



Glad We Get the Friend



very month I look forward to the new *Friend*. My family likes to see who can find the CTR ring first. The *Friend* helps teach me who I should be. I like reading about how the *Friend* helps other children. I also like getting online and

listening to the stories as I get ready for church. I am glad we get the *Friend*!

Katy V., age 11, Idaho

Looking Different



am sometimes made fun of for the way I look. I am half Japanese, which means my eyes are smaller than other people's eyes. It really hurts my feelings when I am not treated equally. I talked about my problems with my parents and they told me

to remember that Heavenly Father thinks I'm beautiful, and His opinion is the only one that matters. From that day I learned to forget the mean things people say. I also learned to not make fun of the way others look.

Allie O., age 10, Utah

Thankful for the Friend

I'm thankful for the *Friend*. It helps me remember to speak nicely to my two little sisters when I'm in charge of helping them clean our room.

Ashley B., age 9, Nebraska





Was there a letter or a story in this month's issue that helped you? Tell us about it. Turn to page 48 to find out how.

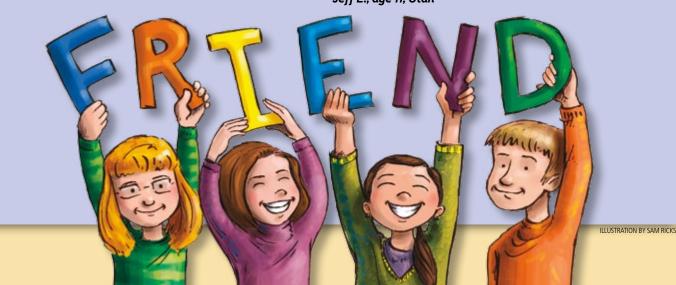
What I Like about the *Friend*

really like the stories in the *Friend*. I almost always use the stories when I teach at family home evening. I liked the beautiful pictures of the temple in the March 2010 issue. I also liked the pictures that children draw. One of my favorites from



the issue has an astronaut giving a Book of Mormon to an alien. The *Friend* is awesome.

Jeff E., age 11, Utah



Volume 41 Number 2 February 2011

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In the October 2010

general conference,

President Thomas S.

Monson asked us

to prepare to be

missionaries. Look

for this symbol on

the pages that talk

about missionary

work.

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

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Look for the *Friend* mouse to see which features are online at friend.lds.org.







By President Thomas S. Monson

We'll Carry You!

while driving to the office one morning, I passed a sign. It read, "It's the Service That Counts." That message simply would not leave my mind. In actual fact it is the service that counts—the Lord's service.

Many years ago it was my privilege to provide a blessing to a beautiful 12-year-old young lady, Jami Palmer. She had just been diagnosed with cancer. She learned that her leg where the cancer was would require multiple surgeries. A long-planned hike with her Young Women class up a rugged trail was out of the question, she thought.

Jami told her friends they would have to hike without her. I'm confident there was disappointment in her heart.

But then the other young women responded emphatically, "No, Jami, you are going with us!" "But I can't walk," came the reply.

"Then we'll carry you to the top!"

And they did.

None of those precious young women will ever forget that memorable day when a loving Heavenly Father looked down with a smile of approval and was well pleased.

In the Book of Mormon we read of noble King Benjamin. He declared, "And behold, I tell you these things that ye may learn wisdom; that ye may learn that when ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only in the

service of your God" (Mosiah 2:17).

This is the service that counts, the service to which all of us have been called: the service of the Lord Jesus Christ.

From an October 2006 general conference address.



RATIONS BY TAIA MORLE

WE SERVED TOO

See how these children have stepped up to serve others.

Serving with Sewing

hen Sarah, age 9, from Oklahoma heard about last year's earthquake in Haiti, she thought about girls who had lost their homes. She had just gotten a sewing machine for her birthday, and she decided to make simple skirts for the girls. It took patience when Sarah had to pick out stitches to correct mistakes. But soon she had made 18 new skirts. She sent them to the Church Humanitarian Center for the girls in Haiti.



lex, age 9, and Noah, age 6, from Oregon put together 15 backpacks full of school supplies for children who needed them. They collected donations from friends and family members who wanted to help. "Doing the backpack drive made me feel good inside," Alex says.

Willing Hands

Rikki's branch in California needed someone to play the piano. She was only nine years old, but Rikki had willing hands. She had been taking piano lessons for five years, yet some of the hymns were hard to play. Now each week she chooses and plays the hymns for sacrament meeting. "Even though I was nervous, I knew it was important to serve my branch," she says. "I get a peaceful feeling when I play the hymns."

Cookies for Soap

liana, age 7, heard that her stake in Utah needed 300 bars of soap for hygiene kits for earthquake victims. She and her mom decided to make lots of cookies and trade them or sell them for soap. Each of their neighbors ordered at least a dozen. Using a coupon, they were able to buy 172 bars of soap. "I know Heavenly Father blessed me and my family for wanting to do our part," Eliana says.

PLAY A MATCHING GAME

Find the item or items below that illustrate each of the children's stories.















Share Your Ideas

If you've found a good way to help someone in need, we'd like to hear about it. Look at page 48 to find out how to send us your idea.



God hath given unto you a knowledge and he hath made you free (Helaman 14:30).

inish your drawings, class. It's almost time for recess," Mrs. Johnson said.

The students hurried to finish their pictures, put away the crayons, and put on their coats.

Abbey looked up from her picture as the other children ran off, then she slowly colored a few more details. There was no hurry. Nobody ever wanted to play with her anyway.

Abbey sighed, stood up, and walked to the coat rack to grab her coat. Then she slowly walked out to her favorite tree and sat down. She looked toward the

playground, where the other children were laughing and having fun. Being the new girl was hard. She missed Arizona. Before she moved she had lots of friends, and she never had to sit by herself during recess.

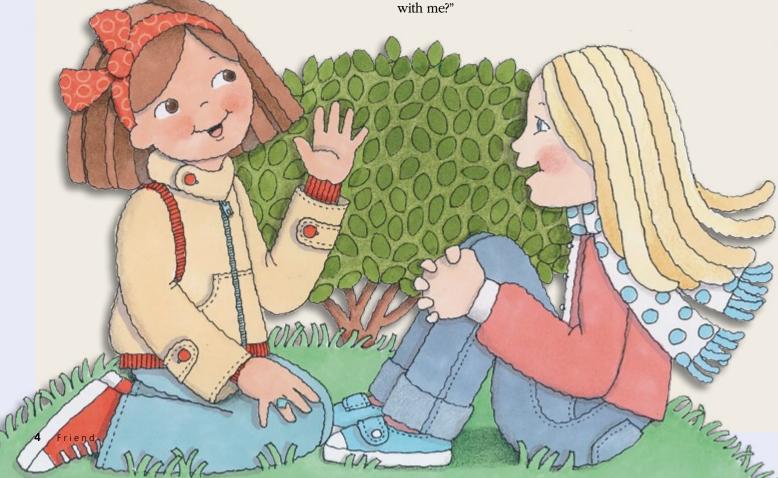
Abbey looked down and saw a flash of silver in the grass. It was her CTR ring! She had lost it yesterday during recess. "Well, at least I have

my ring back," she said out loud as she put

Abbey noticed a girl walking her way. She had long blonde hair that swayed back and forth with every step. It was Laurel, one of the most popular girls in class. Laurel sat down beside Abbey.

"Hi, Abbey," Laurel said. "Do you want to play with me?"

the ring on her finger.



By Heidi A. Greenhalgh

(Based on a true story)

Abbey nodded her head eagerly.

"Sure. What should we do first?"

"Let's go swing," Laurel said.

After having a contest to see who

After having a contest to see who could swing the highest, the girls talked and giggled at the edge of the playground. Abbey felt so happy. She hadn't felt this good since before she moved.

Abbey noticed Laurel eyeing the nearby gravel path that led away from the school grounds.

"Abbey, my house is only one block from here, and my mom just bought some cookies," Laurel said. "We could run there, grab some cookies, and be back before recess is over. No one would miss us."

Abbey was surprised. Everyone knew that leaving the school grounds during school hours was against the rules. "But what about your mom? Won't she be there?" Abbey asked.

"Nope. She's at work today," Laurel said.

Abbey knew that leaving the school grounds was wrong, but Laurel was the first person in her class to pay any attention to her, and she desperately wanted to have her as a friend. If she refused to go, Abbey was afraid Laurel might make fun of her. Then she'd never have any friends.

Abbey looked down at her CTR ring. She

remembered her Primary teacher saying that even though it can be hard to choose the right sometimes, Heavenly Father blesses us when we do.

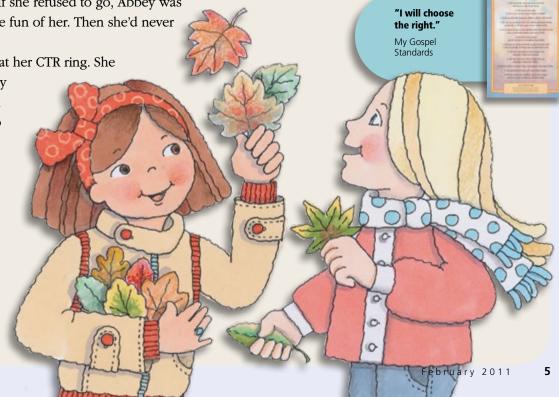
"Sorry, Laurel,"
Abbey said. "I can't go with you. It's against the rules." Abbey looked at Laurel expectantly, waiting to see how she would react.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY JULIE F. YOUNG

Instead of getting angry, Laurel just shrugged her shoulders. "Oh, well. I thought you'd probably say that," Laurel said. "Maybe instead I could ask my mom if you could come over tomorrow after school. Then we can still have some of those cookies."

Abbey grinned. "That sounds great," she said. "Hey, do you want to go collect some leaves for next week's art project?"

Laurel nodded, and the two new friends skipped back to the big tree.



President Boyd K. Packer, President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, shares some of his thoughts on this subject.



Why is it important to read the scriptures?

A knowledge of the scriptures is important. From them we learn about spiritual guidance.

Everywhere in the world, humble members draw inspiration from the scriptures to guide them through life.

Anyone, anywhere, could read in the Book of Mormon and receive inspiration.

Plain and precious insights are everywhere in the Book of Mormon.

When you feel weak, discouraged, depressed, or afraid, open the Book of Mormon and read.

From "The Book of Mormon: Another Testament of Jesus Christ-From "The Book of Mormon: Another Testament of Jesus Christ—Plain and Precious Things," Ensign, May 2005, 7–8; "On Zion's Hill," Ensign, Nov. 2005, 70, 73.

Ong in a Million!





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At home after home they received the same answer, but at the Hansen home Sister Hansen invited the young men inside. She placed two dimes and a nickel into Ross's hand.

"We feel so blessed that Brother Hansen still has his job," she said. "I'm sure someone can use this money."

As they left, Ross opened his hand and looked happily at the three silver coins. He dropped them into his pocket. After stopping at a few more homes, Ross hurried home.

"Look what I have!" he yelled as he rushed into his house.

Mother came into the room. Ross reached into his pocket and pulled out a dime and a nickel. He reached back into his pocket for the other dime, but he couldn't feel it. He took off his mitten and reached in again. It wasn't there.

"I lost a dime," he said, almost in tears. "What am I going to do?"

"Let's pray for help," Mother said.

They knelt together, and Mother prayed that Heavenly Father would help them find the dime.

As they stood, Mother took Ross by both hands, looked into his eyes, and said, "Ross, listen carefully and do exactly what I say.

Follow your tracks in the snow back to where you put the money in your pocket. Look carefully until you find a small hole in the snow. When you find the hole, gently brush away the snow and you will find the dime."

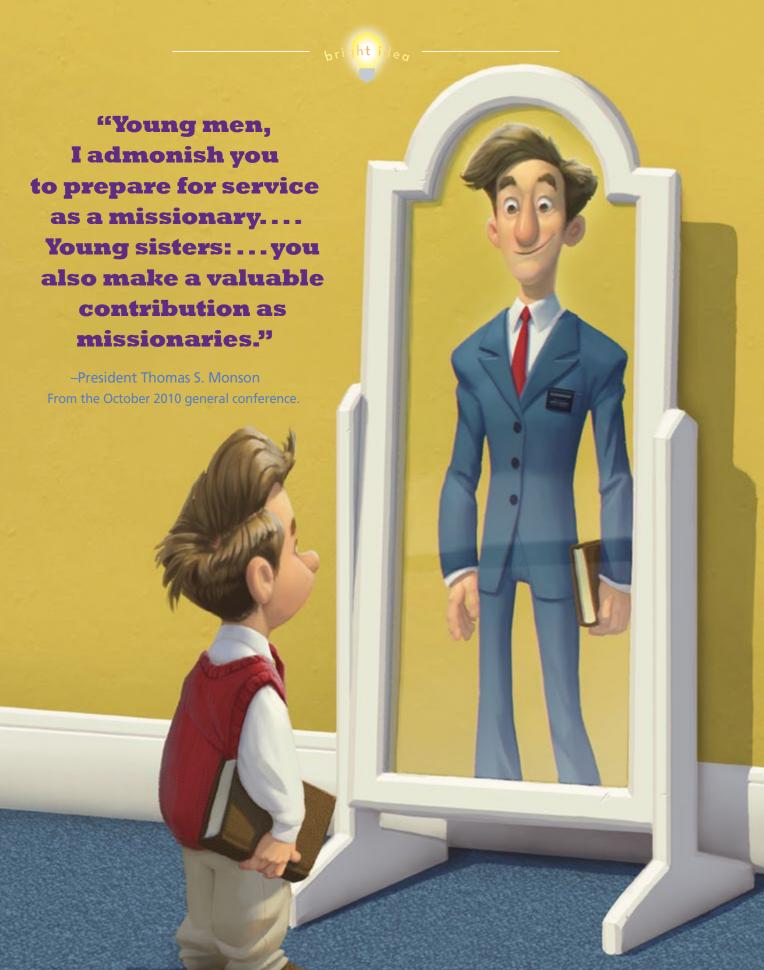
Ross hurried outside. It was easy to follow his tracks, and he was soon near the Hansen home. "I think it was here that I put the money into my pocket," he thought.

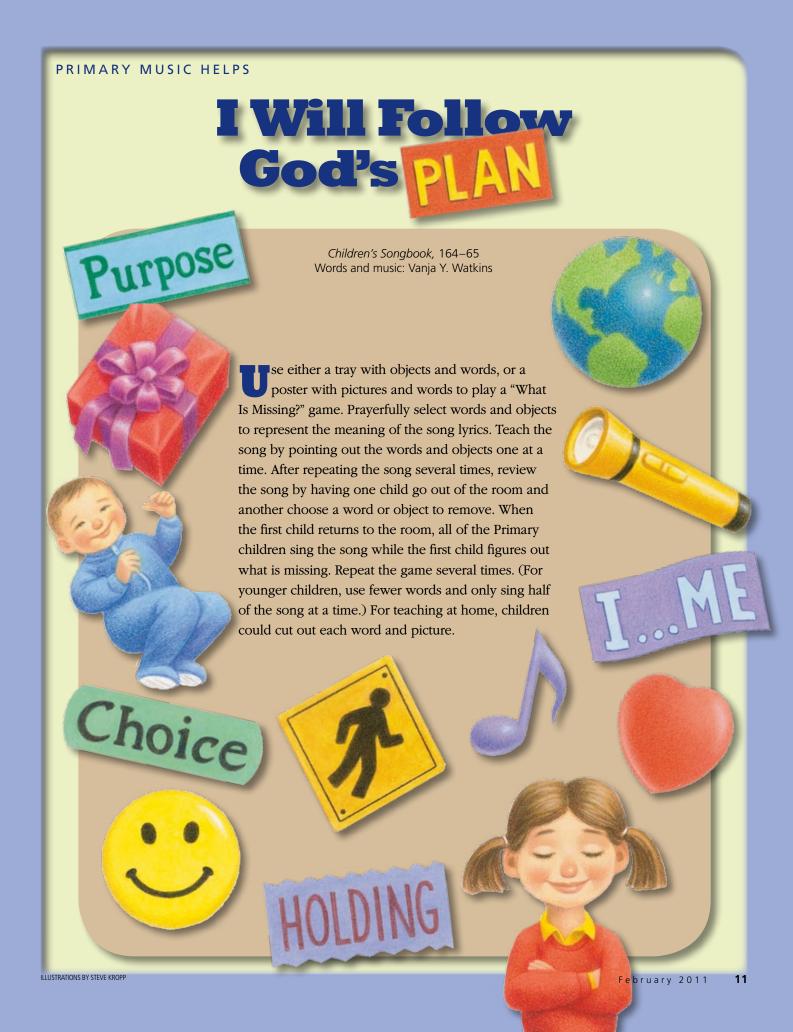
Looking around, he found a small hole in the snow. Carefully, he started to brush the snow away. Soon there was a silver sparkle, and there was the dime, just as his mother had said.

Ross held the coins tightly in his hand as he walked to the bishop's house. He delivered the 25 cents and then hurried home.

"Mother, I found the dime, just like you said," he said as he ran into the house. "And now I know that Heavenly Father heard and answered our prayer."







Bulletin Board

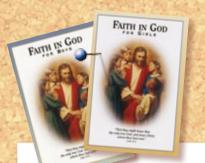


Dear Mom

Box of

Each week in February, hang this box of love on a different family member's door. Throughout the week, put things in the box that tell or show your love for that person. You can leave a note, a drawing, or a small treat. If you like, invite other family members to add to the box and share the love!

- 1. Cut off the top flaps of a small cardboard box, such as a small cereal box.
 - 2. Cut out a piece of colorful paper or wrapping paper the same height as the box. Wrap the paper around the box and secure with tape or glue.
- 3. Punch a hole near the top of the two narrow sides.
 - 4. Tie a ribbon or string through the two holes to make a handle to hang the box on a doorknob.





Faith in God Challenge

A "Developing Talents" activity

A budget is a plan that helps you use your money wisely and save it for what is most important to you.

Step 1: For two weeks, write down all the money you get and spend.

February 2011

Money Received

\$3-for feeding neighbor's dog \$10-for babysitting

Money Spent

\$.30-tithing

\$1-tithing

\$6-beads

\$2-ice cream

\$3-donation for earthquake relief

Step 2: Look at your lists. Did you pay tithing
First? Which things that
you spent money for were
needs? Which were wants? Mark each category in a different color.

Step 3: On another piece of paper, list things you need and a few important things you want. Think about how you can earn and save money for these things. If you spend your money wisely, you can also give to others who are in need.



This month, write about where you live. How many rooms does your home have? What color is it? Who else lives there? Do you share a bedroom with a sibling? What does your room look like? Write about your favorite place to be at home.





From Matthew 3; Mark 1:1–11; John 1:26–34.

Sign of the Dove

Joseph Smith said that the

symbol chosen before the world began that something was right or true. Long before

sign of the dove was a

Jesus Is Baptized

By Diane L. Mangum

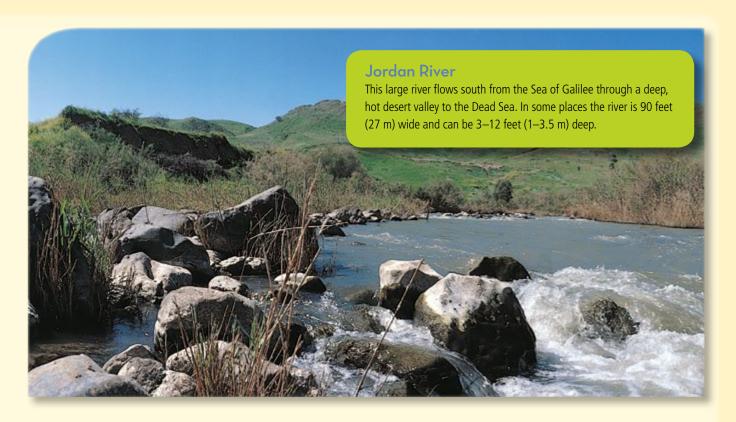
People squeezed in closer to John as the crowd grew. Many people wanted to hear the powerful preaching of this man who lived in the desert and wore clothing made of camel hair. John taught them about repentance and baptism for remission of sins. For months, people had been coming to the wilderness near the Jordan River to hear John. So many people asked him to baptize them that he soon became known as John the Baptist. John had received the Aaronic Priesthood when he was young, and it was his calling to prepare people to follow Jesus Christ.

he baptized Jesus, John the Baptist was taught that the sign of the dove would be a witness to him that Jesus was the Messiah.

mmersion

The word baptism comes from a Greek word that means "immerse." Immersion, or going completely under the water, symbolizes death, burial, and resurrection. The ordinance of baptism teaches us what Jesus has provided for us.

14 Friend ILLUSTRATION BY DAN BU



When Jesus was about 30 years old, he left his home in Nazareth and walked many miles into the wilderness to find John. John was a relative of Jesus.

John was surprised to see Jesus coming toward him. John told the people around him, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." John recognized Jesus as the Christ, the Savior of the World.

Jesus asked John to baptize Him. Humbly, John questioned this because he knew that Jesus was holy and didn't need to repent.

When Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens opened. John the Baptist saw a dove that represented the Spirit of God. John heard a voice from heaven say, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

When John heard the voice of Heavenly Father, he knew for certain that Jesus Christ was the Son of God and that baptism was very important.

After He was baptized, Jesus now was ready to go to the world and say, "Come, follow me."

Jesus explained that He needed to be baptized to fulfill all righteousness. He meant that He needed to follow all of God's commandments like everyone else. He also needed to show others what they should do. John then understood and agreed.

John and Jesus walked together into the water of the Jordan River. John baptized Jesus as he lowered Him under the water and brought Him up again.

ILLUSTRATION BY JARED BECKSTRAND





By Joshua W. Hawkins

(Based on a true story)

hanks for inviting me over, Jake,"
Britton said as he stepped outside
his friend's house. "I need to go home for
lunch now."

it had been a whisper (Helaman 5:30).

The friends waved good-bye as Britton headed down the dirt road he usually took to and from Jake's house. Then his eyes wandered over to the field he called "the Jungle." It didn't have any tropical plants or wild animals, just a small path through a sea of tall grass and dry weeds. It was the quickest way home.

Britton thought for a second and then quickly squeezed through the fence poles that surrounded the field.

Snap! Swish! Dry sticks and grass crackled as Britton tromped along the path. The hot sun on his back made his shirt feel sticky. Then a little breeze sprang up, and Britton decided to race the wind home.

The path narrowed. Britton knew a stream was up ahead, so he ran a little faster. Rounding a bend, he was about to leap across the stream when suddenly he heard the word **Stop!**





Instantly Britton came to a halt and listened. All he heard was the swishing of the grass in the breeze. Britton frowned. The voice had been quiet but perfectly clear, as if someone had whispered in his ear. But no one was in sight.

Britton shrugged and turned to jump over the stream. Then he froze. Right in front of his face shimmered a huge spider web stretching like a net across the path by the stream. In the center of the web waited a large spider.

For a few seconds Britton stared at the spider with wide eyes. Then he ran back along the path out of the Jungle. He decided to take the dirt road home after all.

"Mom! Mom! Guess what?" Britton burst through the door and rushed to find Mom. Between breaths he told her about his journey through the Jungle, the voice, and his face-to-face encounter with the spider.

"I was this close to it, Mom!" He held his fingers up to show her.

"Wow! That must have been creepy," Mom said.

"Where do you think the voice you heard came from?"

"I don't know," Britton said. "Nobody was there. Do you think it was just the wind?"

"Do you remember what we learned in family home evening about the still, small voice?" Mom asked.

"Yes. That's how Heavenly Father talks to us sometimes, right?"

Mom pulled the scriptures off the shelf next to the kitchen table and opened to the book of Helaman.

"Here's how the Lord's voice sounded to the Nephites," she said. "'It was not a voice of thunder, neither was it a voice of a great tumultuous noise, but behold, it was a still voice of perfect mildness, as if it had been a whisper'" (Helaman 5:30).

"Hey! That's what it was like—a whisper! I heard the still, small voice!"

Mom smiled. "Yes, you did. And you listened just the way you should have. I'm very proud of you."

Britton gave Mom a hug. Making her proud made him feel good inside. And knowing he had listened to the still, small voice made him feel even better.

"Our Heavenly Father is only a prayer away, and the Holy Ghost is within whispering distance."¹

Elaine S. Dalton, Young Women general president





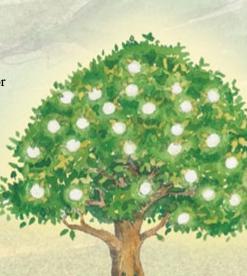
Sisters Should Share

Marilia and Nicole P. of Cuzco, Peru

By Adam C. Olson

Church Magazines

ike most sisters who are only 18 months apart, Marilia and Nicole P. of Cuzco, Peru, share a lot in common. Both of them love ceviche, a traditional Peruvian dish made with fish marinated in lime or lemon juice. They both say Lehi's dream is their favorite scripture story. And if "How Great Thou Art" were the only hymn in the hymnbook, they would both be happy singing it over and over again.



Marilia's Favorites

Favorite food: Ceviche

Favorite scripture: Lehi's dream (see 1 Nephi 8) Favorite hymn: "How Great Thou Art" (Hymns, no. 86) Favorite subject in school: Science

Nicole's Favorites

Favorite food: Ceviche

Favorite scripture: Lehi's dream (see 1 Nephi 8) Favorite hymn: "How Great Thou Art" (Hymns, no. 86) Favorite subject in school: Math

Favorite pastime: Volleyball



Favorite pastimes: Singing, dancing, and riding bikes



Sharing a Testimony of Prayer

Another thing they share is a strong testimony that Heavenly Father answers prayers.

"I know the Church is true because when I pray, He answers," says Nicole, who is 10. "When I ask Him for help, He helps me."

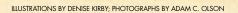
Nicole tells about a time when her friend got very sick and the doctors decided to fly her to Peru's capital city, Lima, because they didn't know how to treat her. "I didn't want her to go because she was my best friend," Nicole says.

"I asked Heavenly Father to bless her. He heard my prayer, and she was healed."

Marilia, who is 11, says the reason she loves the story of Lehi's dream is that when Lehi found himself alone in the darkness, he prayed "and the Lord answered."

"I know the Church is true because I feel it in my heart when I pray," she says. "God hears me, and when I request something, He answers."

Another reason they both love that scripture story is because Nephi and Sam were obedient.



Sharing Differences to Help Family

For all of their similarities, these sisters have some differences too. At school Marilia enjoys science, while Nicole prefers math. Marilia likes to dance, sing, and ride her bike. Nicole enjoys volleyball and likes animals.

Marilia is fascinated with cooking. She likes to watch cooking shows on television. Nicole spends time serving others, and she is quick to forgive.

The girls use their own traits



At about 11,000 feet (3.4 km) above sea level, Cuzco is one of the highest cities in the world. The city is about 900 years old, making it one of the oldest cities in the Americas.

and talents to help their family.

Marilia and Nicole live high in the Andes Mountains with their mom and dad, two younger sisters, and a younger brother. A love for their family is one of the most important things the two sisters share. And just as Nephi and Sam shared a desire to be obedient and help their family, Marilia and Nicole hope that their similarities *and* their differences will bless their family. •



Faith

By Sarah Cutler (Based on a true story)

The scriptures are laid before thee, yea, and all things denote there is a God (Alma 30:44).

aith lay on her bed and stared at the afternoon sunlight on her ceiling.

"Is there really a God?" she wondered. She wanted to believe her parents and Primary teachers when they said God was her Heavenly Father and He loved her. But she wasn't sure.

She rolled over and saw her scriptures on her nightstand.

"That's the perfect place to look for the answer," she thought.

Faith knelt down and prayed.
"Heavenly Father, I need to know if
Thou art really there. Please help
me find the answer."

Then she climbed back on her bed and opened her scriptures. They opened to 2 Nephi 2. She read in verse 13: "If ye shall say there is no sin, ye shall also say there is no righteousness."

Faith paused. "I know sin exists because I've done things that are wrong," she thought. "And I know righteousness exists because I've done good things too."

She continued reading: "And if there be no

righteousness there be no happiness. And if there be no righteousness nor happiness there be no punishment nor misery."

"I know happiness exists," Faith thought. "I felt happy just this afternoon when Mom and I watched a butterfly in the backyard. And I've felt miserable sometimes too."

Faith read, "And if these things are not there is no God. And if there is no God we are not, neither the earth; for there could have been no creation of things."

Faith looked up and said, "I exist. The earth exists. So if all these things are real, God has to be real too."

As Faith said these words, she didn't feel worried anymore. She felt like she wanted to run around the whole world and look at everything that existed. And she felt like she wanted to sit very still and feel close to Heavenly Father.

So she prayed again. "I know that Thou art real. I thank Thee for teaching me with the scriptures and with a peaceful feeling in my heart."

"The Holy Ghost confirms to us the word of God when we read it. That confirmation, repeated often, strengthens our faith."²

> President Henry B. Eyring, First Counselor in the First Presidency



funstuf

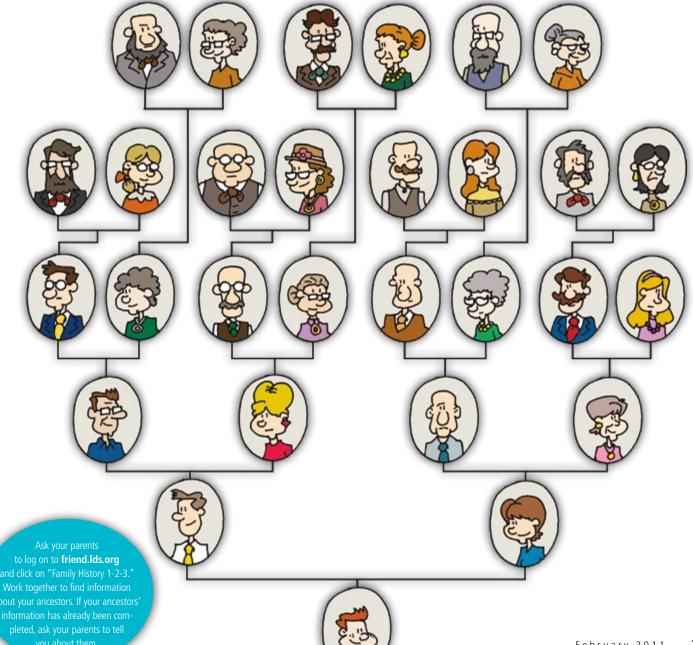
Family History Fun

By Arie Van De Graaff

Help the boy at the bottom of this family tree identify his ancestors, Michael Cowdell and Elizabeth Reese.

Michael Cowdell was bald and had facial hair and glasses. His wife wore a pendant around her neck. Elizabeth Reese wore earrings, but not glasses. She was married to a bald man with facial hair. Also answer these questions:

- 1. How many of the boy's ancestors wore glasses? ____
- 2. How many of the boy's ancestors had red hair? _
- 3. How many of the boy's ancestors had facial hair?
- 4. How many of the boy's ancestors were bald? ____



We believe that men will be punished for their own sins, and not for Adam's transgression.

o transgress means to break a law or a rule. When we do something wrong, we transgress. When Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden, Heavenly Father commanded them to not eat fruit from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Adam and Eve were tempted by Satan and ate the fruit. Heavenly Father cast Adam and Eve out of the garden because they transgressed.

All of Heavenly Father's children are given the agency to choose right or wrong. He has promised us blessings when we choose the right. Heavenly Father wants us to return to live with Him again. If we make bad choices, we need to repent and do better. But Heavenly Father does not make us repent for the bad choices that others make. We are responsible for our own actions.



5. We are responsible for our own 6. Adam and Eve had to leave this garden. 1. He tempted Adam and Eve. 2. We need to do this when we make a bad choice. 3. We can _____ right or wrong. 4. To break a law or rule. 5 6 **Good Choices** What are some of the good things that happen when you choose to do these things? What might happen if you choose not to do them? • Do your chores Say your prayers • Clean your room • Read your scriptures **Play Articles of Faith** • Eat healthy foods **Memory Quest at** • Take a shower or bath friend.lds.org!

• Take care of your pet

Solve the clues to fill in the puzzle with words about the second article of faith.





By Lindsay Stevens

ome children have a dad or mom who serves in the military or has a job that takes them far away. A parent may be away from home for months, or even years! These families are experts at staying unified. Some even use a webcam to have family home evening, family scripture study, and family prayer. With a parent far away, it is more important than ever to remember that families are forever.



Erin H., age 3, e-mails her dad special messages.



Ivy J., age 3, takes off a link of a paper chain to count down the days left until her dad comes home.





Samuel, Abigail, Madison, and Hailey B., ages 9, 7, 7, and 2, sent their dad a special birthday present. Each family member recorded their voices saying, "I love you," and put the recordings in a stuffed bear dressed like an army soldier. Whenever their dad got lonely, he could squeeze the bear and know how much his family loved him!



Melanie and Tommy P., ages 10 and 8, had their school classes draw pictures for their dad as a Christmas surprise. He got more than 100 Christmas cards!



Kobe T., age 9, talked to his dad over the webcam. He and his dad sent each other silly things (like funny wigs) and took pictures wearing them!



Twins Justin and Dasha P., age 6, helped bake a cake for their dad's birthday. They showed it to their dad on the webcam. He liked it so much he even tried to blow out the candles!



Oakley and Mya T., ages 3 and 1, watched videos of their dad reading books to them every night before bed.



Make Your Own Family Paper Chain

Even if you don't have a parent who works far away, you can help your family stay unified. Make your own paper chain to count down to a fun family activity! For each day, tear off one of the paper links and do that service. By the time your family celebrates, you will already feel closer to one another!







4. Take the second strip and loop it through the first strip. Then tape it into a circle.





ILLUSTRATIONS BY KATIE MCDEE Fe bruary 2011 **25**



funstuf

Word Puzzles By Chad E. Phares

Can you figure out what these word puzzles say? Find the answers on page 48.









1. Growing	a testimony
------------	-------------

۷.

STAND Pray to

MEKINDNESS





GIVE GIVE Others

Called SERVE

From an interview with
Elder James J. Hamula
of the Seventy;
by Erica Wolfe



Follow me,
and I will make
you fishers of men (Matthew 4:19).
hen I was a young boy, I often went

fishing with my family. We stayed in a cabin just north of Sun Valley, Idaho, right next to the Big Wood River.

That's where my grandpa and my dad first taught me to fish. But I learned more than how to fish on those trips.

Sometimes the fish wouldn't bite right away and I had to be very patient. Other days the fish wouldn't bite at all. I had to learn to work through disappointment when I didn't catch any fish. But it was always worth it when after a long wait I saw a fish on my line and reeled it in.

When I was 12 years old, I received my patriarchal blessing. I remember sitting in the patriarch's home as he gave me my blessing. I felt Heavenly Father's love for and His

knowledge of me. I learned that my life had a purpose and that I wanted to go the direction the Lord wanted me to go.

Following the Lord's directions, I went on a mission. Later, I served as a bishop, a stake president, and a mission president. Little did I know when I was a young boy that I would spend my life fishing not only for fish in the

stream, but for men too. Fishing on the river helped prepare me for the patience I would need, the disappointments I would experience, and the joy I would find in bringing people to the gospel of Christ.

Now I go with my own boys to teach them to fish. It's fun to help them learn about patience and working through disappointment. And I love seeing their joy when a fish is on the line and they can reel it in.

By Elaine B. Vickers

(Based on a true story)

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven (Matthew 5:16).

ee you later, Mom!" Trevor said as soon as sacrament meeting was over. Trevor couldn't wait to get to Primary. He walked as fast as he could toward his classroom.

"Walker, Ethan, wait up!" he called. Trevor's friends slowed down so he could catch up.

Trevor and his friends were always in a hurry to get to class. They liked being together, and their teacher, Sister Goodell, gave great lessons with stories and activities. After class, they liked to hurry to the Primary room



and sit in the little Sunbeam chairs before the leaders had a chance to put them away. Sister Dolan, the Primary president, would tell them to sit in the big chairs. The boys would tease her a little bit and shake their heads, then laugh and move to the back row. Trevor





loved all the familiar jokes, the familiar scripture stories, the familiar friends, and the familiar songs of Primary.

But something was unfamiliar today. Somebody new was in his classroom—a quiet girl that Trevor had seen around school.

"Boys," Sister Goodell said, "This is Jana." Jana smiled shyly.

Sister Goodell smiled too and asked, "Jana, would you like to say the prayer?"

Jana looked embarrassed. "Sorry," she said quietly, "I don't know how."

Jana was quiet for the rest of the lesson. She didn't have her own scriptures, and she didn't know the answers to any of Sister Goodell's questions. Trevor wondered if Jana was worried because there was so much to learn.

"She can watch the rest of us to see how to act," he thought.

When class was over, Jana stayed close to Sister Goodell and went straight to the Primary room while Trevor and his friends got a drink. When Trevor walked into the Primary room, he was disappointed to see that the little chairs had already been put away. He and his friends would have to wait until next week to play their favorite joke. He sat down near Jana so she could watch him and see what to do.

He was surprised when Sister Dolan said, "Before

we start, I want to thank Jana for being such a great example. She came in and helped me put away the little chairs without even being asked."

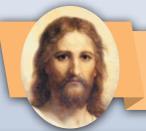
Suddenly Trevor felt embarrassed. He realized that his favorite joke wasn't very reverent and probably wasn't very funny to Sister Dolan. He watched Jana during sharing time and noticed that she listened quietly when Trevor would have been playing with the bookmark in his scriptures or whispering to his friends. During singing time, he noticed that even though Jana didn't know the songs, she had learned some of them by the end because she paid such close attention. When it was time to go, Jana walked up to Sister Dolan and told her that she liked her sharing time lesson. Trevor had never done that, not ever!

Trevor thought about Primary and Jana's example for the rest of the day. Jana was helpful. She was reverent. She was thoughtful. She understood what to do at church better than Trevor did, and she had never come before. Trevor knew that he still had a lot to learn in Primary. He hoped Jana would come back soon and they could learn it all together. •

"Be an example; be an influence for good."³
President Thomas S. Monson



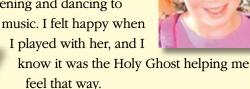
ILLUSTRATIONS BY MATT SMITH Fe bruary 2011 **29**



Trying to Be Like Jesus

Being a Friend

ne time my friends came over with their little sister. My friends started playing a really fun game on the trampoline. They said their little sister could not play. So I went inside and played with her. We had lots of fun listening and dancing to



Sabrine G., age 6, Washington

A Movie Choice

ne day I was going on a hike with my friends. My friend's parents drove us to the hiking trail. On



the way, one of my friends wanted to watch a certain movie in the car. I knew it was a movie I shouldn't watch. I asked if we could watch another one that I would be more comfortable with. My friend's mom put on another movie instead. I'm glad that I chose the right.

Daniel G., age 11, California

School Honesty



ne day at school my friend and I were playing with some plastic worms that we use for math.

My friend said, "Let's take some home because they're so cute." I said, "No thanks," and walked away.

I am happy that I didn't steal.

Hyrum O., age 8, Wisconsin

Party Decision



n the school bus, a friend invited me to his birthday party. I thought for a couple of min-

utes, and then I told him I couldn't go because the party was on a Sunday, and Sunday is the Sabbath day. After that, I felt good inside. I didn't need to ask my parents because I could make the decision all by myself. I will always remember that experience.

Zachary L., age 9, Missouri

Tell us how you're trying to be like Jesus. Turn to page 48 to find out how to send us a letter.

Praying for Kindness

very night I pray and ask Heavenly Father to help me be kind to my brothers and sisters. I try to be good to



them, but then there are times when I lose my temper. But after I get angry I feel sorry and tell them that I am sorry. I am really trying to be kind to my family.

Krystol O., age 10, Idaho

Healthy Advice

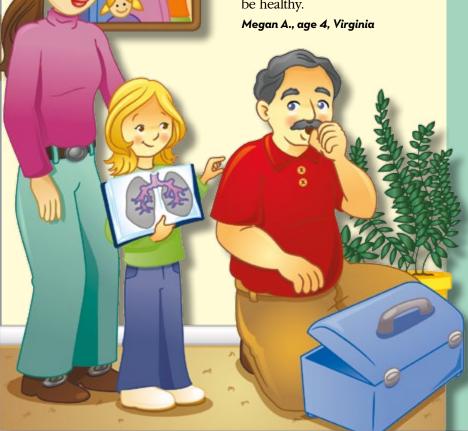
y mom and I were reading an encyclopedia about the human body. I was very interested in the pictures of two sets of lungs. One showed the lungs of a

healthy person, and the other showed the damaged lungs of a person who smoked. Two days later some men came to our home



to replace some carpets. I noticed one of the men smoking outside our home. Several times I heard him cough as he worked. I wanted to show him the picture of

the lungs. When he was alone, my mom and I talked to him. I showed him the picture of the damaged lungs, and my mom told him that I was sad that he was smoking. The man smiled at me and said thank you. I felt good inside, and I hope he stops smoking so his lungs can be healthy.



I Can Be a Missionary Too

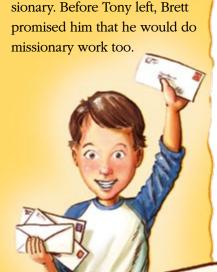


By Estherlynn Kindred Lee

(Based on a true story)

Therefore, if ye have desires to serve God ye are called to the work (D&C 4:3).

1. Brett was excited. He had just gotten a letter from his big brother Tony. Tony was a missionary. Before Tony left, Brett promised him that he would do missionary work too.



3. Mom, I want to serve others so I can do missionary work like Tony. What can I do?

Dear Brett,

Did you know that when you serve others,

Did you know that when you serve others,

Wait wait

You are doing missionary work? I can't wait

to hear about all the missionary work you

to hear about all the missionary work.

are doing.

Tony





HELPS FOR PARENTS

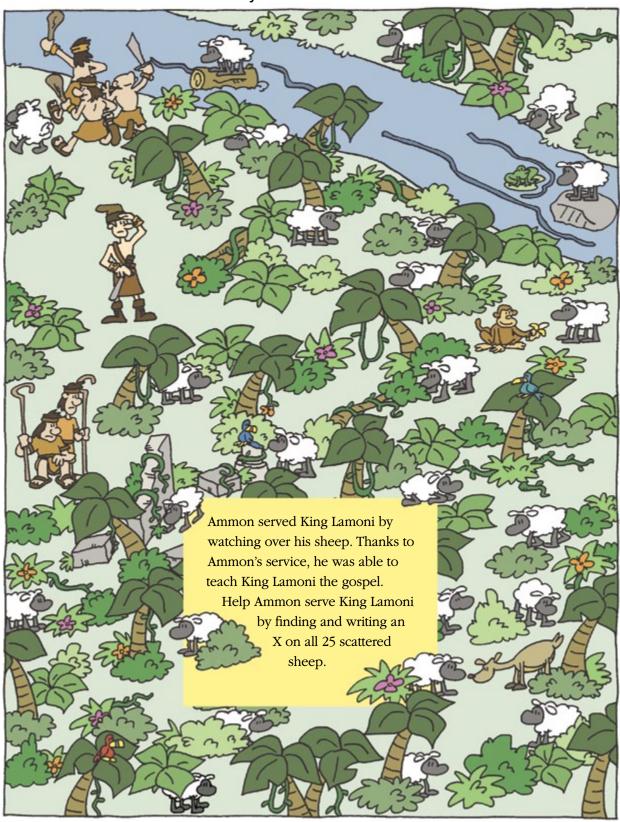
- Show your children a picture of Ammon protecting King Lamoni's sheep and tell the story (see Alma 17–18). Explain that Ammon's service gave him an opportunity to share his testimony, just as Brett's service in the story helped him share the gospel. Do the "Finding King Lamoni's Sheep" activity on page 34.
- Make a list with your children of things they can do to be missionaries. Help them set goals to accomplish some of the items on the list.



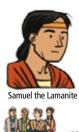


Finding King Lamoni's Sheep

By Arie Van De Graaff



Samuel the Lamanite



was a prophet. He went to and told the wicked to repent. The











made leave. started to walk back to his own in . The Lord







told to return to and say the things the Lord would put into his. The









would not let into into climbed to the top of the city.







told the they needed to repent and that Jesus would be born in years.







said a new would appear when Jesus was born. told the that





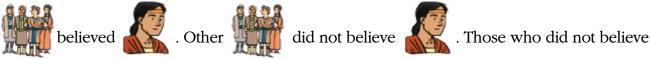






























February 2011





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

'm too excited to sleep,"
Malia said as Mom pulled the
soft blankets up to Malia's chin.
"I know," Dad said with a
smile. "I am too."

"I think it's going to be even harder to sleep tonight than it was on Christmas Eve!" Malia squirmed with excitement under her blankets, and her parents laughed.

"What story would you like?" Mom asked. "My story!" Malia said.

Dad walked over to the dresser and picked up

Malia's treasure box. It used to be a shoebox, but Malia decorated it and put all her special things in it. Dad handed the box to Malia, who pulled out three pictures.

Mom took the first picture and held it as she began the story.

"Your dad and I had been married for several years. We were very

happy, but we wanted to have children. The doctors said that would not be possible," Mom said.

"But that wasn't true!" Malia said.

Mom smiled. "No, it wasn't. One day, the phone rang. It was the call we had been waiting for. A young woman had chosen our family to adopt her baby because she wasn't able to care for her."

Mom held up the first picture. A young woman with long, dark hair and blue eyes smiled at the camera. She was Malia's birth mother, and she had chosen Malia's parents to adopt her baby.

"When your birth mother handed you to me, it was the most special moment of my life. I could see her love for you in her eyes, and I immediately loved you too," Mom said.

"When I held you for the first time I knew you belonged in our family," Dad said.

Malia smiled. It felt so good to be loved. She handed the second picture to Dad.

"It took six months for the judge to make the adoption final, and we went to the temple as soon as we could," Mom said.

In the second picture Malia was wearing a delicate pink dress, sitting on her parents' laps and laughing. Mom and Dad were smiling down at her and the temple shone in the background.

"After the sealing ceremony, the temple sealer told us that if we chose to keep the commandments, we would be a family forever," Mom said.

Malia wanted to live righteously so she could be with her family forever.

Then Malia held up the last picture. "Can I tell this part?" she asked.

"Of course," Mom said.

The last picture showed a tiny baby girl wrapped in a fuzzy pink blanket. The baby's eyes were closed, and she wore a tiny hat.

"We have wanted to welcome another child into our family for a

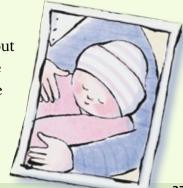
long time," Malia said. "Today we got a special phone call from the social worker. I'm going to have a sister!"

"That's right, and we'll see her tomorrow!" Mom said.

"It's more exciting than Christmas Eve," Malia said again, and she snuggled into her pillow.

"I know just how you feel," Dad said.

Malia watched Dad put the pictures back in the box. Someday soon she would make a treasure box for her new sister too.



God's Creations

From the big old sheep To a baby chick's peep, They were made by God, Even peas in a pea pod.

From the water near land To the dry, hot beach sand, The difference of dark and light, Even the day and the night!

The making of water, The sun that is hotter, Even your face Was made by God's grace.

The petal of a flower Was made by His power, The squawk of a hen, The lions in a den.

The rain, snow, and hail, No, God didn't fail. He made the moon and sun. Wouldn't making the world be fun?

Asia F., age 10, Nevada

Celestial Family

A celestial family Is what we aim to be, But sometimes we can't see Who we need to be.

Then we turn to prayer And all our hearts we share. Together our burdens we bear Until our celestial family is there.

Tyler B., age 10, Iowa

I Feel the Spirit

I feel the Spirit when I am dipped into the water, And I feel warm and happy right away. I have waited for this since I was a toddler. My Heavenly Father guides the way. I felt peace in my heart when I received the Holy Ghost. I like when I got the Holy Ghost the most.

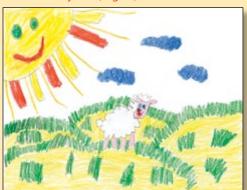
Dallan H., age 9, Utah



Sariah P., age 7, Georgia



Katelynn B., age 9, New Mexico

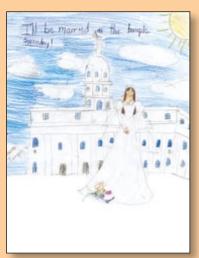


Victoria B., age 7, Germany



Victoria V., age 11, Utah

Would you like to send us a poem or drawing? Turn to page 48 to find out how.



Adelaide J., age 9, Alabama



Melia W., age 10, Washington



Adeline P., age 6, Idaho



Riley D., age 8, Massachusetts



Harrison R., age 9, Idaho



Trey R., age 7, Utah



Gregory F., age 10, Wyoming



Dylan R., age 6, Oregon



Hunter R., age 5, Colorado



Enoch P., age 11, Texas February 2011

You can use this lesson and activity to learn more about this month's Primary theme.

The Scriptures Teach of Heavenly Father's Plan

This is my work and my glory—to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man (Moses 1:39).

By Ana Maria Coburn and Cristina Franco



when we go to a town that we haven't been to before or when we go on a trip, we have maps to help us get there. These maps can guide us and help us not get lost.

Heavenly Father prepared "maps" to guide us through life. These "maps" are the scriptures. They are sacred books that help us understand why we are here on earth and how to return to Heavenly Father's presence.

The scriptures teach that each of

us is a son or daughter of Heavenly Father and that we lived with Him before we were born. He created the earth for us to live on. He sent His Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to die for us and to help us when we make mistakes or when we are sad or lonely.

Heavenly Father gave us commandments to help us become like Jesus Christ. To follow God's plan, we need to repent when we do something wrong, be baptized, and receive the gift of the Holy Ghost to guide us every day. Heavenly Father's plan is a plan of happiness. He wants us to return with our families to live with Him and His Son, Jesus Christ.

Activity

Read each scripture reference on page 41 and draw a line to its matching picture. Your family could use these pictures to talk about the plan of salvation in family home evening.

40 Friend ILLUSTRATIONS BY CASEY NELSON

Celestial Glory



D&C 93:29

GENESIS 1:1

MOSES 5:4

3 NEPHI 17:18-24

3 NEPHI 22:13

ALMA 11:42

D&C 76:92-96





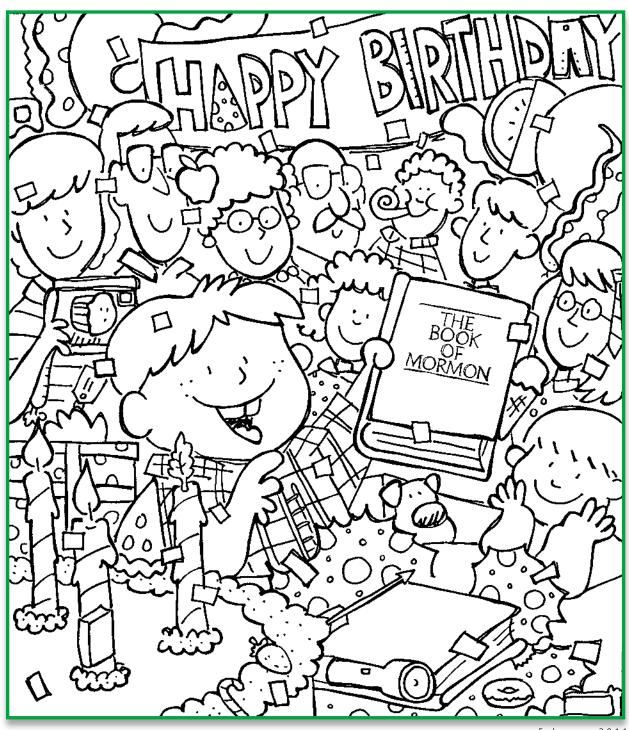






A Special Birthday Gift By Val Chadwick Bagley Gift

This boy got a Book of Mormon for his birthday. What else can you find in the picture? There is an apple, arrow, book, candy cane, carrot, cupcake, doughnut, flashlight, ice-cream cone, ladder, leaf, pants, party hat, ruler, saw, slice of pie, slice of pizza, slice of watermelon, snake, strawberry, tie, and toothbrush.



By Kimberly Reid

(Based on a true story)

Ev'ryone is needed for just what he can do. You're the only person who ever can be you (Children's Songbook, 142–43).

m I always going to look like this?" I groaned, staring into Raelynn's mirror. My freckled face stared back at me in dismay.

Raelynn was my best friend even though she was a little older than me. She was already in junior high, and she told me about makeup and which clothes were "cool."

Last summer, we used to pretend we were famous singers. We pretended our dolls were supermodels we had seen on magazine covers. We curled each other's hair and pretended we were customers in a fancy salon.

Now Raelynn acted more grown up.

Lately I was getting bored of pretending too, and the real person I saw in the mirror made me sad. My teeth seemed too big for my mouth, and my face was covered in splotchy freckles. Worst of all, I had hairy arms! Famous singers never had hairy arms.

Raelynn stood next to me and frowned at her reflection. "Maybe we'll be prettier when we grow up," she said.

I was surprised. Even Raelynn, who knew everything about being cool, did not feel pretty. Our moms often told us we were beautiful, but that didn't make me feel much better. Moms always say things like that.

When I turned 12 and started Young Women, I still felt ugly. Now I was even taller than my sixth-grade teacher! The boys in my class didn't let me forget it and often made fun of me.

One Sunday, my new Young Women leader stood up to teach. I stopped staring at my oversized feet and





Coloring Page



Jesus Christ created the earth for me.

For behold, this is my work and my glory, to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man (Moses 1:39).

Friends in the News



Winchester Hills First Ward

The Primary children of the Winchester Hills First Ward, St. George Utah North Stake, learned about our prophets, listened to stories, and sang songs. They pulled sticks, practiced handwriting, and threw baseballs.



Tyler M., 3, Illinois, likes listening to Primary music. By listening to songs, he has learned the Articles of Faith and the names of the latter-day prophets. He looks forward to learning even more music.



Ryan S., 5, Georgia, likes going to church, reading the Book of Mormon, and singing Primary songs. He teaches his baby brother and helps at home. He also likes to play baseball with his friends.



Jena E., 6, Idaho, has a gift of compassion. She likes to give hugs, flowers, and pictures to the people she loves. She is a peacemaker in her family.



Garrett C., 8, Colorado, likes to play basketball and go to Cub Scout activities. He looks for chances to bear his testimony to his friends.



Hallie K. and Mckinley G., 8 and 8, Colorado and South Carolina, are cousins. They were baptized on the same day in Idaho. They are thankful that they got to share that special day with each other and with their whole family.

Would you like to be a friend in the news? Turn to page 48 to find out how.



Rochester Second Ward

The Primary children of the Rochester Second Ward, Rochester Minnesota Stake, drew pictures for missionaries, helped clean the chapel and chapel grounds, and tied knots on fleece blankets for children in need.

BACKGROUND © GETTY IMAGES Fe bruary 2011 **4**.



Possible Ideas for Family Home Evening

1. Sing the song "Choose the Right Way" (Children's Songbook, 160-61) and read "Choosing to Choose the Right" (pages 4-5). Discuss the choice Abbey had to make. Sometimes choosing the right is hard to do. Why is it so important to Heavenly Father that we do what is right?

2. Read "Jana's Good Example" (pages 28-29). How was Jana a good example to Trevor? Have each person tell one way another family member sets a good example. Make a goal to be a good example during the next week. Have each family member report back at the next family home evening.

3. In the October 2010 general conference, President Monson talked about the importance of missionary work and serving a full-time mission. Read "I Can Be a Missionary Too" (pages 32-33). How does Brett find a way to prepare himself to serve a mission? How can each member of your family either prepare for a mission or perform member missionary work?

4. Use the "Bringing Primary Home" lesson and activity to learn more about this month's Primary theme (pages 40-41).



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Sidebar References

1. "At All Times, in All Things, and in All Places," Ensign, May 2008, 118.

2. "A Discussion on Scripture Study," Ensign, July 2005, 26.

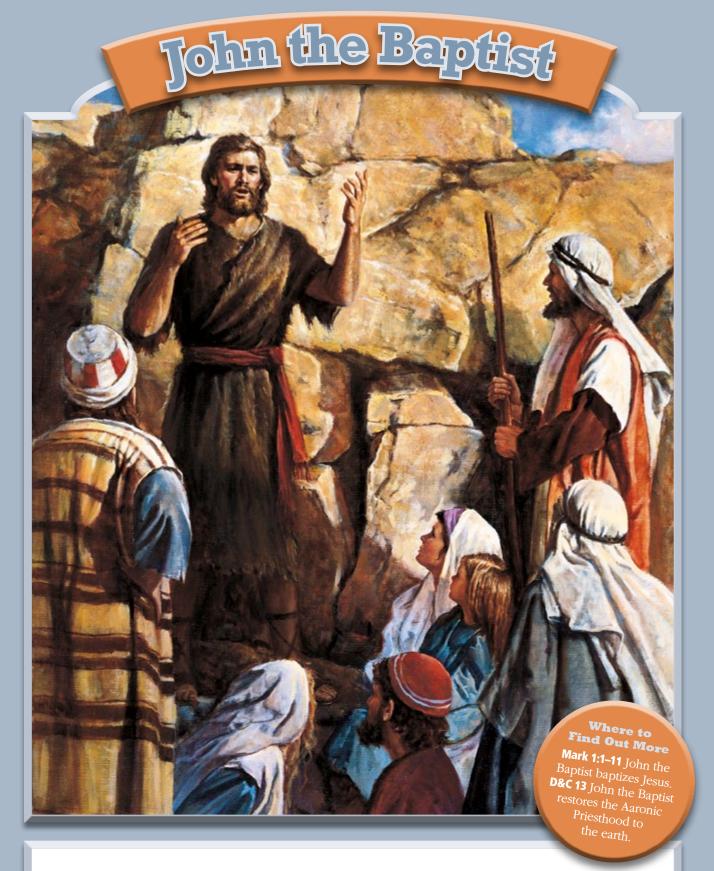
3. "Examples of Righteousness," Ensign, May 2008, 66.

4. "To Young Women," Ensign, Nov. 2005, 29.

Funstuf Answers

Page 21: Michael Cowdell: third row from the top, third person from the left. Elizabeth Reese: second row from the top, third person from the right. 1) 14, 2) 2, 3) 8, 4) 7. Page 26: 2) Choose the right, 3) Children all over the world, 4) Pray to understand, 5) Kindness begins with me, 6) Families can be together forever, 7) There is beauty all around, 8) Forgive others, 9) Called to serve, 10) Stand up for truth.

Age



John the Baptist was called by God to prepare the way for Jesus Christ. He devoted his life to teaching others about Christ. At the beginning of His ministry, Jesus came to John the Baptist to be baptized. You can follow the example of John the Baptist by sharing the gospel with family and friends.

What's online this month?



friend.lds.org

For Children



watch videos Children can follow the prophet's counsel and prepare themselves for serving missions in their own ways. Click For Little Friends on friend.lds.org to watch a video about how Brett followed his missionary brother's footsteps in serving others.

SCRIPTURE POSTERS

Click on **Scripture Posters** at friend.lds.org to print the Captain Moroni and John the Baptist scripture posters. A new scripture poster will be added to the archive at the beginning of each month in 2011.

For Parents

ONLINE STORE Find materials to use in your home or for Church at the online store. Visit store.lds.org.

MILITARY RELATIONS

In this issue you can read the article, "Sharing Love with Families Far Away."
Learn more about Church members serving in the military by visiting lds.org/pa.
Click on More Callings/Programs and then on Military Relations.



For Teachers and Leaders



BRINGING PRIMARY HOME The feature in the *Friend* formerly called "Sharing Time" is now called "Bringing Primary Home." It is designed to give parents ideas for how to reinforce the monthly Primary theme at home, but it may also be used as a supplemental activity for Sharing Time.

PRIMARY MUSIC HELPS

This feature can help Primary choristers teach songs for this year's Primary sacrament meeting presentation.

Visit lds.org/churchmusic to hear the songs.



