

the Friend

APRIL • 2005



Friends by Mail

The Blessings of Diabetes

When I was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes, it was very hard for me. I had to prick my finger every two hours and get a lot of shots from my mom every day. Sometimes it hurt.

Then last year my mom and I decided to start looking for the good side of having diabetes. First, I have made new friends who also have diabetes. They help me a lot. I can help others who have diabetes by



babysitting for their families or by talking and listening.

My brothers have also been blessed by learning to have patience and to be loving when I don't feel well. The school nurse is my friend, and I've been blessed with Primary teachers who understand and help me. In our family we hug and support each other more.

The blessings of diabetes are all around me. I am thankful that my parents teach me to seek and find these special blessings. I know my Heavenly Father always blesses me and always will.

Heidi Millett, age 8, and her mom
Queen Creek, Arizona

Heavenly Father Protected Us

The sign says, "Caution: Icy Bridge Deck." It stands next to the big concrete bridge over the Athabasca River in the center of Fort McMurray, Alberta, Canada, where I live. Our city is in northern Canada, where the roads are covered with ice and snow for six months of the year and driving can be dangerous.

One day, just as we passed the warning sign, our truck started sliding out of control. My mom prayed out loud, "Heavenly Father, please help us!" Our truck spun around on the bridge until its nose banged hard into



one of the gray walls. We stopped with a jerk, and I accidentally bit my tongue.

"We're OK," Mom said as she patted my leg. "Heavenly Father protected us. Look—it didn't even wake Nathan (my little brother)." Although the truck had crashed, and my tongue was sore, I knew that Mom was right. Even though the bridge was slippery, the cars behind us were able to stop without bumping into us. The wall of the bridge stayed strong and kept us from falling into the frozen river. The truck's shiny metal bumper was crumpled, but the truck still worked fine. We got home safely, just like we'd prayed that morning before we left the house.

Samuel Quist, age 5, with help from his mom
Fort McMurray, Alberta, Canada



Volume 35 Number 4
April 2005

The First Presidency:

Gordon B. Hinckley,
Thomas S. Monson, James E. Faust

The Quorum of the Twelve:

Boyd K. Packer, L. Tom Perry,
Russell M. Nelson, Dallin H. Oaks,
M. Russell Ballard, Joseph B. Wirthlin,
Richard G. Scott, Robert D. Hales,
Jeffrey R. Holland, Henry B. Eyring,
Dieter F. Uchtdorf, David A. Bednar

Editor:

Jay E. Jensen

Advisers: Monte J. Brough,
W. Rolfe Kerr

Managing Director:

David Frischknecht

Planning and Editorial Director:

Victor D. Cave

Graphics Director:

Allan R. Loyborg

Magazines Editorial Director:

Richard M. Romney

Managing Editor:

Vivian Paulsen

Editorial Staff: Collette Nebeker

Aune, Susan Barrett, Marvin K.
Gardner, Jenifer L. Greenwood,
Carrie Kasten, Melvin Leavitt,
Sally J. Odekirk, Julie Wardell,
Kimberly Webb, Monica Weeks

Managing Art Director:

M. M. Kawasaki

Art Director: Mark W. Robison

Senior Designer: Brad Teare

Production: Kerry Lynn C. Herrin

Marketing Manager: Larry Hiller

Printing Director:

Craig K. Sedgwick

Distribution Director:

Kris T. Christensen

© 2005 by Intellectual Reserve, Inc.
All rights reserved. The *Friend* (ISSN
0009-4102) is published monthly by
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day
Saints, 50 East North Temple Street,
Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, USA.
Periodicals Postage Paid at Salt Lake City,
Utah, and at additional mailing offices.

To subscribe: By phone: Call 1-800-
537-5971 to order using Visa, MasterCard,
Discover Card, or American Express.

Online: Go to www.ldsatalog.com.

By mail: Send \$8 U.S. check or money
order to Distribution Services, P.O. Box
26368, Salt Lake City, UT 84126-0368.

To change address: Send old and new
address information to Distribution
Services at the above address. Please
allow 60 days for changes to take effect.

Submit manuscripts or art to:

Friend Editorial, 50 E. North Temple St.
Rm. 2420, Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3220,
United States of America. Unsolicited
material is welcome, but no responsibility
is assumed. For return, include self-
addressed, stamped envelope. E-mail:
cur-editorial-friend@ldschurch.org.

The *Friend* can be found on the Internet at
www.lds.org. Click on Gospel Library.

Text and visual material in the *Friend*
may be copied for incidental, noncom-
mercial Church or home use. Visual
material may not be copied if restrictions
are indicated in the credit line with the
artwork. Copyright questions should be
addressed to Intellectual Property Office,
50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake
City, UT 84150; e-mail: [cor-intellectual
property@ldschurch.org](mailto:cor-intellectual
property@ldschurch.org).

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
Distribution Services, P.O. Box 26368,
Salt Lake City, UT 84126-0368, USA.

Canada Post Information: Publication
Agreement #40017431.

Stories and Features

- IFC Friends by Mail
2 Come Listen to a Prophet's Voice: The Comforter / President James E. Faust
4 Sealed with a Hug
8 Friend to Friend: Family Ties / Elder W. Douglas Shumway
10 Sunrise Surprise
12 Sharing Time: My Family Can Be Forever
15 Friends in the News
16 The Rose Garden
18 Our Creative Friends
20 Joseph's Baptism
28 Making Friends: Lonah Fisher and Asenaca Lesuma of Taveuni, Fiji
31 Special Witness: Getting to Know Elder Richard G. Scott
32 I'll Walk with You
34 The Worth of Eddie Porter
38 From the Life of President David O. McKay: A Young Apostle
44 Trying to Be Like Jesus
46 Kirsten's Assignment
IBC Guide to the *Friend*

For Little Friends

- 40 My Family Can Be Together Forever
42 Who Is in the Pond?
42 Cartoon
43 Spring Parading

Verse

- 7 When the Prophet Speaks

Things to Make and Do

- 23 Funstuf
24 Conference Coloring Activity
26 Funstuf
27 Temple Cards
37 Family History Scroll

Cover by Shauna Mooney Kawasaki

the friend

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



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

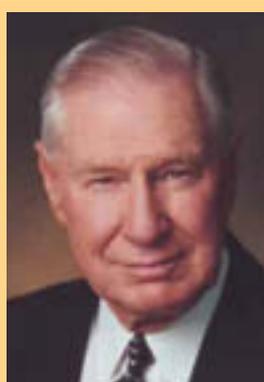
HIDDEN CTR RING

In Norwegian,
velg det rette means,
"choose the right." As
you look for the Norwegian
CTR ring hidden in this
issue, think about what you
can do to have an eternal
family.





The Comforter



President Faust teaches that although we cannot live in the presence of the Savior right now, He sends us comfort through the gift of the Holy Ghost.

BY PRESIDENT JAMES E. FAUST
Second Counselor in the First Presidency

Centuries ago the Savior led His beloved disciples into the favored Garden of Gethsemane for the last time. Jesus was mindful of the great ordeal ahead of Him. He agonized, “My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch” (Mark 14:34).

The eleven Apostles no doubt sensed—but could not understand—that some portentous [serious] event would happen. Jesus had spoken of leaving them. They knew that the Master whom they loved and depended upon was going somewhere, but where, they did not know. They had heard Him say, “I will not leave you comfortless. . . . But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you” (John 14:18, 26).

I wish to alert young people of this special gift of the Holy Ghost. The comforting Spirit of the Holy Ghost can abide with us 24 hours a day: when we work, when we play, when we rest. Its strengthening influence can be with us year in and year out, in joy and sorrow, when we rejoice as well as when we grieve.

This Comforter can be with us as we seek to improve. It can function as a source of revelation to warn us of impending danger and also help keep us from making mistakes. It can enhance our natural senses so that we can see more clearly, hear more keenly, and remember what we should remember. It is a way of maximizing our happiness.

While in this life we cannot live in the presence of the Savior as did Simon Peter, James, John, Mary, Martha, and the others, the gift of the Holy Ghost can be our Comforter and sure compass. ●

From an April 1989 general conference address.





SEALED WITH A HUG



BY JANICE BARRETT GRAHAM

(Based on an experience from the author's family)

*I have a fam'ly here on earth. They are so good to me.
I want to share my life with them through all eternity
(Children's Songbook, 188).*

Megan's older brother Jake looked handsome in his military fatigues. But Megan wished he didn't have them on today. He stood by his packed suitcases in the hallway, ready to leave for active

duty, as the whole family gathered around wishing him good-bye. After a big bear hug for Megan, Jake was gone.

On Monday night, everyone gathered in the living room for family home evening. Megan sat on the center cushion of the couch next to the empty spot where Jake always sat. A letter from Jake had let the family know he arrived at his military base safe and sound, but Megan



missed him—especially tonight. Family home evening was a special time for compliments, songs, stories, lessons, and testimonies. Jake had often whispered the answers to questions in Megan’s ear so she could get them right, his strong arm around her shoulders.

When Megan’s older sister Liz began playing the piano for the opening song, Megan missed Jake even more. “Families can be together forever through Heavenly Father’s plan,” Megan sang. “But Jake isn’t here together with our family,” Megan thought. She sang the next line. “I always want to be with my own family, and the Lord has shown me how I can.”* “How can we be together with Jake?” she wondered. “He is thousands of miles away.”

Megan heard her father’s voice asking her to say the opening prayer. Her heart skipped a beat. She hopped to her feet and folded her arms. She would ask Heavenly Father to show them how their family could be together when Jake was so far away. “Dear Father in Heaven, we’re so thankful to be here in family home

evening. But Jake isn’t here. He can’t sing with us and learn with us. He is going to be especially lonely on Monday nights. Help us to know how we can be a close family even though he is far away. And please watch over him so he’ll be safe.”

Megan sat down. She saw her purple school notebook on the floor by the couch and grinned. She had an idea. She picked up her notebook, opened it, and began writing furiously.

Dad opened the family council part of the evening by announcing, as always, “Greeps, Gripes, and Grumps.” No one could remember how this silly name came to be. Greeps were calendar items and compliments. Gripes and Grumps were comments and complaints to be addressed. Megan usually had lots to say. But this time she was busy writing.

Dad soon began giving the lesson, which was from an article in the *Ensign* about humility.

“Megan, can you tell us what becoming like a little child means to you?” Megan, who was busy writing,



“Parents and children must work together in unity to fortify family relationships, cultivating them day in and day out.”

Elder W. Douglas Shumway of the Seventy, “Marriage and Family: Our Sacred Responsibility,” *Ensign*, May 2004, 96.

didn’t hear him.

“Is that homework, Megan?” Dad asked. “We’re having our lesson.”

Megan stopped writing. “I know how we can be a family!” she said excitedly. The whole family stared at her. “With Jake gone, I mean. I know how we can still have family home evening together!”

“How?” everyone asked.

Megan turned her notebook around for them to see. It said,

Family Home Evening, October 8

Opening song: “Families Can Be Together Forever”—accompanied by Liz with only a few tiny mistakes, led by Josh who is still wearing his sweaty soccer uniform.

Opening prayer: Given by Megan who asked a special blessing on Jake who is far away and who Megan is missing very much because he won’t be whispering the right answers in her ear.

Greeps, Gripes, and Grumps: Josh told everyone what time his soccer game is this week. Liz said she loved the new sweater she wore today that Mom gave her and could everyone please come to the school choir concert she’s in next Thursday. Jillie asked what we’re having for treats after the lesson. Mom said rice pudding. Jillie asked if we could have ice cream sandwiches next week. Mom said we probably could if Jillie reminded her in time.

Lesson: Given by Dad—about humility, taken from Elder Martin K. Jensen’s talk in the *Ensign*. We shouldn’t compare ourselves to others. This is what makes us have pride. It is a great thing to become as a little child and love everyone.

Megan’s family gathered around, patting her on the back.

“What a great idea!” Liz said. “But you could leave out the part about the mistakes!”

“He’ll love it!” declared Mom.

“Why didn’t I think of that?” Josh asked.

“Jake won’t be here,”

Megan said. “But every week

in the mail he’ll get our family home evening in an envelope, sealed with a hug!”

“I think Heavenly Father answered your prayer,” Dad said.

Megan was already writing again, her pen bobbing across the paper and her face beaming bright. ●

* *Children’s Songbook*, 188.

Janice Barrett Grabam is a member of the Manila Fifth Ward, Pleasant Grove Utah Manila Stake.





When the Prophet Speaks

BY WENDY ELLISON

When the prophet speaks, I listen.
His words are always clear.
He shares with me the message
The Lord wants me to hear.

“Let us be good people,”
Is what I hear him say.
Be friendly to our neighbors,
Help others on their way.

He speaks of many temples
In countries everywhere.
When I’m older I’ll be ready
To receive great blessings there.

He shares his testimony,
The truth of what he knows.
As I feel his witness,
My own testimony grows.

The Lord speaks through His prophet.
If I listen to his voice,
I’ll know exactly what to do
When I must make a choice.

ILLUSTRATED BY PAUL MANN



Family Ties



From an interview with Elder W. Douglas Shumway of the Seventy, currently serving in the Central America Area Presidency; by Kimberly Webb, Church Magazines

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).

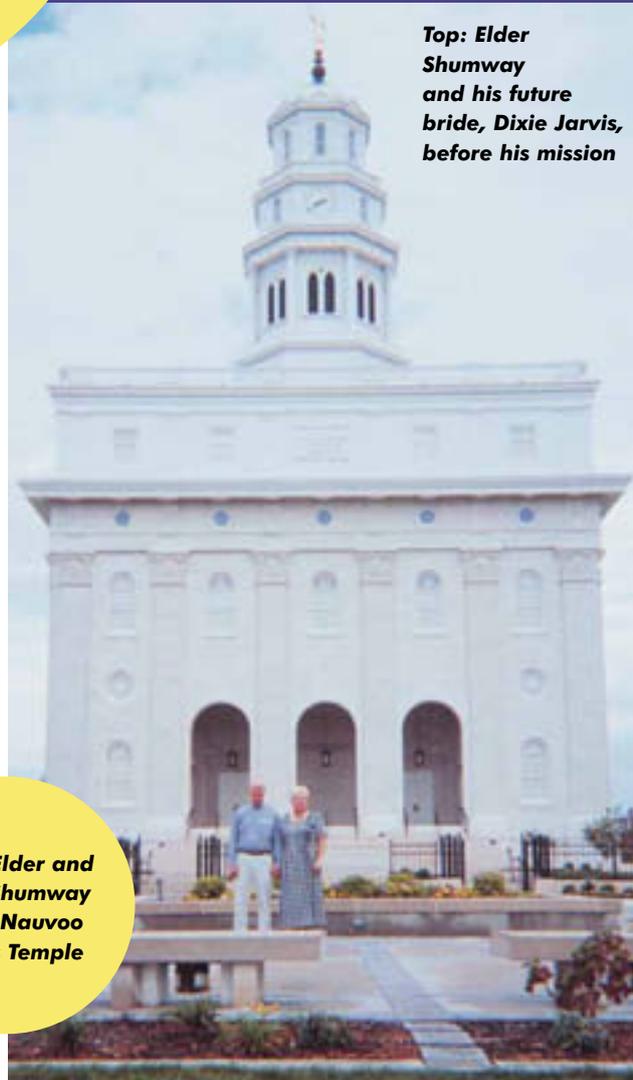
My father was my best friend while I was growing up. He had a great influence on my life because of the way he treated my mother. I never, ever heard him speak a cross word to her. He treated me and the rest of our family with the same kindness.

He often took me fishing. We also worked together at our family’s sawmill. After working hard all day, we sometimes went on evening picnics. Spending time working and playing together created a real family bond.

My father was the great-grandson of Charles Shumway, the first convert to the Church



Top: Elder Shumway and his future bride, Dixie Jarvis, before his mission



Right: Elder and Sister Shumway at the Nauvoo Illinois Temple

in our family. The missionaries found him living in the state of Wisconsin and shared the gospel with him. He was so happy that the next day, when he went to the sawmill where he worked, he told his coworkers what the missionaries had told him. One big man did not agree with his message and beat him up. He crawled back home, wounded.

When he had healed, he told his family, "I have to go find out if Joseph Smith really exists and if there really is such a thing as a prophet, like those missionaries told me." He traveled to Nauvoo, and when he got there, yes sir, there was a prophet.

He returned home for his wife and family, headed toward the Mississippi River, built a raft, and floated back down to Nauvoo. For the rest of his life, he followed the prophet and tried to do exactly as he was directed. Under the direction of Brigham Young, he led the first company of Saints across the Mississippi after they were driven out of Nauvoo. He came into the Salt Lake Valley with Brigham Young on July 24, 1847. Later, President Young asked him to settle in Arizona. He did, and that's where my family has stayed ever since. Thanks to my great-great-grandfather who accepted the gospel, my great-grandfather, my grandfather, my father, and I have all been active members of the Church.

The Lord has always put an emphasis on the family. Deuteronomy 6:7 reads, "And thou shalt teach [the gospel] diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of [it] when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." This scripture shows how my mother and father taught us. As we sat in our house, we studied the scriptures and had family home evening. While we "[walked] by the way" (or gardened or fished), my dad always talked to me about the gospel. When we lay down at night, I remember my mother and father telling us bedtime stories from the Bible. And when we "[rose] up" in the mornings, we always started the day with family prayer.

I believe that family home evening is the most important meeting a family can have. If your family will hold family home evening, you will form bonds of love for each other and for Heavenly Father.



Top: As a missionary in Uruguay with Elder Bench (left)

Middle: With his sons Scott and Shane

Bottom: At age 10 with his Great Grandmother Whiting



Arise early, that your bodies and your minds may be invigorated (D&C 88:124).

Wake up, everyone!" Dad called from the hallway. "We've overslept!" Mom pulled her robe around her and shuffled into the kitchen to make breakfast. As she opened the curtains, she frowned. "That's funny," she said. "The sun is coming up later than usual this morning. But what a beautiful sunrise!" She called everyone into the kitchen to see the bright orange ball coming up through the pink clouds. In spite of their hurry, everyone paused in wonder.

"Gorgeous," Dad said.

"Wow!" Karen said.

"Awesome," Julie said.

"Can we have pancakes?"

Aaron said.

Mother pulled her attention back from the window to look at Aaron. "I'm not sure we have time for pancakes, but I'll see what I can do." She put the frying pan on the stove to heat and started mixing up the batter.

"I wonder why Nicky hasn't called yet," Karen wondered aloud.

"She usually calls by now to see if I can walk to school with her."

Dad straightened his tie. "I don't know, honey, but I'm wondering where the bus is. It's never been this late before."

"Those pancakes sure smell good," Aaron said. "I'll set the table."

Mother smiled. "That would be great. But shouldn't you get dressed first?"

Julie hurried into the kitchen carrying her backpack. "I can't be late. I have a test today."

"Then you need a good breakfast," Aaron pointed out as he put the plates on the table. "And maybe a song or two. And a story."

Julie stared at him. "What are you talking about? We

don't have time to do all those things."

"We do today," Aaron said mysteriously. And he began to hum as he put the forks beside the plates.

Mom and Dad exchanged a puzzled look. "Do you know something we don't know?" Dad asked Aaron.

Aaron smiled. "Somebody needs to change the calendar," he said.

"So?" Karen flipped up the next month's page on the wall calendar. *April* it said in big letters.

Mom laughed. "It's April Fools' Day!"*

"What have you done?" Karen asked.

"I set everyone's clock ahead an hour." Aaron beamed. "Now we all have time for a nice big breakfast, a song or two, and a story. Isn't that a great trick?"

"You mean I could have slept for another hour?" Julie asked. She looked at Aaron, who wasn't smiling anymore. Now he looked worried.

"You could have. But you would have missed that awesome sunrise," Mom said. "And this delicious breakfast," Karen added.

Julie put down her backpack. "All right, Aaron, you win. I'll pick out a song to play on the piano." She patted him on the head before going to the living room.

"And I'll get my flute." Karen hurried to her bedroom.

"And I'll pick out a story," Dad said, opening his scriptures.

"Mom," Aaron said softly. "I know you sometimes don't like it when people play April Fools' tricks. Are you mad at me?"

"Of course not." Mom gave Aaron a hug. "What I don't like is when tricks make other people feel bad. Your trick is great because it's making us feel good by giving us time to be together. And that's a wonderful way to start any morning, especially April Fools' Day!" ●

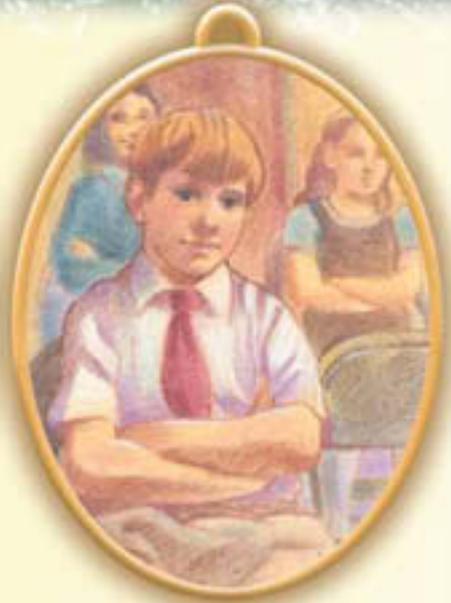
Sheila Kindred is a member of the Ames Ward, Ames Iowa Stake.

SUNRISE SURPRISE

BY SHEILA KINDRED

(Based on an experience from the author's family)





My Family Can Be Forever

BY MARGARET LIFFERTH

Sacred ordinances and covenants available in holy temples make it possible for individuals to return to the presence of God and for families to be united eternally (“The Family: A Proclamation to the World,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1995, 102).



Do you remember the story of Adam and Eve? When they left the Garden of Eden, they became the parents of the first family on earth. Adam and Eve had sons and daughters and taught them the gospel (see Moses 5:12). They experienced the challenges and also the great joy of family life (see 2 Nephi 2:23).

Since then, through Heavenly Father’s plan, each of us has come to earth as part of a family. Each family is different—there may be two parents or one parent, lots of children or few children; sometimes there are cousins or grandparents also living in the home. It is important for family members to love each other and do their part to have a happy home.

Learning and living My Gospel Standards (see *Faith in God* guidebook, back cover) can help you do

your part to build a happy home and have an eternal family. As you choose the right—by being baptized, paying tithing, repenting, keeping the Sabbath day holy, helping Mom and Dad, taking the sacrament, praying, reading the scriptures, and living worthy to go to the temple—you are learning righteous family traditions.

As we do our part to build an eternal family by learning and living the gospel of Jesus Christ, we will rejoice in Heavenly Father’s plan for us. ●

Family Tree

Cut a small branch off a tree or bush, and secure it in a vase or cup (be sure to ask for an adult’s help and permission). Or draw a picture of a tree on a large sheet of paper. The pictures on page 12 show ways you can help strengthen your family. Cut out the frames, and punch holes at the top of each one. In the blank frames, write or draw your own ideas of ways to help and show love for your family. With string or yarn, hang the frames on the tree.

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

Sharing Time Ideas

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

1. Invite a family consisting of a father, mother, and baby to Primary. Ask the father to be prepared to briefly teach the children about pre-earth life and Heavenly Father's plan for us to come to a family. Ask the mother to explain what parents do for a baby and what the baby will need to learn to return to Heavenly Father. Play the following game to show that everyone in the family can teach the baby. Copy Primary packet picture 1-7 (a family), and cut it into six puzzle pieces. Write on the back of each piece one of the following names: Grandpa, Grandma, Father, Mother, Brother, Sister. Pass the puzzle pieces from child to child as the pianist plays "music clues" as to what the baby must learn (examples: "I Know My Father Lives," p. 5; "I Pray in Faith," p. 14; "Baptism," pp. 100–101; "Follow the Prophet," pp. 110–11). When the music stops, have the children identify the song and the principle taught. Ask each child holding a puzzle piece to tell one thing that the family member on the puzzle piece can do to teach that principle to the baby or to his or her own family. Have one child put his or her puzzle piece in place after each song, beginning with "Grandpa." Continue until the puzzle is complete. Sing and review "I Will Follow God's Plan" (pp. 164–65).

2. We can learn to live the gospel in our homes. Divide the room into four stations depicting four areas of a home—living room, kitchen, bedroom, and family room. The children will move from station to station for brief activities. In the "living room," lead the older children on a scripture chase (see who can reverently find each reference first) to identify gospel traditions in the home. Include the following scriptures: D&C 19:38 (praying), D&C 1:37 (reading scriptures), John 14:15 (keeping the commandments), Exodus 20:12 (honoring parents), D&C 119 (paying tithing), and D&C 59:9 (attending meetings). Point out that these are also part of the Faith in God requirements. (For younger children: Conduct a similar activity—instead of using scriptures, ask the children to identify the principles as shown in pictures from the GAK.)

In the "kitchen," have the children make a simple sack puppet (see TNGC, 176–77). Show pictures of various foods and substances. Have the children open the puppet's mouth if the food or substance shown is good for them and close the puppet's mouth if it is not. Encourage the children to share the puppet in family home evening.

In the "bedroom," review with the children how to pray with the second verse of "I Pray in Faith" (p. 14) or by discussing the Lord's prayer (see Matthew 6:9–13). Help the children make cutouts of the sun and moon to take home to remind them to pray morning and night.

In the "family room," teach older children how to lead a song from the *Children's Songbook* (see *Faith in God* guidebook, 10). Teach younger children a scripture story, song, or finger play that they can share in family home evening. When all have participated, gather the children to sing "Seek the Lord Early" (p. 108).

3. For older children: Many of the prophets in the Book of Mormon were good examples of honoring parents and strengthening family. Divide children into six groups, and give each group one of the following scripture references and a word cut up into letters: obedience, 1 Nephi 3:2–8; prayer, Enos 1:4–5; work, Mosiah 6:7; repentance, Mosiah 27:8–14, 32; faith, Alma 53:18–22, and 56:44–48; scriptures, Mormon 8:1–5.

Have each group read the story in the scripture reference, unscramble the word to identify the principle taught and lived by parents and children, and decide how to honor parents by living the principle today. Invite each group to share briefly the scripture story and application. Sing songs from *Children's Songbook* to reinforce these principles.

For younger children: Using Primary packet pictures 4-5 (Lehi's family fleeing), 4-8 (Nephi delivering the brass plates), and 4-16 (Nephi and the broken bow), involve the children as you tell stories of Nephi's obedience to his parents (see TNGC, 179–82). Invite the children to act out ways they can obey their parents as you sing "When We're Helping" (p. 198) or "Do As I'm Doing" (p. 276).

4. Teach the children about the Kirtland Temple using GAK 500 (Kirtland Temple). (See "First Latter-day Temple," *Friend*, Apr. 2002, 36–37.) Teach about the coming of Elijah to the Kirtland Temple and the restoration of sealing power using GAK 417 (Elijah Restores the Power to Seal Families for Eternity) and the information on the back of the picture. Sing "The Hearts of the Children" (pp. 92–93), and have the children listen for the blessing of Elijah in the last phrase of the song ("families can be sealed for eternity"). What does it mean to "be sealed"? Where and how are we "sealed" today? Show a picture of a temple near you, and explain that when we are married in the temple and keep the promises we make there, we can live together as families in heaven after we die. Sing the first verse of "Families Can Be Together Forever" (p. 188). The last two phrases of the chorus tell us that "the Lord has shown me how I can" (be with my family forever). Sing the second verse, and ask the children to listen for what they can do now to have their family forever ("While I am in my early years, I'll prepare most carefully"). Show the My Gospel Standards poster, and ask the children why it includes a picture of the temple. Ask the children to be thinking as you tell the story in your own words of "Stewart, a Commandment Keeper, Too" (*Friend*, Jan. 2002, 4–6). Review My Gospel Standards, and teach that as we live them now, we will be worthy to attend the temple when we are older.

Give each child a piece of paper divided in half with a line. Have the children draw a picture of themselves living one of the gospel standards on one half of the paper and a picture of themselves at the temple on the other half. Make a collage of the pictures for the Primary room, or have each child take his or her picture to share and post at home. Bear your testimony of the blessing of eternal families.

5. *Song Presentation*: "Teach Me to Walk in the Light" (p. 177). Have each child trace his or her own footprint on a piece of paper, cut it out, and write his or her name on it. Post the footprints on the board around or leading to GAK 239 (The Resurrected Jesus Christ). Begin teaching the song by having the accompanist play the melody as the children clap the rhythm. Point out that the melody is a steady beat—like walking, except for one short "skip" in the last line before we sing "to walk." Teach the last phrase first by clapping the rhythm a couple of times and then singing the words while referring to the "footprint" visual. To continue teaching the first verse, post the following GAK pictures: 608 (Christ and Children from around the World), 605 (Young Boy Praying), and 617 (Search the Scriptures). As you sing each phrase, ask the children to listen for what is being taught and choose the picture that illustrates that idea. Sing each phrase together until the children have learned the whole verse. Sing again and again as you involve the children in ways such as substituting an action instead of singing the word (for example, standing and walking quietly in place instead of singing "walk," hands together in prayer for "pray," point finger to head for "know," stand or sit each time you sing "teach"). Use these and other methods as you teach the second and third verses.

6. *Friend* references: "My Family Can Be Forever," poster, Jan. 2004, insert; "My Family," Feb. 2004, 20–22; "Happy Family Game," Feb. 2004, 30; "My Eternal Family," Feb. 2004, 38–39; "Together Forever," Feb. 2002, 31–33; "The Sealing Keys Restored," Feb. 2002, 44–45; "Honoring Our Parents," Jun. 2003, 8–9. These references and others can be found at www.lds.org. Click on Gospel Library.

Friends in the News



Kathy Harevaa, 10, Tubuai, French Polynesia, likes making cakes and reading poems. She says, "I like the things Heavenly Father and Jesus have created, especially the trees, the oceans, and our little island."



Wyatt Rex Anderson, 7, West Richland, Washington, enjoys reading stories from the Book of Mormon with his dad at bedtime. He likes to ride his bike, play soccer, use the computer, and go to school.



Oaklee Anderson, 8, Park Valley, Utah, takes good care of her chickens, her rabbit, and a horse named Phebe. She is kind to her friends and tries to be a good example to her brothers, Hunter and Fisher.



Adam Mauzy, 3, Douglasville, Georgia, often helps his mom and dad. He enjoys Primary, swinging, swimming, dancing, and singing. He likes to make his little sister, Abigail, laugh.



Kylie Gordon, 7, Espanola, New Mexico, enjoys horseback riding, playing with her dog, reading her scriptures, and going to Primary.



Adam Thompson, 10, Woodbridge, Virginia, takes good care of his miniature dachshund, Pudding, and his two hermit crabs. He enjoys Cub Scouts, piano lessons, and video games.



Lisa Graetz, 9, Portland, Indiana, says, "I like coloring, playing with dolls, and doing karate." Her favorite Primary song is "I Am a Child of God." Her family is from Germany.



Benjamin Thomas, 6, Ladera Ranch, California, has three younger brothers. He is learning to read the Book of Mormon. He enjoys writing in his journal and riding his scooter to school.



Lindsay Langford, 7, Wilsonville, Oregon, has four older brothers. She sings Primary songs all around the house and enjoys taking ballet and tap dancing lessons.



Jaxon Jon Brechley, 5, Shanghai, China, likes to build houses out of wooden blocks for his animals and dinosaurs. He has fun playing soccer and basketball, and he enjoys wrestling with Landon.



Whitney Wahlen, 9, Aberdeen, Idaho, likes to read the *Friend*, play the piano, and give talks in Primary. Her favorite song is "Love Is Spoken Here." She hopes to serve a mission someday.



Gordon Martinson, 9, Spring, Texas, is the youngest of seven children. He likes to play football. He says, "Two of my brothers are returned missionaries, and one is going soon."



Cozette Ming, 4, Pinellas Park, Florida, likes to hear stories about Nephi, help her mom make cookies, and play tag with her little brother. Her favorite song is "Nephi's Courage."



Forrest Jensen, 10, Orem, Utah, went to the temple with his family to have his younger adopted brother sealed to them. Forrest is happy his family can be forever. He always tries to do his best.



Elise Anderson, 9, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, likes Primary, the *Friend*, and writing and illustrating her own stories. She plays basketball, studies the violin, and sings with her family choir.



Jeremy Graham, 6, Safford, Arizona, wants to go on a mission when he is older. He enjoys going to church, reading the scriptures with his family, riding his bike, and working on his fort.



Kaylee Hepburn, 5, Laguna Niguel, California, went to the open house of the Redlands California Temple. She enjoys visiting temples, singing, drawing, and playing with her little brother.



Clark Morley, 10, Las Vegas, Nevada, is working on his Faith in God Award. He likes to swim, play with friends, and read the *Friend*. He recently moved to Las Vegas and misses his friends in Utah.



Andi Poirier, 7, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, loves her brother and sister and tries to set a good example for them. Andi plays soccer with her family. She enjoys arts and crafts and wants to learn to play the piano.



Brendan Lee Kearl, 11, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, likes to play many sports. His favorite ones are football, basketball, and soccer. He enjoys spending time with his family.



Sarah Nicole King, 10, Topeka, Kansas, has read the Bible and the Book of Mormon. She likes gymnastics, piano, and activity days in Primary. She is a great friend and little sister.



Jared Harmon, 7, Ivins, Utah, enjoys swimming, reading, and building with plastic blocks. Nephi is his favorite Book of Mormon prophet. Jared is the third of five children in his family.



Abby Bush, 5, Wheatland, Wyoming, is involved in dance and gymnastics. She enjoys singing Primary songs and riding her pony, Tinkerbell. She is a good example to her friends.

Please send submissions to *Friend* Editorial, Friends in the News, 50 E. North Temple St. Rm 2420, Salt Lake City, UT 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.

The Rose Garden

The divine plan of happiness enables family relationships to be perpetuated beyond the grave
(“The Family: A Proclamation to the World,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1995, 102).

BY PAT WAYNE

(Based on an experience from the author’s life)

Mike,” Dad called. “Time for school.” Walking slowly down the stairs, Mike found Dad waiting for him at the bottom.

“Do I have to go?” Mike asked. “Can’t I wait until tomorrow?”

Dad shook his head. “There have been too many tomorrows. I understand how you feel, but you need to get caught up.”

“Mrs. Peters sent home some of my work,” Mike said.

Dad sighed and handed Mike a sweater. “Today I go back to work—and you go back to school.”

Mike felt tears welling up. Surely he wasn’t going to cry again! “It’s so hard without Mom.”

Dad knelt and hugged Mike. “I know.” Mike could see the pain in Dad’s eyes.

As Mike walked out the door, he looked at Mom’s beautiful rose garden. But it wasn’t beautiful anymore. Weeds were popping up everywhere. He sighed. Would anything ever be the same again?

School was the same—noisy children running and talking. Mike dragged himself into his third-grade classroom.

Sam, his best friend, waved. Mike tried to smile, but his smile wouldn’t work. He kept taking deep breaths and trying not to cry.

Mrs. Peters began class. Mike heard her talking, but his gaze wandered outside. It was sunny. “How can the

world look bright when Mom has died?” he wondered. A tear slid down his nose.

“Look, Mike’s crying!” shouted Bill, who sat across the aisle.

Without thinking, Mike got up and ran out the door and down the hall. He would never go back to school again! He pushed open the big school doors and ran the five blocks home. It was cold without a sweater.

He went to his room to get a jacket, then sat on his swing in the backyard. He swung back and forth, staring at the ground.

He thought of going to Grandma’s house, but she was sad now, too. She used to laugh a lot



“Loving relationships continue beyond the doors of death. . . . Family ties endure because of sealings in the temple.”

Elder Russell M. Nelson of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “Doors of Death,” *Ensign*, May 1992, 74.

and go bowling and bake cookies. He wondered if she had gone back to work, too.

Mike made the swing go higher. Maybe, he thought, he would fall off and die. Then he could go to heaven and see Mom.

He heard words like the wind in the trees—"Then Dad and Grandma wouldn't have you. Would you want Dad to leave?"

He stopped the swing, his feet skidding in the dirt. Who had said that? Was it Mom, speaking to him from heaven? He looked around, but there was only the sound of leaves rustling in the wind.

Mike looked at the patch of blue sky through the trees. "I miss my mom! Please, Heavenly Father, help me!" His tears started again.

Suddenly he had the urge to go to Mom's rose garden. He stood looking at the poor rosebushes, without water and with lots of weeds. Mom sure wouldn't like that! He knelt and began pulling and yanking at the weeds. Then he grabbed the garden hose and watered the bushes he had weeded. Soon it would be spring, and the roses would bloom bright red and yellow and pink. He wondered if Mom would see them from heaven. Somehow he felt closer to her as he worked in her garden.

Dad's car came roaring up the driveway. He jumped out, ran to Mike, and hugged him. "They called me from school."

"I'll go back tomorrow," Mike promised. "Dad, look at the rosebushes."

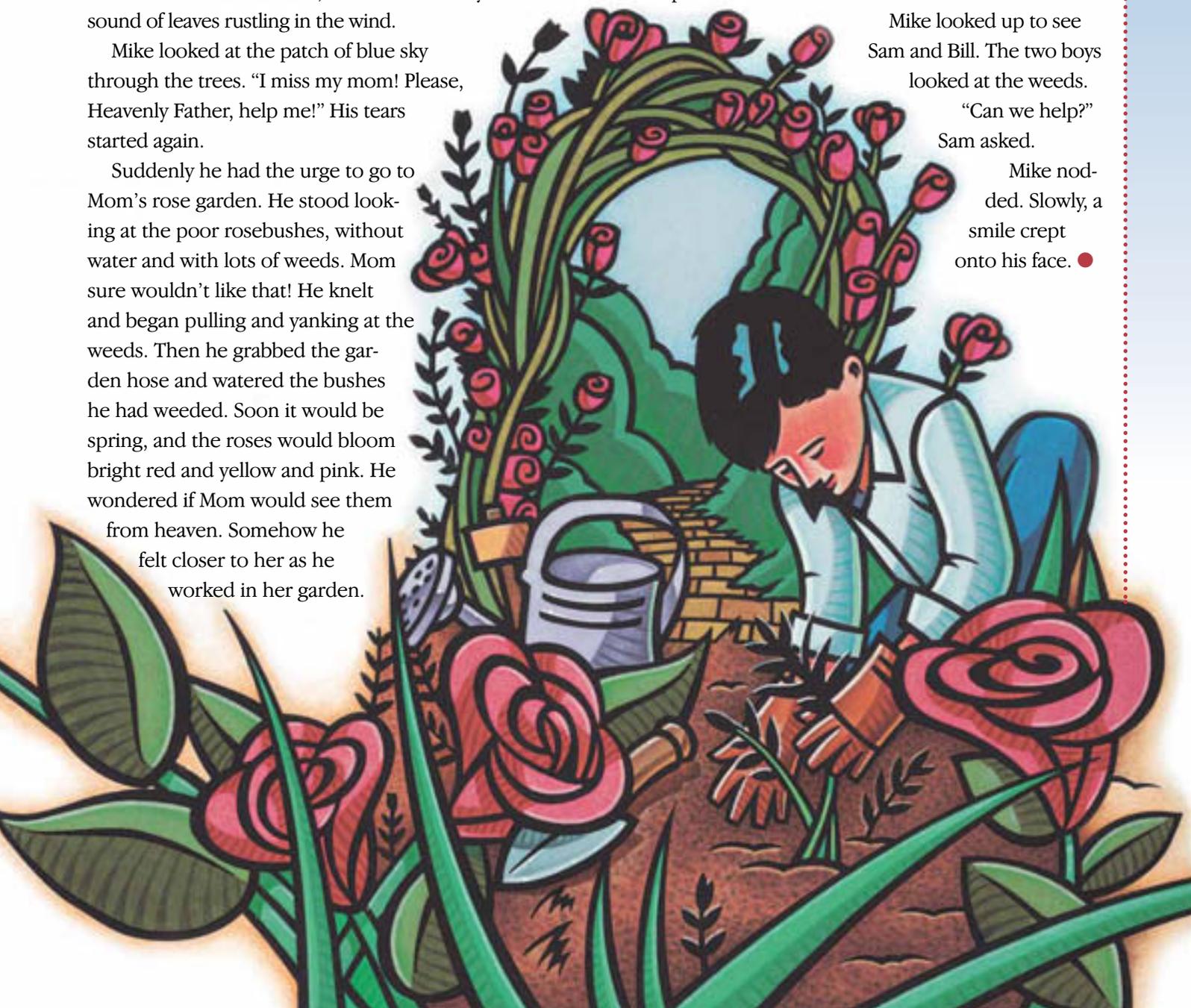
"Mom would be proud," Dad said. "I'll change clothes, and we can work on it together."

As Mike weeded alongside Dad, he thought of the roses that would bloom. He could almost smell their fragrance. After they bloomed, he decided, he would pick some of them for Grandma.

Mike looked up to see Sam and Bill. The two boys looked at the weeds.

"Can we help?" Sam asked.

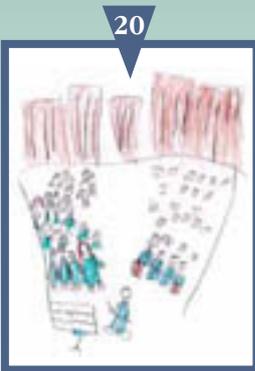
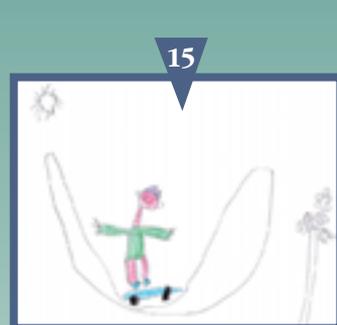
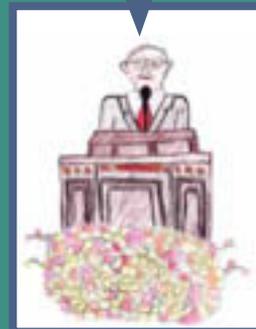
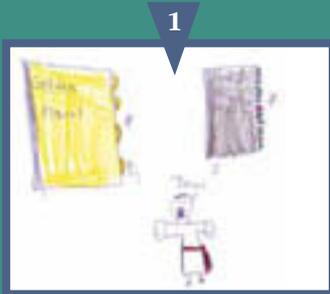
Mike nodded. Slowly, a smile crept onto his face. ●



Our Creative Friends

Drawings

- 1 Tessa Gusa, age 7
Lacombe, Alberta, Canada
- 2 Ammon Suchanski, age 5
Aurora, Oregon
- 3 Rachel Buxton, age 8
Ramstein Air Base, Germany
- 4 Katie Vaughn, age 6
York, Pennsylvania
- 5 Porter Jones, age 11
Otto, Wyoming
- 6 Jo'Elen Hagler, age 11
Canby, Oregon
- 7 Tyler Briley, age 9
Webber Falls, Oklahoma
- 8 Mallory Elder, age 7
Draper, Utah
- 9 Ryker Smith, age 8
Moscow, Idaho
- 10 Conner Olson, age 6
Lolo, Montana
- 11 Jacob Brown, age 7
Ventura, California
- 12 Yiron Hansen, age 8
Tiberias, Israel
- 13 Giuliana Gillespie, age 8
Prattville, Alabama
- 14 Jarom McDonald, age 10
Mesa, Arizona
- 15 Alex Wasley, age 5
Gloucester, England
- 16 Trey Davis, age 6
Bellingham, Washington
- 17 Indy Ma, age 7
Saint-Constant, Quebec, Canada
- 18 Erica Stewart, age 8
Fayetteville, Arkansas
- 19 Madison Meyer, age 7
Fruit Heights, Utah
- 20 Madeleine Sharp, age 7
Winter Park, Florida
- 21 Katie Zundel, age 10
Ogden, Utah
- 22 Haleigh Hoffmanner, age 11
Allison Park, Pennsylvania
- 23 Brigham Witt Rodgers, age 8
Yigo, Guam
- 24 Ryan Pennington, age 5
Farmington Hills, Michigan
- 25 Lindsey Bell, age 9
Lexington, Kentucky





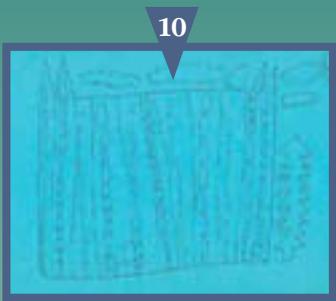
4



5



6



10



11



12



16



17



18



23



24



25

Family

A great-grandfather
 A great-grandmother
 A grandfather
 A grandmother
 A father
 A mother
 A brother
 A sister
 A lot of love
 A big, big heart
 A loving, faithful, happy heart.

*Michaela Ann Shurts, age 9
 North Plains, Oregon*

Spring Rain

Spring rain comes in a small mist.
 Then it comes down like a big fist.
 The thunder and the lightning
 Go booming and booming
 On and on.
 Then slowly it's a mist
 Like a silent kiss.
 Relaxed and steady is the rain,
 Just like a musical refrain.

*Karlin Smith, age 10
 Overland Park, Kansas*

Amusing Animals

Bears to bees
 Cubs to bobcats,
 All wonderful
 Animals made by God just for you and me.

*Dylan C. Rich, age 9
 Henderson, Nevada*

Mom and Dad

Mom's the one so dear,
 Dad's the one who I can hear.
 I love them, and they love me.
 We will always be a family.

*Amber Long, age 8
 Paul, Idaho*

When Christ Comes Again

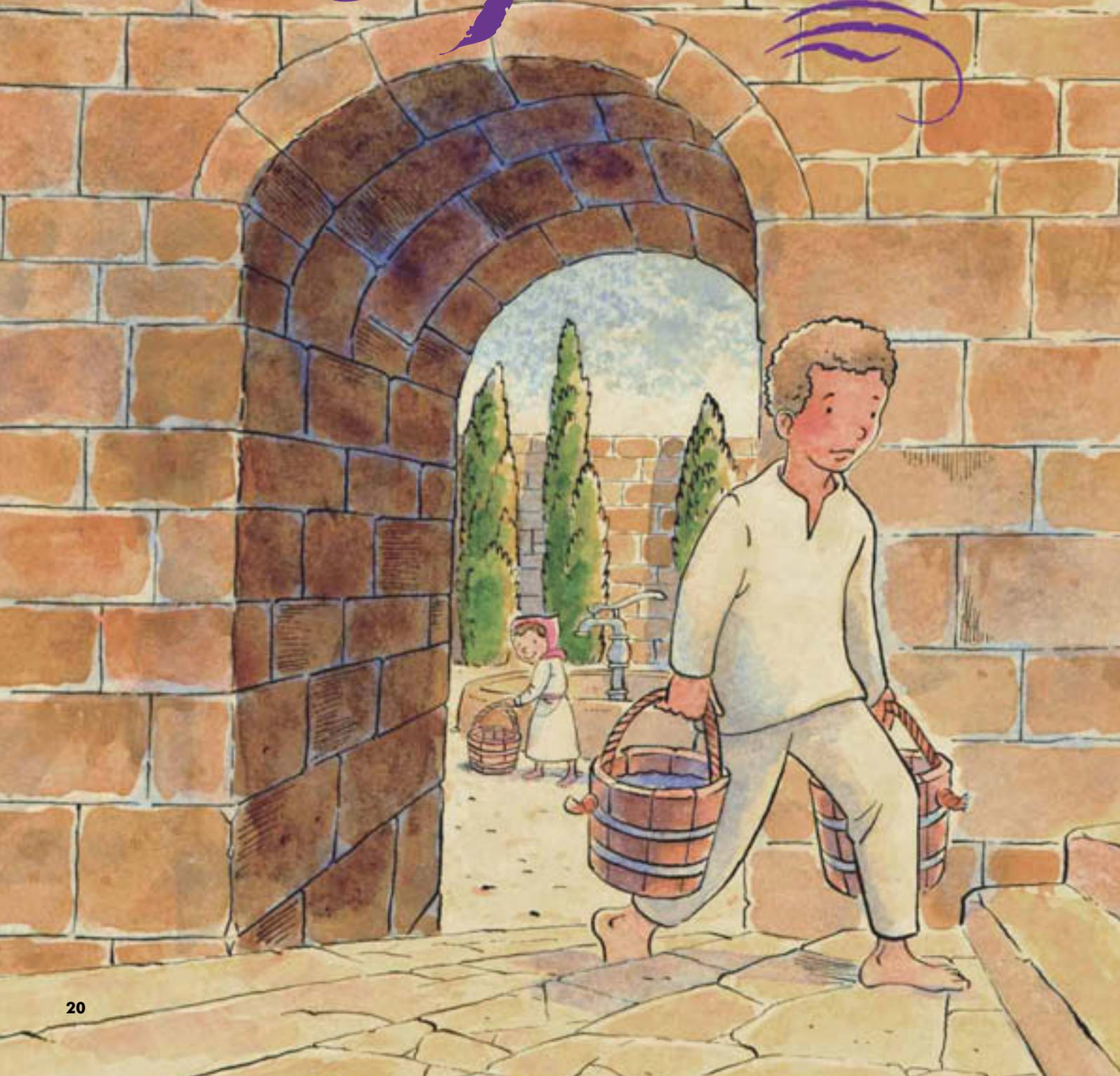
When He comes again,
 Will I see Him once more?
 When He comes again,
 Will there be no more war?

When He comes again,
 Will He be in a white gown?
 When He comes again,
 Will the wicked be pulled down?

All of these questions
 I soon shall know.
 Be prepared for His coming,
 We don't know when He'll show.

*Alex Winder, age 11
 Maryland Heights, Missouri*

Joseph's Baptism





BY RONDA GIBB HINRICHSEN

(Based on an experience of Joseph H. Orullian that took place in Aleppo, Syria, in 1909)

And their children shall be baptized for the remission of their sins when eight years old (D&C 68:27).

The morning sun cast gentle shadows across the courtyard as Joseph pumped water from the well into his bucket. “I’ll take my buckets up to the reservoir first,” he said. “Then I’ll return for yours.”

“I want to empty my own bucket,” five-year-old Beatrice protested.

Joseph shook his head. “It’s too heavy for you to carry up the steps. You’ll spill it.”

“No, I won’t,” she answered, standing as tall as she could.

“All right. But please be careful. If we spill, it will take us longer to fill the reservoir deep enough for my baptism today.”

“I know. I’ll be careful.”

The two started toward one of the houses. There were several other Armenian families living in the courtyard, their homes joined together by thick stone walls. Near one of the walls, stone steps led up to a flat rooftop and a reservoir that fed the courtyard’s fountain. Joseph started up the steps.

“Joseph! Listen! Do you hear the bells?”

“It’s the goats,” Joseph said. “I thought it was about time for the milkman to arrive.”

“Go tell Mother,” Beatrice said. “I’m sure she’ll send you for the milk. She always does.”

Joseph tried not to think about how much he liked fresh goat’s milk. “You go this time,” he said.

“But you love to go.”

“I know, but I can get the milk another day. Today I want to be baptized.”

Beatrice nodded. “I’ll hurry,” she said.

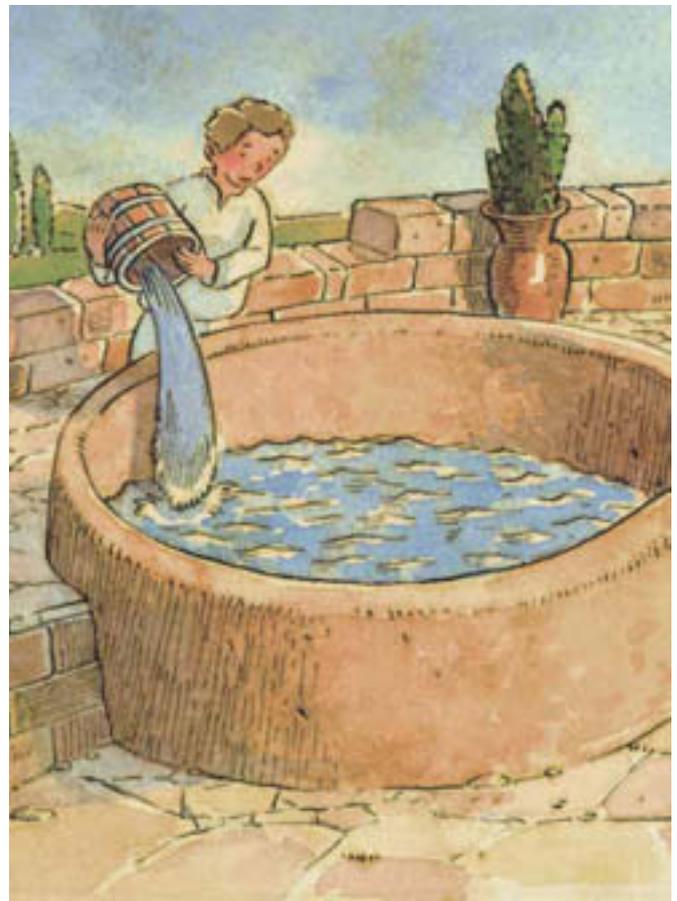
When she was gone, Joseph climbed the rest of the way to the reservoir and emptied his buckets. The water

barely covered the bottom of the basin.

“I’ll never finish in time,” he grumbled. But then he remembered something that made him wish he had not complained. His grandfather had been killed by wicked men because he would not deny his belief in Jesus Christ. Joseph was proud of his grandfather, and he knew that filling the reservoir was a very small sacrifice compared to what his grandfather had done. “It will be hard to fill the reservoir,” he told himself. “But like Grandfather, I also believe in Jesus Christ. And I want to be baptized and confirmed a member of the Church. I can do this.”

With renewed determination, Joseph retrieved Beatrice’s bucket, emptied it, then hauled all three buckets back to the well.

Soon after he finished refilling the third bucket, Beatrice returned. “Mother says we can have milk at lunch,” she said.



Joseph almost replied, "I wish I could have some now," but instead he wiped the sweat from his forehead and started back to the reservoir. Beatrice followed. Back and forth they went until the midday sun shone bright above their heads and their legs felt as heavy as stone pillars.

"Let's stop for lunch," Joseph said.

Joseph and Beatrice set down their buckets and headed back to their one-room home. Mother met them at the door. "You two must be hungry," she said with a tired smile.

"Yes, Mother," said Beatrice, "but we're halfway finished."

"Almost halfway," Joseph muttered.

"It sounds like you've been working hard," Mother said. She led them to a shady spot near the cooking quarters.

"My arms hurt," Beatrice complained. "And my hands are sore."

Joseph looked at his hands. He wasn't surprised to see blisters forming on the palms. "Beatrice said we could have some milk," he said.

Mother laughed. "I knew cheese and watermelon wouldn't satisfy you today," she said, handing him a full cup.

"I've been imagining this moment all morning." Joseph lifted the cup to his lips and took a long drink.

After lunch, Joseph and Beatrice returned

to the well. Again and again they filled their buckets, climbed the steps, poured the water into the reservoir, and trudged back to the well.

Finally, just before the sun began to set behind the western hills, Mother called, "Joseph? Is the reservoir filled?"

"Yes, Mother, we've just finished!" "I knew you could do it," Mother replied.

Beatrice turned over her bucket and sat on it. "I wish I was old enough to be baptized," she said.

"I can hardly believe it's my turn," Joseph answered. He walked to the edge of the reservoir and dipped his hand into the water. Tiny waves rippled outward. "I'm about to be baptized and confirmed a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints," he thought.

"Joseph?" It was Mother again.

"Elder Booth will be here soon. Hurry down so you can get ready."

"Coming," he said.

Joseph walked to the steps, then turned and looked at his sister. "Thanks for helping me. I couldn't have done it without you."

"You're welcome," Beatrice said. "And you can help me when I turn eight!" ●



"Only when a child reaches [the] age of accountability, set by the Lord at eight years of age, . . . is their baptism essential. Before that age, they are innocent."

President Boyd K. Packer, Acting President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Children," *Ensign*, May 2002, 8.

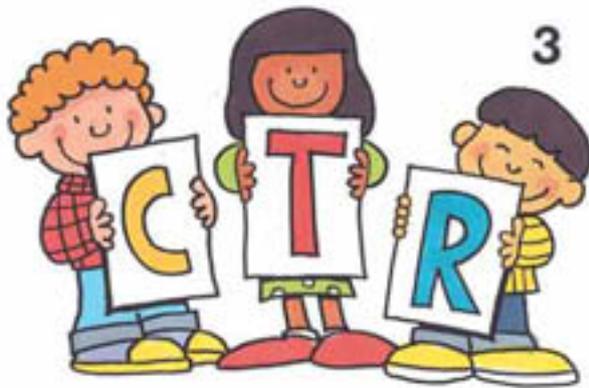
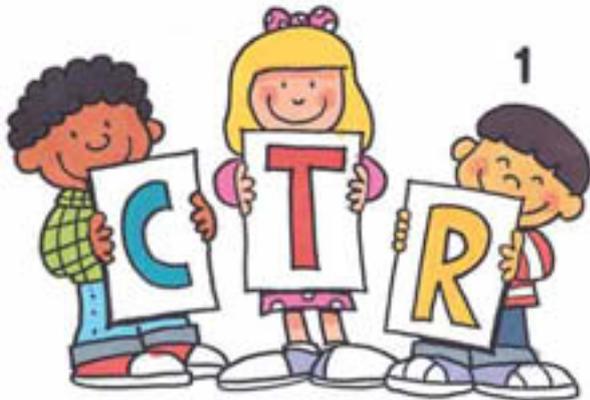
Ronda Gibb Hinrichsen is a member of the Perry Third Ward, Willard Utah Stake.



Choose the Right

BY VAL CHADWICK BAGLEY

Circle the two drawings that are the most alike. (See answers below.)



Choose the Right: pictures #1 and #6.

Follow the Words of the Scriptures: Across—(1) joy, (2) sec, (3) Jew, (4) bow, (7) try, (9) sin, (10) God, (11) Sam, (14) hope, (16) loved. Down—(1) Jesus, (3) Jacob, (5) widow, (6) trust, (8) brass, (10) gifts, (12) dream, (13) faith, (15) evil.

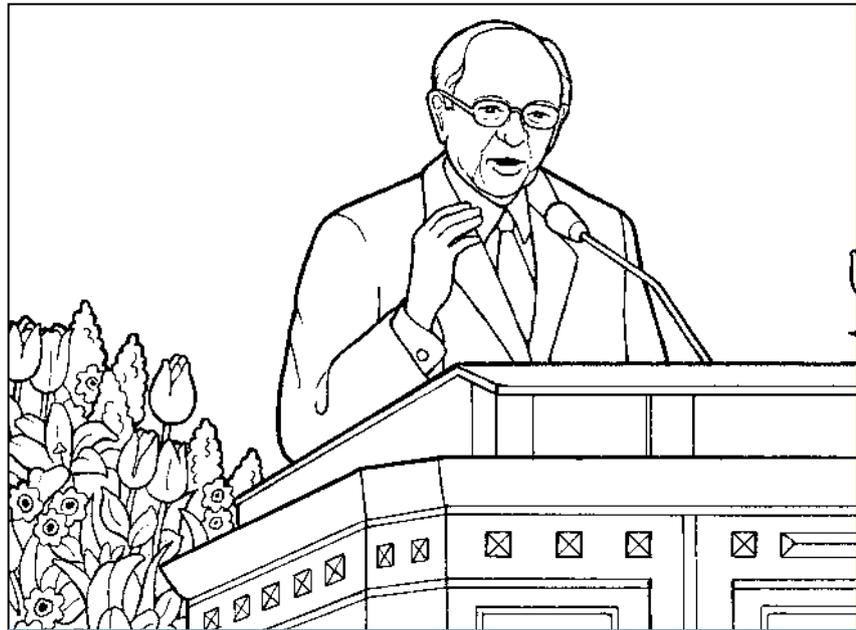
Funstuf Answers

CONFERENCE

Twice a year we have the opportunity to listen to our prophet, apostles, and other leaders. As you listen to general conference, follow the instructions to complete this activity.

Instructions: You will need crayons or markers for the colors marked below. Before listening to general conference, look at the topics written next to the colored boxes. When a speaker talks about one of those topics, use that color of crayon to color parts of the picture. (A speaker may mention more than one topic in his or her address.) If there are still white spaces when you have finished listening to conference, use the Topical Guide in your scriptures to find and read scriptures matching those topics. Then finish coloring your pictures.

- Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ**
- Holy Ghost**
- Joseph Smith**
- Prophets**
- Scriptures**
- Temples**
- Missionary Work**
- Tithing**
- Word of Wisdom**
- Repentance**



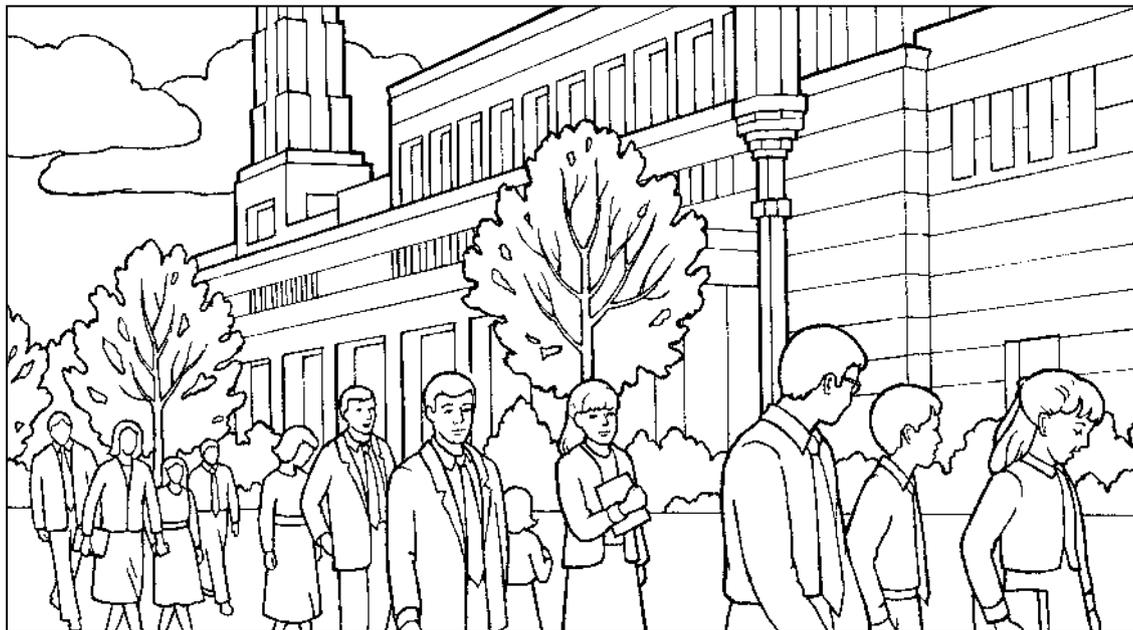
Saturday Morning



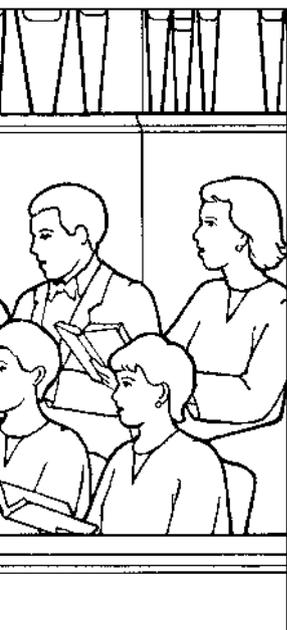
Sunday Morning



Coloring Activity



Saturday Afternoon



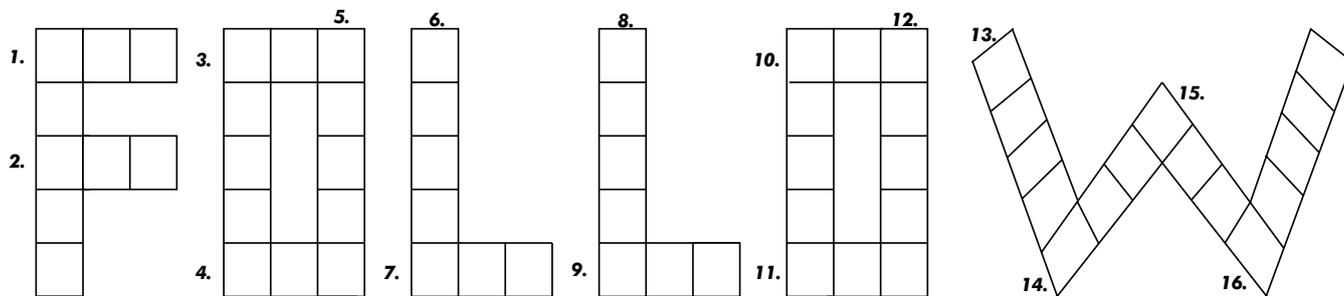
Sunday Afternoon



Funstuff



FOLLOW THE WORDS OF THE SCRIPTURES



BY CALLIE BUYS

Look up the scriptures listed below and write the missing word from each scripture in the correct space in the crossword puzzle. (See page 23 for answers.)

Across

1. **Alma 4:14** "Being filled with great _____ because of the resurrection of the dead."
2. **Mosiah 15:29** "They shall _____ eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion."
3. **2 Nephi 10:16** "He that fighteth against Zion, both _____ and Gentile . . . shall perish."
4. **1 Nephi 16:18** "My brethren were angry with me because of the loss of my _____."
7. **Alma 31:5** "_____ the virtue of the word of God."
9. **2 Nephi 4:19** "My heart groaneth because of my _____s."
10. **1 Nephi 17:50** "If _____ had commanded me to do all things I could do them."
11. **1 Nephi 2:17** "And I spake unto _____, making known unto him the things which the Lord had manifested unto me."
14. **Alma 7:24** "And see that ye have faith, _____, and charity."
16. **D&C 34:3** "Who so _____ the world that he gave his own life."

Down

1. **3 Nephi 9:15** "Behold, I am _____ Christ the Son of God."
3. **Jacob 1:2** "And he gave me, _____, a commandment that I should write upon these plates."
5. **D&C 123:9** "It is an imperative duty that we owe . . . to the _____s and fatherless."
6. **Alma 57:27** "They do put their _____ in God continually."
8. **1 Nephi 3:3** "They are engraven upon plates of _____."
10. **3 Nephi 29:6** "Yea, wo unto him . . . that shall say the Lord no longer worketh by revelation, or by prophecy, or by _____."
12. **1 Nephi 2:2** "The Lord commanded my father, even in a _____."
13. **D&C 8:10** "Remember that without _____ you can do nothing."
15. **Omni 1:25** "That which is _____ cometh from the devil."

Temple Cards

Each issue in 2002 contained Temple Cards. Since that time more temples have been dedicated. Nine of those temples are shown on this page. When nine more temples have been dedicated, another page will appear

in the magazine. Remove this page from the magazine, glue it to heavy paper, and cut out the cards. Add these cards to the cards that have already appeared in the magazine to remind you of the importance of temples.



Columbia River Washington

Dedicated: November 18, 2001

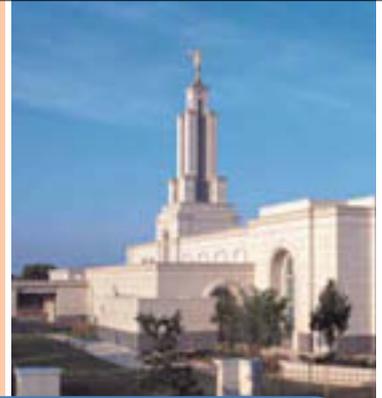
PHOTOGRAPH BY PATRICK NEAL KIMBALL



Snowflake Arizona Temple

Dedicated: March 3, 2002

PHOTOGRAPH BY WELDEN C. ANDERSEN



Lubbock Texas Temple

Dedicated: April 21, 2002

PHOTOGRAPH BY WELDEN C. ANDERSEN



Monterrey Mexico Temple

Dedicated: April 28, 2002

PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDRES ESTRADA ESCUDERO



Campinas Brazil Temple

Dedicated: May 17, 2002



Asunción Paraguay Temple

Dedicated: May 19, 2002

PHOTOGRAPH BY JASON SWENSEN, COURTESY OF CHURCH NEWS



Nauvoo Illinois Temple

Dedicated: June 27, 2002

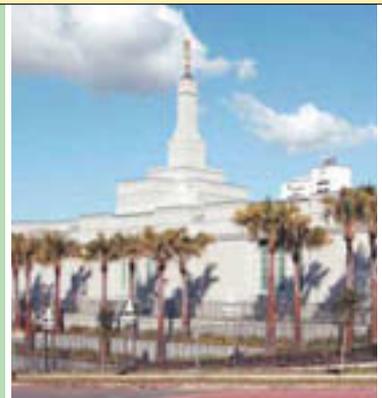
PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN LUKE



The Hague Netherlands Temple

Dedicated: September 8, 2002

PHOTOGRAPH BY O. JAY CALL, COURTESY OF CHURCH NEWS



Brisbane Australia Temple

Dedicated: June 15, 2003

Note: To find the cards in the 2002 issues or if you do not wish to remove this page from the magazine, go to www.lds.org. Click on Gospel Library.

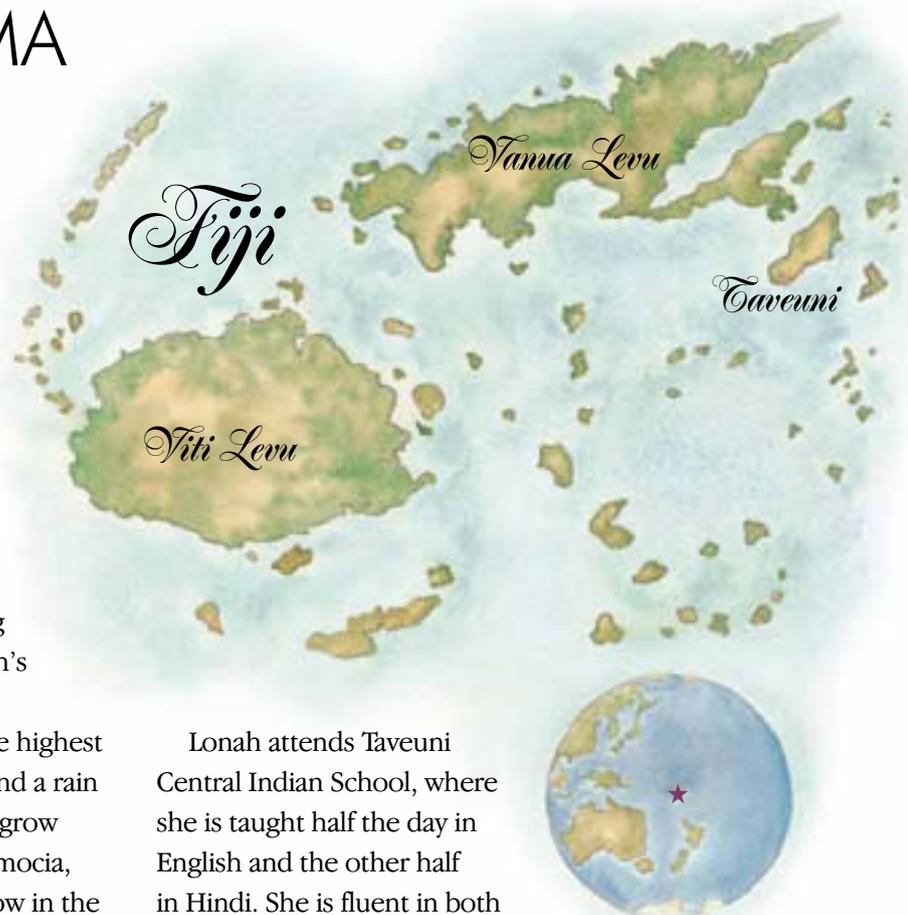
Fruit, Flowers, and Faith

LONA FISHER AND
ASENACA LESUMA
OF TAVEUNI, FIJI

BY MARGARET SNIDER

Lonah Fisher, 9, and Asenaca Lesuma, 10, live on an island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. Even though Taveuni is the third largest of more than 300 islands in Fiji, you can drive from one end to the other in less than half a day. Mangos, papayas, bananas, pineapples, and coconuts grow here, and Primary children sing “Popcorn Popping on the Mango Tree”—Lonah’s favorite song.

The tagimocia flower grows at the top of the highest mountain on Taveuni, near a lake, waterfalls, and a rain forest. This rare and beautiful flower is said to grow nowhere else in the world. But unlike the tagimocia, Lonah and Asenaca are not isolated as they grow in the gospel. They both come from loving families and attend the Somosomo Taveuni Branch. They live near each other—but in different villages—and they attend different schools.



Lonah attends Taveuni Central Indian School, where she is taught half the day in English and the other half in Hindi. She is fluent in both languages and also knows some Fijian. At Asenaca’s school, the students study and speak in English in the mornings. In the afternoons they speak Fijian as they learn about Fiji and its history.



Lonah Fisher (above, left and right) and Asenaca Lesuma (below, left and right) live in different villages and go to different schools. But they attend the same branch on the island of Taveuni, the third largest of more than 300 islands in Fiji. They both love their families and the gospel.



After school Lonah helps her mother by washing dishes and helping take care of her brothers, Alfred, 7, and Joshua, 3. "It's not easy!" she exclaims. Her brothers are very active. Alfred likes soccer, so they often play that. Lonah also plays netball (a game similar to basketball) and likes playing dolls with her cousins. She loves her dog, Buzo. "He follows us everywhere we go, even to church," she says.

When Asenaca comes home



Asenaca (far right with her father) and Lonah (right) have much in common. They both enjoy dancing, playing netball, helping their mothers, and attending Primary, sacrament meeting, and other branch activities in the Somosomo Taveuni Branch of the Church.

from school, she washes her uniform and hangs it up to dry. Recently there was not enough rain, and water faucets could be turned on only at certain times of the day. Water had to be collected and stored in a barrel, and the whole family had to plan



ahead to be sure there was enough water when they needed it.

Like Lonah, Asenaca helps her mother around the house and takes care of her brothers, Meli, 9, and Joseva, 3, and her sister, Meresiana, 6. Three of her cousins also live with them: Irene, 17, Katarina, 13, and Sera, 8. Asenaca enjoys playing with them after she finishes her chores. They run races and play catch, netball, and a game they call “the he,” which is similar to tag.

Lonah and Asenaca both like to dance. Their branch practiced square dances to



perform at an activity and wore costumes sewn for the event. Afterward the costumes could be worn as church dresses.

Lonah loves the gospel and knows it's the same all over the world. Her grandfather has been ill and is living in Australia while he receives treatment. When visiting him, Lonah goes to Primary there. She says it's different in Australia because there are many different classrooms and classes divided by age. In the Somosomo branch, Primary classes are held all together. But the lessons are the same.

Asenaca loves the gospel, too, and plans to serve a mission. To prepare herself, she prays, attends church, and reads the scriptures. She looks forward to attending the temple when she's older, even though the temple is 20 hours away by ferryboat. Then, someday, she hopes to be married there and see her future family grow strong in the gospel the way she and Lonah are growing now. ●

Margaret Snider is a member of the Hagan Park Ward, Sacramento California Cordova Stake.



Getting to Know Elder Richard G. Scott

To learn more about Elder Richard G. Scott of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, match the pictures above with the clues below.

- ___ 1. Elder Scott was raised in this city.
- ___ 2. As a young man, he didn't get a summer job he applied for with the Utah Park Service. He traveled to Utah anyway, and he offered to do this chore in the kitchen for two weeks. He said, "If you don't like my work, you don't have to pay me." By the end of the summer, he had become the number-two cook.
- ___ 3. He had many other interesting jobs, including gathering these while sailing off the coast of New York.
- ___ 4. He likes jazz music and knows how to play this instrument.
- ___ 5. As a young man he was encouraged by his girlfriend, Jeanene Watkins, to serve a mission. After he served in Uruguay and she served in

the northwestern United States, they were married here.

- ___ 6. He likes science and became a nuclear engineer. During a job interview, the interviewer snapped at him for mentioning his mission. He defended his beliefs and was hired because he had shown enough confidence for the difficult job—helping to design this nuclear-powered vehicle.
- ___ 7. He lived in this country for three years as a member of the Seventy.
- ___ 8. In his free time, Elder Scott likes spending time in the outdoors watching these.
- ___ 9. He also enjoys this hobby.
- ___ 10. He loves to help them. ●

Adapted from "Elder Richard G. Scott: 'The Real Power Comes from the Lord,'" *Ensign*, Jan. 1989, 6–11.

Answers: 1G (Washington, D.C.), 2A (washing dishes), 3C, 4F, 5I (Manti Urub Temple), 6B, 7D (Mexico), 8H, 9J, 10E (youth and children).

I'll Walk with You



BY MICHELE HUNTER WININGER

(Based on an experience from the author's family)

And be ye kind one to another (Ephesians 4:32).

Keaton and Pug were best friends. They did everything together. One summer they decided to build a tree fort in the forest behind Pug's home. Each Saturday they worked on their fort, using old pieces of wood and a hammer and nails Pug's dad gave them.

One Saturday as Keaton and Pug worked on their fort, Pug's mom called to them. They jumped down and went to the house.

"What's up, Mom?" Pug asked.

"You boys are going to have another friend to play with today," Mom said, pointing toward the back door.

Just then Jason came out of the house. "Are you my new best friends?" he asked, clapping his hands.

"Mommmm!" Pug protested.

Keaton rolled his eyes. "Oh, great!" he said under his breath. Jason was their age, but he was, well, different.

"Mom," Pug whispered, "Jason won't want to work on the fort. He won't want to do anything but run around."

Pug's mom sighed. "Jason will be with us until after lunch when his mom gets back from the doctor. So you need to find something you can all do together.

Now run along and play.”

Keaton and Pug walked away, glancing back at Jason as he followed them. “Now what are we going to do? Our day is ruined,” Keaton grumbled.

“Hey, I know,” Pug whispered. “Let’s play hide-and-seek and have Jason be it. We can run into the forest and work on our tree fort, and he’ll never find us.”

“Great idea!” Keaton exclaimed.

When they explained the game to Jason and told him that he got to be it, he waved his hands with excitement. “Now close your eyes and count to 20,” Keaton said. Jason put his hands over his eyes and started counting, saying each number loudly and carefully.

Keaton and Pug crept away. When they were out of sight behind the house, they raced to the edge of the forest, hid behind trees, and looked back to see if Jason was following. But they could still hear him counting—“13 . . . 14 . . . 15.”

They ran toward their fort, laughing and dodging trees. But soon Keaton slowed and fell behind. When he looked back and saw Jason searching around the house, he came to a complete stop. “This isn’t what the song says.”

Pug came back through the trees. “What song?”

“You know, that song we sing in Primary. ‘If you

don’t walk as most people do, some people walk away from you. But I won’t! I won’t!’*”

“Oh, yeah,” Pug said. “I remember that song. ‘Jesus walked away from none. He gave his love to everyone. So I will! I will!’”

Keaton and Pug both stared at the ground, ashamed. Finally, Keaton looked up. “Why don’t we go back and hide someplace where Jason can find us?”

“Good idea,” said Pug. They ran back to the house and hid behind the swing set in the backyard.

Just then Jason ran around the corner of the house and spotted them. “I found you! I found you!” he yelled, clapping his hands.

“You sure did!”

Keaton agreed.

“Way to go, pal!”

Pug said happily, giving Jason a high five.

Jason looked back and forth between the two of them, beaming. “Are you my new best friends?” he asked.

Keaton grinned. “We sure are.”

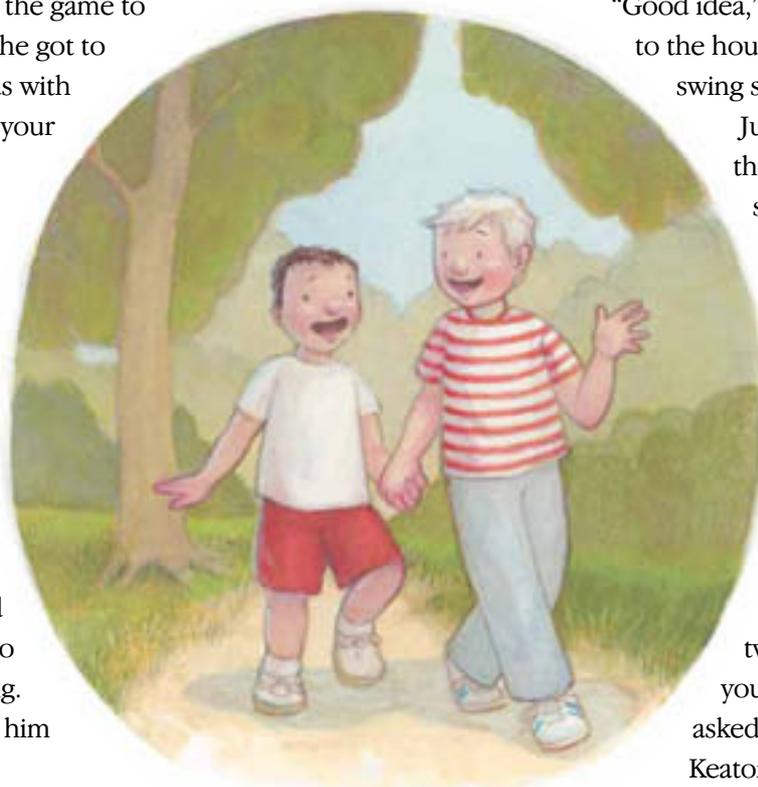
“Why don’t we play again, and I’ll be it,” Pug suggested. Jason jumped up and down and cheered.

Keaton smiled at Jason. “Let’s hide together,” he whispered. “I know a perfect hiding place.” As soon as Pug started counting, he took Jason’s hand, and they

walked together toward the tree fort. ●

* *Children’s Songbook*, 140–41

Michele Hunter Winger is a member of the Mapleton 11th Ward, Mapleton Utah North Stake.



“Having been so richly blessed by Christ’s friendship, I pray that we will now be to others what He is to us: a true friend.”

Elder Marlin K. Jensen of the Seventy, “Friendship: A Gospel Principle,” *Ensign*, May 1999, 65.

The Worth of **EDDIE PORTER**

BY RAY GOLDRUP

(Based on an experience from the author's family)

Remember the worth of souls is great in the sight of God
(D&C 18:10).

I wanted to save more tadpoles, so Dad and I went to the creek near General Vallejo's old historic adobe place. There wasn't much water left in the creek, just puddles with tadpoles in them. When the water dried up, they would die—unless we rescued them. Dad and I caught hundreds of those tadpoles in our jars and took them to the lake. Dad said that God wouldn't waste time creating anything He didn't love. The least we could do was respect His creations and help whenever, wherever, and whatever we could—tadpoles included!

One day while we were taking tadpoles out of the creek, Dad looked troubled. "What's wrong?" I asked.

"I'm worried about Eddie Porter," Dad replied. Dad was Brother Porter's home teacher, and he and his companion could never get Brother Porter to let them into his home. "He doesn't come to church," Dad said. "He's getting old, lives alone, and has a lot of problems. He seems depressed most of the time, and I think he believes that God has given up on him."

Dad scooped out three tadpoles and dumped them into a pail of water. "He never says much when Brother





Phillips and I talk to him at the door. Just nods and says he has things to do. But last month when we stopped by, he had moved. Where, I don't know." Dad looked up the creek bed as if he hoped he might spot Brother Porter coming out of the heat rising from the rocks like a thin, wavy wall. "I doubt he moved out of town, because he has lived here all his life," Dad continued. "I've got to find him, Matt."

"Why, Dad?" I was confused. "If Brother Porter wants to be alone, why worry about it?"

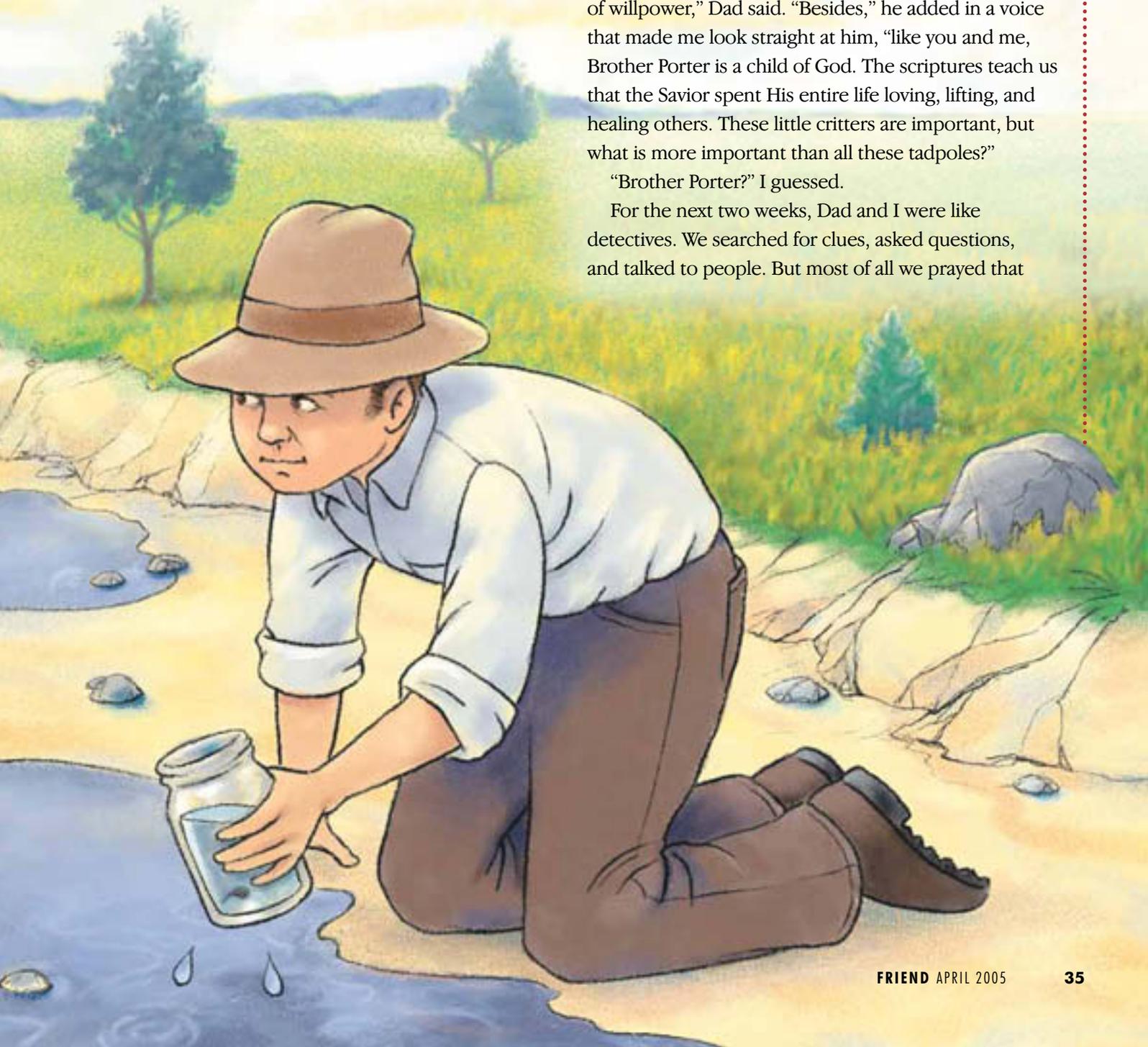
"He's my responsibility, son," Dad explained. "And I feel that he's in real need. Brother Phillips is out of town for a couple of months, so I'll try to find Brother Porter on my own." Dad smiled at me. "Unless, of course, you'd like to help."

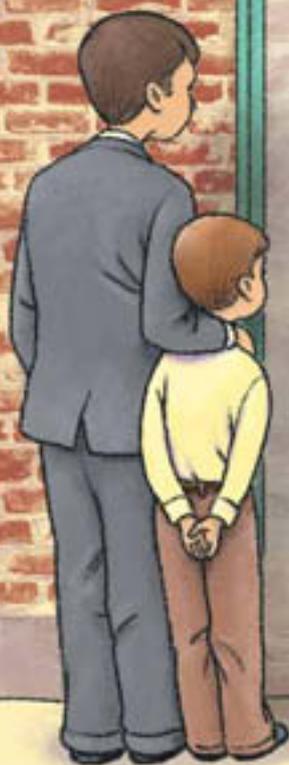
"But what about these tadpoles, Dad? If we don't get them moved, they'll die. They want to be helped. Brother Porter doesn't."

"They have enough water to last a few more weeks. But I don't know if Eddie Porter has the same amount of willpower," Dad said. "Besides," he added in a voice that made me look straight at him, "like you and me, Brother Porter is a child of God. The scriptures teach us that the Savior spent His entire life loving, lifting, and healing others. These little critters are important, but what is more important than all these tadpoles?"

"Brother Porter?" I guessed.

For the next two weeks, Dad and I were like detectives. We searched for clues, asked questions, and talked to people. But most of all we prayed that





Heavenly Father would lead us to the right house.

Then one evening Dad and I walked up to a little old place, kind of jammed between two warehouses near the canal. Dad knocked on the rusty screen door, and we waited.

We were about to leave when the door opened. The old man standing behind the screen seemed like a ghost—kind of there and not there at the same time. He had whiskers and wore rumpled, worn-out clothes.

“Brother Porter,” Dad said.

The old man’s eyes looked sad and surprised, maybe even angry. “How did you find me?” he asked.

Dad smiled. “It wasn’t easy, Eddie. It’s taken us two weeks.”

Brother Porter looked at me. I guess I was nervous because my voice was shaky. “Hi, Brother Porter.”

Brother Porter looked back up at Dad. “Why?” he said. “Why did you want to find me? I’ve never—”

“Because you’re important, Brother Porter,” I said. “You’re a

child of God. He loves you. And so do we. Yep, we do.” I said it again because he looked so surprised. It was quiet for a little bit, so I said, “Dad and I were saving tadpoles from the creek that’s drying up, but Dad wanted to start looking for you instead. You’re more important than all the tadpoles that ever hatched. Mom thinks so, too.” I held out a lunch bag. “She made some cookies for you.”

Brother Porter turned away from us. I thought he was still mad at us for bothering him, but when he turned back, he was crying. He pushed open the door. “Won’t you come in?” Dad didn’t say anything. He was crying, too.

We went inside, and Dad squeezed my hand. Suddenly I knew how important Eddie Porter—and everyone else—was. Jesus wouldn’t have spent His whole life helping others if it weren’t so.

The tadpoles could wait. They would be all right. Dad

and I needed to make sure that Brother Porter would be all right first. ●

Ray Goldrup is a member of the Bennion 15th Ward, Bennion Utah Stake.



“The Redeemer . . . calls you and me to serve Him here below and sets us to the task He would have us fulfill. . . . As we follow [Him] . . . our personal influence will be felt for good.”

President Thomas S. Monson, First Counselor in the First Presidency, “Your Personal Influence,” *Ensign*, May 2004, 20.



Family History SCROLL

BY MARGARET SHAUERS

Long ago people wrote on scrolls made of papyrus (paper made from a plant) or leather rolled on sticks. Most of the Bible was written on scrolls. Ancient scrolls have measured as long as 144 feet (44 m)! You can record your family history on family group records produced by the Church. These records could be made into a scroll as explained below. You might want to do this in a family home evening.

You might also make scrolls of your own. For each scroll, you will need three 8 1/2" x 11" (22 x 28 cm) sheets of paper, clear tape, glue, pencil or pen, two 10" (25 cm) long sticks or dowels, and an 18" (46 cm) length of string or ribbon.

1. Tape or glue the 8 1/2-inch-wide (22 cm) edges of the sheets of paper together to form one long strip of paper (see illustration).

2. Starting three inches (8 cm) in from the left edge of the paper strip, write the heading "My Father, (father's full name)'s, Family" (see illustration). Below it write the heading "Parents," and list your father's

parents' full names. Then write the heading "Brothers and Sisters," and list the full names of your father's brothers and sisters—from the oldest to the youngest. Be sure to include your father in the right order in the list. With your parents' help, write birth dates beside the names.

3. On the next sheet of paper in the strip, write the heading "My Mother, (mother's full name)'s, Family." Then write the headings and your mother's family members' full names and birth dates, just like you did for your father (see number two above and the illustration).

4. On the last sheet of paper, write the heading "(your full name)'s Family," and write in your own family's information. Include the full names of your parents and your brothers and sisters and their birth dates (see illustration).

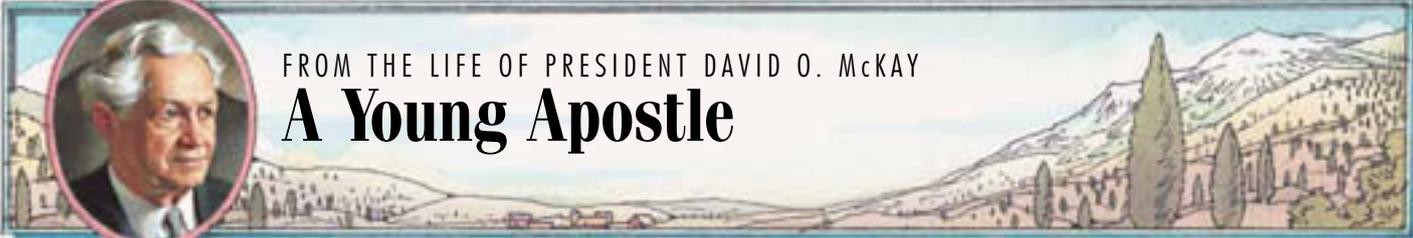
5. Glue the sticks or dowels along the left and right edges of the paper strip (see illustration), and let the glue dry. Roll the sticks toward the middle, and tie a piece of string or ribbon around the scroll. ●

Stick	Tape or glue	Tape or glue	Stick
My Father, _____'s, Family <small>Father's Full Name</small>	My Mother, _____'s, Family <small>Mother's Full Name</small>	_____ 's Family <small>Your Full Name</small>	
Parents	Parents	Parents	
_____	_____	_____	
_____	_____	_____	
Brothers and Sisters	Brothers and Sisters	Brothers and Sisters	
_____	_____	_____	
_____	_____	_____	
_____	_____	_____	



FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT DAVID O. MCKAY

A Young Apostle



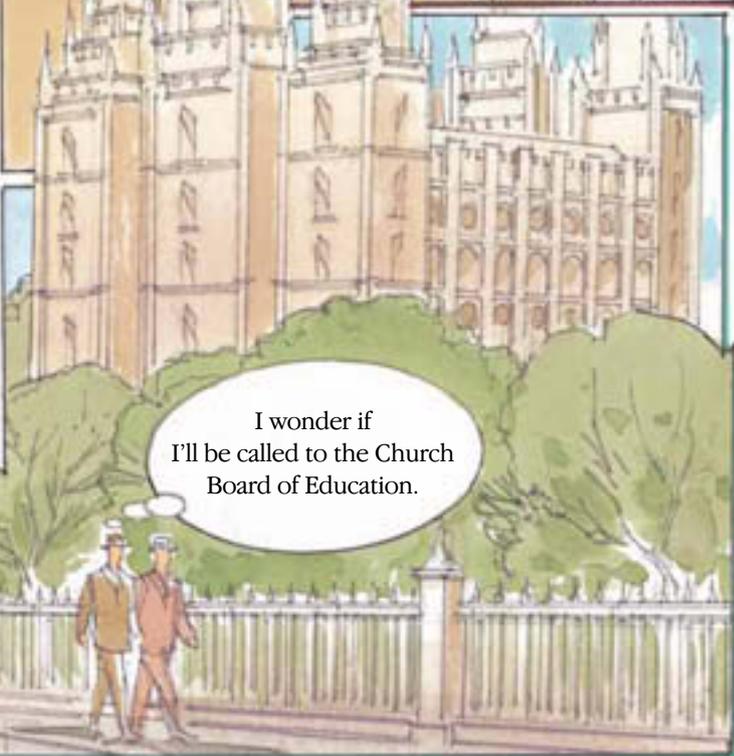
David, there's an urgent phone call for you.

During general conference in 1906, David took his wife and two young sons to visit cousins in Salt Lake City. Between sessions they sat down to lunch.



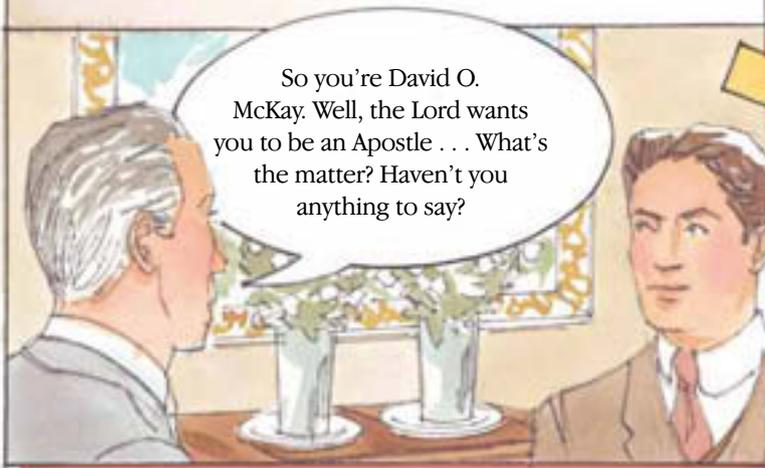
I've been summoned to the Office of the First Presidency.

David met Elder George Albert Smith, an Apostle, on Temple Square. Elder Smith escorted him to the office of the President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. As they walked David thought about how he had performed his stake calling in the Sunday School.

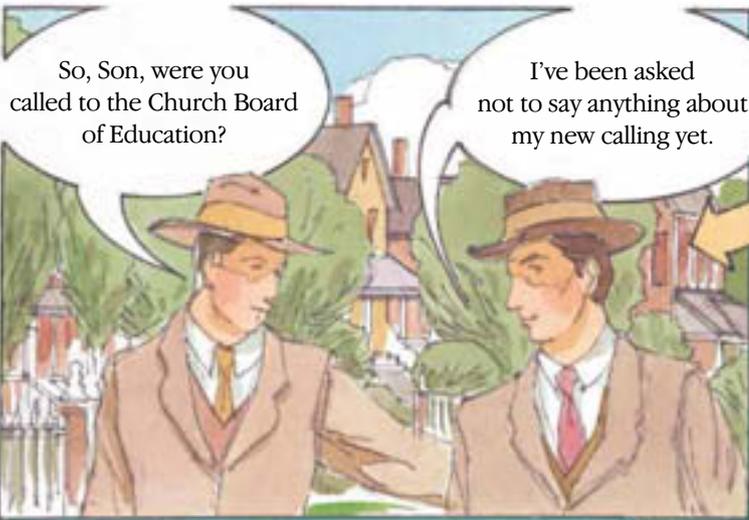


I wonder if I'll be called to the Church Board of Education.

President Francis M. Lyman invited David to sit down. What he said next left David speechless.



On the way back to his relatives' apartment, David saw his father.



David and his wife, Emma Ray, attended the afternoon session of conference together. Right before the session ended, a special announcement was made. Emma Ray burst into tears from surprise and joy when David's name was read. At only 32 years old, David O. McKay was sustained a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.

Adapted from David Lawrence McKay, My Father, David O. McKay (1989), 38–40.



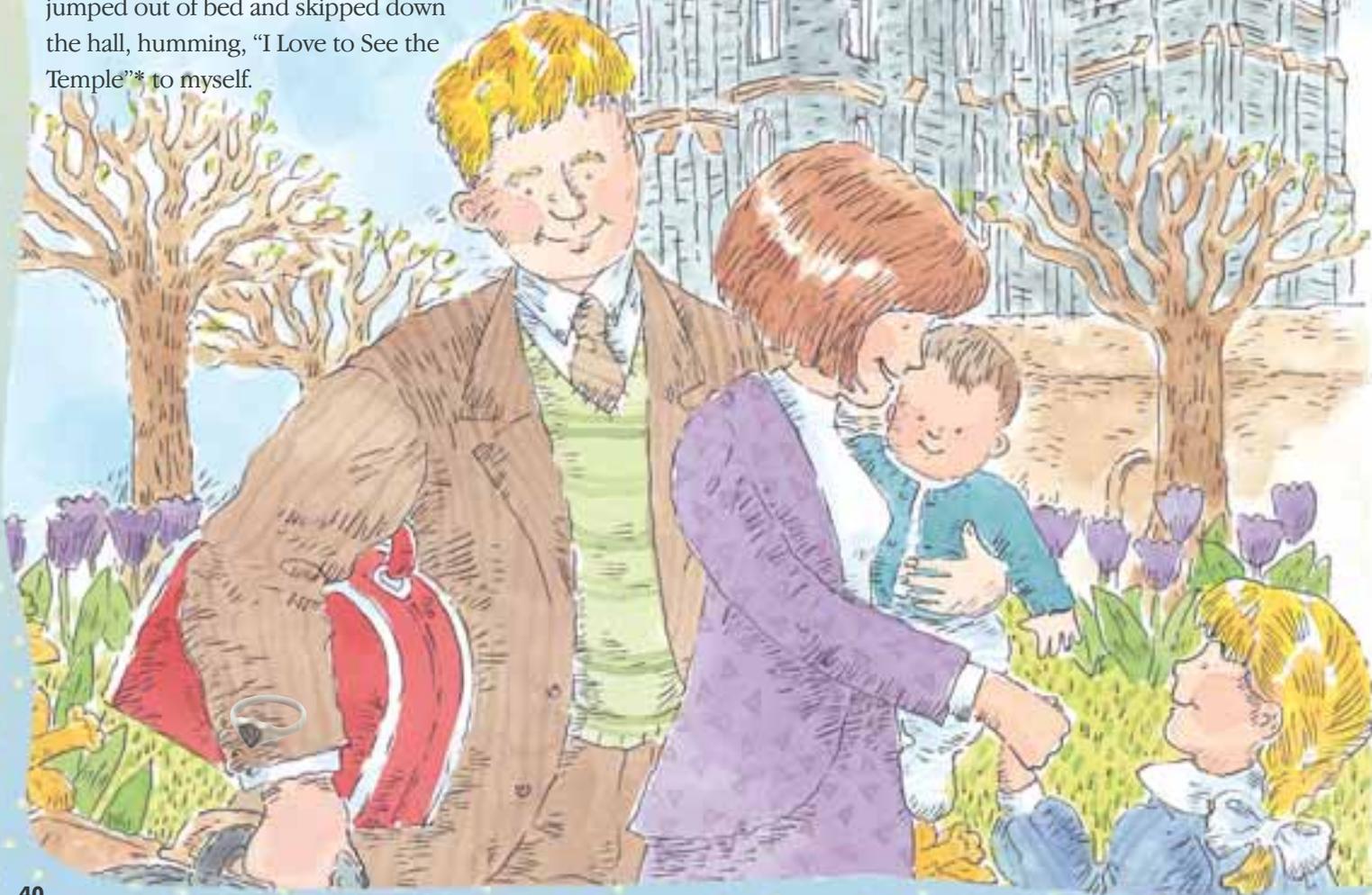
My Family Can Be Together Forever

BY TERYL HUNTER

(Based on an experience of the author's family)

The family is central to the Creator's plan for the eternal destiny of His children ("The Family: A Proclamation to the World," *Ensign*, Nov. 1995, 102).

When the sunshine tickled my nose, I woke up. I pulled my quilt a little higher and started to roll over. Then I remembered! It was March 17—the day my family had been waiting for had finally arrived. I jumped out of bed and skipped down the hall, humming, "I Love to See the Temple"* to myself.





After breakfast Mom helped me into my favorite blue dress. Then I helped her dress my baby brother, Curtis, in his Sunday clothes. Today was not Sunday, but it felt just as special. Six months ago my parents had adopted my little brother. He was so cute. His cheeks were really chubby, and when he smiled at me without any teeth, he made me laugh.

Because my parents had been sealed in the temple, I knew that I was born in the covenant. That meant I was sealed to them. But because my brother was adopted, he wasn't born in the covenant. Today we were going to the Logan Utah Temple to have him sealed to us so our whole family could be together forever someday if we live righteously.

When we arrived at the temple, Mom carried Curtis, and I held her hand. Dad carried three small suitcases. The grass was starting to turn green, and a few birds were singing in the bare branches of the trees. Right in front of the temple were some pretty yellow and purple flowers.

We walked through the front doors, and I felt a warm hug without anyone touching me. A man looked at the recommends my parents showed him. A nice lady led us down a hall to the nursery. My parents gave my brother and me a hug, and Dad handed my little red suitcase to the lady. Then my parents went to another part of the temple. The nice lady let me color a picture, and she rolled a ball to Curtis. He laughed. He loves balls.

After a while, the lady helped me change into my new white dress. Then we changed Curtis's diaper and put his new white clothes on him. The lady said, "The temple is Heavenly Father's house, and we should be reverent when we walk through the halls."

"I don't know if Curtis knows what *reverent* means," I said.

She smiled and said, "Heavenly Father loves little children very much, and He'll understand if Curtis is a little bit noisy."

As we walked down the halls, I noticed the white carpet. I also saw some pictures of Jesus on the walls. It was easy to be reverent in such a quiet place. We came to a door that was closed. Another lady softly opened the door, and I looked inside. I saw my grandpas and grandmas and my uncles and aunts. They were all smiling at me. Then I saw my mom. She was dressed in white. She looked like an angel. She held out her arms and gave me a hug. Then she reached for Curtis and held him tight, too.

A man dressed in a white suit, called the sealer, greeted us. He talked about the blessings and promises we could receive through temple ordinances if we live worthily. The sealer then told us what to do. He blessed us by the power of the priesthood, and Curtis was sealed to our family. I looked up at my dad. There were tears on his cheeks. He took Curtis in his arms and held him tightly. Mom had tears in her eyes, too. She squeezed my hand, and I felt her love.

When we stood up, the sealer knelt down so he was just my height and asked me, "Do you know what forever or eternity looks like?"

I shook my head and said, "No."

Then he told my family to stand together and look into a mirror. There was another mirror behind us, too. I looked, and I saw my mom holding Curtis and my dad holding me. I was surprised because I could see us again and again and again and we never seemed to stop. Then the sealer whispered to me, "That is what forever looks like."

Now, whenever I remember that special day, I think about what forever is like. I imagine my family going on and on, always being together and smiling. I like to think about forever. It gives me a warm feeling inside. ●

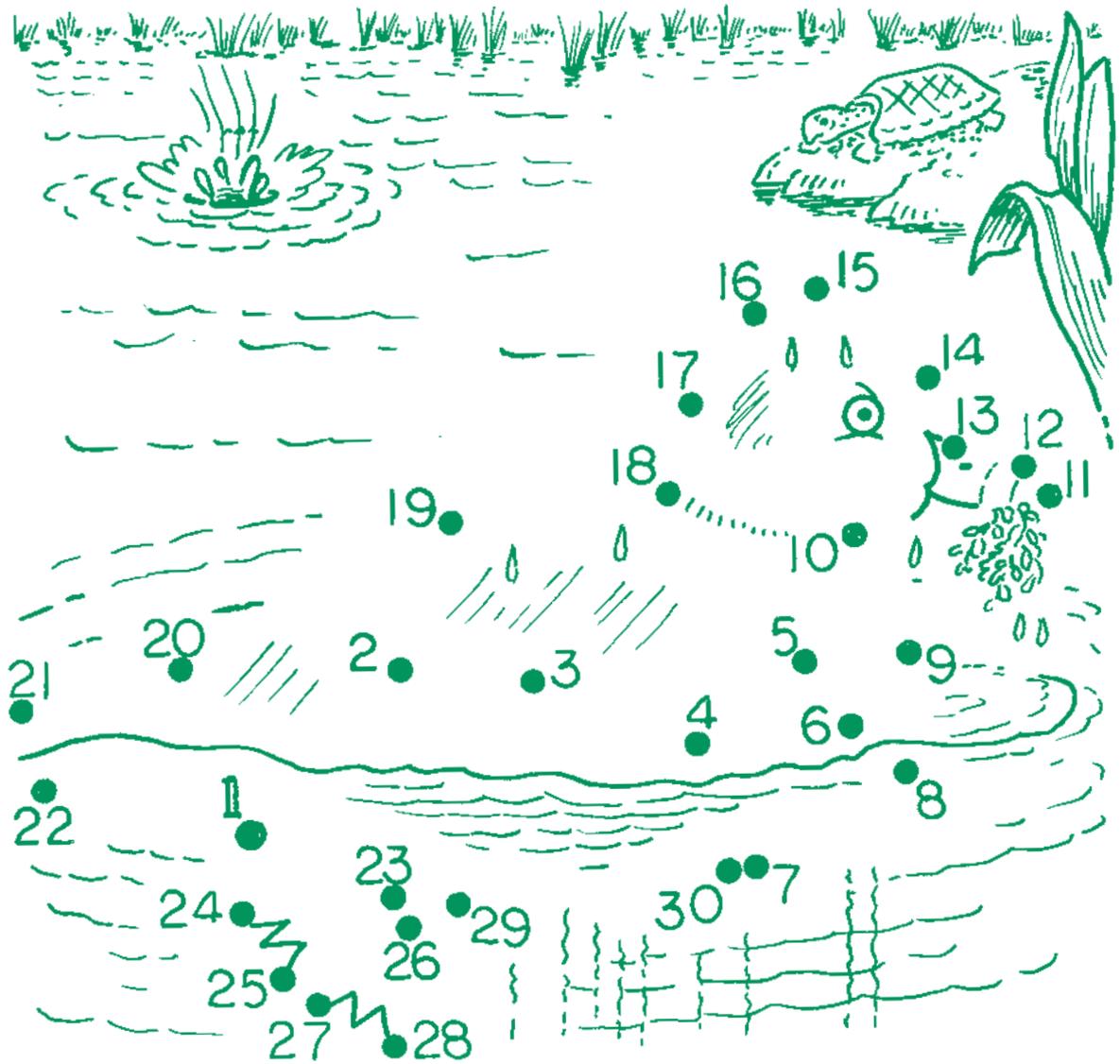
**Children's Songbook, 95.*

Teryl Hunter is a member of the Hyrum 11th Ward, Hyrum Utah Stake.

Who Is in the Pond?

BY ROBERTA L. FAIRALL

Connect the dots from 1 to 30 to see who is in the pond enjoying the water. Then color the picture.

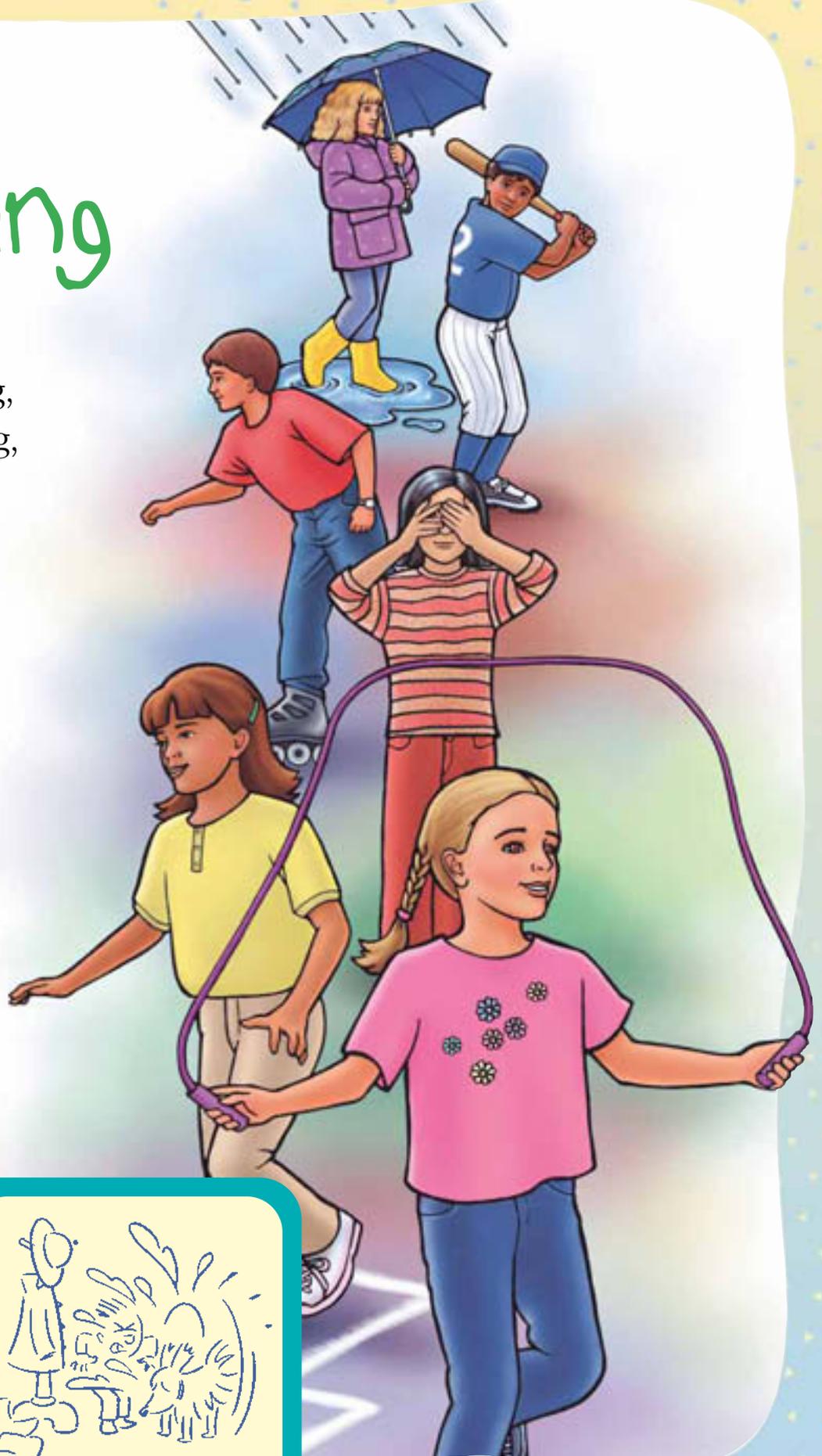


Spring Parading

BY RAVEN HOWELL

Jump-rope jumping,
Hopscotch hopping,
Hide-and-seeking,
Hey—
No peeking!

Roller-skating,
Baseball playing,
Puddle wading—
Spring parading!



ILLUSTRATED BY JENNY ESPLIN





Trying to Be Like Jesus

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

Eggs & Tithing

By Jalaire Musgrave



I take care of 32 animals—24 chickens, 3 goats, 2 sheep, 1 pig, 1 duck, and 1 dog. Every day my chickens lay 6 to 9 eggs.

Each Monday my mom washes the eggs, and I take two dozen of them to our neighbors, who buy them. I save the egg money until fast Sunday, when I pay my tithing.

Jalaire Musgrave, age 11, is a member of the Blue Mills Ward, Independence Missouri Stake.



The Sweet Spirit of Music

By Brad B. Banks

While serving as president of the Japan Hiroshima Mission, I attended the services of the Hamada Branch in the Hiroshima Japan Stake. This small branch has an average attendance of about 35 members and investigators and meets in a rented building. When I entered the chapel, I was warmly welcomed by 10-year-old Eimi Funaki, who was playing prelude music on the branch's electric organ. When the sacrament meeting started, I was surprised to see Eimi remain at

the organ, thinking that a more mature member would be serving as the branch organist. I was even more surprised when 11-year-old Miho Hirano took her place behind the music stand as the branch chorister and began leading the congregation in the opening hymn. They both did a beautiful job. Although they are young in body, they are



very mature in spirit. Their faithful efforts brought a wonderful sweet spirit to the meeting. I hope their example will help other Primary children want to develop their talents.

Eimi Funaki, age 10, and Mibo Hirano, age 11, are members of the Hamada Branch, Hiroshima Japan Stake.

Tucking In Mom and Dad

By Frank Manson

One evening my mom and stepdad were really tired, so I decided to tuck them into bed. First I put toothpaste on their toothbrushes so they could brush their teeth. Next I pulled down the comforter and the sheets so they could climb into bed. When they were in bed I read them a story from the *Friend*. They really liked it. Then I sang them two songs—"I Am a Child of God" and "You Are My

Sunshine." Then I went to bed.

A few minutes later my mom came in and told me how special I am and that she really appreciated what I had done for them. She explained to me that this was charity—to do nice things for



people. I felt really good inside.

Frank Manson, age 8, is a member of the Aspen Ward, Mesa Arizona Kimball East Stake.

100 Percent Honest

By Amy Cederquist



One day in fourth grade I took a spelling test. I had studied and felt I knew the words well. When I got my paper back, it was marked 100 percent. But as I read over the words, I found that I had misspelled one. I thought about keeping the good grade, but decided that it wouldn't be honest. So I told my teacher about my mistake. She looked at me and said, "Well, I'll give you 100 percent anyway since you're so honest." It makes me feel good to know that I can follow the Savior and have eternal life.

Amy Cederquist, age 11, is a member of the Bonners Ferry Second Ward, Sandpoint Idaho Stake.

I Will Only Listen to Music That Is Pleasing to Heavenly Father*

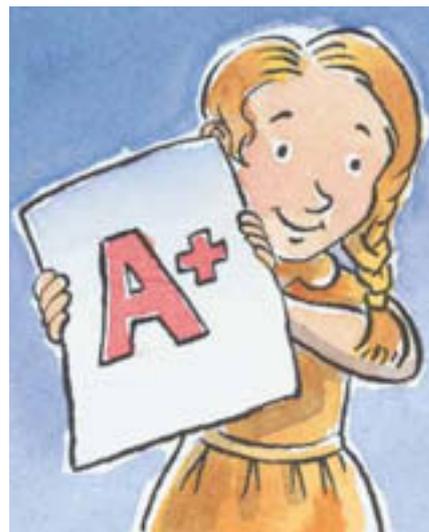
By Brigham Talbot



One day while I was riding in the car with Dad, a song that was not good came on the radio. It was about gambling. I remembered that one of My Gospel Standards says: *I will only*

listen to music that is pleasing to Heavenly Father. I asked my dad to change the station. I had a good feeling after that. I know we're supposed to choose the right and do good things and not do the bad things that Satan wants us to do. I'm glad to have My Gospel Standards because they help me choose the right.

Brigham Talbot, age 7, is a member of the Lakeridge Eighth Ward, Orem Utah Lakeridge Stake.



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



Kirsten's ASSIGN

BY ANA NELSON SHAW

(Based on an experience from the author's life)

*For all have not every gift given unto them. . . .
To some is given one, and to some is given
another, that all may be profited thereby (D&C
46:11–12).*

“Welcome to our class!” Sister Garcia beamed just like the spring sun shining through the classroom window. “I’m so excited to be teaching you older girls. You’re old enough to be good readers, and we can really get into the scriptures!”

Kirsten’s heart sank. She could read, but she knew she wasn’t a *good* reader. She took twice as long as her best friend, Ayisha, to get through a page when they were reading a magazine together. When she read aloud, words sputtered out of her mouth. That was always uncomfortable. After all, she was 10 years old. And reading the scriptures was especially hard. The words were so strange, and the sentences seemed to go on forever.

Ayisha put her hand on Kirsten’s shoulder. Kirsten looked over at her. Ayisha had written in her tiny notebook, “You’ll be OK!” Kirsten wondered how.

Kirsten took her turn reading that Sunday, but it seemed to take forever to get through the verse, and she just wanted to cry. The next week, before Sister Garcia even started the lesson, Ayisha raised her hand.

“I was wondering if Kirsten and I could cooperate on scripture reading today. Give us one scripture to work on together. I’ll read it, and Kirsten can draw a picture.

She’s a great artist!”

Kirsten knew Ayisha was being kind, but she also felt

like a big spotlight was shining on her, hot and uncomfortable. “I might as well have a sign hanging around my neck that says BAD READER,” Kirsten thought.

Sister Garcia seemed surprised. She looked at the girls and then smiled a little. “It sounds like fun,” she said. “And I think it would work well with our lesson today about Alma and Amulek. Are you willing to do that, Kirsten?” Kirsten nodded. “How about you other girls? Katie and Lauren, why don’t you be a team, too? And Elizabeth and Michelle?” She gave each team a scripture, and they began to work.

Kirsten couldn’t believe Ayisha’s nerve or her teacher’s sudden change of plans. But Sister Garcia’s smile, and the way she brought everyone into the idea, seemed to make it better. Kirsten drew a picture of Alma meeting Amulek. She realized she liked this story—two

MENT



great missionaries and how they became friends.

The next Saturday, Sister Garcia showed up at Kirsten's front door. "I just thought I'd drop by and see if you could take a special assignment for our class tomorrow," she explained.

"What is it?" Kirsten asked.

"Please, not reading," she prayed silently.

"Could you present this scripture to the class?" Sister Garcia handed Kirsten a slip of paper.

"What do you mean, *present it*?" Kirsten asked.

"Well, you should read it out loud, but I thought I'd give it to you now so you can practice," Sister Garcia said. "Then tell what it means to you. If you want to draw a picture, that would be great, too. I didn't realize you had such a talent for art."

"Am I the only one doing this?" Kirsten asked.

"Well, for this week, yes. But in coming weeks, all the girls will be taking turns." Sister Garcia smiled in a way that seemed to make things OK. "I thought I'd have you go first. To tell you the truth, I'm eager to see more of your artwork."

"OK," Kirsten agreed. "I'll do it."

Kirsten read the verse out loud over and over. Then she spent all afternoon drawing a picture of Alma and Amulek healing Zeezrom, making sure everything was just right.

Finally, Kirsten made her way downstairs to where Dad was cooking spaghetti. "Can I practice my scripture for you, Dad?" she asked. Dad nodded, so Kirsten read, "Alma 15:8: 'And Alma said: If thou believ. . . est in the re. . . demption of Christ thou canst be healed.'"

Dad stopped stirring the spaghetti sauce and turned around. "That was wonderful, Kirsten. Pretty smooth! I can tell you've been practicing. And your picture looks great! But you're still missing one thing."

"What? Did I forget something in the picture?"



Kirsten examined her work.

"No, that's not it. You should say how you feel about what you've read," Dad explained. "The most important thing isn't how you read or even how you draw, although both of those are great. What your class really needs to hear is how you feel about what you've read and drawn."

Kirsten thought about this. "I guess I'm happy that Zeezrom got better and that he wasn't being mean to Alma and Amulek anymore."

"That's good. Maybe you'll want to say a prayer about it," Dad suggested. "Think about what this scripture means for your testimony. That's what you need to do. Bear your testimony."

"'If thou believest in the redemption of Christ thou canst be healed,'" Kirsten read in class, smoothly and confidently. "I have a testimony that this is true. I have been healed by the priesthood, too, when my dad has given me blessings. And when I prayed about this scripture I could feel the Holy Ghost." She glanced at Sister Garcia, who nodded encouragingly. "I drew this picture to show Alma and Amulek healing Zeezrom. I'm so happy that Zeezrom changed from being an enemy of the gospel to becoming a great missionary, just like Alma and Amulek."

Kirsten sat down. Ayisha flashed her notebook at her. "Awesome job, Kirsten!" the note said, with a big happy face. Kirsten couldn't help but smile. ●

Ana Nelson Shaw is a member of the Merced First Ward, Merced California Stake.



"Each individual who prayerfully studies the Book of Mormon can also receive a testimony of its divinity. In addition, this book can help with personal problems in a very real way."

Elder Russell M. Nelson of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "A Testimony of the Book of Mormon," *Ensign*, Nov. 1999, 71.

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 "I will follow Heavenly Father's plan for me and do my part to have an eternal family."

Family Home Evening Ideas

Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned below.



1. Read President James E. Faust's message "The Comforter" (pages 2–3). What can the Comforter do for us?

Take turns describing ways you can live worthy to receive the promptings of the Holy Ghost.

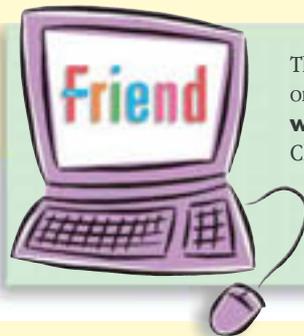
2. Do you have any family members who live far away, are serving in the military, or are serving a mission? Read "Sealed with a Hug" (pages 4–6). Think of someone you love who is far away and make a plan to strengthen your relationship with him or her. You may want to write letters or cards, assemble a package, or record your voice on a cassette tape.

3. Read "Joseph's Baptism" (pages 20–22). Have family members who have been baptized tell what they remember about that special day. How was it different from Joseph's baptism day? How was it the same? Even though not all of us have to work as hard physically as Joseph to prepare for baptism, we must prepare spiritually. Complete the activities "Choose the Right" (page 23) and

"Follow the Words of the Scriptures" (page 26) to help you remember two ways you can prepare for and keep baptismal covenants.

4. To discover one reason we should help others, read "The Worth of Eddie Porter" (pages 34–36). Just as prayer helps Matt and his father find Eddie, we can pray for help in noticing others who may need our friendship. Pray throughout the week that you'll notice someone you can help and share your experiences next week at family home evening.

5. Read "My Family Can Be Together Forever" (pages 40–41). How can we prepare to live eternally with our families? Share stories from your family history and complete the activity "Family History Scroll" (page 37) to remind you that ancestors are a part of our eternal families, too.



The *Friend* can be found on the Internet at www.lds.org. Click on Gospel Library.

To subscribe online, go to www.ldscatalog.com.

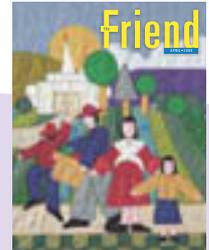
Manuscript Submissions

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* Editorial, 50 E. North Temple St. Rm. 2420, Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3220 United States of America. Send e-mail to cur-editorial-friend@ldschurch.org.

Send children's submissions to *Friend* Editorial, 50 E. North Temple St. Rm. 2420, Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3220 United States of America, in care of the appropriate department—Our Creative Friends, Friends in the News, Friends by Mail, Trying to Be Like Jesus. Submissions will not be returned.

The *Friend* can be found on the Internet at www.lds.org. Click on Gospel Library.

To subscribe on line: Go to www.ldscatalog.com.



Topical Index to this Issue of the *Friend*

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

Baptism 20

Blessings IFC

Child of God 34

Choose the Right 23 (f), 32, 45

Church History 8

Death 16

Family 4, 8, 10, 12, 16, 28, 40 (FLF)

Family History 8, 20, 37

Family Home Evening 4

General Conference 7 (v), 24, 38

Holy Ghost 2

Jesus Christ 2, 32, 34, 44

Love and Kindness 32, 34, 45, 46

Music 44

My Gospel Standards IFC, 2, 4, 12, 28, 32, 44

Prayer IFC, 4, 34

Primary 46

Prophets 2, 7 (v), 8, 24, 36, 38

Quorum of the Seventy 6, 8, 33

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles 2, 16, 22, 24, 31, 38, 48

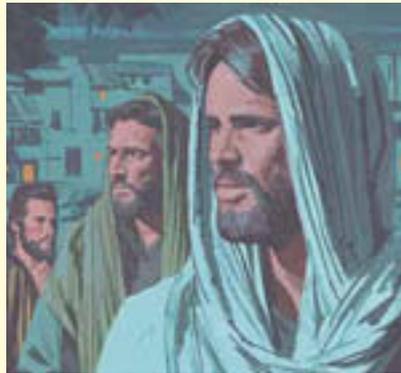
Scriptures 26 (f)

Talents 44, 46

Temples 27, 40 (FLF)

Tithing 44

What's in the *Friend* this month?



page 2

The Savior sends us comfort through the Holy Ghost.

page 4

Find out how a girl shares family home evening with her brother who is serving far away in the military.



page 24

Complete this activity as you listen to general conference.

