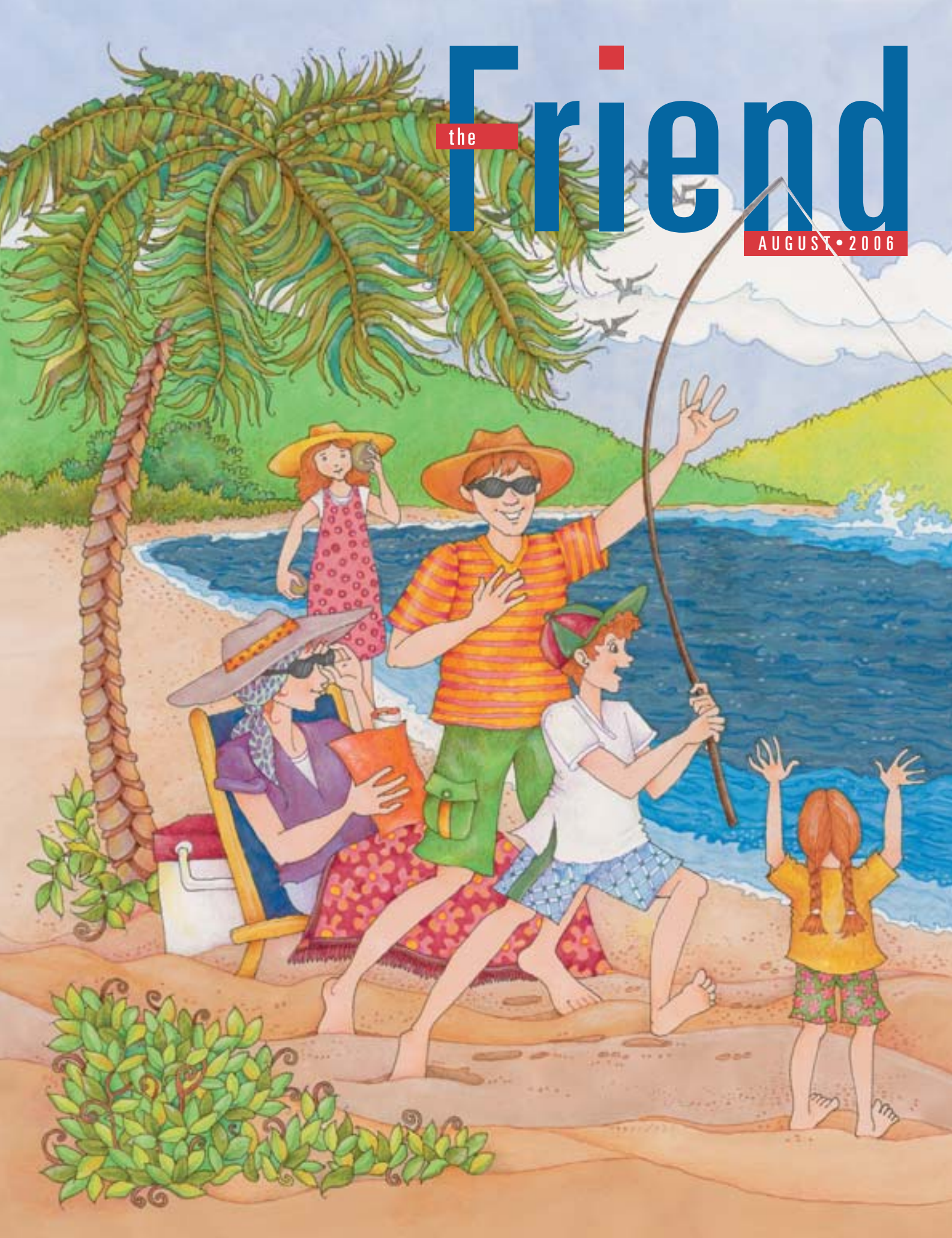


the Friend

AUGUST • 2006





Friends by Mail

Heavenly Father Listened



Once when I was five or six years old I woke up in the middle of the night. I was having an asthma attack and I couldn't breathe at all! My mom said she would have to take me to the emergency room, and I was terrified.

While she was getting our coats, I called out, "Heavenly Father, please help me!" When my mom came back to my room, I was lying on my bed, breathing slowly. We went to the emergency room where I had a treatment. I missed a day of school, but soon I felt as well as if nothing had happened. I know that Heavenly Father listened to me and answered my prayer.

Marissa E., age 10, California

Warning in the Woods



I was walking through the woods behind my house. I was about to walk through some bushes when I had a feeling that I should not. So without even thinking about it, I walked around the bushes. Just then I saw a snake

under the bushes. I knew that the Holy Ghost had

warned me not to go through the bushes. If I hadn't listened, the snake might have bitten me.

Brandon C., age 11, Georgia

Finding a Friend



Each night before I go to bed I like to hear a story from the *Friend*. One night we couldn't find the *Friend* anywhere. After searching for a while, my dad suggested we say a prayer. We asked Heavenly Father to help us find the *Friend*.

After the prayer we started looking again. During the search my dad had a thought. He felt that we should look behind my bed. We did, and there it was! I am grateful for my dad. He helped me learn that Heavenly Father listens to all His children no matter how big or small their problems are.

Kaylee J., age 4, with help from her mom, Utah

Please send us a letter sharing your feelings about the *Friend* magazine, a spiritual experience, your testimony, or whatever else is on your mind. Please include a photo of yourself and your name, age, and address. **A written statement signed by a parent or legal guardian granting permission to publish your photo and submission must be included.** If an adult helps with your submission, credit should also be given to him or her. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least a year. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Children whose writings are submitted should be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned. Send it to Friends by Mail, *Friend* Magazine, Rm. 2430, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, United States of America.

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the friend

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



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

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Cover by Shauna Mooney Kawasaki





Come Listen to
a Prophet's Voice

Faith in Every FOOTSTEP

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

Each of us needs to have our own storehouse of faith to help us rise above the troubles that are part of this mortal life.

Thomas Giles, a Welsh convert who joined the Church in 1844, suffered much in his lifetime. He was a miner, and while he was digging coal in the mine, a large piece of coal hit him on the head and made a wound nine inches (23 cm) long. The doctor who examined him said the injured man would not live longer than 24 hours. But then the elders came and blessed him. He was promised that he would get well and that “even if he would never see again, he would live to do much good in the Church.” Brother Giles did indeed live but was blind the rest of his life.

In 1856 Brother Giles and his family moved to Utah, but before he left his homeland, the Welsh Saints presented him with a harp, which he learned to play well. At Council Bluffs, Iowa, he joined a handcart company and headed west. “Though blind he pulled a handcart from Council Bluffs to Salt Lake City.” While crossing the plains his wife and two children died. “His sorrow was great and his heart almost broken, but his faith did not fail him.” When Brother Giles arrived in Salt Lake City, President Brigham Young, who had heard his story,



President Faust teaches us to exercise faith as we are tested.



loaned Brother Giles a valuable harp until his own arrived from Wales. Brother Giles “traveled from settlement to settlement in Utah, . . . gladdening the hearts of the people with his sweet music.”¹

We all face trials. Members in the early days of the Church were tested and refined when they had to decide if they had the faith, like Brother Giles, to put their belongings in a wagon or a pioneer handcart and travel across the American plains. Some did not have the faith. Those who did traveled “with faith in every footstep.”

In our time we are going through an increasingly difficult time of refining and testing. None of us knows the wisdom of the Lord. We do not know in advance exactly how He will get us from where we are to where we need to be. We encounter many bumps, bends, and forks in the road of life that leads to the eternities.

As we live on earth we must walk in faith, nothing doubting. We have much reason to hope. Joy can be ours if we are willing to sacrifice all for the Lord. Then we can look forward to the priceless possibility of overcoming all the challenges of this life. Then we will be with the Savior forever. ●

From an October 2004 general conference address.

NOTE

1. See Andrew Jenson, *Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia*, 4 vols. (1901–36), 2:507–8.





The FISHERMEN

BY WENDY ELLISON
(Based on a true story)

Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men
(Matthew 4:19).

I love fishing!” Jenny said as she helped her grandpa load their gear into the aluminum rowboat.

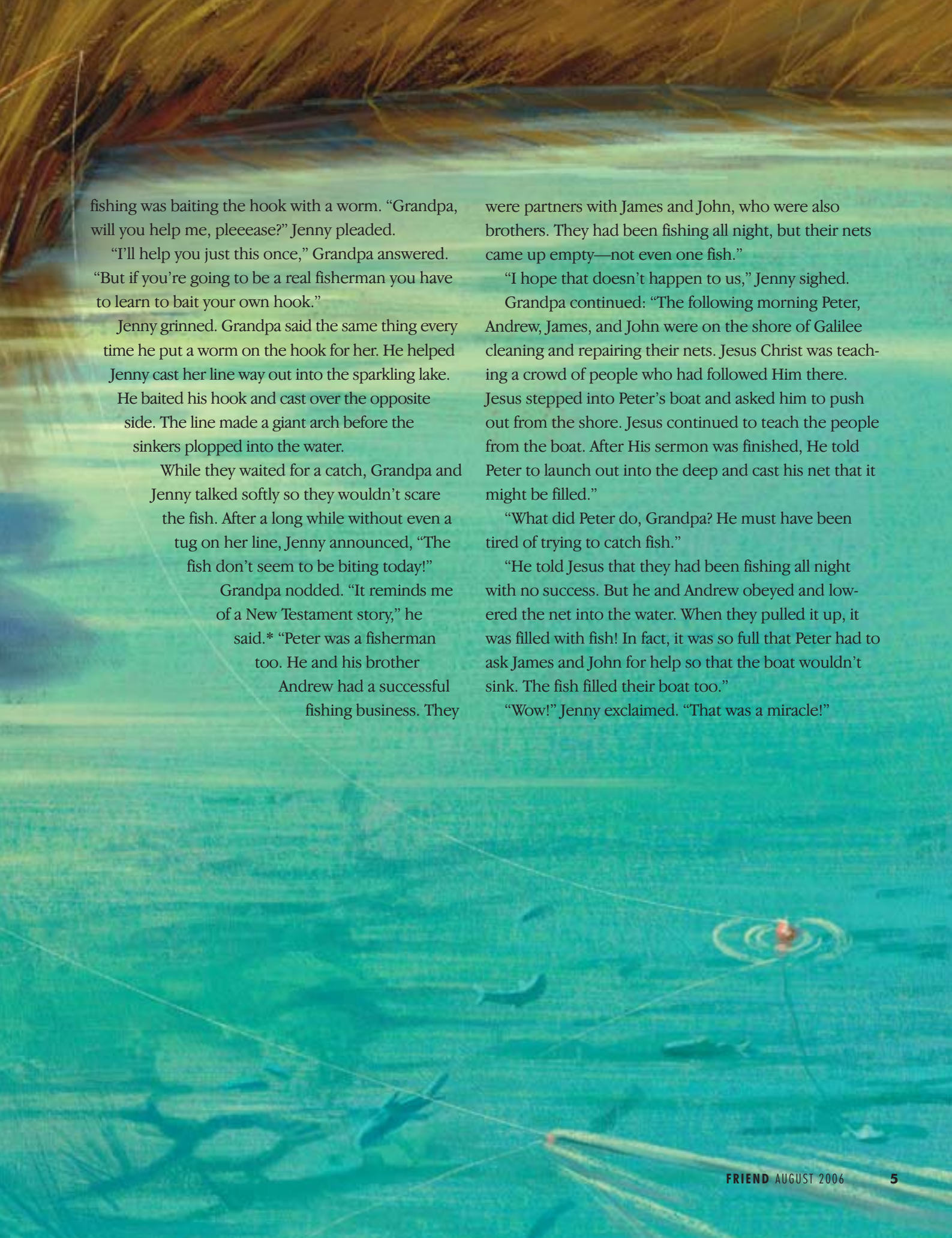
“I’m glad that you’re my fishing buddy,” Grandpa replied with a wink. “It’s good to have someone in the family who enjoys catching fish as much as I do.”

Jenny and Grandpa pushed their little boat into the shallow water. Jenny climbed in and sat down in front. Grandpa took the seat in the back and shoved off with an oar. He handed the other oar to Jenny.

Rowing was easy for Jenny and Grandpa. They had been on many fishing trips together and stroked smoothly without even thinking. It didn’t take long to reach their favorite fishing hole. They pulled in their oars, and Grandpa dropped the anchor over the side. The splash threw cool lake water on Jenny. She giggled as she dried her face with her hands. The boat rocked gently on the rippled water.

“Let’s get the fishing poles ready, Jen,” Grandpa said. “You get the bait box.”

Jenny squirmed. The one thing she didn’t like about



fishing was baiting the hook with a worm. “Grandpa, will you help me, please?” Jenny pleaded.

“I’ll help you just this once,” Grandpa answered. “But if you’re going to be a real fisherman you have to learn to bait your own hook.”

Jenny grinned. Grandpa said the same thing every time he put a worm on the hook for her. He helped Jenny cast her line way out into the sparkling lake. He baited his hook and cast over the opposite side. The line made a giant arch before the sinkers plopped into the water.

While they waited for a catch, Grandpa and Jenny talked softly so they wouldn’t scare the fish. After a long while without even a tug on her line, Jenny announced, “The fish don’t seem to be biting today!”

Grandpa nodded. “It reminds me of a New Testament story,” he said.* “Peter was a fisherman too. He and his brother Andrew had a successful fishing business. They

were partners with James and John, who were also brothers. They had been fishing all night, but their nets came up empty—not even one fish.”

“I hope that doesn’t happen to us,” Jenny sighed.

Grandpa continued: “The following morning Peter, Andrew, James, and John were on the shore of Galilee cleaning and repairing their nets. Jesus Christ was teaching a crowd of people who had followed Him there. Jesus stepped into Peter’s boat and asked him to push out from the shore. Jesus continued to teach the people from the boat. After His sermon was finished, He told Peter to launch out into the deep and cast his net that it might be filled.”

“What did Peter do, Grandpa? He must have been tired of trying to catch fish.”

“He told Jesus that they had been fishing all night with no success. But he and Andrew obeyed and lowered the net into the water. When they pulled it up, it was filled with fish! In fact, it was so full that Peter had to ask James and John for help so that the boat wouldn’t sink. The fish filled their boat too.”

“Wow!” Jenny exclaimed. “That was a miracle!”



“It was indeed,” Grandpa agreed. “But that’s not all. After the fishermen got back to shore, Jesus asked them to do something that took a lot more faith than dropping their net. He called each of them to leave all that they had and follow Him. Jesus said that He would make them fishers of men. They left everything and followed Him.”

“It would be hard to leave everything, Grandpa. I don’t know if I could do that.”

Grandpa nodded thoughtfully.

“What exactly does it mean to be a fisher of men?” Jenny asked.

“I believe it means to follow the Savior, to set an example, and to share our testimony and His gospel with

others. I think those are things *these* fishermen can do.” Grandpa pointed to himself and then to Jenny.

Jenny smiled. “Thanks, Grandpa. I like that story.”

“It’s a good one,” Grandpa replied. “There are always great lessons for us in the scriptures.”

Jenny sat quietly. She knew that there was nothing to do now but be patient. She was quiet as she waited for a tug on her line.

“What are you thinking about, Jen?” Grandpa asked, interrupting the silence.



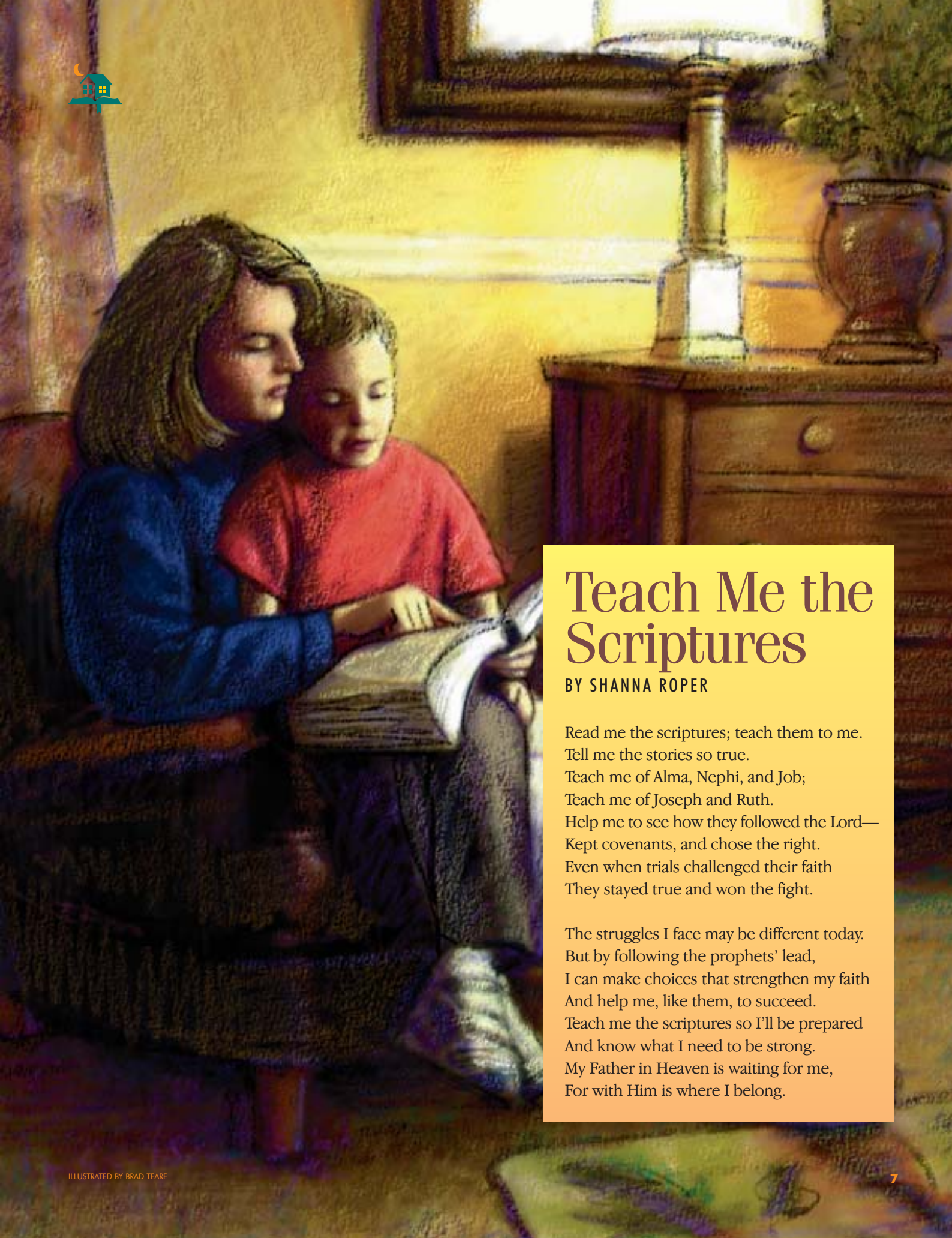
“Again and again during his mortal ministry, our Lord issued a call that was both an invitation and a challenge. . . . ‘Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men’ (Matt. 4:19). We are in the work of saving souls, of inviting people to come unto Christ.”



President Howard W. Hunter (1907–95),
“Follow the Son of God,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1994, 88.

“I was just thinking that it’s OK if we don’t catch any fish today. After all, there’s more than one way to be a fisherman.” ●

*See Matthew 4:18–22; Mark 1:16–20; Luke 5:1–11.

An illustration by Brad Teare showing a woman with long brown hair, wearing a blue sweater, sitting on a dark wooden chair. She is holding a young child with short brown hair, wearing a red sweater, on her lap. They are both looking down at an open book held by the child. The room is warmly lit, with a lamp on a wooden side table to the right. The lamp has a white shade and a dark base. On the table next to the lamp is a dark vase with greenery. The background wall is a warm, yellowish-brown color. The overall style is soft and painterly.

Teach Me the Scriptures

BY SHANNA ROPER

Read me the scriptures; teach them to me.
Tell me the stories so true.
Teach me of Alma, Nephi, and Job;
Teach me of Joseph and Ruth.
Help me to see how they followed the Lord—
Kept covenants, and chose the right.
Even when trials challenged their faith
They stayed true and won the fight.

The struggles I face may be different today.
But by following the prophets' lead,
I can make choices that strengthen my faith
And help me, like them, to succeed.
Teach me the scriptures so I'll be prepared
And know what I need to be strong.
My Father in Heaven is waiting for me,
For with Him is where I belong.

A Testimony of Heavenly Father

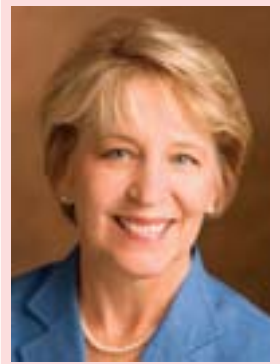


I know my Father lives and loves me too (Children's Songbook, 5).

I grew up in Provo, Utah, with a wonderful family and leaders who helped me develop a testimony of Heavenly Father from the time I was a child. I hope you will gain a testimony that Heavenly Father loves you and that He answers your prayers. I hope you will gain a testimony of the Savior and His love for you.

You will gain a testimony by feeling the influence of the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost cares about you and wants to teach you. Pray each day for guidance from the Holy Ghost. Through time, experience, and prayer, you will feel His presence. You will understand how He is giving you direction in your life.

When I was a child, I knew that Heavenly Father answered my prayers. One evening my parents were visiting the temple and I was home. The weather was bad, and I worried they would not make it home. I was sick and could not sleep because I was coughing. Finally, I crawled out of bed and knelt down. I prayed that I could stop coughing and go to sleep, and that my parents would get home safely. I climbed back into



From an interview with Margaret S. Lifferth, First Counselor in the Primary General Presidency; by Rebecca Taylor and Emily Metheny

bed and fell asleep. My parents made it home safely. This was a simple confirmation that Heavenly Father heard my prayer and answered it.

When I was a young girl, I loved to play with my friends in the neighborhood. We built forts, slept out in the backyard, played games like kick the can, and had water fights. I also loved time by myself to read a good book.

I attended Brigham Young University and majored in English. As a student of literature, I read a lot. I still love to read, especially the scriptures. There is nothing better than the scriptures to add to my understanding.

There is nothing better than the scriptures to invite revelation into my life.

Reading the scriptures has shown me what Heavenly Father wants for me and for all His children. Every time I read the scriptures I learn something new, no matter how many times I have read them before.

Your testimony will grow as you listen to the prophet's voice. You will feel the concern he has for you. When he speaks, you will feel the Holy Ghost. When I was 12 years old, the President of the Church was David O. McKay. My Beehive class was in Salt Lake City one day to do

baptisms for the dead at the temple. We saw President McKay. Our Beehive advisor was bold enough to walk us all over to meet the prophet. He shook all of our hands. I will never forget the powerful feeling I had when I shook his hand. I knew he was a prophet of God.

Heavenly Father's promises are sure. When you live the gospel principles, you will gain a testimony that will make a difference in your life. Your obedience to Heavenly Father is a sign to Him that you have faith in His promises. ●



Sister Lifferth at age 6 (top left), at 3 years (top right) with her brothers and older sister, and with her husband and family (right).



Hold to the IRON ROD

BY JANE MCBRIDE CHOATE

(Based on a true story)

The rod of iron . . . was the word of God (1 Nephi 11:25).

Eight-year-old Matthew sat with the other children in his Primary class. They were quietly waiting for sharing time to start.

“We have a special treat today,” the Primary president said. “Sister Danton, the stake Primary president, is here and she will do sharing time for us.”

“Today we are going to talk about a vision the Book of Mormon prophet Lehi had in a dream,”* Sister Danton explained. “In his dream Lehi saw a tree with white fruit. He ate the fruit and it made him happy. Then he asked his family to come and eat the fruit. He wanted them to be happy too. Lehi also saw many people holding onto an iron rod. The rod led them on a strait path through mists of darkness to the tree. Some of the people ate the fruit but others did not.

“The objects Lehi saw in his dream have special meanings,” Sister Danton said. Then she showed the children a cardboard tree with paper fruit on it. “The tree of life is the love of God. The fruit is happiness and eternal life.”

Sister Danton then held up a long metal rod. She explained that the rod represents the word of God.



“We can find the word of God by reading the scriptures, listening to the prophet, and attending church.” She looked around the room and said, “I need someone to help me.”

Matthew raised his hand.

Sister Danton blindfolded him and guided him to the rod. “Hold onto the rod until you reach the tree. Then I want you to pick a piece of fruit,” she told him.

Matthew gripped the rod and used it to guide him to the tree. When he reached the tree, he pulled a paper fruit from it.

“Congratulations! You reached the tree of eternal life and picked the fruit of happiness,” Sister Danton said. Then she removed Matthew’s blindfold. “Could you have found the tree on your own?” she asked.

Matthew shook his head. “I had to hold onto the rod or I wouldn’t know where I was going.”

“How did you feel when you held onto the rod?”

“I felt safe,” Matthew said.

Sister Danton smiled and said, “Just as the rod guided you to the tree, we can all return to Heavenly Father by holding onto the word of God.”

A warm feeling settled over Matthew. He was glad Heavenly Father had provided a way for everyone to be happy. ●

*See 1 Nephi 8:2–38.





*Large and spacious field—
the world*



The tree of life—the love of God



*Fruit of the tree—the blessings that
come through the Savior*

Lehi's Dream

The Book of Mormon prophet Lehi had a dream. Heavenly Father sent the dream to teach Lehi and his family how to find happiness. Each of the objects in the dream has a special meaning. Look at the pictures and read the meanings. As you read the dream in 1 Nephi 8:2–38 (or as someone reads it to you), remember the meanings.



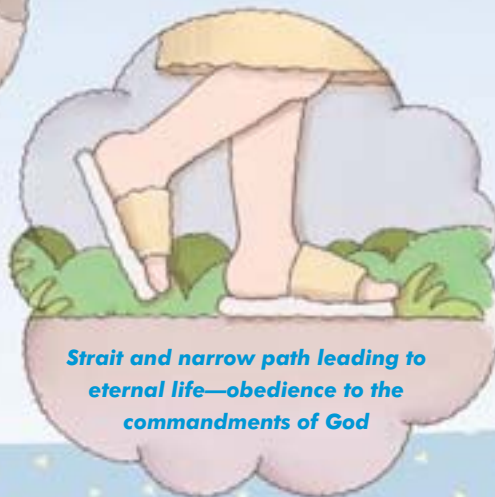
*Large and spacious building—filled
with unkind and prideful people
who make fun of others.*



*River and fountain—Satan's influ-
ence in the world, depths of hell
(See 1 Nephi 12:16.)*



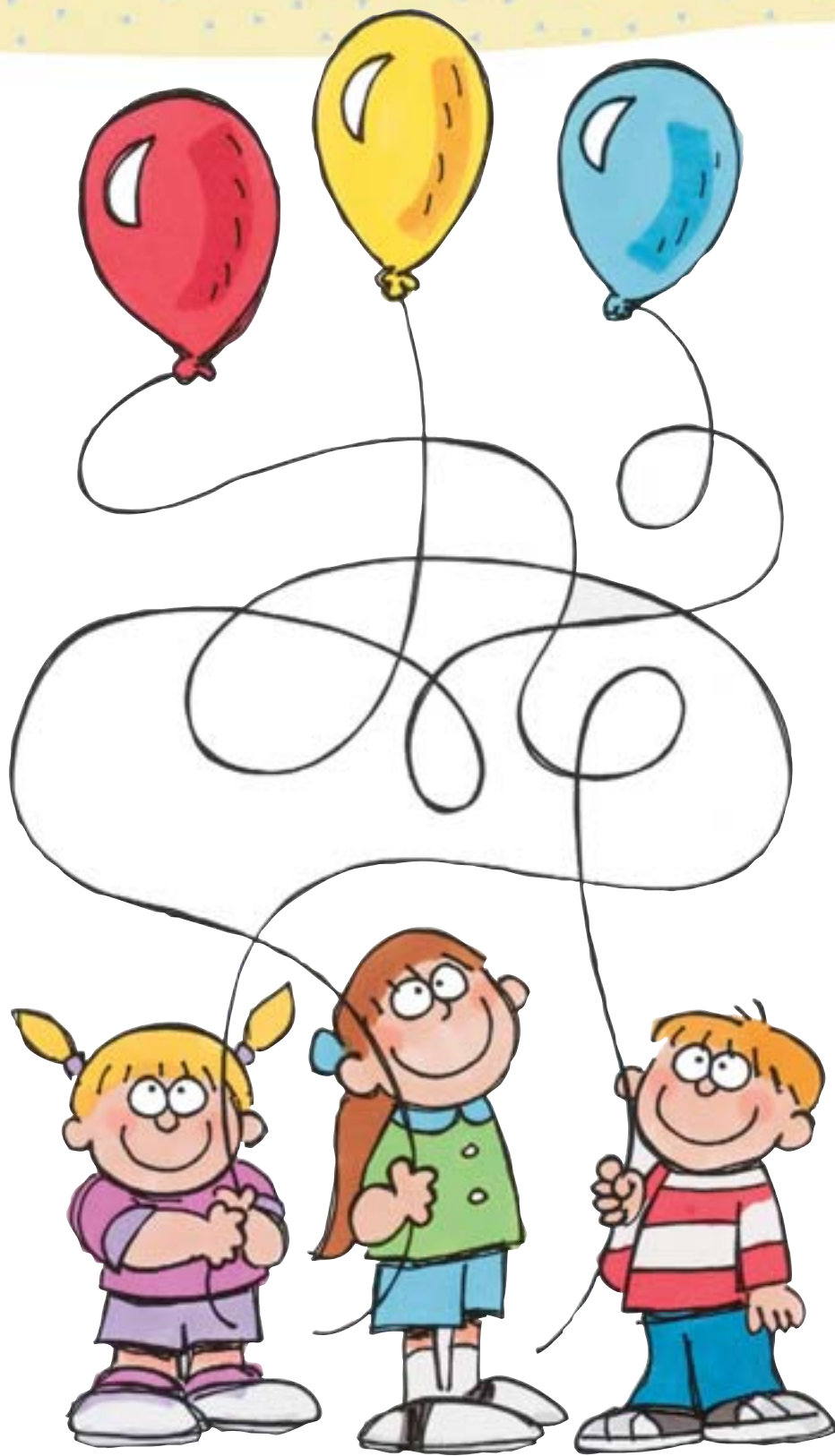
*Mists of darkness—
the temptations of Satan*



*Strait and narrow path leading to
eternal life—obedience to the
commandments of God*



Iron rod—the word of God



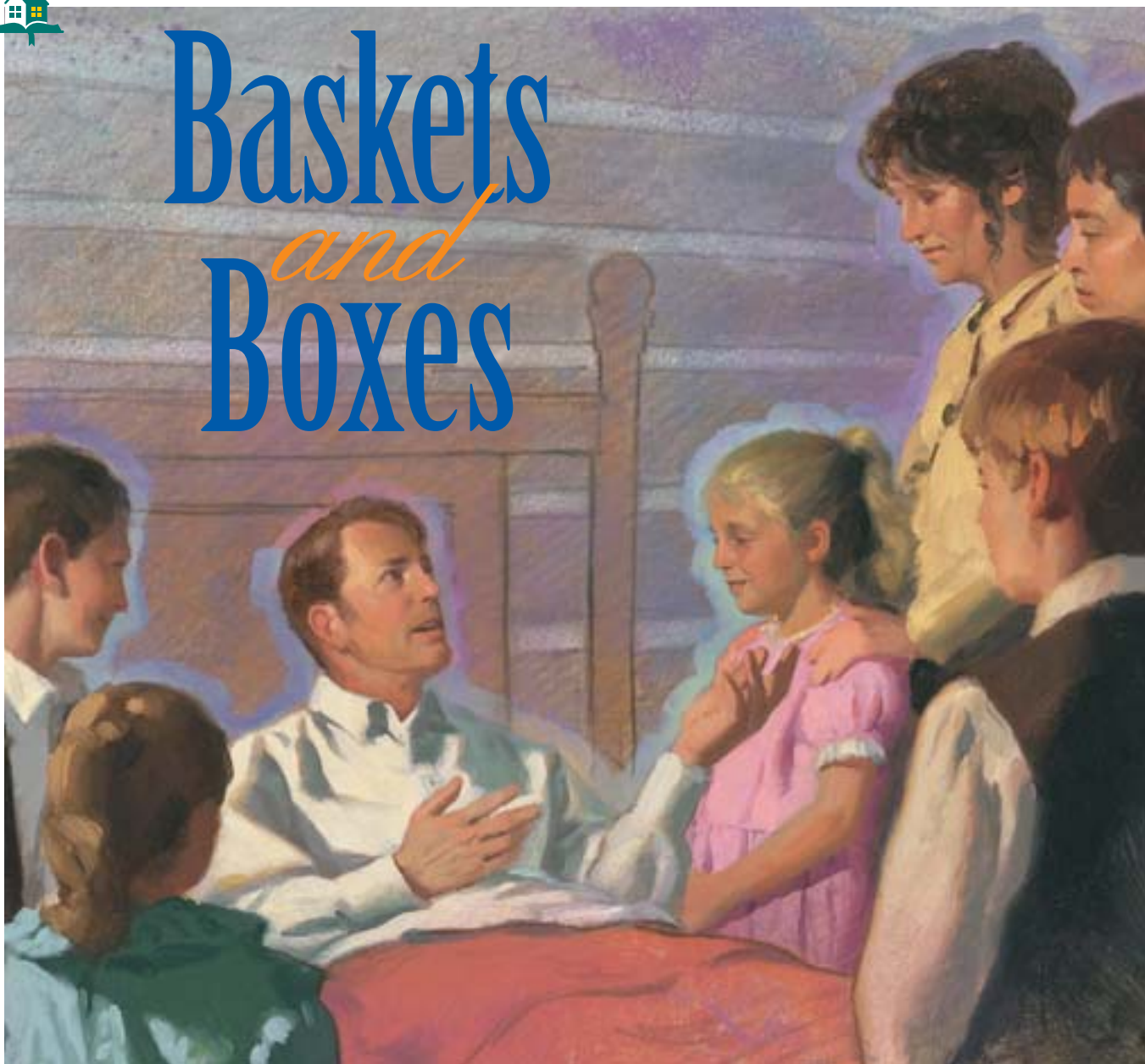
Primary Fun

BY VAL CHADWICK BAGLEY

Each of these children received a balloon at a Primary activity. Follow the strings to see which balloon belongs to each child.



Baskets *and* Boxes



BY CALEB WARNOCK

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

As thou hast inquired thou hast received instruction of my Spirit (D&C 6:14).

March 1839

Lyma, Illinois

Five-year-old Mary turned the flour sack upside down. She was helping her mother make bread. They needed one last cup of flour, but the sack was empty.

“We’ll just have to make as many loaves as we can,”

Mother said.

Mary knew why their family was out of flour. Since the night the mob had made them leave their home in Adam-ondi-Ahman, life had been hard. They had been forced to leave behind everything they owned. Mary’s father and brothers had returned to Adam-ondi-Ahman with other Saints to get their chairs, rugs, and food, but when they tried to cross the river in their wagons, the mob started shooting at them. Mary’s father and brothers had barely made it back to camp safely.



Since that night, Father had been coughing. For the last couple of months, it seemed as if he could hardly breathe. He was too sick to get out of bed. And because he was too sick to work, Mary's family had no money to buy food.

Using a borrowed horse, Mary and her mother and her eight brothers and sisters had worked from sunrise to sunset clearing trees from their new land to farm. They used the trees to build a new house. They had finished planting the corn the day before, but it would not be ready to eat for months.

That night the family knelt in prayer and thanked Heavenly Father for their new land and house. They thanked Him for their safety from the mob. Then Father prayed that they might find a way to earn enough money to buy food.

The next morning, Father asked everyone to gather around his bed. "Last night I stayed up late praying," he said. "I asked Heavenly Father to help me find a way for us to earn enough money for food, even though I am sick. When I fell asleep, I had a dream."

He explained that in his dream, he had seen the family gathering bark and logs in the forest. When they came home, they used the bark to make baskets. They used the wood from the logs to make boxes. "Everyone in our family was working together," Father said. "When we finished, we loaded the baskets

and boxes into the wagon and took them into town to sell." He got tears in his eyes. "This dream is Heavenly Father's answer to our prayers," he said.

That very morning, Mary and her family went into the forest near their home and found the trees Father had seen. When the bark was soaked in water overnight, it was perfect for weaving baskets.

Mary's mother taught her how to make pretty round baskets with handles while Mary's brothers split some of the logs into planks to make boxes. Within a few days, they had enough baskets and boxes to fill their wagon and take into town.

When they arrived at the general store, the shopkeeper looked over the baskets and boxes. "They are very well made," he said. "I'll take all of them."

In return for the items, he gave them sacks of flour and potatoes, and even a bolt of cloth.

"I'd take some more baskets and boxes in two weeks, if you can make them," he said.

Mother smiled. "We will bring another wagonful."

That evening, the family knelt in prayer. Father wept as he thanked Heavenly Father for helping the family get enough food to last until the autumn harvest.

And the next morning, Mary helped her mother make bread again. ●

"You, through prayer, can solve your problems."

President Boyd K. Packer, Acting President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Self-Reliance," Ensign, Aug. 1975, 89.





Activity

1. Cut out the pictures on this page.
2. Glue or tape the pictures to heavier paper.
3. Attach a piece of flannel or rough material to the back of the heavy paper if you would like the figures to stick to a flannel board.
4. Using the scripture figures, tell the stories of Nephi, Daniel, the stripling warriors, and Ruth. (See 1 Nephi 3-4; Daniel 6; Alma 57:19-27; Ruth 1.)

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



THE SCRIPTURES SHOW THE WAY



Remember to search [the scriptures] diligently, that ye may profit thereby (Mosiah 1:7).

BY LINDA MAGLEBY AND ELIZABETH RICKS



Even though we know that we will be blessed for being obedient, sometimes it might seem hard to keep the commandments. The scriptures give us examples of people who kept the commandments even when it was hard.

After Lehi and his family left Jerusalem they traveled for several days in the wilderness. Then the Lord commanded that Nephi and his brothers return to Jerusalem to get the brass plates, the scriptures, from Laban. Laman and Lemuel murmured, or complained, saying that it was a hard thing to go all the way back to Jerusalem. Nephi did not murmur. He said, “I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded, for I know that

the Lord giveth no commandments unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commandeth them” (1 Nephi 3:7). The Lord helped Nephi. Even though it was hard, he was able to get the brass plates.

Daniel was ordered *not* to do something that was right—he was told not to pray! Wicked men tricked the king into making a law that required anyone who prayed to be thrown into the lions’ den. Daniel still prayed three times a day. When the men caught Daniel praying, Daniel was cast into the lions’ den. Did the lions kill Daniel? No. Daniel was protected by an angel sent from God. God blessed Daniel for keeping His commandment to pray.

We can follow Nephi’s and Daniel’s examples of obedience. We can obey our parents, dress modestly, use appropriate language, and read our scriptures—even when it is hard! ●

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. Read aloud together 1 Nephi 19:23. *Liken* means “to compare.” We see how our lives are *like* the lives of the people we are reading about. We see how the Lord’s word can help us today. (See “Likening,” TNGC, 170–71.) Pass out scripture references to illustrate the following principles: Mosiah 2:17–18 (serve others); Mosiah 4:16 (help the poor); Alma 37:36–37 (pray always); Exodus 20:12 (honor our mothers and fathers); Mosiah 5:5, 7 (make and keep baptismal covenants). Ask the children to do three things: (1) read the scripture, (2) find the gospel principle and be prepared to explain it in their own words, and (3) tell how they can apply (or liken) the message in their lives today. Discuss how they and their families are blessed as they liken the scriptures to themselves. Bear testimony of the importance of the scriptures in your life. Ask, “Of all the people who have ever lived on the earth, whom do you want to be most like?” Sing “I’m Trying to Be like Jesus” (pp. 78–79), emphasizing the word *like*. Younger children could work in groups to discover ways that they are like each other. They could look at pictures from the scriptures and tell ways that they could be like the people in the pictures.

2. Draw a simple game board on the chalkboard with the beginning space in the bottom left corner and the finish space in the upper right corner. Draw a water line just below the finish square. Use a cutout of Noah’s ark as a marker. Place it in the beginning space below the water. Explain that the object of the game is to get the ark out of the water. Position various animal cutouts around the room. On the backs of the cutouts write a 1, 2, or the name of one of the songs from the *Children's Songbook* listed under “Obedience” (see p. 310). Retell the story of Noah (see Genesis 6–8). Emphasize that Noah’s family was blessed because of their obedience. Invite the children to take turns finding an animal. If a song is listed on the back, have the children sing the song, place the animal in the ark, and move the marker three spaces. If a 1 or a 2 is selected, have the child share something our modern prophets have asked us to do, such as pay tithing, keep a journal, or read our scriptures daily. The child then places the animal on the ark and moves the marker the designated number of spaces. When the ark is out of the water, sing the third verse of “Follow the Prophet” (pp. 110–11). Explain that we and our families will be blessed when we follow our own prophet. Sing the ninth verse of “Follow the Prophet.”

3. Display GAK 240 (Jesus the Christ). Tell the story of Alma’s repentance (see Mosiah 27). Sing the second verse of “Help Me, Dear Father” (p. 99). We can be forgiven just as Alma was. Help the children memorize D&C 58:42 by writing three eight-letter words on the chalkboard:

R E P E N T E D

F O R G I V E N

R E M E M B E R

Repeat the scripture several times, each time erasing one of the vertical columns of letters. Tell the children that we have the story of Alma in the scriptures so that we can learn from his experience. Explain, however, that the Lord no longer remembers the things that Alma did wrong. Or, to put it another way, “None of his sins that he hath committed shall be mentioned unto him” (Ezekiel 33:16). Demonstrate repentance by showing a clear glass jar with water in it. (Depending upon the water in your

area, you may need to add two tablespoons of vinegar to make the water clearer.) Liken this clear water to us when we came to earth. We were pure and clean. When we make wrong choices and sin, we become impure. (Pour water colored with food coloring into the jar.) But through the Atonement of Jesus Christ, we are able to repent, even as Alma did. (Pour bleach into the jar—water should return to clear if there wasn’t too much coloring.) Then we are pure and clean again. Bear testimony of repentance. To help children understand what it means to repent, refer to the *Primary 3* manual, pp. 46–49.

4. Be prepared to briefly tell the story of the stripling warriors (see Alma 53:10–22; 56–57). Using the language of the scriptures, prepare parts for boys ages 10 and 11 that describe the stripling warriors. For example, “I am a stripling warrior, and I made a covenant to fight for the liberty of the Nephites” (Alma 53:17); “We were all young men and were exceedingly valiant for courage” (Alma 53:20). Introduce the sharing time by briefly reviewing the story of the Anti-Nephi-Lehies as given on the back of GAK 311 (The Anti-Nephi-Lehies Burying Their Swords; see also Alma 23–24). As prepared earlier, tell the story of the stripling warriors and have the older boys read their parts. Prepare simple case studies (see TNGC, 161–62) that pose questions about appropriate music, media, language, dress, and so on. Place them in a basket, and pass it up and down the rows as you hum “We’ll Bring the World His Truth” (pp. 172–73). Randomly stop the music, and have the child with the basket draw out and read a case study. Let the “stripling warriors” answer what they would do because “their mothers taught them.”

5. *Song presentation*: “Search, Ponder, and Pray” (p. 109). Before Primary write “Search, Ponder, and Pray” on a piece of paper, and place it inconspicuously in the room. Tell the children you have written on a paper the way to get a testimony. Ask them to listen as a helper finds the paper. You are going to sing louder as the helper gets closer to the paper, softer when the helper is farther away. When the paper is found, sing the words and clap the rhythm to the first line of the chorus: “Search, ponder, and pray are the things that I must do.” Ask the children to sing and clap with you. Focus their listening by asking them to discover two words that rhyme as you sing the rest of the chorus (*guide, inside*), and have them sing the chorus. Ask the children to find two more words in the chorus that rhyme, but explain that these words might be harder to find because they are not near each other like *guide* and *inside* are. Sing the chorus with the children, and take their responses (*do, true*). Ask them to listen to the verse and find what happens every time you read the scriptures. Sing one more time. Invite the children to look up Moroni 10:3–4, which is sometimes called “Moroni’s promise.” This is one of the last things that Moroni wrote, and it is very important. As you read, ask the children to listen for words that are the same or mean the same as *search, ponder, and pray*. Point out that reading is one way of searching. Moroni exhorts us, or encourages us, to ponder just as the song does. Finally, the way we “ask God” is to pray. Using different words, Moroni’s promise tells how to gain a testimony. Bear your testimony of the scriptures. Tell the children that if they will search, ponder, and pray about the scriptures, they can have a testimony that they are true.

6. *Friend* references: “A Sister’s Example,” Feb. 2005, 47; “Ben’s Busy Day,” Jan. 2005, 40–42; “The Light,” Jan. 2005, 4–6; “I Will Go and Do,” Jan. 2004, 26; “The Lipstick Lie,” Mar. 2005, 38–40; “The Savior’s Atonement,” Mar. 2002, 2–3; “The Light Divine,” Mar. 2005, 8–9; “Crossroads,” Apr. 2004, 2–3.

GUESS WHO



Can you guess who this is? Read the clues about this member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. Then find the answer on page 37.

- 1** As he traveled around the world as a pilot, he saw that the gospel could unite people of all cultures and races, no matter where they live.
- 2** By the time he was 11, he and his family had been refugees twice.
- 3** He was born in Czechoslovakia on November 6 and grew up in Germany after World War II.
- 4** A woman named Sister Ewig invited his family to sacrament meeting when he was six years old. Her name means “Sister Eternal.”
- 5** He is 11th in seniority in the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.
- 6** He is the only living Apostle who was not born in the United States.

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

7 He compares listening for the Holy Ghost to listening to shortwave radio frequencies: “We have to train and condition ourselves to hear the still, small voice, never to be distracted or stop listening because of too much static on that sacred frequency.”

8 When he was in flight school, he won the Commanders Trophy for being the outstanding student pilot in his class.

Words of Wisdom

The gospel of Jesus Christ provides the true and accurate information by which to direct our lives. If we let it enter into our system—into our hearts and minds—we will know who we are, where we came from, why we are here, and what our final destination will be (“Happy Landing,” New Era, Mar. 1995, 6).

I make a record of my proceedings in my days (1 Nephi 1:1).



Jared's Journal

BY LILIA M. CROUCH

(Based on a true story)

Aaron burst through the front door after school and ran straight upstairs to his bedroom. He began searching for something while his little brother Jared curiously watched.

“Where are you? Where are you?” Aaron mumbled to himself.

“What are you looking for?” Jared asked.

“I’m looking for . . .” Then Aaron spied the very thing he needed up on the corner shelf in his closet, next to his scriptures. “Here it is!” Aaron exclaimed as he reached up and plucked his journal from its hiding place.

Aaron’s mind was buzzing with thoughts from his day. He wanted to begin writing as soon as possible so he wouldn’t forget about all the things he had heard and seen. He sat at the desk and carefully opened his journal to a blank page. He began to write.

Jared watched his big brother, wondering why he was so determined to write in that book. “What are you doing?” he asked. Aaron continued to concentrate on his journal. He wrote down the date, time, where he was, and how he was feeling. Jared became impatient and asked again, “What are you writing in that book?”

Aaron stopped writing and turned to Jared. “I’m almost finished,” he said. “Then I promise I’ll tell you what I’m doing, OK?” Jared nodded and sat patiently on his bed.

After writing some more, Aaron finally closed the book. Then he grabbed his scriptures and carried them with his journal to where Jared was sitting.



Aaron held up the Book of Mormon. "This book is kind of like a journal," Aaron explained to his little brother. "It's written by prophets and tells what they did and taught."

Aaron told Jared about some of the stories he remembered reading and learning about in Primary: the Lord teaching Nephi to build a ship, the brave Lamanite Samuel standing on the wall to preach, Jesus Christ coming to the Americas and teaching the little children.

"Mormon and his son Moroni finally finished writing their people's history on gold plates. Then Moroni hid the plates as God had commanded," Aaron said. "The Book of Mormon was left for us to read today. Someday, someone in our family will read my journal too." He smiled. "My journal is not scripture, but it will tell about all the important things that happened in my life and about the people I love, like you, Jared. It will be my testimony of the love Heavenly Father has for me."

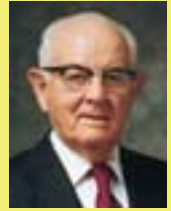


Jared thought about what Aaron had told him, then sprang off the bed and ran out of the room. He soon returned with a piece of paper and some crayons. He began coloring. Now Aaron was curious. "What are you doing?"

"I'm almost done," Jared said. This time Aaron waited patiently. Jared put down his crayons and lifted up the paper for Aaron to see. He had drawn a picture of himself and his big brother. And he had drawn a journal and a Book of Mormon in Aaron's hands. "I'm writing my journal now!" Jared said. "This is where I put down the time, the date, and where I was." Then Jared pointed to the cartoonlike picture he had drawn of his

"I promise you that if you will keep your journals . . . , they will indeed be a source of great inspiration to your families, to your children, your grandchildren, and others, on through the generations."

President Spencer W. Kimball (1895–1985), "President Kimball Speaks Out on Personal Journals," *Ensign*, Dec. 1980, 61.



big brother. "And this is where I put the person I love."

At that moment Jared remembered he had forgotten something. He reached for a bright yellow crayon and drew a big smiley face on the top of his paper. "And this is how I am feeling inside!" ●



Funstuf

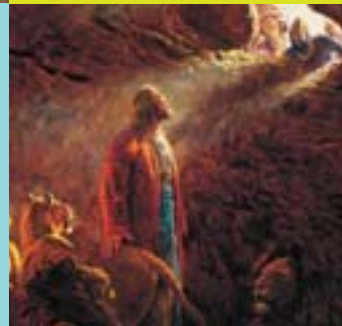


I persecuted the Church until the Lord appeared to me in a vision. I was baptized and became a missionary for the truth. (See Acts 9.)



I was converted after hearing the testimony of Abinadi. (See Mosiah 17:2.)

I was the second prophet of the Church in the latter days. I led the Saints to Utah.



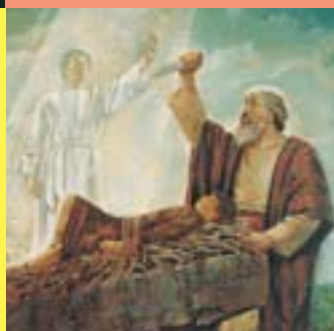
I was the prophet when the Salt Lake Temple was dedicated. (See Official Declaration—1.)



I wrote the book of Revelation in the New Testament. (See Revelation 1:1.)



I was the Apostle who walked on water with Jesus. I led the Church after Christ had left the earth. (See Matthew 14:28–29.)



Magic Scripture Square

BY BRITNEY SCHETSELAAR

See if you can solve the clues in each box or identify which prophet is shown in the picture. When you are finished, you should see a “magic square”—meaning that each column, row, or diagonal line with four squares in it will have one Book of Mormon prophet, one Old Testament prophet, one New Testament prophet, and one prophet from the Doctrine and Covenants. (See answers on page 37.)



Fishing for Old Testament Facts

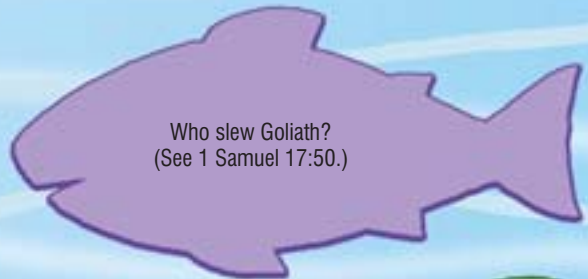
To make this game to add to your Sunday Box (see *Friend*, June 2006, 18) or for family home evening, you will need glue, scissors, a magnet, wire paper clips, a string 39 inches (1 m) long, and a stick short enough to fit into the Sunday Box.

1. To make a fishing pole, tie one end of the string to the stick and the other end to the magnet.
2. Glue these two pages to heavy paper, and cut out the fish. Attach a paper clip to the nose of each fish.
3. Scatter fish in your empty Sunday Box or in another box (for your fishpond). Take turns catching the fish and answering the questions. If the player doesn't know the answer or the answer is incorrect, he or she looks up the scripture reference to find the correct answer.
4. On the three blank fish you can write your own Old Testament questions or other gospel questions. You can also make additional fish for your fishpond. ●

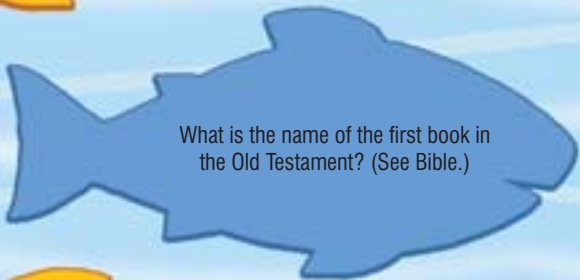




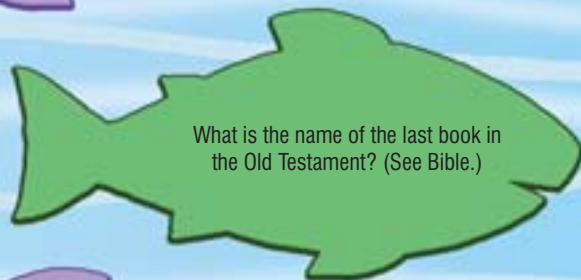
Where did Adam first live?
(See Genesis 2:8.)



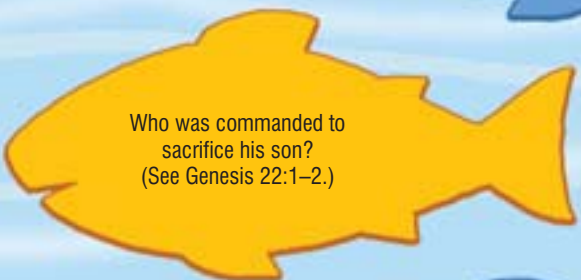
Who slew Goliath?
(See 1 Samuel 17:50.)



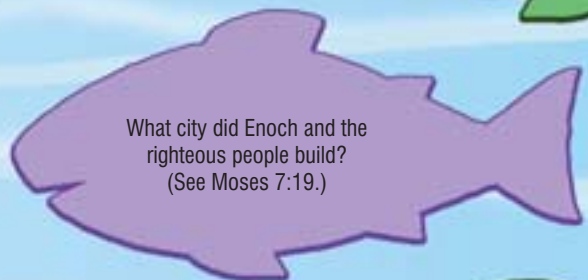
What is the name of the first book in
the Old Testament? (See Bible.)



What is the name of the last book in
the Old Testament? (See Bible.)



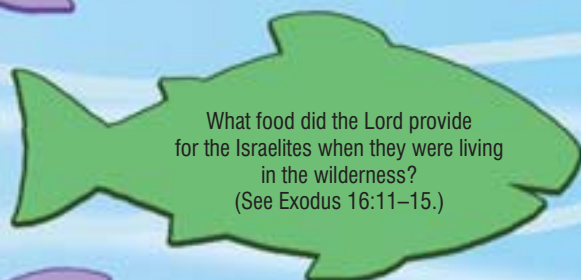
Who was commanded to
sacrifice his son?
(See Genesis 22:1–2.)



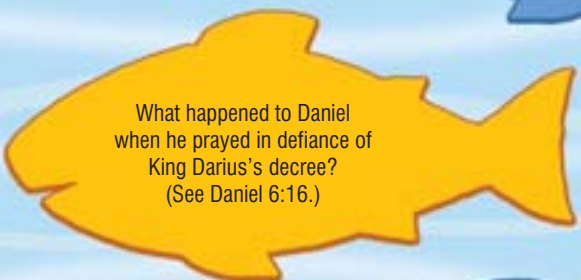
What city did Enoch and the
righteous people build?
(See Moses 7:19.)




Who led the Israelites from Egypt?
(See Exodus 3:11–12.)



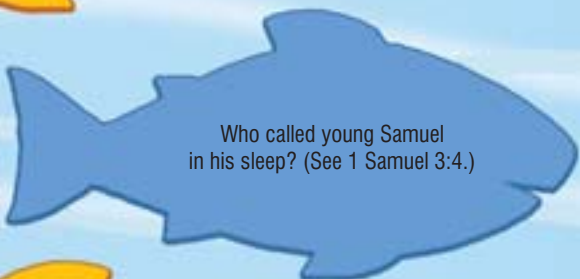
What food did the Lord provide
for the Israelites when they were living
in the wilderness?
(See Exodus 16:11–15.)



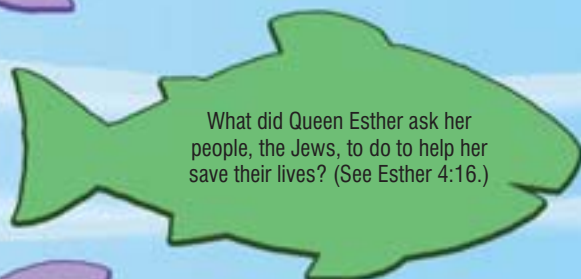
What happened to Daniel
when he prayed in defiance of
King Darius's decree?
(See Daniel 6:16.)



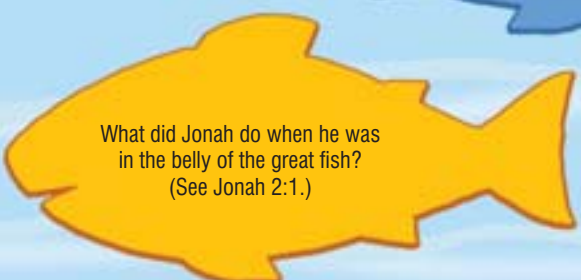
Name one of the
Ten Commandments
received by Moses.
(See Exodus 20:3–17.)



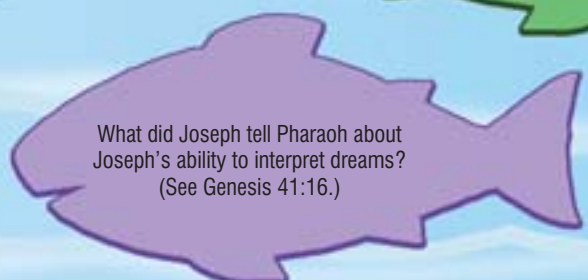
Who called young Samuel
in his sleep? (See 1 Samuel 3:4.)



What did Queen Esther ask her
people, the Jews, to do to help her
save their lives? (See Esther 4:16.)



What did Jonah do when he was
in the belly of the great fish?
(See Jonah 2:1.)



What did Joseph tell Pharaoh about
Joseph's ability to interpret dreams?
(See Genesis 41:16.)

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

C U Later, Alligator

BY CYNTHIA RAKES BOWDEN

Look up the following scriptures and find the word in the verse that begins with the letters "CU." If you fill in the blanks correctly, you will see an alligator!

1. Mormon 6:6

C U _ _ _ _ _

2. Ether 9:19

C U _ _ _ _ _

3. 2 Peter 1:16

C U _ _ _ _ _

4. 1 Nephi 16:10

C U _ _ _ _ _

5. Mosiah 3:5

C U _ _ _ _ _

6. Moses 7:30

C U _ _ _ _ _

7. Matthew 9:9

C U _ _ _ _ _

8. Ether 9:19

C U _ _ _ _ _

9. Malachi 4:6

C U _ _ _ _ _

Friends in the News



Casey Suzannah C., 8, Missouri, helps with her four younger sisters. She has an imaginary pet and likes to play veterinarian. She is an excellent reader who enjoys Primary and family home evening.



Joshua R., 4, Washington, enjoys attending Sunbeams; jumping on his trampoline; riding his bike; and playing with his sisters, Wynter and Payton, and his brother, Jayce.



Kelli F., 10, Idaho, loves friends; sports; outdoor family fun; and her dog, Buddy. Moving often as a member of a military family has helped her learn how to make lots of friends.



Tim W., 8, Colorado, likes to set goals and accomplish them. He helps his sisters and enjoys computers and reading.



Kayleigh A. F., 5, Utah, knows that President Hinckley is a prophet of God. She enjoys hearing Book of Mormon stories and is memorizing the Articles of Faith, scriptures, and songs for Primary.



Dallen G. W., 11, Arizona, likes to invent things. He also enjoys music, reading, writing, singing, games, computers, and traveling. He has three brothers and two sisters.



Hadlie Alyssa W., 4, New Hampshire, loves her little brother, Isaac. She enjoys gymnastics, reading, helping around the house, and playing outside. Someday she wants to be a mommy and a firefighter.



Billy V., 11, Texas, enjoys soccer, snorkeling, Scouts, piano, and chocolate-chip cookie dough. He attended the San Antonio Texas Temple open house and hopes to be baptized for the dead when he turns 12.



Jami N., 8, Oregon, is fun to be around and often makes people smile. She is close to her big sister, Jessica, and likes to read to her little brother, Brandon. Jami plays the piano and soccer.



Calvin Michael F., 5, Minnesota, likes to play in the snow, and is learning to ice skate. He treasures his new CTR ring because it helps him remember to choose the right.



Emily K., 9, Indiana, likes to attend church and activity days. She is very outgoing and enjoys family reunions and helping to organize family gatherings. She would like to be a teacher someday.



Benjamin A., 7, Quebec, Canada, is excited about being baptized. He likes fencing, bicycling, and going to Cub Scouts with his friends from church.



Camilla T., 3, Hawaii, is named after President Spencer W. Kimball's wife. Camilla likes to sing, dance, and dress up. She won't let visitors leave until she has given them a hug and a kiss.



Christian G., 8, Oklahoma, likes bearing his testimony and being a Cub Scout. He also enjoys camping, fishing, reading, playing the piano, and playing chess.



Brinlee Lynn G., 4, Illinois, loves to help her mom bake goodies. She is the only Church member in her neighborhood so she tries to be a good example to everyone.



Hue Yae Y., 11, California, was born in Thailand. He wears a white shirt to church and takes his scriptures. Each Sunday he makes sure that headsets are given to all who need them for translation.



Eva D., 7, North Carolina, enjoys playing with her three sisters. Kind and helpful, she often reminds her family to make the right choices. Her favorite Primary song is "Beautiful Savior."



Spencer N., 4, Florida, has two brothers and two sisters. He likes to ride his bike and play with his friends in the neighborhood. His best friend is his dad.



Madison M., 11, Nevada, enjoys Irish dancing; playing with her puppies, Molly and Scooter; and playing with her best friend, Brooke. Her favorite Primary song is "A Child's Prayer."



Benjamin S., 9, Utah, likes video games, sports, Scouting activities, basketball, and tennis. He is learning to kneebow and snowboard. At school he earned a High Flyer award for being helpful.



Kamila O., 5, Alberta, Canada, has two sisters. She likes ballet, singing, and going to Primary. Her family and friends love Kamila and enjoy hearing her giggle.



Mason L., 6, New Jersey, enjoys T-ball, wrestling, and video games. He loves his family and looks forward to his baptism. He misses his aunt and uncle who live in California.



Kate W., 4, New Mexico, likes, flowers, rainbows, family home evening, preparing Primary talks, learning about the gospel, and playing with her little brother, Luke.



David B., 10, Utah, has earned about everything possible as a Cub Scout and has similar plans for his years as a Boy Scout. David wants to serve a mission, attend BYU, and be married in the temple.



FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF

Listening to the Spirit



Wilford Woodruff traveled across the United States several times as a leader in the Church. One time he stayed overnight in Indiana on his way to meet with the Saints in Boston, Massachusetts.

I think we should sleep here tonight. I know of some brethren who will let us stay with them.



Wilford, his wife, and one of their children decided to sleep in the carriage.

It looks like all of the other children are settled down in the house for the night. Good night, Wilford.

Good night.



Not long after getting in bed, Wilford heard a voice tell him to move his carriage.

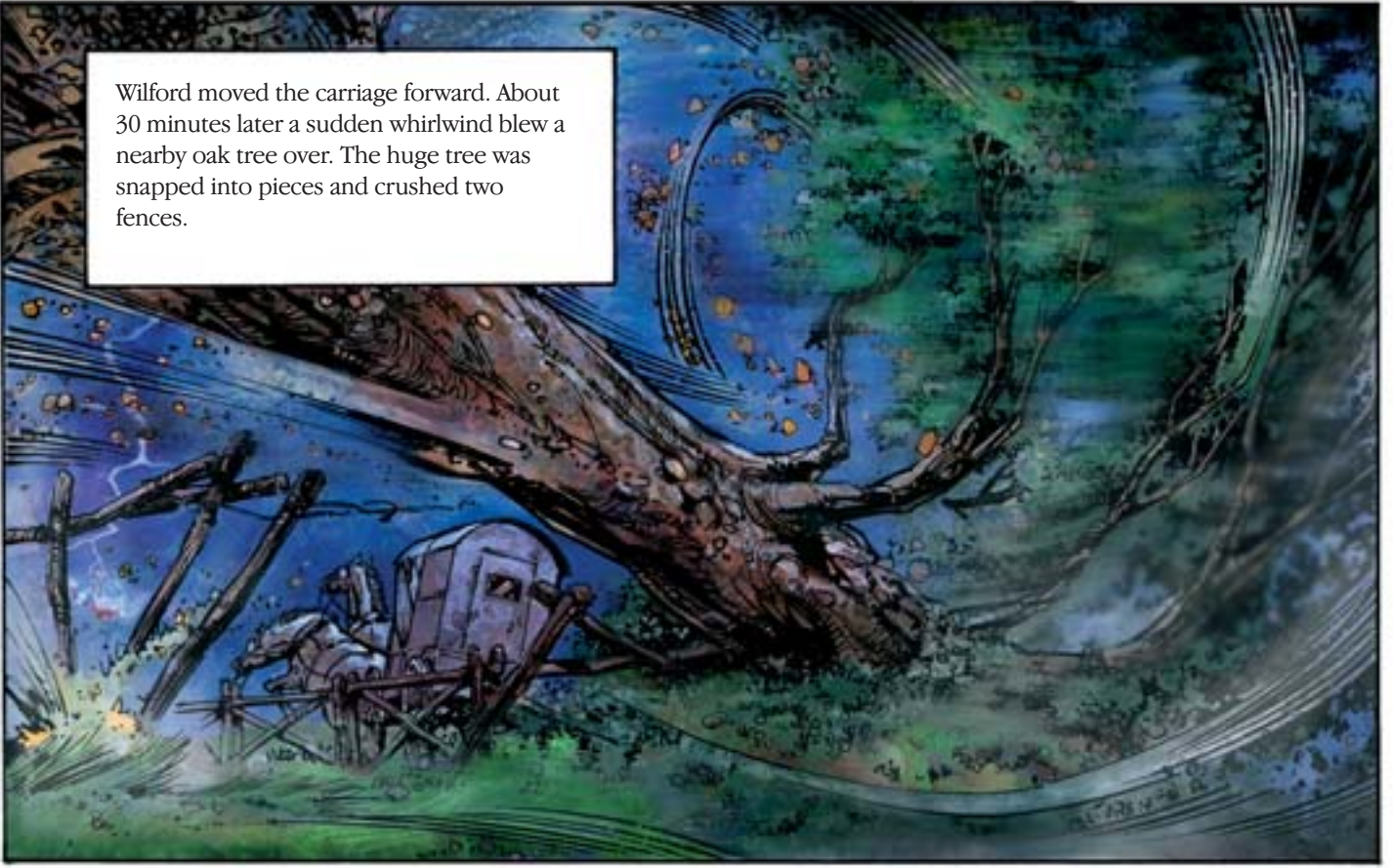
I have to move the carriage.

What for?

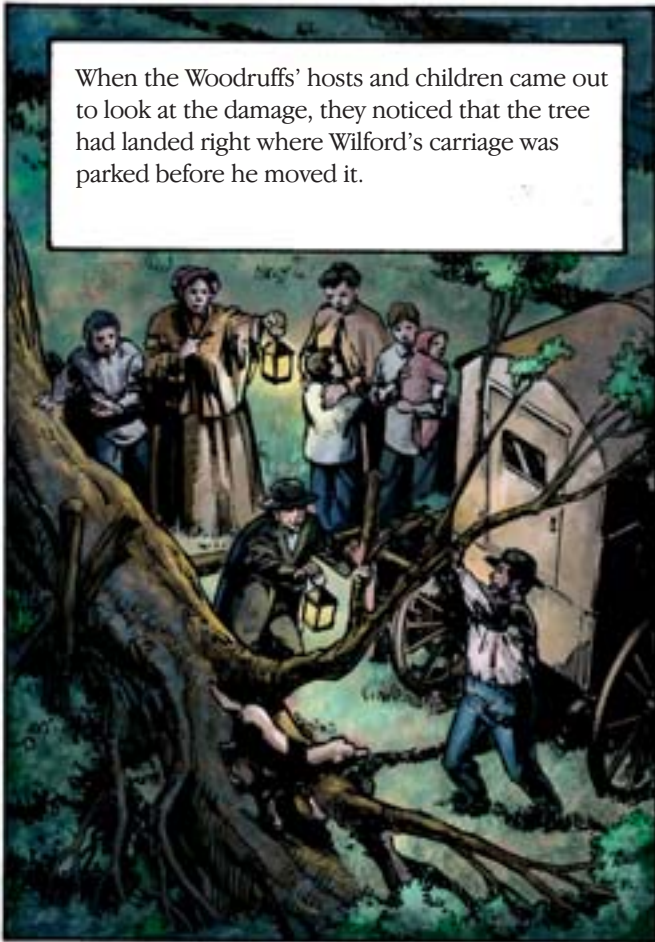
I do not know. But I do recognize the voice of the Spirit, and it's telling me to move.



Wilford moved the carriage forward. About 30 minutes later a sudden whirlwind blew a nearby oak tree over. The huge tree was snapped into pieces and crushed two fences.

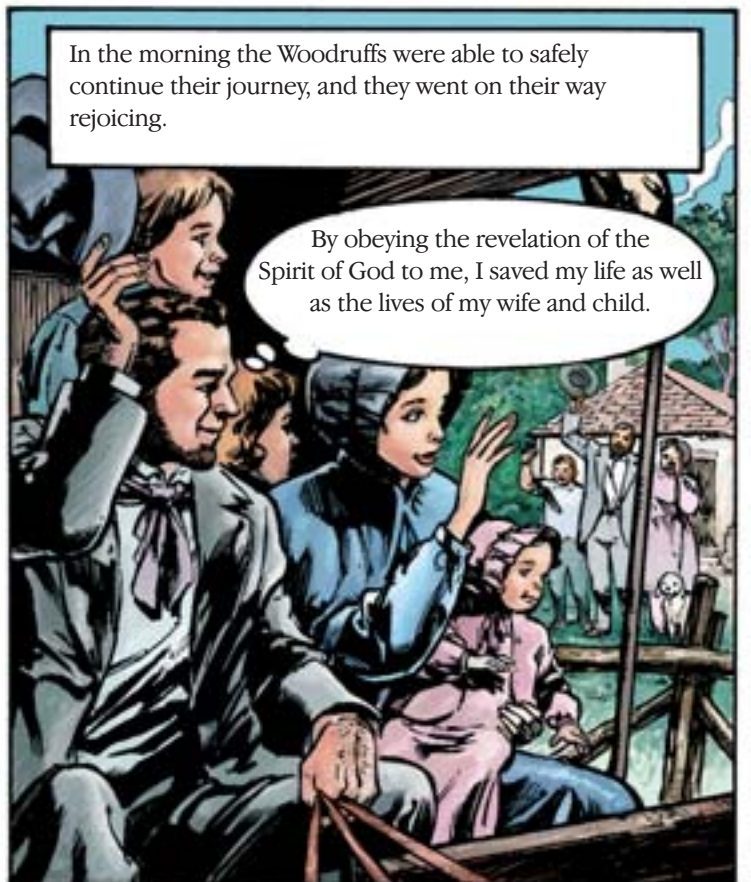


When the Woodruffs' hosts and children came out to look at the damage, they noticed that the tree had landed right where Wilford's carriage was parked before he moved it.



In the morning the Woodruffs were able to safely continue their journey, and they went on their way rejoicing.

By obeying the revelation of the Spirit of God to me, I saved my life as well as the lives of my wife and child.



Adapted from *Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Wilford Woodruff* (2004), 46–47.

I will impart unto you of my Spirit, . . . which shall fill your soul with joy (D&C 11:13).

Andrea could see the large granite pillar from the van window before she and her Primary class pulled into the parking lot. Sister Birchall had told them that the monument was 38 1/2 feet tall, one foot for every year of Joseph Smith's life.

Andrea's friend Becky squirmed excitedly on the seat next to her. "We'll really get to be where Joseph Smith was born!" Becky said.

Andrea had been looking forward to this Primary activity since Sister Birchall had announced their class was visiting Sharon, Vermont, just a short drive away. Andrea had prayed that she would feel the Holy Ghost here. She wanted to have a spiritual experience like the people who bore their testimonies at church. The scriptures say that if you ask in faith, Heavenly Father will bless you. Andrea believed that was true.

A light rain was falling when the class pulled into the parking lot. A senior sister missionary was waiting for them.

"Hello!" she called. "I'm sorry that we don't have the music playing through the trees for you right now. We usually do, but we turned it off because of the rain. Maybe you can hear it before you leave."

Andrea liked the missionary, whose black name tag read Sister Grant. She reminded Andrea of her grandma. Sister Grant and Elder Grant told the class stories about Joseph Smith and showed them where he was born. After the tour, the missionaries let them look around the museum.

"Andrea, come see this!" Becky called. She was pointing at a painting of Lucy Mack Smith.

Elder Grant walked up behind the girls. "She was a great woman. Even before Joseph had the First Vision, she and her family were close to the Holy Ghost. They often liked to go out into the woods to think and pray."

Andrea remembered her goal to feel the Spirit today. When people at church said they felt the Holy Ghost they usually cried. Andrea hadn't felt like crying even a little today.

Sister Birchall walked in and told them they would be

leaving in half an hour. "The rain has stopped, so you can go look at the monument now."

Andrea looked over at Becky, who was talking to another girl from their class. This was Andrea's chance.

She left as quickly as she could and walked toward the woods behind the monument. To the left, Andrea saw a small clearing. "Perfect," she thought.

She walked into the middle of the weeds and knelt down, placing her coat under her knees so they would not get wet. "Maybe I'm in the same place that Lucy went to think and pray," she thought.

Andrea closed her eyes and again prayed for the Holy Ghost to be with her.

She didn't feel anything.

Andrea was confused.

Why wasn't she crying?

Disappointed, she got up and walked out of the clearing. There

was a small dirt

road behind the

monument.

Andrea

decided she

had enough

time to walk

down it a little

way. As she

walked through

the tall trees,

Andrea

noticed that

there was a

peaceful feel-

ing in these

woods—

quiet and

calm like

a chapel.

The air

smelled

fresh and

clean from



Then Sings My Soul

BY BRITNEY SCHETSELAAR
(Based on a true story)



“[We] will feel joy and peace as the Spirit confirms truth, if [we] ask for that blessing in faith.”

Elder Henry B. Eyring of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “An Enduring Testimony of the Mission of the Prophet Joseph,” *Ensign*, Nov. 2003, 90.



the rain, and everything was a bright, clear green. She also noticed that the sun had come out from behind the clouds and was reflecting off the wet leaves and pine needles in bright glints of light. She added a happy skip to her walk.

A little bubble of happiness was growing inside Andrea, and became so big that she thought she would burst with joy. She wanted to start singing and laughing at the same time.

excitedly. Andrea didn't know what Becky was talking about, but she let Becky pull her up the hill.

From the top of the granite pillar shone a dazzling light. Andrea put her hands up to shield her eyes.

“Isn't it amazing?” Becky said. “Sister Grant says that it's the sun shining off the top of the polished rock.”

“It's beautiful,” Andrea said. She stood in awe for several minutes. She felt a little sad. “This would have been the perfect trip if only I had felt the Holy



She didn't go too far into the woods before she turned around. As she walked back, she began to hear the sound of an orchestra and choir singing through the trees—probably the music Sister Grant had mentioned. It sounded like the song of angels, pure and sweet. Andrea stopped to listen to the words. “When thru the woods and forest glades I wander,” the choir sang. “Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, How great thou art!”* The words described exactly how Andrea felt—like her soul was singing. She felt *happy*! Except for one thing. She still hadn't felt the Spirit.

Becky spied Andrea as soon as Andrea got back to the monument. “Come see the sunspot!” she said

Ghost,” she thought.

Suddenly, like the light reflecting off the pillar, a thought shone into her soul. She *bad* felt the Spirit! The Holy Ghost didn't just make people cry. It also made them feel peaceful and happy, like she had felt in the forest! Andrea again felt the same bubble of joy growing inside. She then understood that Heavenly Father had answered her prayers.

As they drove away, Andrea kept her eyes on the granite monument until it disappeared behind the tops of the trees. She knew that the Lord had blessed her and given her the witness she desired. ●

**Hymns*, no. 86.

MATT & Mandy



1 We have a special surprise today, children. We will be visited by an ancient prophet. Allow me to introduce Isaiah.

2 That's not really Isaiah. That's my dad in his bathrobe.

You're right, Jason. Brother Williams has agreed to play the role of Isaiah this morning.

3 More than 700 years before the birth of Jesus Christ I prophesied of His life and Atonement. I said, "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows."*

4 All the ancient prophets testified of Christ.

Every prophet in modern times has testified of Him. President Gordon B. Hinckley testifies of Christ today.

5 Who can tell me one reason why we read the Bible, the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, and the Pearl of Great Price? Mandy?

6 They all testify of Christ.

That's right, Mandy. And if we read them prayerfully, the Holy Ghost will touch our hearts, and we, too, will receive a testimony of Christ.

BRAVE

in the



GOSPEL

BY R. VAL JOHNSON
Church Magazines

What would you do if you were really good at karate and other kids made fun of you? Would you use your skills to get back at them? Maybe teach them not to pick on you anymore?

Eleven-year-old Eduardo Dourado knows what he



discipline ourselves. When we choose to pay tithing, attend church, and be kind and respectful, we are exercising self-control.

Eduardo's sister Marcella, 8, is much like him. She too is learning self-discipline. Like

Far left: Eduardo and Marcella practice karate together. Both have earned medals in competitions.

EDUARDO, MARIANA, AND MARCELLA DOURADO OF RECIFE, BRAZIL

would do—nothing. Although some of his schoolmates make fun of him for keeping the standards of the Church, he chooses the right and refuses to fight. “I could beat them,” he says, “but I don’t want to hurt anyone. Sometimes I’ve had to protect myself, but I try other things first to keep from fighting.”

As Jesus taught, Eduardo ignores insults. But it isn’t always easy. Because he won’t swear and do other bad things, kids make fun of him. Sometimes he feels lonely. But he knows what Jesus wants him to do, and that is what he chooses to do.

Eduardo’s parents, Eduardo Sr. and Karine, say Eduardo is a good disciple of Jesus. He is kind and gentle. He knows right from wrong and is not afraid to stand up for the right. “He is very brave in the gospel,” they say, “and disciplined. Karate has helped him learn to control himself.”

Of course, you don’t have to take karate lessons to learn self-control. Much of what we do in the Church teaches us to

Eduardo, she takes karate. In fact, she often practices with Eduardo under the watch of their father, who began to study karate when Eduardo did. All three have won medals in city and regional karate tournaments in Brazil. A couple of times they have won first prize. But as much

Eduardo, Marcella, and Mariana with their parents, Karine and Eduardo Sr.





Marcella, Brother Dourado, and Eduardo are the only ones in the family who enjoy karate. But every family member enjoys reading the Book of Mormon.

as they enjoy karate, they love the gospel more.

They especially love the Book of Mormon. Brother Dourado has read it 44 times. Eduardo reads it every night, and Marcella is almost finished reading it for the first time.

“Marcella is disciplined like her brother,” Sister Dourado says. “She is a good example.” She prays with her family, and she prays on her own before leaving home each morning. Her mother says, “Sometimes when the rest of the family is ready to leave, she is still kneeling in prayer.”

Eduardo says his sister makes necklaces to sell, and when she sells one she immediately takes out money for tithing. Paying tithing is a discipline Eduardo and Marcella have learned from their parents. Brother and Sister Dourado have always paid tithing, even when they didn’t have much money. Like many married people in Brazil, both have had to work to bring money in to the family.

Brother Dourado works as a police officer and as a commander in



Brazil’s air force. He flies helicopters and air-



planes. Sister Dourado also does police work. She teaches prison guards how to treat prisoners

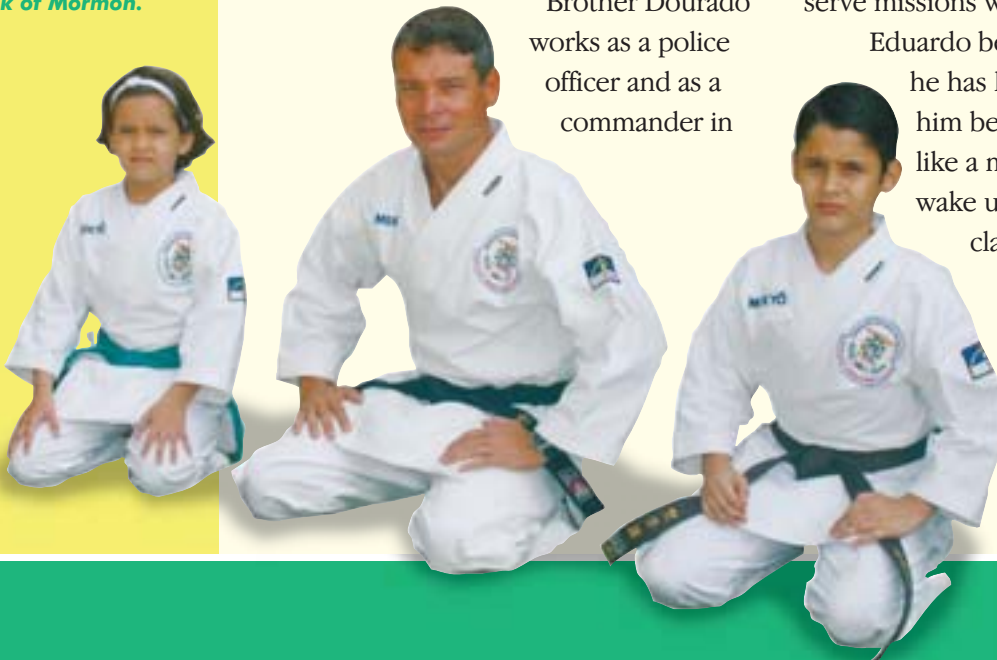
with respect and help them become good citizens again.

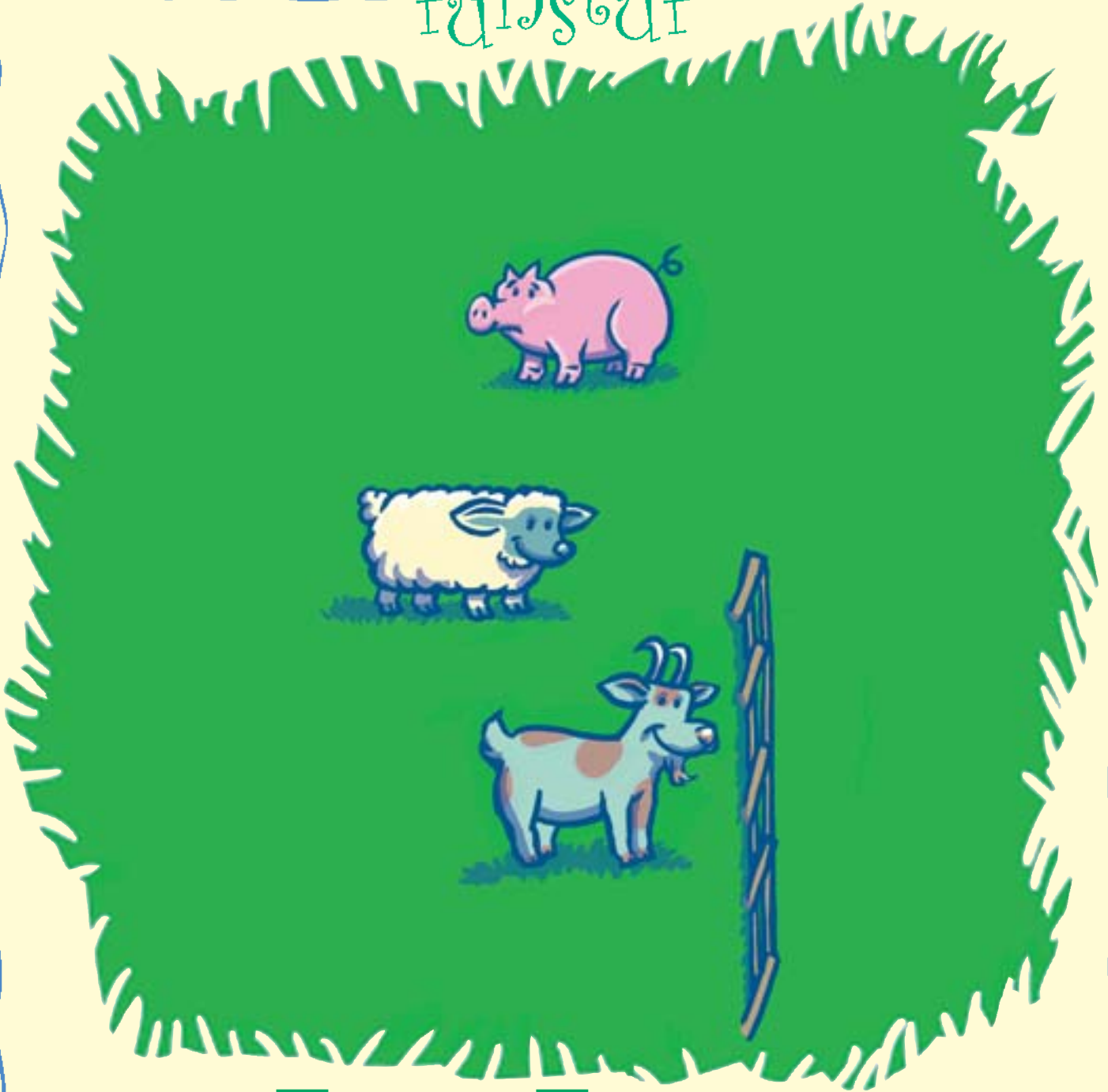
Eduardo and Marcella have a sister, Mariana, 10, who has her own talents. Mariana tried karate once, but she didn’t like it. She prefers reading and singing. Like karate, these activities require self-discipline to do them well. And Mariana does them well. She chooses to use her talents in the right way, often reading the Book of Mormon and studying for school. “She is smart and does well in school,” her mother says. She is also very loving and has a beautiful singing voice. When she sings “Our Savior’s Love” (*Hymns*, no. 113), she touches the hearts of those listening.

Both Mariana and Eduardo plan to serve missions when they get older.

Eduardo believes that the discipline he has learned in karate will help him be a better missionary. “Just like a missionary, I’ve learned to wake up early to go to karate classes.”

He and his sisters know that it isn’t always easy being a member of the Church. But following Jesus is always the right choice. ●





Farm Fences

BY WENDI SILVANO

The farmer has one goat, one sheep, and one pig. He has seven equal-sized sections of fence. Can you make three pens with those seven fence sections to keep the animals apart?

Funstuf Answers

Magic Scripture Square: row one: Moses, Joseph Smith, Nephi, Saul or Paul; row two: John the Baptist, Alma, Brigham Young, Daniel; row three: Willford Woodruff, Adam, John, King Benjamin; row four: Moroni, Peter, Abraham and Isaac, John Taylor.

C U Later, Alligator: Cumorah, cureloms, cunningly, curious, curting, curtains, custom, cumoms, curse.

Farm Fences: The pens are arranged in a row of three triangles, the middle triangle pointing right and the other two pointing left. Guess Who? Answer: Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf.



Trying to Be Like Jesus

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

The Dent

By Kolin P.



My friend and I were kicking a rock back and forth as we walked to school. I kicked the rock and it hit the side of my neighbor's truck and made a small dent. I was scared that I would get in trouble, so I decided not to tell anyone. When I got home from school, I felt worse and worse until I couldn't hold it in any longer. I told my parents what had happened. My dad took me over to my neighbor's house, and we told him about it. My dad asked if we could clean the truck as payment. We spent a long time cleaning the inside and outside of the truck, and when we took it back I felt much better. I was glad that the Holy Ghost had helped me to choose the right.

Kolin P., age 9, Utah



Logging Service

By Maverick A.



My Uncle Jimmy got in a bad four-wheeler accident and broke his back. He is a logger, so I helped at his log yard for a day since he couldn't bend over.

Maverick A., age 8, Missouri

Fire and Kindness

By Emily N.

A boy in my class at school lost his home in a fire. His family was left with nothing and had to live in a hotel room. I felt terrible when I heard about it, so I gathered some of my books and dolls to give to the boy's four-year-old sister. My mom bought crayons, paper, stickers, and other things for the children. When they saw

the gifts, they were very happy, and I never felt happier myself than I did right then. I am so glad to be able to help others as Jesus did, because making others happy makes me even happier.

Emily N., age 11, Maine



Obeying Our Parents

By Rachel C. and Michelle M.

Rachel and Michelle decided one Saturday that it would be nice to take a walk with their



stuffed animals. They got permission from both their parents, but Rachel's mom said, "Only if you don't cross any streets. Stay on the sidewalk." So Michelle and Rachel started off on their walk, pushing their stuffed animals in Michelle's old baby stroller. They came to a

cul-de-sac and walked around it on the sidewalk. Returning home, they could not cross the mouth of the cul-de-sac without going across the street. Rachel said, "I don't think

we should cross the street," but they didn't want to walk clear back around the cul-

de-sac either. They decided to obey their parents, so they went back around the cul-de-sac, staying on the sidewalk. They were glad that they had obeyed their parents. We hope that all of you reading this will obey your parents too.

Rachel C. and Michelle M., both age 7, Utah

I Will Seek Good Friends and Treat Others Kindly*

By Sheilah W.

The children were enjoying their last day before school started. The day was



filled with bike riding, baseball games, pizza, and trying to have as much fun as they possibly could. Toward the end of the day, a new boy appeared looking for someone to play with. My son John began playing with him. Soon afterward, John was invited to go swimming, but his new friend was not. Rather than leave the new boy alone, John turned down the offer. I'm thankful for John's good example.

John W., age 10, Connecticut

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

The Friend would like to hear from you about an experience you have had in trying to be like Jesus. Please include a photo of yourself and your name, age, and address. A written statement signed by a parent or legal guardian granting permission to publish your photo and submission must be included. If an adult helps with your submission, credit should also be given to him or her. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least a year. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Children whose writings are submitted should be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned. Send it to: Trying to Be Like Jesus, Friend Magazine, Rm. 2430, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, United States of America.

Sharing My Baptism Day

By Natasha F.
with help from her mom



As my baptism day approached, my mom and I talked about inviting a friend of mine to the service. We had been friends since preschool, but recently she had moved about 45 miles (72 km) away. I knew she

didn't go to our church, so I was nervous to ask her to come, thinking she might not want to. Finally I decided to invite her, so my mom called her mom. My friend and her mom were excited to come! My baptism day was stormy and rainy, so we thought they might not make it. They showed up right on time! They seemed to really enjoy the baptism, and asked a lot of questions. I felt good that they came and shared this special day. It was an easy and fun way to share the gospel.

Natasha F., age 8, California

JUMP IN THE

The Lord preserveth the faithful
(Psalm 31:23).

Ethan,” Dad called,
“stay here on the path
next to me.”

Five-year-old Ethan frowned. He loved hiking with Dad, but he didn’t want to stay on the boring old trail. There was much more to see alongside the stream.

“Come here,” Dad called again. “You might stumble and fall in those tall weeds.”

Obediently, Ethan bounded toward Dad. But as he walked, his eyes kept wandering off the trail. It wasn’t long before he saw a fallen tree and scampered toward it. Climbing on top of it he cried, “Look at me, Dad!”

Dad shook his head. “Didn’t I tell you to stay on the trail?” Ethan groaned and shuffled back toward Dad.



STREAM!

BY STEVEN M. LUND
(Based on a true story)

“Jump in the stream,” a voice spoke to his mind. Still watching the snake, he thought about the cold, muddy water and the jagged rocks below. *“Jump in the stream!”* the voice said again. So Ethan took a flying leap off the boulder

and landed with a splash. Dad jumped in right after him, scooped him up, and helped him to shore. Ethan hugged Dad tight, his heart pounding.

“I wanted to tell you to jump, but I didn’t dare because I thought you might get hurt,” Dad said. “I’m so glad you’re safe.”

“The Holy Ghost told me to jump,” Ethan said. “At first I didn’t listen, but then He told me again.”

“Obeying those promptings saved your life, son.” Dad looked at Ethan thoughtfully. “If I had listened to the Holy Ghost in the first place, we wouldn’t have been in danger.”

“What do you mean, Dad?”

“As we walked away from the trail, I saw something move in the grass,” Dad said. “I thought it was a mouse or a chipmunk. Suddenly, I remembered a story I read in the newspaper a few days ago about a man who recently died from a rattlesnake bite. The thought didn’t make sense to me, so I ignored it. If I had been listening, I would have recognized that the Spirit was trying to warn me.”

Ethan hugged Dad tighter, shivering to think what could have happened. “We should have stayed on the trail,” he murmured. “It’s safer.”

Dad nodded. “That’s true in life too. Even when we can’t see danger, Heavenly Father knows where the devil is lying in wait to corner us. The only safe way is to stay on the marked path.”

Ethan silently vowed to always obey. As he followed his parents, the prophets, and the Holy Ghost, he’d be safe from the worst serpent of all. ●

As they hiked, they soon came to a section of the stream lined by large boulders. Each rock looked as if it had been carefully stacked in place to hold back the soil. Ethan pointed. “Look, Dad!”

Dad nodded. “Interesting rock formation, isn’t it? I guess it wouldn’t hurt to have a look.”

Grinning, Ethan bolted toward the stream and leaped onto a boulder. Dad followed. Ethan hopped from boulder to boulder, as if playing hopscotch, until he was standing on the highest one. He watched the stream swirl and cascade over rocks below, enjoying the sight—until he heard a terrible sound.

Hiss, rattle, rattle, rattle.

There, wedged between two rocks near Ethan’s feet, was a rattlesnake.

“Daddy!” Ethan cried.

Dad was on the other side of the rattlesnake and couldn’t reach Ethan to help him. “Don’t move!” he yelled.

Ethan trembled. The only way back to the trail was to hop down the rocks the way he had come, and he was afraid that the snake could move much faster than he could. What if he startled the snake and it struck him? The snake glared at him, flicking its tongue.

“If we follow the promptings of the Spirit, we will be safe, whatever the future holds. We will be shown what to do.”

President Boyd K. Packer, Acting President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “The Cloven Tongues of Fire,” *Ensign*, May 2000, 8.



Our Creative Friends

Summer

Summer, summer, you're so fun.
 Summer, summer, you're the one.
 Summer, summer, I love the sun.
 Summer, summer, you're so fun.

Stacie M., age 9, Arizona

The Shores of a Beach

Waves at the beach
 On a nice sunny day
 Curl and twist
 In their own little way.

Seagulls that fly
 So high up above
 Might help us think
 Of our Father above.

Jessie T., age 11, Utah

Things That Are Given

Things that are given to us by our Heavenly Father:
 Bears, chairs, and every inch of hair.
 Bees, trees, the joints in my knees,
 Dimes, times, and green limes.
 Lives, hives, and our blue, blue skies.
 But the one that is best is a book.
 It's not the way it looks;
 It's what's inside that's true.

Collin R., age 10, Massachusetts

The Sabbath Day

When it's the Sabbath day I can tell. It doesn't feel one bit like Saturday. No, it doesn't feel like Monday or Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday. It's like Heavenly Father and His Son sprinkled some magic dust at 12:00 a.m., so then it feels like Sunday.

Jesi Lyn H., age 11, Idaho

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



Michael C., age 8, Ohio



Loreta Z., age 6, Latvia



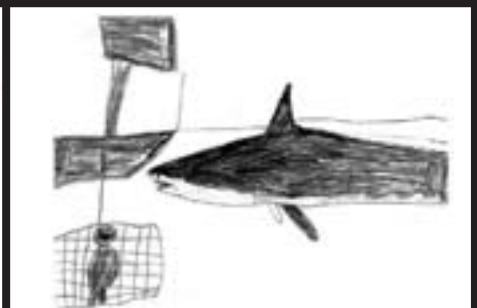
Reece C., age 10, Washington



Aik E., age 8, Hawaii



Annica D., age 4, Tennessee



Braxton S., age 6, Maine



Garrett J., age 11, Arizona



Spencer E., age 4, Utah



Hayden W., age 6, Alabama



Benjamin Smith, age 6, Wisconsin



Kennedy B., age 8, New South Wales, Australia



Austin P., age 6, Missouri



Cessily F., age 11, Utah



Teisha N., age 11, Utah



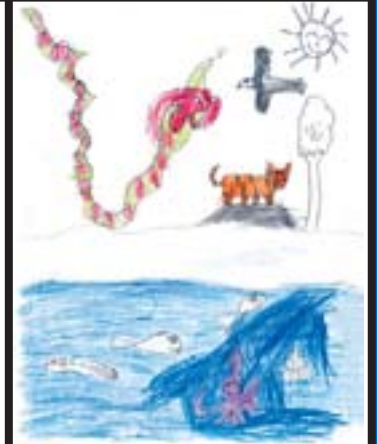
Nicholas and Joshua E., ages 3 and 5, California



Amanda Y., age 11, Arizona



Amanda P.M., age 8, California



Aaron B., age 5, Bolivia



Amanda E., age 7, Texas



Jennifer R., age 9, Idaho



Linda L., age 9, New York



Morgan Michelle D., age 7, Nebraska



Daniel B., age 10, North Carolina



Jordan N., age 7, British Columbia, Canada



Jeffrey L., age 9, Oregon





BY JENNIFER ROSE

Church Magazines
(Based on a true story)

Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also
(Matthew 6:21).

Josh wiggled his fingers and toes in the warm sand. The salty breeze blew in his face and Josh licked his lips.

“I can taste the ocean!” he announced. He dug his plastic shovel into the sand. “Brooke, will you help me make a sandcastle?” Brooke didn’t look up. She quickly turned the page of her book, eagerly seeking the next words in the story.

Dad pushed the beach umbrella into the sand while Mom spread out their towels. She looked at Brooke and laughed gently. “Brooke, do you want to stop reading and look at the beautiful view? This is a perfect start to our vacation!”

Brooke slowly closed her book. She tried to focus on the bright blue sky and the palm trees waving in the breeze, but in her mind she was still in the dark pine forest with Princess Rosalie and Sir Nathanael. It was her favorite kind of story—knights on majestic horses, a beautiful princess, a priceless treasure guarded by terrible monsters. She tried to picture what the treasure would be: gold coins, sparkling jewelry, riches for the grandest kings and queens.

Brooke gazed at the glittering ocean. It stretched as far as she could see. “There could be buried treasure



out there," she said. "I've read about ships that got caught in storms and sank with all their treasure."

Dad winked at her. "Maybe we'll find some while we're here. We can have a treasure hunt."

"No thanks, Dad," Brooke said. "I'm going to read some more." She stretched out on her beach towel and opened her book again. Would Princess Rosalie find the secret door in time? Would Sir Nathanael find a way to defeat the monsters?

A while later, Josh came running up to Brooke carrying his plastic beach pail. "Look! Dad and I found treasure!" He reached into the pail and pulled out a delicate sand dollar. It was followed by a collection of smooth stones and shells.

She picked up a piece of a shell. "This isn't treasure." "Why not?" Josh demanded.

"These are just rocks and shells. They're not worth anything."

Dad sat down on the sand. "A treasure doesn't have to be worth a lot of money, Brooke," he said. "It isn't always a pile of gold coins like you're always reading about." He grinned and tugged playfully on her hair. "A treasure is something that means a lot to you. It's something that you want to take care of and remember." He picked a shiny pink shell out of Josh's pail and handed it to Brooke. She looked at it doubtfully. "Just think about it," Dad said.

The next morning Dad said they were going to visit Grandma Connors. As Brooke put her book in her bag Mom touched her shoulder. "You can take your book, but please don't read it while we're at Grandma's."

Brooke frowned. "But there's nothing else to do at her house. It's boring there," she said. "Besides, I'm getting to the really good part! Sir Nathanael is about to fight the monsters!"

"Grandma Connors is lonely and she misses us a lot," Mom said. "She's looking forward to visiting with all of us." She smiled. Brooke didn't smile back.

When they pulled up to Grandma Connors's house,

she was waiting for them in her front yard. "Hello, dears!" she called and waved to them. She led them inside, talking and laughing. She cut everyone a piece of cake, and they all went outside to sit on the back porch. Josh sat next to Grandma and she kept patting his hand.

Grandma, Mom, and Dad began talking about uncles and friends and cousins whom Brooke didn't know. She swung her legs restlessly in her chair. "Will Princess Rosalie find the treasure?" she wondered. Her fingers itched to feel the familiar weight of the book, but she didn't want to disobey Mom.

Brooke went inside, hoping she could find something to do. She found a bookcase filled with large, brown books. She pulled one out. The cover was plain. There weren't any pictures of princesses or gold or jewels on it. Brooke half-heartedly opened the cover. Inside she found pages of photographs, some of them faded or turning yellow with age. She studied the faces but didn't see anyone she knew. But then she saw a little girl with a braid who looked like her. She carried the album to the back porch.

"Well, look what you found," Grandma said, her eyes twinkling.

Brooke pointed to the picture. "Who's this, Grandma? She looks like me."

Grandma smiled. "That's your mother when she was about your age," she said. She turned a few pages and pointed to another picture. "That's your grandfather and me at our first dance together."

Brooke settled next to Grandma and pointed to a black-and-white photograph. "Who are those kids?" she asked.

"That's me!" Grandma said. "Me and my brothers, Jacob and Steven. And that was our dog, Smarty."

"Smarty?" Brooke laughed.

Grandma turned to more pictures and told stories about family members Brooke never knew. But seeing their faces as Grandma spoke helped their stories come alive.

Before Brooke knew it, it was time to leave. "Before



you go, I want to show you one more,” Grandma said. She turned to a photograph in the very back of the album. It was black and white, and worn from being handled a lot. A young couple stood together. The woman had long, dark ringlets that rested on a high-collared, lacy white dress. The man wore a suit.

“That’s you and Grandpa when you were married,” Brooke said.

“Yes,” Grandma said. Her voice was softer. “Looking at this picture and seeing his smiling face helps me remember all the wonderful times we had together. I’ve treasured this picture since the day it was taken, and it means

so much more to me now that your grandpa is gone.”

Brooke studied the picture for a moment. “When we get home, I’m going to send you a picture of *my* smiling face so you can be happy,” she said.

Grandma hugged Brooke tightly.

A few weeks later, Dad brought home some pictures they took on their vacation. Mom, Brooke, and Josh crowded around him to see.

“There we are at the beach!” Josh said.

“There’s that beautiful garden I saw,” Mom said.

“There’s me and Grandma!” Brooke said, pointing to the photo of their young and old faces close together.

Dad propped up the picture on the mantle. Then he smiled and winked at Brooke. “Do you think we found a treasure?”

“I just need one more piece of gold,” Brooke said. She ran to her room and quickly returned. Next to the photo she placed a shiny pink shell. “Now our treasure is perfect,” she said. ●

“It is time to choose an oft-forgotten path, the path we might call ‘The Family Pathway,’ . . . coming home to attics not recently examined, to diaries seldom read, to photo albums almost forgotten.”

President Thomas S. Monson, First Counselor in the First Presidency, see “Becoming Our Best Selves,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1999, 19.





Kitchen Krafts

It's time for a barbeque! Have fun helping to prepare these recipes and serve your guests.

Turkey Cheeseburgers

- 1/4 cup canned, crushed tomatoes**
- 2 tablespoons Parmesan cheese**
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder**
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano**
- 1/4 teaspoon salt**
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper**
- 1 pound (.45 kg) ground turkey**
- 4 large slices mozzarella cheese**
- 8 slices French bread, lightly toasted**
- 1 cup spaghetti sauce, divided into 1/4-cup portions**

1. In a bowl, combine the tomatoes, Parmesan cheese, garlic powder, oregano, salt, and pepper. Crumble ground turkey over mixture and mix well. Shape into 4 patties, 3/4 inch (2 cm) thick.

2. Grill on medium heat for 8 minutes or until the meat is cooked through. Melt a slice of mozzarella cheese over each patty. Serve on toasted bread with spaghetti sauce on the side for dipping.

Sweet-Onion Rings

- 1 pound (.45 kg) sweet onions**
- 3 egg whites**
- 1 cup dry bread crumbs**
- 1 teaspoon thyme**
- 1 teaspoon salt**
- 1 teaspoon paprika**
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper**

1. Cut onions into 1/2-inch (1.3-cm) slices and separate rings.

2. In a small mixing bowl, beat egg whites. In another bowl, combine bread crumbs and seasonings. Pour crumb mixture into large resealable bags.

3. A few rings at a time, dip onions in the egg whites and then shake in crumb mixture to coat.

4. Bake on a greased baking sheet at 400°F (204°C) for 20 minutes or until lightly browned. Serve plain or with ranch dressing or ketchup.

Fruit Pizza



- 1 package brownie mix (19 ounces/539 g)**
- 1/3 cup boiling water**
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil**
- 2 eggs**
- 1 package (8 ounces/227 g) cream cheese, softened**
- 1/4 cup sugar**
- 1 teaspoon vanilla**
- 5 cups fruits of your choice (sliced strawberries, kiwis, bananas, raspberries, etc.)**

1. In a bowl combine brownie mix, water, oil, and 1 egg. Spread on a greased 14-inch (36-cm) pizza pan. Bake at 350°F (175°C) for 25 minutes.

2. Beat cream cheese, sugar, egg, and vanilla. Spread over brownie crust and bake 15 minutes longer.

3. Arrange fruit slices on top and refrigerate for 30 minutes before slicing the pizza and serving.

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 August is “As I follow the direction and righteous examples given in the scriptures, the Lord promises me rich blessings.”



Family Home Evening Ideas

Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned below.

1. Read “Faith in Every Footstep” (pp. 2–3). Talk about the many trials faced by Thomas Giles—blindness, death of family members, pioneer hardships. He faced them all with faith. Look around you at family members, neighbors, friends. If any are facing difficulties, decide if there is some way you or your family can help.

2. Learn and present the poem “Teach Me the Scriptures” (p. 7). Ask different family members to choose Alma, Nephi, Job, Joseph, or Ruth and prepare to tell his or her story. Repeat the second stanza of the poem together and talk about how the scriptural examples might help you live your lives well.

3. Prepare to read 1 Nephi 8:21–38. Use the illustrations in “Lehi’s Dream” (p. 12) as

you read about Lehi’s experience. Then do the activity described in “Hold to the Iron Rod” (pp. 10–11). Discuss how important it is to hold onto the word of God as our guide, and resolve to begin or to continue to study the scriptures together as a family.

4. Tell the story “Baskets and Boxes” (pp. 14–15). Talk about the ways Heavenly Father answers prayers. Share experiences you have had with prayer. Kneel together as a family and give thanks.

5. Make the Sunday Box game “Fishing for Old Testament Facts” (pp. 24–25), and play it as a family. When you are finished, save it to play another time. Make “Fruit Pizza” (p. 48) for refreshments.



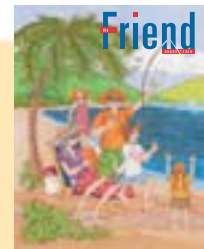
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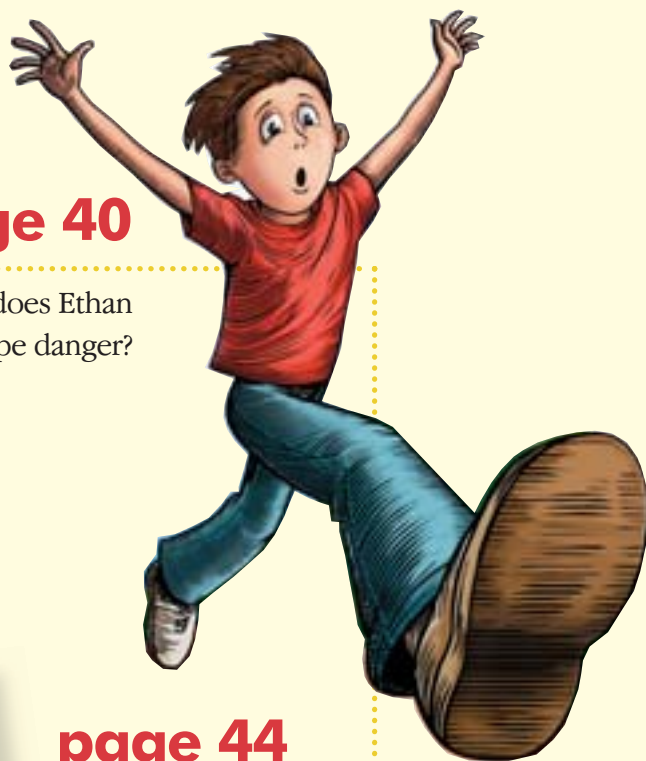


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