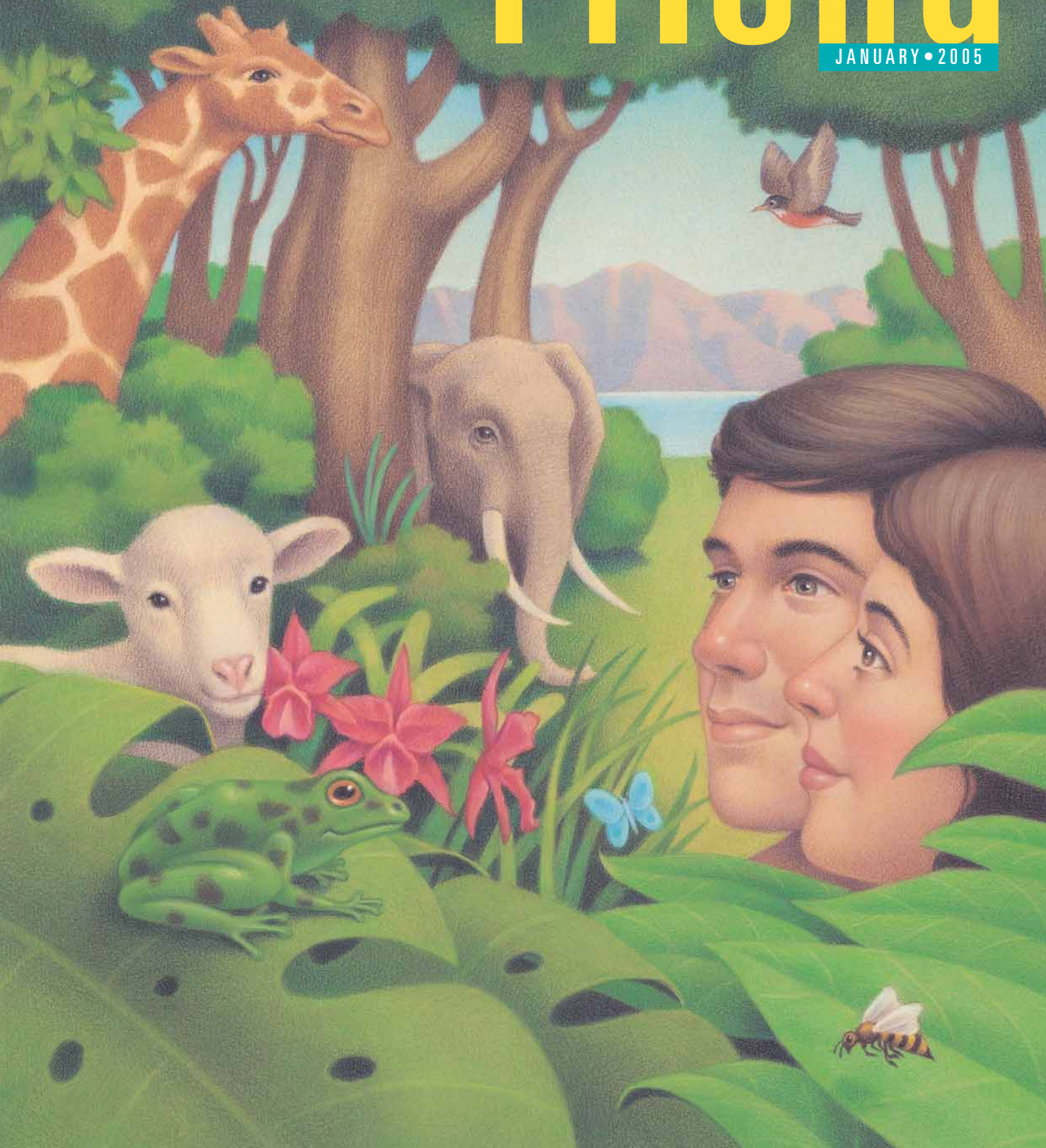


the Friend

JANUARY • 2005



Friends by Mail



Thirteen Answers to Prayer

For over a year I tried to memorize the Articles of Faith, but I was having a hard time because I'm deaf.

I worked on it every Sunday, but I just couldn't do it. I wanted to give up many times, but I kept on trying.

I decided I needed help, so I went into my room and knelt down and prayed to Heavenly Father. When I got up, I started trying to memorize the Articles of Faith again, and it was so much easier. I finished all 13. My mom was amazed at how well I had memorized them. I know now that whenever I need help I can pray to my Heavenly Father, and He will help me.

Sam McGrath, age 9
Mesa, Arizona



My Magazine

I love to look at my magazine—the *Friend*. I like to find pictures of Jesus and President Hinckley and show them to my family.

Lauren Blatter, age 3, with help from her family
Henderson, Nevada



A Warm, Tingly Feeling

It has always been hard for me to sit quietly and watch general conference at home with my family. Last April, my family and I attended conference in the Conference Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. We

arrived early and found our seats. I watched as hundreds of people began to file in and sit down. Many whispered quietly and waved to friends. All of a sudden, people began to stand, beginning on the far side of the Conference Center. It was like a slow, quiet wave. Soon I saw why. The prophet was slowly walking up a ramp,

heading toward his seat. You could have heard a pin drop. Everyone stopped what he or she was doing and watched as the prophet, President Gordon B. Hinckley, took his seat. A warm, tingly feeling came over me. The Spirit testified that this kind, wonderful man was a true prophet of our Father in Heaven.

I now look forward to watching each general conference with my family. It makes me happy to see the beautiful building, and it is fun to try to locate the seats where we sat. It is good to remember how I felt when I saw the prophet.

Taylor Osborne, age 11
Meridian, Idaho

Volume 35 Number 1
January 2005

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Stories and Features

IFC Friends by Mail

2 Come Listen to a Prophet's Voice: Born Again through Baptism / President
James E. Faust

4 The Light

8 Friend to Friend: Good Influences / Elder Shirley D. Christensen

10 Who Needs a Coat?

13 Called to Serve

14 Sharing Time: The Plan of Happiness

17 Friends in the News

18 From the Life of President David O. McKay: The Faith of His Parents

20 Graham Crackers, Grapes, and Goals

26 Our Creative Friends

28 Making Friends: Jairo Eli Xocop of Comalapa, Guatemala

31 Special Witness: Getting to Know Elder Jeffrey R. Holland

36 Grandma's Life Mission

40 Ben's Busy Day

44 Trying to Be Like Jesus

46 Matinee

IBC Guide to the *Friend*

For Little Friends

32 Keeping Christmas

33 Food for the Birds

34 Our Animal Friends

35 A Mouse in the House

Verse

7 The Creation

Poster

Insert I Will Follow God's Plan for Me

Things to Make and Do

23 Funstuf

24 Prayer

38 Family Memory Box

43 Our Beautiful World—Part of the Plan

Cover by Steve Kropp

the **friend**

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



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

HIDDEN CTR RING

Heavenly Father
has a plan for all of
His children, and we
can follow it by choosing
the right. In each issue
of the *Friend* this year, we
have hidden a picture of a
CTR ring. As you look for
the English CTR ring
hidden in this issue, think
of one way you can try to
become more like Heavenly
Father.



Born Again through Baptism

BY PRESIDENT JAMES E. FAUST

Second Counselor in the First Presidency



President Faust explains the importance of the first ordinance of the gospel.

The Savior taught us that all men and women must be born again. Our first birth takes place when we are born into mortality. Our second birth begins when we are baptized by water by one holding the priesthood of God and is completed when we are confirmed.

Some years ago Albert Peters told of the experience he and his companion had of a man being born again. One day they went to the hut of Atiati in the village of Sasina in Samoa. There they found an unshaven, misshapen man lying on a bed. He wanted to hear their message. They presented the first discussion, bore witness to him, and then left. As they walked away, they discussed Atiati's condition; he had had polio 22 years before that had left him without the use of his arms or legs, so how could he ever be baptized, being so completely disabled?

When they visited their new friend the next day, he was bright and clean-shaven;

even his bedding had been changed. "Today," he said, "I begin to live again, because yesterday my prayers were answered. . . . I have waited for more than 20 years for someone to come and tell me that they have the true gospel of Christ."

For several weeks the two missionaries taught this sincere, intelligent man. He asked them to fast with him so that he would have the strength to go down into the water and be baptized. The nearest baptismal font was eight miles (13 km) away. So they carried him to their car and drove him to the chapel. Then Elder Peters and his companion picked up Atiati and carried him to the font. Atiati said, "Please, put me down. This is the most important event in my life. I know without a doubt in my mind that this is the only way to eternal salvation. *I will not be carried to my salvation!*" So they lowered Atiati to the ground. After a huge effort, he managed to pull himself up. The man who had lain 20 years



without moving was now standing. Slowly, one shaky step at a time, Atiati went down the steps and into the water, where the astonished missionary took him by the hand and baptized him.

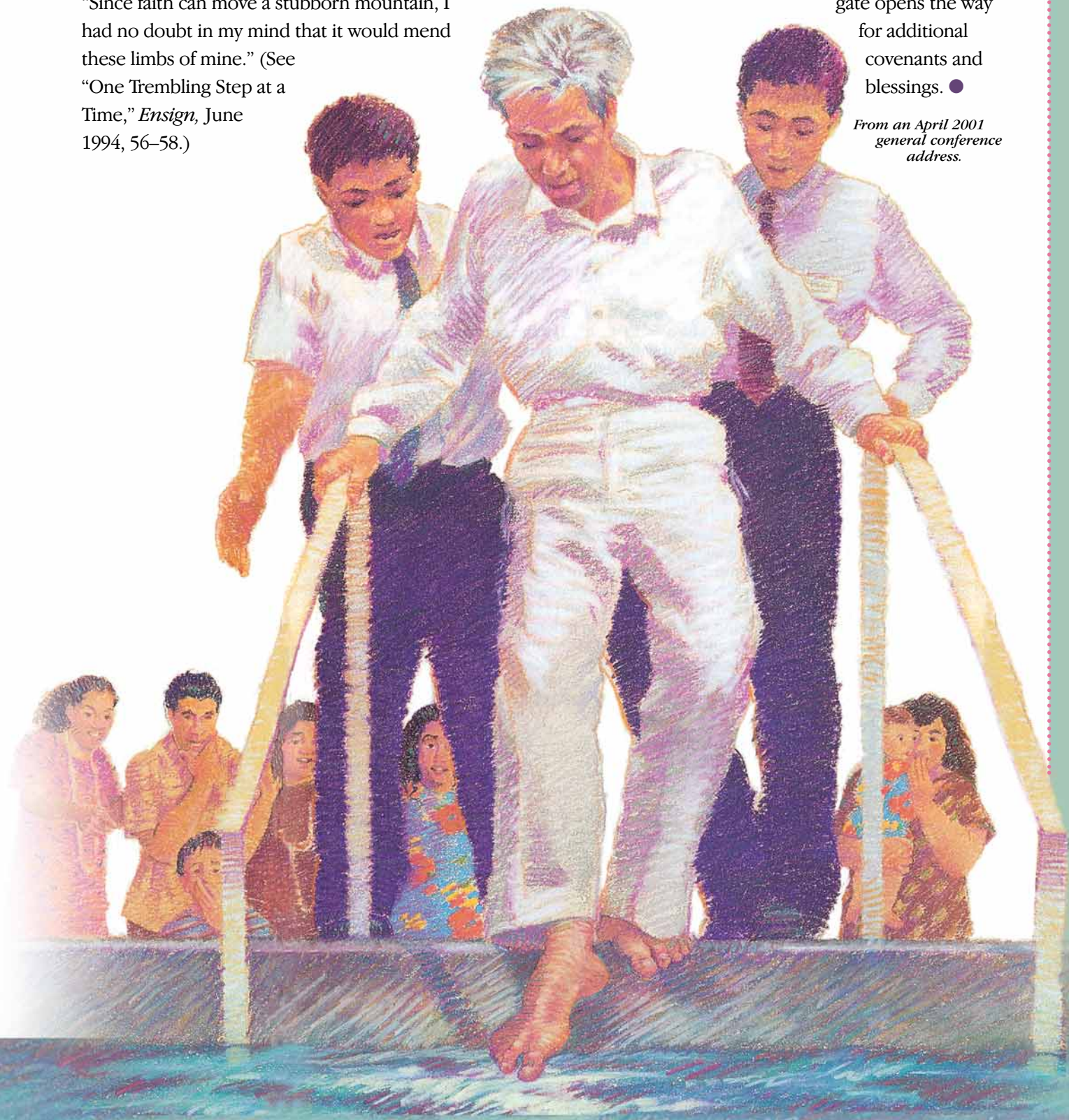
He told Elder Peters that he knew that he would be able to walk on the morning of his baptism. He said, “Since faith can move a stubborn mountain, I had no doubt in my mind that it would mend these limbs of mine.” (See “One Trembling Step at a Time,” *Ensign*, June 1994, 56–58.)

I believe we can say that Atiati was truly born again!

Like Atiati, when we are baptized, we are spiritually born of God and are entitled to receive His image in our countenances. As Nephi said, baptism is the gate, “and then cometh a remission of your sins by fire and by the Holy Ghost” (2 Nephi 31:17). The baptismal

gate opens the way for additional covenants and blessings. ●

From an April 2001 general conference address.







The Light

BY BO PEDERSEN

(Based on a true story)

For I am God, . . . and I will show miracles, signs, and wonders, unto all those who believe on my name (D&C 35:8).

“Is Dad coming home tonight?” Benjamin asked. Dad worked as a sailor off the coast near their home in Denmark.

“No,” Mom said, “he will be home in four days.”

Dad had promised Benjamin that they could play football when he returned. Benjamin missed Dad.

“Before I go to bed tonight, I’ll pray that he will come home safely,” Benjamin thought.

Benjamin’s dad stood on the ship in the freezing rain, hurrying to finish his work before the evening meal. Feeling tired and cold, he thought of his family back at home.

Suddenly, an enormous wave rocked the ship. Supplies clattered to the floor as sailors shouted in confusion. The captain peered out into the darkness and couldn’t see Benjamin’s dad on the deck anymore.

“Man overboard!” he shouted.

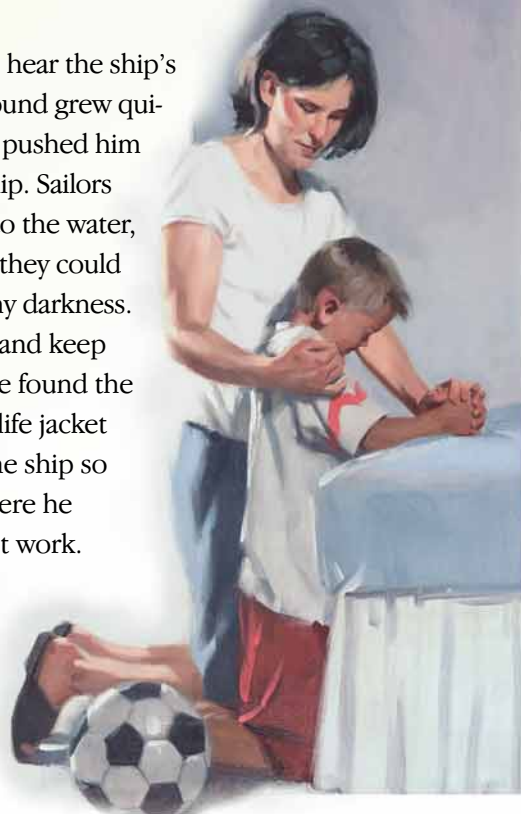
Later that evening Benjamin watched Mom pile the dinner dishes in the sink. As she scrubbed she looked out the window into the garden. Trees swayed in the fierce wind. Benjamin saw the worried look on his mother’s face and felt worried, too. Would Dad be all right out in this storm?

Benjamin’s dad could hear the ship’s alarm ringing, but the sound grew quieter as the strong waves pushed him farther away from the ship. Sailors tossed life preservers into the water, hoping to save him, but they could not see him in the stormy darkness.

He tried to stay calm and keep his head above water. He found the flashlight clipped to his life jacket and pointed it toward the ship so the sailors could see where he was—but the light didn’t work.

On board the ship, the captain radioed for help. Soon a helicopter hovered over the ocean, shining a spotlight down

“Please protect Dad and bring him home safely to Mom and me,” Benjamin prayed.



onto the huge waves.

“We can’t find him,” the helicopter pilot radioed to the captain. The captain fought back tears, fearing the worst for his friend. “But we’ll try again,” the pilot decided. He was afraid the helicopter would run out of fuel, but he knew he was the lost sailor’s last hope.

Benjamin’s dad was getting colder and colder. His teeth rattled as he clutched the broken flashlight in his numb fingers.

Back home it was Benjamin’s bedtime. Mom listened as, kneeling by his bed, he prayed, “Dear Heavenly Father, please protect Dad and bring him home safely to Mom and me.”

Benjamin’s dad saw a helicopter flying low. He tried to wave his arm, but he was so tired and cold he could hardly move it.

Then a voice in his mind said, “Turn on the light.”

“But it doesn’t work,” he thought.

“Turn on the light,” the voice said again.

“Why should I?” he mumbled as his stiff fingers fumbled with the switch. “Either the lightbulb is burned out or the batteries are dead.”

The helicopter came closer and closer. When it was almost directly overhead, Benjamin’s dad pointed the flashlight toward the sky and flipped the switch.

Just then the pilot saw a flicker of light in the water below.

“We’ve found him!” he

cried into the radio. The sailors aboard the ship cheered. Within minutes Benjamin’s dad was hoisted up into the warmth and safety of the helicopter. Wrapped in a blanket, he listened to the engine vibrate, imagining it singing, “Home to Benjamin, home to Benjamin!”

After the helicopter landed and an ambulance took Benjamin’s dad to the hospital, the helicopter pilot walked back to where Benjamin’s dad had been resting. There on the floor lay the flashlight. Curious, he picked it up and opened it. Two very old, rusty batteries fell out.

“These batteries can’t work,” he thought. “But if I didn’t see this light out on the ocean, what did I see?”

“God must have watched over this sailor,” he said out loud to his copilot, who was standing beside him. They both nodded in silence.



“Miracles—impossible to explain by rational means—occur as a result of obedience to the commandments of God.”

Elder Dallin H. Oaks of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “Miracles,” *Ensign*, June 2001, 9.

Benjamin’s mom suddenly felt happy. The worried feeling went away.

Opening Benjamin’s door a crack, she peeked into his room and saw that he was sleeping soundly.

Benjamin lay dreaming about the football game Dad had promised him. A warm feeling had assured him that Heavenly Father would answer his prayer and that Dad would be home soon. ●

Bo Pedersen is a member of the Allerød Ward, Copenhagen Denmark Stake.



The CREATION

BY LISA PHIPPS

On the first day God said, "Let there be light,"
And He separated the day and night.

On the second day God created sky.
He painted it blue with clouds floating by.

On the third day God made the land and seas.
He added green grass, bright flowers, and trees.

On the fourth day God made stars twinkle bright.
He made the moon for a little more light.

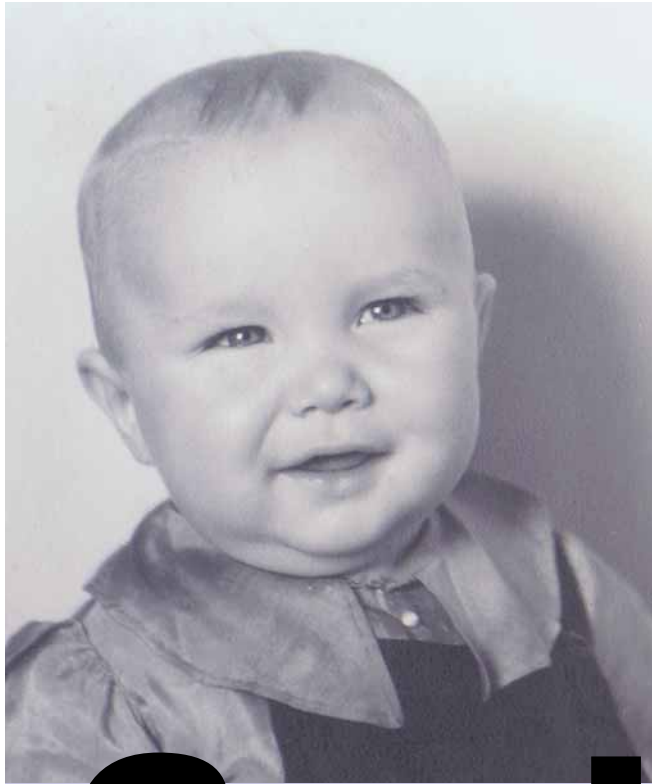
On the fifth day God made owls, ducks, and larks.
He filled the sea with whales, dolphins, and sharks.

On the sixth day God made creatures on land
Like deer, frogs, dogs, zebras, woman, and man.

On the seventh day God said all was blessed.
He smiled happily and took a rest.

(See Genesis 1:1–2:3.)

**Elder Shirley D. Christensen
as a baby**



**From an interview
with Elder Shirley D.
Christensen of the
Seventy, by Kimberly
Webb**

Good Influences

When I was a young boy, two Primary teachers had a great influence on me.

The first was Sister Weststein. She remained interested in us and our activities long after we left her class. As long as we were in the same stake, she stayed in touch.

The second was Sister Baker. Besides spending time in the classroom, we had a lot of activities. We went on hikes, had campfires, and roasted hot dogs. Her

husband owned an airplane, and we often went to the airport to watch him take off.

I still have pictures of those times, and they always bring back wonderful memories.

As I think about Sister Weststein and Sister Baker, I don't remember in detail what they taught us. But I remember the deep love they had for us and the great respect we had for them in return.

Other good influences in my life were the people I



As a missionary

knew when I attended college at Brigham Young University. I hadn't planned to attend BYU. When I graduated from high school, I wanted to play college football. I had already been contacted many times by an important university, which was encouraging me to play football there. But when the time came to commit myself to go there, all the encouragement stopped. I was devastated. I wondered why they had encouraged me so much only to suddenly change their minds.

Then one day I was out working on the farm with my family when someone ran out to tell me I'd received an urgent phone call. It was from the assistant football coach at BYU. When I called him back, he asked me to come play football there. I had never been to Provo. I didn't know anything about BYU. He invited me to visit the school before making my decision, but I knew I wouldn't have time because my family needed me to work on the farm. After thinking about it for a moment, I said, "OK, I'll come play for BYU. Just tell me what day you want me to be there, and I'll be there."

This sudden decision was a turning point in my life. Had I not met the bishop of my student ward, my friends, and my roommates there, I might not have decided to serve a mission. They were all good influences on me.

At the end of my second year playing college football, we had a coach who was not a member of the Church. He didn't understand why young men served missions, and he discouraged us from going. But a certain number of players committed to serve missions anyway. Thanks to the good examples around me, I was one of them.

Looking back, deciding to serve a mission turned out to be a wonderful blessing. It was one of the greatest decisions I've made in my life, and it contributed so much to the blessings and the testimony that I have now. I know that the Lord's hand was in all of the decisions I made throughout my life that allowed me to be influenced for good. ●



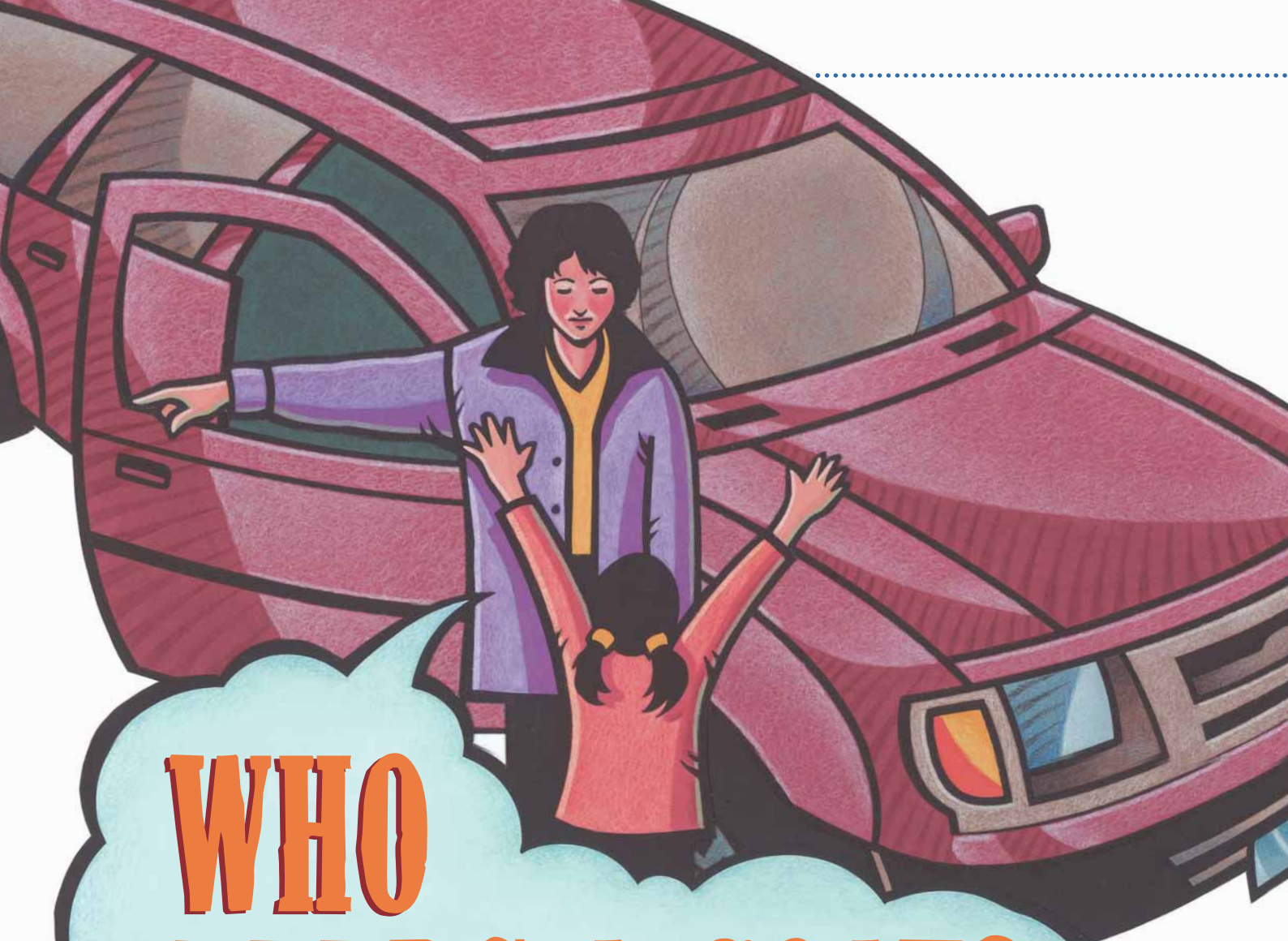
With his family in his early teens



With his daughter on her first birthday (above)



Elder Christensen with his wife, Geniel (right)



WHO NEEDS A COAT?

BY LANA KRUMWIEDE

(Based on an experience from the author's childhood)

I will tell you in your mind and in your heart, by the Holy Ghost (D&C 8:2).

No eight-year-old hated wearing a coat more than I did. Sure, a coat might come in handy on an Arctic expedition. But most of the time, I thought going coatless made a lot of sense. Who wanted to worry about finding a place to hang a coat and then get in trouble for leaving it behind?

I definitely didn't expect to need my coat that New

Year's Eve. My family would be driving to my grandparents' house and spending the night. I'd suffocate if I had to wear my big itchy coat for two hours, wedged in the backseat of the station wagon between my two brothers. Once we got to Grandma's, we would play board games until midnight and watch the parade on TV the next day. Then we'd sit down to eat Grandma's pork roast, homemade applesauce, and butter cookies. I would be indoors the whole time—no need for a coat.

As we piled into the station wagon, Mom went down her checklist. Maybe she wouldn't notice that I didn't have my coat. Yes, we remembered our toothbrushes. Yes, we packed our pajamas.

"Where's your coat, Lana?" She noticed!

"I won't need it. I won't be outside at all."

"Go get your coat. And hurry, please. It's already getting dark."

I dashed inside and yanked open the closet door. My warm winter coat and my jacket hung side by side. The jacket! Light, silky, and comfortable, it was the perfect solution. As I reached for the jacket, I had a feeling that I should wear the big coat instead.

I ignored the feeling. Surely I wouldn't need that stuffy old thing. The jacket would do just fine. Again something nudged me toward the heavy coat. Shrugging it off again, I snatched the thin jacket and ran to the car.

They were waiting for me with the engine running. Mom frowned when she glanced at my jacket, but Dad put the car in reverse and backed out of the garage.

Halfway into the trip, a thick layer of fog rolled in. The headlights turned the fog a milky white that was difficult to see through. My parents were tense and quiet. The mood spread to the backseat, keeping my brothers and me quiet, too.

Without warning, a pair of headlights appeared suddenly in front of us. In a shattering explosion of glass and metal, we crashed head-on into a pickup truck that had strayed into our lane. The noise was deafening, and the

silence immediately afterward was just as loud.

"Is everybody OK?" My father's strained voice was the first to break the stillness.

A shaky response came from my older brother. "I think so."

"All of you need to get out and stand in that field. I'll help Mom."

My brothers and I scrambled out of the backseat and stood on frozen mud next to the road. With Dad's arm around her, Mom limped over to us. A painful bump on the head had shaken her, but she seemed OK.

"Are you sure you're all right?" Dad asked us.



CRASH!

With wide eyes, we each nodded.

Dad looked each of us over before hurrying back to check on the man in the pickup truck.

My thin jacket was no match for the icy December air. Even huddled up against Mom, my shivers wouldn't

stop. I thought of my warm winter coat hanging in the closet back home.

stop. I thought of my warm winter coat hanging in the closet back home.

An ambulance came, then a police car. Voices squawked from the radio as the rotating lights dyed the fog red, then blue, red, blue. Dad came back and led us to the police car. We had shivered for over an hour in the bitter cold.

A police officer drove us to the hospital. The ambulance had already taken the other man. Dad got stitches in his hand, and the doctors examined Mom's head injury. She was OK. My brothers and I had a few bruises, but we knew it could have been much worse.

My grandparents picked us up at the hospital and took us to their house. When Grandma tucked me into bed and kissed me good-night, my body seemed to melt into the softness of the sheets. For the first time that

night, I felt warm and safe. I was exhausted, but I couldn't sleep. My thoughts drifted back to the moment when I had decided to bring my jacket. It dawned on me that the Holy Ghost had been telling me to wear my warm coat.

A few months earlier my grandpa had confirmed me a member of the Church, and I had received the gift of the Holy Ghost. I remembered the power in his hands when he placed them on my head. I had been so excited, so eager to hear what the Holy Ghost would say to me. Now I had ignored Him. My throat tightened as I fought back tears.

A new feeling came and took the tears away. I felt the love of my Heavenly Father. I knew He would help me through the difficult times in my life. He couldn't take away every bad thing, but He would help me if I let Him.

I moved the curtains above the bed aside just enough to see outside. The fog was as thick as ever. No stars tonight. I imagined the stars, the moon, the planets, the entire universe. The God of all creation had wanted to give me a warm coat tonight.

A tear slipped down my cheek. This time it was a tear of gratitude. I rolled out of bed and onto my knees. I needed to tell Heavenly Father that I was ready to listen and obey the still, small voice. ●

Lana Krumwiede is a member of the Boise Second Ward, Boise Idaho Stake.



"Be humble and willing to listen to the whisperings of the Spirit."

Elder Robert D. Hales of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Fulfilling Our Duty to God," *Ensign*, Nov. 2001, 39.



Called to Serve

On October 2, 2004, two new members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles were sustained in general conference.



Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf

Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf was born in Czechoslovakia in 1940. He grew up in Germany, where his family joined the Church when he was six years old. He joined the German Air Force and later received his wings in the United States

as a jet fighter pilot. For many years he was a pilot for Lufthansa German Airlines, rising to the position of chief pilot and senior vice president of flight operations. He was called to the Quorum of the Seventy in

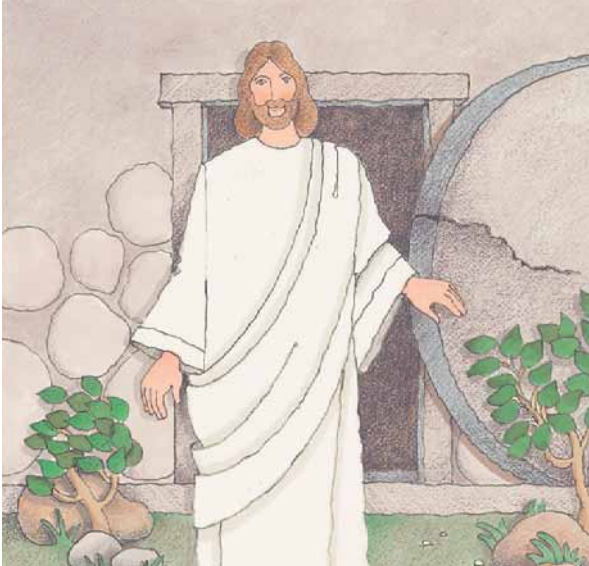
1994 while serving as a stake president. He and his wife, Harriet Reich Uchtdorf, have two children and five grandchildren. Elder Uchtdorf has said: “Go to Heavenly Father in prayer. . . . Draw close to Him, and He will draw close to you. . . . He is waiting, He is real, and He is there” (“Making Choices for Eternity,” *Ensign*, Oct. 2002, 29).

Elder David A. Bednar

Elder David A. Bednar was born in San Leandro, California, in 1952. He served a mission to Germany and earned degrees at Brigham Young University and Purdue University. He taught at Texas Tech University and the University of Arkansas, twice receiving the outstanding teacher award. He became the president of Ricks College in 1997 and oversaw the school’s change to BYU—Idaho. He has served as a bishop, stake president, Regional Representative, and Area Authority Seventy. He and his wife, Susan

Robinson Bednar, have three sons and three grandchildren. Elder Bednar has said, “The gospel of the Savior is not simply about avoiding bad in our lives; it also is . . . about doing and becoming good” (“In the Strength of the Lord,” *Brigham Young University Speeches*, 2001–2002).





The Plan of Happiness

BY MARGARET LIFFERTH

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



Many people want to know where they came from, why they are here, and where they are going. Heavenly Father's plan of happiness answers these questions.

Before we were born, we all lived together in heaven with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. We learned and grew as much as we could. But eventually Heavenly Father gathered all His children in a council and told us that to become like Him, we must leave heaven for a time. He would create an earth for us, He would give us the freedom to choose between good and evil, and He would show us the way to know what is good. He would provide a Savior so that when we sinned, we could repent and still return to Him.

We came to earth to gain a body and walk by faith.

We can't remember our home in heaven, but we can choose the right by following the example of Jesus, obeying our parents, and living My Gospel Standards.

After we die, we will all live again because of the Atonement of Jesus Christ. He overcame death through the Resurrection, and everyone will be resurrected. He also overcame sin, and those who have faith, repent, are baptized, receive the Holy Ghost, and keep the commandments will return to live with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. They will have the gift of eternal life, which is what the plan of happiness is all about.

Plan of Salvation Booklet

Remove page 15 from the magazine, and mount it on heavy paper. Cut along the solid lines. Glue the second strip to the tab on the first strip. Fold back and forth on the dotted lines.



Heavenly Father's Plan of Happiness for Me

(See Moses 1:39.)



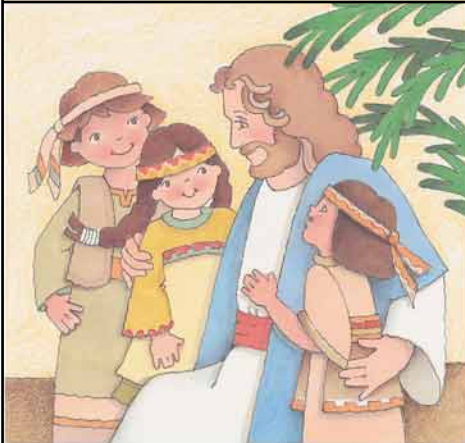
We lived in heaven with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ before we were born. (See Abraham 3:22–26.)



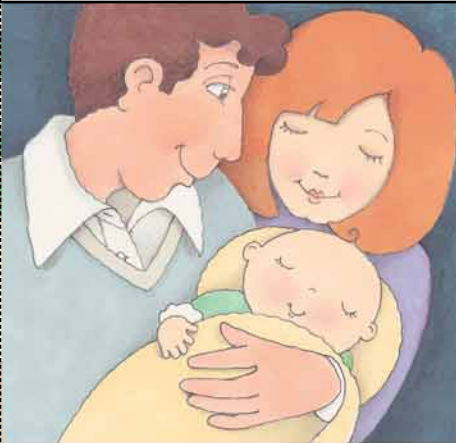
An earth was created. (See Moses 2:1–3:3.)



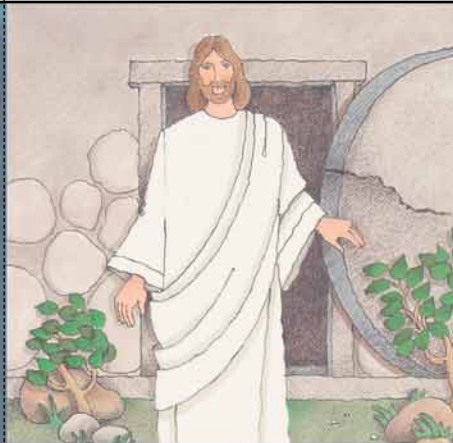
Adam and Eve and the Fall were a part of Heavenly Father's plan. (See Moses 4:6–5:12.)



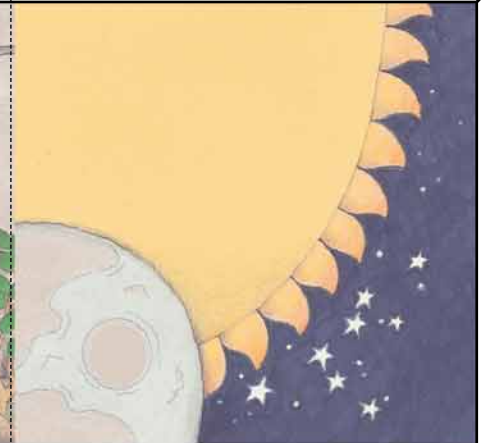
Jesus Christ came to earth. He is our Savior; He overcame the Fall. Because of Him, we can live again. (See Abraham 3:27–28.)



Coming to a family is part of Heavenly Father's plan. (See paragraphs 1–4 of "The Family: A Proclamation to the World," *Ensign*, Nov. 1995, 102.)



We will all die, and because of Jesus Christ, we will all be resurrected. (See Alma 11:42–45.)



When we follow the example of Jesus Christ, we can inherit the celestial kingdom. (See D&C 76:50–70.)

Glue

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I Will Follow God's Plan for Me



Before we were born, we lived in heaven with our heavenly parents. Heavenly Father wanted us to become more like Him, so He presented a plan. We learned that a new home called earth would be created for us where we could receive a physical body, be tested, and learn to choose the right and do good. Jesus Christ said He would be our Savior so we could repent of our sins and return to our heavenly home. If we placed our faith in Jesus Christ, obeyed His commandments, and followed His example, we would be happy. We joyfully chose to follow Heavenly Father's plan of happiness.

Reading the themes and scriptures on this year's poster and setting and working on a goal each month will help you learn more about Heavenly Father's plan of happiness and how to follow it.

Instructions

1. Turn the page, open the staples, remove the poster, and reclose the staples.
2. Cut out the pictures/goals and the "My Plans to Follow THE PLAN" pocket from the right side of the poster. Place the pictures/goals in an envelope. Cut slits along the two broken lines on the pocket. Fold the tabs to the back of the pocket along the solid lines. Leaving the top open, glue the side and bottom tabs of the pocket to the left side of the poster where indicated. Hang up the poster.
3. At the beginning of each month, read the theme and scripture listed for that month. Then find the appropriate picture/goal. Cut off the goal strip. Glue the picture in place on the poster. Now decide what you will do that month to follow God's plan, and write your goal on the strip. For example, the theme for February is "I am a child of God." For your goal you may decide to write, "In February, I will remember that Heavenly Father loves me and I will pray to Him morning and night." Place the ends of the strip into the slits on the "My Plans to Follow THE PLAN" pocket; then do what you have written. When you are ready to place your goal for the next month on the pocket, remove the previous month's goal and place it inside the pocket. At the end of the year, the pocket will be filled with the goals you have accomplished while trying to follow Heavenly Father's plan for you.

Additional copies of the poster (item no. 25959) are available from Church distribution centers.

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I Will Follow God's Plan 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).

January
Heavenly Father presented a plan for us to become like Him.
Read Moses 1:39

February
I am a child of God.
Read Romans 8:16

March
Jesus Christ came to earth and is our Savior.
Read John 3:16

April
I will follow Heavenly Father's plan for me and do my part to have an eternal family.
Read paragraph 3 of "The Family: A Proclamation to the World," Liahona, Oct. 2004, 49; Ensign, Nov. 1995, 102

May
Jesus Christ restored His Church in the latter days.
Read D&C 35:17

June
I will follow Heavenly Father's plan for me in faith.
Read Articles of Faith 1:4

July
I follow Heavenly Father's plan by repenting and being baptized.
Read 2 Nephi 9:23

August
The Holy Ghost is a gift from Heavenly Father.
Read Moroni 10:5

September
I follow Heavenly Father's plan when I choose the right.
Read Articles of Faith 1:13

October
I follow Heavenly Father's plan when I choose the right.
Read Joshua 24:15

November
I can share the gospel so that others can follow Heavenly Father's plan.
Read Matthew 5:16

December
Heavenly Father's plan brings us many blessings.
Read D&C 14:7

GLUE HERE

GLUE POCKET HERE

	Glue a photo or drawing of yourself here	
In January, I will _____ _____	In February, I will _____ _____	In March, I will _____ _____
In April, I will _____ _____	In May, I will _____ _____	In June, I will _____ _____
	HOLY GHOST	
In July, I will _____ _____	In August, I will _____ _____	In September, I will _____ _____
In October, I will _____ _____	In November, I will _____ _____	In December, I will _____ _____

Glue tab only

Glue tab only

← Pocket

My Plans to Follow THE PLAN

Glue tab only

Sharing Time Ideas

(Note: All songs are from *Children's Songbook* unless otherwise noted; GAK = Gospel Art Picture Kit, TNGC = Teaching, No Greater Call.)

1. Use a sing-a-story (see TNGC, pp. 174–75) to teach about the Creation. Divide the Primary into seven groups, and give each group a scripture passage recounting one of the seven days of the Creation (see Genesis 1:3–2:3 or Moses 2:3–3:3). Have the children in each group draw pictures of that part of the Creation. Each group will then hold up their drawings and recite together their scripture passage. Move from group (day) one to group (day) seven. After day two sing, “Because God Loves Me” (p. 234); after day five, sing, “All Things Bright and Beautiful” (p. 231); after day six, sing “I Think the World Is Glorious” (p. 230); and after day seven, sing “Remember the Sabbath Day” (p. 155). Have the children attach their pictures to a large circle representing the earth. Sing the first verse of “My Heavenly Father Loves Me” (pp. 228–29). Point out that Heavenly Father created the world for us because He loves us.

We show our love for Heavenly Father by treating His creations with reverence. Teach the children to protect the resources of the earth by not wasting or littering and by respecting property. Children can care for and be kind to animals. In a timed activity, ask the children to name as many ideas as possible of ways we use or ways we take care of water, the earth, or animals. Sing the second verse of “My Heavenly Father Loves Me.” Bear testimony of the wonderful gift of this beautiful earth.

2. As part of Heavenly Father's plan, He provided a Savior to redeem us so we could live with Him again. Help the children memorize the third article of faith (see TNGC, pp. 171–72). Teach that there are two parts to the Atonement: (1) Jesus Christ overcame the Fall and physical death through the Resurrection. Everyone who has ever lived on the earth will be resurrected. Show a picture of the resurrected Christ, and sing “Did Jesus Really Live Again?” (p. 64). (2) Jesus Christ also overcame spiritual death for us by taking our sins upon Himself. To be saved from our sins, we must be obedient to the laws and ordinances of the gospel. Make a representation of the celestial kingdom, such as a sun. Cut it into puzzle pieces. On each piece write a scripture that teaches about laws (for example, tithing, Word of Wisdom, forgiveness) and ordinances (baptism, priesthood ordinations, sacrament). Pass out as many pieces as you have to an equal number of groups of children. Have the groups locate the scripture on the puzzle piece, explain how the law or ordinance in the scripture can be obeyed, and add their piece to the puzzle. Repeat the third article of faith again as a group, and sing “I Feel My Savior's Love” (pp. 74–75).

For younger children: Recite the third article of faith, and teach the principle of obedience. Around a portrait of Christ, place other pictures showing Christ as a baby in the stable, being baptized, loving children, and giving His life for us. These pictures show Jesus Christ being obedient to His Father. Ask the children to think of something they can do to be obedient. Pass a beanbag as you sing “Quickly I'll Obey” (p. 197). When the music stops, have the child with the beanbag name or pantomime one thing he or she can do to be obedient. Repeat as time permits.

3. Help the children memorize Moses 1:39 (see TNGC, pp. 171–72). Teach the plan of salvation by using stations that represent each phase of our existence: premortal, earth life, spirit world, and degrees of glory. (This will need to be taught chronologically. If your Primary is small, move to each station as a group. With many children, select small groups to represent the whole group and have them move from station to station at the front of the room.) As children move from premortal to earth life, they will pass through the “veil” representing birth. As they move from earth to the



spirit world, they will pass through the “veil” representing death. As they move from the spirit world to the degrees of glory, help them understand the concepts of resurrection and judgment. With scriptures, stories, and songs (see suggestions below), teach what we have done and what we are expected to do in each phase of our existence.

Premortal life: Abraham 3:22–26; D&C 138:55–56; “The Family: A Proclamation to the World,” para-

graphs 2–3; “I Lived in Heaven” (p. 4). Earth life: Articles of Faith; My Gospel Standards; role of the Savior; stories from the scriptures of choosing the right; “Choose the Right Way” (pp. 160–61). Spirit world: Alma 40:9–14; D&C 138 (the righteous will do missionary work); “Called to Serve” (pp. 174–75); talk about the importance of temple work for the dead. Degrees of glory: D&C 76; Articles of Faith 1:3–4; “Families Can Be Together Forever” (p. 188).

4. Using GAK pictures 101 (Adam and Eve in the Garden) and 119 (Adam and Eve Teaching Their Children), teach the story of Adam and Eve and the role they played in Heavenly Father's plan. Post both pictures on the wall. Make wordstrips identifying conditions specific to the Garden of Eden (no death, living in the presence of Heavenly Father, no illness or pain, all animals living in peace with each other) and wordstrips identifying conditions in the world after the Fall (death and pain, living by faith, children coming to Adam and Eve, progression). Place wordstrips in a box, and pass the box while the children sing “I Will Follow God's Plan” (pp. 164–65). Stop the music frequently. When the music stops, let a child pick a wordstrip and place it under the appropriate picture. Have the children read the testimony of Adam and Eve in Moses 5:10–12. Point out that because of Adam and Eve, we can come to earth and be part of a family. Just as they taught their family the gospel, we can learn and live the gospel in our own families.

Divide the Primary into three groups. Ask the first group to think of ways to keep the commandments at home, the second to think of ways to keep the commandments at school, and the third to think of ways to keep the commandments at church. Pick one child from each group to draw on the chalkboard one thing they can do to keep the commandments. They must complete their drawings while the children sing a verse of “Home Can Be a Heaven on Earth” (*Hymns*, no. 298). Have the children guess what the activities are. Repeat as time allows. Bear testimony that Adam and Eve were an important part of Heavenly Father's plan.

5. *Song Presentation:* “I Will Follow God's Plan” (pp. 164–65). Divide the chalkboard or a large sheet of paper in half. On one side write “My Life,” and provide a picture or drawing for each phrase in the first three lines (for example, “My life is a gift,” picture of gift; “My life has a plan,” simple drawing of house; “My life has a purpose; in heav'n it began,” Primary picture packet 3-3). Put the pictures up next to “My Life” in random order. On the other side of the board, write “I Will,” and provide pictures for each phrase in the rest of the song. Post them in random order next to “I Will.” Have the children look at the pictures on the first half of the board and listen as you sing the first line. Let them choose the pictures that illustrate that line and put them in order. Sing the first line together. Repeat this with the first three lines. Repeat the activity with the lines that begin with “I will.” Sing the song all the way through. You can repeat the song as you remove pictures, or mix them up again and have the children put them in order. Encourage the children to sing this song with their families.

6. *Friend* references: “I Know God's Plan,” June 2003, 33; “I Shouted for Joy!” Feb. 1999, 46; “Reverence for Creation,” Sept. 1996, 44. Additional reference: “Teaching Our Children the Plan of Salvation,” *Ensign*, Sept. 2001, 32–39. These references and others can be found at www.lds.org. Click on Gospel Library.

Friends in the News



Mariano Garay, 10, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico, enjoys soccer, reading, and playing the violin. He likes going to Sunday School, and his favorite Primary song is "Book of Mormon Stories."



Miiko Lyne Toussaint, 7, Blackfoot, Idaho, likes to read the *Friend*. She enjoys gymnastics, ballet, modeling, and choir. She helps with her younger sister, Mia.



Connor Mickle, 9, Spring, Texas, is the youngest in his family. He plays the piano, and his favorite song to play is "Bells Are Ringing." He also likes soccer, football, basketball, and diving.



Whitney Davis, 4, Mesa, Arizona, tries to be like Jesus by sharing with her younger brother, Taylor, and visiting her elderly neighbors. She enjoys Primary, singing, books, coloring, and ballet.



Newel Andrew Brown, 5, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, goes by his middle name. He likes to play with his friend Anna and his aunt Laura.



Mariah Tatchio, 9, Kearns, Utah, loves her brother and sister. She likes reading, art, computer games, and learning in school. She enjoys Primary activity days.



Spencer Broberg, 4, Chula Vista, California, is a great swimmer and is learning Spanish in school. He likes to tag along with his older brother and sister, and he is his younger sister Emily's best friend.



Elizabeth Done, 10, St. Albans, Vermont, enjoys video photography, acting, and sculpting. Her favorite subjects in school are art and science. She has three brothers.



Jayden Glavach, 9, Adelaide, Australia, likes to follow Jesus. He reads the scriptures daily. He enjoys bike riding, football, swimming, and video games. He loves his family.



Hannah Wegner, 4, Buffalo Grove, Illinois, wanted to help her brother, Nick, be a good missionary. She prayed for Nick every night and sent him a letter or picture almost every week of his mission.



Eric Miller, 10, Idaho Falls, Idaho, likes going to Scouts, fishing, and drawing. He has three sisters. He is a big help to his mom.



Emily Nicole Jackson, 7, Lewisville, Texas, enjoys swimming, school, and Primary. She likes to read the *Friend* and look for children her own age.



Isaac Mathis, 4, Las Vegas, Nevada, likes the stories from the Book of Mormon. He also likes to read, color pictures, and play T-ball. He is a good helper.



Lacy Bollinger, 10, West Palm Beach, Florida, enjoys tennis, piano, and watching classic movies. She also helps her brother and sisters.



Tanner Court, 11, Mountain View, Wyoming, is looking forward to becoming a deacon. He was selected to be part of an awareness campaign for National Down Syndrome Awareness Month.



Emma Eloise Macfarlane, 5, Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, is very friendly. She likes learning how to say words in different languages, and would like to learn another language and serve a mission someday.



Tyler Clayson, 7, Brigham City, Utah, is a wonderful artist. He also enjoys reading, camping, and hunting with his dad.



Sara Jordan Maynerich, 10, Gallup, New Mexico, enjoys going to Primary activity days, going to church, and reading the scriptures.



Landon Warnick, 3, Columbus, Nebraska, always has a smile on his face. He likes to ride his bike and play with his cousins. He is a good brother to his sister Ashley and his brothers Austin, Ammon, and Riley.



Hannah West, 4, Colchester, England, could recite the 13th Article of Faith when she was only three years old. She has also learned several scriptures. She likes to sing and give talks.



Marc Arner, 5, Roanoke, Virginia, enjoys riding his bike and looking for dinosaur bones. He likes to memorize scriptures and help with family home evening.



Raven Joy Tenny, 5, Topeka, Kansas, likes to make her baby sister smile and is always willing to share. She has faith in the gospel and asks for a blessing when she isn't feeling well.



Jack Hunter Ensign, 4, Fenton, Michigan, enjoys playing baseball, swimming, and listening to scripture stories. He likes to conduct family home evening.

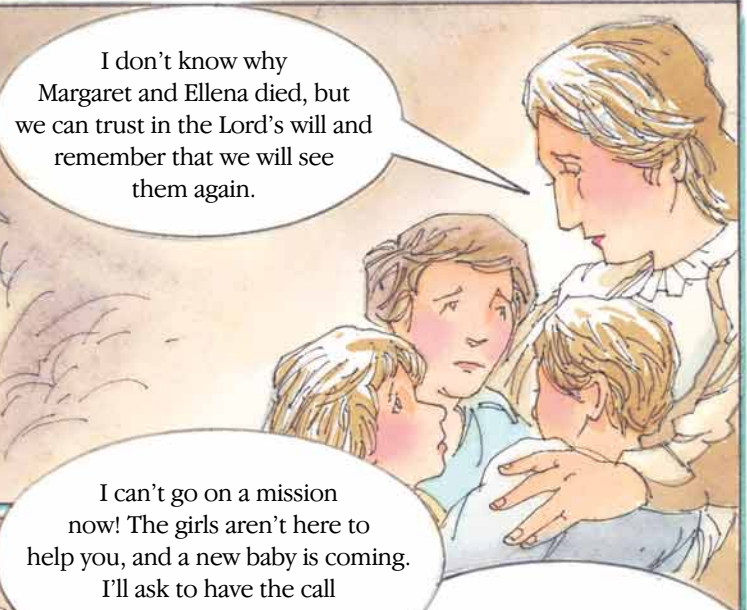
Please send submissions to *Friends in the News*, *Friend*, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least 10 months. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Children whose pictures are submitted must be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned.



FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT DAVID O. MCKAY

The Faith of His Parents

When David O. McKay was a young boy, his two older sisters died of illnesses within a week of each other.



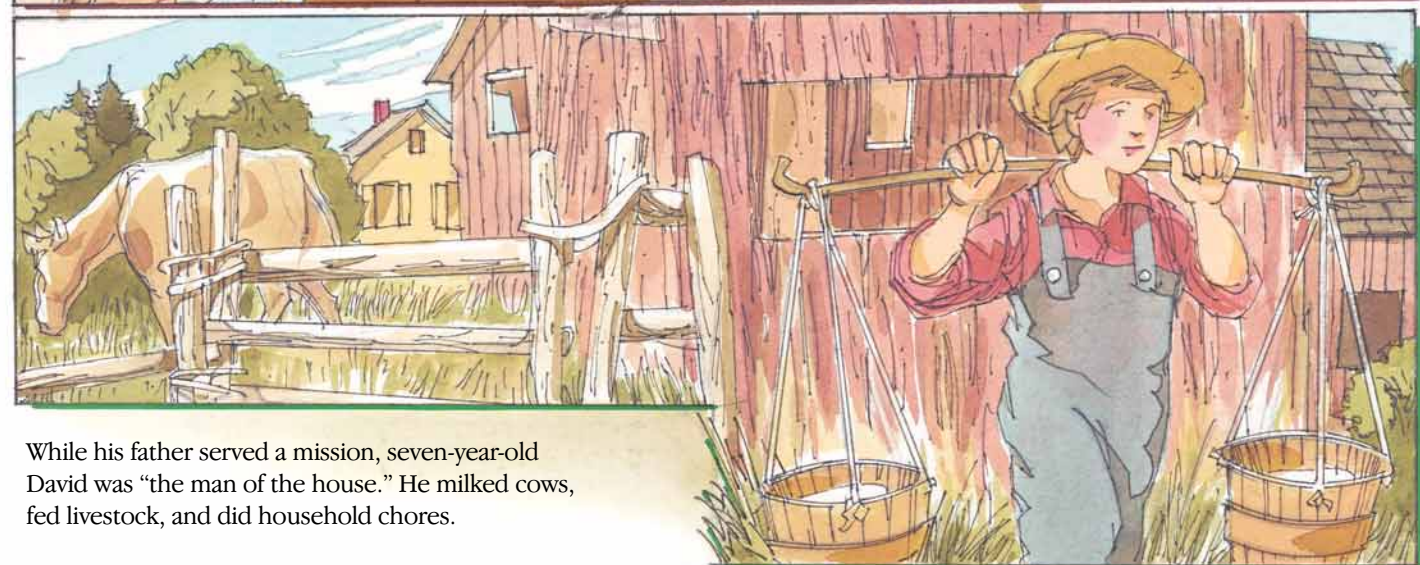
I don't know why Margaret and Ellena died, but we can trust in the Lord's will and remember that we will see them again.

Not long after this trial of their faith, David's father was called on a mission to Scotland, the land where he was born.



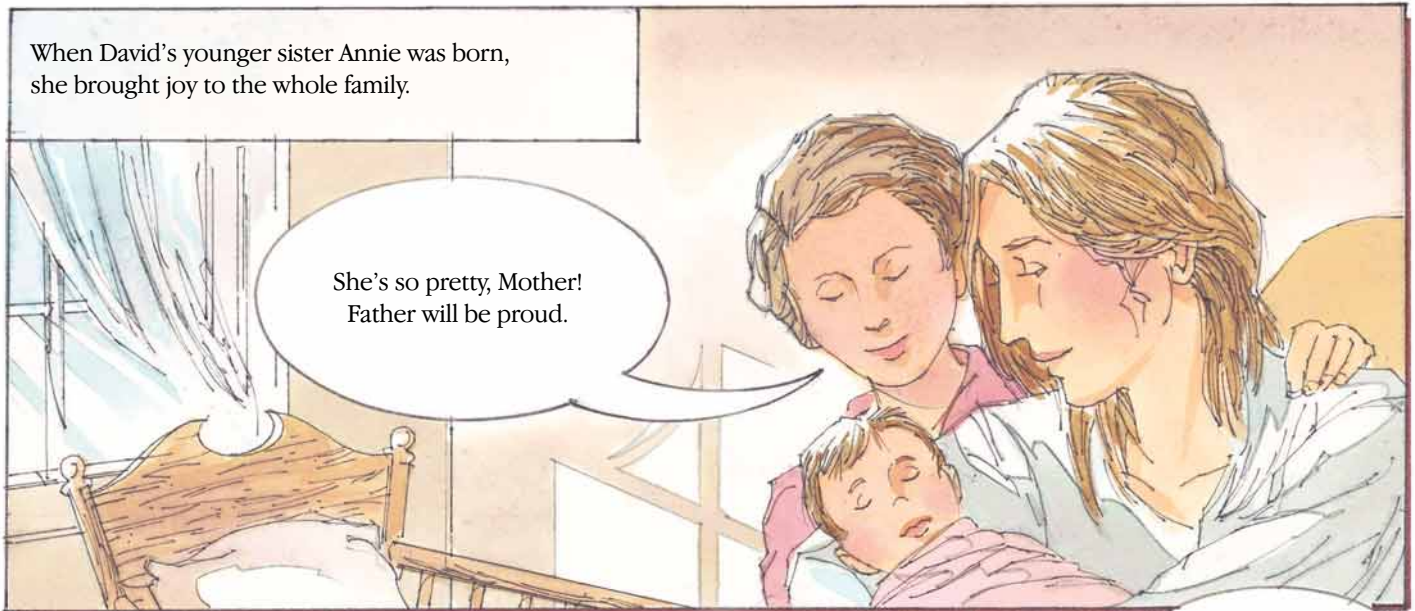
I can't go on a mission now! The girls aren't here to help you, and a new baby is coming. I'll ask to have the call postponed.

It is the Lord's will for you to go on a mission right now, and I trust Him. David and I will manage just fine.



While his father served a mission, seven-year-old David was "the man of the house." He milked cows, fed livestock, and did household chores.

When David's younger sister Annie was born, she brought joy to the whole family.



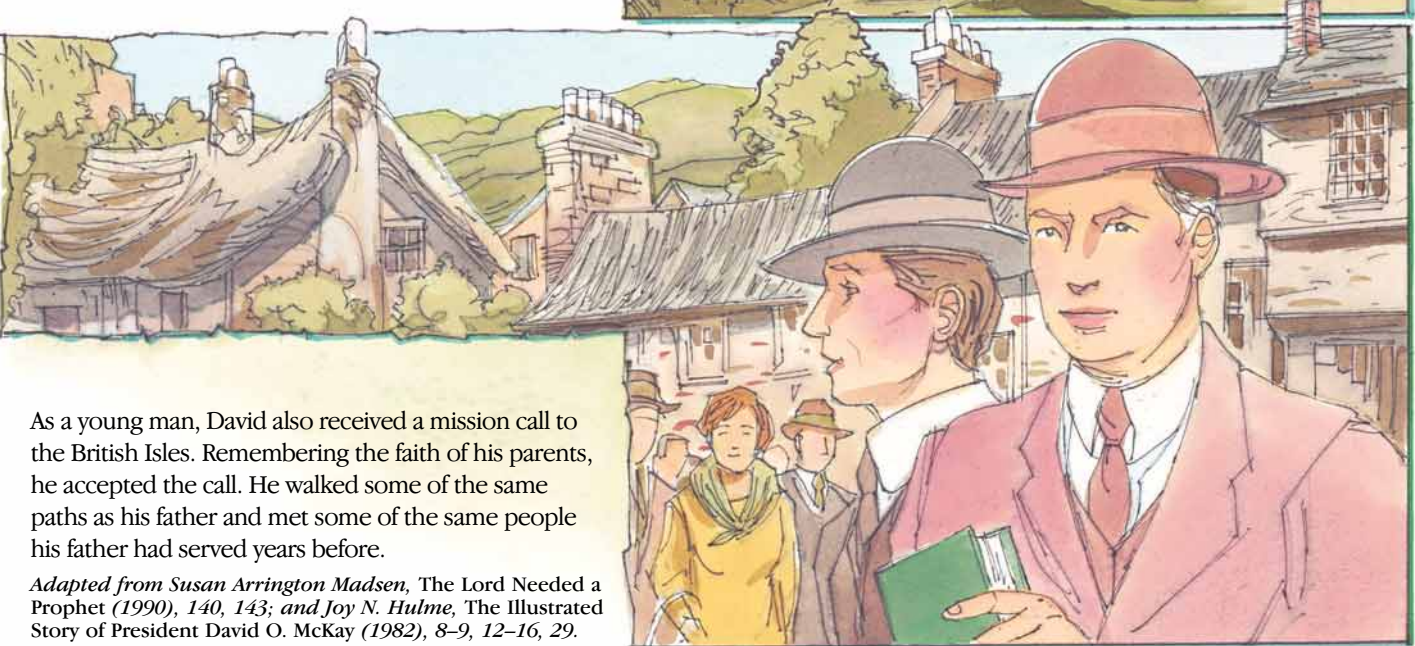
She's so pretty, Mother!
Father will be proud.

Children, your mother is a miracle. Look at what she has accomplished while I've been gone.

The Lord has watched over us.

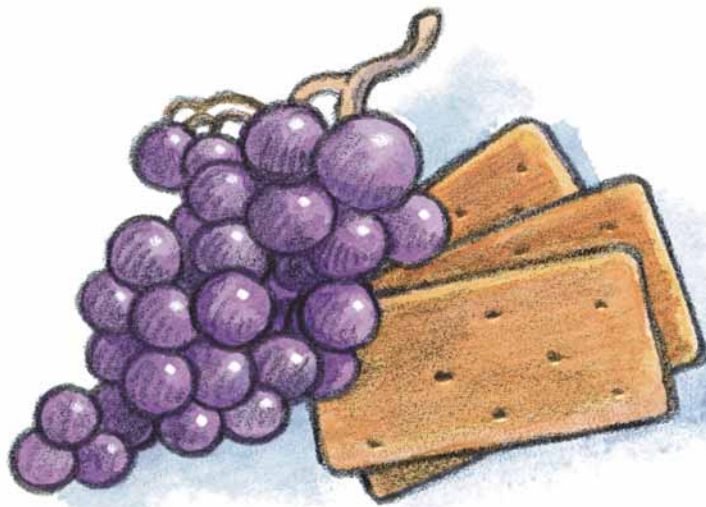


When David's father returned home two years later, he was overjoyed to see his family and his new daughter. He was amazed to see that a new addition had also been built onto the house.



As a young man, David also received a mission call to the British Isles. Remembering the faith of his parents, he accepted the call. He walked some of the same paths as his father and met some of the same people his father had served years before.

Adapted from Susan Arrington Madsen, The Lord Needed a Prophet (1990), 140, 143; and Joy N. Hulme, The Illustrated Story of President David O. McKay (1982), 8-9, 12-16, 29.



Graham Crackers, Grapes, and Goals

BY TERINA ATKINSON DARCEY

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

Continue in patience until ye are perfected
(D&C 67:13).

The ringing went on and on, and Jamie finally opened his eyes. He rolled over and shut off the noisy alarm. He wanted to stay in bed, but he knew that if he didn't get up, his mother would come get him. He needed to clean his room this morning. He swung his legs out of bed and jumped on the floor.

"Ouch!" He had banged one of his big toes on a red racing car that was on the floor. He looked around at the clothes on the floor, his train and blocks by the door, and the books on the floor of his closet.

"It just isn't fair," Jamie thought. "My room is always messy." He felt frustrated. "Why can't I keep my room clean?"

He knew that his big sister, Jill, would ask him the same question. Jill was nine, and it seemed like her room was always clean, her clothes were never on the

floor, and her toys were always neatly put away on her shelves and in her toy box. Jamie couldn't figure out how she did it.

Last week in family home evening, Mom and Dad had talked to the family about goal-setting and asked each person to set some goals for the new year. Jamie decided that his goal would be to keep his room clean. Well, it was the first week of the new year, and already he was failing. He tried and tried to keep his room clean, but it got messed up every time he played in it.

After breakfast, Jamie went back to his bedroom to clean. He decided to drive the toy train around the room to help pick up some toys. He added some blocks and toy cars to the train's load, then he stopped by the toy box and dumped them all off. Then he stacked up a few books to make a bridge for the train to cross. Before he knew it, he was busy creating new bridges and pathways for the train. By the time Mom called him for lunch, he still hadn't finished cleaning his room. In fact, it looked worse than it had before! There were even

more toys out, and his pajamas had joined the other clothes on the floor.

Jamie walked slowly into the kitchen, dragging his feet and sighing. Mom looked at him. "Jamie, is something bothering you?"

"Mom, I can't keep my New Year's goal," Jamie admitted. "I can't keep my room clean. I guess I am just too little."

"Do you mean that your toys are too heavy for you to put away, or that your dresser drawers are too hard to open?" Mom asked.

"No," Jamie answered, "I'm just too young to keep

my room clean. I don't know how Jill keeps hers clean. She must not play in it very much."

"I don't think that's it." Mom thought for a minute. "Jamie, I think you need to learn a little bit about how goals work." She got out a box of graham crackers and a bunch of grapes, then sat down at the table next to him.

"Jamie, what things need to be done to have a clean room?"

He thought for a minute. "Well, my toys need to be put away, and my books should be on the bookshelf. My bed should be made, and my clothes should be in the closet."



As Jamie named each item, his mom placed a graham cracker on the table. The crackers formed a line.

“And when all of these things are done, your room is clean. Right?”

“Right.” Jamie answered. Mom placed a grape at the top of the line of graham crackers. The graham crackers looked like a pathway leading to the grape.

“OK, Jamie, pretend that the grape is your goal—keeping your room clean—and the graham crackers are things you have to do to reach your goal.” She took one of the crackers away. “What happens if one of these things isn’t done?”

“The crackers don’t reach the grape anymore.” Jamie thought for a minute more. “And I can’t reach my goal.”

“That’s right. See, all it takes to reach a big goal is doing a bunch of little tasks all together. But it’s hard to accomplish your goal if you don’t know what little steps you have to take.” Mom picked up all of the graham crackers and handed them to Jamie. Then she helped him decide what he needed to do to keep his room clean.



“I can make my bed as soon as I get up in the morning,” Jamie said. He put down one cracker. “I can put my books away after I read them.” He put down another cracker. “I can put my toys away after I finish playing with them.” He added another cracker to the line.

“And I can put my clothes away after I take them off.” The graham crackers now reached the grape.

“If I do each of these things, one at a time, soon I will reach my goal!” Jamie said excitedly. He grabbed the grape and tossed it into his mouth.

After lunch, Mom and Jamie made pictures of the things he had to do to keep his room clean. They hung the pictures on the back of his bedroom door to remind him. Then Mom helped Jamie clean his room.

The next day, the pictures helped Jamie remember to make his bed before breakfast and to put away his pajamas instead of leaving them on the floor. Jamie smiled. It was nice to have a clean room, but it was even better to know that he could keep it clean all by himself. ●

Terina Atkinson Darcey is a member of the Cedar Ridge Ward, Tulsa Oklahoma East Stake.



“Set . . . goals that you can reach. . . . Pray for divine guidance in your goal setting.”

Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “Keeping Life’s Demands in Balance,” Ensign, May 1987, 14.



funstuf



The Creation

The words listed below are found in the accounts of the Creation (see Genesis 1 and Moses 1). Find and circle each word in the puzzle. Then write down each of the unused letters in the blanks below to find a message from the scriptures telling us the purpose of Heavenly Father's plan of happiness.

BEAST

BEGINNING

CATTLE

CREATURE

EARTH

FEMALE

FIRMAMENT

FISH

FOWL

FRUIT

GATHERING

GOOD

HEAVEN

HERB

LAND

LIGHT

MALE

MOON

NIGHT

SEASONS

SEED

STARS

WATERS

WHALES

YEARS

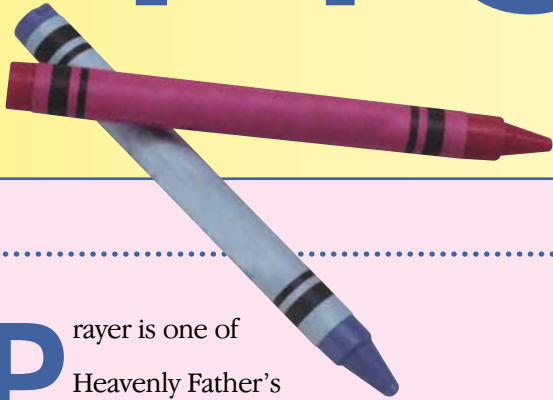
F	O	T	R	B	E	E	S	C	H	L	F	O	L	D
S	T	H	N	I	L	S	R	R	I	S	I	I	M	Y
W	N	O	R	E	A	K	A	E	E	A	G	G	S	N
H	G	O	D	M	M	Y	E	A	A	G	N	L	H	H
E	W	N	S	O	E	A	Y	T	R	R	I	Y	S	T
A	T	H	I	A	F	O	M	U	T	B	R	R	R	C
V	I	N	A	N	E	G	T	R	H	O	E	P	A	T
E	T	A	S	L	N	S	S	E	I	T	H	T	T	I
N	S	H	E	I	E	I	M	M	A	F	T	O	T	U
M	A	S	T	A	R	S	G	W	R	L	A	H	T	R
O	E	A	D	L	I	B	T	E	E	Y	G	A	N	F
O	B	O	D	E	R	T	E	R	B	I	F	O	W	L
N	O	N	A	E	D	N	A	L	N	E	L	A	M	L
G	L	I	H	F	E	D	E	E	S	O	F	M	A	N

“ _____ , _____

 _____ ” (Moses 1:39).



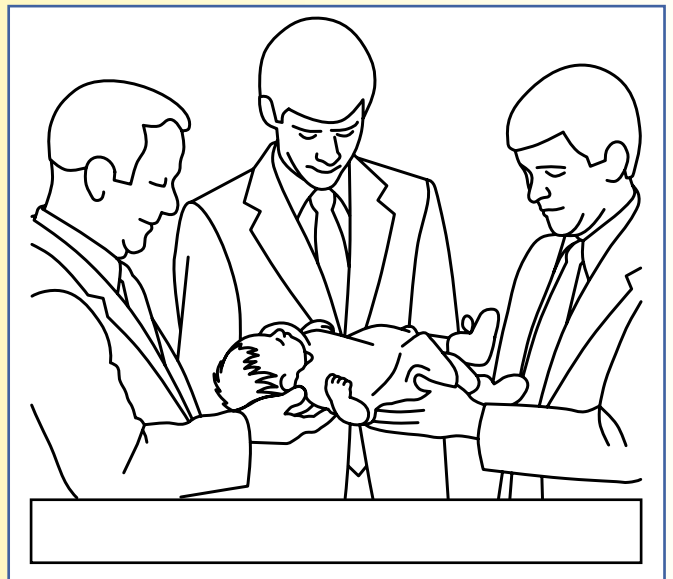
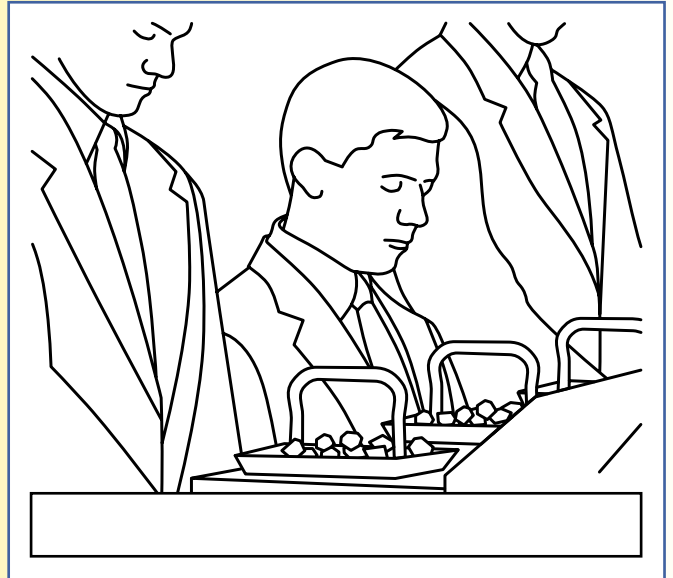
Prayer

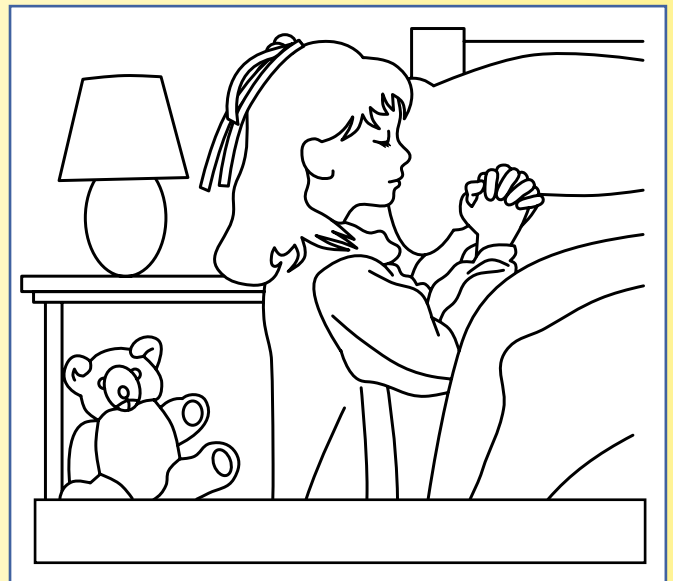
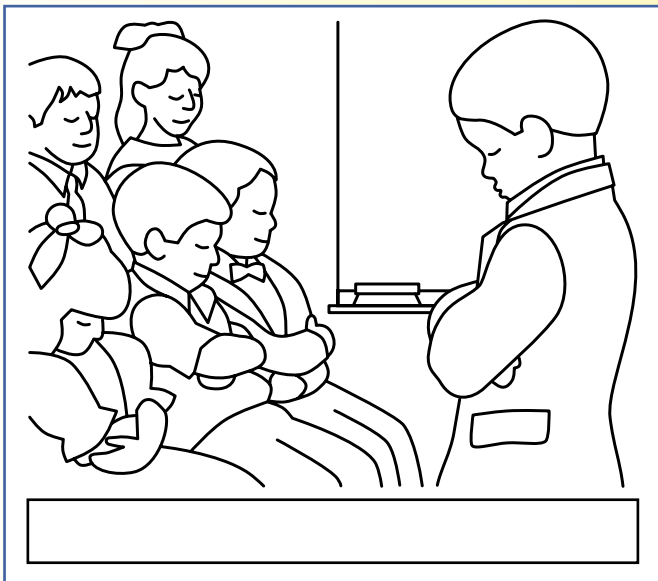
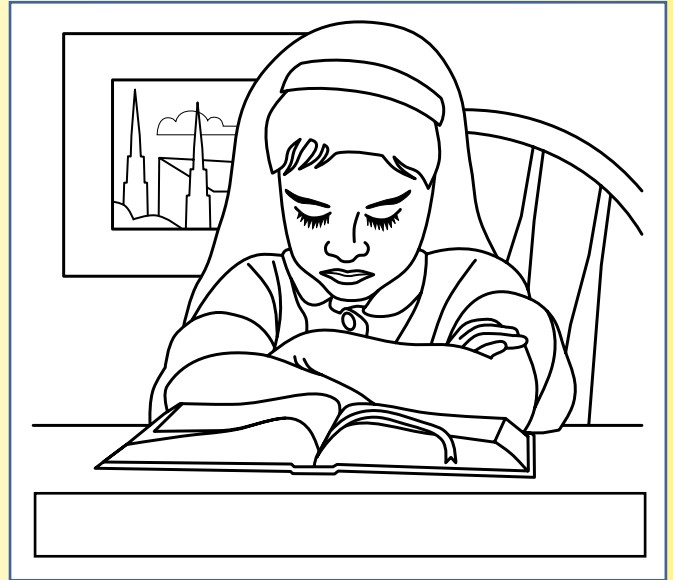
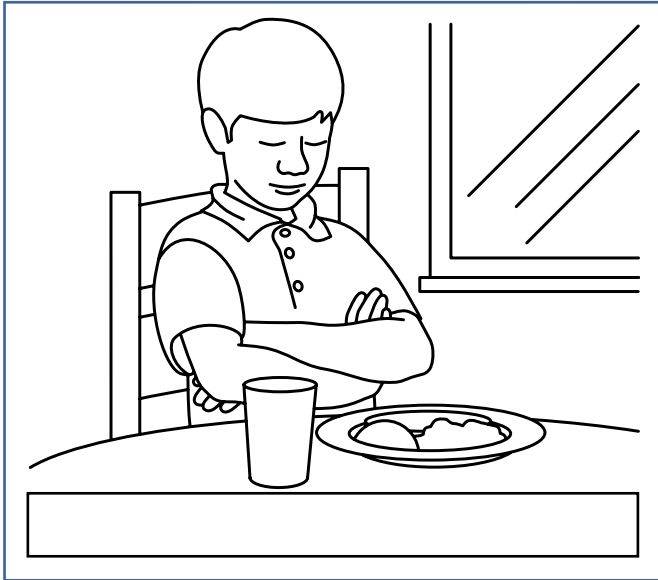
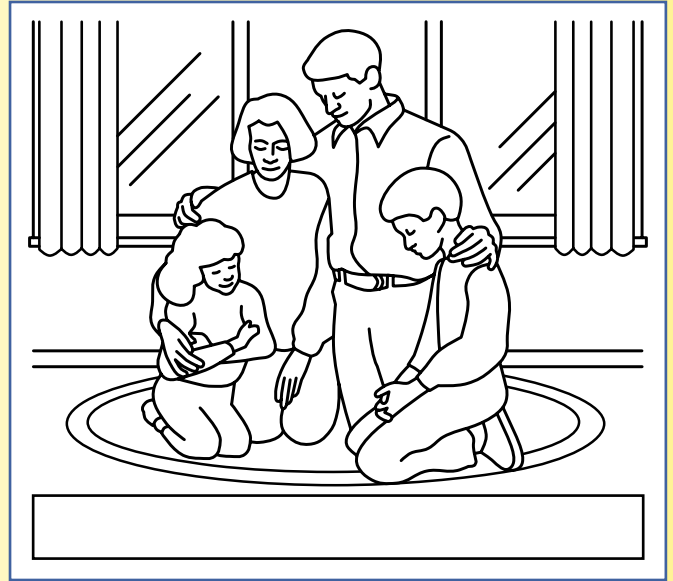


Prayer is one of Heavenly Father's great blessings to us. We are able to speak directly to Him—the great God of Heaven—anytime, anywhere.

There are many different kinds of prayer and many different times when people often say a prayer. Pictured here are some of them for you to color. As you color each picture, write underneath it what kind of prayer it is. For example, the first picture represents blessing the sacrament. Then talk with your family about who may offer each kind of prayer, what the person offering it might pray about, and when the prayer is offered.

Hang the colored pictures where you will see them often to remind you of the marvelous blessing of prayer. ●





Our Creative Friends

Creations

The Lord created the earth
 So that we could come down at birth.
 He created the animals and plants.
 He created the insects, spiders, and ants.
 He created people like you and me.
 He created the flowers and every tree.
 He created the wild beasts of the forest.
 He put us down here for a test.
 The test is for us to live righteously.
 The test is for everyone, you and me.

Elizabeth Hurren, age 11
Florence, Alabama

My Hero

I'd like to be a hero,
 The hero I like the most. . . .
 My hero was a missionary,
 A missionary brave and strong.
 My hero was a warrior,
 A warrior who never went wrong.
 My hero was courageous,
 Courageous to the end.
 My hero was noble,
 A brave and noble friend.
 My hero was the prophet Helaman,
 A man of long ago.

I hope to be like him one day,
 So I shall be a missionary—this I know!

Jared Orr, age 10
McKinney, Texas

I Want to See Jesus

I want to see Jesus one day.
 I try to obey every day!
 He helps me and guides me
 So I know what is right.
 Jesus helps me to walk in the light.

Delaney Earl, age 9
Magna, Utah



Daniel Silvera, age 8
Queens, New York



Katie Champion, age 6
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada



Caden Stewart, age 5
Fort Collins, Colorado



Justin Valenzuela, age 7
Hottville, California



Chloe Rose Baker, age 9
Tokyo, Japan



Kaylie Glissmeyer, age 7
Venice, California



Tanner Stocks, age 4
Battle Ground, Washington



Judson Stephens, age 10
Orem, Utah



Clara Goodwin, age 9
Eagle, Idaho



Joshua Berg, age 7
Denver, North Carolina



J. D. Bibeau, age 5
Somerset, Wisconsin



Nevan Lowe, age 3
Loudon, Tennessee

Please send submissions to **Our Creative Friends, Friend, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220.** Drawings sent should be done with dark pens or markers on plain paper. If an adult helps with a child's submission, credit should also be given to him or her. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least 10 months. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Children whose writings and drawings are submitted should be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned.

God's Plan

God created the Earth,
 He put us here from our birth.
 He made the animals and the plants,
 From the largest dinosaurs to the smallest ants.
 He created everything we can see.
 He put us here to have our agency.
 God created every man,
 Eternal marriage and life is His fantastic plan!

Robert Lee Millard, age 10
Griffith, New South Wales, Australia

Listen to the Prophet

Listen to the prophet
 So dear and kind,
 He makes me think about
 Things in my mind.
 Listen to the prophet,
 Gordon B. Hinckley,
 Right up close or on TV.
 Listen to the prophet,
 He is to me so dear.
 Listen to him now
 And gather near.

Moriab Longburst, age 7
Liberty Lake, Washington



Anthony Millett, age 6
Queen Creek, Arizona



Ebony Pena, age 9
Lexington, Nebraska



R. Paulleana B. Abonado, age 6
Santa Rosa Laguna, Philippines



Jeremy Sorensen, age 11
Orem, Utah



Taylor Stewart, age 11
Fayetteville, Arkansas



Rachel Holbrook, age 7
Budd Lake, New Jersey



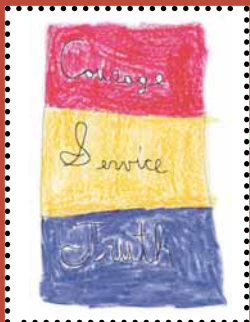
Lauren Martindale, age 8
Duluth, Minnesota



Stephen Watts, age 5
Dayton, Nevada



Sarah Draper, age 6
Ansbach, Germany



Alex Thompson, age 10
Roswell, New Mexico



Lissy (Lindsey) Bills, age 9
Cumming, Georgia



Karinne Stacey, age 5
Cleveland, Ohio



Bethany Gardner, age 7
Lubbock, Texas

Jairo Eli Xocop

OF COMALAPA, GUATEMALA



BY DALILA XOCOP
AND VIRNA RODRÍGUEZ

Lush green shrubs and pine forests surround the ancient Mayan ruins of Iximché. Eleven-year-old Jairo Eli Xocop of Comalapa, Guatemala, likes to visit the ruins and talk with his family about their family history and ancestors. Long ago, skilled Cakchiquel stonemasons built these vast fortified cities. Today Jairo is working just as hard to build a foundation of faith and good works in the gospel as he prepares to be ordained a deacon.





Jairo likes to visit the ancient ruins of Iximché (above) to talk about family history. And since he was small, he has liked to read and learn from the Book of Mormon (left).

A member of the Comalapa Branch in the Chimaltenango Guatemala Stake, Jairo lives in a small town in the mountains where the Cakchiquel language is spoken.

Jairo often has his mind on the calendar. He will be 12 soon and is eager to receive the priesthood and become a member of the deacons quorum. Jairo's good friend and cousin, César Samuel, 16, goes with him and his family to church every Sunday. Jairo is eager to learn from



the full-time missionaries who teach the Aaronic Priesthood class in his branch.

An active and fun-loving boy, Jairo likes to participate with the 30 other children in his branch in Primary. Jairo's favorite part of Primary is sharing time, but he also likes to sing hymns and listen to his teachers talk about the prophets' lives.

A sixth-grader, Jairo loves sports, especially the long jump, which he has been practicing for three years. At a school

Jairo has a lot of fun with his sisters, Mildred, Melissa, and Daly (right), and with his friends in Primary (below).

competition, he won second place in both speed-walking and the long jump. He also likes to play soccer.

Jairo is preparing to serve a mission by reading the Book of Mormon and other Church books. He attends all his Church meetings and is saving money in a savings account for his mission.

“Jairo is a smart boy, and he tries very hard to be obedient. If he continues, he will become a faithful man and a strong missionary,” says Jairo’s mom.

Jairo’s sister, Melissa, 20, says she admires the way he gets up every Sunday morning and gets ready quickly so he can walk to church with his cousin César. They arrive on time and sit in one of the front rows.



Jairo is growing day by day. His experiences are laying a foundation for a lifetime of working hard in the service of others. ●

Dalila Xocop is a member of the Comalapa Branch, Chimaltenango Guatemala Stake. Virna Rodriguez is a member of the Panorama Ward, Guatemala City Guatemala Mariscal Stake.

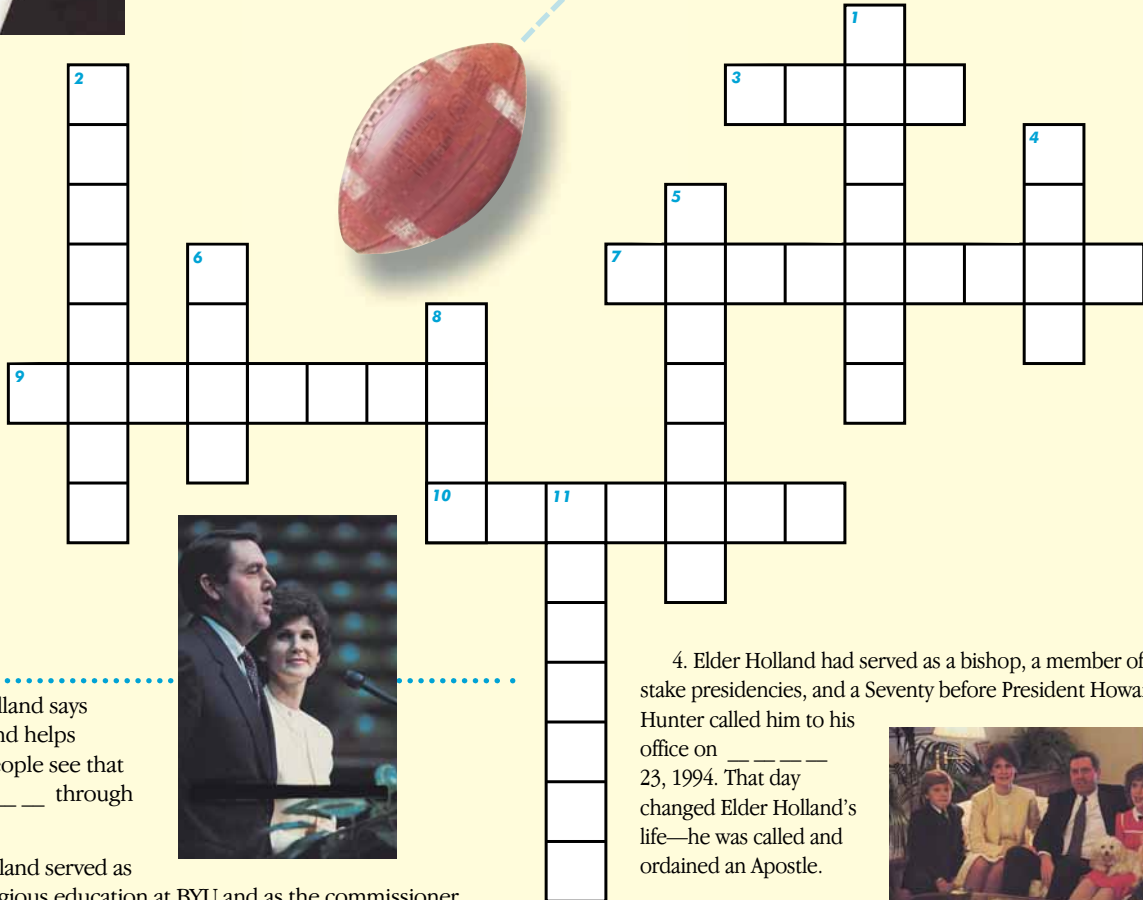




Getting to Know Elder Jeffrey R. Holland

To learn more about this member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, choose from the list of words to complete the crossword puzzle.

- born
- Brigham
- England
- football
- grocery
- hope
- June
- Patricia
- president
- special
- Yale



Across

3. Sister Holland says that her husband helps discouraged people see that there is _____ through the Savior.

7. Elder Holland served as the dean of religious education at BYU and as the commissioner of education for the Church. In 1980, he was appointed _____ of BYU.

9. Playing sports in high school helped him become friends with the woman he would one day marry, _____ Terry, or "Pat." She was a cheerleader.

10. He served his mission in _____. His parents were called to the same mission while he was there, so he had to say farewell to his parents both when he left for his mission and before he returned home!

Down

1. The Hollands have three children: Matthew, Mary Alice, and David. They all say that their dad made them feel _____.

2. In high school he ran track, played baseball, and helped win the state championships in both _____ and basketball.

4. Elder Holland had served as a bishop, a member of three stake presidencies, and a Seventy before President Howard W. Hunter called him to his office on _____ 23, 1994. That day changed Elder Holland's life—he was called and ordained an Apostle.

5. He attended Dixie College, where he was co-captain of the basketball team, and _____ Young University, where he graduated with a degree in English.

6. Elder Holland was _____ on December 3, 1940, and grew up in St. George, Utah.

8. After teaching institute in California and Washington, he went to graduate school at _____ University in New Haven, Connecticut.

11. As a teenager, he worked as a service station attendant, a paperboy, and a _____ bagger.

(See "Elder Jeffrey R. Holland of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles," *Ensign*, Dec. 1994, 10-15.)



Keeping Christmas

BY JEAN POWIS

(Based on experiences of the author's family)

*I'm happy as can be when
I am helping others
(Children's Songbook, 197).*

I wish we didn't have to take the tree down," Jeff sighed. "It still looks so pretty."

"I know it does, honey," Mom said, "but Christmas was 10 days ago."

Jeff and his mother carefully wrapped shiny ornaments, bows, lacy stars, and the treetop angel in pieces of tissue paper and put them in boxes so nothing would break.

"Next Christmas we'll decorate the tree again," Mom said, "and we can make lots of new ornaments."

She took the last string of lights off the tree, and Jeff put away the ornaments he'd made in church.

"The empty tree looks lonely. It makes me feel sad," Jeff said.

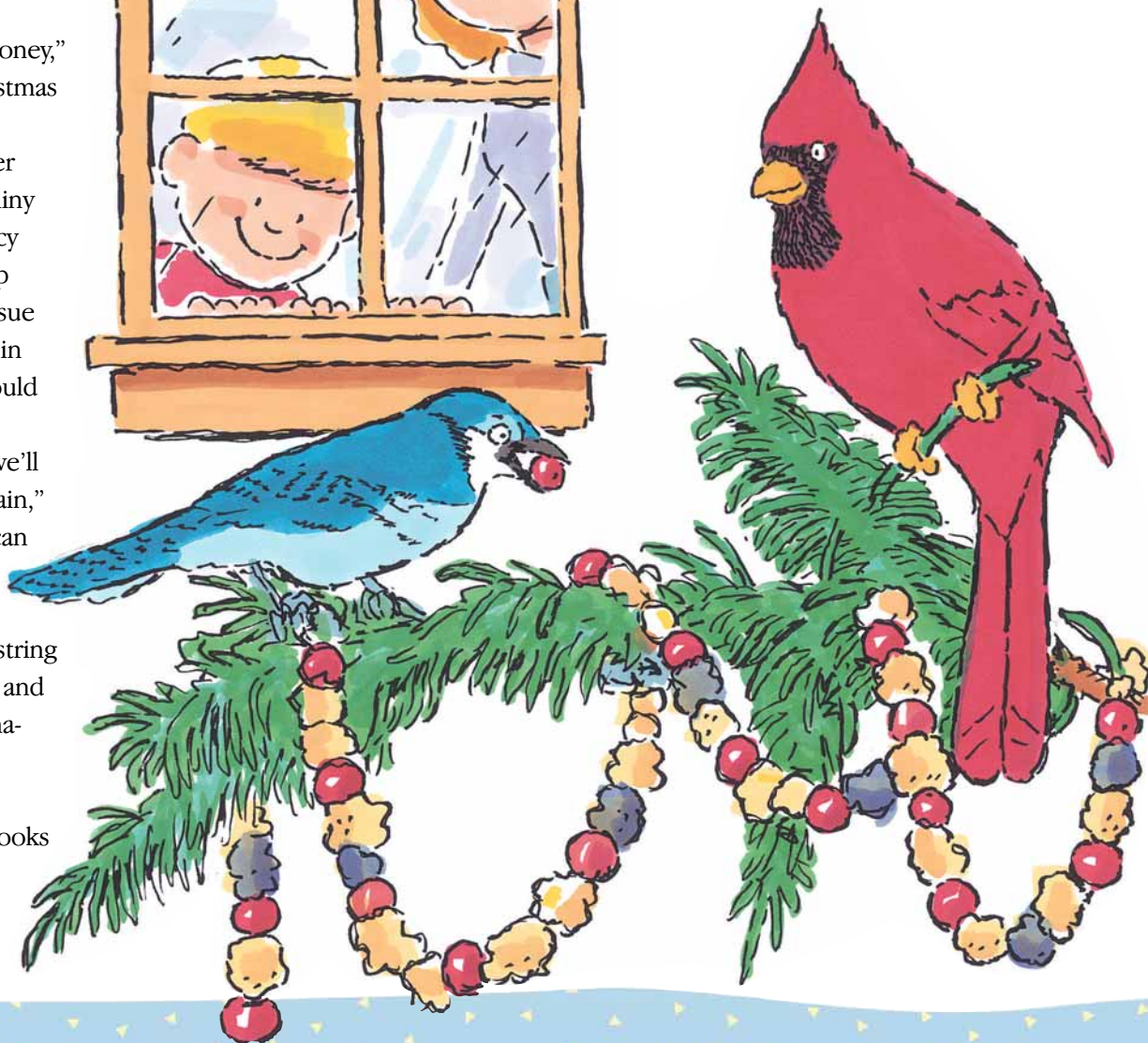


"I wish we could have Christmas all year."

"In a way, we can," Mom said. "Christmas means giving, and we can do that all year."

"But how?" Jeff asked.

"Well, for one thing, the tree doesn't have to stay empty." Mom



went into the kitchen and got bread, cranberries, and nuts from the cabinet.

“Let’s take the tree outside and put it near the kitchen window. Then we can put the food on the branches for the birds.”

After Jeff and his mom put on their coats, they lugged the tree into the backyard and trimmed it with the food.

“Now the birds can sing while they eat,” Jeff said with a smile. “What else can we do?”

“Let’s go inside. It’s cold out here,” Mom said.

While Jeff looked out the window at the blue jays and cardinals eating food from the tree, Mom found a notebook. “Let’s make a Christmas All Year calendar,” she said. “We’ll fill it with good things to do that will make others happy. Each month we can do a different project. We did the food tree, so let’s write that on the calendar for January.”

Jeff enjoyed making the calendar. When it was finished, here’s how it looked:

JANUARY—Make a Christmas food tree for the birds.

FEBRUARY—Bake valentine cookies for neighbors.

MARCH—Make snowmen for friends.

APRIL—Plant flowers in our garden.

MAY—Help older neighbors clean their yards.

JUNE—Pick strawberries and give them to someone.

JULY—Have a picnic with our family.

AUGUST—Have a lemonade stand.

SEPTEMBER—Help my teacher keep the classroom neat.

OCTOBER—Have fun raking leaves in our yard.

NOVEMBER—Invite friends for Thanksgiving dinner.

DECEMBER—Decorate the Christmas tree.

“We can celebrate Christmas all year!” Jeff declared as he helped Mom hang the calendar on the kitchen wall. Outside it started to snow, so Jeff put on his hat, coat, and mittens and ran out into the front yard. His neighbors were taking down their outdoor Christmas decorations. They waved. Jeff called to them, “Merry Christmas to you for the whole year!” ●



Food for the Birds

1 cup shortening
1 cup cornmeal
1/2 cup raisins
1/2 cup sunflower seeds
jute or string

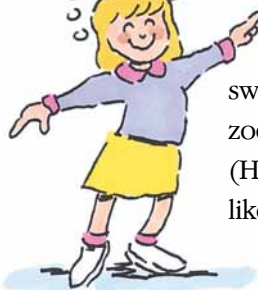
1. In a medium bowl, combine all of the ingredients except the jute or string.
2. Form the mixture into five patties, place on a plate, and freeze for 3 hours.
3. Wrap and tie a piece of jute or string around each patty like you were wrapping a gift box (see photograph). Then tie a length of jute or string to each and attach the bird food to tree branches.

Our Animal Friends

BY BONNIE COMPTON HANSON



How does an elephant walk? Boom, boom, boom.
(Stomp feet.)



How does a swallow fly? Zoom, zoom, zoom.
(Hold arms out like bird wings.)



How does a big dog bark? Bow, wow, wow.
(Bark like a dog.)



How does a bear sit down? Plop, plop, plop.
(Slowly plop onto the floor or a chair.)



How does a horse trot by? Clop, clop, clop.
(Lift feet up and down.)



How does a milk cow call? Moo, moo, moo.
(Moo like a cow.)



How does a lion sound? Roar, roar, roar!
(Roar like a lion.)



How much do plump pigs eat? More, more, more!
(Pretend to eat fast.)



Are you grateful for animal friends? Yes, yes, yes.
(Nod head.)



A Mouse in the House

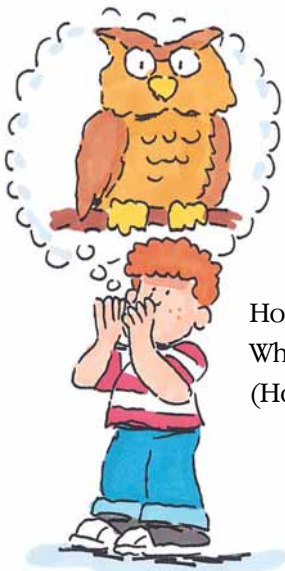
BY JULIE WARDELL

For each mouse, you will need: a 2" (5 cm) peeled piece of banana, crushed vanilla cookies, peanut butter, 2 raisins, 1 chocolate chip, 2 almond slices, and 4 pretzel sticks.

1. Roll the piece of banana in the cookie crumbs, completely covering it.
2. Use the peanut butter to "glue" on raisin eyes and a chocolate-chip nose (see illustration).
3. Push the two almond slices into the banana near the top for the mouse's ears.
4. Stick the pretzel sticks into each side of the face for whiskers.



How do mosquitoes bite?
Ow, ow, ow!
(Hold arm like it's hurting.)



How does a night owl hoot?
Who, who, who.
(Hoot like an owl.)



We thank their Creator—
His name we bless.
(Put hands together as if
to pray.)



GRANDMA'S Life Mission

BY JANE McBRIDE CHOATE

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

Death hath passed upon all men, to fulfil the merciful plan of the great Creator (2 Nephi 9:6).

Three days ago, Michelle's grandma had died. Her parents explained to her that Grandma was in heaven now.

Michelle had never been to a funeral. She tried to sit quietly and listen to the speakers. Uncle Robert spoke first. He said that Grandma had finished her life mission. Michelle wondered what that meant.

After Grandma's funeral, Grandpa invited everyone back to his home. Michelle liked going there. She especially liked the drawer



“I pray that we may do those things that are required for happiness and peace in this life, and for joy and eternal life in the world to come.”

Elder Dallin H. Oaks of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “Joy and Mercy,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1991, 75.

in the hallway that held toys for the grandchildren. She had often played with the brightly colored blocks and puzzles. Her little brother, Joshua, who was 18 months old, preferred the trucks.

Sometimes Grandma had let Michelle play with the baskets she collected. Today Grandpa invited everyone to choose a basket as a memory of Grandma. Michelle picked a tiny one with a handle. She showed it to Mama, who held up a quilted basket of her own. She said it would remind her of how Grandma loved to quilt.

Tears gathered in Mama’s eyes, and Michelle wrapped her arms around Mama’s neck. “It’s all right. Grandma’s in heaven now,” she whispered.

Mama pulled her close and hugged her. “I know, sweetheart. I know.”

“I still feel sad,” Michelle said.

Mama stroked her hair. “We can’t help feeling sad, but we should be happy, too. After all, Grandma is with Heavenly Father and with family and friends who love her. We know that we’ll see her again someday. And because of Jesus Christ we’ll all be resurrected and live forever. I’m sure Grandma wants us to be happy about those things.”

Michelle felt better, but something about the funeral still puzzled her. “What did Uncle Robert mean when he said Grandma finished her life mission?” she asked. “Is that like when Cousin Steve finished his Church mission and came home?”

Mama took a long time answering. “In a way it is,” she said at last. “We are sent to earth to do certain things. Some of those things are different for each of us, but many are the same, like receiving a body. We should also learn about Jesus Christ, accept the gospel, be baptized, keep the commandments, repent of our sins, receive temple endowments, and start an eternal family.”

“Like when you and Dad got married?” Michelle liked to hear the story of how her parents had met in college.

Mama nodded. “Grandma and Grandpa were married in the temple, too.”

“What else did Grandma do on her mission?” Michelle asked.

“She served others. Remember how she was always knitting bandages and baby booties? Those were for Church Humanitarian Services to send to people all over the world. Grandma did a lot of things for others.”

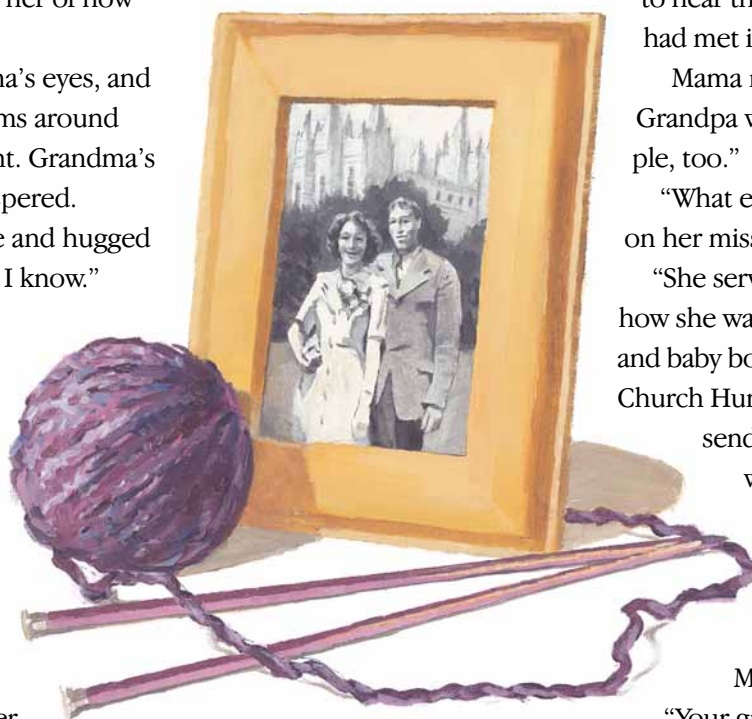
“Like baby-sit me and Joshua sometimes.”

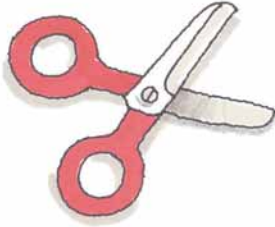
Mama wiped away a tear.

“Your grandma has completed the mortal part of her life mission, but she’s not finished serving. She’s probably busy doing something to help someone else right now.”

Michelle smiled. “I’m going to help Joshua put the toys away and tell him that Grandma’s busy in heaven just like she was here.” ●

Jane McBride Choate is a member of Big Thompson Ward, Loveland Colorado Stake.





Family Memory Box



A new year has just begun. What better time to make future memories? As a family, you can make a family memory box.

You will need: a box; tape; wrapping paper, drawings, photos, or stickers (optional); an envelope for each family member; and various objects chosen from the suggestions below.

Instructions

1. Decorate the box with wrapping paper, drawings, photos, or stickers (optional).
2. Copy the letter on page 39 for each family member to fill out (or use it as an example to help each family member write him or herself a letter). Seal each letter in an envelope marked with the person's name and put them all in the box.
3. Using the suggestions on this page, assemble other objects and put them in the box.
4. Seal the box with tape and hide it in a safe place.

5. On January 1, 2006, open the box, read the letters, and enjoy the memories!

Suggestions

Need help getting started? You may want to include:

- Photos of your family and friends
- The front page of your local newspaper
- An audiotape of your family speaking or singing
- The outline of your hand or foot traced on paper
- A souvenir or written statement about a favorite 2004 family home evening or outing
- List of family goals for 2005
- List of family accomplishments in 2004
- Drawings by each family member of one thing each hopes to do in 2005
- A list of how much your favorite foods cost
- A written statement about (or picture of) the funniest thing that happened to you in 2004
- A list of books you read in 2004



A Letter to Myself

Dear _____,
Today's date is _____. I am _____
years old. I measure _____ tall.

I really like to _____ with my
family! When I spend time with friends, we
often _____. Some of my
friends are _____.

Here are some of my favorites:

Song or musician: _____

Television show or movie: _____

Game: _____

Book: _____

Food: _____

Primary activity: _____

Place to visit: _____

Hobby: _____

What I remember most about 2004 is

_____ because
_____.

I was pleased with myself when I _____
_____ because it
was a challenge to accomplish it. One thing I
hope to learn to do better in 2005 is _____.

If I could make a wish for 2005, it would be
_____. One goal
I hope to achieve by the end of this year is
_____.

The Primary's My Gospel Standards are
important in my life. I plan to improve on the
following standards this year:

_____.

If I'm ever discouraged, the scriptures can
help me feel the Spirit. My favorite scripture
story is _____.

I know that Heavenly Father answers
prayers because _____.

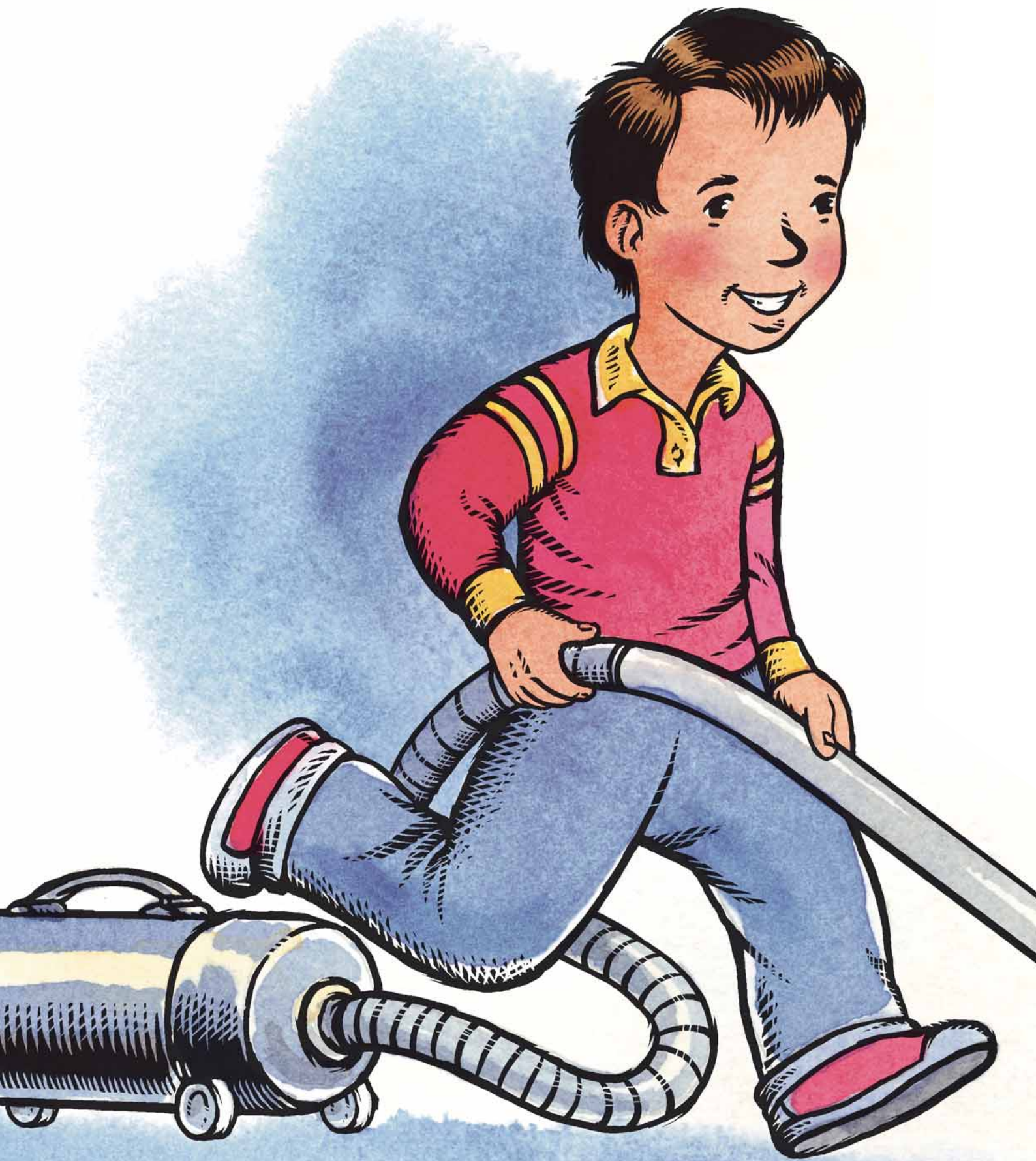
_____. I will try to remember
to say my prayers every morning and night.

Well, see you next year!

Love, _____

P.S. I forgot to say that _____.

_____.





Ben's Busy Day

BY MICHELLE LEHNARDT

(Based on experiences of the author's family)

When ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only in the service of your God (Mosiah 2:17).

Ben was angry. It was Saturday morning, and he had just come home from a violin rehearsal. He had a list of chores to do, a violin performance that afternoon, and now something more—his dad had just told him that it was his family's turn to clean the church.

"I'm not going to have any time to play!" he declared as he threw his jacket on the floor.

Dad sat down with Ben at the kitchen table and said quietly, "I know this is a busy day. But it might be easier if you remember who your time really belongs to."

Ben calmed down. He knew he was a child of God and that everything—even time—was a gift from Heavenly Father. He nodded slowly.

Dad smiled. "Go get a Book of Mormon, Ben. I want to show you something."

Dad opened the scriptures to Mosiah 2. "You remember King Benjamin, don't you?" Ben grinned. He liked to hear stories about the ancient prophet whose name he shared.

"King Benjamin wanted to teach his people how to be happy. He built a tower so people could hear him better, and the people gathered from all around. It was a lot like general conference. He stood on the tower and reminded the people that their homes, families, bodies, and even the air around them were gifts from a loving Heavenly Father.

"He also told his people that he had worked very hard his whole life serving them. He said, '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.' ""*

"You see, Ben," Dad concluded, "when you are helping other people, you are helping Heavenly Father. If Jesus appeared to you this morning and asked you to serve Him all day, you would probably be pretty excited about it. If you think about it, Jesus has already asked us to serve Him every day."

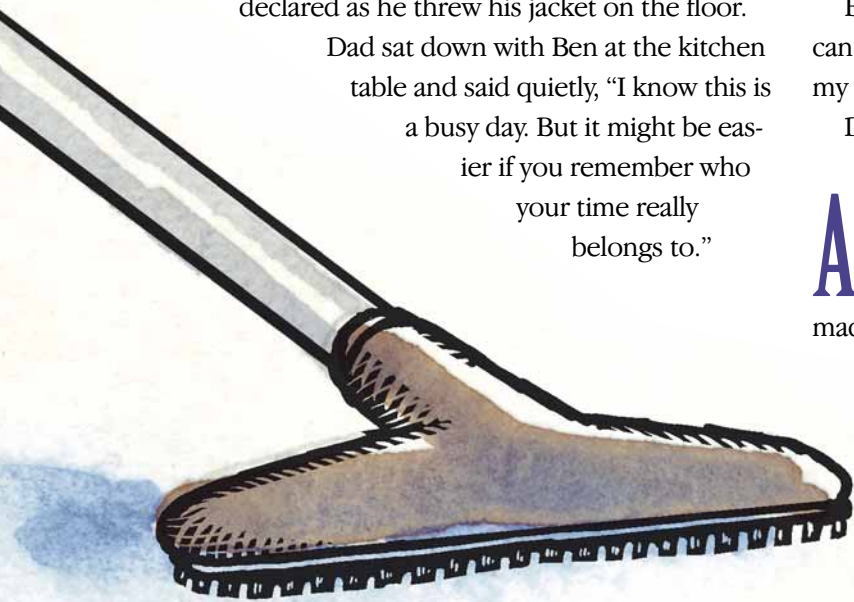
Ben was almost convinced, but he had a question. "I can see how working helps others, but how does playing my violin serve anyone?"

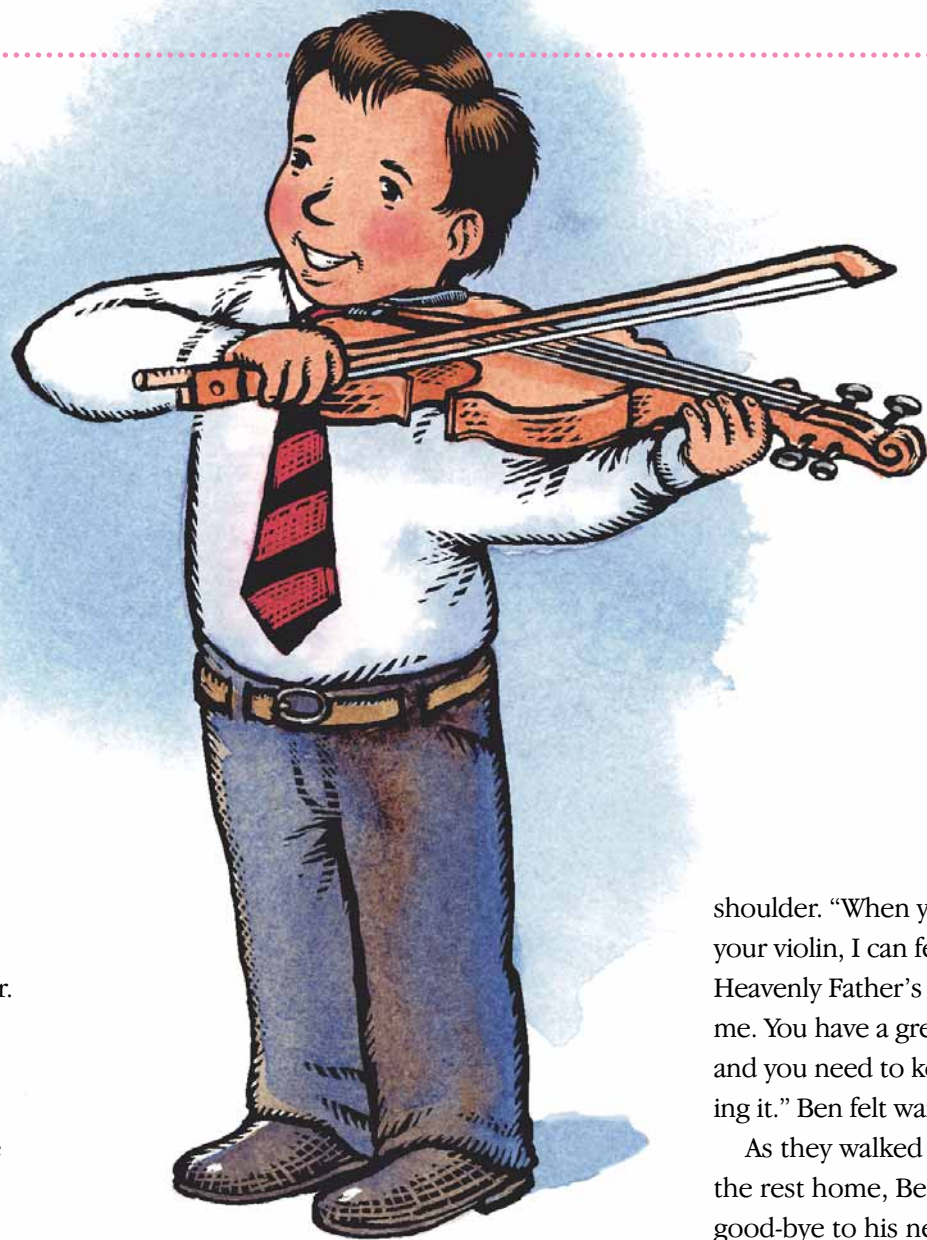
Dad smiled wisely. "Why don't you wait and see?"

As Ben started doing his chores, he realized that the work needed to be done, so he might as well be cheerful in doing it. He soon noticed how happy it made his mom when he worked without complaining.

Later, when Ben went to the church to help clean, he had fun racing his brother as they vacuumed the cultural hall. He

* Mosiah 2:17.





thought about how a spotless church shows respect to Heavenly Father. And cleaning didn't seem to take as long as he thought it would.

The violin performance was at a home for older people. At first Ben felt nervous. Most of the people were in wheelchairs, and many of them looked like they were asleep. But as Ben began to play his violin, he noticed a white-haired lady in the front row. She was tapping her foot to the music. Ben tried to play his very best just for her. He played a fast fiddling song, and everyone began to clap their hands and stomp their feet. Soon everyone was laughing and smiling.

The last song was "I Am a Child of God."** Ben played better than he ever had before. As the final notes sang out, a sweet and peaceful feeling settled over the room.

Ben understood now. Beautiful music brings people closer to Heavenly Father, and he was serving others by inviting the Spirit. As he sat down, Dad squeezed his

** *Children's Songbook*, 2-3.

shoulder. "When you play your violin, I can feel Heavenly Father's love for me. You have a great gift and you need to keep sharing it." Ben felt warm inside.

As they walked out of the rest home, Ben waved good-bye to his new friends.

"How do you feel now?" Dad asked.

"I feel so good, Dad. I thought today would be nothing but work. But when I thought about serving Heavenly Father instead of myself, everything seemed easier." ●

Michelle Lebnardt is a member of the Crescent 13th Ward, Sandy Utah Crescent Stake.



"If you really know that you are a child of God, you will also know that He expects much of you, His child. . . . He will expect you to be generous and kind to others."

President Gordon B. Hinckley, "You Are a Child of God," *Ensign*, May 2003, 119.

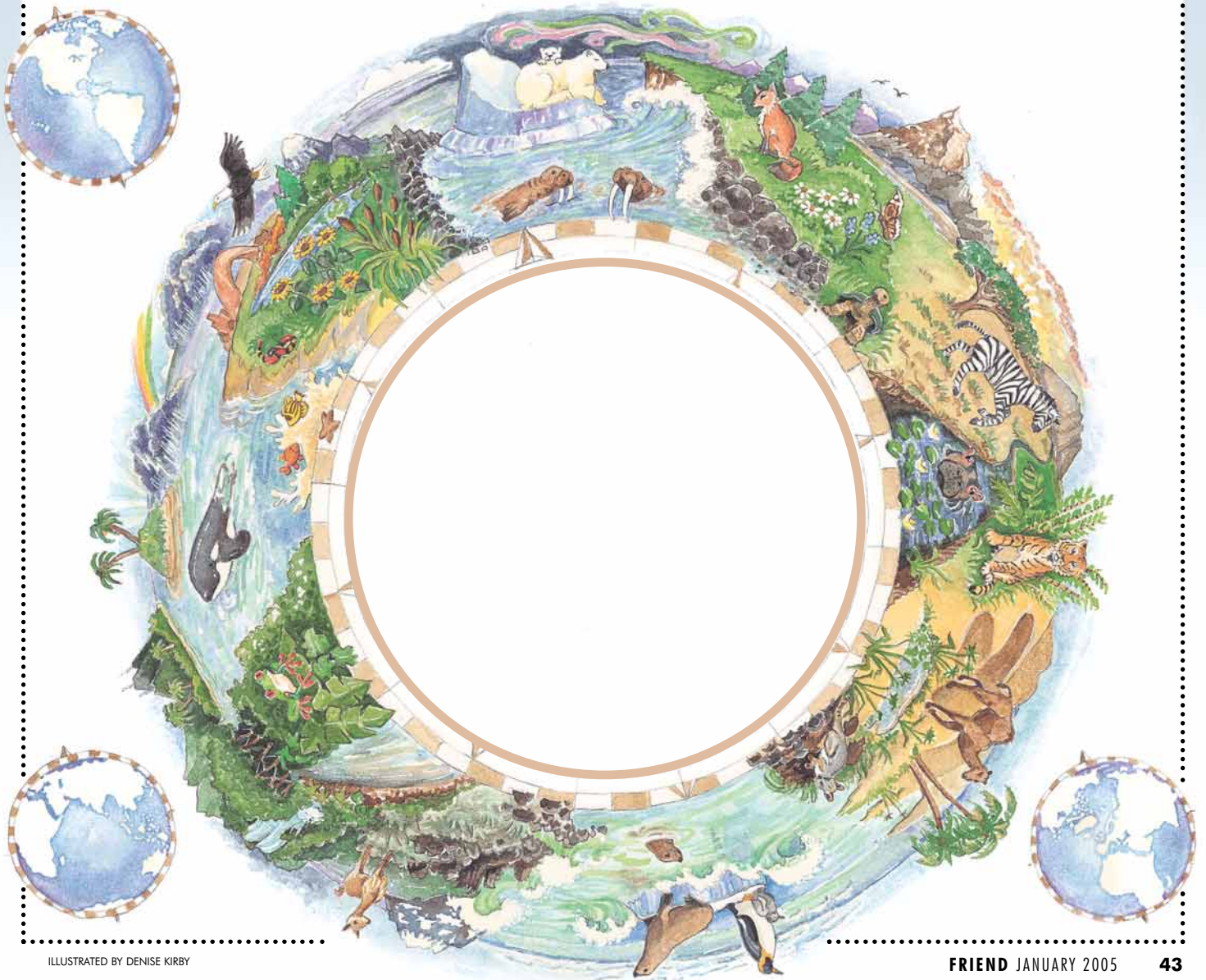


Our Beautiful WORLD

PART OF THE PLAN

As part of His wonderful plan for us, Heavenly Father created a beautiful world where we could receive a body and prove ourselves worthy to return to Him. Look at the smaller circles that show different parts of the world. Find the one that shows

where you live, and mark the spot where you live with a star. Then, in the large circle, draw a picture of yourself enjoying our beautiful world. Remember to thank Heavenly Father every day for our beautiful world. ●





Trying to Be Like Jesus

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

Love Note

By Jovencio Joseph "J. J." Sigaya Ilagan III

I am the oldest of four children. When I was 10 years old, my sisters Kathleen and Kyla, my brother David, and I often scattered our toys around the house. To help us be more responsible, our parents bought us a cabinet. We liked to arrange our toys in the cabinet. Every morning before leaving for school, we checked to see if our toys were in their proper places. Kyla, who was three years old then, didn't attend school yet.

One afternoon when we returned from school, we were horrified to find the toy cabinet

empty. We called Kyla and demanded to know where our toys were. She pointed behind the bedroom door. There we saw our toys in a careless heap, some of them damaged.

I was so angry that I ordered Kyla out of the room. After we put our



toys back in the cabinet, I took a pen and paper and wrote in bold letters "Kyla is not allowed to enter this room!" I stuck it on our bedroom door, and we called Kyla to read it. She didn't know how to read yet, but she pretended she could, reading loudly, "J. J., I love you, from Kyla."

I felt my cheeks turn red with shame. Kyla had shown me love despite my being angry with her. I will never forget that experience. Whenever I am tempted to be angry, it humbles me. Kyla taught me that we don't have to be grown-ups to try to be like Jesus. We can start now.

Jovencio Joseph "J. J." Sigaya Ilagan III, age 12, is a member of the Tugbungan Ward, Zamboanga Philippines Stake.

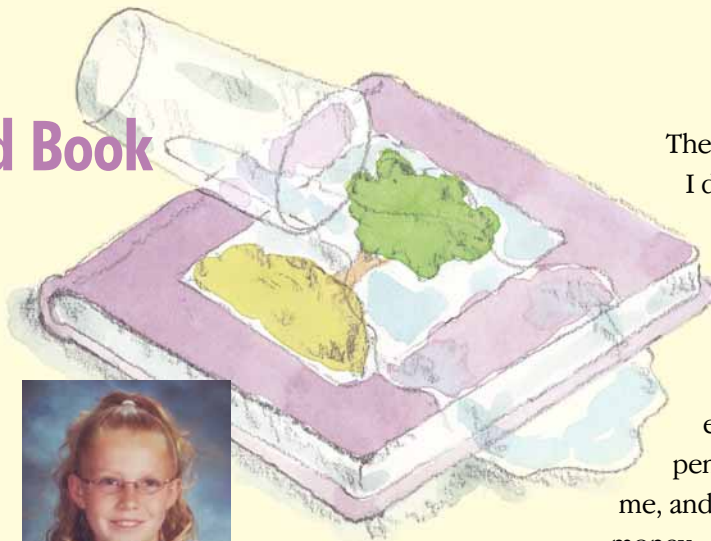


The Borrowed Book

By Gerika Ballard

My schoolteacher has a special shelf where she keeps books that she doesn't want anyone to take home. I saw a book there that I wanted to take home and read that night. I knew I could finish it and bring it back the next day before she missed it.

I read the book that night and put it on my dresser. Later, my sister spilled a glass of water on the book and didn't tell me. By the time I found out, my teacher's book was wet and puffy. I was so scared



that I started to cry! I was afraid my teacher would be really mad at me.

I prayed that she wouldn't be mad and that she would still trust me. I decided I should pay for the book, and my sister agreed to help pay, too. We put our money in an envelope.

The next morning I wished that I didn't have to go to school.

All morning I practiced in my head how I would apologize to my teacher. Finally I took the book and money to her and explained what had happened. She didn't get mad at me, and she even gave back the money.

I know that Heavenly Father forgives us and loves us, but it would have been better if I had chosen the right in the first place. I learned a good lesson, but I'm glad that it's over. Now I am trying to choose the right every day, even when it's hard.

Gerika Ballard, age 8, is a member of the Bluffdale Eighth Ward, Bluffdale Utah Stake.

Turning the Other Cheek

By Matthew Painter



Last year I was sitting on the school bus when an older boy came over and started

saying mean things to the boy next to me. I told him to stop. I said it was not nice. He didn't like that, so he slapped my face. I sat there shocked that he had done this to me. My mom had told me

that when kids say or do mean things, I should sing the Primary song "I'm Trying to Be like Jesus." So I started singing the song in my head, and the boy slapped me again. I did not hit the boy back. I didn't want to hit him. I followed Jesus's example and turned the other cheek. I know I did the right thing by not hitting back. I am happy that we have Primary songs that can help us during hard times.

Matthew Painter, age 9, is a member of the Hazeldale Ward, Beaverton Oregon West Stake.

I Will Keep the Sabbath Day Holy*

By Rebekah Nielson



One Sunday a friend came to my house, and I told him, "I can't play today." He was sad because I couldn't play. But we played on Monday. I felt great, and he did, too.

Rebekah Nielson, age 6, is a member of the Willow Glen Ward, San Jose California Stake.

MATINEE

Movie Prices
Children 3-11
\$3.75
Adults 12 and over
\$5.00



BY ERIN HILL LITTLEFIELD

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



Do that which is honest (2 Corinthians 13:7).

Elisa's mom pulled the car up to the curb near the movie theater, and Elisa jumped out onto the sidewalk. There were already dozens of people in line. Luckily, she saw her friend Tracy waving from near the front.

"Have fun!" Mom handed Elisa some change.

"Call me if Tracy's mom isn't here to pick you up."

"Thanks, Mom," Elisa said, shutting the car door.

It was Elisa's 12th birthday, and she and Tracy were going to a movie that they had been waiting to see for months. Elisa saw the movie posters displayed outside the building and started to feel excited. She patted the ticket money in her pocket.

"I'm glad I got here early," Tracy said. "The line is already getting long, and the movie doesn't start for another 20 minutes."

Finally they reached the ticket window. The list of ticket prices was displayed above the cashier's head.

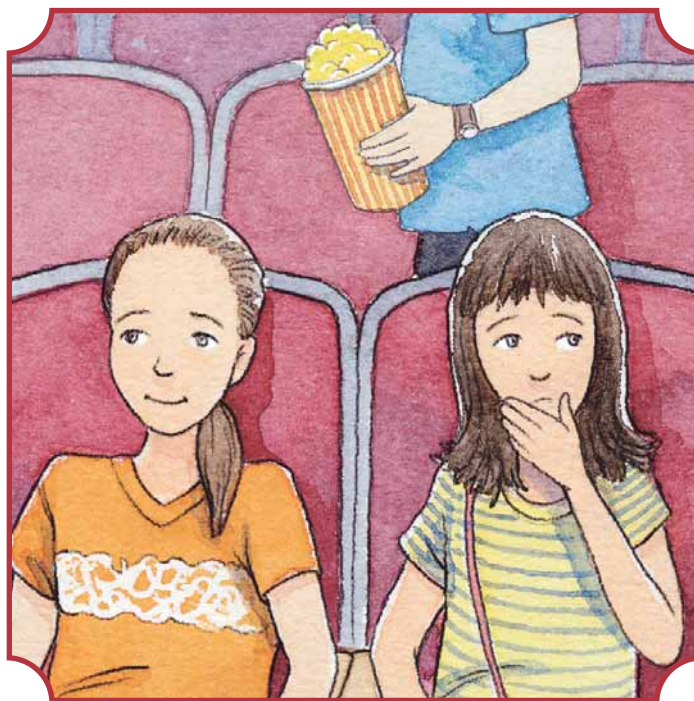
"One child's ticket, please," Tracy said, telling him the name of the movie they wanted to see. She handed him her money and he slid a ticket under the glass.

Elisa stepped up next. "I'm getting a ticket for the same show."

He slid a child's ticket toward her and she put her money under the glass. Then she realized she shouldn't have done that. The sign above his head said "Children 3–11 \$3.75. Adults 12 and older \$5.00."

She was supposed to pay the full price, but the man had already pushed forward her change and was helping the next person in line. "Oh, well," she thought. "It's no big deal, right? I just *barely* turned 12." Elisa pocketed the change and walked into the theater behind Tracy.

"This is perfect," Tracy said as they found some seats in the middle. Elisa nodded, but she was thinking about what had just happened at the ticket booth.



"So, happy birthday!" Tracy said, smiling. "I'm so glad we can celebrate together. Are you still going to have a birthday party next weekend?"

"What?" Elisa was picturing the sign above the cashier's head.

"The birthday party—are you having it?" Tracy repeated. "I can't wait until I turn 12. I'll be able to go to girls' camp with you in July."

"Oh, that's right," Elisa said. "We'll share a tent together."

"I'm going to miss activity days," Tracy said, "but turning 12 will be so cool. Do you already feel more grown-up?"

Elisa felt less grown-up at that moment. She wasn't sure what to do. "I guess so," she said. The uneasy feeling wouldn't go away.

"You'll have to tell me about our Young Women's class so I can be prepared," Tracy said. "I don't want to feel silly at my first activity."

The theater lights dimmed and music started to play. Elisa wanted to go back to the ticket booth, but she thought the cashier would think she was being foolish.

"It's only a matter of 24 hours, right?" she reasoned to herself.

The movie previews started, and Elisa and Tracy sat back to enjoy the movie. It was great—just what they had hoped it would be—but Elisa couldn't forget what had happened at the ticket booth. She hadn't been honest.

When the movie was over, they waited in the aisle for a few minutes while everyone filed out. Elisa stared at the red carpeted wall, barely listening to Tracy rave about the movie. Elisa knew what she had to do. As soon as they stepped outside the theater, she turned toward the ticket window.

"Um, I need to take care of something at the ticket booth."

"Ticket booth? Are you going again?" Tracy laughed. "It was good, but—"

"No, I just have to fix a mistake." Elisa stepped toward the ticket booth.

"Wait, Elisa," Tracy called. "My mom's here. We need to go."

"I'll hurry," Elisa called back to her. She walked quickly to the front of the line and approached the window.

"What movie?" the cashier asked.

Elisa slid her ticket stub under the glass. "Well, I just saw this movie. I bought the ticket before it started."

"Do you want to see it again?" He looked puzzled.

"No, I paid the wrong price," Elisa said nervously.

"See, I paid for a child's ticket, but really I'm 12 and I should have paid the full price. Today's my birthday."

"So?"

"Well, I should have told you I was 12, because the price is different."

"Look, I don't care," he said, laughing at her. "Just forget about it."

"Well, I didn't tell the truth and I should have," she said again. It didn't feel funny to her.

"What's the problem?" the manager asked, stepping into the ticket booth. Elisa explained to her what had happened.

"I want to pay the extra money," Elisa said again.

"Some kids try to sneak in without buying a ticket at all." The manager shook her head, smiling. "You can keep the change."



Consider it a birthday present for being honest."

"Really?" Suddenly Elisa *did* feel grown-up. She walked toward Tracy with a big smile on her face.

"Did they fix their mistake?" Tracy asked.

"No, it was *my* mistake," Elisa said, "so I fixed it myself." ●

Erin Hill Littlefield is a member of the Bryan First Ward, College Station Texas Stake.

Guide to the Friend



The Guide to the Friend can help you find stories or articles for preparing lessons or talks for church or for family home evening. The Primary theme for January is "Heavenly Father presented a plan for us to become like Him."



Family Home Evening Ideas

Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned below.

1. Tell the story of Atiati from President James E. Faust's message "Born Again through Baptism" (pages 2–3). Ask the baptized members of your family to discuss how baptism and the gift of the Holy Ghost changed their lives. Ask those who have not yet been baptized how they are preparing themselves.

2. To celebrate Heavenly Father's beautiful world, read the poems "The Creation" (page 7) and "Our Animal Friends" (pages 34–35). Ask everyone to name a few of their favorite creations, explain their choices, and draw pictures of them. Then complete the activity "Our Beautiful World—Part of the Plan" (page 43).

3. Turn off the lights and tell the story "The Light" (pages 4–6) in your own words, turning on a flashlight at the appropriate time. Discuss how prayer can bring more light into our lives. Then read "Prayer" (pages 24–25), and do the coloring activity.

4. Read "Grandma's Life Mission" (pages 36–37) and talk about the joy family members bring into your lives. Discuss how Heavenly Father's plan, Jesus's Atonement, and temple work unite families forever. Invite people to tell of deceased family members they look forward to meeting again someday. Prepare a family memory box (pages 38–39) to celebrate your family as it is right now.

5. Read "Ben's Busy Day" (pages 40–42) and make plans for serving others as a family. Prepare "Food for the Birds" (page 33) to serve your feathered friends and "A Mouse in the House" (page 35) treats to serve each other.



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Topical Index to this Issue of the *Friend*

(FLF) = For Little Friends
(f) = Funstuff
(IFC) = inside front cover
(p) = poster
(v) = verse

Baptism 2

Book of Mormon 40

Choose the Right 44, 46

Creation 7 (v), 23 (f), 34 (FLF), 43

Death 36

Faith 2, 18

Family 18, 28, 38, 44

Goals 20, Insert (p), 28, 38

Heavenly Father 7 (v), 10, 14, 23 (f), Insert (p), 36, 40, 43

Holy Ghost 4, 10

Honesty 46

Jesus Christ 2, 7 (v), 14, Insert (p), 36, 40, 44

Love and Kindness 32 (FLF), 44

Missionary Work 2, 8, 18

Music 40, 45

My Gospel Standards IFC, 2, 8, 10, 14, 24, 28, 32 (FLF), 36, 38, 43, 46

Plan of Happiness 13 (f), 14, Insert (p), 36, 40, 43

Prayer IFC, 4, 24

Priesthood 28

Primary 8

Prophets IFC, 2, 18, 42

Quorum of the Seventy 8

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles 6, 12, 13, 22, 31, 37

Repentance 10, 45, 46

Sabbath Day 45

Scriptures 23 (f), 40

Service 32, 36, 40

The Friend

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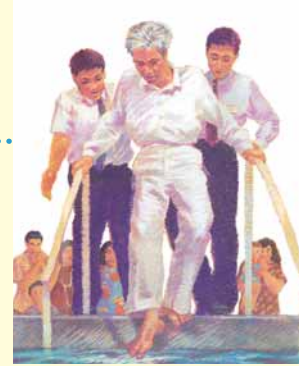
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Key 040204

What's in the *Friend* this month?

page 2

President Faust tells us about a man who had not walked for 20 years until his baptism changed everything.



Insert

To learn about Heavenly Father's plan of happiness, remove the poster insert and follow the instructions.

page 32

Find out how you can enjoy Christmas all year!

