



the Friend

APRIL • 2004



Flying Things

I like to read the *Friend!* My favorite articles are the stories. But in the October 2002 *Friend*, I really enjoyed the Making Friends article. I think it would be really neat to know so much about flying things, like the boy in the article does.

Landan Holladay, age 11
Kennewick, Washington



A Letter to President Hinckley

After she attended a regional conference at which President Hinckley spoke, five-year-old Jacie Robinson said she wanted to send him a letter. She dictated the following to her mother:

Dear President Hinckley,

I believe in Jesus and in prophets. I believe in Heavenly Father. I believe in you. I'm glad I got to see you today in regional conference. I like your clothes. I know I can see Jesus again if I'm good.

I ♥ U,
Jacie

Jacie Robinson, age 5, with her mom
Cedar Hills, Utah

Hold On to the Church

When my brother and I were roller-skating past the ward meetinghouse today, I said, "Hold on to the church for balance." Then I thought, "Hey, that's right. If we hold on to the Church, we'll keep our balance and be happy. If we let go, we might fall." So hold on!

Britney Whipple, age 11
Minersville, Utah



The Night of My Play

My school class was doing a play for the whole school, and I had an important part. The night of the play came, and I was kind of nervous. I prayed right before the play started that I would feel a little more comfortable. When it was my turn to say my first line, I wasn't nervous at all! I am very glad that Heavenly Father answers my prayers.

Will Hayden, age 9
San Jose, California

A Nice Dream

I was having bad dreams, so I decided to say a prayer to Heavenly Father. I said, "Please help me not to have bad dreams." Then I had a nice dream about a wishing star. Heavenly Father listened to my prayer—He answered it!

Hannah Leavitt, age 4
Las Vegas, Nevada



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Stories and Features

- IFC Friends by Mail
2 Come Listen to a Prophet's Voice: Crossroads / President Thomas S. Monson
4 No Candy for Easter
8 Friend to Friend: Prayer Is Important / Elder William R. Walker
10 From the Life of President Heber J. Grant: Best Penmanship
12 Aren't You a Mormon?
16 Making Friends: Feleti Vimahi of Pangai, Tonga
19 Special Witness: "Bishop, Help!" / Elder Dallin H. Oaks
20 A Gift to Remember
22 The Salt Lake Temple Dedication
27 Friends in the News
28 Sharing Time: If I Choose to Obey, I'll Be Happy All Day!
34 Trying to Be Like Jesus
38 An Experiment in Forgiving
42 Poster Article: Finding Happiness
44 Our Creative Friends
46 Birthday Cookies
IBC Guide to the *Friend*

For Little Friends

- 32 The Easter Story
36 God's Spring Beauty

Verse

- 7 Easter Lilies

Things to Make and Do

- 15 Funstuf
23 Funstuf
24 Conference Squares
26 Funstuf
31 Home Page: Testimony Easter Eggs; Spring Basket Cookies



See page 36.

Cover: *Children of Light*, by Anne Marie Oborn, courtesy of Museum of Church History and Art, Sixth International Art Competition

the friend

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

HIDDEN CTR RING

This CTR ring reads
WDR for *Wähle das
Rechte*—German for
“choose the right.” As
you look for the German
CTR ring hidden in this
issue, remember to choose
uplifting entertainment.







Come Listen to
a Prophet's Voice

Crossroads

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

In Lewis Carroll's classic *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, Alice finds herself coming to a crossroads with two paths before her, each stretching onward but in opposite directions. She is confronted by the Cheshire Cat, of whom she asks, "Which path shall I take?"

The cat answers: "That depends where you want to go. If you do not know where you want to go, it doesn't really matter which path you take!"¹

Unlike Alice, each of you knows where you want to go. It *does* matter which way you go, for the path you follow in this life leads to the path you will follow in the next.

Our Heavenly Father has given to each of us the power to think and reason and decide. Each of us has the responsibility to choose. You may ask, "Are decisions really that important?" I say to you, decisions determine destiny. You can't make eternal

decisions without eternal consequences.

May I provide a simple formula by which you can measure the choices which confront you. It's easy to remember: "You can't be right by doing wrong; you can't be wrong by doing right."

Courage is required to think right, choose right, and do right, for such a course will rarely, if ever, be the easiest to follow. Eternal life in the kingdom of our Father is your goal, and self-discipline will surely be required if you are to achieve it.

You are precious in the sight of your Heavenly Father. He hears your prayers. He extends to you His peace and His love. Stay close to Him and to His Son, and you will not walk alone. ●

From an April 2002 general Young Women meeting address.

NOTE

1. Adapted from Lewis Carroll, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (1992), 76.



The decisions we make in this life lead to our destiny in the next life. President Monson reminds us to make righteous choices.

No Candy for Easter



BY KIMBERLY WEBB

Church Magazines
(Based on a true story)

*The gift of God is eternal life through
Jesus Christ our Lord (Romans 6:23).*

On the day before Easter, Kurt's grandparents invited his family to a barbecue. Kurt was especially excited to go because his favorite uncle, Darren, had just come home from his mission. He had missed Uncle Darren a lot.

Kurt bounded into his grandparents' backyard, ran past Grandpa, who was standing over the sizzling grill, and found Uncle Darren sitting in a patio chair.

"Hey, Kurt," Uncle Darren greeted him. "Are you excited for Easter, little buddy?"

"Yes!" Kurt scrambled into his uncle's lap.

"What do you want in your Easter basket*?" Uncle Darren asked.

"Candy, I guess." Kurt grinned. He imagined finding chocolate bunnies, marshmallows shaped like baby birds, and jelly beans spilling out of his Easter basket. His heart skipped excitedly just thinking about it.

"What do you want in *your* Easter basket?" Kurt asked, poking his finger into Uncle Darren's chest.

"I don't think I'll get one this year," Uncle Darren said. "I guess I'm too old for that. But it's OK because last year I got the best Easter basket ever."

"What was in it?" Kurt asked.

"Don't you remember?" Uncle Darren looked surprised. "You helped send it to me."

Kurt tried to think about last spring, but it was a long time ago. He remembered the family gathering at Grandma's house to make a package for Uncle Darren. Plastic colored eggs and stringy Easter grass had been

strewn all over the kitchen table. Strips of paper, markers, and pens had been piled on the countertop.

"Why was it your favorite Easter basket?" Kurt asked. He couldn't remember sending anything special.

Uncle Darren squeezed Kurt tightly. "It was my favorite Easter basket because there was no candy inside." Kurt giggled, expecting to see a teasing twinkle in Uncle Darren's eyes, but he looked serious.

"No candy?" Kurt cried. "Why not?" Uncle Darren laughed. "Come in the house. I want to show you something."

Kurt watched Uncle Darren rummage through a shoe box full of letters. He reached into the box, pulled out an envelope, and handed a strip of paper to Kurt.

The Church is true, Kurt read. *I love Jesus and my family.* Last year he had written these words, folded the paper up, and placed it inside a plastic egg.

Everyone else—his parents, aunts, uncles, and cousins—had done the same.

Now Kurt remembered! Uncle Darren's missionary Easter basket had been filled with testimonies.

"You liked these papers better than jelly beans?" Kurt asked. He couldn't imagine why.

Uncle Darren nodded. "Easter is the time to celebrate Jesus Christ's Resurrection," he said quietly. "Do you know what that means?"

"Jesus came back to life so that we can all be resurrected someday," Kurt answered.

"And do you know what *that* means?" Uncle Darren



* In some countries, the giving of Easter baskets is a tradition that celebrates springtime.

asked. He rested his hand on Kurt's shoulder. "It means that I will always be your uncle!"

Kurt was confused. "The Resurrection makes it so that you can be my uncle?"

"We couldn't be an eternal family without eternal life," Uncle Darren said. "Jesus Christ died for us so that we could live forever with Him."

When Kurt and his parents had visited the temple grounds, Mom had pointed to the temple and said that

she and Dad had been married there. Because of the sealing ordinances, they could be a family forever. Mom hadn't said anything about Jesus' Resurrection.

"What about temples?" Kurt asked. "I thought we could be with our families forever because of temples."

"The temple is the Lord's house," Uncle Darren explained. "Without Jesus Christ and His Resurrection, there wouldn't be any temples, either. The power that seals us together is His priesthood."

Kurt hadn't thought about that before.

Uncle Darren continued. "I taught people on my mission who didn't believe in eternal families. They believed in Jesus, but they didn't understand everything He did for us."



"The divine gifts of the Atonement and the Resurrection and the power of the priesthood will permit us . . . to be joined into families and . . . , if we are worthy, to have eternal happiness together."

President James E. Faust, Second Counselor in the First Presidency, "First Presidency Christmas Devotional," *Ensign*, Feb. 2000, 75.

"That's sad," Kurt said with a frown.

"Reading everyone's testimonies reminded me that our family can be eternal," Uncle Darren said. "It was the best Easter gift I could have received."

Kurt looked up into his favorite uncle's beaming face and suddenly felt very grateful. He had missed Uncle Darren terribly during the past two years. He couldn't imagine being separated from him forever.

Uncle Darren suddenly swooped Kurt up on his shoulders. "I bet the hamburgers are almost done. Should we go find out?" Kurt was giggling too hard to answer. "Then we can be partners for the Easter egg hunt," Uncle Darren promised.

Kurt was excited, but colored eggs, candy, and Easter baskets didn't matter so much compared to spending time with Uncle Darren. Kurt smiled, knowing that he could call Darren his uncle forever. ●

(See "Testimony Easter Eggs," page 31.)

An illustration of a room with light blue walls and a wooden floor. In the background, a doorway shows an elderly woman in a purple dress and white apron holding a young girl. On the floor, a small white dog with brown spots is walking. On the right, a blue vase with white lilies sits on a white lace doily. A framed picture of a man and a woman hangs on the wall.

Easter Lilies

BY KIMBERLY WEBB

Grandma bought some lilies
and put them in a vase.
She placed them on the table
upon a cloth of lace.

She said that they're for Easter.
I asked the question why,
and she said, "Spring reminds me
that we can never die.

"In spring, buds come to life again.
In spring, the lilies bloom.
In spring, Christ hung upon the cross
and left the garden tomb."

Now that Grandma left to be
with Grandpa up in heaven,
I put lilies on their graves
and think of resurrection.

Because the Savior sacrificed
and rose on the third day,
I will see them both again.
In gratitude, I pray.

Prayer Is Important



From an interview with Elder William R. Walker of the Seventy, currently serving in the Asia North Area Presidency; by Barbara Jean Jones

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

When I was a little boy, I enjoyed reading the *Friend* magazine. Back then it was called the *Children's Friend*. I remember that I liked looking at the pictures of other children. Even now I still have the *Friend* delivered to my home so I can tell children and their teachers about good things to read in it each month.

I have many other wonderful memories of my childhood. I grew up in Canada in a small farming town called Raymond. Raymond is only about 35 miles from the Cardston Alberta Temple, so my parents would take their seven children



there often and tell us about how they were married there. I remember walking around the temple grounds and my parents taking our picture. Whenever we visited Salt Lake City, we did the same thing at the Salt Lake Temple. We would also stop at the Idaho Falls Idaho Temple on the way to Salt Lake City.

Left: As a one-year-old

Right: With his family at age 9 (standing on the left)

During these times I felt how wonderful and important the temple was. And we knew it was important to our parents, too. The temple, especially the one in Cardston, became the symbol of our Church membership. The temple reminded me that I belonged to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Another memory from my boyhood was learning how to work. We had a big yard because my dad wanted to teach us how to work in it. So we all had assignments—mowing the lawn, weeding the vegetable and flower gardens, trimming the hedges, and so forth. My favorite job was working in our strawberry patch, because I'd eat the strawberries almost as fast as I picked them!

One job I had was mowing the lawn with our old push mower. My dad wouldn't make me do it when I didn't want to, but he would warn me, "It's your job, and if





you don't do it today, the grass will only be longer tomorrow, and it'll be harder to push the mower." I remember procrastinating three or four days past the time when I should have mowed the lawn. Trying to push that mower through the long grass was really hard. I learned never to put off what you're supposed to do, because it just gets harder the longer you wait. One of the happiest days of my youth was when my dad finally bought a power lawn mower!

I also remember learning the importance of prayer. When I was about five or six, my baby brother David would sometimes get such high fevers that he would go into convulsions, making his body shake and tremble. This worried my parents. I remember how they put David into a cool bath one day, trying to bring down his fever and stop his convulsions. I took my four-year-old sister, Helen, into another room, where we

kneeled and prayed that everything would be all right. We finished our prayer and told our mother that David would be all right. And he was. David never had another convulsion. Prayer is real, and it works.

When I grew up, I married Vicki and we had five children. We always taught them the importance of prayer. When our son Mark was about five years old, I walked by his bedroom one night. With the moonlight shining through the window onto his face, I saw that his eyes were open. So I went into his room and asked him if he had said his prayer.

"No," he said. When I asked him why not, he answered, "Because I'm too little, and my life is too boring!"

I'm glad Mark said that, because it gave me the chance to teach him that no matter how old we are, or how exciting or unexciting we think our lives may be, Heavenly Father listens to our prayers. I believe there is great power in the prayers of innocent children. I know that the Lord loves little children, so their prayers are important to Him. If you ask your Heavenly Father for blessings, He will bless you. ●

Left: Wearing a cowboy outfit at age 8. Center: As a missionary in Japan with his mission president, Elder Adney Komatsu, and Sister Komatsu. Below: Elder and Sister Walker with their family.





FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

Best Penmanship

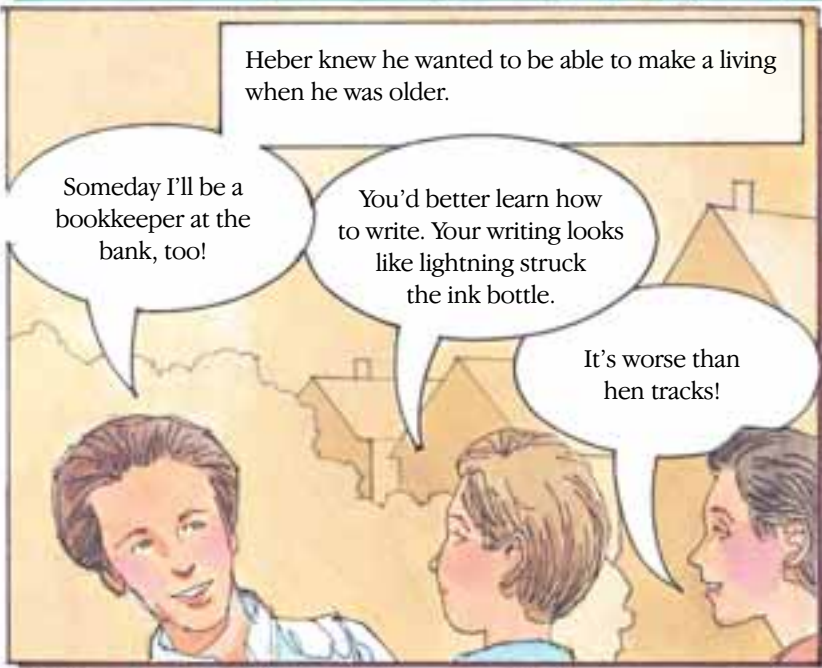


That man makes a lot of money.

How much?

As much as you would earn polishing 120 pairs of boots every single day.

One day Heber J. Grant was playing marbles with some friends when a bookkeeper from the bank walked by.



Heber knew he wanted to be able to make a living when he was older.

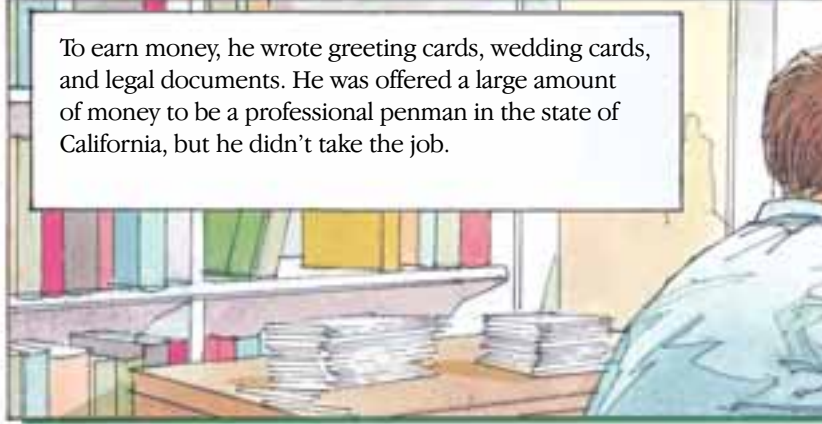
Someday I'll be a bookkeeper at the bank, too!

You'd better learn how to write. Your writing looks like lightning struck the ink bottle.

It's worse than hen tracks!



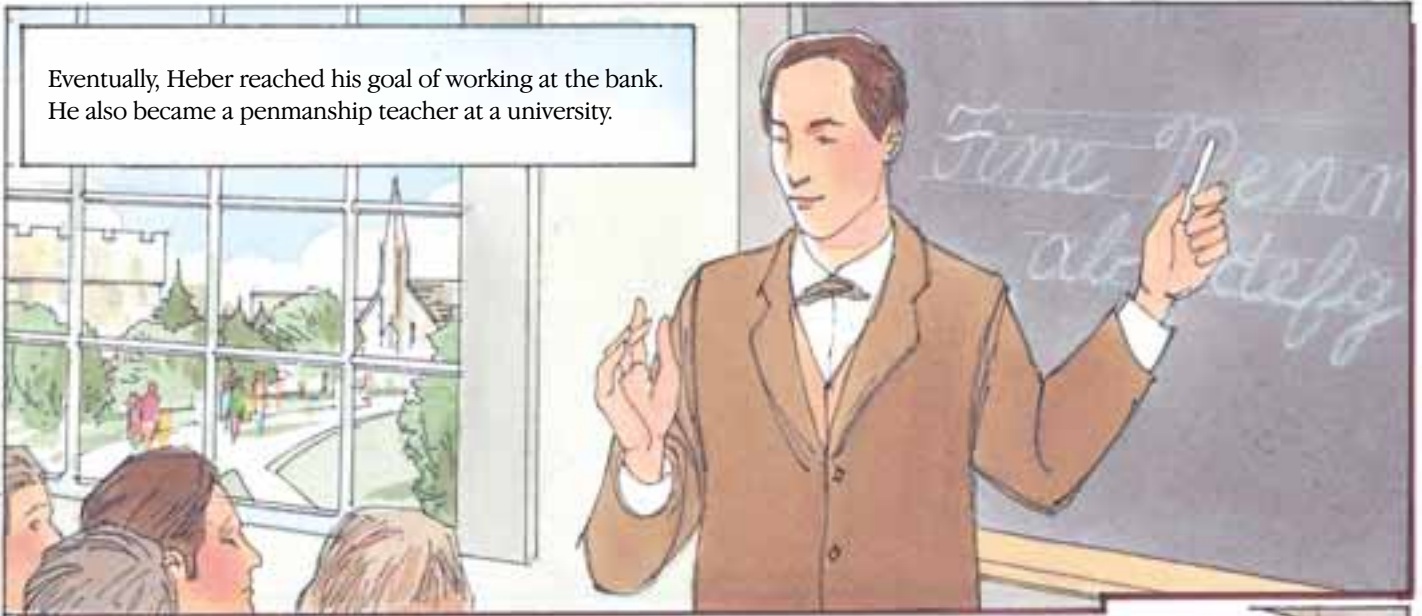
Heber worked on his handwriting until it was beautiful.



To earn money, he wrote greeting cards, wedding cards, and legal documents. He was offered a large amount of money to be a professional penman in the state of California, but he didn't take the job.



Eventually, Heber reached his goal of working at the bank. He also became a penmanship teacher at a university.



Once during the fair, a penmanship contest was held. Heber spoke to the man in charge.

I wrote better samples than any of these before I was 17 years old.

I don't know if I believe that. Show me.



Heber fetched his writing sample, paid the contest entry fee, and won the contest. Throughout his life, he encouraged children to learn to write well.

Adapted from Bryant S. Hinckley, Heber J. Grant: Highlights in the Life of a Great Leader (1951), 39–42.



Aren't You a Mormon?

BY LISA PASSEY BOYNTON
(Based on a true story)

Be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity (1 Timothy 4:12).

Lillie couldn't wait for the lunch bell to ring. She watched the clock as the hands slowly moved to 12:00. She was supposed to be reading quietly, but she was too excited to concentrate. Lunch was her favorite part of the day—

a time to be with her new friends, talking, laughing, and making plans for after school.

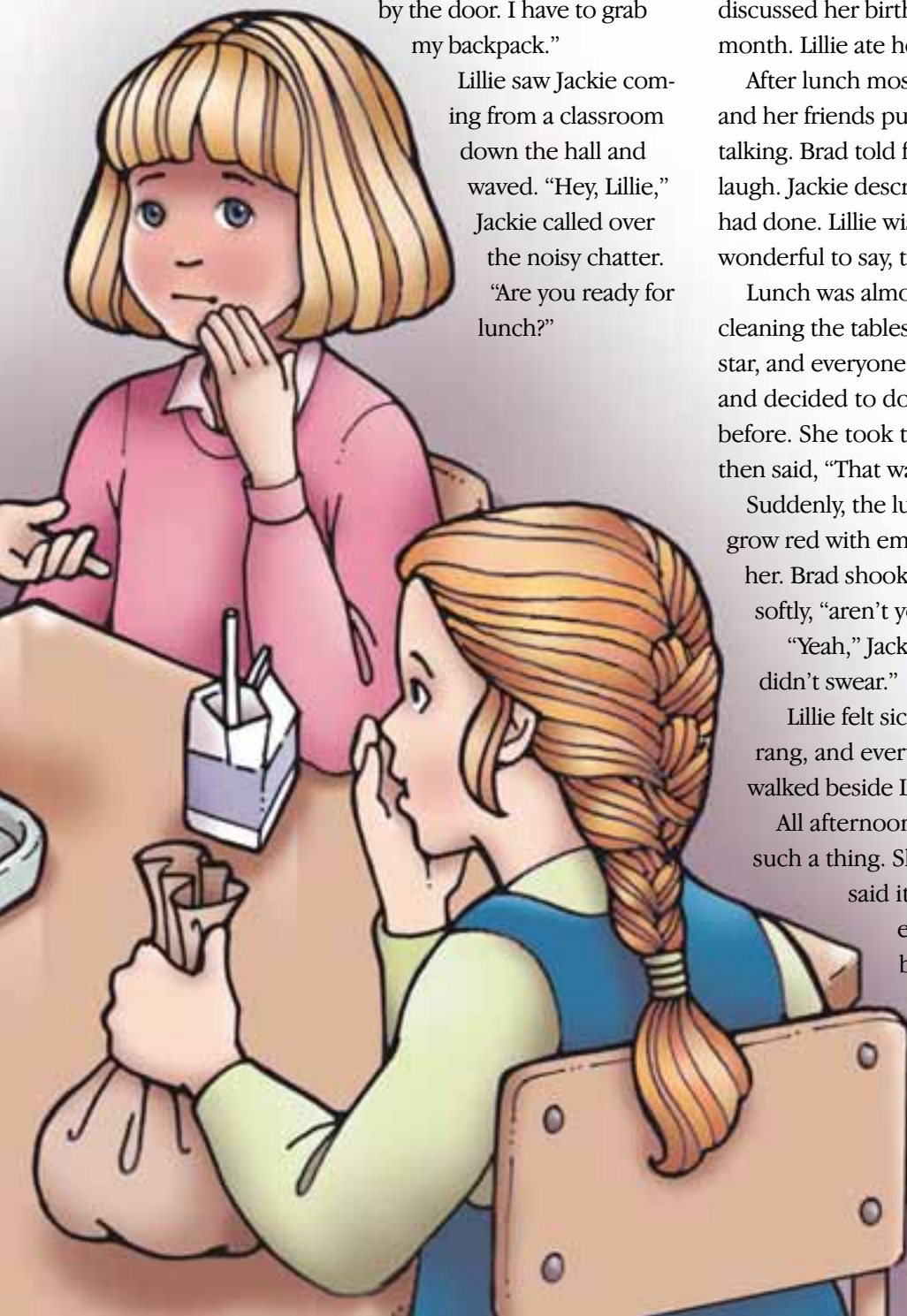
Lillie had moved a few months ago, and at first she had felt alone and afraid. The first week in Primary, she met one other girl in her class, but she lived far across town and went to another school. Luckily, on Lillie's first day of school,



she was placed in the same sixth-grade class as Teresa. Teresa was very friendly, and now Lillie was part of a fun group. It was hard being the new girl in school, but Teresa and her friends made Lillie feel welcome.

Finally the bell clanged, and Lillie grabbed her sack lunch from inside her desk. Teresa called, "Wait for me by the door. I have to grab my backpack."

Lillie saw Jackie coming from a classroom down the hall and waved. "Hey, Lillie," Jackie called over the noisy chatter. "Are you ready for lunch?"



"I am now," she said as Teresa came up beside her and linked arms with her. Together they followed Jackie to the lunchroom and found a table where everyone could sit. Lillie sat between Jackie and a boy named Brad and quickly unwrapped her lunch. Brad asked if she had seen the game on TV the night before. Jackie discussed her birthday party coming up the next month. Lillie ate her lunch happily.

After lunch most of the others scattered, but Lillie and her friends pushed back their chairs and continued talking. Brad told funny jokes that made everyone laugh. Jackie described something funny her little sister had done. Lillie wished she had something witty and wonderful to say, too, but nothing came to her mind.

Lunch was almost over. The cafeteria workers began cleaning the tables. Teresa imitated a popular movie star, and everyone laughed. Lillie took a deep breath and decided to do something she had never done before. She took the Lord's name in vain, giggled, then said, "That was so funny, Teresa!"

Suddenly, the lunchroom fell silent. Lillie felt her face grow red with embarrassment as everyone looked at her. Brad shook his head slowly. "Lillie," he asked softly, "aren't you a Mormon?"

"Yeah," Jackie said, "I thought Mormons didn't swear."

Lillie felt sick. She couldn't say anything. The bell rang, and everyone shuffled back to class. Teresa walked beside Lillie, but she didn't say a word.

All afternoon Lillie wondered why she had said such a thing. She knew it was wrong. She had never said it before. Her teacher asked her several questions about the day's lesson, but she shook her head and said she didn't know. She couldn't wait for school to end so she could go home and hide under her bed.

After school Lillie told Teresa she had to hurry home. She ran

from the building, tears in her eyes and a big lump in her throat. When her mother asked about her day, she was too ashamed to answer and hurried to her room.

How had it happened? She had been eager to impress the others, but she had hurt her spirit instead. She knew she had to ask for forgiveness. If her actions had disappointed her new friends, how much more must they have disappointed Heavenly Father?

That night Lillie couldn't eat her dinner, and it was hard to look at her parents. Finally her father gently asked what was troubling her. The story spilled out, mixed with bitter tears. "Dad, I am so sorry. I feel terrible," Lillie cried.

Her father put his arm around her shoulders. "That's an important part of repentance, Lillie. You truly have to be sorry for what you do—or say."

Lillie wiped her eyes. "Oh, I am, Dad. I'll never swear again. Never!"

Her father nodded. "Good. Now go tell Heavenly Father what you just told me, and I'm sure you'll feel better soon."

As Lillie knelt beside her bed and prayed, she felt her heart would break. She thought of other mistakes she had made and wondered how Heavenly Father and Jesus could continue to love and forgive her. But as she whispered, "I am so sorry," she felt the peaceful warmth of the Holy Ghost. Finishing her prayer, she was filled with the strength to do one more thing she needed to do.

Lillie shakily dialed Teresa's phone number. She could barely speak, but she managed to say she was sorry for what she had said at lunch. Then she called Jackie and Brad.

"Do I have to go to school today?" she asked her mother the next morning. She didn't want to face her friends. What must they think of her?

Her mother hugged her. "Yes. If you don't, it will be harder tomorrow."

Teresa found Lillie before school and gave her a quick hug. "I can't believe you called everyone and said you were sorry. I never could have done that!"

Jackie called from the doorway of her classroom. "Lillie! I have to talk to you about my birthday party, OK? See you at lunch."

Lillie gave a small sigh of relief and slid into her chair. She never wanted to feel the hurt of a wrong choice again. Even if her friends hadn't known she was a

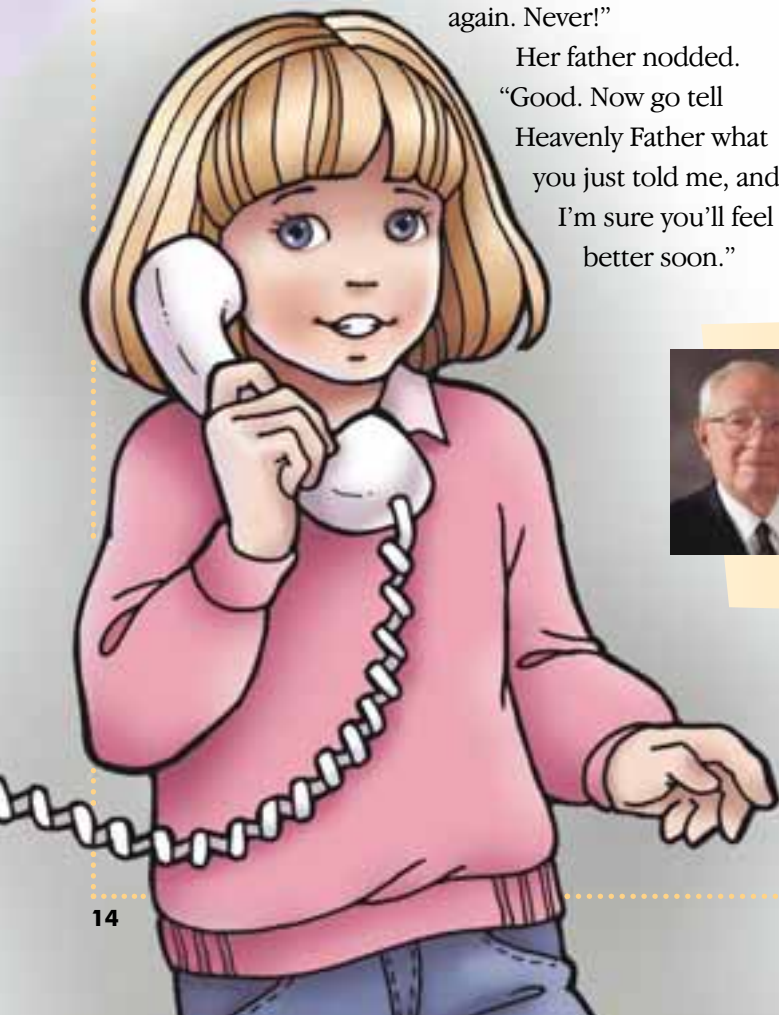


"We cannot indulge in swearing. We cannot be guilty of profanity; we cannot indulge in impure thoughts, words, and acts and have the Spirit of the Lord with us."

President Gordon B. Hinckley, "Converts and Young Men," *Ensign*, May 1997, 49.

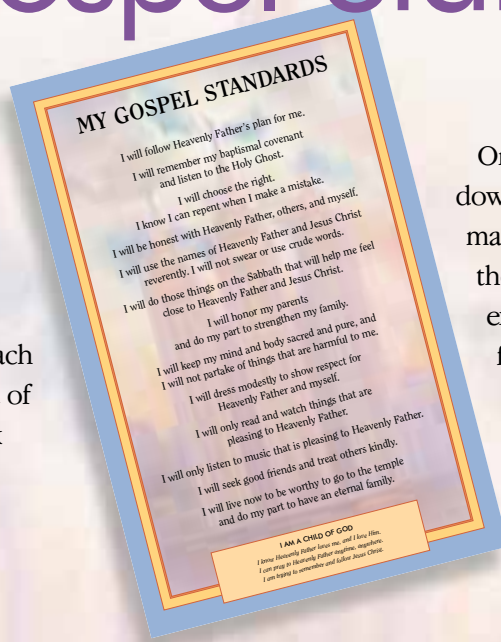
member of the Church, she would have felt the sting all the same. She was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and from now on she intended to act like it. ●

Lisa Passey Boynton is a member of the Val Verda Ninth Ward, Bountiful Utah Val Verda Stake.



My Gospel Standards

Learning and remembering “My Gospel Standards” (located on the back cover of the *Faith in God* guidebook) will help you to choose the right. Read the statements listed below. Next to each statement, check “true” if it is part of “My Gospel Standards,” and check “false” if it is not.



Once you have completed this, write down the numbers of the statements marked “true” in order in the blanks in the scripture references below. (For example, if #1 is true, write “1” in the first blank.) Look up the scripture references to learn some important messages about choosing the right. (See answers on page 26.)

True	False	
		1. I will choose the right. I know I can repent when I make a mistake.
		2. I will dress modestly to show respect for Heavenly Father and myself.
		3. I will sleep in late every day and eat foods that are bad for me.
		4. I will seek good friends and treat others kindly.
		5. I will remember my baptismal covenant and listen to the Holy Ghost.
		6. I will attend church only on Easter and Christmas.
		7. I will do those things on the Sabbath that will help me feel close to Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.
		8. I will cheat only if it's for an important test.
		9. I will only read and watch things that are pleasing to Heavenly Father.
		10. I will be mean to my brother or sister and not obey my parents.

D&C __ 1 : 1 __ Joshua 2 __ : 1 __ Moroni __ : 1 __

Feleti Vimahi of Pangai, Tonga

BY ANNAKA VIMAHI

On a small and beautiful South Pacific island surrounded by reefs lives 10-year-old Feleti Vimahi.

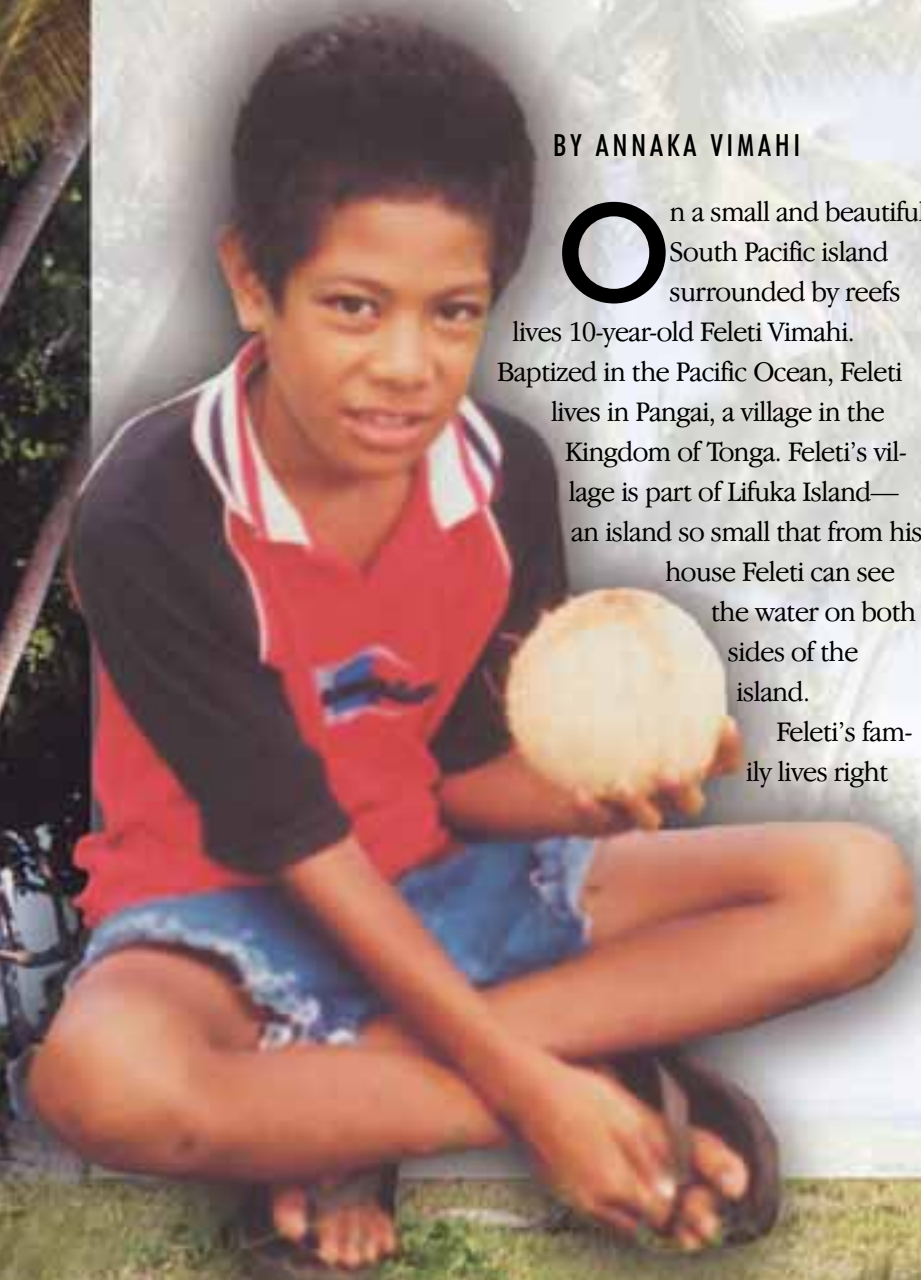
Baptized in the Pacific Ocean, Feleti lives in Pangai, a village in the Kingdom of Tonga. Feleti's village is part of Lifuka Island—an island so small that from his house Feleti can see the water on both sides of the island.

Feleti's family lives right

next to his cousins Loti and Salesi, and Feleti plays with them every day. He also plays with his younger sisters, Lupe 'Aho'aukai, age 8, and Mele Siloni, age 4, and his brother, Tevita Tu'ipulotu, age 1. They like to play tag, hide and seek, and rugby.

Feleti is very creative, and he can make toys and things to do out of just about anything. Once he made a kite from scraps of paper he found. He is always singing, dancing, and drumming on things around the house. Feleti is a very good swimmer, and he especially loves to go swimming in the ocean with his dad.

Feleti likes to have fun, but he is a hard worker, too. He sometimes goes to the plantation with his dad and older cousins. They dig up 'ufi (yams) and pick enough coconuts on the weekend to last them through the next week. For New Year's Day they dig a lot of 'ufi for a big feast that their family prepares each year for their neighbors and family members. Feleti's family and friends feast on roast pig, 'ufi, fish, and bread.





“I love to ride my bike and go to school,” Feleti says. To attend school, Feleti and his sisters walk to GPS Pangai Hihifo Primary School, which is close to their home. Feleti is in class six, and he goes to school from February to November. December and January are summer break in Tonga.



Siloni, Lupe, and Feleti play at the beach during low tide.



Salesi (Feleti's cousin), Salesi (Feleti's uncle), and Feleti swim in the ocean.

Feleti's native language is Tongan—a language with only 16 letters—and he is also learning to speak English. English is Feleti's favorite subject, and he does well in both English and math. Feleti's dad teaches math and science at a school Elder John H. Groberg of the Seventy started when he served as a missionary in Tonga. His dad says that Feleti works hard and does well in school.

Feleti's favorite food is sausage, and he eats a lot of it, too. One night he pleaded with his dad for so long to go buy sausage that his dad went in the middle of the night and got some for him. Feleti cooked it all by himself. He offered some to his dad, but his dad just wanted to sleep because it was so late.

The Vimahis attend the Pangai Ward in the Ha'apai Tonga Stake. They used to have to travel through two villages to get to church because their old building burned down. Feleti didn't mind the distance they had to go. In fact, he says, “I am happy with

The Vimahis attend the Pangai Ward in the Ha'apai Tonga Stake. They used to have to travel through two villages to get to church because their old building burned down. Feleti didn't mind the distance they had to go. In fact, he says, “I am happy with church because I like to go to Primary.”



Above: With some of his extended family members, Feleti helps cook in an 'umu—an outdoor oven. Below right: Feleti with his parents and sisters.

through the house. When asked during one family home evening to share a scripture that he likes, he read 1 Nephi 1:1.

Also during a family home evening, Feleti thanked his dad and his cousin for putting up metal over the windows to protect them during a hurricane. At least once a year in Pangai, there are very strong winds. When this happens, the family prays together to be protected. In one hurricane, Feleti's family's fences were blown down and some banana trees were ruined, but no one in the family was harmed.

Like Nephi (see 1 Nephi 1:1), Feleti has been taught by good parents—his mom, Matelita, and his dad, Pulotu. "He helps and cares for his brother and sisters," says his dad. And Feleti thinks that everyone should get along. "I don't like to argue with my sisters," he says.

Feleti's creativity, his sensitivity to others, and his love of the gospel will continue to help him as he lives and shares the gospel on his beautiful South Pacific island. ●

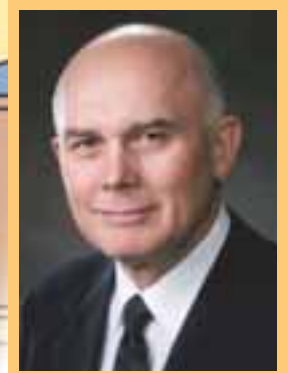
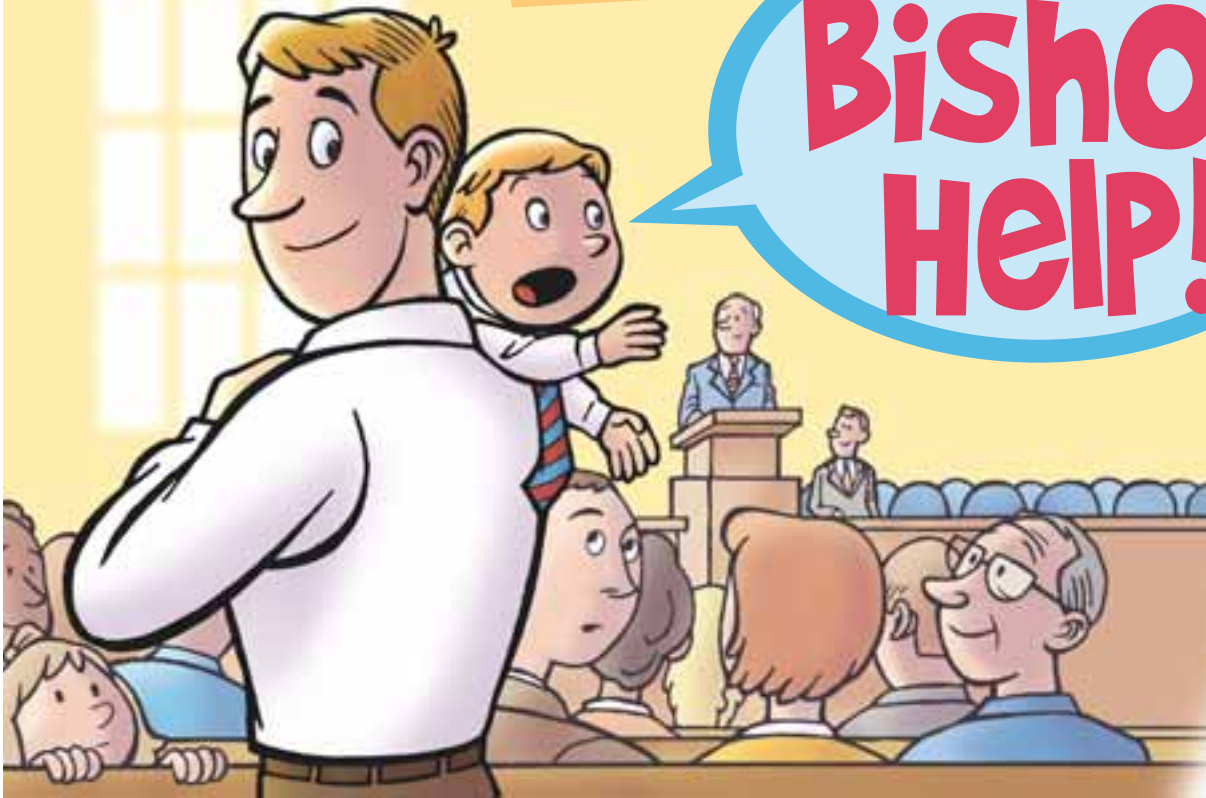
Annaka Vimabi is a member of the Orem Eighth (Tongan) Ward, Salt Lake Utah South (Tongan) Stake.

church because I like to go to Primary." Now their chapel has been rebuilt, and about 25 children attend Primary. Five of them are in Feleti's class.

Feleti is happy that he is a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He studies the scriptures at home, and he sometimes sings scripture verses loudly as he walks



BISHOP, HELP!



Did you know that Elder Dallin H. Oaks served as a judge and as a university president? He teaches us about the special calling of bishop.

BY ELDER DALLIN H. OAKS
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

During a sacrament meeting, a little boy made a big disturbance. In a few moments [his father] put the little boy over his shoulder, stood up, and started for the back door. Looking back over his father's shoulder, the little boy became quiet and apprehensive. Just as the father approached the rear door of the chapel, the little fellow reached his arms out toward the stand and shouted, "Bishop, help!"

There are times in the lives of all of us when we must reach out to our bishop or his counselors for help. Perhaps we need inspired counsel and direction. Always we benefit from their stalwart examples. Thank heaven for faithful and inspired bishops and branch presidents and their counselors!

A bishop (or branch president) has

many duties. As the president of the Aaronic Priesthood, he personally oversees the programs and activities of the young men and young women in the ward. He and his counselors give special attention to teaching correct principles. Always they encourage our youth to prepare for the covenants they will make in the temple.

As the presiding high priest, the bishop gives direction to all quorums, auxiliaries [organizations], activities, and programs in the ward. He is also responsible for seeking out the poor and the needy.

The offices of bishop and branch president and counselors are sacred in this Church. The men who hold those offices are respected by the Lord, inspired by His Spirit, and given the powers of discernment [judgment] necessary to their office. We honor and love them, and we show this by our consideration for them. ●

From an April 1997 general conference address.



A Gift to Remember

BY LESLIE ETHINGTON

(Based on a true story)

Build a house unto me in the name of the Lord

(D&C 97:15).

Frances couldn't sleep. She felt like jumping up and down with excitement, but she forced herself to lie still so she wouldn't wake her three younger brothers on the floor beside her.

She pinched herself to be sure she wasn't dreaming. "Tomorrow I'm really going with Father to Salt Lake City for the temple dedication. This will be my happiest birthday ever!" she thought.

It seemed only minutes had passed when Father nudged her and whispered, "Wake up, Frances. It's nearly sunup."

She quickly slid into her dress and smoothed her hair. Clutching the small bundle containing her other dress, she hurried to the wagon.

Frances had never been

away from home. She wanted to see everything. But by mid-morning, she realized that red soil, gray sagebrush, and dark cedar trees were the only sights for miles around. "I wish we could go faster," she said. "I can't wait to see the temple. Perhaps we'll even see the prophet!"

"Singing will make the journey go faster," Father suggested. He began singing his favorite hymn, "The Spirit of God."* After he finished singing, Father said, "That song was sung at the Kirtland Temple dedication. I expect it will be sung in many more temples of the Lord."

Frances and her father began to sing in harmony. The hymns "Now Let Us Rejoice" and "Redeemer of Israel"** echoed through the nearby hills. Frances smiled. "I've never been so happy," she thought.

After Father stopped the team for the night and the two of them had eaten, Father said, "It's time for scripture study. Will you read from Isaiah, Frances?"



ILLUSTRATED BY GREGG THORKELSON

She opened Father's well-worn Bible to the page they had read the night before and began reading.

After scripture study, Frances lay on the corn-husk tick (mattress) in the wagon and quickly fell asleep.

April 6, 1893, dawned cold and windy. Frances awoke early. She could hardly contain her excitement! "Today we will finally see the temple!" she thought. "I couldn't receive a better birthday present."

The scenery changed as they traveled north. The mountains were higher and more rugged. The air was

cooler with cloudy skies, threatening to rain.

When they arrived in Salt Lake City, many wagons and buggies bumped along the busy, dusty road toward the temple. "It looks like everyone in the Church is going to the dedication with us," Frances exclaimed.

Rounding a curve, she gasped. In the distance a huge granite building with six majestic spires rose in splendor. Standing high on one spire was a golden statue of the angel Moroni.

Father stopped the wagon. Tears filled Frances's eyes



as she hugged Father's arm. "The temple is even more beautiful than I had imagined," she whispered.

Father's eyes were moist, too. "It's taken forty years of sacrifice and hard labor to build this temple, but it is a small price to pay to finally receive the blessings the Lord has in store for us in His house."

To Frances's surprise, Father drew a tiny box from his pocket and placed it in her hand. "I want you to always remember this day," he said. Opening the box, he removed a gold locket and fastened its delicate chain around her neck.

Tears of joy flowed down her cheeks. "Father, I love you so! I'll always treasure this locket. It will help me remember the things you've taught me."

"Always remember the importance of the Lord's house," Father said. "The desire of my heart is for all of my children to be sealed in the temple. I'm depending on you to set the example and teach your brothers and baby sister."

"I will, Father," Frances promised.

Father jerked the reins, and the horses moved forward. Outside the temple a large crowd was assembling. Father parked the wagon a short distance from the temple, secured the horses, then helped Frances climb out of the wagon.

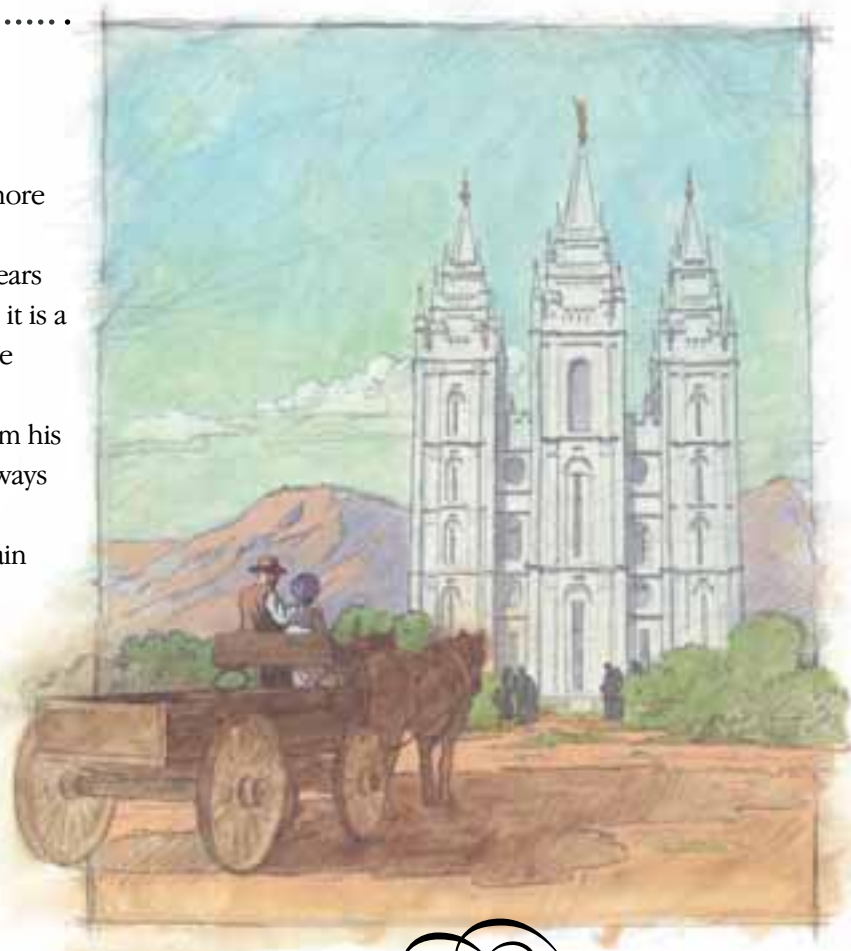
As Frances studied each detail of the great temple, she remembered the words she had read in Isaiah the night before:

"Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their . . . sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people" (Isaiah 56:7).

She looked at the golden angel, high against the ash-gray sky. Walking reverently beside her father, she whispered, "I've never felt this close to the Lord. I know that this is His house." She reached for her father's hand. A feeling of joy and peace filled her heart as they walked toward the temple doors. ●

* See *Hymns*, p. 2.

** See *Hymns*, pp. 3–4, 6.



THE SALT LAKE TEMPLE DEDICATION

After 40 years of working to build the Salt Lake Temple, many Saints attended the first dedication session on 6 April 1893. Forty more dedication services took place during the next two weeks. In all, 75,000 Saints attended!

The weather was cold and stormy on the first dedication day, but everyone inside the temple felt peace and warmth. Several people saw angels or heard them singing. Others felt that light was streaming into the room, even though dark clouds and falling snow could be seen through the windows.

President Woodruff later said, "If the eyes of the congregation could be opened they would [have] seen Joseph and Hyrum [Smith], Brigham Young, John Taylor, and all the good men who had lived in this dispensation assembled with us, as also . . . all the Holy Prophets and Apostles who had prophesied of the latter day work. . . . They were rejoicing with us in this building which had been accepted of the Lord."

The Saints had sacrificed their time, money, and talents to build a temple strong enough to last through the Millennium. In return, Heavenly Father blessed them with marvelous spiritual blessings inside His house.

(See "The Power of God Was with Us," *Ensign*, Mar. 1993, 28–31.)



Serving Others

BY ROBERT PETERSON

These children are serving their neighbors by bringing them freshly baked cookies and loaves of bread. See if you can find an apple, a carrot, a feather, a fork, a hairbrush, a paintbrush, a ring, a saltshaker, a spatula, a spoon, an umbrella, and a water pitcher. Then color the picture.



CONFERENCE






















(A Listening Activity) BY CALLIE BUYS AND MONICA WEEKS

General conference is a special time of year when we can hear the words of the prophet and other Church leaders. To help you listen to the conference messages, do this activity with your family.

Carefully remove these two pages from the magazine. (If more than two game cards are needed, copy

one of the pages.) Mount the pages on heavy paper and cut out the game cards. When you hear a speaker say one of the words in the boxes, cover that box with a bean, button, piece of candy, or coin. When each session of conference ends, uncover any covered

















				
President Hinckley	Testimony	Love	Prayer	Heavenly Father
				
Sacrament	Baptism	Temple	Missionaries	Faith
				
Joseph Smith	Sabbath day	Jesus Christ	Book of Mormon	Priesthood
	The Holy Ghost			
Forgiveness		Prophets	Repentance	Word of Wisdom

QUARERS

boxes one at a time and tell your family what you have learned about the covered words.

Alternate version: Instead of making individual playing cards, have the whole family play on one game

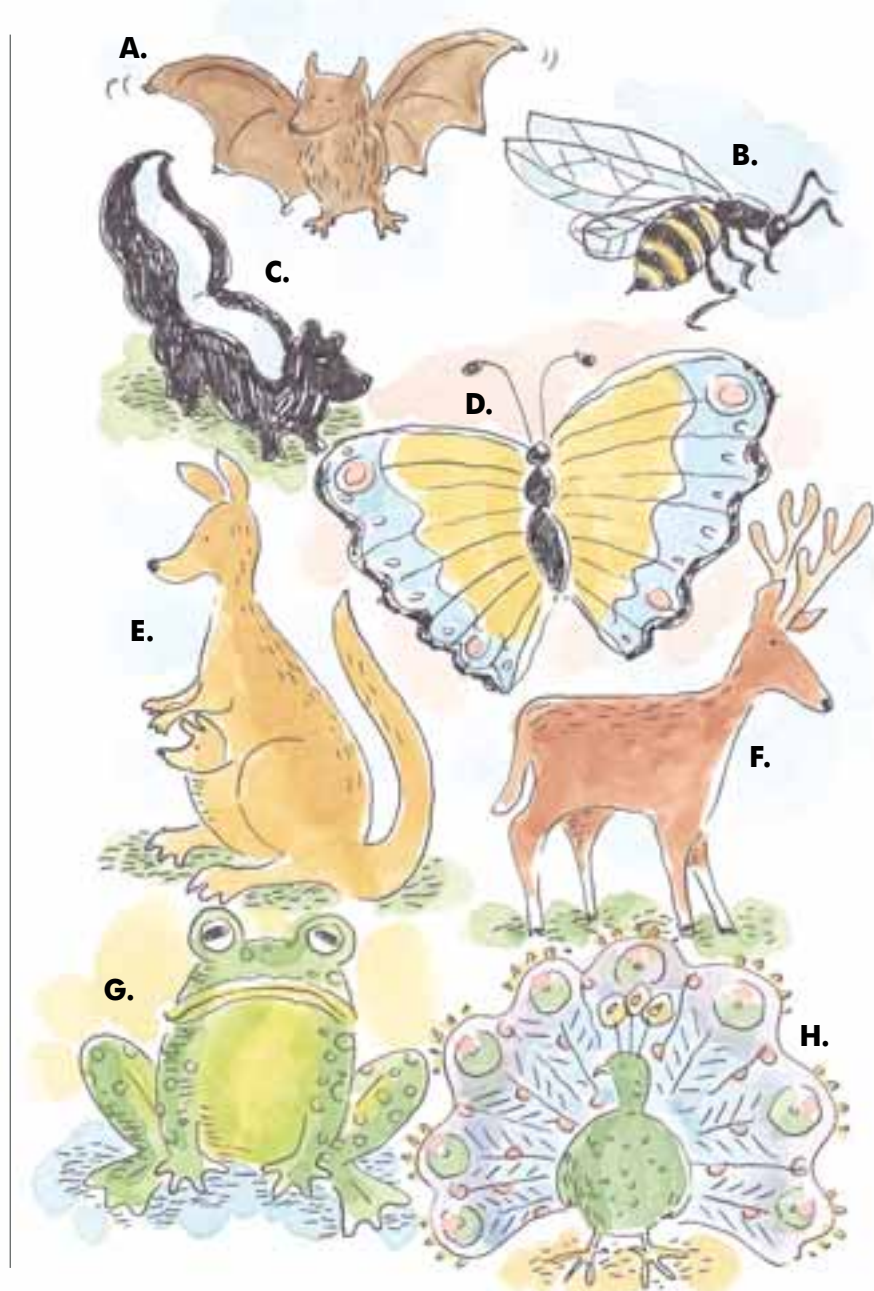
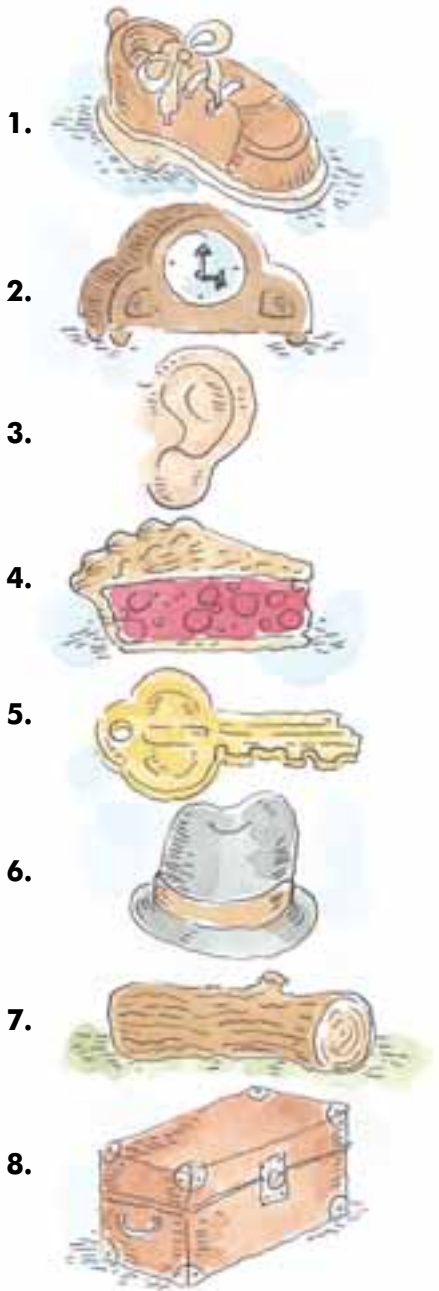
board, with different-colored markers for each person. When one of the words is mentioned, the first person to put a marker on it wins the spot. Whoever has put down the most markers by the end of the conference session is the winner.

				
President Hinckley	Testimony	Love	Prayer	Heavenly Father
				
Sacrament	Baptism	Temple	Missionaries	Faith
				
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	The Holy Ghost			
Forgiveness		Prophets	Repentance	Word of Wisdom

Rhyme Time

BY JESSICA SWAIM

The name of each item in the left column rhymes with the name of an animal or insect in the right column. How fast can you find the rhymes? See answers below.



My Gospel Standards: (1) T, (2) T, (3) F, (4) T, (5) T, (6) F, (7) T, (8) F, (9) T, (10) F. Scripture references: D&C 11:12, Joshua 24:15, Moroni 7:19. Rhyme Time: (1) E, (2) H, (3) F, (4) D, (5) B, (6) A, (7) G, (8) C.

Funstuf Answers

Friends in the News



Penelope "Penny" Richards, 5, London, England, has many talents, including swimming and modern, tap, and ballet dancing. She likes the games sometimes played during sharing time.



Chad Whitmire, 8, Vernal, Utah, is the youngest of five children. He plays soccer, baseball, hockey, and the piano. He is a good student and hopes to serve a mission like his older brothers and sister.



Ariel Briscoe, 11, St. Charles, Missouri, has two brothers and one sister. She likes to read and have family home evening. Her favorite Primary song is "Families Can Be Together Forever."



Dallin Haycock, 6, Beaverton, Oregon, enjoys reading the Book of Mormon with his family. He likes to bowl with his brother Lincoln, play lacrosse with his brother Landon, and play games with his sister Allison.



Stephanie Murray, 7, Merna, Nebraska, likes to learn about Jesus. She also enjoys playing with her dolls and traveling with her father on his high council assignments.



Scott Beattie, 9, Mission Viejo, California, plays the piano. He likes to sing and tell stories. He enjoys being a Bear in Cub Scouts and has earned his Faith in God Award. He likes math and geography.



McKenzie Frank, 4, Essex Junction, Vermont, likes to sing and give talks in Primary. She enjoys learning how to choose the right and how to be like Jesus by being loving and kind.



Blake Seebach, 11, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, likes reading, swimming, and playing hockey and mini-golf. He takes care of his pets—a dog named Chloe and a hamster named Pebbles.



Always cheerful, **Rebecca Maughan**, 6, Lake Mary, Florida, likes to lead the music in family home evening. Rebecca is a good missionary, and she tells her friends about Jesus.



Danny Menlove, 8, Hatteras Island, North Carolina, sets a good example for his family and friends. He is the only member of the Church in his school. He enjoys art, music, and swimming.



Savannah Smith, 3, Keller, Texas, likes to sing Primary songs and can name all fifteen latter-day prophets. She enjoys swimming, dancing, riding her bike, and playing with her baby sister, Lauren.



Markus Jones, 6, East Windsor, Connecticut, likes to talk about the gospel with his friends. He enjoys playing soccer, solving math problems, and playing with his younger brothers, Matthew and Benjamin.



Caitlin Dudley, 8, Boise, Idaho, likes to play the piano. She likes school and enjoys reading. She always tries to choose the right, and she enjoys Primary. She is excited for her brother to serve a mission.



Aaron Nightingale, 5, Lake Elmo, Minnesota, likes to tell stories from the pictures in his scriptures for family home evening. He has five brothers and two sisters; he helps with his baby brother, Porter.



Emily Ann Gomulak, 10, Soldotna, Alaska, loves her 15-year-old brother. She likes to read, dance, and sing Primary songs. Emily participates in Primary activity days and Girl Scouts.



Sam Johnson, 11, Sumner, Washington, likes reading the scriptures and playing hymns on the piano. He is an experienced snow skier and is learning to wake board. He is a good example to his friends.



Jamie Greenwood, 7, Albuquerque, New Mexico, likes to read books, write stories, and play the piano. She is looking forward to being baptized when she turns eight.



Tomas Gilberto Carbajal, 9, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, likes to share his testimony. He was baptized by his uncle, and he enjoyed going to see the Washington D.C. Temple.



Eden Thies, 3, Louisville, Kentucky, enjoys being a Sunbeam. She likes to read books, sing songs, and play dress-up with her friends. She is good at tumbling, and helps take care of her one-year-old brother, Liam.



Spencer Holmes, 5, Gilbert, Arizona, is working hard to memorize "The Family: A Proclamation to the World." He likes going to school, cooking with his mom, riding his bike, and jumping on the trampoline.



Sydney Ryan, 6, Lehi, Utah, is excited to read and spell new words. She enjoys going to tumbling class and singing Primary songs. She likes playing with her sister Holly and their friends.



Ben Jones, 10, Stafford, Virginia, enjoys school. He has many friends and enjoys working on his Cub Scout advancements. His favorite Primary song is "We'll Bring the World His Truth."



Whitney Michele Weaver, 4, Fort Carson, Colorado, recently shared her testimony for the first time. She likes to read, dance, swim, and play with her cat, Jasmine. She brings lots of joy to her family.

Please send submissions to Friends in the News, *Friend*, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA 84150-3220. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least 10 months. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Children whose pictures are submitted must be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned.

If I Choose to Obey, I'll Be Happy All Day!

BY SHEILA E. WILSON



Happiness in family life is most likely to be achieved when founded upon the teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ
(“The Family: A Proclamation to the World,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1995, 102).



After a family home evening lesson on obedience, four-year-old Brandon was anxious to try harder to obey his mom and dad. He and his mom decided that a reminder might help him. Brandon would repeat, “If I choose to obey, I’ll be happy all day!”

One day Brandon wanted to play at his friend’s house. He raced across the yard when suddenly the words “If I choose to obey, I’ll be happy all day!” came to his mind. Remembering that he should ask his mom first, Brandon headed back to his house.

When he turned eight, Brandon was baptized and received the gift of the Holy Ghost. He read in his scriptures that the Holy Ghost would show him all things he should do (see 2 Nephi 32:5). Brandon knew the Holy Ghost would remind him to follow Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ set the perfect example for us. The

scriptures teach us that “blessed is every one that . . . walketh in [the Lord’s] ways. . . . Happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee” (Psalm 128:1–2). When we follow Jesus Christ, we will be happy not only all day but throughout all eternity!

Beatitude Book

In the Sermon on the Mount (see Matthew 5; 3 Nephi 12) Jesus taught us how to live so we can be happy. Some of these teachings are known as the Beatitudes. *Beatitude* means “happiness” or “blessing.” To make a Beatitude Book, glue page 29 onto a sheet of paper. Cut on the solid lines. Glue the second strip to the tab on the first strip. Fold back and forth on the dotted lines.



Sermon on the Mount

The Teachings
of Jesus



I will follow my
Savior's example.

*Blessed are the poor in
spirit who come unto me, for
theirs is the kingdom of heaven
(3 Nephi 12:3; see also Matthew 5:3).*



I will trust the Lord.
The Holy Ghost will bring
me comfort and peace.

*Blessed are they that mourn: for they
shall be comforted (Matthew 5:4).*



I will obey Heavenly Father's
commandments.

*Blessed are the meek: for they shall
inherit the earth (Matthew 5:5).*



I will study the
scriptures daily.

*Blessed are all they who do hunger
and thirst after righteousness, for they
shall be filled with the Holy Ghost
(3 Nephi 12:6; see also Matthew 5:6).*

Glue



I will forgive others.

*Blessed are the merciful: for they shall
obtain mercy (Matthew 5:7).*



I will keep my baptismal
covenants.

*Blessed are the pure in heart: for they
shall see God (Matthew 5:8).*



I will be kind and not show
anger to others.

*Blessed are the peacemakers: for they
shall be called the children of God
(Matthew 5:9).*



I will bear my testimony
in word and deed.

*Blessed are they which are persecuted for
righteousness' sake: for theirs is the
kingdom of heaven (Matthew 5:10).*



I will be happy when
I follow the teachings
of Jesus Christ.

*Jesus gave the same teachings to both
the Jews (see Matthew 5-7) and the
Nephites (see 3 Nephi 12-14).*

Sharing Time Ideas

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

1. Before Primary prepare and hide wordstrips with the following words: The, Holy Ghost, Will, Help, Me, To, Follow, Jesus Christ. Get the children's attention by whispering, "Listen to my voice, and I will help you find some wordstrips." Whisper directions and help a child to find each wordstrip and hold it up in front of the Primary. When all the wordstrips have been found, whisper directions to help the children stand in the correct order. Compliment the children for listening and following directions. Recite the sentence together out loud. Remind the children that the Holy Ghost also speaks softly and helps us follow Jesus Christ. Show a picture of the Savior, and read about baptismal covenants on pages 2 and 3 of the *Faith in God* guidebook. Have the children discover and write the three promises we make when we are baptized: to keep His commandments, take His name upon us, and always remember Him. If we keep our baptismal covenants, the Holy Ghost will always be with us. Invite adults or children to share personal experiences of how listening to the Holy Ghost has helped them to follow Jesus Christ.

2. Play the game Leader Says. Have the children listen closely to your commands and follow only when you say "leader says" first (for example, "leader says put your hands on your head"; "leader says walk in place"; "stop walking"—children should continue to walk in place because you didn't say "leader says" first). Tell the children they were great followers, and explain that there is someone else they should listen closely to and follow. Read together John 13:15. Jesus Christ obeyed Heavenly Father's commandments. When we follow His example, we will be happy. Post the Savior's picture in front of the room. Around His picture, list songs or hymns that tell how we can follow Him. Divide the children into groups and hand each one a scripture reference (for example, Ephesians 4:32; 1 John 4:11; Mosiah 1:6–7; D&C 21:1, 4–5). Have them prepare to do three things: (1) Read the scripture out loud and explain the principle or commandment we should follow and live; (2) Choose a song or hymn that matches Jesus Christ's teaching and lead the Primary in singing it; (3) Act out ways we can follow Jesus Christ's teaching and let others guess what they are doing. Give them an opportunity to share what they have prepared.

3. Make 8 to 10 large circles and draw smiley faces on them. Post wordstrips and pictures of Heavenly Father's commandments and teachings of Jesus Christ around the room (for example, being kind, paying tithing, keeping the Word of Wisdom, obeying our parents, being honest). Make a pathway with string or tape on the floor around the room. This represents the way to follow Jesus Christ. Have the children, all or a few at a time, stand on the pathway. Hand out the smiley faces. Sing Primary songs that teach we can be happy when we obey. As the children sing, let them walk along the path and pass the smiley faces to each other. At the end of the song, those who are holding a smiley face can tell or show one way they can live the commandment posted on the wall nearest them. Sing another song and repeat.

For older children: Following the teachings of Jesus will help bring us happiness. Write "The Teachings of Jesus" on the board. Underneath, write out a few scriptures (see list below), leaving out the key words and replacing them with smiley faces. Give the children an opportunity to look up as many of the references as possible. Write the key words on wordstrips. Hand out a few of the wordstrips to the children. Sing "Choose the Right Way" (pp. 160–61). When the children sing the word *right*, have them pass the wordstrips to the right. At the end of the song, have them post the wordstrips in the appropriate places. As soon as a scripture is completed, read it out loud together. Continue to sing and pass the wordstrips until all the missing words are filled in. Discuss how they can live the teachings taught in these scriptures today.

Key words and scriptures: (1) *repent, baptized, name*—"Ye must

_____ and be _____ in my _____" (3 Ne. 11:38); (2) *Thou, Lord, God*—"_____ shalt love the _____ thy _____ with all thy heart" (Matt. 22:37); (3) *Love, I, you*—"_____ one another; as _____ have loved _____" (John 13:34); (4) *know, truth, free*—"And ye shall _____ the _____, and the truth shall make you _____" (John 8:32); (5) *light, people*—"Let your _____ so shine before this _____" (3 Ne. 12:16); (6) *keep, commandments*—"If ye love me, _____ my _____" (John 14:15); (7) *treasure, heart*—"For where your _____ is, there will your _____ be also" (3 Ne. 13:21).

4. Sing "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" (p. 57). Set up four or five stations for the children to rotate to and learn about the teachings of Jesus. Have teachers use pictures from the GAK and teach the story from the scriptures and references on the back of the pictures (Sermon on the Mount—GAK 212, The Ten Lepers—GAK 221, The Prodigal Son—GAK 220, The Good Samaritan—GAK 218). Sing "I'll Follow Him in Faith" (*Friend*, Jan. 2003, 24–25).

5. Read aloud Matthew 5:9. Explain what a peacemaker is and how we can be peacemakers in our homes. Let the children act out some things they would do if Jesus were visiting their homes. Prepare some case studies (see TNGC, 161–62) that give children opportunities to choose to be peacemakers, and place them in a box. Make the box look like a home. For the door, make a rectangle with a smiling face on one side and a frowning face on the other (see *Primary 2* manual, lesson 22). Let the children choose one of the studies out of the box and act it out. While they are acting, have the frowning face show until they act out being a peacemaker; then turn the door around to show the smiling face. Sing "Smiles" (p. 267).

For older children: Have the children read in the scriptures about the importance of being peacemakers (for example, Abraham—Gen. 13:5–12; King Benjamin—Mosiah 4:11–15; Melchizedek—Alma 13:17–18; righteous Lamanites—Alma 24:17–19). Write the letters P-E-A-C-E-M-A-K-E-R vertically on the board. Ask the children to think of words or phrases that remind them to be peacemakers. Have the children stand in a circle. Begin with a pointer person standing in the center. He or she calls out one of the letters on the board, points to a child, and begins counting to 10. Before the pointer gets to 10, that child needs to say a word or phrase that begins with the letter and reminds us to be peacemakers. If he or she is successful, the pointer calls out the same letter and points to another child. If he or she is not able to, he or she becomes the pointer and stands in the center. Repeat.

6. *Song Presentation:* "I Feel My Savior's Love" (pp. 74–75). We feel our Savior's love when we follow His example and teachings. While the pianist plays the song, act out the actions below to tell the message of the song. Ask the children to follow your actions, then ask if they can guess the song.

Sing one line of the song at a time, and explain the meaning of the message as necessary. Have the children echo each line back to you ("I feel my Savior's love"—hold arm up with palm up, then bring hand down over heart; "In all the world around me"—hold up both arms way above your head in a circle; "His Spirit warms my soul"—hold arm up with palm up, then bring down and make circle motions over your chest; "Through ev'ry-thing I see"—point both index fingers to eyes; "He knows"—hold arm up with palm up, then bring down and touch side of head; "I will follow him"—quietly and slowly march in place; "Give all my life to him"—draw hands close to body with palms up, then move out and upward; "I feel my Savior's love"—hold arm up with palm up, then bring hand down over heart; "The love he freely gives me"—place both arms together and reach upward, then bring both down and hold over your heart). Children could make up their own actions for verses 2 and 3.

7. Additional *Friend* resources: "Follow Christ," June 1992, inside front cover; "How the Holy Ghost Helps You," Mar. 1990, inside front cover; Sharing Time idea #3, Feb. 2000, 14; Sharing Time idea #4, Nov. 1999, 14; Sharing Time ideas #2 and #3, Jan. 2000, 46; Sharing Time, Sep. 1997, 12–13, 46; Sharing Time, May 1999, 43–45.



Like Kurt discovers in “No Candy for Easter” (pp. 4–6), the best gift you can share is the gospel. First, choose someone with whom you’d like to share your testimony. Your family may want to help you choose someone during family home evening. Write the things you know to be true and the things you are grateful for on slips of



Testimony Easter Eggs

paper. Fold the slips, put them inside plastic eggs, and put the eggs in an Easter basket along with a batch of Spring Basket Cookies. (To learn how to make your own basket, see “May Basket,” *Friend*, May 2003, 48.)

Alternate idea:

Use the egg pattern on this page to make an egg-shaped card. Write your testimony on the card and give it to a family member or friend. ●

Spring Basket Cookies

- 1 cup butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 2 eggs, separated
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3 cups crushed peanuts
- 2 cups pastel-colored chocolate candies

Vanilla Frosting

- 2 cups confectioners’ sugar
- 3 tablespoons margarine, softened
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2–4 tablespoons milk

1. Blend the butter and brown sugar in a bowl. Crack the eggs into another bowl, keeping the yolks separate from the whites. Beat the egg whites slightly and set them aside. Stir the egg yolks into the butter mixture and add the vanilla. Sift the flour and salt into the mixture and stir well. Chill dough for 30 minutes.

2. Place the peanuts between pieces of waxed paper

Easter is a time
to remember the
Atonement
of Jesus Christ.

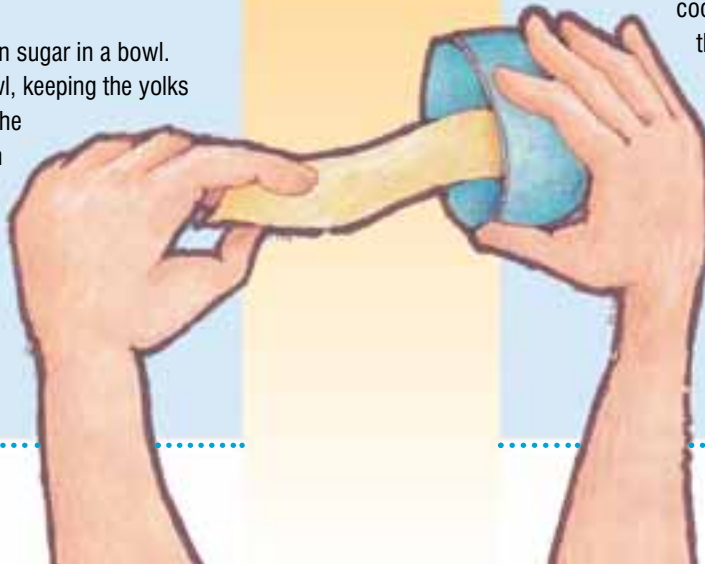
We can show
gratitude for this
priceless gift by
sharing special gifts
with others.

and crush with a rolling pin. Pour the crushed peanuts onto a plate.
3. Roll the chilled dough into 1” balls and dip them into the slightly beaten egg whites. Then coat them with crushed peanuts.

4. Place the balls of dough on an ungreased cookie sheet and bake at 350°F (175°C) for 5 minutes. Remove the cookies from the oven, press your thumb gently into the center of each cookie to make an indentation, and then bake them for 5 more minutes. Place the cookies on wire racks to cool.

5. For the frosting, blend together the sugar, margarine, and vanilla in a small mixing bowl. Add the milk as needed. Frost the center of each cookie and place two pastel-colored candies on each one.

Makes 2 dozen cookies.



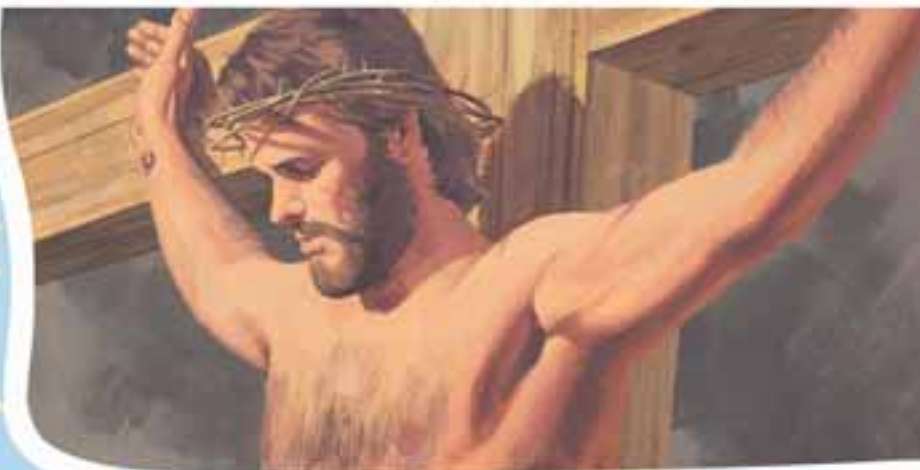


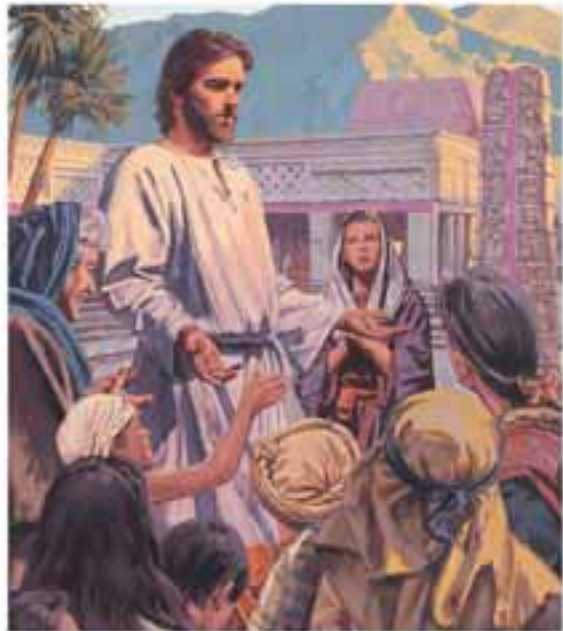
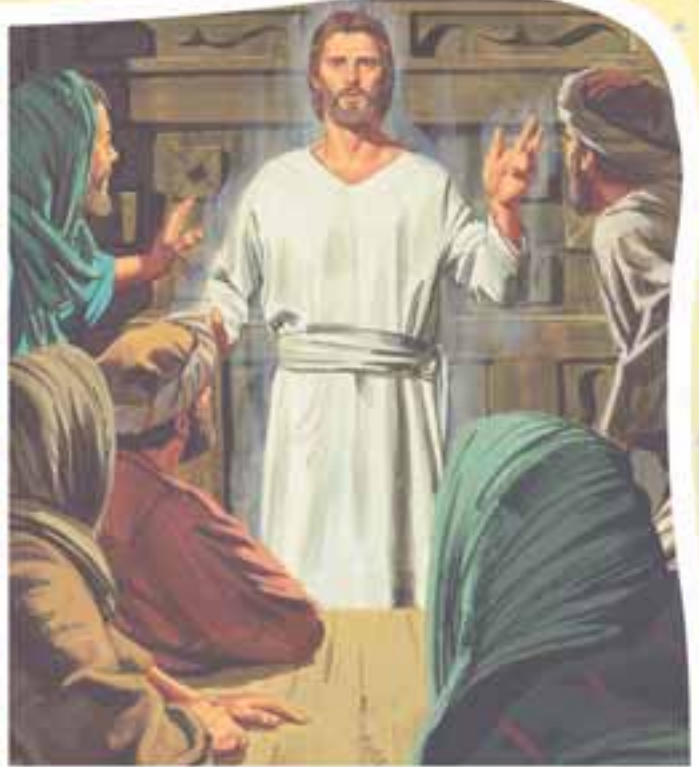
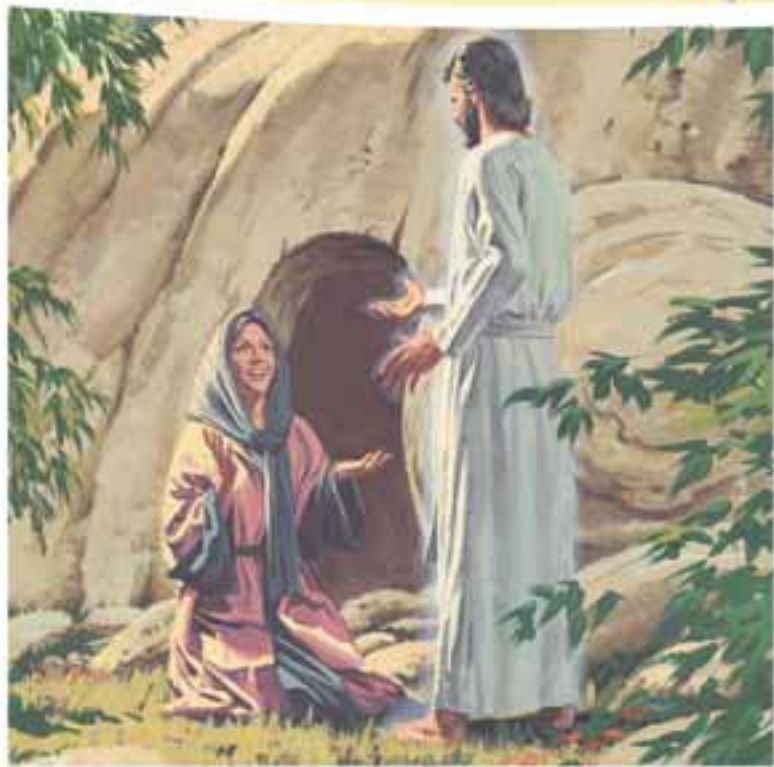
For Little
Friends

The Easter Story

I the Lord am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer (Isaiah 49:26).

Use these pictures to tell the Easter story.







Trying to Be Like Jesus

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



Sunday, my mom took me to get a tithing envelope. Together my mom and I filled out the donation slip. We listed the amount of money I had brought in the “humanitarian aid” line of the donation slip. I couldn’t wait to give my envelope to the bishop. It made me feel good to share what I have with others.

Jessica Butler, age 5, is a member of the San Dimas Ward, La Verne California Stake.



Family Rules

By Connor Christensen

I was at my friend’s house, and he wanted us to ride our bikes to the church. One of our family rules is that if we go somewhere other than where we told our parents we would be, we have to call and let them know.

I told my friend that I needed to call my mom, and he told me not to. He didn’t want to wait, and he said, “Let’s just go.”

I said I needed to call my mom first, and then he started calling me names and being mean to me. I didn’t go with him. I went home instead, even though I felt left out. I knew that I was supposed to obey my mom.

Connor Christensen, age 7, is a member of the Highland 17th Ward, Highland Utah Stake.



Cleaning the Chapel

By Tia Heule

Whenever it is our ward’s turn to clean the ward meetinghouse, I always go with my dad. Usually we are the only ones there. As soon as I finish, I have a good feeling inside. I know that if you help out when you get the chance, you will be blessed.

Tia Heule, age 9, is a member of the Blaine Ward, St. Paul Minnesota Stake.

Helping Those in Need

By Jessica Butler

One afternoon while my mom was reading the *Church News*, I saw a picture of a child who looked sick. I asked my mom why he looked that way. My mom told me that it was a picture of a child in Ethiopia, and that he did not have enough to eat. He was starving. I asked my mom if we could go to the grocery store and buy some food for him. My mom explained that children who are starving need to eat special food that we could not buy at the grocery store. But she told me that we could give money to the bishop at church, and he would make sure that it would help people in need, including the children in Ethiopia. I ran to my room and brought back a bag full of money from my piggy bank.

When we arrived at church on



Loving Our Enemies

By Curtis Crapo

My mom gave a family home evening lesson on loving our enemies. She taught me and my brothers and sisters what it means to love those who “despitefully use you, and persecute you” (Matthew 5:44).

I remembered that lesson the next day at school when I noticed that a bigger boy who was always trying to bully or tease me didn't have a lunch. My sister had helped me pack a huge lunch the night before, and I had two sandwiches. So I took my extra sandwich and some other things in my lunch and offered them to the boy. I was happy that he took the extra food, and he seemed glad that I had offered it to him. He is not mean to me anymore, and I am much happier at school.

I am glad that I listened to the family home evening lesson. My mom and dad are, too. They said that they are proud of me for listening to the Spirit and doing a kind and brave thing even though it seemed a little scary.

Curtis Crapo, age 6, is a member of the Calgary 18th Ward, Calgary Alberta East Stake.



A Few Spanish Words

By Sarah Schrecengost

A few weeks ago, a new boy came into my class at school. He had just moved to Illinois from Mexico. He did not know how to speak any English. I wanted Marselino to feel welcome in our class, so I spoke a few Spanish words to him. I thought Jesus would want me to do that. Now Marselino is learning new English words every day, and he is feeling much more comfortable in our class.

Sarah Schrecengost, age 7, is a member of the Buffalo Grove Second Ward, Buffalo Grove Illinois Stake.





For Little
Friends

1. Grass is greening,

7. God's spring beauty
Comes alive.

2. So are trees.

God's Spring Beauty

6. Seedlings thrive.

3. Birdsong merges with

5. Flowers blossom,

4. Buzzing bees.

BY GUY BELLERANTI

Instructions

1. Remove pages 36–37 from the magazine and mount them on heavy paper.
2. Cut out the wreath and the individual pictures.
3. Match each picture with the correct words on the wreath, then glue the picture just above the words.
4. Punch a hole near the top of the wreath and attach a piece of string. Hang the wreath where you can read the spring poem.

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





An EXPERIMENT in Forgiving

BY JANE McBRIDE CHOATE

(Based on a true story)

Forgive one another your trespasses (Mosiah 26:31).

Jared carefully recorded the last bit of information for his sixth-grade science project—comparing the differences between plants watered with tap water and those watered with distilled water.

“There,” he said in satisfaction. “All done.”

He ran into the laundry room. “Mom, I finished the experiment. Do you want to see it?”

Mom finished folding a towel and smiled. “Of course.”

Jared led her into the kitchen, where the two sets of plants occupied a shelf by the big glass door. When he saw the plants, he stopped in his tracks. “Oh, no!” he cried.

Kaitlyn, Jared’s three-year-old sister, looked up and smiled, her hands covered with dirt. Potting soil and crushed plants were strewn across the floor.

“You ruined my project!” Jared wiped angry tears from his eyes. “You wreck everything I have.”

“Jared, your sister didn’t mean to do anything wrong,” Mom said quietly.

“Sure,” Jared said bitterly. “Just like she didn’t mean to write all over my geography homework last week. Just like she didn’t mean to spill milk on my book report. Just like she—”

“That’s enough,” Mom said.

Jared recognized the tone in his mother’s voice and knew he’d said too much.

“Tell Jared you’re sorry,” Mom said to Kaitlyn.

Kaitlyn’s bottom lip trembled. “I’m sorry.”

Normally, Jared couldn’t stay angry at his little sister for very long, but this was different. He had spent a whole month caring for the plants and recording the differences between the two sets for the sixth-grade science fair. Now they were destroyed. He wouldn’t

have anything to show in the fair next week.

He cleaned up the mess as well as he could, but he couldn’t save the plants. He dumped them into the big trash can in the garage. In his room, he slammed his fist into his baseball mitt. All his work had been for nothing.

A few minutes later, he heard a knock at his door.

“Jared, can I come in?” Mom called.



Reluctantly, he got up and opened the door. Mom wrapped her arm around his shoulders. “I know you’re disappointed. Is there anything I can do?”

He shook his head.

“I’m sorry about the experiment,” she said.

“Me, too,” he said, still slamming the ball into his mitt.

“Kaitlyn made a mistake. Can you forgive her?”

When Jared didn’t answer, his mother turned and quietly left the room.

When another knock sounded at his door, Jared ignored it. The door inched open, and Kaitlyn stood there. “I’m sorry.”

Jared looked at his sister’s red eyes. For a moment, his heart softened. Then he remembered how hard he’d worked on the experiment.

He had hoped to win a prize with it. “Go away.”

Kaitlyn sniffled and rubbed her eyes before closing the door behind her.

Jared asked to be excused from dinner. He knew his parents were disappointed in him, but he didn’t care. He tried to do his homework but couldn’t concentrate. After staring at the same page of his history book for five minutes, he gave up. He got ready for bed, then knelt down, intending to say his prayers as he did every night. The words refused to come.

He didn’t sleep very well. He kept tossing and turning, remembering the hurt in Kaitlyn’s eyes when he’d refused to speak to her. He tried to push away the image. Kaitlyn had wrecked his experiment. He didn’t know if he could ever forgive her.

He thought about the word *forgive* and recalled part of the blessing his father had given him after his baptism and confirmation. “There will be times in your life when you need to seek forgiveness. I bless you with the meekness of heart to do so. There will also be times when you must forgive others. Remember the example of the Savior when you are faced with such times. Forgiveness

is a gift. Use it and you will be blessed.”

The following morning, Jared trudged to school, his heart heavy. But it wasn’t the ruined experiment that filled his thoughts—it was Kaitlyn. He told himself he had nothing to feel guilty about, but he couldn’t erase the picture of Kaitlyn’s unhappy face from his mind.

At school, he explained to his science teacher what had happened. Mr. MacKade laid a hand on Jared’s shoulder. “I know you’re disappointed. You put a lot of work into your experiment.” His teacher tapped a finger against the notebook he always carried. “Did you take photos of it?”

Jared nodded. He’d asked his father if he could use his camera to take photos of the plants at

different stages.

“We’ll show the photos instead,” Mr. MacKade said. “It won’t be the same as displaying the plants themselves, but it’ll be the next best thing.”

“Thanks, Mr. MacKade. I’ll do that.”

Jared slipped into his seat. He should have felt better, but the ache in his heart remained. He couldn’t concentrate on his math problems or his spelling test. He could not even choke down the sandwich and cupcake his mother had packed in his lunch. All he could see was Kaitlyn’s face, her quivering lips and tear-reddened eyes. No science experiment was worth the pain he’d caused his little sister.

By the end of school, Jared knew what he had to do. Kaitlyn had been wrong to ruin his plants, but that did not excuse how he had treated her. He hurried home from school.

“Mom, I’m home. Where’s Kaitlyn?” he called, slamming the door behind him.

Mom looked up from the Primary manual she was studying. “She’s in her room.” His mother looked like she wanted to say something else.





“Don’t worry, Mom,” Jared said. “Everything’s going to be all right.”

Jared raced up the stairs and knocked on Kaitlyn’s door. “Kaitlyn, it’s me.” He heard a muffled “Come in.” He pushed open the door.

Kaitlyn was sitting on her bed, her arms looped around her knees. “Are you still mad at me?” she asked in a small voice.

Jared crossed the room to sit beside her. “No, Kaitlyn.

I’m not angry anymore. I’m sorry I yelled at you. I know you only wanted to help.” He hugged her and asked, “How would you like to go to the park with me?”

Kaitlyn nodded and gave him a big smile.

That evening Jared labeled the pictures he had taken of the plants. Kaitlyn played with her dolls beside him. A quiet feeling of peace enveloped him. And when he knelt by his bed that night to say his prayers, he didn’t have any trouble finding the words. ●



“Don’t carry the burden of offense any longer. Genuinely ask forgiveness of one that has offended you, even when you consider you have done no wrong. That effort will assuredly bring you peace.”

Elder Richard G. Scott of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “To Be Free of Heavy Burdens,” *Ensign*, Nov. 2002, 88.



Finding Happiness

Happiness in family life is most likely to be achieved when founded upon the teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ (“The Family: A Proclamation to the World,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1995, 102).

(*Ensign*, May 1996, 94).

As we keep the commandments, remember our baptismal covenants, and are worthy to have the Holy Ghost with us, we can feel peace and bring happiness to our families.



When you hear the word *happiness*, what do you think of?

In a general conference address, Sister Coleen K. Menlove, Primary general president, quoted children explaining what they think happiness looks like. One child said, “Happiness looks like a smile that you can see in people’s eyes so that you know they really are happy.” Another child answered, “Happiness is a big word with flowers all around it.” Another said, “Happiness looks peaceful like Jesus and Heavenly Father” (*Ensign*, May 2000, 13).

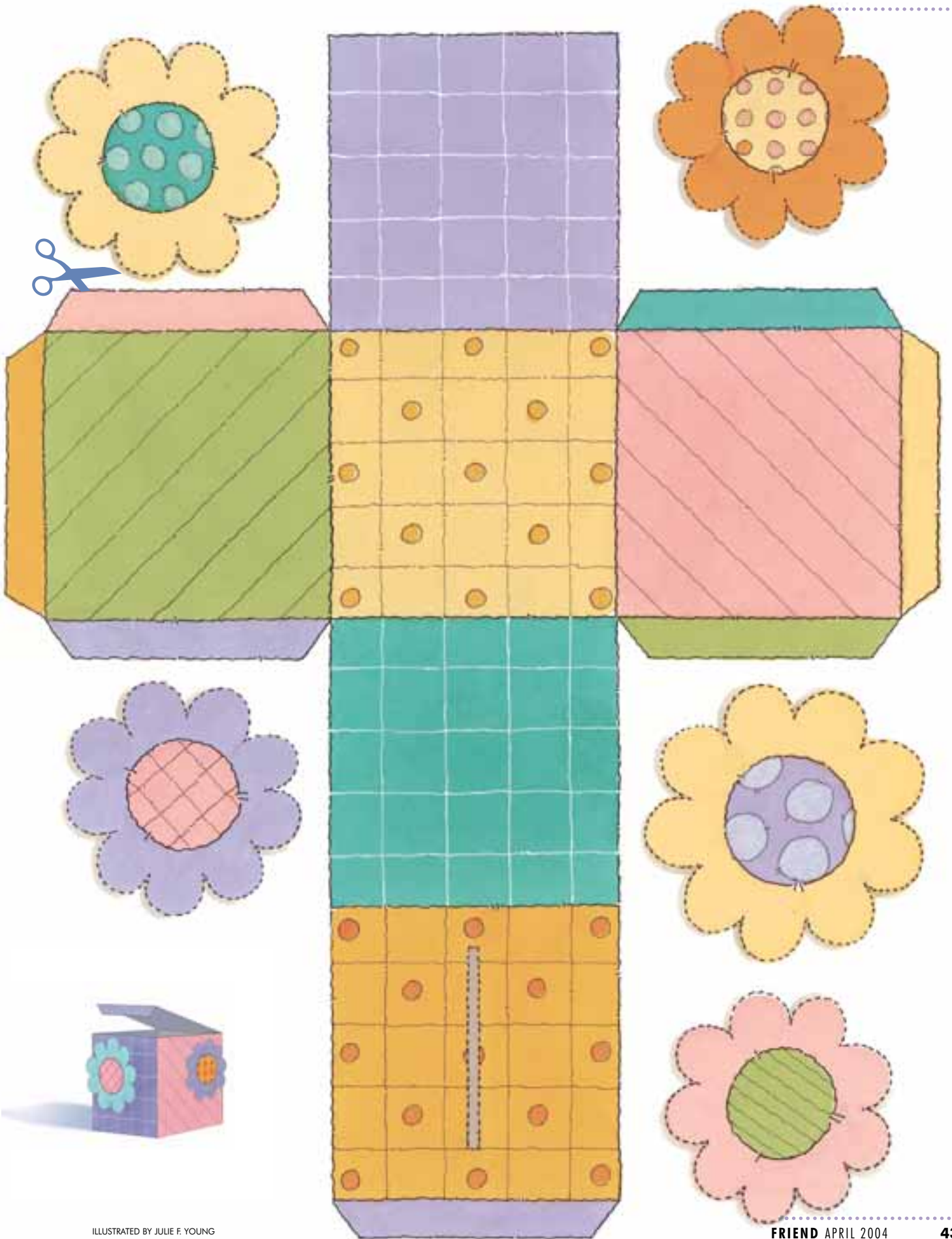
Heavenly Father wants us to find happiness in being with our families now and for eternity. That’s why He sent His Son to be an example for us. Sister Menlove said, “The Savior, Jesus Christ, showed us the way to happiness and told us everything we need to do to be happy” (*Ensign*, May 2000, 12).

Those things we need to do include following the commandments found in the scriptures and given to us by modern prophets. President Gordon B. Hinckley said, “The way of happiness is found in . . . obedience to the commandments of . . . the Lord Jesus Christ”



Ideas and Activities

1. To make a pass-it-on box, glue page 43 to heavy paper and cut out the unfolded box, slit, and flowers. Fold and glue the tabs, as illustrated, to form the box. Decorate the box by gluing on the flowers. Focus on one of your family members for one week. Each time you notice something good about him or her, write it on a piece of paper and put it in the box. At the end of the week, give the box to that family member and explain why you love him or her. It’s then his or her turn to think of another family member, fill the box, and pass it on.
2. Or in a family home evening, discuss ways to have more peace in your family. Then plan to read the slips of paper in the box as a part of family home evening.



Our Creative Friends

Rainbow, Rainbow

Rainbow, rainbow, shine so bright.
Rainbow, rainbow, with colorful light.
Rainbow, rainbow, from above.
Rainbow, rainbow, expressing God's love.

*Deidre Crews, age 11
Daytona Beach, Florida*



14



6

In the Rain

In the rain, I think of Jesus Christ's pain.
Should I be happy? Should I be sad? Or should I be a little mad?
But wait, He died for me. That makes me want to sing with glee!
I'm happy to know that I will glow if I try to be like Him.
For without Him, my life would be dim and grim.

*Elin Chadwick, age 9
Elizabethtown, Kentucky*

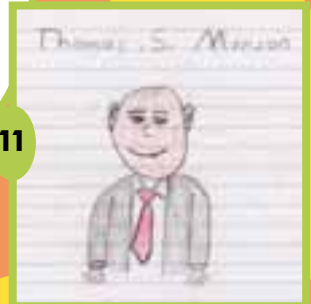


5

Temples

Temples, temples everywhere.
See that temple over there?
So nice, so bright,
So filled with delight.
What a happy place to be.
What a pretty sight to see.

*Megan Labrum, age 9
Cbula Vista, California*



11

Thank You, Father

Thank you, kind and loving Father,
For rivers with sweet running water.
Roses with their vivid petals,
Quarries full of precious metals.
Mountains with their mighty stand,
High above the stretch of land.
Beauty lying all around,
Music with enchanting sound.
But the greatest gift you gave
Was the Son you sent to save.

*Johanne Smith, age 10
Halfway, Missouri*



20



12

Jesus Shows the Way

Jesus
Loves the children,
Gives the blessings,
Forgives the sins,
Heals the sick,
Teaches the gospel,
Tells the stories,
Shows the way.

*Catherine Smith, age 10
Hyrum, Utah*



17



18



13



16



19



7

Jesus

J is for the just man He is.
E is for the eternal life He gives
S is for the salvation of man.
U is for His universal love.
S is for the Savior of my soul.

*Kevin Ashley, age 11
Richland, Washington*

Prayer
Prayer.
Sweet, good.
Thinking, listening, feeling.
Heavenly Father loves me.
Light.
*Emily Mangum, age 8
Dover, Ohio*

With Me Every Day
Christ's Spirit shall be with me every day;
During trials and sorrows
He will lead me safely through.
Through joy and happiness
He will celebrate with me.
Anything He should ask me
I shall answer, faltering not, Yea!
He is merciful and kind,
And will not lead me astray.
Yea! Christ's Spirit shall be with me every day.
*Tiffany Monney, age 10
Orem, Utah*



1

- 1 Harrison Farr, age 5
Brookings, Oregon
- 2 Ciara Eastman, age 8
Keller, Texas
- 3 David Gutbrie, age 6
Canonsburg, Pennsylvania
- 4 Whitney Eggleston, age 12
Eugene, Oregon
- 5 Wade Nelson, age 8
Palmer, Alaska
- 6 Emma Baeten, age 5
Wausau, Wisconsin
- 7 Bryce Roberts, age 9
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma
- 8 Savannah Brown, age 7
St. Johns, Arizona
- 9 Alexander Ure, age 9
Aberdeen, Idaho
- 10 Liliana Eve Cano, age 4
Shakopee, Minnesota
- 11 Jared Harlan, age 10
Follansbee, West Virginia
- 12 Charissa Mack, age 11
West Haven, Utah
- 13 Tony Lee, age 8
Dallas, Texas
- 14 Phoebe Kay, age 10
Glenrothes, Fife, Scotland
- 15 Marcel Blake, age 11
Falls Church, Virginia
- 16 Madison Thorup, age 7
Midland, Michigan
- 17 Kyle Simkins, age 8
Las Vegas, Nevada
- 18 Kate Wetterstrand, age 5
Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada
- 19 Jordan Bartlett, age 11
Elizabeth, Colorado
- 20 Allyson Hales, age 5
Burley, Idaho



15



3

The Happy House
You can hear laughing;
You can see people sharing;
You can smell pie, mmm!
And you are happy!
*Logan King, age 8
Twin Falls, Idaho*



8



10



4



9



2

BIRTHDAY

BY ELIZABETH WESTRA

(Based on a true story that took place in the 1960s)

Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them (Matthew 7:12).

Cammie's mouth watered as she watched Leanne pass out her birthday treat—cupcakes trimmed with candies. She watched Leanne place one with purple candies on Josh's desk, a huge one with pink candies on Shelly's desk, and another one with chocolate candies on Nick's desk. Cammie could hardly wait to see which one Leanne would give her. As she approached Cammie, Leanne frowned at her. "I know we're





C O O K I E S

not good friends, but she'll still give me a good cupcake," Cammie thought.

Leanne looked over the few cupcakes left in the box and selected a tiny squashed cupcake with only one candy on it. Looking down at the floor, she plopped that one onto Cammie's desk. All the kids in Cammie's row looked at her and whispered to each other. Cammie's eyes burned with unshed tears. "I won't cry," she told herself. "Leanne's just a snob. She won't play with anyone but her own group of friends." Cammie bit her lip and stared straight ahead.

After class, on the playground, Cammie talked to her best friend, Becky, about what had happened. "Just wait until my birthday next week," Cammie said. "I'll have something really special for my treat and I won't give her *any*, or I'll give her a really ugly one. Then she can see how it feels."

That evening Cammie and her mom planned the treat Cammie would take to school the following week. Since Cammie loved chocolate, they decided on chocolate chip cookies.

"Mom, can we decorate them with lots of chocolate candies?" Cammie asked.

"Sure, that would look nice," her mom answered. "You can put them on yourself, if you'd like."

"Oh, I'll put them on all right," Cammie thought. "I'll make Leanne's really special."

The following week, Cammie nibbled on chocolate candies as she helped her mom bake the cookies. "Don't eat them all before you decorate the cookies." Mom laughed.

Cammie grinned and pushed the bowl of candies away. She spent the next hour carefully placing candies on each cookie as it came out hot and gooey from the oven. She put a variety of colors on some cookies and



only blue and red or yellow and brown on some. She made a special one for Becky. Soon there were only a few cookies left to decorate.

"Now, for the one to give Leanne," Cammie thought. She found a small, lopsided cookie and squished it in the middle, leaving a dent. Then she picked a misshapen chocolate candy and plunked it down on top of the small, crooked cookie. "That will serve her right," Cammie thought.

After she said her prayers that night, Cammie lay awake thinking about how awful Leanne would feel the next morning. Thinking about it made Cammie feel bad all over again. "Should I do it? Am I doing the right

thing?” she wondered. Finally she fell asleep, undecided.

At school the next day, Cammie’s class looked excitedly at the giant cookies with their bright trimmings. Cammie made a special effort to show them to Leanne. Leanne just sniffed and said, “They’re OK.” Then she sneaked another peek at the cookies. Cammie smiled to herself.

“All right, children, we have another birthday treat today,” the teacher announced. “Cammie, would you pass out your treat? My, it looks delicious.”

Cammie started passing out the cookies, not paying much attention to who got each one. “That way no one feels bad,” she thought. “No one but Leanne.” Leanne slid down in her seat with an uneasy look on her face.

Soon Cammie had passed out all but the last three cookies. Only two students remained: Leanne and Jody. Cammie gave a huge one to Jody, then turned to look right into Leanne’s eyes. When she saw

how unhappy Leanne looked, she remembered what she had been thinking about the night before. Cammie knew how Leanne felt. She took a step forward and moved her hand toward the ugly little cookie. She froze as she saw a pleading look and tears in Leanne’s eyes.

“She did the same thing to me first,” a little voice inside her said. “But you know how it feels. Do you want to make someone else feel that way, too?” she thought. Suddenly the words, “ ‘Love your enemies’ ” and “ ‘do good to them that hate you,’ ”* came into her mind. Would she really feel better by making Leanne feel bad?

“Are you almost finished, Cammie?” her teacher asked as Cammie hesitated.

Cammie slowly picked up the bigger cookie, one with many colored candies on it, and placed it carefully on Leanne’s desk. “I made this one especially for you,” she said. Leanne’s mouth dropped open as she stared up at Cammie. Then Cammie returned to her desk and ate the squished little cookie herself. She had never tasted a better cookie. ●

**See Matthew 5:44.*



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 April is “Families can be happy when they follow Jesus Christ.”



Family Home Evening Ideas

Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned in the Family Home Evening Ideas.

1. Read President Thomas S. Monson’s “Crossroads” (pp. 2–3). The Cheshire Cat tells Alice that if she doesn’t know where she wants to go, it does not matter which path she takes. President Monson explains that each of us knows where we want to go. Discuss where you wish to go in the future (for example, on a mission, to the temple, etc.). Set goals to follow the path that will take you there.

2. Read about the Salt Lake Temple dedication in “A Gift to Remember” (pp. 20–22). Why did the early Saints sacrifice so much to build temples? Discuss the importance of temple work and how you can prepare to make eternal covenants. If you have visited a temple—to see the grounds or attend an open house or a dedication—talk about your feelings and memories of the temple. Draw pictures or display photographs of one of the temples to remind you to live worthily.

3. As a family, complete the hidden picture “Serving Others” (p. 23) or make copies for each family member to complete. How are the children in the picture serving others? How can your family serve someone in need? Plan a service project for someone in your

neighborhood. (For a service idea, look at “Testimony Easter Eggs” on page 31.)

4. Using the pictures on pages 32 and 33, tell the Easter story. Then read and discuss the poem “Easter Lilies” (p. 7). How can springtime remind you of the Resurrection? As a family, make and display the wreath on pages 36 and 37. Discuss creations you are grateful for and, weather permitting, take a walk outside to look for them.

5. Read “An Experiment in Forgiving” (pp. 38–41) and “Birthday Cookies” (pp. 46–48). What did each of the children in these stories learn about forgiveness? Can you think of a time you forgave someone? How did you feel? For another example of forgiveness, read “Loving Our Enemies” (p. 35). Commit to follow the example of these children and be forgiving.

6. For more ideas, see page 42.



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Topical Index to this Issue of the *Friend*

(FLF) = For Little Friends
(f) = Funstuff
(IFC) = inside front cover
(v) = verse

Baptism 28

Bishops 19

Choose the Right 2, 15 (f), 28, 42

Church History 20

Conference 24

Family 4, 16, 20, 24, 28, 31, 34, 38, 42

Forgiveness 38

Happiness 28, 42

Heavenly Father IFC, 8, 36

Holy Ghost 28, 42

Jesus Christ 4, 7 (v), 28, 32 (FLF), 34, 36

Love and Kindness 23 (f), 34, 46

Missionary Work 4, 31

My Gospel Standards 2, 12, 15 (f), 34

Prayer IFC, 8

Primary 42

Prophets IFC, 2, 6, 10, 14, 24, 42

Quorum of the Seventy 8

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles 19, 24, 41

Repentance 12

Swearing 12

Temples 4, 8, 20

Testimony 4, 31

Work 8, 10

The Friend

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*Therefore, whoso repenteth
and cometh unto me
as a little child, him will I receive,
for of such is the kingdom of God
(3 Nephi 9:22).*

