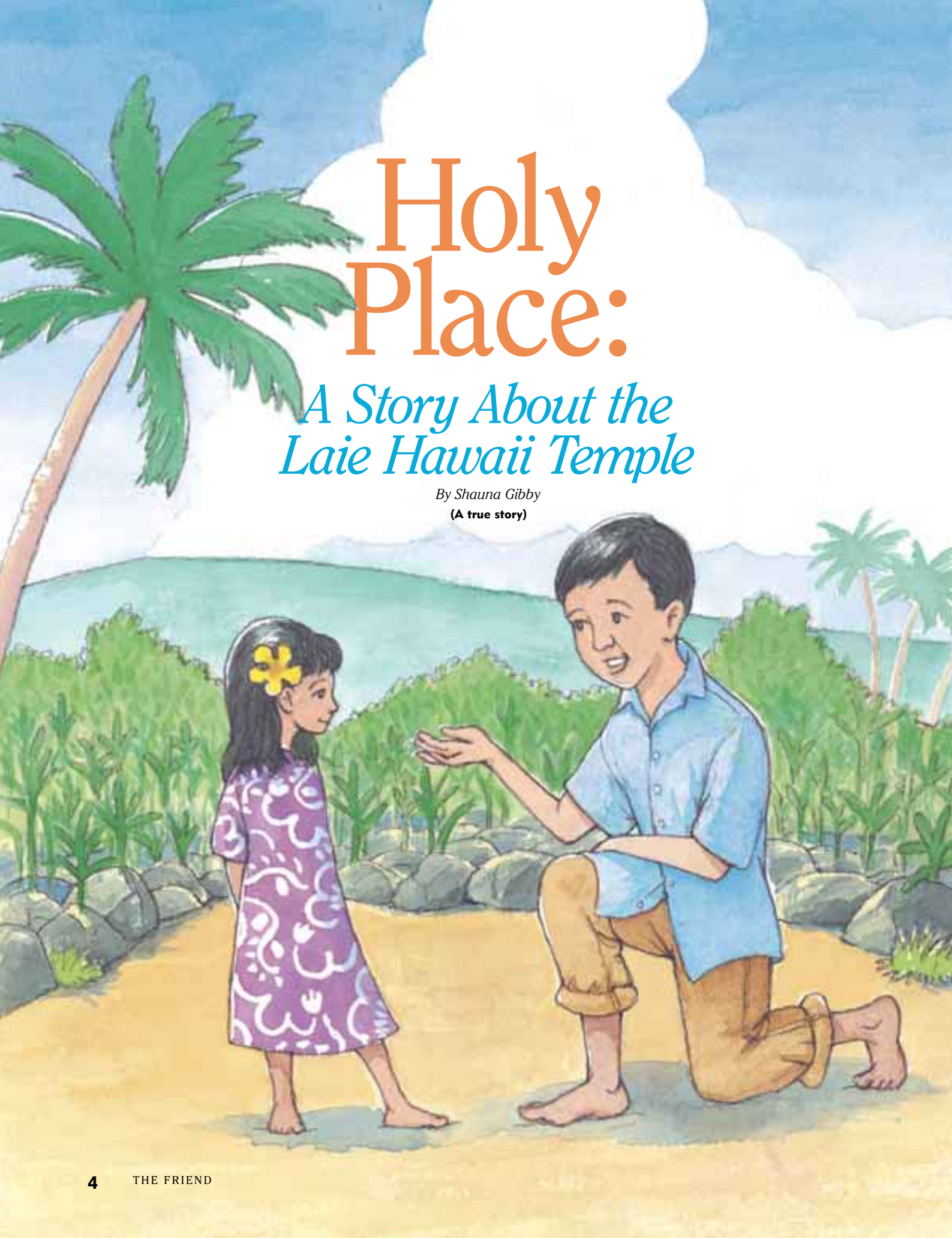
Lord's purposes as we individually seek to model our lives after its true and living head, the Lord Jesus Christ.

(See *Ensign*, January 1997, pages 2-3.)

Holy Place:

A Story About the Laie Hawaii Temple

By Shauna Gibby
(A true story)





Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart. (Psalm 24:3–4.)

In 1919, Abigail Kailimai was four years old. She lived with her mother and father and all her older brothers and sisters in the town of Hilo on the big island of Hawaii. From her house, she could see the beautiful ocean where seals, turtles, whales, and many colorful fish swam.

Towering over her town was the large mountain called Mauna Kea. Thick rain forests and green pastures grew between her house and the mountain. Abigail could sometimes see puffs of smoke in the sky from volcanoes on the other side of the mountain.

Her father often told her wonderful stories. Her favorite story was about the temple then being built almost two hundred miles away on the island of Oahu. Father told her how, long ago, Joseph F. Smith had come to Hawaii as a missionary. The year Abigail was born, he had returned as President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and had dedicated a sugarcane field where the Church would build a temple. Father told her the ground there was now holy because the prophet had blessed it.

Father told Abigail how much the Hawaiian people loved President Smith. They called him Iosepa, the Hawaiian name for Joseph. Father's eyes sparkled when he told Abigail what a wonderful place the temple would be. He promised to take her and her family to the temple when it was built so that they could be sealed together forever.

On Sundays, Abigail's family went to church. Some people walked to church, and some rode horses. Father had an automobile. The whole family climbed inside it and rode to church. She loved learning about Jesus

there. Her teacher often talked about the holy temple that was being built.

One day, Abigail's mother told her the temple was almost finished! Their family needed to get ready to make the long journey there. Mother sewed new white dresses for Abigail and her sisters. They had been saving their money for a long time so that they could sail to Oahu.

Father told them that they needed to get ready to go to the holy temple in other ways, too. They needed to try to act as Jesus would, so that they would be worthy to go inside His house. Mother wrote down the names of her grandparents and great-grandparents and other relatives who had died so that they could be sealed to the family, too.

Finally the day came for them to leave. Abigail wore her prettiest dress and carried a small bag with her new white dress in it. Their friends came to give them flower leis to wear around their necks and to wish them a good journey. Abigail and her family climbed into the boat and were soon far out on the ocean.





Father showed Abigail how smoke and steam came out of the boat's smokestack. The steam made the boat go. Abigail liked to watch the boat slice through the waves and to see the dolphins swimming alongside. After a very long day, they finally arrived in Oahu.

Abigail and her family went to the town of Laie, where the new temple had been built. One of the families living there invited them to stay in their home. Abigail shared a room where all the girls slept. In the morning, the children went outside and played in the sand dunes near the beach.

The next day, November 27, 1919, President Heber J. Grant came to dedicate the temple. Abigail could feel that the temple was a wonderful, holy place. After the dedication, the Saints held a luau, or big feast, to celebrate. They ate pork, chicken, fish, bananas, rice, and coconuts. They sang beautiful songs.

One week after the temple was dedicated, Abigail and her family went inside it to be sealed together. She wore her new white dress. Father told her that now their family could be together even after they went to heaven. Abigail felt so happy!

Fifteen years later, Abigail fell in love with David, a fine young man. They wanted theirs to be a "forever family," too, so they went to the temple in Laie to be married. She loved being there; it was a holy place. She dreamed that one day she would be a temple worker and help other people who came to the temple.

Sixty-five years later, another temple was dedicated in Hawaii. This one was on Abigail's island, in a town called Kona. President Gordon B. Hinckley came to dedicate it. Abigail was there, leading the choir. After the dedication, she went to the temple each week to help those who came to that beautiful, holy place.



Joseph, the Seer



By Elder Neal A. Maxwell
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

Did you know that Elder Neal A. Maxwell likes to play tennis and to read? He also loves the Prophet Joseph Smith and bears testimony of him:

Young Joseph was told that his name would be “both good and evil spoken of” throughout the world (Joseph Smith—History 1:33). . . . Yet his contemporary religious leaders, then much better known than Joseph, have faded into the footnotes of history, while the work of Joseph Smith grows constantly. . . .

In a prophetic father’s blessing given in December 1834 to Joseph Smith, Jr., Father Smith confirmed . . . upon young Joseph: “Thy God has called thee by name out of the heavens . . . to do a work in this generation which no other man would do as Thyself.” The ancient Joseph [in Old Testament times] “looked after his posterity in the last days . . . And sought diligently to know . . . who would bring the word of the Lord [to them] and his eyes beheld thee, my son: [Joseph Smith, Jr.] his heart rejoiced and his soul was satisfied.”

Young Joseph also heard his father promise, “Thou shalt like to do the work which the Lord shall command Thee.” (See 2 Nephi 3:8.) . . .

Was Joseph imperfect like other prophets? Of course! Surely, Joseph could identify with these words of an ancient prophet, which he translated:

“Condemn me not because of mine imperfection, neither my father, because of his imperfection, . . . but rather give thanks unto God that he hath made manifest unto you our imperfections, that ye may learn to be more wise

than we have been” (Mormon 9:31; see also Doctrine and Covenants 67:5). . . .

Did Joseph experience the same anxieties in carrying out his mission as did other prophets? Indeed! Joseph could understand with what feelings a weary and beset Paul wrote:

“For, when we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled on every side; without were fightings, within were fears” (2 Corinthians 7:5; see also 2 Corinthians 4:8).

Was Joseph unjustly accused as were other prophets? Yes! Even unto this very day fragments of fact are flung at his memory. Paul was accused of being mad [crazy]. (See Acts 26:24.) Even Jesus himself was accused of being a winebibber [drunkard], of being possessed of a devil, and of being mad. (See Matthew 11:19; John 10:20.)

Yet, in the midst of all these things, as promised, Joseph loved the work to which he had been called. . . .

As was promised Joseph in an 1834 father’s blessing:

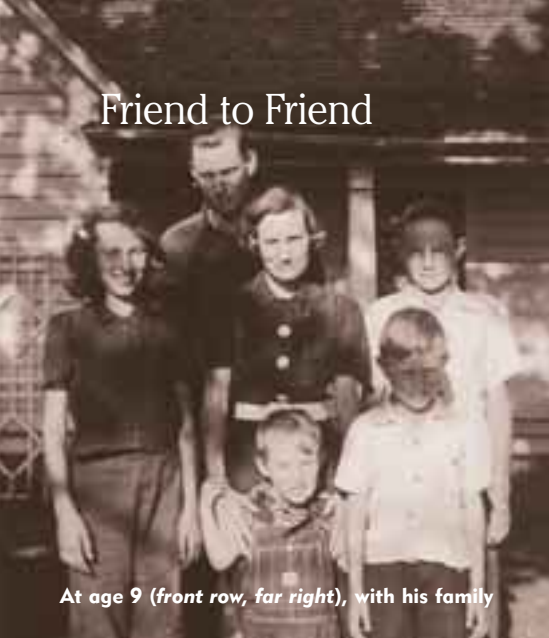
“Thousands and tens of thousands shall come to a knowledge of the truth, through thy ministry, and thou shalt rejoice with Them in the Celestial Kingdom; [and] thou shalt stand on Mount Zion when the tribes of Jacob come shouting from the north, and with thy brethren, the Sons of Ephraim, crown them in the name of Jesus Christ.” . . .

Therefore, [my young] brothers and sisters, I have no hesitancy—only gladness—in declaring my everlasting admiration for Joseph, the Seer! I thank the Father for providing such a seer! I thank my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for calling, directing, and tutoring Joseph!

(*Ensign*, November 1983, pages 54–56.)



Important People



At age 9 (front row, far right), with his family

He that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise (Proverbs 12:15).

From an interview with Elder Val Rigby Christensen of the Seventy, currently serving in the Australia/New Zealand Area Presidency; by Kellene Ricks Adams

I'm a strong believer that the Lord places important people in our lives. These people deeply influence us, teach us, and provide us with the resources we need to develop strong testimonies and learn correct principles. These people can be our parents, other family members, Church teachers, friends, or neighbors. They are often prompted by the Spirit to do and say things that are exactly what we need at certain times in our lives.

In my life, there have been many of these people. Most important, of course, was my mother. My father died when I was about six years old, and my mother raised my three brothers and sisters and me by herself. She raised us under the guidance of the Spirit and taught us the importance of kindness, obedience, and righteousness.

I learned early in my life to listen closely to my mother. One time when I was heading to a nearby swimming hole with my friends, my mother advised me to not go. "I just don't feel good about you going," she said.

Despite her warning, I chose to go anyway. I nearly drowned that day. Thankfully, a friend pulled me out and saved my life. That experience taught me to pay close attention to my mother's feelings, and it also taught me the importance of living worthy of the Spirit and its promptings.

In addition to my mother, more than one Primary teacher

influenced my upbringing. One day in Primary, a teacher shared with us the story of the Restoration. She explained that there were many different religions in the world. I was surprised to hear that. I lived in a small Utah town where practically everyone was a member of the Church, so I assumed that everyone believed the same things I did.

My teacher continued by telling us the story of fourteen-year-old Joseph Smith and his deep desire to find the truth. She told us how he read the scriptures that talked about asking the Lord for guidance. Then she talked about



At six months



At age 8, with sister, Eileen, and younger brother, Allan



At age 11

the special day when he went into a beautiful grove of trees near his home and knelt to ask Heavenly Father for help.

I had actually heard the Joseph Smith story several times before, but for some reason this time was different. I was only about seven years old, but I began to understand some of the great importance of having the restored gospel in my life.

Through the years, I grew to love and appreciate my Primary teachers and other Church leaders. They played an important role in teaching me the gospel and helping me develop my testimony and learn how to live like Heavenly Father wanted me to live.

Over and over, I have been reminded that people play important roles in our lives. One cold January day when I was in high school, I stayed after school for wrestling practice. My home was ten miles from the high school, so I usually caught a ride home after practice.

On this particular night, I didn't feel very well. The only ride I could get was in the back of a pickup, and when the driver dropped me off, I was still at least a mile from home. I felt frozen, and I remember not being able to think straight. There were no cars in sight as I stumbled down the road toward home.

Before long, a car appeared in the distance. As it grew closer, I weakly waved my arm, hoping the driver would stop. He did. It was my brother-in-law, who had felt a strong prompting to come looking for me. The next day, I was diagnosed with pneumonia. I was very sick for several weeks. I'm not sure what would have happened to me if my brother-in-law hadn't showed up, but I'm certain that he was following the Spirit when he went out looking for me that night.

Because I grew up in a single-parent home, I've always felt a great closeness to young children who have only one parent. Certainly there can be difficulties, but one parent who is led by the Spirit can do a great job of raising a family. My childhood memories are happy, fun ones. I gained a strong testimony of the gospel, and I grew up to be responsible and obedient.

The Lord loves every one of His children. He does all He can to help us be happy and return to live with Him. One of the greatest things He does is provide each of us with people in our lives who love us, teach us, and help us become the people we need to be. We should pay special attention to those people. We need to listen to them, follow them, and respect them. As we try to live like these righteous and inspired people, we will be blessed.

With his family

As a missionary



Hats Off to Herb

By Alison L. Randall

(A true story, based on the written history of Hester N. Harris, the author's grandmother)

Fear thou not; for I am with thee . . . ; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee (Isaiah 41:10).



On a bright Sunday morning in 1910, I hurried through the streets of Bristol, England, with my family. “Dad,” I asked, with a tug on his coattails, “will there be many people?”

“More than usual, Hetty,” Dad answered. “We don’t often have an Apostle come to our district conference.”

“But remember,” my big brother, Herb, said, “this is a church meeting, not a social gathering.” He tried to look stern, but I could tell that he was teasing.

“There will be plenty of time for both,” Dad said. “After all, it’s hard enough to make friends nowadays.”



He'd said that last bit quietly, almost to himself. I knew life hadn't been easy for Dad since he'd been baptized. His coworkers teased him about giving up his pipe. And the daily papers often wrote mean things about the Church. But Dad stayed strong. Sometimes I wondered how I would do if I were faced with persecution. I looked up at Herb and wondered what he would do.

We soon reached Wolsley Hall. It wasn't really a proper church building, but that day it looked like one. Members in their best Sunday clothes milled outside the doors, shaking hands and greeting old friends. Then everyone gathered in the hall.

When we were seated, some men filed into the seats in the front. I recognized the district president, President Little. He was followed by a man in a long-tailed black coat and a tall silk hat.

I tapped my dad's arm. "Is that Elder Clawson?" I whispered. Dad nodded.

I knew that Elder Rudger Clawson was an Apostle. I looked closely at him, but except for the way he was dressed, he looked the same as the men sitting next to him. But later, when he spoke, I knew that there was something special about him. The feeling in my heart reminded me of our first visit with the missionaries. When they had taught us about Joseph Smith, a warm feeling had filled the room. I felt that same warmth as I listened to Elder Clawson speak.

We had three meetings that day, with a break in between each for a bite to eat. I thought I'd be tired of meetings, but I was a little sad when Elder Clawson stood up to give the last talk. I'd felt so good inside all day, I almost wished the day would never end.

I tried hard to listen to Elder Clawson's speech so that I could go home and write it in my journal. But as he was speaking, I heard shouts outside the hall. Suddenly a big splotch of mud hit the win-

dow above my head. More mud and rocks struck other windows around the hall, and the shouting grew louder.

"What's happening?" Herb whispered to Dad.



"It sounds like a mob," Dad answered grimly.

Elder Clawson finished his talk as if nothing were happening, then announced that he would give the closing prayer.

"We ask thee, Father, to watch over and protect us," he prayed, and as he did, the fear left my heart.

After Elder Clawson finished his prayer, he told us to stay in the hall until it was safe to leave.

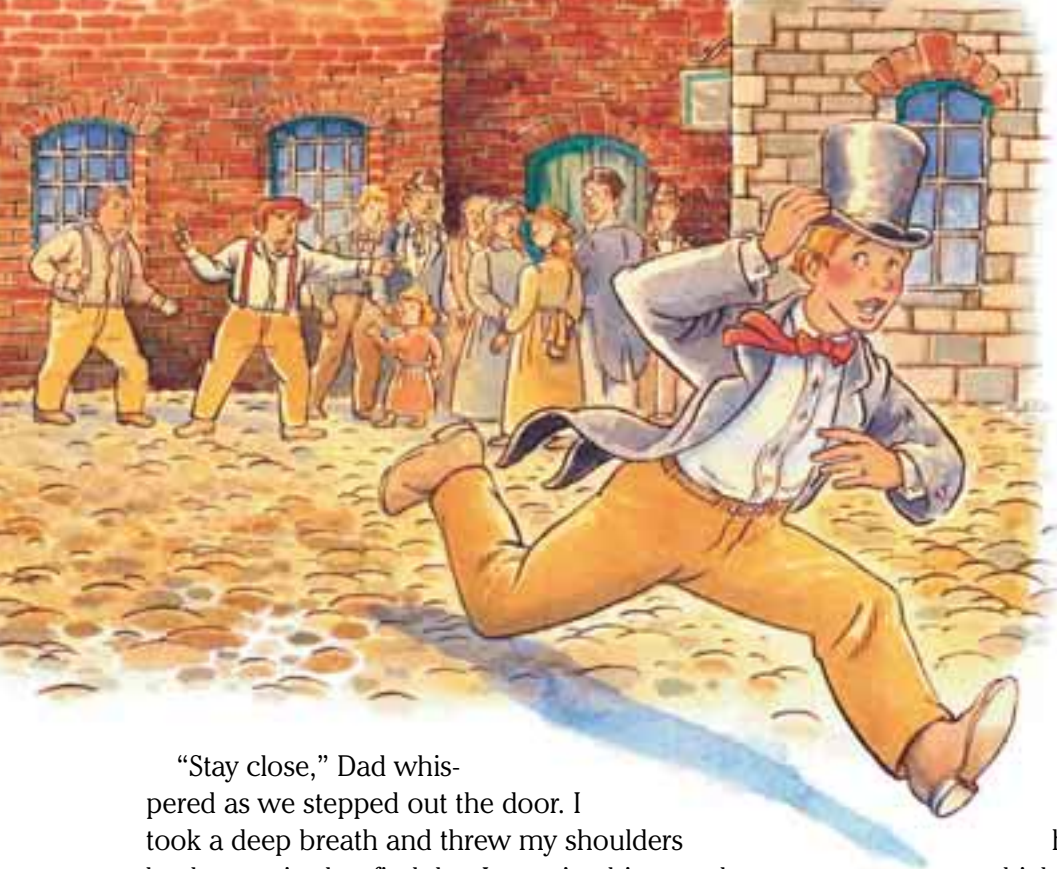
"What are we waiting for?" I whispered to Dad, after we'd been sitting for half an hour, listening to the shouting outside.

"I don't know," my dad answered, "but the Lord will provide."

A few minutes later, a knock sounded boldly on the door. President Little opened the door a crack and peered out. There stood a friend of his, a police officer. He had his uniform on, and he had brought along another police officer.

"Follow me," the officer said. "I have a tram car waiting in the street."

The two officers turned and swung their clubs to make a path for us through the mob.



“Stay close,” Dad whispered as we stepped out the door. I took a deep breath and threw my shoulders back, surprised to find that I wasn’t a bit scared.

Elder Clawson followed behind us. As he walked through the door, shouts rang out.

“There he is!” “The Mormon Apostle!” “Get him!”

The crowd surged in around us, and Herb left my side. “Herb,” I called. I turned to see him pluck the hat from Elder Clawson’s head, cram it on his own and dash off.

“There he goes!” someone shouted, pointing at the top hat bobbing through the crowd. “After him!”

I stood, stunned, watching the crowd break up and chase my brother. Then I felt Dad tugging my hand. “Come, Hetty. He’ll be fine. Elder Clawson asked Heavenly Father to protect us.”

“And He will,” said a voice behind us. It was Elder Clawson. He watched his hat for a moment as it disappeared into the dimming light. “You have a brave son,” he said, turning to shake my dad’s hand. “May I come over early tomorrow and thank him?”

Early the next morning, President Little and Elder Clawson came to our house. Herb, shy for once, placed the hat into Elder Clawson’s hand without a word.

“How did you get away?” President Little asked Herb.

“I hid in the bushes for a while, till they tired of looking.”

“Well done, son,” Elder Clawson said. “What made you think of putting my hat on?”

Herb looked bewildered for a second. “I don’t know.”

Elder Clawson smiled. “I do. You were prompted by the Holy Spirit.” He shook Herb’s hand.

I smiled proudly at my brother. He had done the right thing. I knew in my heart that I had, too. When we stepped into that mob, I hadn’t bowed my head and tried to hide. I’d held it high to show that I was glad to belong to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I promised myself then that I would always hold my head high and never be ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ.



“We need not apologize for our beliefs nor back down from that which we know to be true. But

we can share it in a spirit of loving understanding—boldly and confidently, with an eye single to the glory of God.”

**Elder M. Russell Ballard
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles
(Ensign, May 2000, page 33.)**

We invite you to keep a journal this year. Each month in 2002, you will find a journal page in the *Friend*. Fill it out, remove it, trim around its dashed lines, and glue it to a piece of heavy paper. If desired, decorate the pages, punch holes as needed, and place in a binder or scrapbook.



My Heroes

April Journal 2002

People Who Have Made Good Choices and Set a Good Example for Me



After I am baptized, Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ will give me the gift of the Holy Ghost.



What I'd Like to Be Like When I Grow Up

How the Holy Ghost Has Helped/Will Help Me

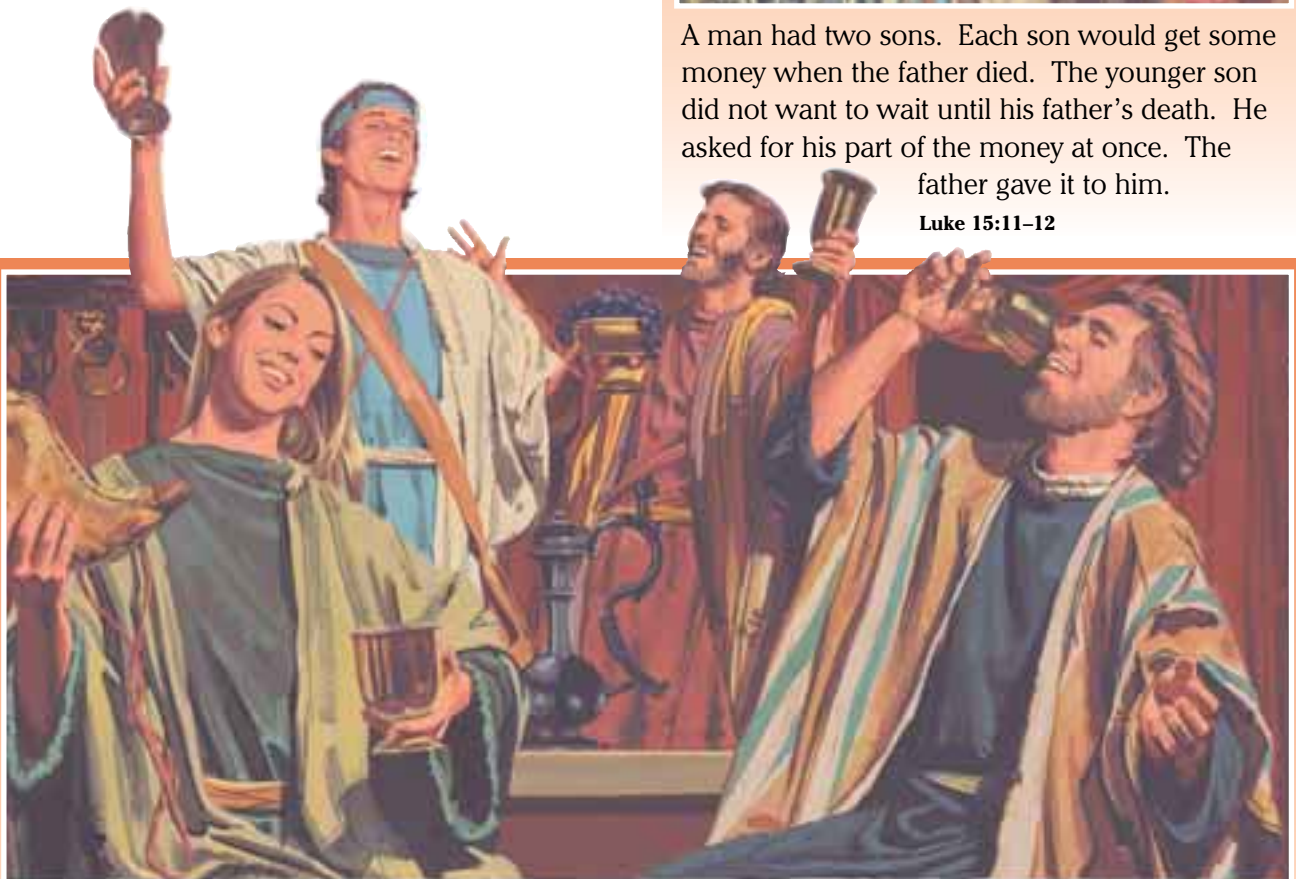
THE LOST SON

The Third Parable



A man had two sons. Each son would get some money when the father died. The younger son did not want to wait until his father's death. He asked for his part of the money at once. The father gave it to him.

Luke 15:11-12



The son took the money and left home. He went to another land, where he spent all of it. And he sinned again and again.

Luke 15:13



Finally he had no money to buy food. Very hungry, he asked a man for help. The man sent him to feed pigs.

Luke 15:14-15



The son was so hungry that he wanted to eat the pigs' food. Even the servants at home had better food to eat than he did. He wanted to go home, but he thought that he was not good enough to be a son to his father.

Luke 15:16-19



He decided to repent and ask to be a servant in his father's house. When he went home, his father saw him coming.

Luke 15:19-20



The father ran to meet his son and put his arms around him and kissed him.

Luke 15:20



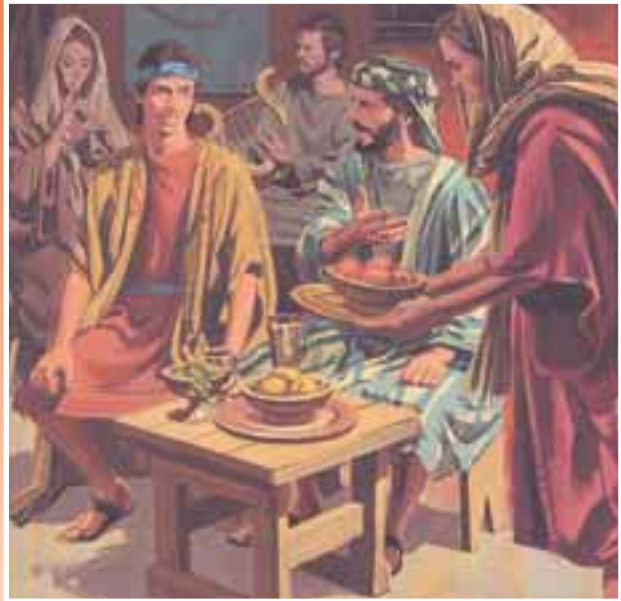
The son told his father that he had sinned.

Luke 15:21



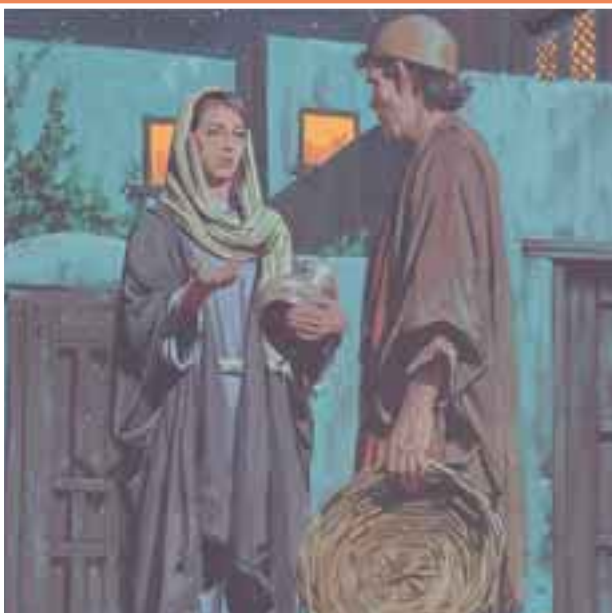
The father told a servant to bring the best clothes and put them on the son. The servant put shoes on the son's feet and a ring on his finger.

Luke 15:22



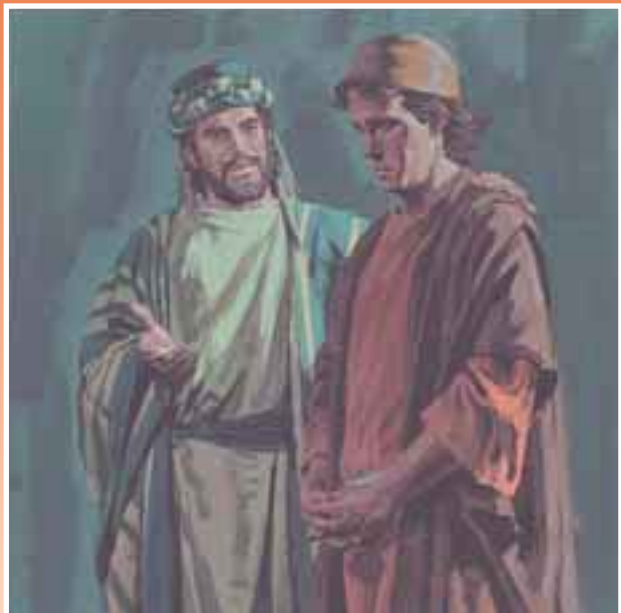
Then the father told the servant to make a feast for the son. He wanted everyone to celebrate because the son who had gone away was now home. The son who had sinned had now repented.

Luke 15:23-24



The older son had been working in the field. When he came home, he heard music and dancing and asked a servant what was happening. The servant told him that the younger son had come home and their father wanted all to celebrate.

Luke 15:25-27



Angry, the older son would not go into the house. His father came out to talk with him.

Luke 15:28



The father said that the older son had always stayed with him and enjoyed all that was there. And everything the father now had would belong to the older son. But his younger son had gone away. And because he had come home, it was right to celebrate. His younger son had sinned, but he had repented.

Luke 15:31-32



Jesus ended the story. He had now told the Pharisees three parables to show them why He talked to sinners. The Savior wanted the Pharisees to know how much Heavenly Father loves everyone. He loves people who obey Him. He also loves sinners, but He cannot bless them until they repent. He wants sinners to repent so that they can come back to Him.

John 3:16-17

The Greatest Gift

By Vicki F. Matsumori



And, 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 (Doctrine and Covenants 14:7).

Isaac and Rebekah were to be married. Their families were joyful that these young people had found someone faithful to marry.

They knew how important it was to be married in the covenant. (When you are married “in the covenant,” you are sealed by the holy priesthood to be married to each other for eternity. That is Heavenly Father’s promise to you; you promise Him to live to be worthy of this blessing.) They knew that if Isaac and Rebekah married in the covenant, they would receive many wonderful blessings. Everyone was happy.

Does this sound like other young men and women you know who marry in the covenant by being sealed in the temple? It is. The difference is that Isaac and Rebekah lived thousands of years ago, during Old Testament times, and they didn’t know each other before becoming engaged.

Isaac’s father, Abraham, knew how important it was for Isaac to marry a faithful woman who believed in God as he did. Abraham knew that doing so was the only way that Isaac could be married in the covenant and receive all the blessings that Heavenly Father had promised. Abraham was so concerned about this that he sent his servant miles and miles away to search for the woman with the same religious beliefs as Isaac and who was chosen by God for him to marry. The Lord helped Abraham’s servant find Rebekah. She agreed to marry Isaac, even though she had never met him. You can read more about Isaac and Rebekah’s marriage in Genesis 24.

Why was it so important for Isaac and Rebekah to marry someone in the covenant? Why is it

important for you to marry a righteous member of the Church in the temple?

When you are married in the temple, you are promised the blessings of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (see Genesis 22:17–18). One of these blessings is that you and your family, through priesthood power, can be sealed together forever. This is a wonderful gift from Heavenly Father. The Lord promised this and other blessings to Abraham’s righteous descendants. They were promised the priesthood and were given the responsibility to teach the gospel to others so that all families everywhere might have “the blessings of salvation, even of life eternal” (Abraham 2:11).

When you grow up and go to the temple, you will learn more about the blessings of salvation and the great plan of happiness. You will make covenants. If you keep your covenants, Heavenly Father will bless you with “the greatest of all the gifts of God,” which is eternal life (see Doctrine and Covenants 14:7). By choosing to marry in the covenant, as Isaac and Rebekah did, you can have the great blessings the Lord wants to give you and your family.

Temple Blessings

Remove page 21; cut the puzzle apart along the broken lines. *This is a two-sided puzzle.* After you mix up the pieces, you can look at the pictures at the top of this page to see how to put the puzzle together. Going to the temple is like looking at the box-top picture of a jigsaw puzzle. In the temple, we see better how we need to fit the many parts of the gospel together to obtain exaltation.

Sharing Time Ideas

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

1. Invite four adults to tell about prophets who have received revelation in the temple. Have them explain what was revealed and how it was revealed in the following instances: (1) Samuel—1 Sam. 3:1–20; (2) Joseph Smith—D&C 110, 137; (3) President Spencer W. Kimball—OD 2; (4) Lorenzo Snow—*Primary 1* manual, p. 85 or *Friend*, Aug. 1993, pp. 14–15. Have the storytellers emphasize that the temple is the house of God. Explain that when we go to the temple, we can also feel Heavenly Father's Spirit and receive personal revelation.

Help the children memorize the ninth article of faith by cutting several copies of it into separate words and putting each copy into an envelope. Divide the Primary into groups of about five children. Give each group one of the envelopes. Have them put the words in order as the music leader sings "The Ninth Article of Faith" (p. 128) or a member of the presidency repeats the article of faith to help the children. Continue singing or repeating it until all of the groups have put the words in order. As a group completes the activity, have them sing or say the article of faith with the music leader or presidency member until they have it memorized.

2. Read John 14:26. Explain some of the ways that the Holy Ghost can reveal or help us remember things: dreams; visions; ideas; peaceful feelings; still, small voice. Sing "The Still Small Voice" (pp. 106–107). We can receive personal revelation in the temple (see Sharing Time Idea #1) and other places as well. Help the children understand that personal revelation may be received as a result of asking in prayer, reading the scriptures, and keeping the commandments. Find or draw simple drawings of the outdoors, a jail, a mountain, and a room in a house. Hang them in the four corners of the Primary room. Tell the children that they will learn about people who received revelation in each of those places.

Divide the children into four groups and, using stations (see TNGC p. 179), have the children learn about revelations that were given in each of these locations: outdoors—Enos (Enos 1:1–5), Joseph Smith (JS—H 1:14–19), or Mary Fielding Smith (*Primary 5* manual, pp. 246–248); jail—Joseph Smith (D&C 122 or *Primary 5* manual, pp. 180–183); mountain—Moses (Ex. 3:1–6; 24:12–25:8); room—Joseph F. Smith (D&C 138: heading, 1, 11), Lehi (1 Ne. 1:5–8), or Mary (Luke 1:26–38). Sing songs from the "Prayer" and "Scriptures" section of the *CS* as the children move from station to station.

Have the children write about or draw a picture of a time when they received inspiration or felt joy at home, at church, at school, or at a special occasion. They might also draw a picture or write a description of a place where they pray, read the scriptures, or where they might receive personal revelation. Have them add the page to their temple booklets or place them in their journals.

3. Help the children learn about the Savior and temple ordinances by showing parts of the video *Special Witnesses of Christ* (item #53584). Explain to the children that one role of the prophet and the Apostles is to testify of the Savior. To help the children focus on the message of each video segment, write the following song titles from the *CS* on the chalkboard in random order. Show a video segment, have the children choose a song that they feel goes with that segment, then sing it while you are locating the next segment. If the video is not available, ask someone to read the text from the *Ensign*, Apr. 2001, pp. 2–21. You may wish to preview the video to help you locate the needed segments more easily.

Suggested video segments and songs could include: •Elder Russell M. Nelson, "I Lived in Heaven," p. 4; •Elder Richard G. Scott, "When Jesus Christ Was Baptized," p. 102; •Elder Henry B. Eyring, "I Love to See the Temple," p. 95; •President Gordon B. Hinckley, "Jesus Has Risen," p. 70; •President Boyd K. Packer, "The Hearts of the Children," pp. 92–93; •President Gordon B. Hinckley, "The Sacred Grove," p. 87. If time permits, show the rest of the video.

Bear testimony of the blessings of having living prophets today and of the blessings that the temple brings to us.

4. Display pictures of some of the children's parents when they were younger. Have the children guess whose parents they are. How did they know? Frequently we look like our parents. List on the chalkboard physical traits we inherit from our parents: eye color, hair color, height, etc. We

are also sons and daughters of Heavenly Father. How do we know this? Display a picture of the First Vision (GAK 403). We learn from the scriptures that we were created in Heavenly Father's image (see Gen. 1:26–27) and that He has a body of flesh and bones (see D&C 130:22). Sing "I Am a Child of God" (pp. 2–3).

On the chalkboard draw a ladder with seven rungs leading from a circle labeled "Earth" to an area labeled "Heaven." Heavenly Father promises that we can have an inheritance in His kingdom and return to live with Him if we do certain things. Make the following seven wordstrips with the scripture references written on the front and the song titles written on the back: Hebrews 11:6—"Faith" (pp. 96–97); 3 Nephi 11:38—"When I Am Baptized" (p. 103); Doctrine and Covenants 10:55—"The Church of Jesus Christ" (p. 77); Mosiah 15:11—"We Listen to a Prophet's Voice" (*Hymns*, no. 22); Doctrine and Covenants 6:37—"Keep the Commandments" (pp. 146–147); John 13:15—"I'm Trying to Be like Jesus" (pp. 78–79); and Matthew 7:21—"I Will Follow God's Plan" (pp. 164–165). Place a wordstrip below each ladder rung. Have the children take turns choosing a wordstrip. As the Primary sings the song, the child's class tries to find the scripture before the song is finished. Have the child read the scripture and write on the ladder rung what we need to do to receive our eternal inheritance.

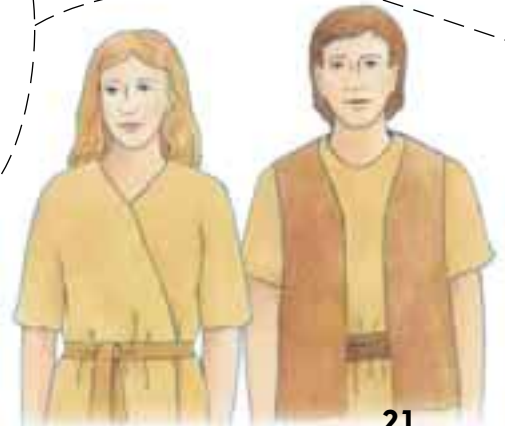
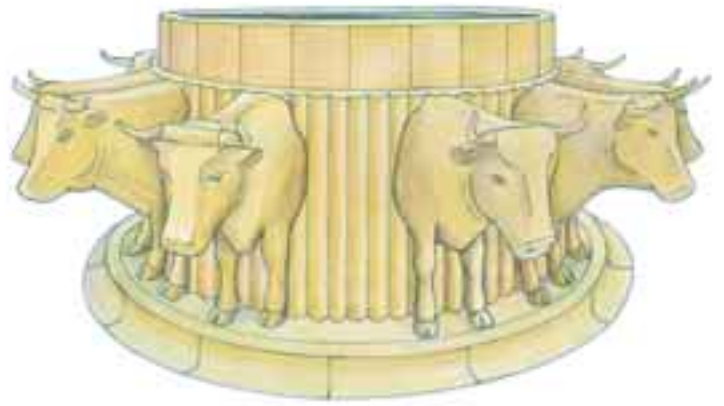
For younger children: Teach the following finger play. "A tiny seed can grow to be" (*Thumb and index finger together*) / "A shady, leafy apple tree." (*Arms held up as branches*) / "A bunny has a funny habit" (*Wiggle nose*) / "Of growing up to be a rabbit." (*Two fingers [ears] up; stroke with the other hand*) / "Have you seen a pollywog?" (*Hands swimming*) / "It will grow up to be a frog." (*Left palm up for lily pad; right hand [frog] jumps onto pad*) / "What of children in a row?" (*Both hands, all fingers up*) / "Do you think that they will grow?" (*Arms extended up*) / "Of course they will, and there is One" (*Pointer finger up*) / "In whose image they become." (*Right arm up*) / "Children of God may grow to be" (*Nod head yes*) / "Like Him by living faithfully." (*Fold arms*). Have the children draw pictures to illustrate the finger play, including a picture of themselves now and what they hope to become.

5. *Song presentation:* Have a Primary presidency member teach the plan of salvation, using and displaying the following pictures: diagram of the plan of salvation (see *Primary 6* manual, p. 2); picture of pre-earth life (*Primary 3* manual, picture 3-3); the world (GAK 600); helping others (*Primary 3* manual, picture 3-27); and a happy family (GAK 616). Refer to the visual aids as you teach the song "I Will Follow God's Plan" (pp. 164–165).

Divide the Primary into five groups. Assign the first three groups to each listen for either the first, second, or third phrase that begins with "My life." Have the fourth group listen for the words following "My choice," and the fifth group for what we seek. Sing the song up to "direct me from birth." Sing that much of the song again, singing the first two words, then pointing to the group assigned that phrase and having them sing the rest of the phrase with you. Now have the entire Primary sing the completion of each phrase. Point to the appropriate pictures hanging on the wall to help the children remember these phrases: "my life has a plan" (plan of salvation), "in heav'n it began" (pre-earth life), "to this lovely home on earth" (the world).

For the second half of the song, ask the same five groups to listen for the first, second, third, fourth, or fifth "I will" as you sing it through once. Sing the second half again, this time pointing to each group in turn. Have them stand as they sing their phrase to show their commitment to what they will do (follow, work, pray, walk in his way, be happy). Sing the second half a third time, asking the children to stand up when they hear their phrase. Sing the second half of the song once more, pointing to the appropriate picture: "always walk in his way" (helping others) and "I will be happy" (happy family). Have the children sing the entire song. Bear your testimony about the blessings that come from following God's plan.

6. Additional *Friend* resources: "Emily's Heritage," Aug. 1999, pp. 8–10; "Ina," Oct. 1999, pp. 10–12; "Thirst!," June 2000, pp. 20–22; "Lost in the Jungle," June 2000, pp. 40–42; and "Joseph Smith Said He Saw Two Personages," Oct. 2000, pp. 40–41. Additional Sharing Times in the *Friend*: "The Plan of Salvation Offers Me Peace," Mar. 1994, pp. 14–15; "Ponder, Pray, and Listen," Apr. 1996, pp. 4–5, 26; "One of God's Greatest Gifts," June 2000, pp. 43–45.





Special Seeds

By Marilyn Senterfit

Spring is here! It's time to start planting seeds. To discover a wonderful place, unscramble the letters on the seeds in each row and write the word on the blank above it.

The _____ is the _____ of the _____.



Who Is This Prophet?

By Donna Lugg Pape



He was a very faithful man
And took his only son
To Mount Moriah to offer him
So God's word would be done.

To check your answer and to learn more about this incident, read Genesis 22:1-12, including footnote 1a.

Funstuf Answers

Special seeds: The temple is the house of the Lord.



ENSLERMAN,

I'd like to buy some carrot-cake plants.



Listen to Our Leaders

By Hilary Hendricks and Kathy Chatfield

An important event will take place on April 6–7, 2002. A prophet of the Lord, President Gordon B. Hinckley, will preside over the 172nd Annual General Conference of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. During the sessions, President Hinckley and other General Authorities and leaders will teach us what the Lord wants us to know and do.

ILLUSTRATED BY ELISE BLACK





















Instructions

- Carefully remove pages 24–25 from the magazine, cut out the two word sheets, and make additional copies as needed.
- Before conference begins, study the list of words and/or look at each word's picture on the word sheets. As you listen to each session of conference, make a tally mark in the box for that session next to each word/picture for each time you hear the word. (*Note: You may also mark words you hear that are similar to the word on the word sheet, such as **child** for **children** or **praying** for **prayer**.*)
- At the end of each session, have each participant count how many tally marks they have for each word/picture.



















CONFERENCE WORD SHEET

SATURDAY A.M. SATURDAY P.M. SUNDAY A.M. SUNDAY P.M.

Baptism				
Book of Mormon				
Children				
Faith				
Family				
Forgiveness				
Heavenly Father				
Holy Ghost				
Jesus Christ				
Love				
Missionaries				
Music				
Parents				
Prayer				
President Gordon B. Hinckley				
Prophet				
Repentance				
Sabbath Day				
Scriptures				
Temple				
Testimony				

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FRIENDS IN THE NEWS



Alysa Hoskin, 9, Fort Wayne, Indiana, is helpful and kind. She likes to read books and the *Friend*, play with her friends, and attend church.



Clayton Adam Young, 7, Coalinga, California, likes to read the scriptures. It has made him a better reader at school. He plays many sports, and with eight in his family, they just about have their own team!



Ladybeth Cisneros Jimenez, 8, Oaxaca, Mexico, recalls her baptism with great joy and obeys Heavenly Father. She likes to break the piñata on her birthday, say the family prayer, and read the scriptures.



Daniel Arthur Vigil, 11, Denver, Colorado, enjoys playing soccer, dancing Mexican folk dances, and playing the piano. He prays for his brother who is on a mission in Chile. Daniel has his dad's middle name.



Bethany Jones, 5, Lindenhurst, Illinois, enjoys being the only daughter in her family; she has three brothers. Bethany likes to play computer games and pretend with her younger brother.



Jordan Daniel Malan, 10, Morgan, Utah, likes baseball, soccer, basketball, and Scouts. He plays the piano, and he mows his grandpa's lawn. His favorite things are family home evening and shooting rockets with his dad.



Jasmine A. Reed, 6, Orlando, Florida, is great at telling scripture stories. She is very thoughtful and likes to make others happy. She is learning how to play the piano and is quite an artist.



Amric Zane Sobczak, 7, Elma, Washington, looks forward to attending Primary each week. His family calls him their "stern warrior" because he is ready at all times to stand for what is right.



Spencer Tuia, 2, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, enjoys playing with her friends in the ward nursery. "I Am a Child of God" is her favorite song. She loves her family and always gives them hugs and kisses.



Erik Christoffersen, 8, has a twin sister, Sara Dai. He likes school, especially math. He enjoys fossils, playing sports, and riding his bike.



Rachel Scroggins, 11, Las Vegas, Nevada, loves her sister and three brothers. She helps her mom a lot by baby-sitting her baby brother, Adam. Her hobbies are soccer, cooking, and playing the piano.



Chase Hanson, 10, Shelley, Idaho, has earned his Gospel in Action award. He has played the prelude music for Primary. He likes to play football, soccer, basketball, and golf. He loves the Book of Mormon.



Shelby Anne Worley, 9, Creedmoor, North Carolina, likes the drums, piano, and trumpet. She enjoys many sports, especially football, basketball, and soccer.



Brendon Shaine Belluomini, 3, Fairfield, California, has memorized all the latter-day prophets for Primary and is saving his money for a mission. He enjoys riding his scooter, swimming, and sports.



Ashlee Nicoll, 10, Mesa, Arizona, likes to ride bikes with her dad, help her grandpa on his cattle ranch, and talk to her grandma on the phone. She has earned her Gospel in Action Award and is a good student.



Kegan Black, 5, Crofton, Maryland, is not the youngest in his family anymore. He is happy to be a big brother to his baby sister. He likes to color, take friends to Primary activities, and play with puppies.



Hannah Martin, 10, Nelson, New Zealand, enjoys reading, baking cakes, and playing with her baby brother. She is the second youngest of eight children.



Taylor Smith, 11, Layton, Utah, is eager to receive the priesthood and to go on a mission. He enjoys bearing his testimony. Roller hockey, drama, piano, Scouts, and eating out are things he likes.



Natalie Baird, 9, Woodbridge, Virginia, is learning the articles of faith for her Gospel in Action Award. She has two dogs, Cody and Maggie. Yellow is her favorite color, and gymnastics is her favorite sport.



A good speller, **Thomas Elkington**, 11, Bone, Idaho, earned his first merit badge in genealogy and knows all of the articles of faith. He enjoys fishing and riding motorcycles.



Whitney Benson, 6, Forest Grove, Oregon, is a very good artist. She enjoys bearing her testimony on fast Sunday. Playing with her brothers and helping around the house are enjoyable, too.



Joshua LaMar Orton, 2, Catania, Italy, likes to sing, dance, attend preschool, play with friends, help his mom cook and sweep, and hug his baby brother, Nathan.

WITH THE SAVIOR

By Douglas M. Brown

When I read the scriptures,
It almost seems to me
That I am with the Savior
While He teaches by the sea.

His words mean so very much.
They show me that He cares.
The scriptures bring me close to Him
And make me feel I'm there.

So every night I read them
Before I go to bed.
It fills my heart with gladness
To read what the Savior said.



President Gordon B. Hinckley is the living prophet of God on earth. I am grateful for him and for his example. (Elder Jerald L. Taylor of the Seventy, *Ensign*, May 1997, page 34.)

By Jane McBride Choate

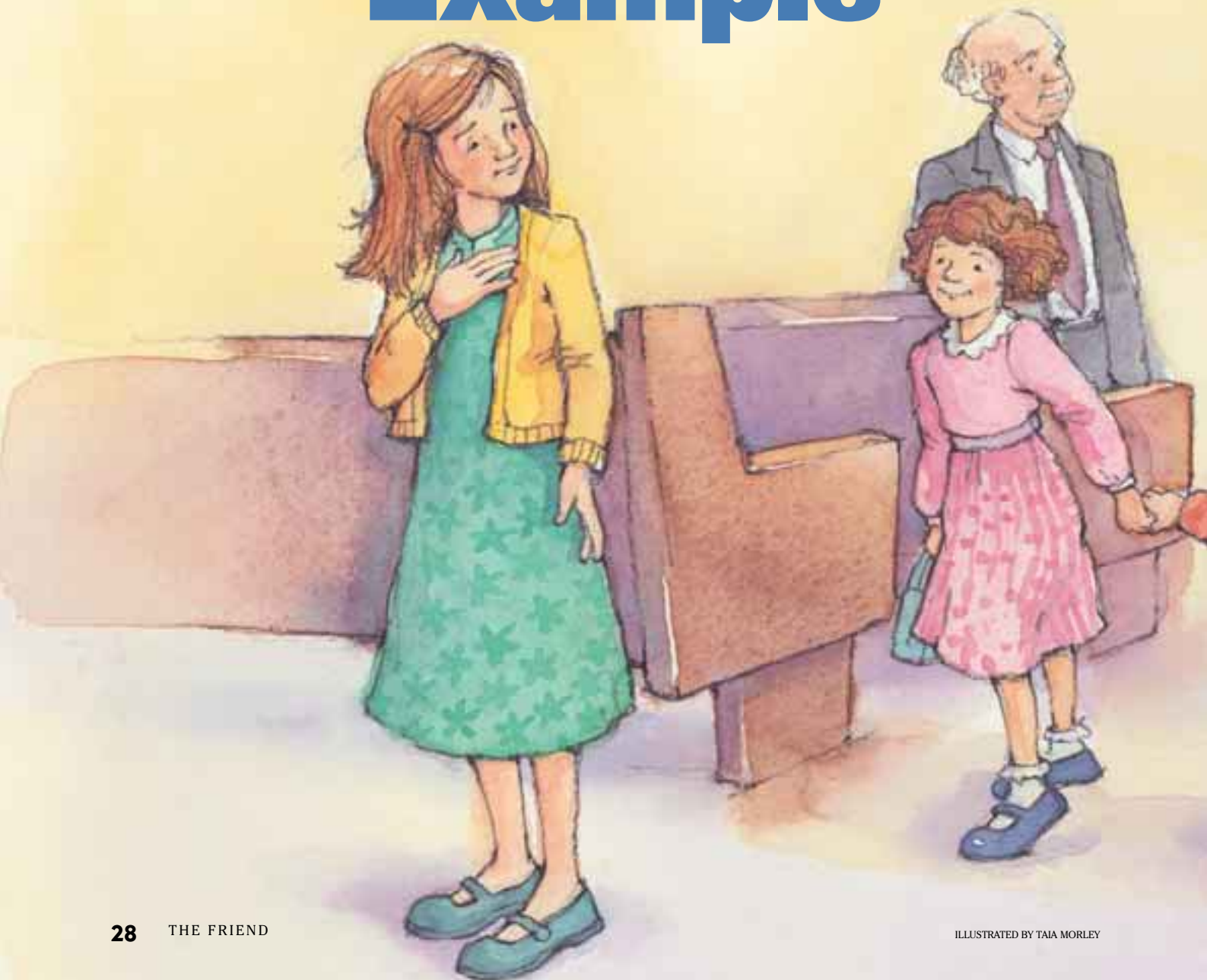
(Based on a true story)

Nina watched as Sister Kelly struggled to pick up the toys her baby had scattered during sacrament meeting.

Sister Kelly was going to have a new baby soon, and Nina figured it must be hard for her to move around. She wondered how Sister Kelly managed to take care of Emily, especially since Brother Kelly had to travel a lot for his job.

The Kellys had moved into a house down the street from Nina a few months ago. Sister Kelly waved to her each afternoon as she walked home

A Prophet's Example



from middle school. Sometimes she stopped and played with two-year-old Emily for a few minutes.

Nina stooped now and began to gather up the toys and put them into the diaper bag.

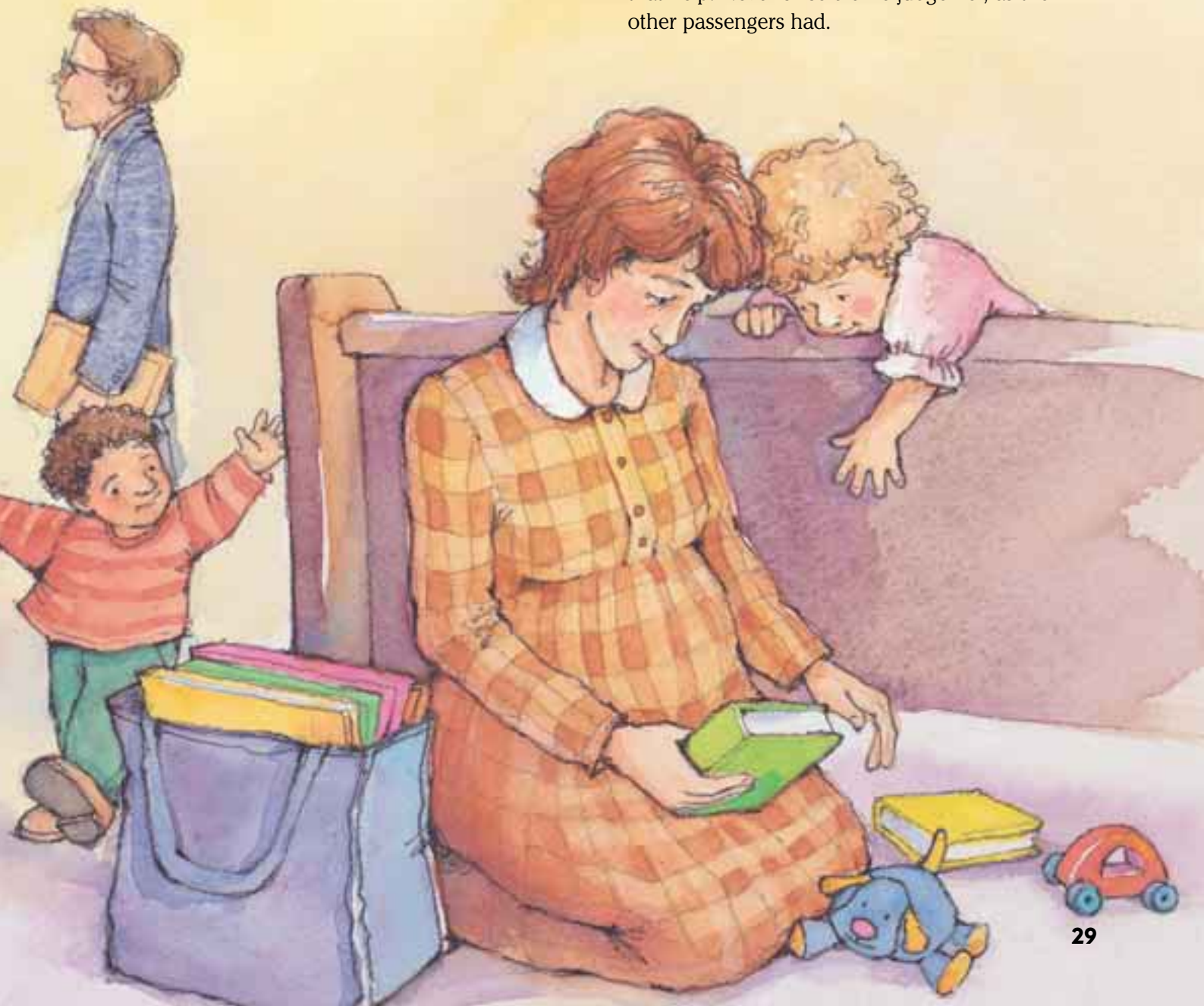
“Thank you, Nina,” Sister Kelly said, standing with a sigh. “It’s getting harder and harder to bend over.” She smiled as she patted her rounded stomach, but her smile looked tired rather than happy.

How does Sister Kelly take care of Emily? Nina wondered. But what can I do? I’m only eleven years old. I have school all day and homework after that.

Nina thought about it all during Primary. When a girl in her Valiant class told a story about President Spencer W. Kimball,* Nina listened intently.

When the prophet had been waiting in an airport, he noticed a young, pregnant mother struggling to urge her child along in the line. She nudged the toddler along with her foot but didn’t pick her up. Other passengers whispered and pointed at her, but no one offered to help. President Kimball picked up the crying child and comforted her. The woman told him that because of orders from her doctor, she could not lift her child.

Only President Kimball had recognized that the young mother needed help. Only he had offered that help. Never once did he judge her, as the other passengers had.



A wave of pure knowledge swept through Nina, and she knew exactly what to do and how to do it. She spent a lot of time talking on the phone with her friends and watching TV at night. If she gave up those things, she'd have plenty of time to help Sister Kelly for a few hours each day. She could do her homework after the supper dishes were done.

She found her mother after church and explained her plan.

"I think that's a wonderful idea." Mom gave Nina a quick hug. "I'll fix a casserole and send it over. If I double the recipe, they can freeze half of it and have it another night, as well."

Nina found Sister Kelly after church. Her eyes looked tired, and faint lines creased the corners of her mouth.

"Sister Kelly, may I come over and play with Emily after school for a couple of hours? Oh, and Mom wants to bring a casserole."

A single tear tracked down Sister Kelly's cheek. Then another.

Nina didn't know what to do. Then she remembered that when Mom was expecting her little brother, Jared, she had cried really easily. Nina reached out to touch Sister Kelly's shoulder. "Is something wrong?"

"No. Something is right!" Sister Kelly dug in her purse for a tissue, then wiped away her tears. She hugged Nina. "I'm crying because I've been praying for someone just like you." The tears fell faster. "You're an answer to my prayers."

Nina felt tears well up in her own eyes. "Does Emily like to play with puzzles? My little brother



has some wooden ones that he's outgrown. Maybe I could bring them with me."

"Emily loves to do puzzles." Sister Kelly found another tissue and handed it to Nina. "Would you like to come to the nursery with me and tell her the news?"

"I sure would!"

Nina could hardly wait until the next afternoon.

**See Friend, September 1999, page 37.*



"Like faith, Christlike love is a gift of the Spirit. . . . Like faith, love must be exercised to grow. . . . As we . . . reach out to serve others, the Spirit will refine us and teach us. . . . President Kimball taught that 'God does notice us, and he watches over us. But it is usually through another mortal that he meets our needs. Therefore, it is vital that we serve each other.'"

**Elder Robert J. Whetten of the Seventy
(Ensign, May 1999, page 30.)**

Temple Cards

Each month in 2002, you will find a Temple Cards page in the *Friend*. Remove the page from the magazine, glue it to heavy paper, and cut out the cards. If you collect all 108 cards this year, you will have a picture-history of Latter-day Saint temples around the world.



Mexico City Mexico Temple

Dedicated: December 2, 1983

PHOTO BY JED CLARK



Boise Idaho Temple

Dedicated: May 25, 1984

PHOTO BY JED CLARK



Sydney Australia Temple

Dedicated: September 20, 1984

PHOTO BY WM. FLOYD HOLDMAN



Manila Philippines Temple

Dedicated: September 25, 1984

PHOTO BY WM. FLOYD HOLDMAN



Dallas Texas Temple

Dedicated: October 19, 1984

PHOTO BY JED CLARK



Taipei Taiwan Temple

Dedicated: November 17, 1984

PHOTO BY WM. FLOYD HOLDMAN



Guatemala City Guatemala

Dedicated: December 14, 1984



Freiberg Germany Temple

Dedicated: June 29, 1985



Stockholm Sweden Temple

Dedicated: July 2, 1985

PHOTO BY KENITEDER



OUR CREATIVE FRIENDS

Joseph Smith

Joseph Smith's not a myth.
 He got tarred and feathered.
 Wow! I don't know how he did it all
 And didn't even fall.
 He was visited by an angel
 Who gave him a message four times
 And didn't get it in a tangle.
 He served the Lord.
 He did his job well.
Nickolas D. Hujtyn, age 9
Marshfield, Missouri

The Savior

The stars in heaven above
 Make me full of joy and love.
 They make me think of Jesus Christ—
 The joy, the love, the star of light.
 He's the Savior, Heavenly Father's Son.
 He lives with the stars in heaven above.
 He'll live together with us someday,
 Together, forever, day by day.
 This is a promise to everyone in sight,
 If we follow in His footsteps, His love,
 and His light.
Kylie Alldredge, age 11
Monmouth, Oregon

Laura's Cheer

If you don't want to be shivery scared,
 just obey the commandments—
 commandments!
 Read your scriptures
 every day!
 Three pages in the Book of Mormon—
 every day!
 Don't murmur—
 every day!
 Just do it!
 Just do it!
 Pa pa pa pa pa—yay!
Laura Farmer, age 7
Mexicali, Mexico

The Book of Mormon

The Book of Mormon is a book of plates.
 It was published in the early dates.
 Joseph Smith was the translator.
 And don't forget Martin and Grandin did a big favor.
 Five thousand copies were published of the book.
 Some people bought it, and others just shook.
 So read the Book of Mormon; don't just admire all your
 things.
 Because if you read the Book of Mormon, you're doing
 the right thing.
Clinton Goodman, age 9
Orem, Utah



Spring!

Birds are flying in the sky.
Clouds are floating way up high.
Flowers are blooming.
Horses are grooming.
Trees are stiff.
Hikers are climbing a cliff.
You can see the sun lie upon the creek.
The little children are playing hide-and-seek.
Chipmunks play all around.
Bushes are growing from the ground.
Squirrels ask each other to play.
Upon the grass hills is where I lay.
All these things I love,
And I know they come from above.
What is this thing?
It is spring!

*Kirstin Caroline Fullmer, age 10
Gilbert, Arizona*

Baptism

When you are eight, you will be baptized,
you see.
Write about what happened to you at your
baptism today.

You will have a blessing today.
Your sins will be washed away.
I love Jesus; you do, too.

*Charlotte Widdison, age 8
Pocatello, Idaho*

The Sea

I love the sea.
Its cool waves splash against me.
If I look under the sea,
Sometimes I can see a fishy.
I love the sea.

*Amelia McBee, age 5
Oviedo, Florida*

Life

Life is beautiful and true.
I also know it's precious, too.
Filled with joy and happiness,
My life is a gift, and yours is, too.
Filled with great family and friends,
My fun never ends.
I love my life,
And you should love yours, too.

*Kali A. Wall, age 10
West Valley City, Utah*

Jesus Christ

I hope to see Christ. I hope I see
Him when He comes again. I want
to be there. I want to see Him hold
me and all the children in the
world. I want to see His bright face
and the lion and the lamb lie down
together.

*Paige Ramsey, age 9
Los Alamos, New Mexico*

DRAWINGS

- 1 Kendra Whitmore, age 10
Bergholz, Ohio
- 2 Lucas Cathey, age 8
Beaumont, California
- 3 Allyson Olinger, age 6
Panama City, Florida
- 4 Nickolas Nielson, age 7
Hendersen, Nevada
- 5 Ashley Madsen, age 9
Federal Way, Washington
- 6 Erik Lynn Beard, age 8
Irving, Texas
- 7 Erin Sproule, age 11
Wilmot, Nova Scotia, Canada
- 8 T. J. Guild, age 6
Evanston, Wyoming
- 9 Molly Mau, age 7
Sandy, Utah
- 10 Jason Barclay, age 9
Kennewick, Washington
- 11 Breanna Tompkins, age 8
Tarboro, North Carolina
- 12 Micah Norris Wood, age 6
Pendleton, Oregon
- 13 Hayley Hansen, age 5
Morris, Minnesota
- 14 Austin Miller, age 9
Rigby, Idaho
- 15 Laura Thomson, age 7
Wellington, New Zealand
- 16 Cyrus C. Powers, age 8
Anchorage, Alaska
- 17 Mackenzie Wagner, age 5
Cedar Hills, Utah
- 18 Bryce, age 7
Mesa, Arizona
- 19 Hannah McGown, age 8
Nundah, Australia
- 20 Callan Snow, age 11
Weatherford, Oklahoma





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

The Best Chapter Book

By Nathan Garlick

In second grade, I lived in Orlando, Florida. I had this wonderful teacher, Miss Kaskey. She loved books and kept track of our reading success on charts. One day, she noticed that I had the Book of Mormon written on mine. She asked me what it was about. I told her it was about Jesus visiting the Americas and that it was kind of like the Bible. She said, “That sounds interesting, Nathan. Does this book have chapters? I love chapter books.” I told her it had tons of chapters.

I was given a Book of Mormon by the bishop (my dad) when I was baptized. He challenged me, like he challenged all newly baptized members, to write in it and give it away to someone. I knew right away that I needed to give this to Miss Kaskey, but that was a very scary thing to do.

Her birthday was a couple of weeks away, and I decided my Book of Mormon would make the perfect present. Mom and I tied a pretty bow around

it. I wrote this message inside: “Miss Kaskey, this is my favorite book, and I hope you will love it as much as I do. It is true. Love, Nate.” I wondered if Miss Kaskey would like it and what she would say. It was very scary.

When I got to school, I hurried and gave it to her. She thanked me for such a wonderful gift and said she will definitely have to read it. I hope she will—it will be the best chapter book she has ever read!



Nathan Garlick, age 9
Centerville, Utah

Best Friend's Good-Samaritan Mom

By Alexis Monnie



Alexis Monnie, age 12
Gresham, Oregon

One day when I was in fifth grade, my best friend and I went downtown. Afterward, we stopped at a convenience store. A man came to a window of the van and asked my friend's mom for money to catch the bus that was leaving soon. She handed

him the money and smiled.

While this was happening, I spotted a poor, lonely man watching us. He came up after the first man had left and asked for money because he was hungry. My friend's mom turned around, looked at both of us girls, and took some food from our snack boxes. She handed it to the man.

He looked at her, puzzled and amused. She said, "Have a nice day," to him, and we started back home. We asked her why she hadn't just given him money, too. She said, "I think he just would have gone and bought beer or cigarettes, and I know he's better off eating carrots and juice."

This experience made me realize how much love she had for these two men.

My friend's mom has passed away and is with Heavenly Father now, but this story lives in my heart and mind forever. I want to be just like her and Jesus Christ and love other people and serve Heavenly Father.

"Russian Party"

By Jessica Lee

In my fifth-grade class, we started studying Russia. We planned a "Russian Party." There was mostly Russian food, and we had a quiz.

When the Russian party was about to begin, I put the potatoes and vinegar I'd brought on the table. We all went to our seats. When our teacher called our names, we went up and got a little bit of everything from our teacher, who was standing behind the table.

Before we started eating, she asked everyone who had made something to tell the class what it was. It turned out that the drink was a Russian tea.

When I ate everything on my plate except the tea, my friends who aren't members of the Church asked me why I didn't drink it. When I told them about the Word of Wisdom, they understood. So, when our teacher came around to see that we all tasted everything, my friends and I told her that I didn't want to drink the tea.

I didn't have to drink it. I'm glad that I can try to set an example to be like Jesus Christ.



Jessica Lee, age 11
Ely, Nevada

The *Friend* would like to hear from you about an experience you, or another child you know, have had in "Trying to Be Like Jesus Christ." The article should be about two to three paragraphs typed and double spaced; a parent or other adult may help you write it. Please include at least one photograph or slide of whomever the article is about, if possible, and his/her and your own (if different) name, age, address, and telephone number. Send your article to: "Trying to Be Like Jesus Christ," *Friend*, 24th floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3226. Unused submissions will be returned if a stamped, addressed envelope is enclosed.

First Latter-day TEMPLE

By Kimberly Webb



And inasmuch as my people build a house unto me . . . , I will come into it, and all the pure in heart that shall come into it shall see God (Doctrine and Covenants 97:15–16).

Today there are more than a hundred temples all over the world. But when Joseph Smith was commanded to build a temple in Kirtland, Ohio, he had never even seen one! The Kirtland Temple was the first temple built in the latter days.

Since Joseph Smith did not yet know what a temple ought to look like or exactly how it was to be used, Heavenly Father revealed to him a plan for the temple. He and his counselors saw a vision of the completed building. In the vision, Joseph Smith, Sidney Rigdon, and Frederick G. Williams saw the pattern of the temple both inside and out.

When an architect suggested that the seats in the building be rearranged, the Prophet Joseph would not allow it. He had seen them in the vision. According to his mother, Lucy Mack Smith, when the Saints wanted the temple to be built as



a frame or log house, he said, “ ‘Shall we, brethren, build a house for our God, of logs? No, I have a better plan than that. I have a plan of the house of the Lord, given by himself.’ ”* The temple walls, two feet thick and over sixty feet tall, were to be built of stone.

Constructing the temple seemed nearly impossible. The Saints were so poor that they could barely afford to care for their own families. The magnificent temple cost about \$40,000–\$60,000 to build, a great sum of money in the 1830s! There were very few experienced builders among them,



and none of them had ever built something as enormous as a temple. Also, enemies outside of the Church vowed that they would stop construction on the temple. But the Saints knew that they had been commanded by God to build it and that He would help them: “Verily I say unto you, it is my will that you should build a house. If you keep my commandments you shall have power to build it.” (Doctrine and Covenants 95:11.)

The Saints set to work. Men spent one day each week in the stone quarry or on the temple site, and some of them guarded the unfinished temple at night to protect it from mobs. Women spun cloth to make clothing for the workers, and they made carpets and curtains for the temple. Glass and fine china were crushed and mixed with the plaster so that when the sun struck the temple’s outside walls, they glittered. Everyone labored and sacrificed for two and a half years until the temple was finished.

When the temple was dedicated on March 27, 1836, the Lord rewarded the Saints for their obedience. Spiritual blessings were poured out upon them—people spoke in tongues, heavenly choirs sang, some people had visions, and others saw angels. A pillar of light rested on the temple, and angels were seen on the roof.

One week later, on April 3, Jesus Christ appeared in the temple to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery. The Savior accepted the Kirtland Temple as His house. Moses, Elias, and Elijah also appeared to restore priesthood keys.

Although the Saints suffered many trials to build the Kirtland Temple, the eternal blessings given to them were well worth all of their sacrifices. Through their faith, diligence, and obedience, they led the way for Church members throughout the world to receive temple blessings today.

**History of Joseph Smith, page 230.*

Who Is in Daddy's Bed?

My daddy is my fav'rite pal
(Children's Songbook, page 211).

By Toulla Palazeti
(A true story)



 &  sneak into  &  's  room while  is taking a  .
 They hide under the  on  's  .  &  giggle and giggle. In a little while,
 opens the bathroom  .  comes in  the  room. "Shhh!"  & 
 whisper  each other.  says, "  h  somebody in  's  . Who  it
 ?"  &  lie as still as   . " **RU**   from
 the zoo?"  asks. "No,"  &  whisper. " **RU**  from the

circus?" asks. "No," & softly answer. sees the wiggles just a
 little. "U must from the slithering in my ,," decides.
 "No," & say. " know!" exclaims. UR2
 from the woods hopping in my . "No!" & giggle. The wiggles
 ↑ & ↓ a lot now. "U must , U jump so high!"
 laughs. & shout, "No! No!" "Could U 2 leaping
 in 2 the ?" asks. "R-R-Rabbit," says. "No!" says. "Hmmm. RU
 monsters from a story ?" "No!" " from the sky?" "No!" " from the jungle?"
 "No!" " from a ?" "No!" " from the ?" "No!" " from the
 ?" "No!" " from a ?" "No!" " s from the ?" "No! No!
 stream
 No!" " have it!" shouts. "It must , & ." "UR right!"
 & throw off the & jump in 2 's . "We fooled
 U !" they roar, hugging tightly. "U sure did," chuckles as he &
 & giggle & dance & twirl around & around the room.



Small Beginnings

The Church was organized on April 6, 1830, with six members, as required by law. Today there are about eleven-and-a-half million members—almost two million for each member on that day 172 years ago. In the empty picture frame, draw a picture of yourself. If you live faithfully and share the gospel, how much good can your life do in the next 172 years?

The City of Enoch

By Joyce Grisham

Enoch and all who lived in Zion, his city, were so righteous that Heavenly Father took the whole city up into heaven.* In the last days, the city and its people will return to earth and be part of the New Jerusalem.† To help you remember that these great events are coming, you will need: heavy paper, glue, scissors, a sharpened pencil, and string.

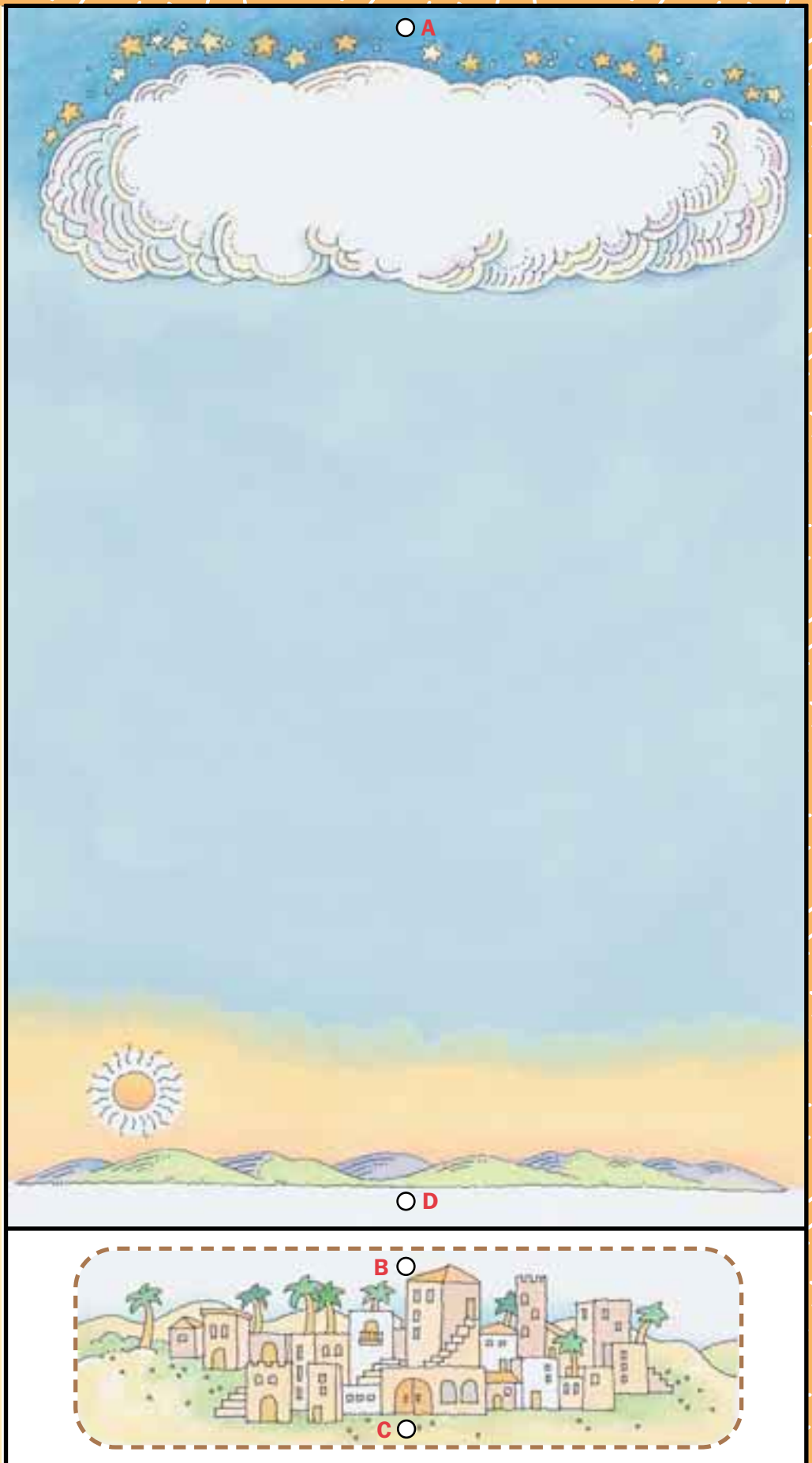
1. Remove this page and glue it to heavy paper. When the glue is dry, trim the page along the heavy solid lines. Cut out the city on the broken lines.

2. Using a pencil point, punch small holes through the circles at A, B, C, and D. Thread one end of the string into B, down the back of the city, and out C. Then thread one end of the string through A, the other end through D, and tie the two ends together behind the page.

Each time you tell the story of the city of Enoch, slide the city up the string to heaven and then back down the string to Earth again.

*See Genesis 5:24; Moses 7:19, 69; Doctrine and Covenants 38:4.

†See Revelation 21:2, 10; Moses 7:62-65; Ether 13:2-3; Genesis 14:34, Joseph Smith Translation (following Bible Dictionary); Doctrine and Covenants 45:11-14.



Blessings of Heaven ^{on} Earth

And, 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 (Doctrine and Covenants 14:7).

The temple brings heavenly blessings because it is a special place where we get answers to our prayers. Prophets often receive revelations there so that they can teach us how to gain eternal life.

Hannah lived in ancient Israel. She had sorrowed for many years because she had no children, so she decided to pray at the tabernacle, which served as a temple then. She vowed that if God gave her a son, she would dedicate his life to the Lord. The priest, Eli, saw her weeping as she prayed. He said, “Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him” (1 Samuel 1:17). Soon Hannah gave birth to Samuel.

When Samuel was a young boy, Hannah kept her promise and took him to the temple. He lived


with Eli and learned how to become a priest.

One night, Samuel was sleeping in the temple when a voice called his name. “Here am I,” Samuel answered. He ran to Eli, but Eli had not called him. Samuel tried to go back to sleep. Then he heard the voice again. He ran to Eli, and again,

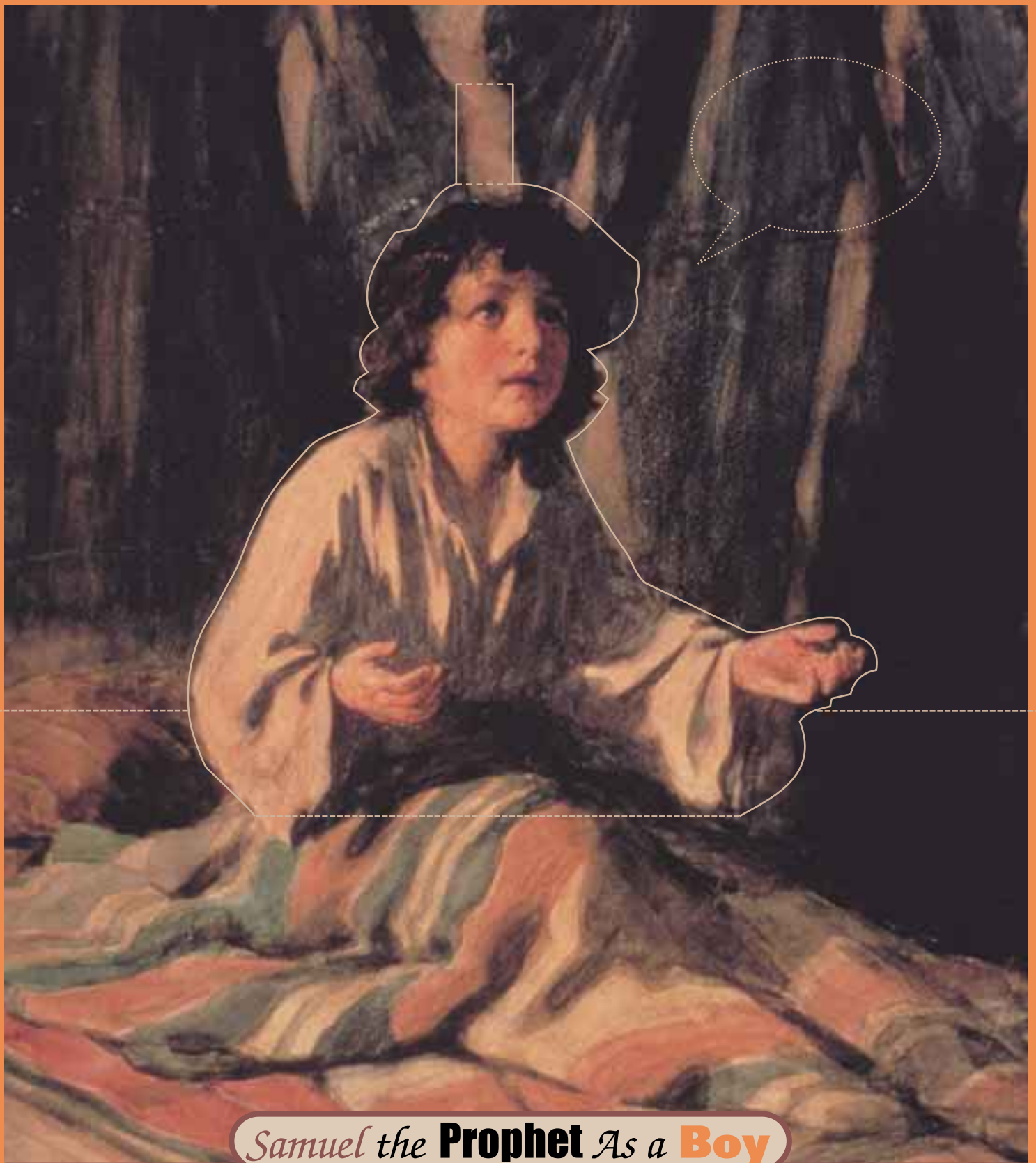
Eli said that he had not called him. The third time Samuel appeared at Eli’s bedside, the priest realized that the Lord was calling Samuel. Eli said, “Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, Lord; for thy servant heareth.” The voice did call Samuel’s name once more, and he did as Eli had told him to.

The Lord then told Samuel of things to come. (See 1 Samuel 3:1–11, 19–20.)

Like Hannah, we can have comfort and answers to our prayers. We can also receive blessings by listening to the prophets. They speak with Jesus Christ in the temple, and they teach us what we must do to have the blessings of heaven on earth.



*Speak, Lord;
for thy servant
heareth.*



Samuel the **Prophet** *As a* **Boy**

Step One: Remove page 43 from the magazine and glue it on a piece of thin cardboard.

Step Two: Cut along the solid lines, then fold along the broken lines (use a ruler to fold against to get a straight fold).

Step Three: Carefully cut out the word balloon on page 42 and glue it to a piece of thin cardboard; trim.

Step Four: With a 2" (5 cm) piece of tape, form a tube, sticky-side-out. Put it on the back of the cutout word balloon. Attach the word balloon over the dotted word balloon on this page.



From the Life of President Harold B. Lee

His Mother Saves His Life

One night, Harold B. Lee became dangerously ill with pneumonia.



Mother, I can hardly breathe.

I'll be right back. You're going to be OK.

Harold's mother sliced juicy onions into a flour sack, put the wet sack on his chest, and prayed for a miracle.



The next morning he could breathe again. Soon he recovered completely.



You always know what to do. You saved my life!

The Lord saved your life. He just expected me to do everything I could to help.



Another time, Harold was standing in the open doorway, watching a thunderstorm outside.

Suddenly his mother shoved him away from the door.

Move, Harold!

Ouch!

Seconds later, a bolt of lightning came down the chimney of the kitchen stove. It shot out the front door and split a tree trunk outside!

He was thankful his mother listened to the promptings of the Holy Ghost. Several times she protected the life of the boy who would become the eleventh President of the Church.

Alicia-anne Attridge

**of Wilmot,
Nova Scotia,
Canada**

Written and photographed by Julie Wardell

Eight-year-old Alicia-anne and her parents have had some very special spiritual experiences. In 1997, when she was five, three sister missionaries knocked on their door. The missionaries taught them the discussions, and the family immediately knew that the gospel was true. On August 10, 1997, Alicia-anne saw her father, Gordon, and mother, Myrna, baptized members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Alicia-anne, who often goes by the nickname Ali, looked forward to her own baptism in three years.

On November 20, 1999, another important event happened. The Attridges were the first family sealed together in the newly dedicated Halifax Nova Scotia Temple. “I felt very happy and warm inside after I was sealed to my parents,” Ali said. “Now I know I can be with my mom and dad forever.”

“Looking in the mirrors in the sealing room, we saw our family going on forever,” Mother added. “Since Ali is adopted, this was the most wonderful day in our lives because we will be a family forever.”

When Ali’s eighth birthday drew near, she asked her parents if she could be baptized on her birthday—she was too excited to wait a day longer!



They were able to schedule it, so on July 11, 2000, she was baptized a member of the Church. She was delighted to have her Grandma and Grandpa Balsor in attendance. “My grandparents were so touched by the Spirit that they cried,” she said. After the baptism, her mother felt inspired to give them a copy of the Book of Mormon.

Ali is a CTR in the Greenwood Branch Primary of the Dartmouth Nova Scotia Stake. A good missionary, she often invites her friends to Primary and its activity days so that they can learn about the Church. She also tries to set a good example at school by being kind, generous, and honest.

Some of her best missionary tools are her cats, Lehi, Nephi, and Fluffy. When she tells someone their names, she is often asked to explain where the names Lehi and Nephi come from. A discussion about the Book of Mormon and the Church soon follows.

Whether at church or at home, Ali enjoys singing. Her lovely voice often accompanies whatever activity she is doing at home. She likes to sing songs from Primary, movies, and operas. Someday she would like to be a professional singer or dancer.

She is very active and likes to get her work done quickly in school so that she has plenty of time at recess. Swinging very high on the swings and playing on the monkey bars are what she likes best. “I can hang upside down, skip one or two bars, or do an ‘apple-turnover’ flip on the monkey bars.

1. The Attridge family

2. Halifax Nova Scotia Temple

3. Ali enjoys the activities on the Kingston Family Fitness Trail.

3





4



5



6

4. On the shore, discovering interesting creatures, shells, and rocks

5. Ali's cat Lehi is a good friend.

6. Painting rocks is a favorite activity.

Once my hands were too slick, though, and I fell flat on my face and scratched it!"

Ali also enjoys doing activities with her family. "I like to go swimming at anytime, in any weather, in shallow or deep water—but if I see a fish, I scream. I don't like fish; they scare me!"

Beachcombing is another enjoyable family activity. The Attridges like to collect ropes, buoys, driftwood, shells, and rocks. At home, Ali and her mom wash the rocks and then paint them. Ali is proud of the Noah's Ark rock she designed and painted. "The rainbow I painted on it represents God's promise to Noah."

At family home evening, she is happy to read or listen to scripture stories. She has read the *Book of Mormon Reader* twice and also likes to read from a book of children's Bible stories. The great faith shown by the brother of Jared is her favorite scripture story. She also enjoys learning about the

Jaredites traveling to the promised land.

For a family home evening activity, she is always eager to go to the Kingston Family Fitness Trail. Walking along the trail, the family enjoys the beautiful forested scenery. Ali likes them to stop and participate in each of the fitness activities along the way. She enjoys climbing the fishnet, jumping like a frog over the short poles, balancing on the beam, running through the tire maze, and finally stopping at the end to watch the ducks in the pond.

Prayer is an important part of Ali's life. She remembers to say her personal prayers, and she suggested that the family pray together both morning and night. A prayer before each meal is important, too. She reminds them if they forget.

Ali loves her family very much. She is grateful that they are members of the Church and have been able to enjoy the many blessings of the gospel.

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. Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned in the Family Home Evening Ideas. The Primary theme for April is “The temple brings the blessings of heaven to earth.”



FAMILY HOME EVENING IDEAS

1. Celebrate the anniversary of the founding of the Church (April 6, 1830) by reading “Joseph, the Seer” (page 7) by Elder Neal A. Maxwell and then telling the story “From a Log Farmhouse” (pages 2–3) by President Gordon B. Hinckley. Invite each family member to share how he/she is helping or plans to help build the kingdom of God on earth. You may wish to make the poster “Small Beginnings” (page 40).

2. Invite a parent to tell about some of the “Important People” (pages 8–9) in Elder Val Rigby Christensen’s life. Who are the people who have helped you? Make a copy of Journal Page (page 13) for each family member; fill them out together.

3. Ask a younger family member to learn and present the poem “With the Savior” (page 27). Then, while looking at the pictures, read together “The Lost Son” (pages 14–18). Talk about the lessons we can learn from this teaching of the Savior.



See page 27.

4. Tell the story “A Prophet’s Example” (pages 28–30). Read Elder Robert J. Whetten’s quote at the end of the story and then decide on one way each of you can help someone else during the coming week.

5. Learn about the Kirtland Temple by studying “First Latter-day Temple” (pages 36–37). Tell your family about it. Ask an older family member to learn about the temple closest to

where you live and tell about it. How should you live your lives so you can be worthy of temple blessings?

TOPICAL INDEX TO THIS ISSUE OF THE *FRIEND*

- (f) = Funstuf
- (FLF) = For Little Friends
- (v) = verse



MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSIONS

The *Friend* welcomes unsolicited manuscripts but is not responsible for them. Rejected manuscripts will not be returned unless a stamped, addressed envelope is enclosed. Send manuscripts to *Friend*, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3226. Send e-mail to cur-editorial-Friend@LDSChurch.org.

Send children’s submissions to *Friend*, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3226, in care of the appropriate department—**Our Creative Friends, Friends in the News, Childviews, Trying to Be Like Jesus Christ.**

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*Under the direction of the Prophet Joseph Smith,
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
was organized on April 6, 1830, in a log farmhouse.
Today the Church is a worldwide organization of
about eleven-and-a-half million members.*

(See “From a Log Farmhouse,” pages 2–3.)