The prophet . . . holds the keys of priesthood pow'r today (Hymns, no. 22).

From Latter-day Prophets: JOSEPH F. SMITH

President Joseph F. Smith was the nephew of Joseph Smith, the first President of the Church, and the father of Joseph Fielding Smith, the tenth President of the Church. When Joseph F. Smith was the President, he said this about all of the prophets he had known.

I bear my testimony to you and to the world, that Joseph Smith was raised up by the power of God to lay the foundations of this great Latter-day work, to reveal the fulness of the gospel to the world in this dispensation, to restore the priesthood of God to the world, by which men may act in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, and it will be accepted of God; it will be by His authority. I bear my testimony to it; I know that it is true.

I bear my testimony to the divine authority of those who have succeeded the Prophet Joseph Smith in the presidency of this Church. They were men of God. I knew them; . . . so I can bear testimony to the integrity, to the honor, to the purity of life, to the intelligence, and to the divinity of the mission and calling of Brigham [Young], of John [Taylor], of Wilford [Woodruff], and of Lorenzo [Snow]. They were inspired of God to fill the mission to which they were called, and I know it. I thank God for that testimony.

(Conference Report, October 1910, pages 4–5.)
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Cover by Spencer Budd
would soon be sitting in front of the warm hearth.

Mama rarely made her delicious egg custard anymore, especially since they had sold their best laying hens to the Pattersons. Papa said that the hens would never survive the journey west and that the family needed the money to buy more basic supplies. But this morning Mama had declared that they would have custard for dessert and had sent Thomas for the fresh eggs. He knew that his father and mother had been fasting and praying about the weather and that this special dessert was his mother’s way of expressing gratitude for the slivers of sunshine that had broken through the gray clouds today.

As the family gathered around the table to pray over their simple meal, Thomas could see that his father was discouraged. “There was trouble in town again today,” his father said. “Let us pray that the Lord will provide a way for us to leave Nauvoo before anyone is seriously harmed. We are packed and ready to go. There must be a way!”

Thomas bowed his head along with his parents and brothers and sisters, but in his heart he felt a twinge of fear. He did not want to leave Nauvoo. Although most of their furniture and farming equipment had been sold to purchase a wagon and food supplies, their home was still cozy and warm, and there would soon be sitting in front of the warm hearth.

I will show miracles . . . unto all those who believe
(Doctrine and Covenants 35:8).

BASED ON A TRUE STORY
By Lisa Passey Boynton

Thomas stood on the banks of the Mississippi River, his bare hands pushed deep inside the pockets of his overcoat. His breath came out in cloudy puffs, and his teeth chattered steadily.

Thomas watched as a chunk of ice bigger than a wagon wheel slowly drifted by. The ferry had been moored for days, and the muddy banks of the river were frozen and hard. The Saints who had hoped to leave Nauvoo ahead of the Canadian storm had been delayed; there was no hope of crossing the icy river before spring.

Thomas had never seen a storm like the one that hit Nauvoo that February 1846. The weather had been mild and warm the first half of the month, and President Brigham Young had exhorted the members of the Church to leave Nauvoo for the camp at Sugar Creek. Many families had followed his admonition. The ferry carried heavy loads of people, animals, and wagons across the river continually until the temperatures dropped. Almost overnight, the storm blew in with a terrible fury. Bitter cold winds pounded Thomas’s wood-frame house from the north, doors and shutters clattering loudly. Great mounds of snow piled up on the streets of Nauvoo. The stinging, harsh blizzard had gone on for days. This morning was the first time Thomas was able to see the ice-choked river.

“Thomas!” called his younger brother, Joseph. “Mama needs those eggs from Sister Patterson right away!”

Thomas looked back across the river one more time. “All right, Joseph. I’m coming.” He pulled his woolen scarf closer around his neck and met his brother halfway up the hill.

Joseph was a year younger than Thomas, but he was already nearly as tall. Named for the Prophet Joseph Smith, he had been born three days before the Prophet’s thirty-first birthday. Joseph’s cheeks and nose were red from the cold, and he was blowing on his hands to keep them warm.

“You run home, Joseph,” Thomas said. “Tell Mama I’m on my way with the eggs for her custard.”

Joseph nodded and loped off. Thomas could see their house up the road and knew that Joseph...
there was always enough to eat. He had been just a little boy when his family was driven from their home in Missouri by an angry mob and forced to settle in the marshy wetlands of Commerce, Illinois. It had been cold then, too, and he remembered how he had cried for a cup of milk. But over the years, he had seen Commerce become the beautiful city of Nauvoo, a place where the Prophet Joseph Smith would stop and play stickball with Thomas and his friends, then invite them to his home for a glass of cool lemonade. Though it had been a year and a half since the Prophet’s death, he ducked his head to hide his tears.

“Thomas?” his Mama asked softly. “Are you well?”

His older sister, Mary Jane, quietly said, “He doesn’t want to go west, Mama.”

Papa put down his fork and folded his arms across his chest. “Is this true, Son?”

Thomas gulped. “Yes, Papa,” he whispered.

He heard his mother sigh, and he felt ashamed. It had already been decided that Mama would leave her piano and her cherished spinning wheel behind. But she reached across the table and put her hand on top of his. “We all wish we could stay in Nauvoo. Here we have a lovely home, a prosperous farm, good friends and family, even a beautiful new temple. But the Lord has promised us peace, and we will never find that here.”

Thomas nodded and tried to hold back the tears that still pushed against his eyelids. His father saw him struggling and slowly slid back his chair. “Mama, save us some of your custard. Thomas and I are going to check on the horses.”

Thomas put on his overcoat and scarf and followed his father out to the barn. The sky was clear, and the air was as sharp as a knife in his lungs. Inside the barn, his father lit a lantern and stamped his feet. “Mighty cold out tonight,” he said. “We must pray for our brothers and sisters who are spending this night in a tent or a wagon box.”

Thomas plopped down on a bale of hay. “Papa, if we had crossed the river with the others last week, we would be out there in a tent tonight!”

His father sat beside him, reaching out to stroke the mane of his favorite horse. “I know, Son. The Lord works in mysterious ways.”

“Then why can’t we wait until spring . . . or even summer? Why must we leave now?”

“You do not realize the danger that surrounds us. I was a close friend of the Prophet Joseph, and his enemies are my enemies.” Thomas felt his father tremble beside him. He looked up and saw the scar on his father’s cheek that had come from the leather thong of a bullwhip. He still remembered how his mother had cried over the wound, praying that God would forgive her for thinking terrible thoughts about the man who had whipped her husband. “And I think this is a test of our faith, Son. Will we follow the prophet—or not?”

Thomas blinked his eyes hard. Suddenly he remembered a very special occasion in his life.

It was May 1843, and he had just celebrated his eighth birthday. His mother had made a cake with butter icing, and he was eating a thick slice on the front porch when he saw a tall, handsome man coming down the lane. Thomas recognized him immediately—Brother Joseph—and ran to him.

Brother Joseph chuckled, “What’s this I hear about you today? I knew it was a special day when I woke up to a chorus of birds outside my window!”

“It’s my birthday, Brother Joseph!”

“Your birthday?” The Prophet waved to the boy’s mother in the garden and clasped his father in a warm embrace. “But it isn’t just any birthday, is it?”

“It’s my eighth birthday! Now I can be baptized!”

The Prophet sat on the porch steps and drew the boy down next to him. “A very special day indeed. But why do you want to be baptized?”

Thomas tried to stretch his legs out far like Brother Joseph’s. “So I can be a member of the Church like you and Papa and Mama and my older brothers and sisters!”
Brother Joseph nodded and put his arm around Thomas’s shoulders. “That’s good. But I think there’s more to it than that. If your family and I weren’t here, would you still want to be baptized?”

Thomas thought for a moment. “Yes, I would, Brother Joseph. Jesus wants me to be baptized, and I always want to follow Him.”

Tears filled Joseph’s kind eyes. “I want to follow Him, too, Thomas. It may be hard sometimes, but we will always be blessed.”

Thomas’s father cleared his throat. “Brother Joseph, we would be honored if you would baptize Thomas.”

Joseph laughed joyfully and ruffled Thomas’s hair. “I would be delighted,” he said.

Thomas felt his father’s arm around him. “Are you thinking about Brother Joseph, Thomas?”

“Yes,” was all he managed to whisper.

His father hugged him tighter. “When you are a grown man, your children and grandchildren will ask if you remember when you were baptized. Your heart will burst with pride when you tell them that you were baptized by the Prophet Joseph Smith. And then you will tell them how you followed another prophet of God through snow and cold and all sorts of trials so that they could live in a land of peace and enjoy all the blessings of the gospel without being afraid. For many generations, your family will honor you and be grateful for your sacrifices. Your life will be blessed, Thomas, in more ways than you will ever know.”

After Thomas finished his evening prayer, he crawled under the warm quilt. He could hear his mother and father talking downstairs. He was still afraid of what might happen on their journey west, but he felt a calm reassurance in his heart that all would be well.

The next morning, the family was awakened early by a whoop of joy. “It’s a miracle!” their neighbor, Brother Williams, shouted from the front gate. “The Mississippi River is frozen solid! Load up your wagons—we’re crossing over! The Lord has answered our prayers!”

Yes, He has, Thomas thought as he hurriedly dressed in the cold morning air.
I have a fam’ly here on earth. They are so good to me.
(Children’s Songbook, page 188.)

From an interview with Sister Sydney Reynolds, first counselor in the Primary general presidency; by Kellene Ricks Adams

One of my early childhood memories is of listening to my mother teach the missionary discussions. She was a stake missionary, and in those days, missionaries used flannel boards to teach the discussions. Mother practiced her discussions by teaching us.

One of my favorite discussions was the one about the pre-earth life, this life, and the resurrection. It was crystal-clear on the flannel board. I loved those lessons, and hearing the missionary discussions helped me understand the gospel better.

My mother was also a Relief Society teacher, and when I was in the fifth grade, she taught lessons about the United States Constitution. Mother made a chart that she took to Relief Society every time she taught. It explained the different parts of the Constitution and what it meant. I found the chart interesting and asked her all kinds of questions. In school that year, we were learning about United States history, and I asked my teacher if I could bring the chart to school and explain to the class how a bill became a law. Learning about history fascinated me. I began reading Mother’s books about government and history. Her commitment to fulfilling her Church calling blessed me in many ways. Later, when I went to college, I decided to major in history. Certainly that decision was at least partly influenced by these experiences.

I discovered a scripture hero during this time as well—Captain Moroni. In my mind there were a lot of similarities between the founding of the United States and the story of Captain Moroni and his people. The founders of the United States were great defenders of freedom, and Moroni fought for the liberty of the Nephites. He became a wonderful example for me of someone willing to stand up for what he believed in.

My father also taught me important gospel principles at a young age. He was in the bishopric when I was in Primary, and I thought that he was one of the Church’s great scripture experts. I wanted to know the scriptures as well as he did.

Growing up in California, I had opportunities to stand up for what I believed in. Being a Latter-day Saint was different; few of my friends were members of the Church. I learned at an early age to share the gospel. My brothers and sisters and I always invited our friends to Primary, which was held during the week, and our car was typically full when we headed to the meetinghouse. We often had long, involved discussions with other children about what Latter-day Saints really believed.

Soon after I graduated from Primary, the bishop called on me to bear my testimony during ward conference. In my talk, I mentioned that I liked the Book of Mormon stories that I knew. I also said that I wanted to read the Book of Mormon all the way through someday.

Someday came sooner than I expected. The day after ward conference, I didn’t feel well and was diagnosed with German measles. I had to lie in bed, so I decided to read the Book of Mormon. I read it from beginning to end in four days. That was a wonderful way to read the Book of Mormon because I gained a feeling for the entire book.
Other family members taught me the importance of gospel principles as well. My parents grew up in Utah and Idaho, so every summer we spent a few weeks there visiting grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. These beloved relatives all reinforced the gospel teachings I learned at home from my parents.

My Grandmother Rees lived close to the Idaho Falls Idaho Temple. As we drove toward her home, we always held a contest to see who could see the temple first. When we saw it, we knew that we were almost to Grandma’s. The temple was a heartwarming landmark to me then and is even more so to me now.

Grandma worked in the temple, and I grew up thinking that she had a direct line to heaven. She prayed about many things, and her prayers always seemed to be answered. Her prayers were humble, honest, and direct.

Once, some of my cousins and I were in a car accident. Although none of us was seriously hurt, the car was a wreck. When we got to Grandma’s house and reported what had happened, the first thing she did was gather us together to thank Heavenly Father for protecting us. She set a wonderful example for me.

My parents and my brothers and sisters are a wonderful source of support to me, as are my husband and his family. Whenever anyone in our extended families has problems, sickness, or a challenge, we unite in faith and prayer, asking Heavenly Father to help. We pray for each other, we love each other, and we are there for each other.

I feel the same support from Heavenly Father that I feel from my family. I know that the Lord loves us all, and He especially loves little children. He hears and answers our prayers, and He wants us to be happy. We can find happiness and peace when we are obedient to His counsel and commandments. I love working in the Primary. I love having the opportunity to share my testimony of the joy the gospel brings with young children and their leaders all over the world.
Jesus went to Jerusalem to the temple. Many people went there to make a sacrifice by killing an animal and burning it on an altar. The sacrifice helped people think about the Savior, who would sacrifice Himself by suffering and dying for them. Leviticus 1:3–9; Moses 5:5–7; John 2:13

Because some people did not have an animal to sacrifice, men sold animals to them in the temple. The men just wanted to get money. They did not think about God. John 2:14

Jesus saw the men selling the animals in the temple. He said that the temple was His Heavenly Father’s house, a holy place. He did not want the men to sell things there. John 2:16
Jesus made a whip, overturned the tables, threw the money on the floor, and made the men leave the temple. He would not let the men sell animals and be irreverent in Heavenly Father’s house.

John 2:15–16
Nicodemus was a Pharisee and a ruler of the Jews. Many Pharisees did not believe that Jesus Christ was sent by God. Nicodemus believed that He was because of the miracles He did. 

John 3:1–2

Nicodemus came to talk with the Savior one night. Jesus told him that no one could enter the kingdom of God unless he was born again.

John 3:3–5
Jesus explained that Heavenly Father had sent Him to earth to prepare a way for us all to return to Heavenly Father. The Savior testified that He would suffer and die on a cross so that we would be saved if we believed in Him and kept His commandments.

John 3:12–17

Nicodemus did not understand what Jesus meant. How could a person be born again? The Savior explained that He was talking about being born spiritually. To do this, a person must be baptized and receive the Holy Ghost.

John 3:5–7

Jesus explained that Heavenly Father had sent Him to earth to prepare a way for us all to return to Heavenly Father. The Savior testified that He would suffer and die on a cross so that we would be saved if we believed in Him and kept His commandments.

John 3:12–17

He said that we need to choose to do those things that are right and to not do things that are wrong. If we do what is right, we will live forever in the kingdom of God.

John 3:18–21
We are always glad to welcome a friend
When he passes along our way
(Children’s Songbook, page 254).
Our cocker spaniels, Ann and Dan, and our neighbor’s white, fluffy, lap dog, Pepper, are not welcome to come inside the church building. But Sister Moulder’s yellow Labrador, Buddy, has permission from the Bishop to come in and make himself at home.

Buddy works for Sister Ellen Moulder. He is her guide dog. She needs his help because she is mostly blind. Buddy uses his eyes to guide her to classes and to sacrament meeting. He also uses his sensitive nose to memorize the way to familiar places she needs to go to. Some of us kids think of him as “Supernose Dog.”

Sister Moulder went to a training center in New York State for more than three weeks. She and Buddy learned there how to get along together. On their first Sunday together in our ward, Sister Moulder taught us how to help Buddy adjust to his new home and friends. Did you know that it helps Buddy if we do not look in his eyes, pat his head, or rub his ears? When he wears his working harness, he must not be distracted. If we invite him to play, we will be undoing the good training he has been given. We help him best by ignoring him. We must never call him by name or offer him food. He should take commands and food only from Sister Moulder. She takes good care of Buddy, and she trains him to behave nicely around people. He takes good care of her, showing her the way through the chapel door, down the hall, and into the Relief Society room.

Lying quietly beside Sister Moulder’s feet, Buddy almost seems to be listening during lessons. He is alert when people come too close or when something seems a threat to Sister Moulder. He leads her safely through crowds in the hallways.

Buddy is a large dog—up to my waist, or up to...
the knees of a grown-up person. Once, we were sitting on the front row in sacrament meeting. Bud-
dy lay by Sister Moulder’s feet—right on top of my left foot. I was afraid the dog would bark if I dis-
turbed him by moving my foot, so he lay on my foot all through the meeting. He is heavy.

When Buddy came to Primary Activity Day, he seemed to enjoy watching us perform during talent time. He liked it when we played the guitar or violin or piano. But Sister Moulder did not bring him into the room where we frosted cookies. It would have been a big temptation for us to hand him one—and a bigger temptation for him to eat it!

During a stake Relief Society conference, Buddy got into some trouble. There were many people he didn’t know, and he was snuffing like mad to sort them out. Suddenly he began howling and barking, even when Sister Moulder commanded him to be quiet. The man in charge of the microphones said that it was probably because of the high-pitched notes that dogs can hear, which were coming from the hearing aids of some older sisters.

That day, priesthood brethren helped serve dinner to hundreds of sisters by rushing up and down the aisles with wheeled carts. One server parked his cart and unloaded all the plates he could carry, leaving just one on the bottom shelf. Sniffing the food, Buddy must have thought that the last plate was for him. He was tempted, but Sister Moulder told him to “leave it,” and he did.

Not many dogs get to come to church, but Buddy does. We would miss him if he and Sister Moulder were not there. He learns from us, but I think we learn more from him. He is our good Buddy.

**DOs and DON’Ts with Guide Dogs**

1. *Without the owner’s permission, don’t touch, talk to, feed, or otherwise distract the dog.* *Do* allow the dog to concentrate and perform for the safety of its owner.

2. *Don’t treat the dog as a pet.* *Do* give it the respect of a working dog.

3. *Don’t give the dog commands.* *Do* allow its owner to do so.

4. *Don’t try to take control in situations unfamiliar to the dog or its owner.* *Do* assist its owner upon request.

5. *Don’t walk on the dog’s left side; he may become distracted or confused.* *Do* walk on the owner’s right side, but stay a few paces behind.

6. *Don’t attempt to grab or steer the owner while the dog is guiding him/her or attempt to hold the dog’s harness.* *Do* ask if the owner needs your assistance and, if so, offer your left arm.

7. *Don’t expect too much too soon.* It takes six months to a year for the owner and dog to become a working team.

8. *Don’t give the dog table scraps.* *Do* respect the master’s need to give the dog a balanced diet and to maintain its good habits.

9. *Don’t allow your pets to challenge or intimidate a guide dog.* *Do* allow them to meet when they can be carefully supervised.

10. *Don’t allow the dog on your furniture or anywhere else not agreed upon by the family and its owner.* *Do* ask its owner to correct any wrong behavior or trespassing.

Sister Moulder and the authors attend Grandview Ninth Ward, Provo Utah Grandview Stake
Tissue-Painted Card

To make this special card, you will need:
1 piece white paper and 1 piece colored or patterned paper, colored tissue paper larger than the white paper, several cotton-tipped swabs, tape, and a container of water.

1. Spread newspaper to protect your work surface.
2. Lay the white paper on the newspaper and lightly tape it down.
3. Lay one piece of tissue paper over the white paper and tape it to the newspaper, too.
4. Wet the cotton swab and draw with water on the tissue paper, pressing firmly. Be sure to use enough water for the color from the tissue paper to soak into the white paper, but not so much that it runs all over.
5. When the water completely dries, gently pull away the tissue paper. If you wish, tape down a different color of tissue paper and paint more water designs.
6. While the water dries, fold the colored paper in half or in fourths to make a card.
7. When the finished design is dry, cut the white paper into a heart or a rectangle and glue it to the colored paper card.
8. In the card, write a message and the date, and sign your name.

Candy Heart Picture Frame

To make this gift, you will need: 1 piece of heavy paper, 1 picture of yourself (make sure it’s one you may cut up, or make a copy of one), waxed paper, about 18 hard candies (peppermints are pretty), scissors, glue, and a pen.

1. Put the waxed paper on a cookie sheet and ask an adult to set the oven to 250° F (120° C).
2. Arrange the candies in a heart shape on the waxed paper.
3. Bake the candies just until they melt together—about ten minutes.
4. After the candy frame cools, remove it from the waxed paper and set it on the heavy paper. Trace around the frame with a pen; set aside the frame.
5. Cut out the paper heart along the inside of the traced line.
6. On one side of the paper heart, write a message, your name, and the date.
7. Trim your picture (if it’s bigger than the paper heart), and glue it to the other side of the paper heart.
8. Spread glue on the back of the candy frame and place it on the paper heart so that it frames your picture.
9. As soon as the glue dries, you are ready to give your framed picture to someone you love.
For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them (Matthew 18:20).

Can you guess why I’m so happy? I will tell you if you’re right.
Do you want a little clue? It is time for fam’ly night!

We like going to the canyon. We roast hot dogs, eat ice cream.
We can hike with Mom and Dad, or race boats down in the stream.
Sometimes in the summertime on a perfect summer night,
If there is a wind or breeze, now and then we’ll fly a kite.

Ben likes playing in the snow. We like snowmen contests, too.
We like warming by the fire, toasting marshmallows. Do you?
We like fishing in a pond. We like boating on a lake.
We like camping in a forest. Tori likes the choc’late cake.

Sometimes Dad will make up games. Sometimes we will have a race.
Sometimes we all sit and sing. Sometimes Dad will make a face.
We like dancing in the parlor, mowing lawns, and raking leaves,
Eating fancy on nice china. “Darling, do please pass the peas.”
We like making stuff from junk. We use paper, brads, and glue,
Tin cans, crayons, paper doilies, markers, stickers, string, bamboo.
Scripture stories read the best on a blanket in the shade,
Sitting underneath a tree, as you’re sipping lemonade.

Once we found a crawfish hole. We tied chicken on a string.
We caught crawfish by the bunch. When they pinched us, we would scream.
One night Heidi popped some popcorn. Popcorn popped out everywhere.
Adam caught some in his mouth. Joe got popcorn in his hair.

Once we paddled in canoes, through the marsh and through the reeds.
There we saw a hundred birds, many species, sev’ral breeds.
We like horseback riding, too. Also hayrides in the sun.
In the winter when it snows, sleigh rides are a lot of fun.

I remember lessons taught. I could feel the Spirit there.
I like learning of the Savior, how to love and how to share.
Here’s the reason I’m so happy: I like doing what is right.
I love living with my fam’ly. I love having fam’ly night.
Jake! Jake!” hollered my little brother, Sam. “Come and see me.”

“Not now,” I called back, grabbing my hockey stick and heading onto the ice. My team, the Sharks, had a game to play, and I needed to warm up.

“What did Sam want?” asked my friend Joel. He didn’t have any little brothers, so he didn’t understand how Sam could be more annoying than ten mosquitoes buzzing in your ears.

“Nothing important, I’m sure,” I said, gliding across the ice. “Let’s practice shooting.”

A few minutes later, the buzzer went off, and the players headed to their boxes for last-minute instructions.

“The Sharks will have to keep the puck away from Number Fifteen,” Coach warned as we huddled around him. “And we’ll have to pass the puck a lot, because the Jets are fast. Just remember to look for an open teammate.”

The clock buzzed again, and we skated onto the rink for the face-off. The referee dropped the puck between the two centers, their sticks clacked together, then the puck skittered toward me and I hooked it with my stick. A second later, a Jet defender raced in front of me. I remembered Coach’s advice and managed to pass the puck away just before he grabbed it.

The puck ricocheted all over the rink, with both teams skating hard to score. With only two seconds left in the first period, the Sharks finally managed to slip the puck past the Jet goalie and into the net.

“Yes!” cheered our team, banging our sticks against the boards as the clock buzzed, ending the period.

“Good job,” Coach said as we headed for the locker room. “Jake, I could see that you really listened to me. You made some great passes.”

“Thanks.” I could feel the sweat running down my face, and my legs ached from racing around the rink, but I didn’t mind. The Coach knew I’d paid attention and tried. That made me feel like I’d won a gold medal.

No one scored in the second period, but at the beginning of the third period, the Jets scored and tied the game. After that, both teams fought hard for the puck, but no one kept it long enough to score again. Then, with only thirty seconds left in the game, the Jets’ Number Fifteen
intercepted a pass. He quickly stickhandled the puck down the rink with short, back-and-forth movements. None of the Sharks could catch him. Our goalie crouched down in front of the cage, trying to anticipate the shot, but Number Fifteen managed to send the puck flying into the corner of the net. The Jets had won the game, and I felt like a balloon that someone popped with a pin.

“You played a great game,” Joe told me, slapping my back as we lined up to shake hands with the Jet players. Joe always tried to cheer me up. He was the best friend a guy could have.

“Jake,” Sam called again as the Jets headed to the locker room.

“I’ll see you later,” I said, pulling off my helmet. “I have to shower and change.”
I hurried inside. I knew that Sam would talk to me all night, anyway. After I changed, I looked for Sam and Joe but couldn’t find them.

“They left together as soon as we finished playing,” someone told me. I grabbed my duffel bag and headed out alone. I’d call Joe later and ask him to come over.

When I got home, I pulled off my jacket and hat. Then I stared at the floor. Another duffel bag sat there, and Joe’s jacket was plopped on top of it.

“Is Joe here?” I asked my dad.

“He’s in the family room with Sam,” Dad said. I went into the family room and saw Sam lying on the couch, with Joe sitting in a chair by his side.

“What’s wrong?” I asked.

“My stomach started hurting at the hockey game,” Sam said. “You were busy, so I told Joe.”

“I didn’t mind walking home with him,” Joe said. “He told me he didn’t feel well, so I just came right here after the game.”

“Oh,” I said, finally noticing that Joe still had his uniform on.

“See you later, big guy,” Joe told Sam, standing up and stretching. “Then you can tell me all about that poster you’re drawing.”

“What poster?” I asked.

“The one I’m making for science class,” said Sam. “It has whales on it. Joe likes to know what I’m doing.”

“Oh,” I said again as Sam pulled a blanket up over his shoulders.

“Do you need anything?” I asked him, feeling kind of guilty.

“No, I’m fine,” said Sam, and his droopy eyes started to close.

Joe left, and I dragged my duffel bag to our laundry room. I thought about Sam as I put my hockey uniform into the washing machine. Coach had said I did a good job of listening, but when it came to Sam, I usually ignored him. No wonder he’d asked Joe to bring him home. Joe listened to Sam just like he always listened to me. He made Sam feel important; I treated Sam like a pest. I definitely didn’t feel proud of that.

After supper that night, I did something different. Instead of calling Joe, I picked a book about whales off my shelf. Then I went into the family room, where Sam was watching television.

“Have you seen this book yet?” I asked him, showing him the killer whales on the cover.

“Cool!” Sam smiled at me. “Did you read that?”

“Yeah. Actually, I like whales, too. Maybe I can help you with your poster.”

“Really?” he asked. “Do you really want to help me?”

“Really,” I said, opening the book. “Show me your favorites.” Sam hesitated for only a second. Then he started turning pages and talking ten miles a minute.

This time I listened. Just maybe, one day Sam will think that I’m the best brother a guy could ever have.
Oriental Peanut Butter Noodles

1 pound (.45 kg) spaghetti
1/2 cup creamy peanut butter
1/3 cup rice vinegar
1 tablespoon sesame oil
1/4 cup soy sauce
2 teaspoons fresh ginger, grated
1 small garlic clove, minced

1. Cook the spaghetti according to the package directions, then drain and rinse it with cold water.
2. In a large skillet, combine all the other ingredients. Then cook, stirring constantly, over medium heat for 2 minutes.
3. Gently stir the cooked pasta into the skillet mixture. Continue cooking, stirring constantly, for 5 more minutes or until heated through. Makes 4–6 servings.

Peas, Bacon, and Vinegar

2 slices bacon
1 package (10 ounces/284 g) frozen peas
2 tablespoons water
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon rice vinegar
1/4 teaspoon sugar

1. In a medium skillet, cook the bacon over medium heat until crisp. Carefully remove the bacon and place it on a paper towel to drain. Ask an adult to discard the drippings.
2. Place the peas, water, and salt in the same skillet. Cover and cook over medium-low heat for 5 minutes. Remove from the heat, drain, uncover, and stir in the vinegar and the sugar.
3. Spoon the cherry pie filling over the batter.
4. Bake at 350° F (175° C) for 1 hour or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean.
5. Let the cake cool, then frost it with the whipped topping. Makes 16–20 servings.

PHOTO BY LANA LEISHMAN

One way you can show your love to your family is to cook a meal for them. You can prepare these recipes for lunch or dinner with a parent’s or another older person’s help. The Cherry-Chocolate Cake would also make a delicious family home evening treat.

KRAFTS
**FRIENDS IN THE NEWS**

**Elizabeth Rae Hendrickson, 7, Weiser, Idaho,** is a wonderful helper at home. She enjoys T-ball, reading, bike riding, swimming, and dancing, and she looks forward to being baptized.

**Francisco Angelo, 11, Las Vegas, Nevada,** says, “I love Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ, and my family.” Francisco likes to play sports and computer games, and he dislikes doing chores.

**Kami Harris, 11, Snohomish, Washington,** enjoys swimming, and she recently joined the swim team. She likes to read, hike with her family, play the piano and the flute, and tap dance.

**Michael Bowman, 2, Allen, Texas,** enjoys Nursery. He likes playing with cars, balls, and airplanes and enjoys singing “Book of Mormon Stories.” He is a loving brother.

**Morganne Romney, 7, Colonia Juárez, Chihuahua, Mexico,** likes to draw, paint, ride her bike, and jump on the trampoline. She enjoys playing with her best friend, Marliesse.

**Alexa Wolff, 4, Parsippany, New Jersey,** likes to play outside, ride her bike, and attend Primary. Her family says that she never forgets to say “please” and “thank you.”

**Matthew Oviatt, 11, Penticton, British Columbia, Canada,** raises steers and trains his dog, Dot, in agility and obedience. He enjoys reading and playing soccer.

**An example of kindness,** **Carina Houseman, 5, Memphis, Tennessee,** is a helpful and cheerful big sister. She feels excited about the new temple near her home and likes to sing “I Love to See the Temple.”

**Erik Kemp, 7, Newport, Washington,** enjoys horseback riding with his sisters and fishing with his brother. He wears his CTR ring to remind him to choose the right.

**Jessica Lowe, 6, Burbury, England,** sang a solo at school. She loves her brothers and sisters and is a great help to her mom. Jessica enjoys swimming, roller blading, and gymnastics.

**Katie Rencher, 11, Farmington, Utah,** is an experienced baby-sitter. She likes reading, playing with friends, making crafts, and Achievement Day activities. She plays the flute and the piano.

**Brennen T. Horton, 3, Moorpark, California,** likes to sing. He also enjoys family home evening and riding on the tractor with his grandpa.

**Always smiling,** **Brittney Marie Ward, 2, Twin Falls, Idaho,** has a good sense of humor. She likes to sing nursery rhymes, help wash dishes, and put laundry away.

**Hayden Giler, 5, Charlotte, North Carolina,** plans to go on a mission like his Uncle Justin. Hayden is very creative and enjoys art. He brightens his family with hugs and laughter.

**An enthusiastic missionary,** **Ali Goates, 9, Englewood, Colorado,** likes to share the gospel with her friends. She enjoys mountain biking, camping, and playing sports.

**Braxton Young Church, 6, Orem, Utah,** likes to skip, dance, and read. He loves his grandparents. He likes dinosaurs, and his favorite scripture story is about Noah’s ark.

**Annie Precourt, 10, Hanover, Massachusetts,** is good at sports; she recently played on an undefeated basketball team. Annie enjoys school and likes to read the Friend.

**When he grows up,** **Nathaniel Marc Goodrich, 8, Kearns, Utah,** wants to be a police officer so he can stop people from hurting others. He also wants to serve a mission. His favorite foods are pizza and root beer.

**Jessica Lowe, 6, Newbury, England,** says, “I love Heavenly Father, and my family.” Jessica loves her brothers and sisters and is a great help to her mom. Jessica enjoys swimming, roller blading, and gymnastics.

**Katie Rencher, 11, Farmington, Utah,** is an experienced baby-sitter. She likes reading, playing with friends, making crafts, and Achievement Day activities. She plays the flute and the piano.
PRESIDENT DAVID O. MCKAY CROSSWORD

By Hilary Hendricks

You can learn about President David O. McKay by doing this crossword puzzle. Read the clues, then fill in the puzzle by choosing the correct answer from the words listed below.

horseback
missionary
newspapers
Part
piano
Scotland
secretary
tea
teacher
wood

**ACROSS**

1. Young David’s summer job was carrying the daily newspaper by ____________ to a nearby mining town. The trip took him all day.

4. President McKay encouraged Saints to share the gospel. He often said, “Every member a ____________.”

6. As a missionary in Scotland, Elder McKay saw a phrase on a doorway that he remembered for the rest of his life: “What e’er Thou Art, Act Well Thy ______.”

8. When David became a deacon, his duties included chopping this to heat the chapel and the homes of widows.

9. On one of his many travels, President McKay was encouraged by the queen of the Netherlands to drink this. He explained the Word of Wisdom to her.

10. At age fifteen, David accepted the first of many callings dealing with Church education. He was called to be his ward’s Sunday School ____________.

**DOWN**

2. David’s grandparents came to America from this country after joining the Church.

3. David played this instrument for his town’s dance orchestra.

5. As president of the European Mission, Elder McKay wrote to the editors of many ____________, asking them to print only true things about the Church. The letters worked!

7. David went to college to become a ____________ and principal. He shared his mother’s belief that education was important for everyone.

*(See answers on page 37.)*

Here comes somebody—wag your tail.
The Prophet’s Counsel:

THE SIX Bs

Excerpts from President Gordon B. Hinckley’s Fireside Address, November 12, 2000
Be Grateful

Walk with gratitude in your hearts, my dear friends. Be thankful for the wonderful blessings which are yours. Be grateful for the tremendous opportunities that you have. Be thankful to your parents, who care so very much about you and who have worked so very hard to provide for you. Let them know that you are grateful. Say thank you to your mother and your father. Say thank you to your friends. Say thank you to your teachers. Express appreciation to everyone who does you a favor or assists you in any way.

Thank the Lord for His goodness to you.

Be Smart

The Lord wants you to educate your minds and hands, whatever your chosen field. Whether it be repairing refrigerators, or the work of a skilled surgeon, you must train yourselves. Seek for the best schooling available. Become a workman of integrity in the world that lies ahead of you. I repeat, you will bring honor to the Church and you will be generously blessed because of that training.

Be Clean

Avoid evil talk. Do not take the name of the Lord in vain. . . . Choose your friends carefully. . . . While you should be friendly with all people, select with great care those whom you wish to have close to you. . . . Be clean. Don’t waste your time in destructive entertainment. . . . How truly beautiful is a well-groomed young woman who is clean in body and mind. She is a daughter of God in whom her Eternal Father can take pride. How handsome is a young man who is well groomed. He is a son of God, deemed worthy of holding the holy priesthood of God. He does not need tattoos or earrings on or in his body. The First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve are all united in counseling against these things. . . .

There is no need for any Latter-day Saint boy or girl, young man or young woman, to even try [drugs]. Stay clean from these mind-altering and habit-forming addictions.

Be True

Be loyal to the Church under all circumstances. I make you a promise that the authorities of this Church will never lead you astray. They will lead you in paths of happiness. . . . Be true to your own convictions. You know what is right, and you know what is wrong. You know when you are doing the proper thing. You know when you are giving strength to the right cause. Be loyal. Be faithful. Be true.

Be Humble

The Lord has said, “Be thou humble; and the Lord thy God shall lead thee by the hand, and give thee answer to thy prayers” (Doctrine and Covenants 112:10). . . . I believe the meek and the humble are those who are teachable. They are willing to learn. They are willing to listen to the whisperings of the still, small voice for guidance in their lives. They place the wisdom of the Lord above their own wisdom.

Be Prayerful

You need His help, and you know that you need His help. You cannot do it alone. You will come to realize that and recognize that more and more as the years pass. So live that in good conscience you can speak with the Lord. Get on your knees and thank Him for His goodness to you and express to Him the righteous desires of your hearts. The miracle of it all is that He hears. He responds. He answers—not always as we might wish He would answer, but there is no question in my mind that He answers.

WHAT IS LOVE?
By Sharon S. Kiser

1. “Behold, my soul delighteth in the love of the Lord; and my heart pondereth continually upon the things which I have seen and heard” (2 Nephi 4:16).

2. “Rejoice, O my soul, and cry unto the Lord, and say: O Lord, I will praise thee...” (2 Nephi 4:30).

3. “...delighteth in righteousness” (2 Nephi 9:49).

4. “Believe in Christ, and worship the Father in his love, with pure heart and clean hands” (2 Nephi 25:16).

5. “For when a man speaketh by the power of the Holy Ghost the power of the Holy Ghost carrieth it unto the love of the Lord of men” (2 Nephi 33:1).

(See answers on page 37.)
Luz Karina Sánchez—a seven-year-old girl in Yaguarón, Paraguay—draws, feeds chickens, and shoots marbles. And she does all these things in a special way—with her feet!

Karina was born without arms, but that doesn’t stop her from writing, drawing, turning pages in a book, combing her hair, dressing herself, and eating with a fork. She is an independent and determined girl who figures out how to do things so that she can do everything for herself—without help.

Karina’s first name is Luz, which means “light” in her native Spanish. After she was born, her mother felt a special peace and comfort fill her like a light—so she named the baby Luz, after that special feeling. Luz Karina continues to be a light and an example to her mother, the rest of her family, and her friends through her determination, testimony, and love.

The youngest of twelve children, Karina likes being part of a big family. Since most of her brothers and sisters are much older than she is, Karina
is especially close to her brother Germán, who is twelve years old. Germán says of Karina, “I like her because she is happy and fun.”

Germán always looks out for her. But Karina herself looks out for and takes special care of her two-year-old niece Ruth. She loves Ruth and lets her cling to her sweater sleeve when they are together. Karina walks slowly so that Ruth can keep up with her, and she tries to make sure that others notice and pay attention to Ruth.

Karina’s family joined the Church about a year ago. Since then, they have attended the Yaguarón Branch in the Paraguari Paraguay District. The family lives out in the country about five kilometers (a little over three miles) from town. To get to church each week, they walk about one kilometer and then take a bus. Karina likes Primary, especially the singing. About ten children attend Primary in the Yaguarón Branch.

Karina and Germán are the only two Latter-day Saints at their school. Karina is in the first grade, and her mother is very proud of her schoolwork. Drawing is Karina’s favorite subject. She likes to draw pictures of flowers, especially poinsettias, a popular flower in Paraguay. She also draws pictures of herself and her family.

Karina’s leg and body muscles are very strong, and she is a good helper and a hard worker on her family’s small farm. The farm has a big tom turkey, chickens, and a dog with lots of puppies. Karina loves animals. One of her chores is to feed the chickens. She picks up the bag of corn with her foot and places it under her chin to carry while she walks. Then she sits on a chair, opens the bag of corn with one foot, puts the other foot in the sack for a footful of corn, and throws it out for the chickens to eat. Karina likes to hold the chickens. She carefully catches a baby chick with her feet and holds the soft, fluffy bird under her chin.

Karina also enjoys playing marbles, and she is very good at it. She frequently beats other children in a game—and she even beats some of the missionaries who play with her. She controls
a marble with her foot and releases it from her toes with a kick.

Karina is also good at shooting a slingshot. She slips loops in two rubber bands over two of her toes, places a *coquito*—a tiny coconut—in the sling with the other foot, stretches the bands back, and shoots.

Elder Richard Lyman, a missionary serving in her branch, gave Karina a harmonica. She was timid and unsure at first. But in just a few minutes, she was using her feet to hold the harmonica and make music.

Soon Karina will be eight, and she is looking forward to her birthday. She hopes to have a big chocolate cake with white frosting. But she is even more excited that she will be baptized. Her parents and the missionaries are teaching her about baptism and the covenants she will make, and her father is preparing to baptize her. She is eager to become a member of the Church. She loves the gospel and loves to share it.

Luz Karina lives up to her name. She truly is a light to those who know her.
When he was fourteen years old, he saw the Father and the Son.

He was sustained as the prophet on April 1, 1995.

When he was fourteen years old, he saw the Father and the Son.

He led the Saints to Utah.

He was in Carthage Jail when Joseph Smith was martyred.

He taught the importance of loving one another.

He taught the importance of hard work in developing talents.

He counseled Saints to hold family home evening.

He taught the importance of paying tithing.

He dedicated the Salt Lake Temple in 1893.

He received a revelation stating that "every faithful, worthy man in the Church may receive the holy priesthood" (Doctrine and Covenants 121).

He encouraged members to study the Book of Mormon.

He asked us to be "more Christlike" and to "be ready to go to the temple."

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When he was fourteen years old, he saw the Father and the Son.
PRAYER
FOR OVERALLS

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

A TRUE STORY
By Shanna Roper

Times were difficult in 1931, and everyone in eleven-year-old Evard’s family had to work hard and help each other so that they could have the things they needed. Even Evard’s mother helped earn money by cleaning people’s homes.

Evard loved his parents and his five brothers and one sister. Even though they didn’t have very much, he was happy. One day, he looked at himself and realized that his overalls were ragged and worn. He knew that he would soon need a new pair. He also knew that his parents had very little money, so he didn’t want to ask them for some new overalls.

His parents had taught him that there was One to whom he could always turn for help, no matter what, so he knelt by his bed and prayed. He told Heavenly Father about his need for a pair of overalls and asked for His help. Evard had great faith and knew that somehow his prayer would be answered.

The next day, his mother went to clean a woman’s house. The woman had been cleaning out her closets and had found three pairs of nice overalls that her children had outgrown. She asked Evard’s mother if someone in her family could use them. Mother gladly took the overalls home.

Evard was excited when she showed him the overalls. He quickly tried them on. Each pair was a perfect fit! He knew that Heavenly Father loved him and had answered his prayer.
Mommy stopped at Austin’s bedroom door. She looked around the messy room. There were books, trucks, puzzles, blocks, and stuffed animals scattered all over. Mommy stepped over the clutter and into the room. “Austin, did you make this mess?”

Austin looked up from his stack of blocks. “Not me, Mommy.”

“Then who made this mess?” Mommy asked. She knelt down next to a large dump truck. “Dump truck, did you make this mess?”

“Austin!”

Austin giggled. “Dump trucks can’t make a mess. Trucks can’t even talk. But I can.” He snatched up his truck. “Brrrm. Brrrm.” Austin drove the truck into the toy box.

“Who made this mess?” Mommy asked. She scooped up a handful of puzzle pieces. “Puzzle, did you make this mess?”

“Austin said, “Puzzles can’t make a mess. Puzzles don’t have fingers to use. But I do. I can pick the pieces up like this.” Austin dumped all the puzzle pieces into their box on the shelf.

“Who made this mess?” Mommy asked. She stood up and leaned over the bookcase. “Books, did you make this mess?”

Austin rolled his eyes. “Books can’t make a mess. Books can’t even jump from high places. But I can.” Austin climbed onto a chair and jumped into Mommy’s arms. She put him down. Austin bent over and picked up some books. He climbed back onto the chair and set the books on the shelf.

“Who made this mess?”

Mommy asked. She gathered together three teddy bears. “Teddy bears, did you make this mess?”

“Teddy bears can’t make a mess,” Austin said. “Teddy bears can’t even turn somersaults. But I can.” Austin crouched low, tucked his head under, and flipped over. He stood up, gathered the bears in his arms, and laid them in a row on the windowsill.

“Who made this mess?” Mommy asked. She picked up a stuffed lion. “Lion, did you make this mess?”

Austin said, “The lion can’t make a mess. The lion can’t even give hugs. But I can.” Austin gave Mommy a hug. He took the lion and gently placed it on his bed.

“Know what, Mommy?” Austin said. “Toys can’t make a mess, but I can. I made this mess.”

Mommy leaned over and gave Austin another hug. “Austin, you made this mess. But you cleaned it up, too. You are my big helper.”

Mommy’s face grew serious. “You did something besides making a mess, Austin. You told Mommy a lie. But you cleaned that up, too, by telling the truth. Toys can’t tell the truth. But you can.”

Austin smiled. Being a big helper felt good. Being a truth-teller felt even better.
Tell your mother and father why you love the living prophet and what you will do to follow him. Ask them to write or help you write your answers on the lines inside the valentine below. Send the valentine to the *Friend* (50 East North Temple, 24th floor, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3226) by February 28, 2001, and we will publish some of the answers in *For Little Friends* in June. Please be sure to include your name, age, city, and state or country.

**VALENTINE FOR A PROPHET**

I love the prophet because

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

I will follow him by

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Name _______________________________
City/State/Country ________________________ Age ________
To make this bracelet for yourself or a friend, you will need: a strip of colored paper, 1" (2.5 cm) wide and 8 1/2" (21.5 cm) long; scissors; markers, crayons, or glue and glitter; and tape.

1. Fold the paper in half (long ends together), then fold it in half two more times. Crease each fold well.

2. With an older person's help, cut a heart shape into the folded paper (see illustration). Be sure to leave the hearts connected at both side edges.

3. Unfold the strip of hearts and decorate one side of the paper by coloring designs or gluing on glitter.

4. Wrap the bracelet around your wrist or the wrist of a friend; tape the ends together.
THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHURCH

By Elizabeth Giles

We have a living prophet to guide us in heaven’s ways.

He is the President of the Church in these latter days.

SLAP SHOT

By Roberta L. Fairall

Can you find an unbroken line on which to slap the puck past the goalkeeper?
Be gentle and loving in deed and in thought, For these are the things Jesus taught (Children’s Songbook, page 79).  

TO BE MORE LIKE CHRIST  
By Canek Méndez de Bengoechea

Several years ago, an elderly sister in my branch passed away. Everyone called her Abuelita (Grandma) Flores. At her funeral, I noticed that some of her family who are not members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints were sobbing. My mom explained that they probably thought that they would never see Abuelita Flores again. I don’t like to see people suffer. I told my mom, “When I grow up and marry in the temple, I will have a daughter and I will call her Abuelita Flores so that they won’t cry anymore.” I believe that trying to comfort people who are sad brings us closer to being like Christ.

I have an illness called miastenia gravis. I also have attention deficit disorder and hyperactivity. Because of these things, I act differently than other children. Lots of people don’t understand, and many don’t even try.

Children in my school often want to hit me, but I don’t fight with them. Recently I began learning karate—for my health, I am supposed to get exercise. My schoolmates want me to teach them—or at least demonstrate—the different karate moves and techniques. I always say no, because I’m not learning them in order to fight but to gain discipline and the values that come with it. I want to be able to defend myself if I have to, but I never look for a fight. Jesus Christ always taught with calmness and love. Avoiding contention makes me more like Him.

Let every man deal honestly (Doctrine and Covenants 51:9).

FINDING MONEY  
By Carlee Cecchini

One day when I was at the grocery store with my mom and my grandma, I found some money on the floor. I picked it up and showed it to my mom. She asked me what we should do when we find something that doesn’t belong to us. We went to the office, and I turned it in so that the person who lost it could find it. The people in the office thanked me for being so honest, and they took my name and phone number. They said that if no one came for the money, they would call me and I could have it. I felt happy inside because I had done the right thing. I knew Heavenly Father and Jesus were proud of me.

In doing . . . good unto thy fellow beings, [thou] wilt promote the glory of him who is your Lord (Doctrine and Covenants 81:4).

HELPING A NEIGHBOR  
By Theresa Mears

We had recently moved to Middlebury, Indiana, from San Antonio, Texas, and were looking forward to seeing snow. When it came, Jordan and his friend Justin shoveled a neighbor’s sidewalk because they liked her and wanted to help her. They were delighted with the unexpected reward of doughnuts and hot chocolate when they finished her walk and driveway.

Jordan Mears, age 9 (right) and his friend, Justin Utley Elkhart Indiana Ward South Bend Indiana Stake
WINTER FUN
By Robert A. Peterson

After you have found ten things wrong in this picture, color it.

FUNSTUF ANSWERS:


What Is Love?: Charity is love.

Winter Fun: (1) flamingo in the tree, (2) bat hanging from the tree, (3) boy’s football helmet, (4) boy’s glove and mitten, (5) boy’s athletic shoes, (6) squirrel’s sunglasses, (7) boy’s cowboy boot, (8) paint roller, (9) snowman’s wig, (10) boy’s shorts and tank top.
As a boy, David O. McKay wanted to know for himself that Joseph Smith was a prophet. One day while looking for cattle, he got off his horse and knelt under a serviceberry bush. He asked Heavenly Father for a spiritual witness, then waited for something wonderful to happen. Nothing did.

Disappointed, he got back on his horse and rode away.

Still, he continued faithful and in time served a mission in Scotland. One day while there, he saw an unfinished building with a stone carving over the front door. He read the inscription.

I am here as a representative of the Lord Jesus Christ. From this moment on I will do my part.

This advice inspired him to work harder.
Later, during a missionary priesthood meeting, President McMurrin, his mission president, made a prophecy.

Brother David, ... God is mindful of you. If you will keep the faith you will yet sit in the leading councils of the Church.

As President of the Church, David O. McKay taught that every member of the Church is a missionary. Latter-day Saints responded by sharing the gospel with their neighbors.

During that meeting, Elder McKay received the sure witness he had prayed for as a boy. He knew the Church was true. He also knew that Heavenly Father answers our prayers in His own time and in His own way.

If you’d like to learn more about President McKay, do the “President David O. McKay Crossword” on page 23.
The duty of the President . . . is to preside over the whole church (Doctrine and Covenants 107:91).

What does it mean to be the President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints? What does it mean to be a prophet? Just what does President Gordon B. Hinckley actually do?

Well, as a prophet, his work is to “act as God’s messenger and make known God’s will” and to teach “men about God’s character, . . . denounce [publicly condemn] sin and foretell its punishment, and . . . be, above all, a preacher of righteousness.”*

As President of the Church, he presides over it. This means that he is its leader—he is in charge. He holds all the keys of the priesthood, including those of spiritual blessings and the ministering of angels. He guides the Church’s members. He testifies of the Savior, receives direction from Him, and tells us what the Lord wants us to do. He also represents us, the Church, and the Savior when he talks to people who are not members of the Church.† Pick up any Ensign or Liahona and turn to “News of the Church.” You will find that President Hinckley has been doing all those things in many different places—at local and general conferences, firesides, temple dedications, even on television programs. At each one, he testifies of Jesus Christ and tells people of His love and how we should live so that we and our loved ones can live with the Savior and Heavenly Father for eternity.

ACTIVITY: THE PROPHET

Instructions: Remove page 41 from the magazine, mount it on lightweight cardboard, let it dry, and cut it out. Connect the numbered dots, then color the picture. With a paper punch or a very sharp pen or pencil, carefully punch holes around the picture where marked. Cut a piece of yarn 4’ (1.2 m) long. Wrap one end tightly with tape so that it will go through the holes. Starting at the top in the middle and leaving an 8” (20 cm) tail in the back, lace the yarn through the holes. When finished, tie a knot at the back, then tie the ends of the yarn together to form a loop for hanging.

*Bible Dictionary—“Prophet,” page 754.
Love
Love is being nice.
Please take my advice.
Love is loving everyone.
Trust me—it is fun!
Brooke Friedel, age 9
Las Vegas, Nevada

The Megaraptor
There’s a new dinosaur in town.
They found him in South America’s ground.
He lived long in the past
And hunted and ran really fast.
Megeraptor is his name.
He was mean and wasn’t tame.
He was very big and strong.
His claw measured one foot long.
He was a carnivore and ate meat.
To him I might look like a treat.
I’m glad they didn’t find him here.
I don’t want him anywhere near!
Madilyn Searle, age 10
Shelley, Idaho

The Sky
Hold on to me as we fly in the sky,
Wondering what we’ll see.
Airplanes zoom by,
Rockets shoot by.
Kids look up at me, saying,
“Hi, Natalie!”
Natalie Montalvo,
age 8
Mesa, Arizona

Love Is . . .
Love is family.
Love is caring.
Love is brothers.
Love is sisters.
Love is friends.
Clayton Paullin, age 8
Santa Barbara, California

Never Alone
In Childhood times
You have lonely times.
Some you want,
And some you don’t.
Unseen by the world
But seen by God.
Through mist of dawn
Or the depths of canyons,
God will always be there.
Andrew Lowman, age 11
Decatur, Alabama

Anything Is Possible When You Have a Family
Anything is possible when you have a brother;
Anything is possible when you have a sister.
Anything is possible when you have a mother;
Anything is possible when you have a father.
Helping you on your way,
They love you every day.
Cheering you up when you’re sad,
They will never make you mad.
They love you, and you love them back.
They help you carry the sack.
My family loves me,
And with them is where I want to be.
Ashley K. Hansen, age 11
Hyrum, Utah
Arabian Horse
The Arabian horse is small—
14.2 to 15 hands—
Though to be fast it needn’t be tall.
They’re the ancestor of the thoroughbred.
They are known for speed, stamina,
Courage, cunning, and beauty.
Carolyn Virginia Burnett, age 8
Davie, Florida

Peaceful Love
Love is white, like a peaceful dove,
Sweet with happiness and full of love.
I smell the aroma of fresh-cut flowers.
I hear birds singing for hours and hours.
I can feel the cold water at my feet,
And the pure love in my heart I have to greet.
I feel warm and full of peace
As we float along the lovely beach.
Cathrine Martell, age 11
Hillsboro, Oregon

My Testimony
I know what is true.
I know what to do.
I know I can believe
In the Savior, too.
Alyssa Utley, age 5
Alameda, California

Math
Math is a mystery yet to be solved.
Math is a whisper that says, “Follow me.”
Math is a dream of wisdom and thinking.
Math is a building material
made of numbers and signs.
Math is a magnet
that sticks to the brain cells.
Math is division, multiplication, fractions,
subtraction, and addition.
Nicole Swanson, age 11
Shoreview, Minnesota

What They Do
See the birds that fly, fly, fly.
They have wings to help them fly, fly, fly.
See the horses that run, run, run.
They have four legs to help them run, run, run.
See the fish that swim, swim, swim.
They have fins to help them swim, swim, swim.

See the frogs that jump, jump, jump.
They have long legs to help them jump, jump, jump.

See me flip, flip, flip.
I have a trampoline to help me flip, flip, flip.
Aaron Haines, age 9
Sandy, Utah

The Game
I run. I look. I dribble.
I’m nervous.
I push it away.
I let the confidence seep inside of me.
I close my eyes. I focus. I shoot.
They cheer.
I smile.
Brittany Libra, age 11
Kansas City, Missouri
Latter-day PROPHETS
Have you ever been a member of a club? How did you choose the leader of it? You may live in a country in which the people choose their leaders by voting. In some countries, leaders are chosen by their birth.

Every organization needs some order, someone to lead them. In The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the Lord chooses the President to lead His people. The Lord also calls twelve men to be Apostles, special witnesses of Jesus Christ to all the earth. In our dispensation (period of time when the church of Jesus Christ is on the earth), the man who has served the longest as an Apostle is the prophet and President of the Church. This is how the Lord chooses the President.

Father in Heaven chose Joseph Smith to restore the Savior’s church on the earth and to be the first prophet and President of it in our dispensation. Since the death of Joseph Smith, fourteen other prophets have served as the President of the Church. Each has taught us things that we need to know to return to live again with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. Prophets teach us to love one another, keep the commandments, study the scriptures, and follow the example of the Savior. They are messengers to the world for Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.

President Gordon B. Hinckley has been called by Heavenly Father to be our prophet and the President of the Church today. He has traveled to many countries and taught the people to follow the Savior. He has planned for temples to be built all over the earth. He cares about what happens to members of the Church throughout the world. He is helped by his two Counselors and by the Twelve Apostles, who also travel throughout the world, testifying of the Savior and teaching the people. These men are all special witnesses of Jesus Christ and His gospel.

When we listen to our prophet, we are listening to the one whom Father in Heaven has called to represent Him and speak for Him. When we do what the prophet asks us to do, we are doing what Heavenly Father wants us to do. We can be sure that He will bless us when we do what the prophet asks us to do.
Sharing Time Ideas

(Note: CS = Children’s Songbook; GAK = Gospel Art Kit)
(Note: Sometime during the month, please discuss “The Living Christ: The Testimony of the Apostles,” Ensign, Apr. 2000, pp. 20–21.)
(Note: Words and music for President Hunter are in Friend, Apr. 1995, p. 5; words (only) for President Hinckley are in Friend, Oct. 1995, p. 24, paragraph at top.)

1. Using paper attached to the wall, create a time line marked in 10-year increments, beginning with the organization of the Church in 1830 and ending with 2001. Prior to Sharing Time, select 15 children and give each one information about the Latter-day prophet he/she will present (GAK 400, 507–520). Have him/her tell about that prophet and show his picture; have the remaining children guess when that prophet served as Church President. Place the picture in the correct segment of the time line. Sing “Latter-day Prophets” (CS, p. 134) to see if the prophets are in the right order. Have each class draw pictures of two or three Presidents, depicting something that happened during the time that they served (e.g., Joseph Smith receiving the First Vision; Brigham Young crossing the plains; Wilford Woodruff dedicating the Salt Lake Temple—see Friend, Oct. 1995, pp. 24–25). Place the drawings on the time line and talk about the ways people have been blessed for following the prophets. Bear your testimony of the importance of listening to our prophet today and doing the things he asks us to do.

2. Play “Leader Says.” The children are to do only those things prefaced by “Leader says” (e.g., “Leader says, ‘Stand up.’”). If they do what they are told to do without having been told “Leader says,” they must sit down. Play until nearly everyone is sitting. Explain that many people will try to tell us what to do. We can trust some of them but not others. Heavenly Father has promised that we can trust our prophet to always tell us right things, things He wants us to know. Sing v. 9 of “Follow the Prophet” (CS, pp. 110–111) and explain that doing the things the prophet asks us to do will give us direction throughout our lives. Discuss some of the directions he has given. Show a tree branch without leaves. Give each child a green leaf (cut from paper) and have him/her write on it something he/she will do to follow the prophet’s teachings. Attach the leaves to the branch and present it to the bishop/branch president. (Younger children could each draw a picture, with all the pictures made into a booklet to be presented.) Say that as we do what our “Leader (prophet) says,” we will be blessed. Sing “Keep the Commandments” (CS, pp. 146–147) and bear your testimony.

3. Choose one thing each Latter-day prophet has taught (see “Latter-day Prophets,” Friend, Oct. 1995, pp. 24–25; GAK 400, 507–520, backs of pictures) and select a song from the CS that reinforces that teaching. (Examples: • Joseph Smith / Word of Wisdom / “The Lord Gave Me a Temple,” p. 153 • John Taylor / God loves His children everywhere / “God Is Watching Over All,” p. 229 • Lorenzo Snow / tithing / “I’m Glad to Pay a Tithing,” p. 150 • Heber J. Grant / everyone is invited to come unto Christ / “He Sent His Son,” pp. 34–35 • George Albert Smith / loving each other / “Love One Another,” p. 136 • Ezra Taft Benson / Book of Mormon study / “Book of Mormon Stories,” p. 118 • Gordon B. Hinckley / temples / “I Love to See the Temple,” p. 95.) Display the prophets’ pictures. Have their names and what they taught on one side of a piece of paper; on the other side, the name of the corresponding song. Have a child draw a piece of paper from a container and read (or you read) about that prophet’s teaching and match his name with his picture; then have all the children sing the song. Bear your testimony that President Hinckley is giving us guidance today.

4. Song Presentation: “The Sixth Article of Faith,” CS, p. 126. (See “Music,” Teaching, No Greater Call, pp. 172–174; “Using the Songbook,” CS, pp. 300–304.) Sing the song to the children. Hold up “Christ Ordaining the Apostles” (GAK 211). Explain that the Primitive Church is what we call the church that Jesus Christ Himself organized when He lived upon the earth. Sing the song up to Church with the children. Explain that the restored Church is organized just as Jesus Christ organized the Primitive Church, with Apostles, prophets, pastors (bishops), teachers, evangelists (patriarchs), and so forth. Have pictures of President Hinckley, a bishop, a teacher (GAK 520, 611, 614), and a patriarch (from the meetinghouse library—or a rolled up paper representing a patriarchal blessing). Sing the rest of the song, with children holding up the pictures as the people are sung about (one child holds up GAK 211). Discuss how blessed we are to have each of these people in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Have the children sing the song through several times, each time removing one of the pictures. Bear your testimony that the Savior guides us today through His prophet and priesthood leaders just as He did through the Primitive Church.

5. Before Sharing Time, write the testimony of each current Apostle on separate pieces of paper and hide them. (Their testimonies can usually be found at the end of their general conference addresses.) Explain that we have Twelve Apostles now, just as Jesus Christ had in the Primitive Church, and that they are special witnesses of the Savior. Tell the children that they will have a treasure hunt to find what today’s Apostles have witnessed about Him. Give one child a clue to the location of the first written testimony. When he/she finds it, have him/her read it (or you read it) and, if available, hold up a picture of that Apostle, then place his testimony in a container labeled Treasure Box. Continue with different children until all the testimonies have been found and the Apostles identified. Explain that as we listen to the testimonies of the Apostles, our own testimonies will be strengthened. There is no greater treasure than to know that Jesus Christ is our Savior.

If your parents ask you to help plan a family home evening, you may want to use an idea from the Friend. Here are some ideas in this issue that you may like (look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned):

1. Tell the story “Baptized by the Prophet” (pages 2–5). Talk about Thomas’s love for the Prophet Joseph Smith and about his courage in deciding to follow Brigham Young to the West. How do you follow the prophet today? Ask a brother or sister to learn and recite “The President of the Church” (page 35).

2. Read the Friend to Friend interview “Learning Gospel Principles” (pages 6–7). What did Sister Reynolds learn from her family? Remember and share some of the gospel lessons you have learned in your home. Offer a prayer of thanks.

3. Make valentines for your neighbors (page 15). Add a message of love and appreciation to each valentine and deliver them secretly.


5. Do the “President David O. McKay Crossword” (page 23). Then use the pictures to tell the story “David O. McKay Receives an Answer” (pages 38–39). Talk about the ways Heavenly Father answers our prayers.

6. Share the article “President Gordon B. Hinckley, Prophet, Seer, Revelator” (pages 40–41). Make a copy of the dot-to-dot puzzle for each family member to do. Hang the finished puzzles up to remind yourselves to follow the prophet.

7. Make the “Cherry-Chocolate Cake” (page 21) for refreshments.
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Send children’s submissions to Friend Magazine, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3226, in care of the appropriate department—Our Creative Friends, Friends in the News, Childviews, Trying to Be Like Jesus Christ.
Trying to Be Like Jesus Christ

Our Primary president asked us to think of ways we could be like Jesus Christ. In a family home evening, we read a lot of scriptures to give us ideas. Then we (Addie and Jared) made a list of the ways we could be like Him. Mom wrote our ideas down and decorated our list. We learned that we need to be nice to each other and to all the family and to everyone.

Jared and Addie Wahlquist, ages 11 and 5
LaPorte, Indiana

Sharing My New Ball

I had a couple dollar bills and was at the store with my family, so I bought a bouncy rubber ball. My little three-year-old sister really wanted to play with it. When we got home, I gave her the ball. She was so happy that she bounced it up and down the stairs, laughing and smiling. When she got tired of the ball, she came to find me. “Here, Brek, you can have it back,” she said. I felt good that I could share with my sister.

Brek Carper, age 7, with his sister, Alexus
Spearfish, South Dakota

Sunday-in-Paris Decision

I just moved here and started school. I’ve made a lot of friends. The dad of one of my friends works with my dad. He brought home an invitation to my friend’s birthday party. It was to be on a Sunday. I wanted to go, but I knew we didn’t do that kind of thing on Sunday, so I didn’t go. I know I made the right choice, and so does Heavenly Father.

Millie Struve, age 9
Paris, France