

the Friend

DECEMBER 2001





Blessings from Daddy

I was having a hard time breathing through my nose, and I always had a cold.

Mommy took me to a doctor. He said that I needed to have my adenoids and tonsils taken out. I was excited because I would get to eat lots of Popsicles. I was scared, too. I asked Daddy to give me a blessing. On the morning of my operation, I sat on Daddy's bed, and he gave me a priesthood blessing. He blessed me to be calm and blessed the doctor so that everything would go well in my operation.

After the operation, the doctor told Mommy that everything went very well. When I woke up, I didn't cry, even though my tummy and throat hurt. Some other children came into the same room after their operations and screamed pretty loud.

I asked Daddy for another blessing later in the week because my throat hurt and I couldn't stop crying. The blessing helped me calm down. Now my throat doesn't hurt at all, and I can breathe through my nose. I'm thankful Daddy has the priesthood. I know that Heavenly Father loves me and helped me get better.

*Christian Moody, age 3
Bristow, Virginia*



That Good Feeling

On October the eighth, I gave the scripture in Primary. I had a good feeling inside. I learned that when I am eight, I will get baptized. My mum said that I can have that feeling all the time when I am baptized, because I will get the gift of the Holy Ghost.

*Sarai Kennerley, age 6
Auckland, New Zealand*



"Praying Is a Good Thing to Do"

My testimony recently got stronger when

Heavenly Father answered one of my prayers. I asked Him if I could not be an only child anymore (my two older brothers had died as soon as they were born). Where I live, there aren't many kids, and so I really wanted to have a sister or a brother. Two months ago, my mom had a baby! When I found out that I was going to have a little sister, I was very excited because I'd waited nine years. My mom and dad let me help pick the new baby's name, and I chose to call her Anastasia. I know that praying is a good thing to do.

*Alex Buchholz, age 9
Spearfish, South Dakota*



Back to School

One day after school, I didn't see Mom waiting to pick me up. I decided to walk home.

I had walked a block when I thought that I should ask Heavenly Father to help keep me safe. While I was praying, I had a feeling to go back to school. I took a couple more steps, and I felt sick to my stomach. I turned around and began walking back toward school. With every step I took, I felt better. Just as I got back to school, I saw Mom getting out of our car to look for me. I told her what happened, and she agreed with me that Heavenly Father had answered my prayer and that it was the Holy Ghost who told me to go back to school. I am thankful that Heavenly Father loves me and answers my prayers.

*Todd Judd, age 7
Bountiful, Utah*

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the *Friend*

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Cover by Mark Robison

*A Christmas Message from the First Presidency
to the Children of the World*

Gifts of the Savior

Christmas is a wonderful time of friendliness, caring, and love. It is a time when all the world rejoices. It is a time of service and the giving of gifts.

The gifts of the Savior were precious and rare. He blessed the blind to see, the deaf to hear, and the lame to walk. He gave light in place of darkness, forgiveness to the repentant, and hope to the despairing.

This is a season of the year when we can bring gifts of joy and happiness to others. Like the Savior, we can visit the sick, give to the poor, and cheer the lonely.

At this time of remembrance and gratitude, we testify that Jesus Christ was born into the world as our Savior and Friend. We witness that He lives. May our Heavenly Father bless children everywhere with the peace that comes through the gift of His Son.

With love,
The First Presidency





*He that hath ears to hear,
let him hear
(Matthew 11:15).*

*By Sheila Kindred
(Based on a true incident)*

Carrie settled down on the floor in front of a display case full of Christmas jewelry. She waved to her big brother, and he grinned. He was standing on the risers with other members of the children's choir waiting to begin their Christmas concert at the mall. She thought he looked very handsome in his choir uniform. The boys in the choir were all dressed alike in white shirts with red-striped ties. The girls all wore blue dresses with lacy white collars and a red rose. They looked very dressed-up.

Carrie thought back to earlier in the day, when the choir had given a concert in a local church. The church had very tall stained-glass windows that reflected a softly-colored

To Hear the Angels Sing

rainbow of light across the children's faces as they sang. Their beautiful voices rose to the high rafters of the church. Mom had said that they sounded just like angels. *Like the angels that announced the birth of Jesus Christ to the shepherds long ago,* Carrie hoped.

Now the choir was giving the same concert at the shopping mall, but things felt different here. Carrie looked around. She was impatient for the concert to begin, but not if it was going to be this noisy. A nearby cash register was making loud beeps as a store clerk rang up sales. There was a person in a teddy-bear costume entertaining some giggling children. People were talking loudly around a large Christmas tree decorated with gifts



that could be bought at the different stores in the mall.

Finally the concert began. A boy in the choir stepped forward and began to sing a solo with a violin accompaniment. When Carrie had heard this song in the church, it made her feel joyful. At the church, everyone had listened quietly. She had even noticed tears in the eyes of some of those in the audience. As she looked around the shopping mall now, few people were listening. Most were busy shopping or chatting or eating. She didn't see reverent tears in anyone's eyes.

When the concert was over, she was sad that hardly anyone had really listened to the beautiful music. Taking her mother's hand, she walked out of the mall to meet her brother.

"Did the shepherds listen to the angels, Mom?" she asked. "Or were they too busy tending the sheep?"

Mom smiled. "They listened, Carrie. That's how they knew where to find Baby Jesus."

"Did the angels sing for anyone besides the shepherds?"

"I don't know. The scriptures don't tell us about anyone else."

"What about all the people staying near the stable? You told me that there were so many people in Bethlehem that there wasn't any room in the inns for Mary and Joseph."

"The city was very crowded that night. But I suppose those people were too tired to listen to angels after their long journey to Bethlehem. Or maybe they were busy finding a place to sleep, preparing food, or thinking about the taxes they'd have to pay."

Carrie thought about that for a few minutes, then sighed. "Mom, I hope that no matter what I'm doing, I'll always be able to hear the angels sing."

"Me, too." Mom gave Carrie a hug. "Me, too."



CHRISTMAS



Around the World

By Rosalyn Collings

Children all over the world love Jesus Christ. They know that He is their Savior and that He loves them. Every year at Christmastime, children around the world celebrate His birth.

Each year, Church workers set up beautiful Nativity scenes on Temple Square in Salt Lake City. Hundreds of hours were spent creating realistic figures of Baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and the Wise Men to place on the lawn near the temple. These figures help us remember that the birth of Christ in Bethlehem was a real event and that real people, not so very different from us, honored Him after His birth.

Last year, four smaller Nativities surrounded the reflection pool near the Salt Lake Temple. Each of them came from a different area of the world. They were designed especially for children, to show how children all over the world imagine the Savior's birth. The smaller nativities will be on display this year near the Relief Society Building.

Hundreds of little lanterns are set up on a plaza near the temple. The glow from these lanterns reminds us that Jesus Christ is the Light of the World. The lanterns bore the words *joy*, *peace*, *hope*, *light*, and *love* in many languages.

Even though the Nativities show different representations of Christ, and the lanterns are decorated with words from different nations, they all tell the same story: Jesus Christ was born to be the Savior of the world. His birth, His life, and His Atonement bring joy, peace, hope, light, and love to all people.



Mary and Joseph, in traditional Japanese clothing, watch over Baby Jesus.



Figures in colorful fabric from Africa worship the Savior at His birth.



These wood sculptures were carved by a member of the Church in Poland.



These Native American figures are wearing costumes of the Tlinget Tribe in Alaska. They have come to bring gifts to the Baby Jesus.

Friend to Friend

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).

WILLING TO SERVE

From an interview with Elder J. Kent Jolley of the Seventy, currently serving in the North America East Area Presidency; by Jan Pinborough

I grew up in Rexburg, Idaho. We didn't have much money, so we always made our own toys. I had the finest herd of stick horses in the Snake River Valley. We also made our own flipper guns. We carved them out of pieces of board, then cut pieces of rubber out of an old inner tube and attached them with clothespins. We made our own stilts. I learned to be a pretty good swimmer in the irrigation canals near my home. In the winter, when there was lots of snow, we made sleds to slide down the hills. We never knew that we were poor, because we had so much fun.

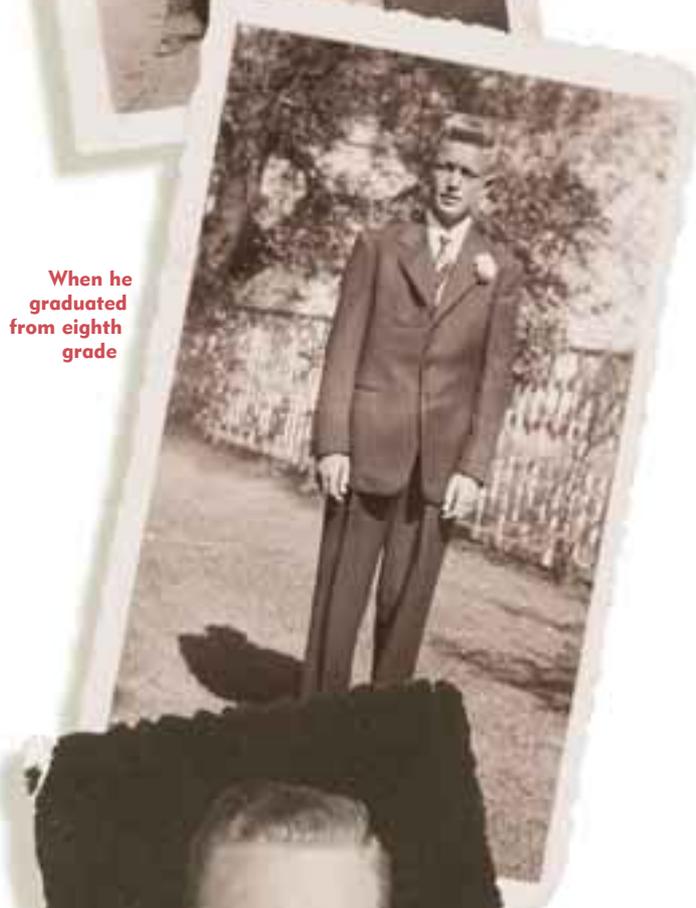
I had a great mother. She was a hard worker and a woman of great faith. My father was never active in the Church, so we never had family prayer, scripture reading, or family home evening. But my mother taught and encouraged my two brothers, my sister, and me. We three boys all served missions.

I have very fond memories of Primary. Not long ago, I spoke on the telephone with one of my Primary teachers, Sister Ellen Genta, now age eighty-five. Sister Genta taught a class of nine or ten of us boys for three years in a row. We all knew that she loved and cared about us. In those days, Primary was held after school. When Primary was over, Sister Genta often took us outside and played softball with us. I also loved the Primary songs, although I was not a very good singer.

The boys who lived near me were a very good influence on me. Two of them have grown up to be



With his brothers and sister (Elder Jolley is standing next to his sister.)



When he graduated from eighth grade



As a missionary

mission presidents. One of them has also been a temple president, and the other one—Elder F. Melvin Hammond—is a General Authority. The examples of my friends and my older brother were very important to me when it came time for me to go on a mission.

After I finished high school, I worked at a meat market to support myself and help support my family. The Korean War was going on, and each ward could send only a certain number of young men on missions. One day while I was working at the market, I sat down to rest for a few minutes. I was alone, and the Spirit came over me and told me that it was time for me to commit to serve a mission.

The next Sunday I told my bishop that I wanted to do so. He said that the quota for missionaries from our ward had just been increased by one. I was that one. Because I listened to the Holy Ghost, I was able to serve a mission, and my mission was the turning point that has led to everything else good in my life.

While I was serving my mission in Argentina, I had an experience that tested my willingness to do what the Lord asked me to do. I was serving in Trelew, a very small town in a very remote area of southern Argentina. I had flown to Buenos Aires, the capital, for a mission conference. I had been having severe pains in my side, so while I was there, I went to see a doctor. He said that my appendix was very inflamed and that I should stay near a hospital in case I needed to have my appendix removed.

After I saw the doctor, I went to the mission conference. Elder Henry D. Moyle (1889–1963) of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles was the visiting General Authority at the conference. He gave me a blessing. In the blessing, he told me that I would be fine. He said that I should not stay in Buenos Aires, as the doctor had recommended, but that I should return to Trelew as soon as the conference was over.

The next morning, I boarded the plane and returned to Trelew, and my appendix never bothered me again. In fact, I still have it. This experience taught me that when our prophets speak to us, we can trust them and follow what they say.

One of my favorite verses in the Book of Mormon is 1 Nephi 3:7 [see top of this article]. I have a great love for the Book of Mormon. I enjoy reading it. I also love missionary work. I enjoy



With Sister Jolley and their children and grandchildren

talking to people about the gospel.

When I returned from my mission, I went to Ricks College, where I met my wife, Jill. She grew up on a farm near Rexburg. I remember one time when I went to pick her up for a date, another young man was coming to see her, too. She was on a hay wagon, tromping down a big pile of hay. Jill's father gave us each a pitchfork and challenged us to see who could get to the top of the pile first. I won!

Jill and I have always had family scripture reading. Generally we had scripture reading at 6 A.M. Our children would come to the table half asleep, and we sometimes wondered what they were learning. But years later, our second daughter, Mindy, came to visit us after she had children of her own. She attended church with us on Fast Sunday and bore testimony that of all the experiences she had in our home, family scripture reading was one of the most important to her.

The Savior loves you dearly. As a child in your family, you can bring a lot of love into your home. You can be a peacemaker. Your example is very important to those around you, and you have great power. Ask your mom and dad to pray with you. Ask them to read about the Savior with you. Share with them what you've learned in Primary. Sing the Primary songs at home.

Heavenly Father loves you. Thank Him for what you have and ask Him for help in doing what is right. Even if you sometimes feel alone, you can know that He is always there. If you have the Holy Ghost with you, you can know that all is well.

Sweet Little Baby

By Linda Hoffman Kimball

Sweet little Baby
Resting in the hay,
Do You know why shepherds come
To worship You today?
Sweet little Baby,
While Mary hummed to Thee,
Angels sang out "Gloria!"
O'er flock and field and tree.
Sweet little Baby
Peaceful in the night,

Shepherds ran here breathless
To see this wondrous sight.
Sweet little Baby
Wrapped up snug and tight,
You set them free from fear and death
By being born tonight.
Sweet little Baby
Smiling at these men,
In time, You'll be their Shepherd
To guide them home again.



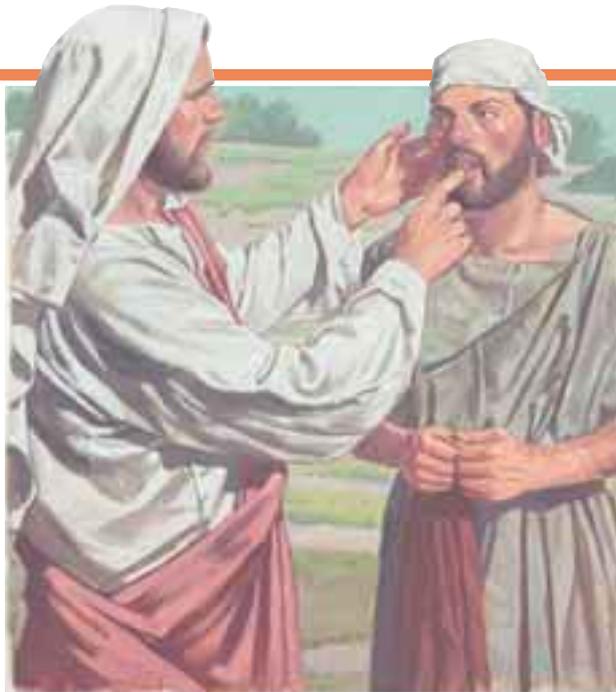
JESUS HEALS A DEAF MAN

Chapter 31



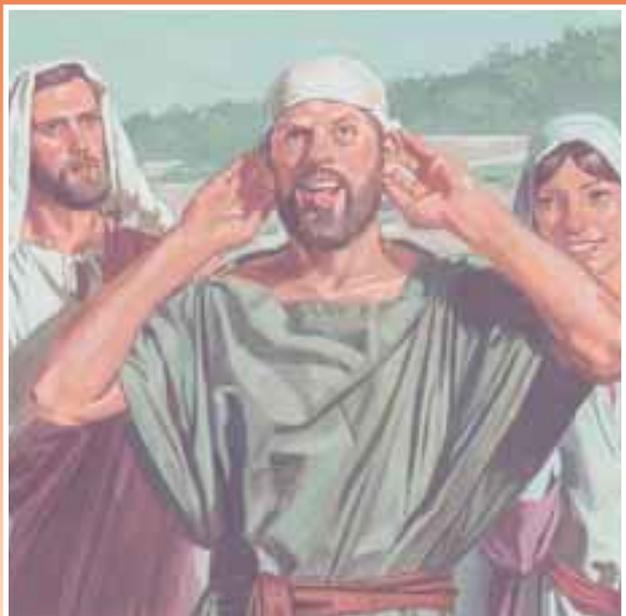
Some people brought a deaf man to Jesus. The man could not hear, nor could he talk very well. The people wanted the Savior to heal him.

Mark 7:32



Jesus and the man walked away from them. Then Jesus put His fingers in the man's ears and touched the man's tongue and blessed him.

Mark 7:33-34



Now the man could hear and talk, and the people could understand him. Jesus asked them not to tell anyone what had happened, but they told everyone.

Mark 7:35-36

APOSTLES' TESTIMONY OF CHRIST

Chapter 32

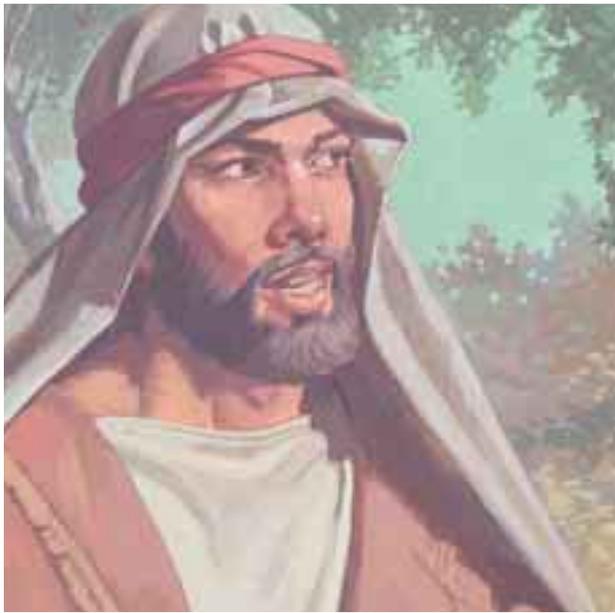


Jesus was with His disciples in Caesarea Philippi. He asked His disciples who people thought that He was.



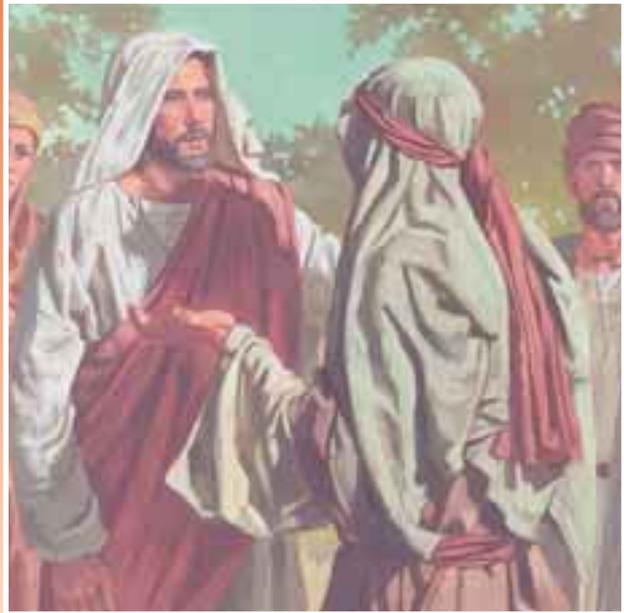
The disciples said that some people thought that He was John the Baptist. Others thought that He was Elias or another Old Testament prophet and had come back from the dead.

Matthew 16:14; Mark 8:28; Luke 9:19



Jesus asked His disciples who they thought He was. Peter said, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

Matthew 16:15–16; Mark 8:29; Luke 9:20



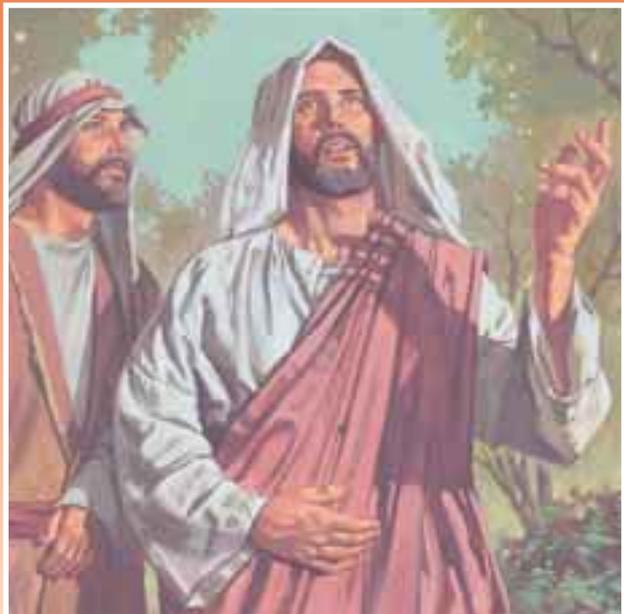
Jesus explained that a testimony could not come from the learning of men. A testimony comes by revelation from God. This was how Peter knew who Jesus was.

Matthew 16:17



Jesus also said that the true church would be founded upon Him and His teachings. He promised His disciples that He would give them the priesthood so that they would have the authority to lead His church.

Matthew 16:18–19



Finally, He told them not to tell anyone that He was the Christ. First He needed to suffer many things, to be rejected by the leaders of the Jews, to be slain, and to rise from the dead on the third day.

Matthew 16:20; Mark 8:30–31; Luke 9:21–22

THE Chocolate-Covered CHERRY



(A true story)

By Scott Hamm

See that ye love one another; . . . learn to impart one to another (Doctrine and Covenants 88:123).

It's what's inside that counts, at least that's what Mom always said. And while Joshua didn't understand everything that that meant, he was sure that his mom knew what she was talking about when it came to chocolate-covered cherries. They were one of his dad's favorite treats at Christmastime, and they had become one of Josh's also.

This wonderful candy was shaped like a little pitcher's mound with a swirl of chocolate on top. And while the chocolate outside was good, it was the inside that Joshua really loved: a gooey, sticky, sweet, white cream and liquid surrounding a delicious maraschino cherry. The liquid center sometimes made it a little difficult to eat without making a mess, but that challenge was all part of the fun.

Sometimes he bit right into the top and looked down as if looking into a volcano with a red-hot-lava cherry. Sometimes this caused the side to break, and the hot lava came gushing out onto his hand, making him slurp and lick as quickly as he could to keep from getting sticky all over. Sometimes he tried to eat one in one gigantic bite. Being only six, that was a lot of candy in his mouth and sometimes a little juice squirted out onto his chin.

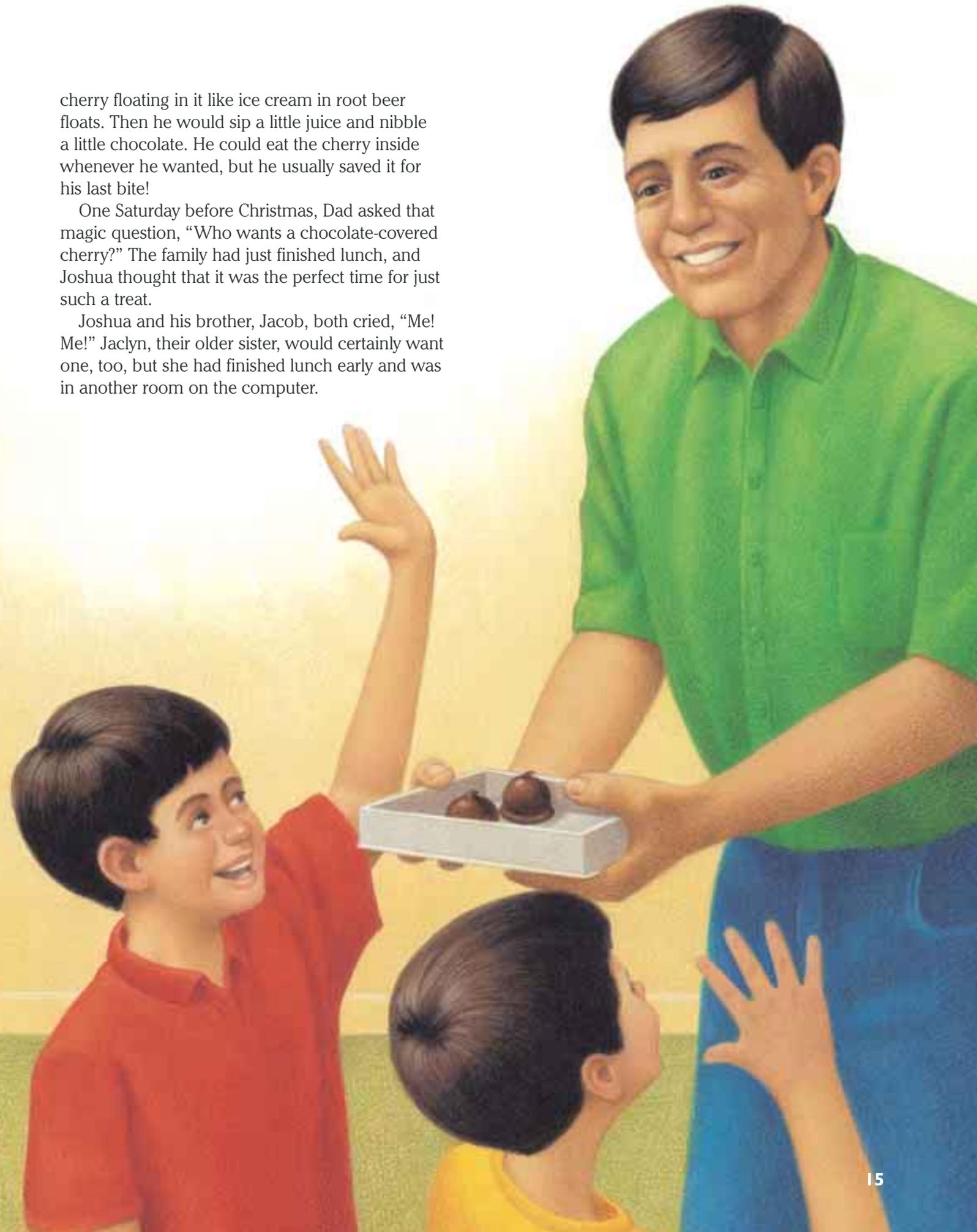
But his favorite way to eat a chocolate-covered cherry was to turn it upside down and carefully nibble off the bottom piece of chocolate. That left him with a little cup full of delicious syrup with a



cherry floating in it like ice cream in root beer floats. Then he would sip a little juice and nibble a little chocolate. He could eat the cherry inside whenever he wanted, but he usually saved it for his last bite!

One Saturday before Christmas, Dad asked that magic question, “Who wants a chocolate-covered cherry?” The family had just finished lunch, and Joshua thought that it was the perfect time for just such a treat.

Joshua and his brother, Jacob, both cried, “Me! Me!” Jaclyn, their older sister, would certainly want one, too, but she had finished lunch early and was in another room on the computer.



“Wait!” Dad said. He was standing in the kitchen, holding the box of cherries with a sad look on his face. “There are only two chocolate-covered cherries left. What should we do?”

Josh thought about it. They could cut one in half. They had done that before with other candy. But cutting a chocolate-covered cherry would only make a big mess and ruin the candy. They could just quietly eat them in the kitchen, and Jaclyn wouldn’t even know. But he knew that that wasn’t really fair.

He started to think about the family home evening lesson they’d had that week. They had learned that Christmas is the celebration of Christ’s birth and how He came to earth to give us all a very special gift that only He could give. The family had talked about how Christmas isn’t about all the things you get but about showing love to your family and friends.

Suddenly a wonderful and terrible thought entered his mind. It was terrible because it meant missing out on his favorite treat. It was wonderful because it was what Joshua knew that Jesus would want him to do.

“Dad,” he said, “you can give mine to Jaclyn.” He almost couldn’t believe his own mouth was

saying those words. But as soon as he said them, he felt a wonderful, warm feeling inside. It was as if his whole insides had become like the inside of a chocolate-covered cherry—sweet and happy.

“Are you sure, Josh?”

“Yes, I’m sure,” Josh said, this time with a smile on his face.

Dad gave the last piece to Jaclyn, and Josh couldn’t believe that he could be so happy about *not* getting a chocolate-covered cherry.

That night, after pajamas were put on, teeth were brushed, prayers were said, and Mom and Dad had kissed everyone and tucked them into bed, Joshua lay awake thinking about his day. As the glow from the Christmas lights on the house filtered into his room, he thought about his decision to give the last chocolate-covered cherry to Jaclyn and how happy she had been and how wonderful that had made him feel. And then he realized his mom was right—it *is* what’s on the inside that counts!



Your agency, the right to make choices, is not given so that you can get what you want. This divine gift is provided so that you will choose what your Father in Heaven wants for you. That way He can lead you to become all that He intends you to be. That path leads to glorious joy and happiness.

Elder Richard G. Scott
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles
(*Ensign*, May 1996, page 25.)



FRIENDS IN THE NEWS



Courtney Quinn, 6, Randburg, South Africa, is very helpful and especially enjoys helping her younger brother, Liam. She also enjoys swimming.

Jeremy Ryan, 8, Allen, Texas, was baptized by his older brother and confirmed by his father. Jeremy enjoys gymnastics, soccer, reading, music, and video games. He is very happy to be a Cub Scout.

Jessica Marie Reed, 4, Orlando, Florida, likes to pray and always brings a sweet spirit into her home as she talks to Heavenly Father. She likes tap dancing, ballet, singing, and performing for others.

Kent Thalman, 8, Neenah, Wisconsin, loves the gospel and isn't afraid to talk about it with his friends and other nonmembers.



Emily Lloyd, 11, Salt Lake City, Utah, uses sign language fluently; her school has both deaf and hearing students. She likes to play with her dog, Harley, rollerblade, swim, ski, dance, do crafts, and write.

A good reader, **Daniel Strange**, 5, Easley, South Carolina, likes to prepare family home evening lessons. He enjoys learning the articles of faith and playing with his sister, Annalise.

Jolease Darrington, 9, McAllen, Texas, donated fourteen inches of her hair in April 1999 to an organization that makes wigs for children who suffer from medical hair loss. She hopes to donate more of her hair soon.

Ty Aaron Clawson Young, 6, Coalinga, California, loves to pray. He also likes to draw and share his pictures with his family. This is a surprise sent in by them.

Madeline Careen Danielson, 3, DuPont, Washington, likes to pretend to be a princess ballerina or a busy mother tending her large doll family. Her loving hugs and cute giggles are enjoyed by her brothers.

Luke Boswell, 8, Chapel en le Frith, England, enjoys all music and is very good at playing the piano. He likes bike riding, playing with his brother and sister, cooking, Primary, and family home evenings.



Jennesa Lynn Coleman, 5, Salt Lake City, Utah, likes to sing, dance, do projects, read, play with her three younger brothers, learn scripture stories, attend Primary, and make her own pictures for family home evening.

Tristan Hamon-Poulsen, 3, Hill Spring, Alberta, Canada, loves cuddly animals like kittens and puppies. He enjoys family home evening, and he especially likes to sing.

Hayli Josephine Warburton, 7, Las Vegas, Nevada, can do impressions. She is good at snapping her fingers, and she likes to feed animals.

One of two children in his branch's Primary class, **Coby Ploeger**, 5, Pipestone, Minnesota, is a wonderful missionary to everyone he meets. He has a kind and gentle spirit.

Mabel Kawehionapua Solomone, 11, Samba-bula, Suva, Fiji, likes playing the piano, singing in her school choir, reading the *Friend*, and playing for the Allstars basketball team. She loves her cat, Blink.

Tanner Douglas Moore, 7, Kaysville, Utah, enjoys snow skiing, playing with friends, and hiking with his family. He is eager to be baptized, begin Cub Scouts, and start working on his Gospel in Action award.



Jonelle Sedgwick, 5, Stratford, Connecticut, likes to laugh at her dad's funny stories. She also likes to play computer games and to sing. She faithfully remembers in her prayers everyone she knows who is sick.

Kind to his family, **Kevan Bills**, 11, Littleton, Colorado, does thoughtful things for them. He likes football and wrestling and looks forward to overnight campouts.

Lillian Rice, 6, Newnan, Georgia, likes Primary, playing the piano, and taking dance lessons. She is a wonderful example to her little sister, Emma.

Nicknamed "Bubba," **Jeffrey Lytle**, 10, Las Vegas, Nevada, enjoys basketball, soccer, swimming, and reading. He is "very sensitive to the Spirit."

Kilyann Brown, 8, Burley, Idaho, likes Achievement Days and is working hard on her Gospel in Action award. She is a wonderful big sister and a great helper, too.

Benjamin Knutson, 4, Scottsdale, Arizona, loves Primary. He has already memorized and can recite all the articles of faith word for word. His mom and dad are very proud of him.



CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

Crayon Pencil Holder

By Hilary Hendricks

To make this gift, you will need: a ruler, scissors, a 3" (7.5 cm) square of cardboard and enough aluminum foil to cover it, a cardboard toilet-paper tube, 19 new crayons; newspaper to protect your work area, glue, pens, pencils, and ribbon (optional).



1. Neatly wrap the cardboard square with the foil, shiny side out; set it aside.
2. Cut the toilet-paper tube so that it is no taller than the crayons—about 3" (7.5 cm).
3. Working on the newspaper, place a long, thin strip of glue on each crayon.
4. Stand the tube on the newspaper, and glue one crayon onto the tube (see illustration). Continue gluing the crayons next to each other around the tube until its surface is covered.
5. When the glue has dried completely, glue the bottom ends of the crayons to the center of the foil-covered cardboard. Let dry.
6. Fill the holder with pencils and pens, then tie a ribbon around it, if you wish.

Holiday Gift Basket

By Bonnie Kelly

To make a gift basket, you will need: scissors, a ruler, two white paper plates with fluted edges, glue, one paper doily, a 10" (25 cm) square of colored cellophane or tissue paper, and wrapped treats to put into your gift basket. (See the "Finnish Christmas Stars" and the "Pumpkin Fudge" recipes on these pages.)



1. Fold the edge of one paper plate 2 1/4"

(6 cm) as illustrated in the previous column.

2. Bring each side corner up about 2" (5 cm) so each corner meets the top of the folded piece, crease in place, then glue, being careful to not glue the folds to the rest of the plate (see illustration).



3. Cut the other paper plate in half. (You will only need one half.) Cut off the fluted edge to make a handle. Glue the ends of the handle to the back of the basket (see illustration).



4. Line the basket with colored cellophane or tissue paper, and a doily.

5. Fill the gift basket with wrapped treats of your choice.

Finnish Christmas Stars

By Lois Anne Berg

12 ounces (340 g) dried apricots or other dried fruit available in your area

1 1/2 cups water

1/4 cup sugar

1 cup butter/margarine (2 sticks)

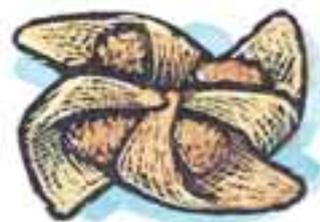
2 cups flour

1/2 cup milk

1/8 teaspoon salt

1/8 teaspoon baking powder

1. Chop the dried fruit into small pieces and place in a medium saucepan; add the water. Stirring occasionally, cook over medium heat for 5 minutes or until the fruit is soft.



2. Drain off the water and mash the fruit with a potato masher or fork, or in a blender.

3. Add the sugar and mix well; set aside.

4. In a large bowl, mix the butter/margarine



and flour with a pastry blender or a fork until the mixture is crumbly.

5. Add the milk, salt, and baking powder; stir with a fork until the mixture becomes a soft ball of dough.

6. Sprinkle flour on a clean surface and place the dough on the flour.

7. Rub flour on a rolling pin, and roll the dough into an 18" (45 cm) square 1/4" (6 mm) thick.

8. Cut the dough into thirty-six 3" (7.5 cm) squares.

9. Cut four diagonal slits in each square, starting with the corners of the square and stopping 1/2" (1.25 cm) from the center.

10. Spoon a mound of fruit filling into the center of each square.

11. Fold every other point of dough into the center of its square to form a four-pointed star (see illustration).

12. Use a pancake turner to lift the stars onto an ungreased cookie sheet, then bake them at 400° F (205° C) for 7–10 minutes or until the dough turns a light golden brown.

13. With a pancake turner, remove the stars from the cookie sheet and cool them on a wire rack. Makes 3 dozen cookies.

It is suggested that an older person be available to help with this recipe.



Pumpkin Fudge

By Juliana Lewis

- 1 cup milk**
- 3 cups sugar**
- 1/2 cup canned (or steamed and mashed) pumpkin**
- 3 tablespoons light corn syrup**
- 1/2 teaspoon salt**
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice**
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract**
- 1/4 cup butter**
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts**

1. Combine the milk, sugar, pumpkin, corn syrup, and salt in a medium saucepan and, stirring constantly, bring to a rolling boil over high heat.

2. Reduce the heat to medium and stop stirring. Let the mixture boil until it reaches softball stage. (Test this by dropping a drop of the mixture into a cup of cold water. If the mixture sticks together in a soft ball instead of dissolving in the water, it's done.)

3. Remove the saucepan from the heat and stir in the pumpkin pie spice, vanilla, butter, and nuts.

4. Let the mixture cool until it is lukewarm, then beat it with a spoon until it becomes very thick and no longer looks shiny.

5. Butter an 8" (20 cm) square pan and pour in the mixture.

6. When the fudge is cool and firm, cut it into 1" (2.5 cm) squares.

It is suggested that an older person be available to help with this recipe.



Handy Gift Card

By Sherry Timberman

To make a fun gift card, you will need: a pencil, an 8 1/2" x 11"

(22 cm x 28 cm) piece of heavy paper, scissors, scraps of colored paper, glue, stickers (optional), crayons, and a wrapped candy cane, lollipop, or stick of gum.

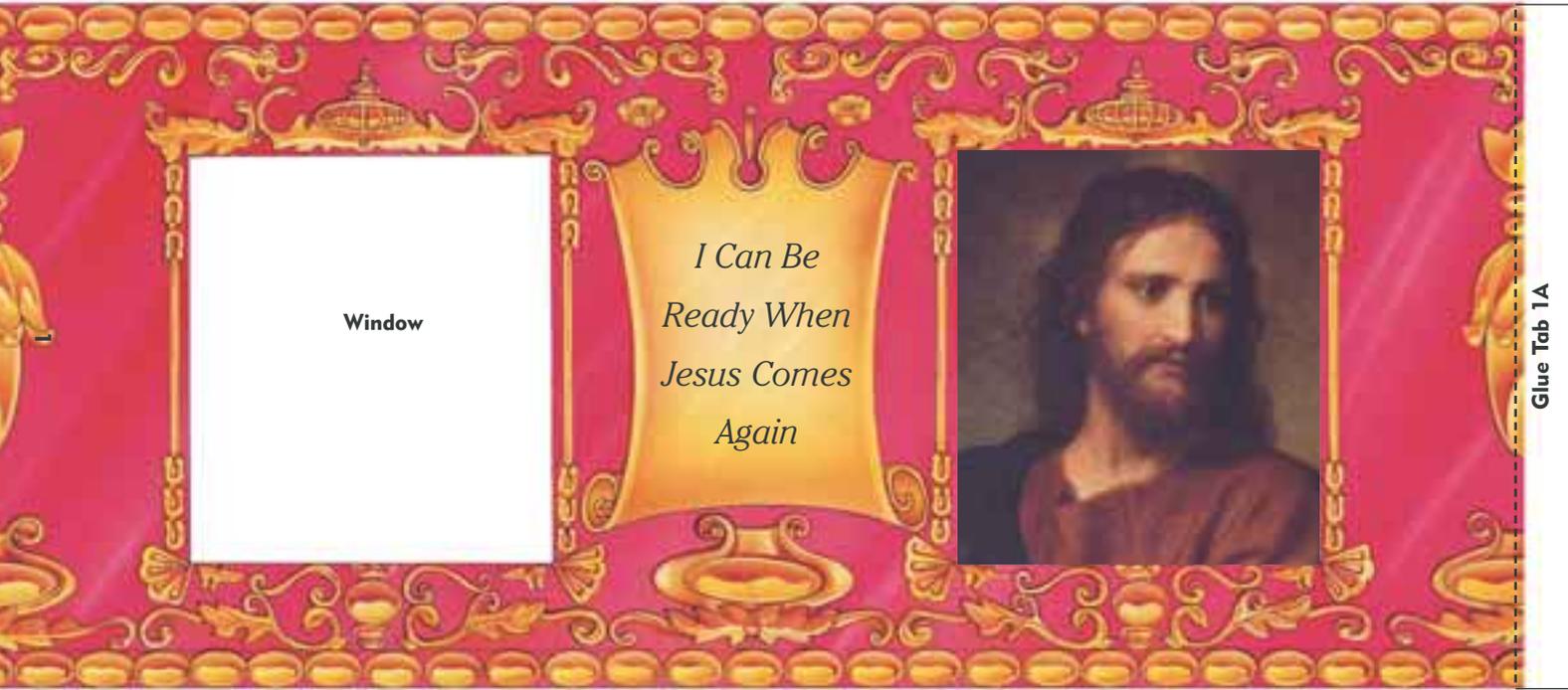
1. Trace your hand on a piece of heavy paper and cut out the traced hand.

2. Cut two slits 1" (2.5 cm) long and 1/2" (1.3 cm) apart in the palm (see illustration).

3. Decorate the hand with colored paper cutouts, stickers, and/or crayons (see illustration). You might want to write a Christmas message on it, too.

4. Slip a wrapped candy cane, lollipop, or stick of gum through the slits.

Section A



(Note: Make or copy all the items you want on page 19 before doing this activity.)

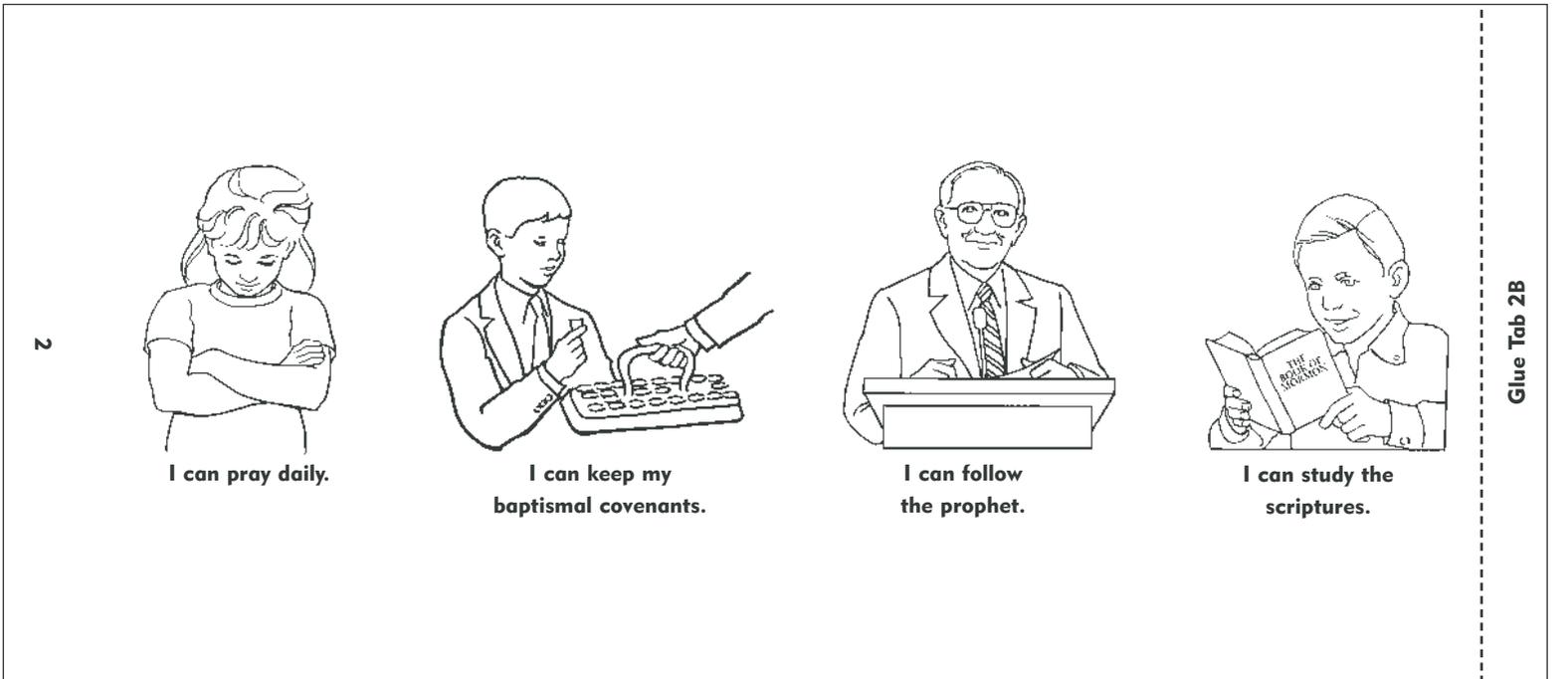
1. Glue this page onto a heavier piece of paper.
2. Color the picture of things you can do to prepare for the Savior's Second Coming.
3. Cut out Sections A and B and the window in Section A.
4. Form two tubes by gluing Tab 1A behind Tab 1 and Tab 2B behind Tab 2 (see illustration).

Place Section B inside Section A. As you turn Section B, pictures will appear to help remind you of some of the things you can do to be ready for the Second Coming.

Choose one thing each week that you will try to do a little bit better to help you be better prepared.



Section B



I can pray daily.

I can keep my baptismal covenants.

I can follow the prophet.

I can study the scriptures.

What a Joyful Day!

And he also spake concerning the prophets, how great a number had testified . . . concerning this Messiah, . . . this Redeemer of the world (1 Nephi 10:5).

By Diane Nichols

Imagine that you lived over two thousand years ago in a city named Zarahemla. The city is surrounded by a high wall that protects the people from their enemies. Imagine that one day, while walking through the city with your parents, you hear a lot of commotion ahead of you. As you come nearer, you see a man standing upon the city wall. He is prophesying of the coming of the Messiah and the things that will happen both in Zarahemla and in the land of Jerusalem as signs that He has been born.

You and your parents stop and listen to this man's message. He is named Samuel and is a Lamanite prophet. The Lamanites have been your enemies for many years, but as you listen to him, you feel that the things he is saying are true. He says that in five years the Messiah will be born in the land of Jerusalem and that when He is born, a new star will appear in the heavens. There will be a day and a night and a day without any darkness. It will appear to be as one day. When these things happen, the people in Zarahemla will know that the Savior has been born. Some of the people around you, however, do not believe Samuel and are very angry with him. They begin to throw stones at him and try to shoot him with arrows. He cannot be injured, though, and he escapes.

After returning home, your parents tell you that the man you heard is a prophet of God and that the



things he taught are true. You and your family are baptized and prepare for the coming of the Messiah (see Helaman 16:1–5). You study the scriptures together, pray to Heavenly Father, and listen to the teachings of the prophets. In five years, a new star does appear and there is a night without darkness. You know that the Savior has been born, just as the prophet Samuel had said. What a joyful day!

It is fun to imagine that we lived long ago and heard Samuel prophesy about the coming of Jesus Christ. Many prophets besides Samuel told the people of their times about the Savior's birth. Those prophecies were fulfilled that night in Bethlehem.

Just as the prophets testified of the Savior's birth, they have prophesied that He will come again. At His Second Coming, Jesus Christ will come not as a baby but as an adult, and He will then rule and reign forever. All people everywhere will know that He is the Son of God and the Redeemer of the world.

Although we do not know when He will come again, we have been told to prepare for that time. We can prepare for His Second Coming just as the righteous people in Zarahemla prepared for His birth. We can follow the words of the prophets. We can study the scriptures and pray to Heavenly Father. We can keep our baptismal covenant and heed the promptings of the Holy Ghost.

Prophets today continue to prophesy that the Savior will come again. If we follow the prophet, we will be prepared. What a joyful day that will be!

SHARING TIME IDEAS

(Note: CS = *Children's Songbook*; GAK = *Gospel Art Kit*)

1. Help the children discover some of the prophecies concerning Jesus' birth and His Second Coming by preparing a Christmas "Sing-a-Story" (see *Teaching, No Greater Call*, pp. 174–175). Use pictures of the Savior's birth and Second Coming from the GAK. On the back of each picture, attach a simple narrative that includes the name of the prophet who prophesied the event and a scripture containing the prophecy. Choose children to hold the pictures and narrate the story. Sing an appropriate song from the CS to go with each picture. For example:

- GAK 201: Nephi—The Savior's mother will be from Nazareth (1 Ne. 11:13, 20–21 [first sentence]) / "Mary's Lullaby" (pp. 44–45)
- GAK 200: Helaman—His name will be Jesus Christ (2 Ne. 25:19) / "Once within a Lowly Stable" (p. 41)
- GAK 203: Samuel—Great lights and a new star will appear (Hel. 14:2–5) / "Stars Were Gleaming" (p. 37)
- GAK 240: Isaiah—He will be Heavenly Father's Son (Isa. 9:6; John 3:16) / "He Sent His Son" (pp. 34–35)
- GAK 238: Matthew—Jesus Christ will come again (Matt. 16:27) / "When He Comes Again" (pp. 82–83)

2. Ask, "If you had a message that you wanted people throughout the world to receive, how could you send it?" (Telephone, satellite, television, Internet, etc.) Would that have been possible two thousand years ago? Explain that two thousand years ago, something wonderful was going to happen—Jesus Christ was going to be born. Heavenly Father wanted people all over the earth to know about it, so He sent prophets to tell the people of the signs of the Savior's birth. Tell the story of Samuel the Lamanite (Hel. 13:1–16:8; GAK 314). Have children dressed in simple costumes role-play the fulfillment of Samuel's prophecy. (There was no darkness on the night of the Savior's birth, and a new star appeared in the heavens—see *Sharing Time*, p. 21.) Sing "Samuel Tells of the Baby Jesus" (CS, p. 36). Show a map of the world. Ask where else people saw a new star on the night of the Savior's birth. Explain that although Bethlehem was a great distance from Zarahemla (somewhere in the Americas), people knew of the birth of the Savior by seeing the same star. Even far away in the East, the Wise Men (GAK 203) had been watching for the star to appear. They knew that it was a sign that the Savior had been born. When they saw it, they traveled a long way to come and worship the child (see Matt. 2:1–12; including footnote 2a). Sing "Silent Night," (*Hymns*, no. 204, "It Came upon the Midnight Clear," (*Hymns*, no. 207, third verse), or "With Wondering Awe," (*Hymns*, no. 210). Explain that just as people watched and prepared for the Savior's birth, we need to watch and be prepared for His Second Coming. Give each child a star on which he or she can write or draw something he or she can do to prepare for the Savior's Second Coming. Ask them to share their ideas with their families.

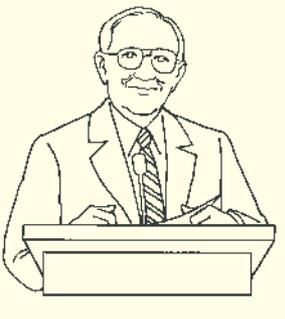
3. Cut a large picture of the nativity into puzzle pieces, one piece for each class. On the back of each piece, write a reference to scriptures that prophesy of the birth of the Savior (for example: Isa. 7:14; 1 Ne. 11:13, 15, 18; 2 Ne. 25:19; Hel. 14:2–5). Place the puzzle pieces in a random pattern on the floor. Have one child from each class come up and toss a beanbag until he/she hits

one of the pieces. He/she has his/her class look up the scripture reference and choose one child to read the scripture aloud. Have all the children respond to what the prophecy or sign is and where and when it would take place. Have a member of the class hang its puzzle piece on the wall, trying to put the puzzle together. After the puzzle is completed, sing "Once within a Lowly Stable," (CS, p. 41) or "The Nativity Song," (CS, pp. 52–53). Testify that just as the prophets foretold the birth of Jesus Christ, they have also told us that He will come again to the earth.

4. Have a child dress up as a shepherd boy and tell the story of the Savior's birth in Bethlehem. Talk to the children about the events surrounding the humble birth of Jesus Christ and sing "Away in a Manger," (CS, pp. 42–43). Contrast that setting with what the prophets have said will occur when He comes again by having the children look up scriptures concerning the Second Coming. Prepare strips of paper with a summary of each scripture ahead of time. (For example: Isa. 65:25 / There will be peace on earth; Matt. 16:27 / He will come in His glory; Matt. 16:27 / Angels will come with Him; Matt. 24:30 / He will come in clouds of glory; Matt. 24:36 / No man knows the day of His coming; 1 Thes. 4:16 / The Lord will descend from heaven with a shout; D&C 76:108 / He will come to be our king; D&C 133:25 / He will stand in the midst of His people and reign over all flesh.) Put a picture of the Savior's Second Coming (GAK 238) on the board and have the children place word-strips describing the events of the Savior's Second Coming under the picture as they find each scripture. Sing "When He Comes Again," (CS, pp. 82–83).

Help the children understand the difference between the humility of Christ's birth (GAK 200) and the glory of His Second Coming. Tell the children the parable of the ten virgins (Matt. 25:1–13). Have a picture of a Biblical lamp mounted on a poster board, with a space behind it for placing slips of paper (see "I Believe That Jesus Will Come Again," *Friend*, Sept. 1995, pp. 12–13). Tell the children that just as the five wise virgins were prepared, we can be prepared for the Savior's Second Coming by doing certain things today. Have them each write something that they can do now to have their lamp full and be prepared when the Savior comes again. Have each child place his/her paper in the lamp until the lamp is filled with things that they can do. Give each child a piece of paper with a picture of a lamp on it to color. Have him/her write on the lamp something he/she will do this week to prepare for the Savior's coming. Bear your testimony that the things we do to prepare for the Second Coming are the same things that will make our lives happier and will prepare us to live with Heavenly Father one day. Sing "I'm Trying to Be like Jesus," (CS, pp. 78–79).

5. Additional *Friend* resources: "Samuel the Lamanite Tells About Jesus Christ," Oct. 1995, pp. 16–18; "The Signs of Christ's Birth," Dec. 1995, pp. 4–6; "The Prophets Testify of Jesus Christ's Birth," Dec. 1997, pp. 14–15, 23; "God Tells His Prophets," Jan. 1998, pp. 12–13, 45; "Isaiah Prophesies of the Savior," Mar. 1998, pp. 34–35; "Isaiah Says," (song) Mar. 1998, p. 38; "Message from Isaiah," Nov. 1998, p. 11; "They Testify of Him," Jan. 1999, pp. 24–25; "Jesus Christ Will Come Again," Dec. 1999, pp. 10–11; "When He Comes Again," Dec. 1999, pp. 35–37.



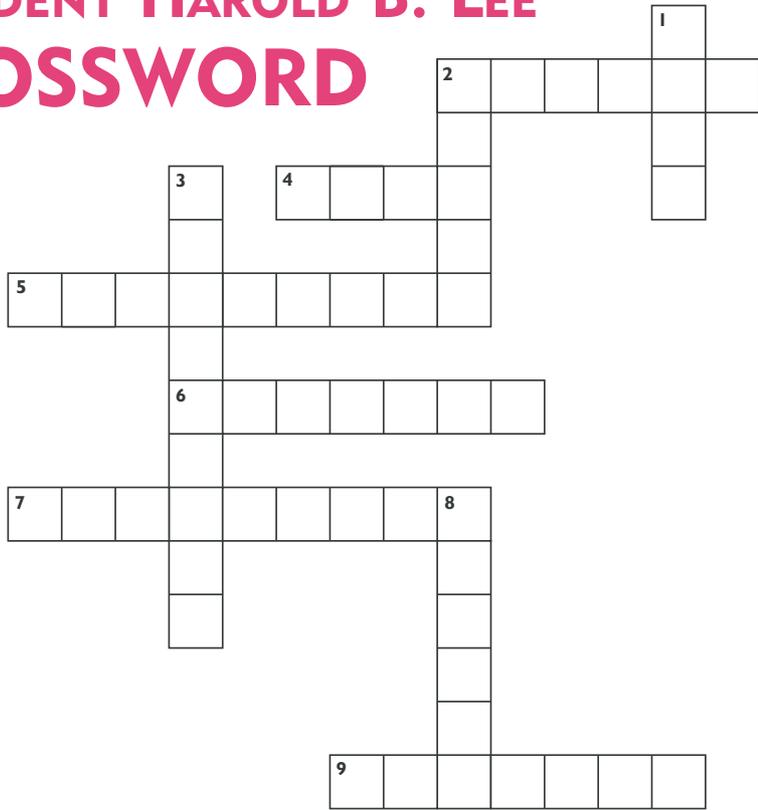


PRESIDENT HAROLD B. LEE CROSSWORD

By Hilary
Hendricks

You can learn about President Harold B. Lee, the eleventh President of the Church, by doing this crossword puzzle. Read the clues, then fill in the puzzle by choosing the correct answer from the list.

- | | |
|-----------|---------|
| Christmas | poor |
| daughters | read |
| farms | school |
| forget | teacher |
| lightning | welfare |



ACROSS

- President Harold B. Lee taught that we will be happy and make Heavenly Father happy, too, when we _____ ourselves and help others.
- The Church welfare program helped _____ people find jobs to earn food and clothing.
- President Lee and his wife were blessed with two _____.
- When he was seventeen, he became a _____ and the principal of a small school in Idaho.
- When he was president of Pioneer Stake, he worked with leaders to be sure each family had food and presents to celebrate this holiday.
- Because his stake was so good at taking care of each other, he was asked to direct the _____ program of the Church.

DOWN

- When President Lee was young, he loved to _____, especially books about animals and outdoor adventures.
- Many of the jobs offered by the Church welfare program involved raising animals and growing food on _____.
- His mother saved him from many dangers. Once she pushed him out of the way just in time to keep him from being struck by _____.
- As a little boy, he begged to go to this place with his older brother.

FUNSTUF ANSWERS

President Harold B. Lee Crossword: Across—(2) forget, (4) poor, (5) daughters, (6) teacher, (7) Christmas, (9) welfare. Down—(1) read, (2) farms, (3) lightning, (8) school.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS COUPONS

ILLUSTRATED BY BRAD TEARE

Give your mom and dad or other family members a set of Christmas Coupons to redeem during December.

Instructions

1. Carefully remove these pages from the magazine.
2. If you wish, mount them on heavier paper.
3. Cut the coupons apart.
4. Decide which coupons you want to give to each family member, sort them into piles, and tie a ribbon or string around each pile.
5. Deliver the packets on December 1.

Bear Hug



I will give you a bear hug or two.

Chore Relief



I'll do one of your chores.

Dish Duty



I'll wash the dishes.

Dusty Corners



I'll clean your room.

Fine Dining



I'll make your favorite lunch.

Homework Help



Homework Help

I'll help you with your homework.

Homework Help

Homework Help

Joyful Noise

I'll sing you a song or two.



O Holy Night

I'll read or tell you the story of the first Christmas.

Rhyme Time

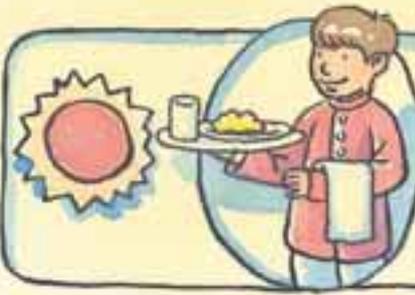


I'll write you a poem.

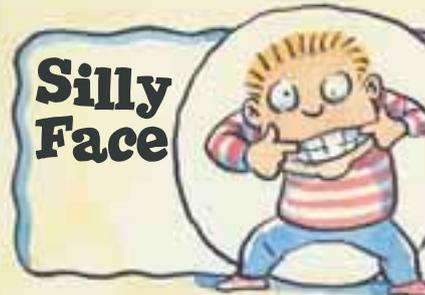
Stress Relief

I'll give you a back rub.

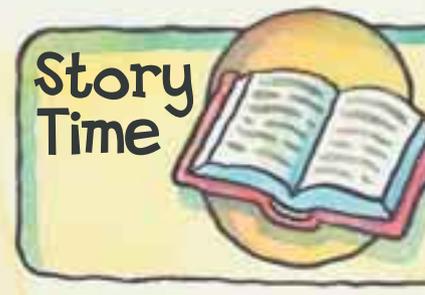




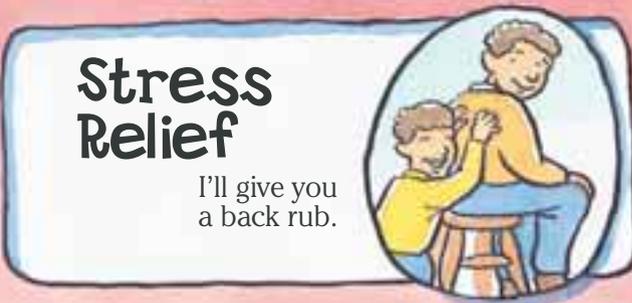
Room Service
I'll serve you breakfast in bed.



Silly Face
I'll make funny faces to cheer you up.



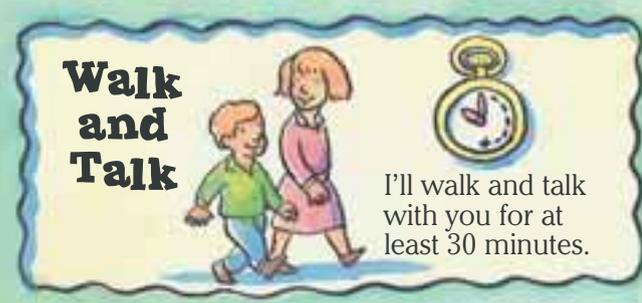
Story Time
I'll tell you a story.



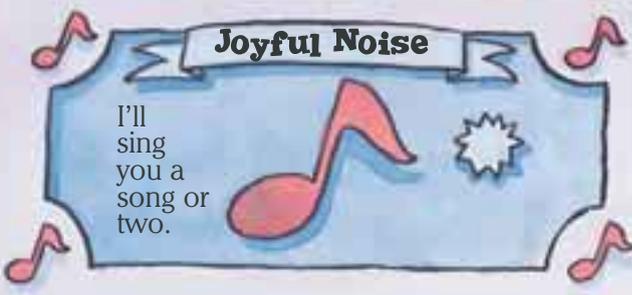
Stress Relief
I'll give you a back rub.



Sweet Treat
I'll make you a treat.



Walk and Talk
I'll walk and talk with you for at least 30 minutes.



Joyful Noise
I'll sing you a song or two.



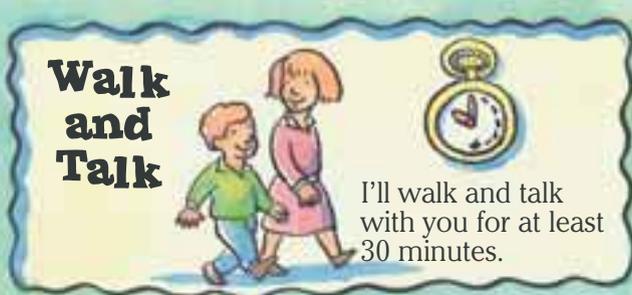
Chore Relief
I'll do one of your chores.



Room Service
I'll serve you breakfast in bed.



Story Time
I'll tell you a story.



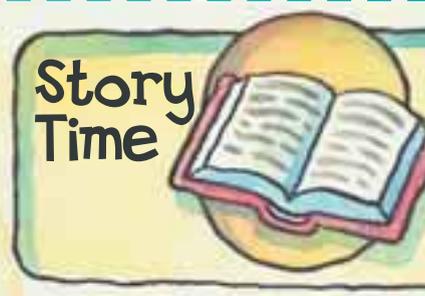
Walk and Talk
I'll walk and talk with you for at least 30 minutes.



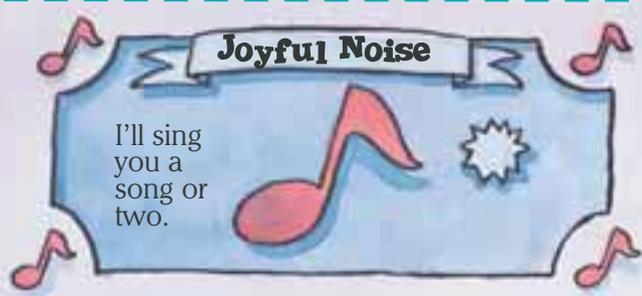
Rhyme Time
I'll write you a poem.



Bear Hug
I will give you a bear hug or two.



Story Time
I'll tell you a story.



Joyful Noise
I'll sing you a song or two.

Think of a Christmas

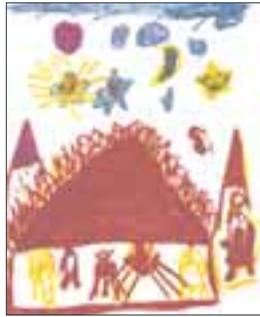
Think of a Christmas
With happiness and joy.
Think of a Christmas,
Little girls and boys.

Think of a Christmas,
So very fair.
Think of a Christmas,
To love and to care.

Think of a Christmas,
Oh, so divine.
Think of a Christmas,
A wonder of mine.

Think of a Christmas,
With laughter and love.
Think of a Christmas,
Heavenly Father and Jesus above.

*Ben W. Hammond, age 10
Springville, Utah*



*John Morgan Erramouspe, age 6
Pocatello, Idaho*



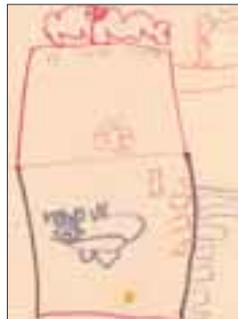
*Caitlin Nabahe, age 8
Maple Grove, Minnesota*



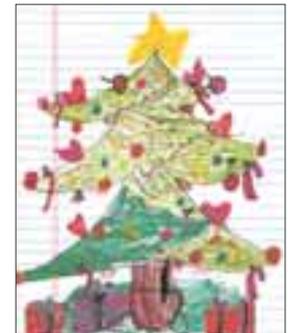
*Eric Hall, age 7
St. George, Utah*



*Dana Haddox, age 10
Sterling, Alaska*



*Robbie Longoria, age 6
Honolulu, Hawaii*



*Kassidy Olson, age 5
Dawsonville, Georgia*

The Spirit

The most valued thing
I've ever had
Is the Spirit—
Helping me each time I pray
And warming me each and every day.
The Spirit's there when I'm alone,
Helping me to move along.

*Olivia Prestidge, age 6
Helotes, Texas*

My Friend

My Friend is always there for me.
My Friend—I always pray in His name
Before I go to bed and before I eat.
My Friend—He always chooses
the right.
My Friend had twelve disciples.
Can you guess who He is?
He is Jesus.

*Emily Golder, age 9
Tyne and Wear, England*



*Neil Sampson, age 11
Colorado Springs, Colorado*



*Emma Blankenfeld, age 6
Cle Elum, Washington*



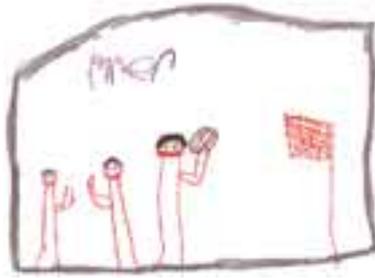
*Samuel Tanner Smith, age 6
Provo, Utah*



*Braedon Benson Rodenberg, age 8
Tokyo, Japan*



*Lisa Kennedy, age 11
Green River, Wyoming*



*Parker Stewart, age 5
Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada*



*Chloe Argilan, age 10
Glen Burnie, Maryland*



*Andie Arnold, age 7
Lincoln, Nebraska*

My Brother the Missionary

Once he was young.
Now he is old,
Called to Germany
To preach the "Book of Gold."
He's a missionary.
I am, too,
Teaching the truth.
So can you!

*Joel Farb, age 9
Beaverton, Oregon*

Our Prophet

We have a prophet on earth today
Who guides us in the light.
He isn't here on earth to stay,
But he teaches us the right.
We always listen to his words
And do them carefully.
It is the key of the world
To live eternally.

*Jared Clark, age 9
Sacramento, California*



*Rebekah Cousins, age 10
Orem, Utah*



*Zaki Gram, age 6
Frankfurt, Germany*



*Madison Claire Silva, age 7
Lawrenceville, Georgia*



*Jamie M. Eckman, age 8
Rexburg, Idaho*



*Justin Tomlin, age 9
Fenton, Michigan*

Best Wishes

With our beautiful mittens,
With the hat that sparkles like glitter,
Let's go walking in the snow
With a slight shiver.

*Elizabeth Oliver, age 7
Elko, Nevada*

Make the Right Choice

The Holy Ghost whispers in a still,
small voice,
Telling us to make the right choice.
Jesus loves us, and so does God.
Make sure you follow the iron rod.
Jesus died for you and me
Because He loves us very much, you see.
If you heed scriptures and always pray,
We have been promised we'll meet
Him one day.

He was great and wise and nice.
He's the Savior, the Lord, the Christ!

*Brittany Noble, age 10
Atlanta, Georgia*



*Jennifer Lee Allred, age 6
El Paso, Texas*



*Chad Pierce, age 9
Mesquite, Nevada*

FROM THE LIVES OF THE CHURCH PRESIDENTS

Harold B. Lee Shares Christmas

When Harold B. Lee was a young man, his father was a bishop. Often Harold helped load their pony cart with things for his father to take to poor families.

Well, Dad,
that's the last
sack of grain.

After dark, Harold's father quietly delivered the food and clothing to needy people in his ward.

Years later, Harold became a father himself.

I thought you were going to Donna Mae's house to show her your new doll.

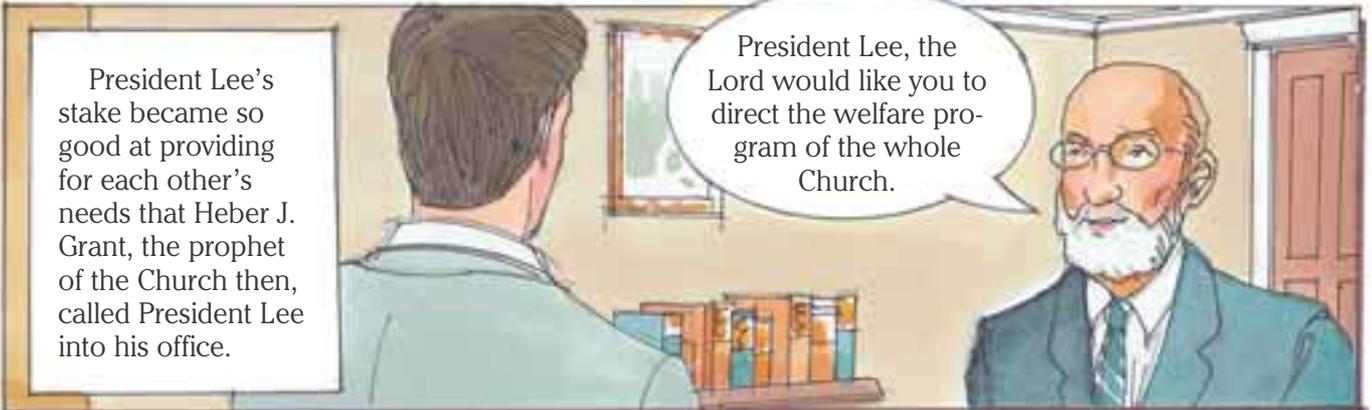
Donna's family didn't have a Christmas this year! She says they are too poor.

President Lee felt especially sad because he was the stake president and could have helped the family if he'd known. That night he thought of how much his father did to help people, and he promised Heavenly Father that he would try harder to know who in the stake needed his help.



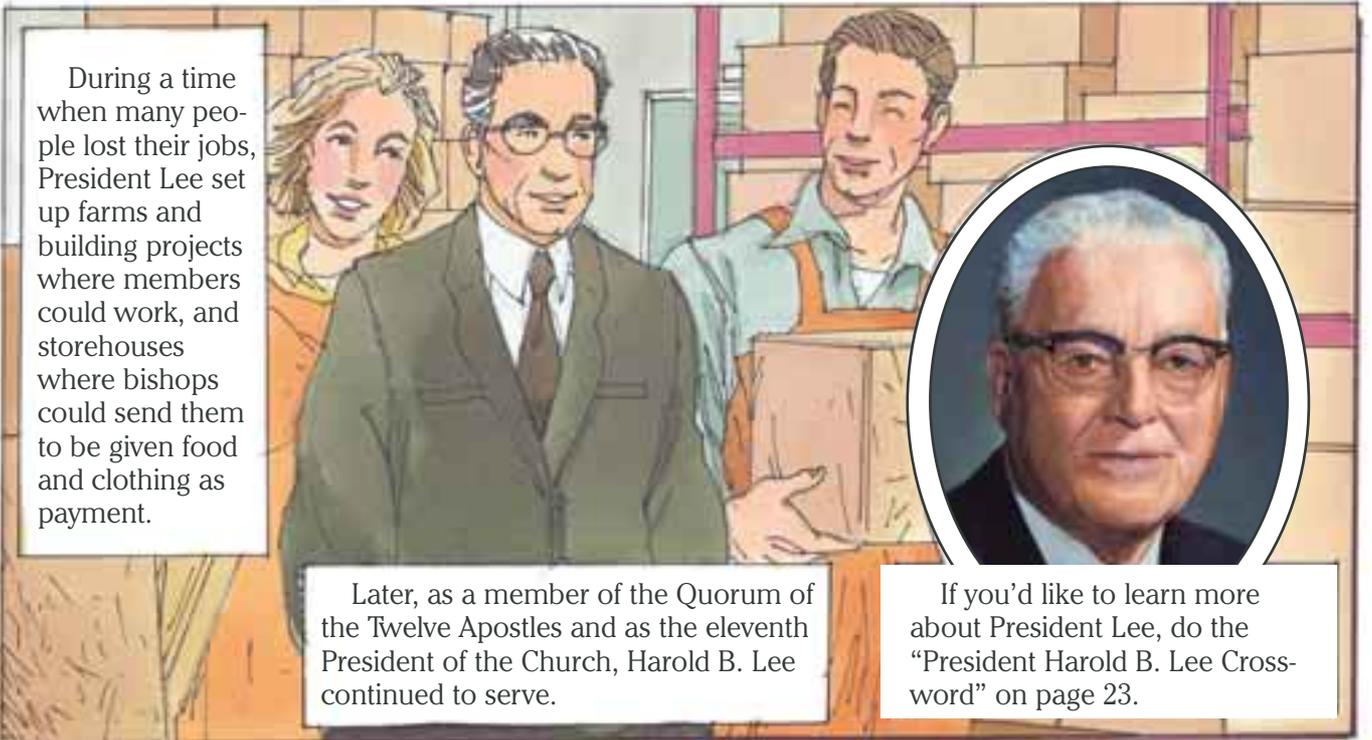
The next Christmas, President Lee worked hard with the members so that every family in their stake could have Christmas presents and a Christmas dinner.

Merry Christmas!



President Lee's stake became so good at providing for each other's needs that Heber J. Grant, the prophet of the Church then, called President Lee into his office.

President Lee, the Lord would like you to direct the welfare program of the whole Church.



During a time when many people lost their jobs, President Lee set up farms and building projects where members could work, and storehouses where bishops could send them to be given food and clothing as payment.

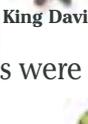
Later, as a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles and as the eleventh President of the Church, Harold B. Lee continued to serve.

If you'd like to learn more about President Lee, do the "President Harold B. Lee Cross-word" on page 23.



For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given (Isaiah 9:6).

The Savior's Birth

More than  thousand years ago, Heavenly Father sent the  Gabriel  , a young woman in the  of Nazareth. Gabriel told  that she  give birth  a  who was the Son of God. The 's name  Jesus.  married , a carpenter. He, , had been told by an  that 's   the Savior. Later, the emperor of Rome commanded everyone  pay a tax.  &  journeyed  , the city of their ancestor, ,  pay the tax. It was time   have her , but all the   s were full.  &  had  live in a . There  gave birth  Jesus &  laid Him in a  used  feeding . That night an  appeared nearby . The  told the  that the Savior, Jesus Christ, was born in  that they  find Him in a . Many heavenly beings joined the , praising God &  declaring peace on . The  went   the , then told others about Him. Later, the  were led by a  the place where Jesus was. They worshiped Him  gave Him precious . A time long  told by  s had finally come.

Nativity Ornaments

To make the ornaments, you will need: heavy paper, glue, scissors, crayons or markers, and paper clips.

1. Glue this page to heavy paper and let the glue dry.

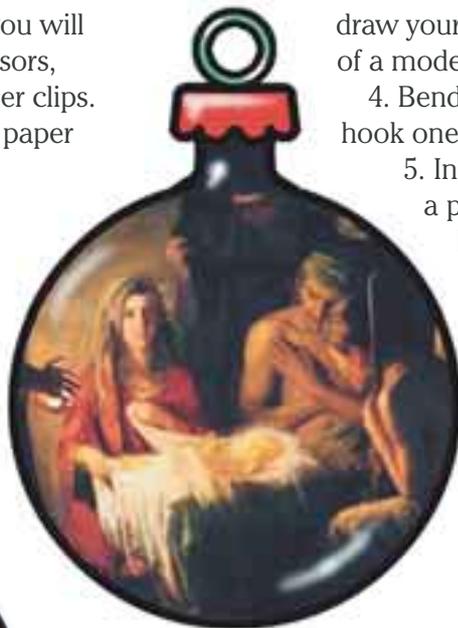
2. Cut out the ornaments and punch a hole in each small circle.

3. On the back of each ornament,

draw your own picture of the same event or of a modern Christmas decoration.

4. Bend a paper clip into a hanger and hook one end through the hole.

5. In a family home evening, you and a parent can read aloud "The Savior's Birth" (page 30). As you read, family members can take turns hanging the ornaments on your Christmas tree.





BABY JESUS

By Hilary Hendricks

Baby Jesus snuggles deep



(Pretend to sleep.)

in warm but scratchy straw.



(Scratch.)

On nearby hillsides, shepherds hear

(Put hand to ear as if listening.)



the angels' song with awe.



(Pretend to lead an angel choir.)

They race to Bethlehem to see

(Run in place.)



the King born in a stable,

(Make an animal sound.)



then kneel before the Son of God—

(Kneel.)



a manger for His cradle.

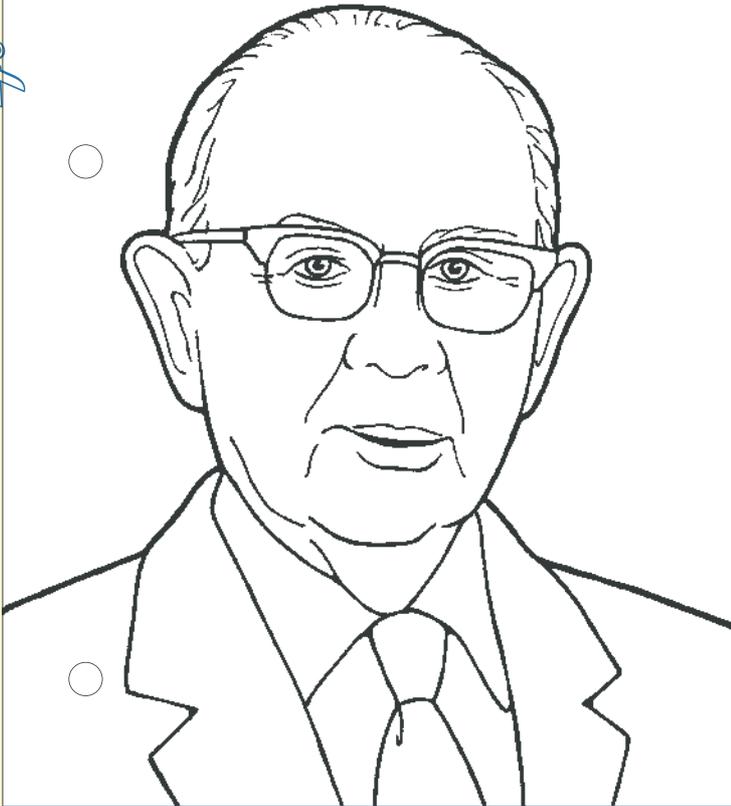
(Pretend to rock a baby.)



My Book of PROPHETS

Note: These pages are to be added to the book started in the *Friend*, September 2001, pages 32–33.

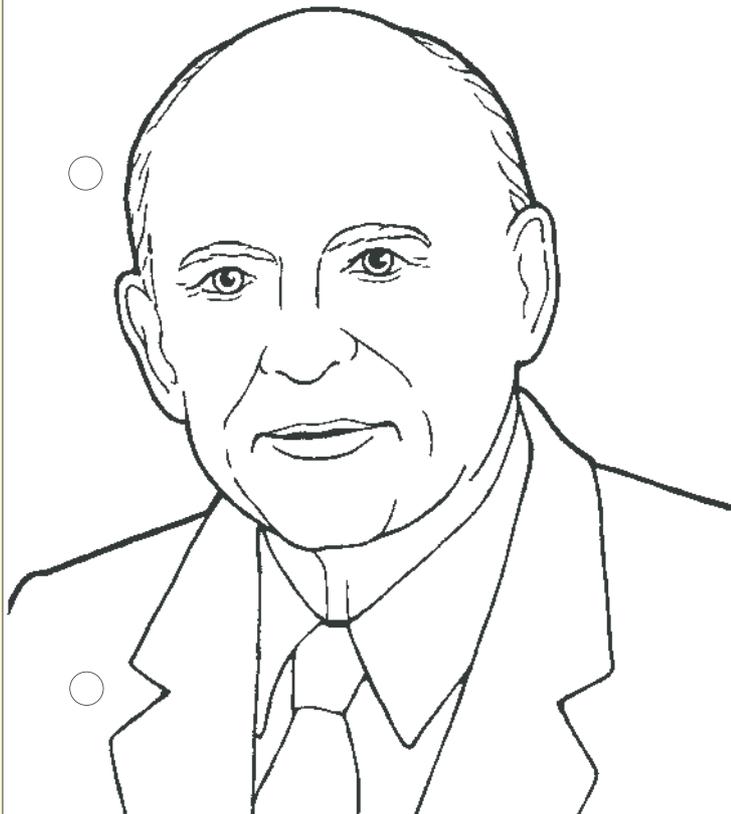
Instructions: Remove page 33 from the magazine, glue it to heavy paper, and color the pictures. Cut out the pages and punch holes on the circles. Stack the four pictures with Gordon B. Hinckley on the bottom, then Howard W. Hunter, then Ezra Taft Benson, and Spencer W. Kimball on top. On the back of each page, write what you have learned about that prophet during the year. Add the pages to the back of the book you started in September.



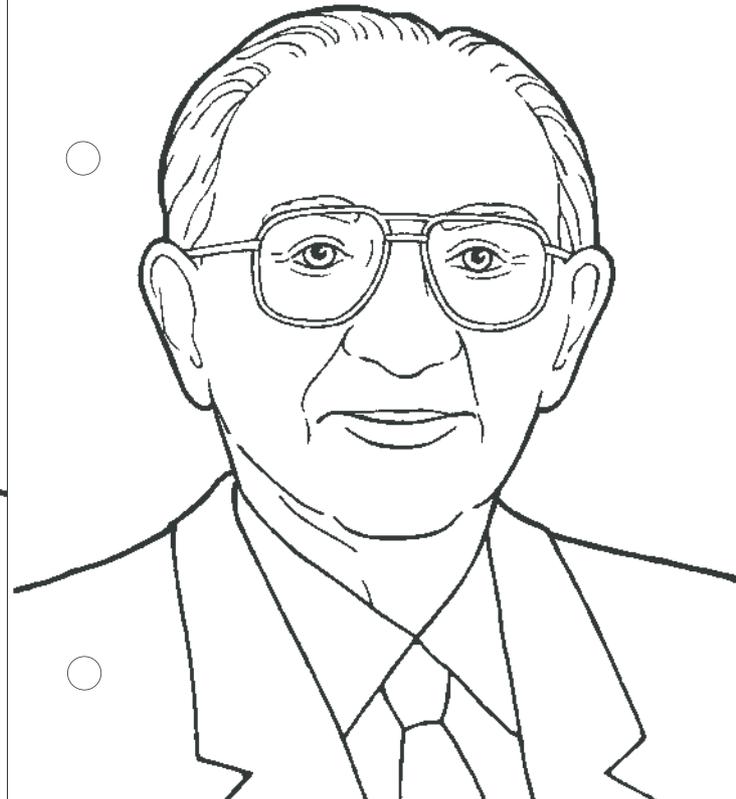
Spencer W. Kimball



Ezra Taft Benson



Howard W. Hunter



Gordon B. Hinckley

Thou shalt give heed unto all his words . . . which he shall give unto you as he receiveth them (Doctrine and Covenants 21:4).

Oliver DeMille liked to go to church with his parents on Sundays because church was held outdoors. Nauvoo had no church buildings yet, so for sacrament meetings, the Prophet Joseph Smith met with the Saints in one of the groves of trees. People sat on plank benches, on blankets on the ground, or in their wagons or carriages. Speakers had to shout sometimes, especially when wind rustled through the trees.

One warm summer Sunday, Oliver, about thirteen, was trying to listen to Joseph Smith preach. The Prophet said that he had had a revelation, and he began to tell it to the people. “Just then,” Oliver said, “a flock of geese flew over where the meeting was held.” The geese

made honking noises, “and most of the people turned their eyes to look.” Oliver did not look but “kept my eyes on the prophet.”

Joseph Smith was concerned because the people turned their attention from him to the geese. He said, “If you care more for the quacking of a wild goose than for the revelations of the Almighty God, I’ve no more to say to you at present.” He stopped preaching and sat down. The people did not get to hear about the revelation that he wanted to share with them.

Oliver was disappointed. But he remembered the lesson the Prophet taught that day—we should pay attention whenever the servants of God speak to us.

Geese in Church

(A true story) *By William G. Hartley*



THEY SPOKE TO US

REPORT FROM THE 171ST SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 6-7, 2001

President Gordon B. Hinckley: Are these perilous times? They are. But there is no need to fear. We can have peace in our hearts and peace in our homes. We can be an influence for good in this world, every one of us.

President Thomas S. Monson, First Counselor in the First Presidency: May we resolve from this day forward to fill our hearts with love. May we go the extra mile to include in our lives any who are lonely or downhearted or who are suffering in any way.

President James E. Faust, Second Counselor in the First Presidency: The overwhelming message of the Atonement is the perfect love the Savior has for each and all of us. It is a love which is full of mercy, patience, grace, equity, long-suffering, and, above all, forgiving.

President Boyd K. Packer, Acting President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles: I love this Book of Mormon: Another Testament of Jesus Christ. Study it and one can understand both the Old Testament and the New Testament in the Bible. I know it is true.

Elder Dallin H. Oaks of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles: The Lord loves all of His children. He desires that all have the fulness of His truth and the abundance of His blessings. He knows when they are ready, and He wants us to hear and heed His directions on sharing His gospel.

Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles: The only thing you need to worry about is striving to be the best you can be. And how do you do that? You keep your eye on the goals

that matter most in life, and you move towards them step by step.

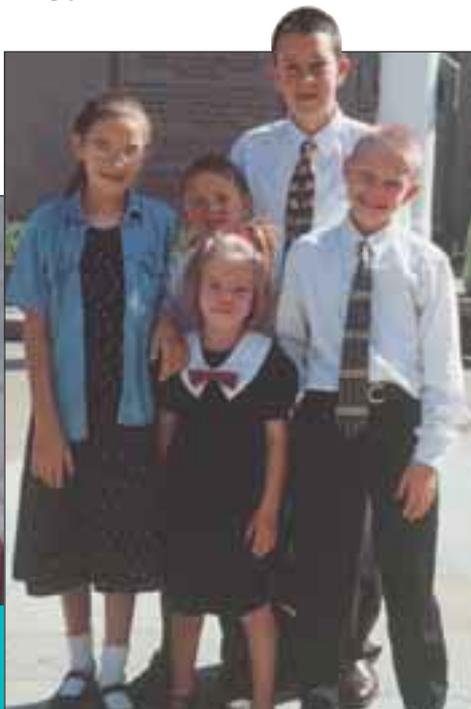
Elder Richard G. Scott of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles: For enduring peace and security, at some time in life, in quiet moments of reflection, you must come to know with a surety that there is a God in heaven who loves you, that He is in control and will help you. That conviction is the core of strong testimony.

Elder Jeffrey R. Holland of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles: We should pay [tithes and offerings] as a personal expression of love to a generous and merciful Father in Heaven. Through His grace God has dealt bread to the hungry and clothing to the poor. At various times in our lives that will include all of us.

Elder Henry B. Eyring of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles: If you ponder the scriptures and begin to do what you covenanted [at baptism] with God to do, I can promise you that you will feel more love for God and more of His love for you.

Elder H. Ross Workman of the Seventy: God has blessed His children with prophets to instruct them in His ways and prepare them for eternal life. . . . Obedience is essential to realize the blessings of the Lord, even if the purpose of the commandment is not understood.

Bishop H. David Burton of the Presiding Bishopric: Among our youth, vulgar and crude terms seem to come easily as they describe their feelings. My young friends, now is the time to stand tall in eliminating these words from your vocabulary. . . . Seek strength from your Heavenly Father to overcome it.





ISAIAH PROPHECIES OF THE SAVIOR

And he also spake concerning the prophets, how great a number had testified . . . concerning this Messiah, . . . this Redeemer of the world (1 Nephi 10:5).

Great are the words of Isaiah.”*

These words of the Savior to the Nephites tell us just how important Isaiah’s prophecies are to us, too. Isaiah, a prophet who lived over seven hundred years before Jesus Christ, told how we should live our lives by having faith in Him and by obeying His commandments.†

Because the Savior had not yet come to live on the earth, Isaiah told of His birth, His ministry here, and His death and resurrection:

“For unto us a child is born, . . . and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God. . . .

“[He will be] a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy . . . , a refuge from the storm. . . .

“He [will be] despised and rejected of men; . . . taken from prison and from judgment: . . . for the transgression of my people [will he be] stricken. . . .

“He will swallow up death in victory.”‡

Isaiah also told about the Second Coming of Jesus Christ:

“And it shall come to pass in the last days, that . . . the Lord’s house shall be established in the top of the mountains, . . . and all nations shall flow unto it. . . .

“And he shall judge among the nations, and . . .

nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. . . .

“The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid[,] and the calf and the young lion . . . ; and a little child shall lead them. . . .

“The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord. . . .

“He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces. . . .

“And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; . . . we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

“Now therefore, . . . saith the Lord, . . . my people shall know my name: therefore they shall know in that day that I am he that doth speak.”**

As we study the words of the prophets and do our best to live the gospel, we, too, look forward to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. As we hear the gospel from our parents and teachers, and as we study the scriptures and listen to our living prophets, we can say with Isaiah, “How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that . . . saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!”††

*3 Nephi 23:1.

†Isaiah 45:21–22; 1:16–19.

‡Isaiah 9:6; 25:4; 53:3, 8; 25:8.

**Isaiah 2:2,4; 11:6, 9; 25:8–9; 52:5–6.

††Isaiah 52:7.

STRING PICTURE *By Holly Dougherty* Instructions

1. Cut a piece of poster board 11” x 14” (28 cm x 35.6 cm). Draw a line 3/4” (2 cm) from the edge of the long sides on both the top and the bottom. Mark places for six holes on each line 2” (5 cm) apart so that they line up from the top to the bottom; punch the holes (see illustration).

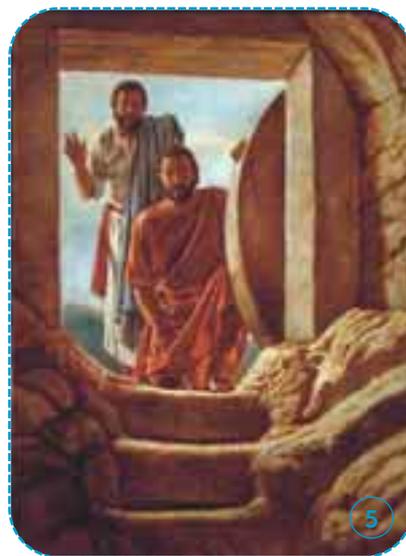
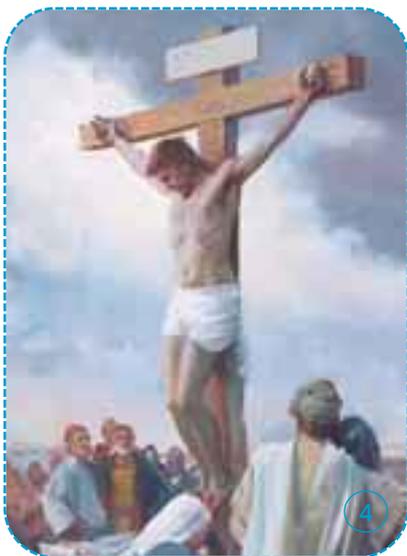
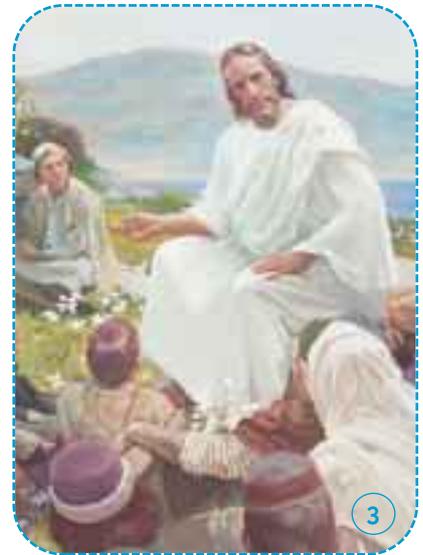
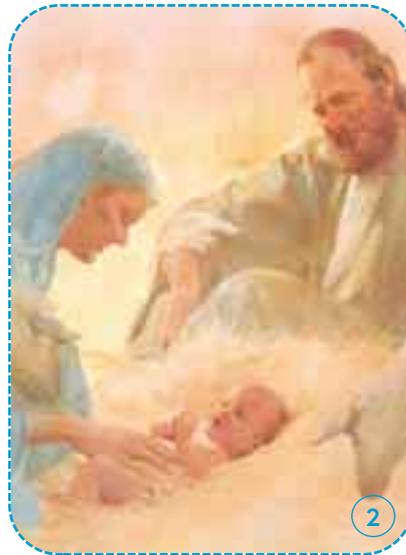
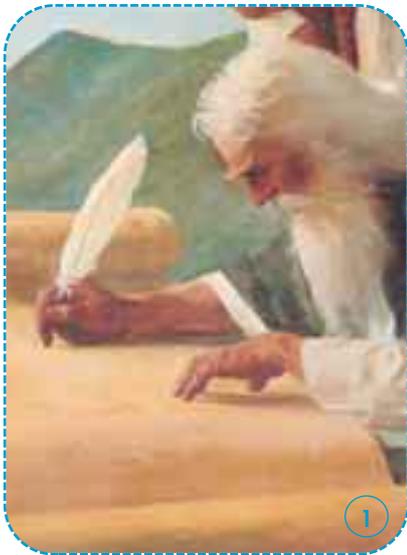
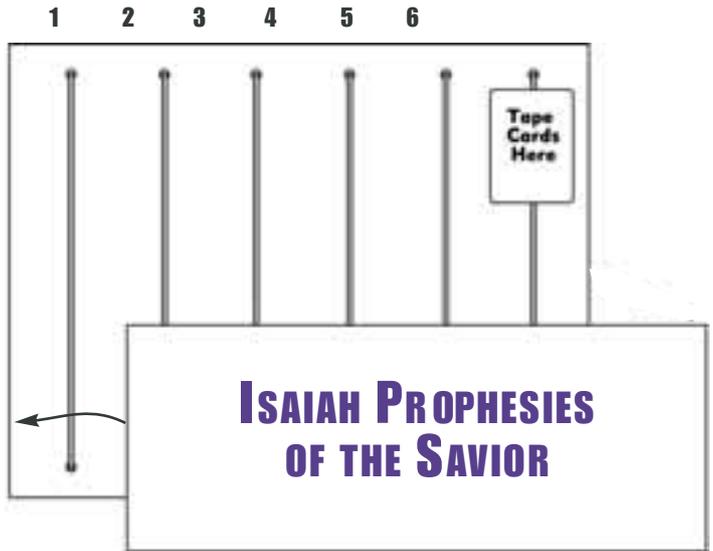
2. Cut six pieces of string 24” (61 cm) long. Thread a piece of string through a top and a corresponding bottom hole, tie taut, and trim ends. Repeat this procedure with the remaining strings (see illustration). Pull the knots to the bottom holes.

3. Cut a piece of poster board 5 1/2” x 14”

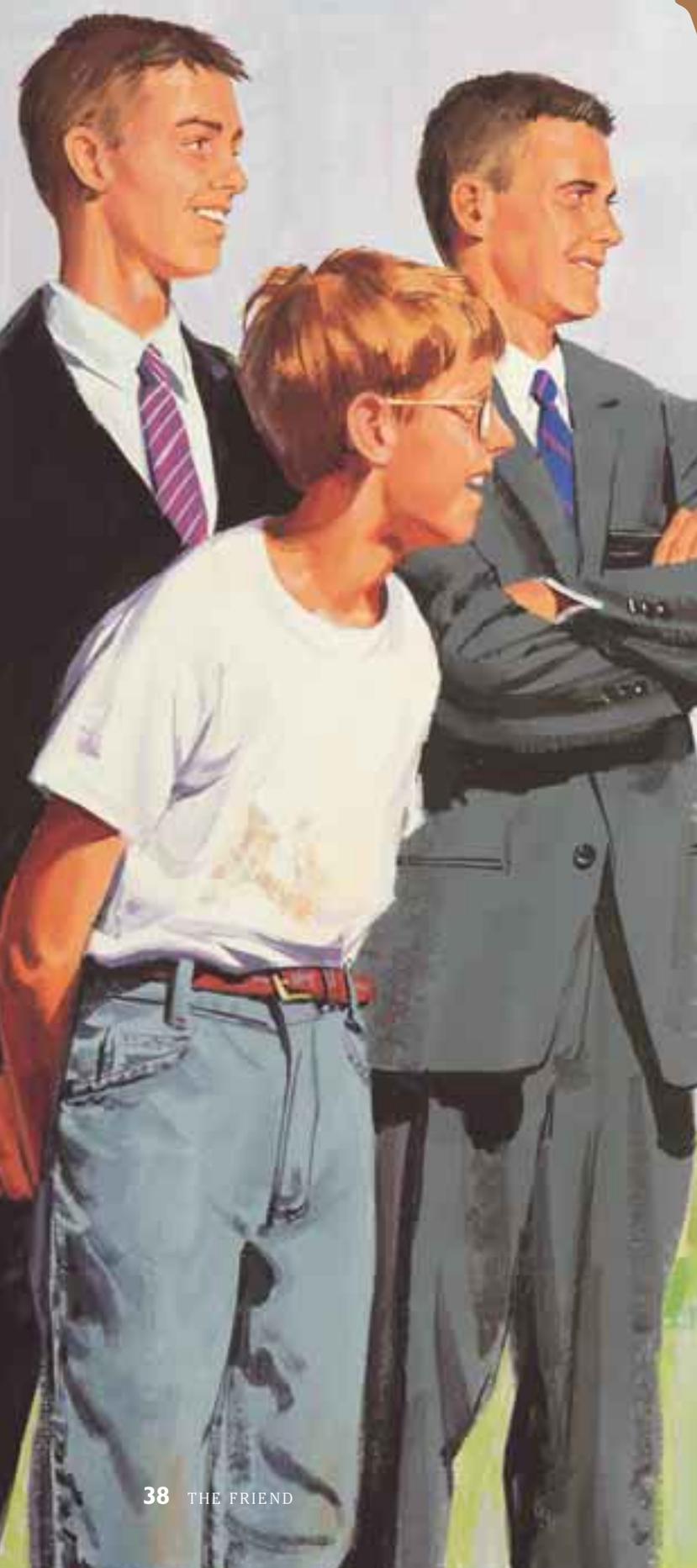
(14 cm x 35.6 cm). Tape three outside edges of this poster board over the bottom of the strings poster board (unknotted side) to form a pocket over the strings (see illustration). Print "Isaiah Prophecies of the Savior" on the pocket.

4. Mount this page on heavy paper, and cut out the pictures. Tape the back of each picture to the corresponding numbered string so that each shows above the pocket (see illustration).

5. Lower the pictures behind the pocket by raising the string knots on the back. Pull each picture into view as you retell "Isaiah Prophecies of the Savior" (see page 36).



Words



Love one another; as I have loved you (John 13:34).

(Based on a true experience)

By Charlotte G. Lindstrom

Standing on the edge of the broad sidewalk leading from the front doors of the meeting-house, Brian could see people milling around in the foyer. The meeting was just over.

Brian was actually going to meet a real prophet! When the missionaries called him a few minutes ago, he couldn't believe his ears. They told him that President Spencer W. Kimball was visiting a neighboring ward to attend the blessing of a great-grandchild. Brian could meet the prophet, they said, if he came quickly.

As he hung up the phone, Brian yelled to his mom that he was going to the church. Then he jumped on his bike and raced the four blocks there. The missionaries were waiting for him. They stood on either side of him now. Other people were waiting on the sidewalk, too. Brian guessed that they'd also heard that the prophet was here today and had come to see him.

Brian glanced down and was dismayed to see his scuffed and tattered tennis shoes and his old T-shirt. He hadn't thought about changing before he came over. He might have missed meeting the prophet if he had. But what would the great leader think of him?

Brian hastily tucked in his shirt. He couldn't do anything to change his shoes, but maybe the prophet wouldn't notice them. Suddenly he felt a wave of uneasiness. Turning to the missionary on his right, he asked, "Elder Turner, how do I look?"

of a Prophet

Elder Turner peered at him closely and pointed to the corners of his own mouth. Brian quickly wiped away any traces of lunch, then looked at the missionary again. Elder Turner nodded with a smile.

Until meeting the missionaries a few weeks ago, Brian had never even heard of a modern prophet. He knew about Noah and Moses and other prophets in the Bible. But he'd never thought that a prophet might be on the earth today. The missionaries told him that the prophet tells people what Jesus would tell them if He were here.

He had seen pictures of Old Testament prophets with long white hair and flowing beards. So he was surprised when the missionaries showed him a picture of President Kimball. He did have white hair, but it was neatly trimmed. Brian thought that he looked like a kindly grandfather.

One day, when the missionaries had taken Brian to Primary, he heard a song about following prophets. He looked around him in amazement at all the children who believed in a prophet.

Brian's attention returned to the church. The doors opened, and a small group came out. They moved slowly, greeting people as they made their way down the sidewalk. Some fathers held little children in their



arms or on their shoulders so that they, too, could see and greet the prophet.

Brian could tell that someone was stopping and shaking hands. Grown-ups blocked his view, but he caught a glimpse of white hair and a dark suit. It surprised him that the man wasn't much taller than he was.

As they came closer, someone moved and Brian could see clearly. He saw the man whose picture the missionaries had shown him. The man spoke softly and kindly to the grown-ups and children he shook hands with.

Brian felt worried. What would the prophet say to him? Would he sense Brian's doubts and questions? Would he say something to try to persuade Brian that the Church was true?

Then President Kimball reached out his hand again, and Brian heard a familiar voice.

"President Kimball, it is so great to meet you. My companion, Elder Turner, and I would like you to meet our friend, Brian. He's investigating the Church."

It was Elder Ellis who was speaking and shaking hands with the prophet. His other hand reached out and rested on Brian's shoulder.

The prophet turned and looked at Brian. He caught his breath as President Kimball smiled at him.

Extending his hand, Brian spoke haltingly. "I'm . . . very . . . glad to meet you, sir." He felt his face becoming warm.

President Kimball took his hand in a soft but firm grip. Then suddenly the prophet released Brian's hand and threw both arms around him and gave him a big hug. With his face close to Brian's, he said softly, "I love you." His voice was low and raspy.

When he released Brian, he smiled and then turned to greet Elder Turner.

Brian was speechless.

He watched the prophet of the Lord continue to shake hands until he reached a car at the curb.

Helping his wife into the backseat, he turned and raised his hand to the people gathered on the sidewalk. Then he climbed into the backseat, and the car pulled away from the curb.

Three words! That's all he had said. Yet Brian felt deep inside that they were true. He knew that a prophet had spoken those words. A prophet! Were they the words Jesus would say to Brian if He were here? A warm feeling began in Brian's chest and spread through his body. *Yes, he thought, they were the same words.*





Heber J. Grant



The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy (Revelation 19:10).

By teaching about Jesus Christ, President Heber J. Grant, the seventh President of the Church, comforted Saints who had lost loved ones in World War II. Because Jesus came to earth, died, and was resurrected, we can live with Heavenly Father and with those we love after He comes again. Prophets bear special testimonies of Jesus Christ.

I have been blessed with only two sons. One of them died at five years of age and the other at seven. My last son died of a hip disease. I had built great hopes that he would live to spread the Gospel at home and abroad and be an honor to me. But he was taken, as some of your sons have been taken. And never in my life am I so grateful for the Gospel of Jesus Christ as I am when some of my family or beloved friends are called home to their final reward. There is nothing in the revelations of God to Joseph Smith for which I am more grateful than the following quotations from what is known as “The Vision,” namely, the 76th section of the Doctrine and Covenants:

And this is the gospel, the glad tidings, which the voice out of the heavens bore record unto us—

That he came into the world, even Jesus, to be crucified for the world, . . . and to sanctify the world, and to cleanse it from all unrighteousness. . . .

And now, after the many testimonies which have been given of him, this is the testimony, last of all, which we give of him: That he lives!

For we saw him, even on the right hand of God; and we heard the voice bearing record that he is the Only Begotten of the Father—

That by him, and through him, and of him, the worlds are and were created, and the inhabitants thereof are begotten sons and daughters unto God. (Doctrine and Covenants 76:40–41, 22–24.)



I know as well as I know anything in this life that Jesus Christ is in very deed the Savior of mankind, and that God has seen fit to establish the Church of Jesus Christ upon the earth. I thank the Lord that I have an abiding knowledge of God, our Father, and Jesus Christ, his Son, and that I have pleasure in bearing witness to all the world of this knowledge that I possess.

(Conference Report, 6 October 1944, pages 10–11.)



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

Daniel's Rubber Shoes

By Tiffany Lynne Starr

This story is about my little brother, Daniel. One day, when our family was driving through a storm, our big brothers told us that a car was a safe place to be during a thunder-and-lightning storm because it has rubber tires.



Tiffany and Daniel Starr, ages 6 and 4
Mesa, Arizona

Tyler, 10, trying to help Daniel not be afraid, told him that if the rubber tires would keep us safe, maybe the thick rubber on the bottom of Daniel's shoes would also help him to be safe.

One night, Daniel, I, Mom, and two of Mom's friends—Sister Bowen and

Sister Eyring—were together when it suddenly started to rain. The rain got louder and louder, and there was lots of lightning outside. The thunder was booming very loud. The lights went out, and it was *very* dark. Mom went to find candles and flashlights. While she was gone, I said a prayer with Daniel to ask Heavenly Father to protect us.

After the prayer, Daniel must have been remembering what Tyler had told him about rubber shoes, because he looked to see if everyone was wearing some. He saw that he was barefoot and begged Mom to bring his rubber shoes. Sister Bowen sat by us and said that Daniel could wear her rubber shoes until Mom found his. Even though they were too big for him, he was glad to have them on. Then he started to cry. He said, "If I'm wearing Sister Bowen's rubber shoes, then she won't have any to protect her." He gave them back to her so that she'd be safe. He told Mom later, "I wanted Sister Bowen to be safe. I had to give her shoes back, because if I was wearing her rubber shoes, she might have got hit by lightning.

I didn't want her to die."

Mom told us that when we care and sacrifice for others, like Daniel did for Sister Bowen, we are showing that we really are trying to be like Jesus Christ. She said that the best way to be protected is to pray to Heavenly Father, just as Daniel and I had when the lights first went out. We are glad to know that we can pray anytime, anywhere.

Inviting Michelle

By Cassie Lindsay

Michelle and I have been best friends since last December, when she moved here. Her family went to a different church until our ward members asked them to come to our church the next Sunday. Michelle really liked Primary. Her sisters, Rachael and Molly, went to Young Women, and they loved it.

The following Sunday, only Rachael and Molly came. On Monday, I asked Michelle why she had not come. She told me that she hadn't had time



Michelle Thibodeau and Cassie Lindsay, both age 10
Orem, Utah

to get ready. I told her that she could be late if she needed to be, as long as she came.

I invited her to Achievement Day that week. She asked what that was. I told her that there were

different groups, depending on age. She said that she was ten, so I told her that she would be in my group. She was excited and asked her parents if she could come. They said yes. She didn't know anybody there. I introduced her to everybody. Now we are all very good friends. The next week, missionaries started to teach her family, and they are now baptized!

Sunday Is Special

By Hannah Strobel

When I moved to a new house in a new state, I found out that my brother and I were the only members of the Church in the whole school. Our meetinghouse was about twenty minutes away. I really liked my Primary class, but the other girls lived so far away from me that it was hard to get together.

One day a girl at school invited me to her birthday party. I was excited to tell my mom that the party was on Friday and that I would get the invitation on Thursday. On Thursday, I came home and quietly got some cookies out of the cookie jar and gathered several of my favorite stickers, wrapped them, and put them into my backpack. When Mom asked if I had brought home the invitation, I said, "Mom, I guess her party is on Sunday, so I am just going to give her a present at school."

I am glad that Jesus Christ helps me to know what is right.



Hannah Strobel, age 7
St. Cloud, Minnesota



KEY:

- (C) Childviews
- (FF) Friend to Friend
- IBC inside back cover
- IFC inside front cover
- (m) music
- (NT) New Testament Stories
- (p) poster
- (pa) poster article
- (PV) Come Listen to a Prophet's Voice
- (r) rebus
- (ST) Sharing Time
- (T) Trying to Be Like Jesus Christ



- Achievement-Day Mystery Activity, *Stacey A. Rasmussen*, Apr 2
- Adair, Jill B., for Kellie Rimmasch Just By Being Friends, Mar 28
- Adams, Kellene Ricks
- Ben B. Banks, Family and Gospel (FF), Mar 6
- Gayle Clegg, Adventures (FF), Apr 6
- Sheldon F. Child, Trust (FF), Jan 6
- Sydney Reynolds, Learning Gospel Principles (FF), Feb 6
- Alan's Miracle, as told to *Judy Arrington*, Apr 8
- Amazing Chicken Soup, *Brenda Smith*, Apr 34
- Anderson, Cindy Roland
- Prayer in the Storm, Nov 46
- Anderson, Leslie C.
- Farewell, Nauvoo, Jul 4
- Angry People in Nazareth (NT), Mar 12

ANIMALS

- Alan's Miracle, as told to *Judy Arrington*, Apr 8
 - Dog Who Comes to Church, The, *Whitney Wilcox* and *Grandma Val C. Wilcox*, Feb 12
 - Apostles' Testimony of Christ (NT), Dec 12
 - Archibald, Rebecca Todd
 - Our Prophets' Baptisms (sidebar), Sep 36
 - Arrington, Judy
 - Alan's Miracle, Apr 8
 - Ashley, Rebecca, and Daniel Petterle of Lowell, Indiana, Apr 40
- ATONEMENT AND RESURRECTION. See JESUS CHRIST



- Baby-sitting Job, *Jane McBride Choate*, Aug 10
- Bad Habits and Miracles, *Alma J. Yates*, Aug 20

BANKS, BEN B.
Family and Gospel (FF), *Kellene Ricks Adams*, Mar 6

BAPTISM
Baptism-Day Problems (C), *Thomas Taylor*, Mar IBC
Baptism Miracles, *Jane McBride Choate*, Sep 34
Baptisms in the Temple (C), *Sarah Denning*, Oct IFC
Baptized by the Prophet, *Lisa Passey Boynton*, Feb 2
Living Her Baptismal Covenants (T), Oct 45
My Baptism (C), *Neil Cain*, May IBC
Teresa's Dream, *Jane McBride Choate*, Jun 44
Baptism Miracles, *Jane McBride Choate*, Sep 34
Baptized by the Prophet, *Lisa Passey Boynton*, Feb 2

Bateman, Teresa
"I Dare You!", May 14
Joey, Mar 40

Be a Standard-Bearer (p), Jun 24
"Behold Your Little Ones" (PV), *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Jun IFC

BENSON, EZRA TAFT
From the Lives of the Church Presidents: Ezra Taft Benson
Keeps a Promise, May 28

Benson, Ezra Taft
From Latter-day Prophets, May IFC
Prophet Talks to Children, A (pa), Sep 28

Bergstrom, Angie
He Takes Care of His Church, Aug 34

Best, The, *Clare Mishica*, Feb 18

BIOGRAPHIES. See FRIEND TO FRIEND, FROM THE LIVES OF THE CHURCH PRESIDENTS, and MAKING FRIENDS

BLESSINGS
Blessings Come When We Follow the Prophets (ST),
Diane S. Nichols, Jun 38
Blessings Everywhere, *Patricia Reece Roper*, Nov 14
Important Blessings, The / Carl B. Pratt (FF), *Jan Pinborough*, Jul 8
Promised Blessings (ST), *Diane S. Nichols*, Oct 40
Sunday Eggs, *Alma J. Yates*, Sep 16
Blessings Come When We Follow the Prophet (ST), *Diane S. Nichols*, Jun 38
Blessings Everywhere, *Patricia Reece Roper*, Nov 14
Book Buddies, *Mary Kimball Mackey*, Nov 27

BOOK OF MORMON. See also FUNSTUF and SCRIPTURES

Blessings Come When We Follow the Prophet (ST), *Diane S. Nichols*, Jun 38
Prophets Teach and Warn, Aug 18
Treasure the Gospel / Richard E. Cook (FF), *Jan Pinborough*, May 6
What a Joyful Day! (ST), *Diane S. Nichols*, Dec 20

BOOK REVIEWS
Out of the Best Books: Summer Reading Fun, May 37

Boynton, Lisa Passey
Baptized by the Prophet, Feb 2

Bread of Life, The (NT), Nov 12

Brothers and Sisters in the Gospel, *Jane McBride Choate*, Oct 14



Call from the Prophet, *Myrna Hoyt*, Oct 4
Carolyn Fox of Belle Mead, New Jersey, *Corliss Clayton*, May 17

CARTOONS
Jan 31, 46; Feb 23; Mar 26; Apr 43; Jun 26; Jul 43; Aug 37; Sep 48; Oct 48

Challenge Just for You, A, *Patricia Reece Roper*, Nov 4
Chandler and Michael Altieri of North Cape May, New Jersey, *Corliss Clayton*, Sep 37

CHILD, SHELDON F.
Trust (FF), *Kellene Ricks Adams*, Jan 6

CHILDVIEWS
Back to School, *Todd Judd*, Dec IFC
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Prophets Prophecy of the Future (pa), Nov 44

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And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

(Luke 2:8–11.)