



Making Things Right

By Michelle S. Kurns

(Based on a true story)

I will choose the right. I know I can repent when I make a mistake (My Gospel Standards).

I need to tell you something, Mom,” Melissa said, looking at the floor. She took a deep breath and started to cry.

“My teacher is really mad because someone wrote on the bathroom wall,” Melissa said. “I know I shouldn’t have done it, but someone else started writing and I thought it was funny, so I did too. I feel so bad inside. What can I do?”

Mom gave Melissa a hug and pointed to a picture on the shelf. It was taken on the day Melissa was baptized. “Do remember what Uncle Brett talked about at your baptism?”

Sniffling, Melissa nodded. “That the Holy Ghost can help us know what is right and wrong,” she said. “He said if I did something wrong I would get a bad feeling. Is this what he was talking about?”

“Yes,” Mom said. “What else did he say?”

Melissa thought for a moment. “When we mess up we can repent by asking for forgiveness and fixing what we did wrong,” she said. “And promising to never do it again.”

As Melissa said those words, she knew what she needed to do.

Before the school bell rang the next morning, Melissa was at her teacher’s desk.

“Mrs. O’Dell, I wrote on the bathroom wall,” Melissa said, her heart pounding. “I’m really sorry, and I will clean it up.”

Mrs. O’Dell looked at Melissa for a moment. “You’ll have to stay after school to clean it,” she said. “And you need to tell your mother what you have done.”

“I know, I already told her. I promise to never do anything like this again,” Melissa said.

Melissa smiled as she walked to her desk. The bad feeling she had yesterday was gone.

One day in school we had a spelling test. Some people cheated, but I didn’t because I know cheating isn’t right. It made me sad to see other kids in my class cheating. I’m in grade 1. Because I’m not cheating in grade 1, it will help me not cheat in grades 2 and 3 and the rest of my life. When I choose to be honest, I feel happy. By choosing the right we become like Jesus. And being honest helps me become more like Him.

Tegan B., age 6, Queensland, Australia