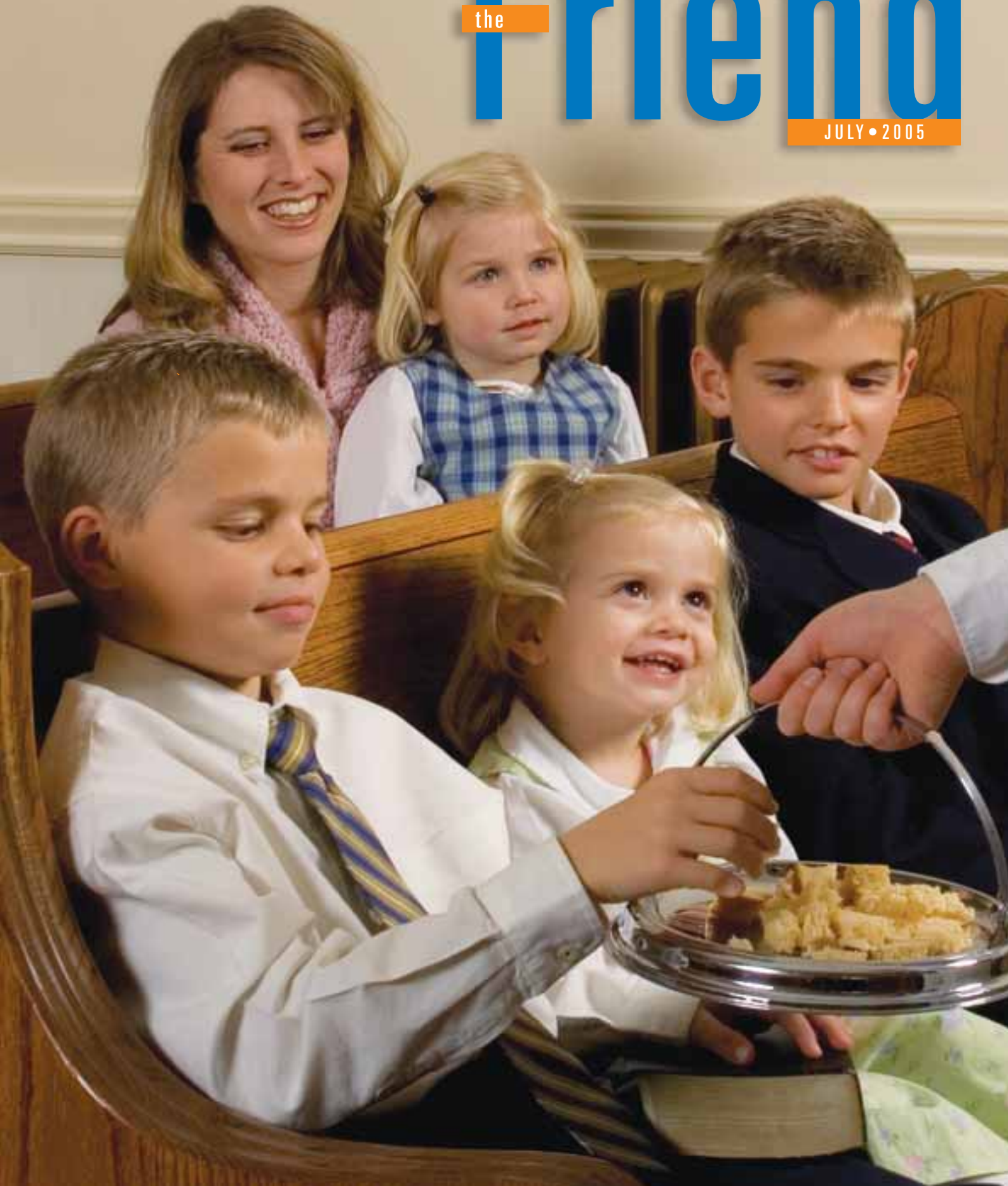


# the Friend

JULY • 2005



# Friends by Mail



## My Baptism

I live on the island of Lifou, one of the islands of New Caledonia. I was baptized on a Saturday afternoon by my father. We had to travel to another tribal area called Luengóni for

my baptism because my tribe lives on the high ground, and we don't have any beaches. When I went down into the water, I was afraid, and my heart was heavy. Coming out of the water I felt very light and full of joy. My heart was pounding with joy, for I knew that my church is the true Church of Jesus Christ. I love singing the hymns of the Church and reading the Book of Mormon. I bear you my testimony in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

Wajo Elenne Xowi, age 8  
Lifou Island, New Caledonia

## A Good Magazine

I am writing to let you know how much I enjoy reading the *Friend*. My family and I have subscribed for a long time, probably from before I was baptized. I think it is cool that I can read about other children around the world. We use the *Friend* for family home evening and also for scripture study. It helps me relate what I'm reading in the scriptures to things that may happen to me in everyday life. I have also used it to help write talks. I gave my first talk in sacrament meeting in December, and I used the December issue of the *Friend*. Thank you for publishing such a good magazine.

Quinton Stoker, age 12  
Eagle Mountain, Utah

## Warm Heart

I was wondering if The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is true. I prayed about it on Saturday night and didn't get an answer that night. On Sunday morning I prayed about it again, and right when I said the words "The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints," my heart got very warm. I felt the Holy Ghost say to me, "Yes, it is the true church."

Audrey Jensen, age 8  
South Euclid, Ohio



## A Bad Case of the Flu

When I was young I had a bad case of the flu. My dad gave me a blessing. Many people in the temple prayed for me. I got better the next week. I am thankful for fathers' blessings, temples, prayer, and the priesthood.

David Brown, age 11  
Duluth, Georgia



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Cover by John Luke, posed by models

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**

In Samoan,  
*filifili mea tonu*  
means "choose the  
right."

As you look for the  
Samoan CTR ring hidden in  
this issue, think about the  
covenants you have made  
or will make at baptism.







# Set upon a Hill

BY PRESIDENT GORDON B. HINCKLEY



**President Hinckley teaches us that we can be an example to the world if we live the standards of the Church.**

I shall always remember the great experiences I had at the open house prior to the dedication of the Washington D.C. Temple. For part of a week, I stood in the entrance to the temple as a host to special guests. Those guests included the wife of the president of the United States, justices of the Supreme Court, senators and congressmen, ambassadors from various nations, clergymen, educators, and business leaders.

Almost without exception, those who came were appreciative and respectful. Many were deeply touched in their hearts. Upon leaving the temple, the wife of the president of the United States commented: "This is a truly great experience for me. . . . It's an inspiration to all."

One day while riding in the traffic in Washington D.C., I looked with wonder at the gleaming spires of the Lord's house rising heavenward from a hill in the woods. Words of scripture came into my mind, words spoken by the Lord as He taught the people. Said He:

"A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.

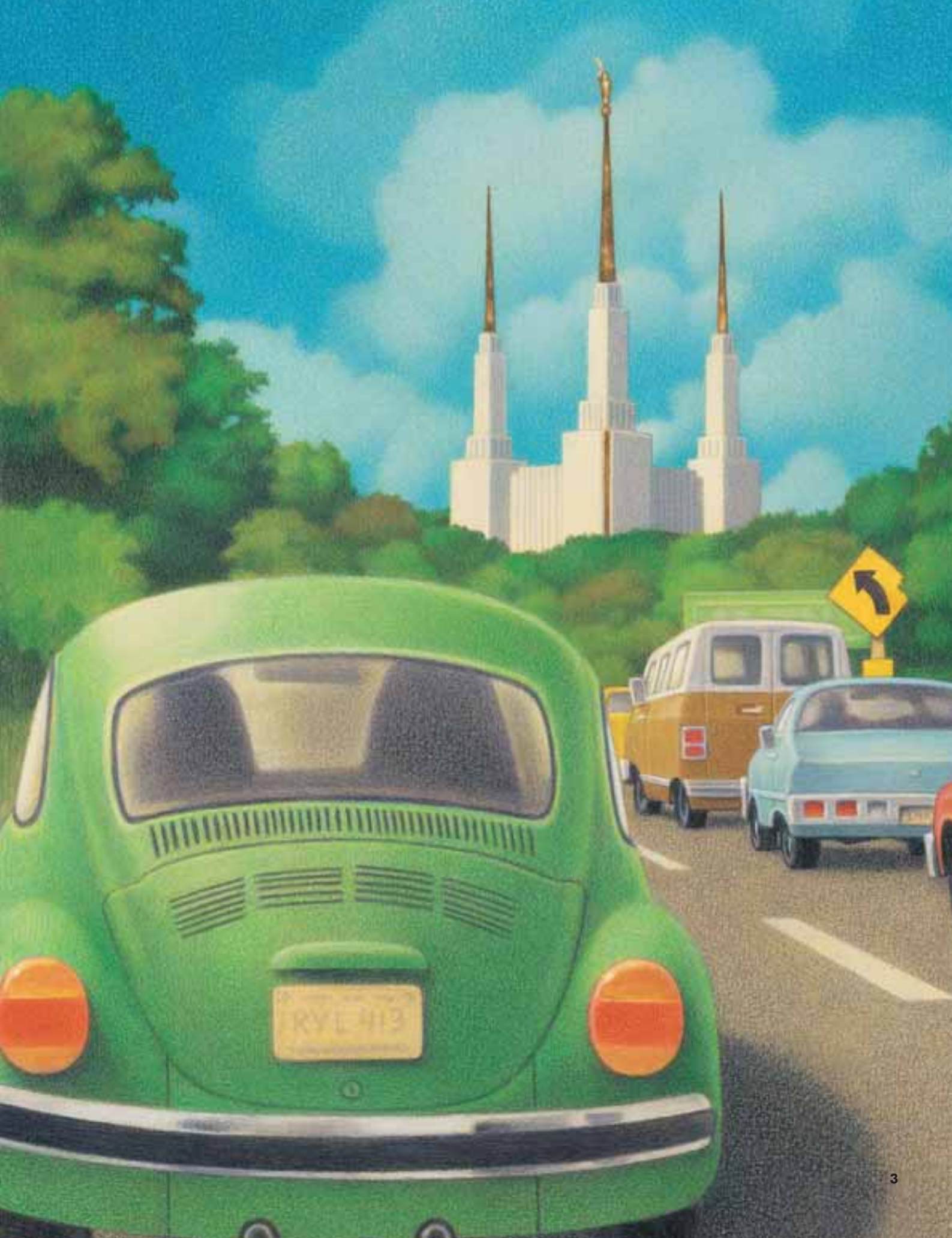
"Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

"Let *your* light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:14–16; emphasis added).

This entire people has become as a city upon a hill which cannot be hid. The world expects something better of us. It is not always easy to live in the world and not be a part of it. We have a responsibility to take our places in the world. We can be gracious. We can be inoffensive. We can avoid any spirit or attitude of self-righteousness. But we can maintain our standards.

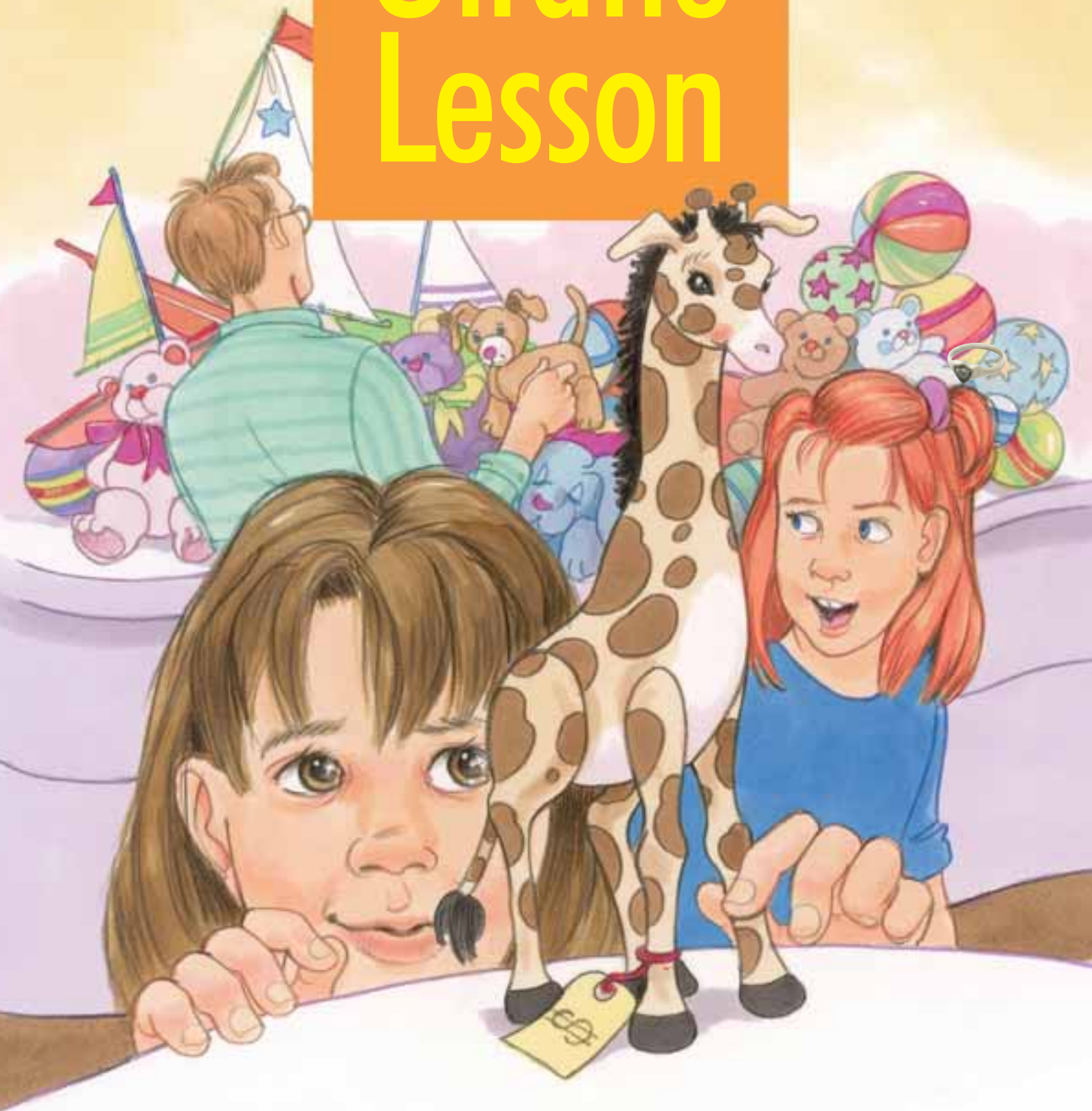
As we observe standards taught by the Church, many in the world will respect us and find strength to follow that which they too know is right. ●

*From "A City Set upon a Hill," Ensign, July 1990, 2–5.*





# The Giraffe Lesson





## BY JULIE GUBLER

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

*By this ye may know if a man repenteth of his sins—  
behold, he will confess them and forsake them*  
(D&C 58:43).

**Q**uick! His back is turned!" Paisley said, looking at the sales clerk. Ann swiftly reached up and grabbed the small stuffed giraffe from the shelf. The giraffe would look so cool with the rest of her animals. She almost had a complete set.

"Got it," Ann whispered as she stuffed the soft object into her jacket pocket. "Let's go."

The two girls strolled past the clerk, out of the toy store, and into the mall to meet Paisley's mother. Ann had a funny feeling in her stomach. She couldn't help looking over her shoulder to see if anyone was watching. She kept one hand in her pocket, curled around the animal.

"You know," Paisley said, holding up a small stuffed kangaroo, "we wouldn't have to steal these if they didn't cost so much money!"

When Ann got home, she ran upstairs to her room. She was excited to put the giraffe with her other animals. She took the miniature animals lovingly off the shelf—the horse was the first one she had bought, then the camel. She had been able to buy the dog, elephant, lion, and bear with money she earned from

her summer job of weeding the garden.

Her mother opened the bedroom door. "Ann, the bishop called. He would like to interview you next week for your baptism."

Ann's face went white. She knew that after she was baptized, she would be accountable for her actions and would have to repent of her sins. Would Heavenly Father forgive her for stealing the giraffe?

Mom noticed the nervous look on Ann's face. "Oh, honey, don't be scared. Your dad and I will be there with you. The bishop just needs to make sure that you want to be baptized."

"I know, Mom," Ann replied. She was glad that Mom didn't know about the giraffe.

"Can you play today?" Paisley asked Ann as the two girls walked to school the next morning.

"I . . . uh . . . I don't know," Ann said. "I tried playing with my animals last night, but it wasn't any fun. Do you think it might be because I stole the giraffe?"

"Maybe." Paisley looked down at the sidewalk. "I couldn't play with my kangaroo, either. We shouldn't have taken those animals yesterday."

Ann was quiet all morning. She tried to concentrate on the math lesson, but it was hard because she was trying to block out the awful way she felt inside. She was relieved when the recess bell rang.

"I don't feel like swinging



today,” Ann said to Paisley as she walked out the door, bundling her coat around her.

“Could your mom take us back to the mall after school?” Paisley asked. “Then we could return the animals. I don’t want to play with my kangaroo anymore. I would feel better if I took it back.”

“Me, too. I’ll ask my mom when I get home,” Ann said.

That afternoon, Ann took a deep breath as she opened the door of her house. Tears filled her eyes as she thought how disappointed her mom and dad would be. She walked into the kitchen.

“Hi, honey. How was your day?” Mom said.

“OK.” Ann looked down at her feet. “Mom, I have to tell you something. When I went to the mall with Paisley, we took some stuffed animals from the toy store without paying for them.” Mom listened as Ann told her how sorry she was.

“I’m very disappointed in you, Ann. You know that stealing is wrong. What do you think you should do now?”

“Paisley and I want to take the animals back. Could you drive us to the toy store?”

“Of course.” Mom hugged her. “I’m glad you’ve decided to do the right thing.”

Mom and Ann picked up Paisley at her house and drove to the mall. Then Mom walked with them to the toy store.

“Are you sure you don’t want me to come in with you?” Mom asked.

“No, Mom,” Ann answered firmly. “We need to do this by ourselves.”



The girls walked quickly into the store and up to the counter. Placing the animals on the counter, they explained to the clerk that they had taken the stuffed animals without paying for them, and that they were very sorry.

The clerk glared at them. “I’ll have to report this to the owner,” he said. “I’m not sure what he’ll do.” The girls gave the clerk their names and telephone numbers and left the store.

“I’ll never steal another thing as long as I live,” Ann declared as she and Paisley rode home in the car.

“Me neither,” Paisley said. “And even if the owner is mad and won’t forgive us, at least Heavenly Father will.”

The following week Ann had her interview with the bishop. She explained to him what she had done and how she had tried to make it right—and how she had promised Heavenly Father that she would never steal anything again. She and the bishop talked about repentance, and how Ann had completed the steps.

The bishop said, “When you steal something, you can never fully enjoy it because you got it dishonestly. I’m glad you learned from your mistake, Ann. You are truly ready to be baptized now.” ●

*Julie Gubler is a member of the Santa Clara First Ward, Santa Clara Utah Stake.*



“You cannot afford to . . . shoplift or steal or do anything of the kind.”

**President Gordon B. Hinckley, “A Chosen Generation,” *Ensign*, May 1992, 71.**



# My Brother's Baptism

BY KARLA ROBINETT

I'm watching my big brother  
Whether at work or at play.  
I watch him very closely  
Every night and every day.

I watch him help our mother  
Without ever saying no.  
I watch him help our father  
Mow the lawn or shovel snow.

I watch him pray at bedtime;  
Read his scriptures every night.  
I watch him very closely—  
He helps me choose the right.

I watched him wear white clothing  
On his sacred baptism day.  
He was following Jesus,  
Just like the scriptures say.

Then he said something special—  
Now I can hardly wait.  
He said I can be baptized  
Just as soon as I turn eight!



# Answered Prayers



From an interview with Elder Gerald N. Lund of the Seventy, currently serving in the Europe West Area Presidency; by Melvin Leavitt, Church Magazines

*Counsel with the Lord in all thy doings, and he will direct thee for good* (Alma 37:37).

**E**ach fast Sunday my wife and I have a family night with all the grandchildren who can come. One night I told them about losing something as a small boy. It was a little thing, but it was very important to me. I looked and searched and hunted and couldn't find it. Finally I thought, "Well, why not ask Heavenly Father?" I knelt and prayed, and when I opened my eyes, there it was right in front of me.

Although we have all also had

experiences that didn't turn out this way, during the family night I asked my grandchildren, "Have any of you had a similar experience to mine?" and every child's hand went up.

A coin or a toy may not seem very important in the eternal scheme of things. But it is extremely important for you to learn that Heavenly Father is there and that He hears and answers prayers. He wants us to learn while we are young that He is waiting for us to call on Him. He wants us to know that He is willing to intervene in our lives to bless us, protect us, and preserve us.





As we get older, we may have to pray longer and harder before getting an answer, but we will receive one. As a young man, I always planned to go on a mission until the time to go actually came. I was dating a young woman quite seriously, I had started an excellent job and was making good money, and I had just bought a new car. Suddenly leaving for two years didn't sound so attractive. I decided to stay home and serve a stake mission instead. I thought my dad would be angry, but he just said, "Well, that's your choice. But it's a pretty big decision. Would you be willing to take two separate days and go off by yourself somewhere and fast and pray about this? If you do and you still feel the same way, I will not say another word."

I agreed immediately because I was sure that my decision was acceptable to the Lord. I took my scriptures up into the mountains one Saturday and fasted and prayed and read. I went home and told my dad, "My feelings haven't changed."

He smiled and said, "You promised me two days."

The next week I had to work on Saturday, so I went up into a canyon on Sunday morning and again studied and prayed. I stayed until it was time to leave for sacrament meeting, which was held in the afternoon. I still felt the same way about a mission, and I wanted to hurry down and tell my dad. But as I backed the car around, I got stuck in a snowbank. By the time I pulled the car out and got home, my parents had left, so I picked up my girlfriend and went to sacrament meeting.

During the meeting I idly picked up the hymnbook. It fell open to the hymn that in those days was called "It May Not Be on the Mountain Height" (see "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go," *Hymns*, no. 270). Part of me said, "Don't read it!" But I read all three verses, including the words "I'll go where you want me to go, dear Lord." In that instant my heart and mind changed. When I finished reading, I closed the book and looked up. Tears were streaming down my girlfriend's face. She said, "You're going, aren't you?" I said, "Yes, I am."

I can't imagine where my life would have gone if I



**Left: With his wife and family in the summer of 2000.**

**Above: Deciding to serve a mission.**

**Right: With his parents when receiving a master's degree from Brigham Young University.**



had chosen to stay home. My mission led me to great happiness, and prayer led me to my mission. This experience taught me the importance of going to the Lord with my decisions.

A vital part of a testimony is knowing that God is our Heavenly Father and that He knows us and loves us and will answer our prayers. I'm only now beginning to understand how deeply He loves us and how well He knows us. He knows our hearts. He knows our loneliness. He knows our fears. He will not force Himself on us though, because He respects our agency. We must ask. When we do, our Heavenly Father will confirm the reality of His existence. How comforting it is to know that the Creator of the universe is standing by to answer a child's prayer. ●





# The Skipper's Son

BY LISA FERNELIUS

(Based on experiences of the author's grandfather)

*Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee*  
(Matthew 19:27).

**F**eike jumped from the edge of the canal onto the deck of the boat where his family lived. His wooden shoes clunked loudly as he raced toward the white cabin at the back of the boat.

"Today is the day," the 12-year-old boy thought excitedly. "Today Father will give the missionaries his answer."

Latter-day Saint missionaries had begun preaching in the Netherlands a few years earlier, in the 1860s. Feike had seen them and brought them home, hoping they would teach him English. He soon learned, however, that the elders had greater things to teach him and his family.

At the door of the small cabin, Feike removed his wooden shoes, turning them upside down to keep out water. His classroom at school was larger than the small cabin that was his home, but Feike loved the tiny kitchen with its wood-burning stove. His parents and younger brothers and sisters slept on wall beds that folded up behind the cupboard doors at the back of the kitchen. Feike, the oldest, slept in the storage compartment at the front of the boat.

He slipped into the living room and sat down quietly. Elder Swensen was speaking, carefully reviewing the teachings he and Elder Lofgren had shared on so many winter nights in this very room. Feike had felt the

warmth of the Spirit each time and wanted to be baptized right away. He thought his mother did, too, because she spoke often of going to the temple. But Father would not commit to something unless he knew he could do it, and so he wouldn't be baptized until he was sure he could keep his baptismal promises. Today was the day Father would tell the missionaries his decision. Feike had been praying so sincerely for weeks that he was certain his father's answer would be yes.

"Brother Wolthuis," Elder Lofgren said to Father, "I feel you know the gospel is true."

Father, looking at the floor, nodded his head.

"Are you willing to be baptized?" Elder Lofgren asked. "Can you make the necessary sacrifices?"

The room was silent. Even Feike's younger brothers and sisters didn't wiggle. Everyone stared at Father. Slowly he raised his weatherworn face.

"Yes, I know The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is true. I will be baptized."

Feike beamed. Heavenly Father had heard his prayers. Mother was smiling through the tears streaming down her cheeks.

"We will be ready to sail to America within the month," Father promised.

"Sail to America?" Feike blurted out.

"Yes, Feike," Father said. "Church leaders have asked all the Saints to come to Salt Lake City." He paused.







"Our commitment to the kingdom should match that of our faithful ancestors even though our sacrifices are different."

**Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "The Law of Sacrifice," *Ensign*, Oct. 1998, 11.**

"Uncle Geert has agreed to buy our boat."

"But the boat was to become mine one day! I was to become the skipper!" Feike desperately reminded his father.

"I know. I have not forgotten my promise," Father said. "Uncle Geert has agreed to keep you on as his hired man if you choose not to go to America. Then when you are old enough, he will sell the boat to you."

Anger washed over Feike's whole body, erasing all the joy he'd felt about his father's baptism.

"I thought this Church was true," Feike exploded, "but to choose between the Church and your country, your relatives, and your boat—it is too much to ask!"

Feike stormed to his small room in the bow of the boat. Out of habit he banged on the side of the boat with a small hammer to signal he'd made it without falling overboard. Tonight he pounded again and again.

A long time passed as Feike lay on his mattress. He thought of the mules pulling the boat through the canals of the Dutch provinces. He thought of the small grocery boats that pulled up alongside their boat so Mother could do her shopping. But mostly Feike thought of the wind filling the tall sails of their boat as they crossed the open waters of the sea. One day he would sail on open waters as the skipper . . . if he said good-bye to his family when they went to America.

Just then he heard a knock at his door.

"Come in," Feike mumbled.

His father sat on the end of the bed. "I'm sorry, Feike. I thought you understood that if we were baptized we would go to America."

"I knew others were going, but I didn't think you would ever leave the boat. I thought you loved being a skipper."

Father's eyes filled with tears. "I do—more than you'll ever know."

"What will you do in America?"

"I don't know. Sailing has been my life. But the Lord has called His people to Salt Lake City, and your mother and I have decided to go."

"But to give up my dream of being skipper—to leave the boat?"

"It is a difficult decision that only you can make," his father agreed. "A couple of nights ago as I struggled with the same questions, I found a scripture that helped me. When Jesus called James and John, they were fishermen. But the Bible says that 'they immediately left the ship . . . and followed him' (Matthew 4:22)."

The skipper and his son sat in silence for a long time. Feike looked into his father's clear blue eyes. He sensed his father's faith and courage, and he knew what he needed to do. Finally he spoke.

"Can we take the boat out once more before we sail to America together?"

The skipper pulled his son into a hug.

"Yes, I'd like that very much." ●

*Lisa Fernelius is a member of the Chambersburg First Ward, York Pennsylvania Stake.*

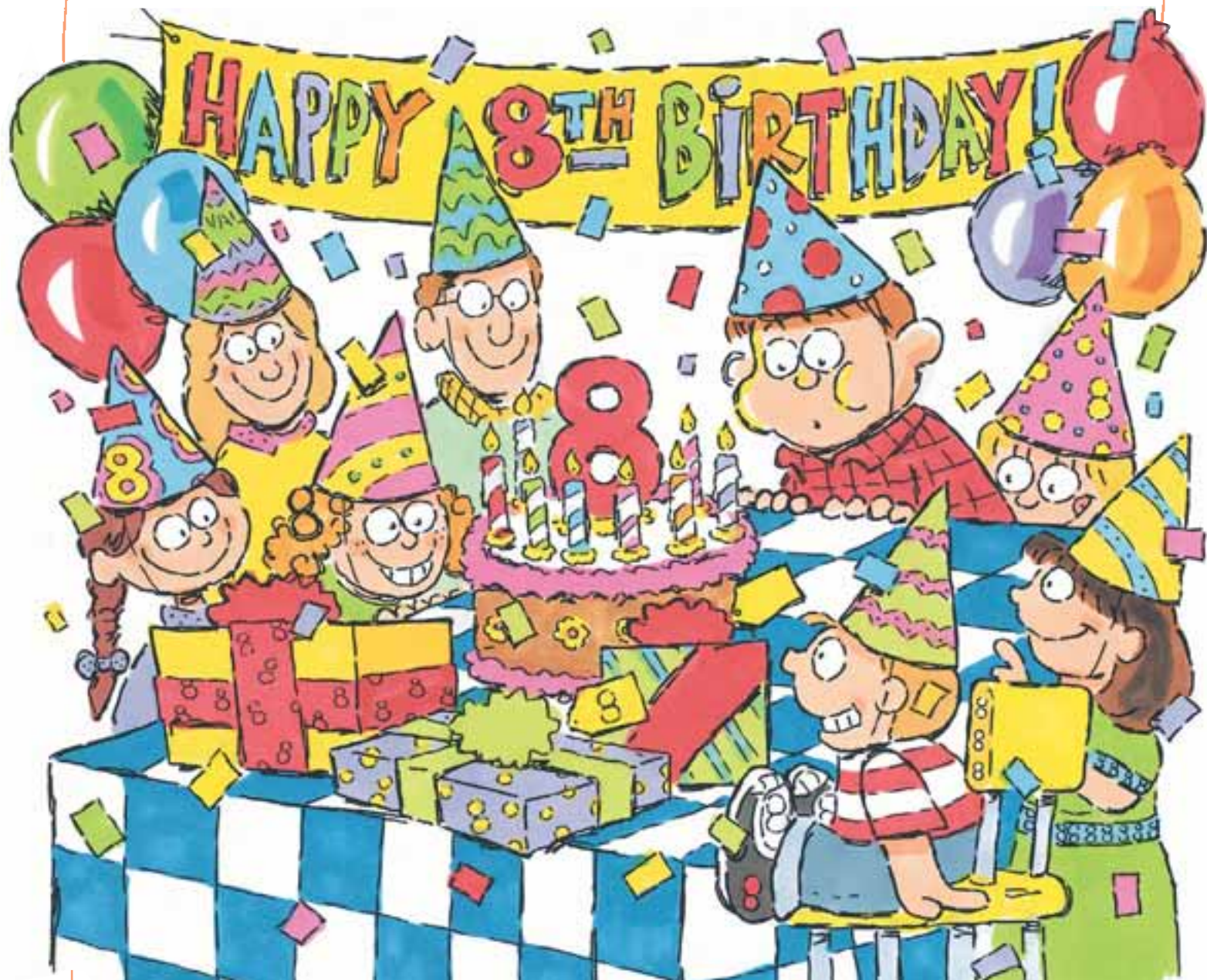




# Find the Hidden 8s

BY VAL CHADWICK BAGLEY

This boy is celebrating his eighth birthday. What gospel ordinance can we participate in when we turn eight?  
Help the boy find all of the 8s in the picture.



## Our Creative Friends

### Fast Sunday

Today's fast Sunday  
and I want to fast.  
I am hungry, too.  
What should I do?  
What should I do?  
'Cause I want to choose the right  
And my daddy always tells me  
To do whatever I feel is right.  
So I fast, and I feel really happy,  
I feel really, really happy.  
Do you feel happy when you fast?  
I sure do!

*Jessica Scott, age 10  
Clarksville, Arkansas*

### Fishin'

Can't wait for the day  
To fish away . . .  
To catch a couple walleyes . . .  
To hear those loon cries.  
When you say "Hey,  
Good day for fishin' today."  
You know you're goin' out on an adventure!

*Zane, age 9  
Buffalo Lake, Minnesota*

### A Human

A human has a heart to be kind and gentle.  
A human has feet to walk in the church.  
A human has eyes to see the temple.  
A human has hands to serve others.  
Humans should help their mothers.  
We can be nice to one another because  
We are all sisters and brothers.

*Mykelle Tegan, age 8  
Duchesne, Utah*

### Soccer

It is black and white.  
In soccer, you do tricks.  
It makes me want to do some flips.  
I scored a goal,  
Hey, hey, hey!  
Don't you love the way soccer is played?

*Alyssa Campbell, age 10  
Overland Park, Kansas*

### Faith

I planted a seed,  
Thinking it was a good deed.  
I saw with my eye  
That it was about to die.  
I gave it some food,  
Then it looked good.  
Then it started to grow.  
That's called faith, you know.

*Josbua Schneider, age 9  
Forest Grove, Oregon*

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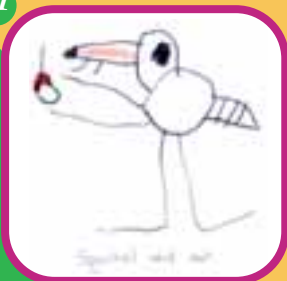


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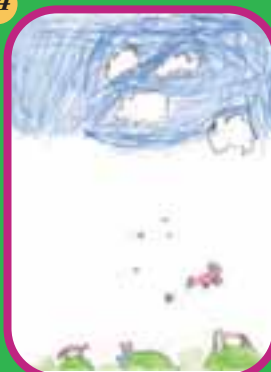
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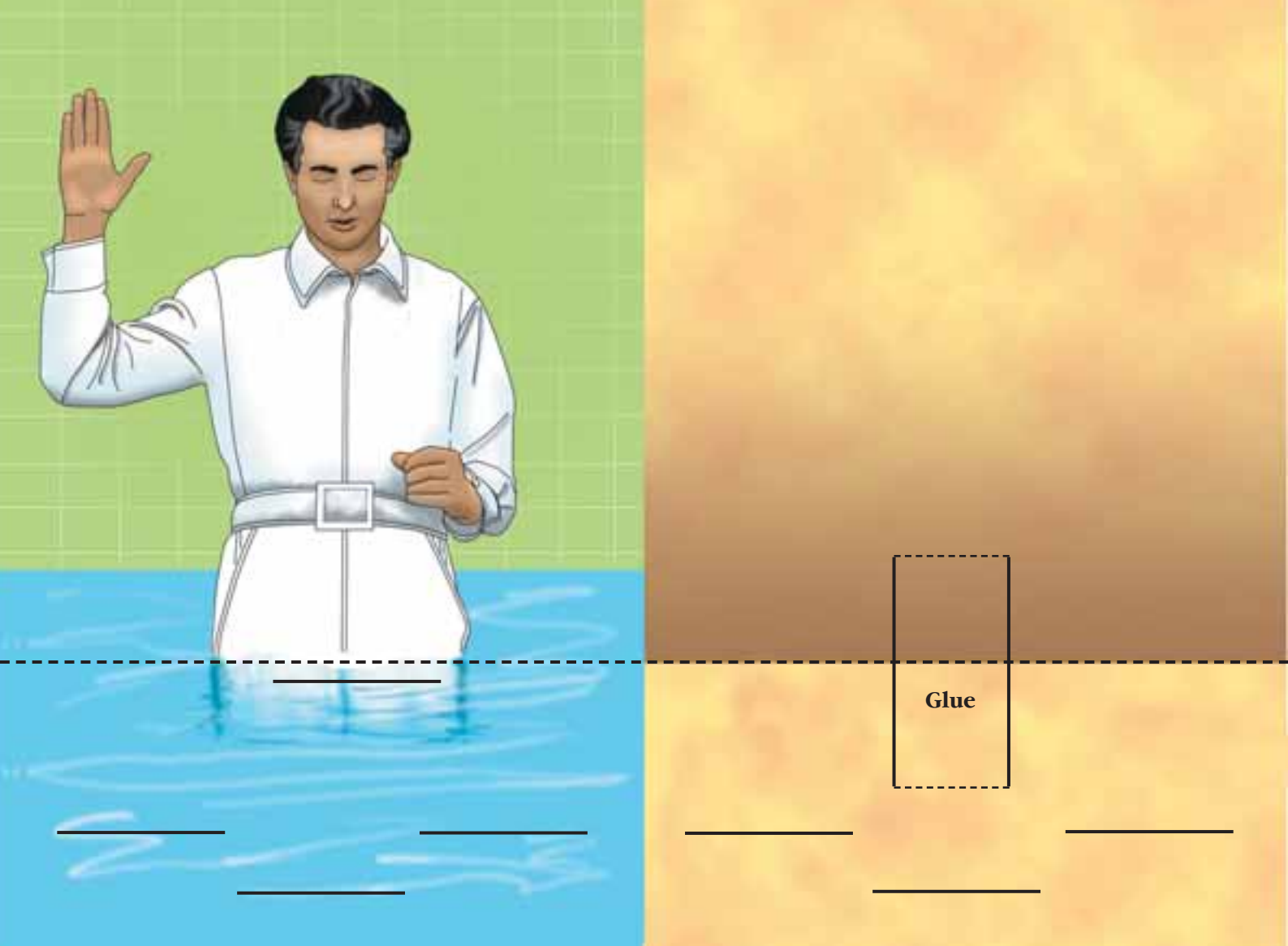
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- 19 Lauren Jenkins, age 7  
Deltona, Florida
- 20 Porter Schenewark, age 5  
Hutto, Texas
- 21 Jordan Buonforte, age 10  
Sumter, South Carolina
- 22 Bailey Warren, age 6  
Willard, Utah
- 23 Adrienne Searing, age 11  
Colorado Springs, Colorado
- 24 Ezra Conner, age 5  
Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands
- 25 Keith Olsen, age 8  
Canton, Michigan

25







2 Nephi 9:23

Matthew 3:16–17

Mosiah 18:8–10

Matthew 26:26–28

3 Nephi 18:5–11

D&C 20:72–79

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



# I CAN REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED

BY MARGARET LIFFERTH

*And he commandeth all men that they must repent, and be baptized in his name, having perfect faith in the Holy One of Israel, or they cannot be saved in the kingdom of God (2 Nephi 9:23).*



Have you ever been so happy that you clapped your hands for joy? The Book of Mormon tells about people who did just that!

Because King Noah and his priests did not keep the commandments, the Lord sent Abinadi to warn them that they must repent. Abinadi also taught them about Jesus Christ. King Noah put Abinadi to death. But one of King Noah's priests, Alma, believed everything Abinadi taught.

Alma "repented of his sins and iniquities, and went about privately among the people, and began to teach the words of Abinadi" (Mosiah 18:1). Alma knew this would make King Noah angry, so Alma's people hid.

Alma taught the people that they could be baptized and that if they kept the commandments, God would give them His Spirit. "When the people had heard these



words, they clapped their hands for joy" (Mosiah 18:11).

Baptism is the first covenant we make. We renew our covenant each week when we take the sacrament.

When we keep our baptismal covenant, the Lord promises us "that [we] may have eternal life" (Mosiah 18:9).

## ***My Baptismal Covenant Diorama***

1. Remove page 16 from the magazine, and mount it on heavy paper. Cut out the large rectangle.
2. Cut slits on the nine solid lines, and fold along the broken lines.
3. Cut out the figures. Insert the tab on the baptism figure into the slit in the baptism scene (see illustration).
4. Glue the back of the sacrament figures to the tab that folds out of the sacrament scene (see illustration).
5. Cut out the scripture boxes, and read the references. Insert the tabs into the remaining slits.

## 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. To help the children memorize D&C 58:42, write the words of the scripture on large paper strips. Post them in random order on the chalkboard. After the children find and read the verse, have them close their scriptures. Invite two or three children to put the words of the scripture in order on the board. Repeat the scripture together. Remove several words and repeat again. Continue removing words until the board is blank. Ask, "What does it mean to repent?" Refer to the steps of repentance found in the *Primary 3* manual, lesson 10 (p. 46): (1) feel sorry, (2) ask forgiveness, (3) right the wrong, (4) don't repeat the wrong. Teach the principle of repentance. Sing "Repentance" (p. 98).

To play a game teaching repentance, draw a large circle on a piece of heavy paper and divide it into four sections. Write one of the four principles listed above in each of the sections. Attach a paper arrow in the center of the circle to spin, or place the circle on the floor and use a coin or other small object to toss onto it. Prepare case studies (see *TNGC*, pp. 161–62) with situations requiring repentance that reflect the needs of your Primary. For example: "You see the new girl in your class eating lunch by herself, but you don't invite her to join you." Invite a child to randomly choose one of the four steps of repentance by spinning the arrow or tossing the coin on one of the four sections. Have the child choose a case study and tell what he or she would do in that step of repentance. Read 3 Nephi 9:22 together. Bear testimony of the role of the Savior's Atonement in the blessing of repentance. Sing "He Sent His Son" (pp. 34–35).

*For larger Primaries:* Divide the children into smaller groups and play the game in each group so more children can participate.

2. Show GAK 208 (John the Baptist Baptizing Jesus) and teach the story of Christ's baptism from Matthew 3:13–17. Sing "Baptism" (pp. 100–101). Teach that when we are baptized, we are following the example of Jesus. (Refer to 2 Nephi 31:4–13.) Show GAK 601 (Baptism) and ask the children what happens when you are baptized. Take responses. Explain the following steps of baptism using some of the suggested activities: (1) You must be at least eight years old. Sing the first verse of "I Like My Birthdays" (p. 104). (2) You will have an interview with the bishop. Invite a member of the bishopric to teach the children about the interview. (3) You will wear white clothing. If possible, have some baptismal clothing to show the children. (4) The baptism must be performed by a worthy priest or Melchizedek Priesthood holder. (See activity for #5.) (5) Baptism is by immersion, so you will be completely covered with water. Referring to GAK 601, explain how a baptism is performed. Invite a priest or returned missionary to bear testimony of the gift of the priesthood and the joy that comes from participating in a baptism. Encourage the older boys to look forward to performing priesthood ordinances. (6) Baptism is for the remission of sins and confirmation gives you the gift of the Holy Ghost. Practice the song for this month, "When I Am Baptized" (p. 103). (7) You will also be confirmed a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Invite two or three older Primary children to tell about the day they were baptized. Sing "The Church of Jesus Christ" (p. 77).

3. Ask the children what it means to make a promise. (Answer: You will do what you say you will do.) Have them name some things they have promised to do at home (for example, help with their younger siblings). How do you show someone that you have made a promise? (Shake hands, give the Cub Scout sign, etc.) Teach that baptism shows that we are making

a promise, or covenant, with Heavenly Father. When we are baptized, what do we promise and what does Heavenly Father promise in return? Post the following pictures from the Primary packet on the board: 1-11 (Boy Being Baptized) and 1-3 (The Savior). Using red and blue paper, cut out a frame for each picture. Cut each frame into six puzzle pieces. Divide the children into three groups. Give each group one of the scripture references and two puzzle pieces from each frame: (1) Mosiah 18:8–10, (2) Moroni 6:1–4, and (3) D&C 20:37. Invite each group to look up and read the scripture reference. On the back of the blue puzzle pieces, write down the promises we make to the Lord found in the scripture reference. On the back of the red pieces, write the promises the Lord makes to us found in the reference. Invite children from each group to come up and put together the blue frame around picture 1-11 (Boy Being Baptized). Turn the puzzle pieces over one at a time and read the promises we make to the Lord. Ask the children what the promises mean and how we can apply them in our lives. Sing "I Will Be Valiant" (p. 162). Invite the children to put together the red frame around the picture of the Savior. Turn over each puzzle piece to reveal the Lord's promises to us. Sing "I Will Follow God's Plan" (pp. 164–65).

4. To teach that we renew our baptismal covenants when we take the sacrament, tell the story "Clean" (*Friend*, Aug. 1999, 40–43). My Gospel Standards (see *Faith in God* guidebook, back cover) help us live our baptismal covenant by reminding us to keep the commandments.

Pick five of My Gospel Standards and write each one on a separate piece of paper. Choose pictures that illustrate each of them from the GAK or Primary picture packets. Place the pictures and My Gospel Standards papers facedown on the floor, or tape them facedown on the chalkboard. Choose children to come up one at a time and turn over any two papers. When a match of a standard is made to the picture that illustrates it, remove the two papers from the board. The person who makes the match must tell one way to live that gospel standard. He or she may then pick another child to choose a song to sing from the *Children's Songbook* that teaches the gospel standard. Sing "Choose the Right Way" (pp. 160–61). Bear testimony of the blessing of repentance and of renewing our baptismal covenant as we take the sacrament each week.

*For younger children:* For children who can't read, mount each picture and its matching gospel standard on the same color of paper. Sing the songs.

5. *Song Presentation:* Begin teaching "When I Am Baptized" (p. 103) by singing the whole song through for the children. Invite them to watch as you draw the melody line on the chalkboard as you sing it again. The melody goes up and then comes back down—like a rainbow. Draw two rainbow lines as you sing the first verse. Invite the children to stand and draw rainbows in the air as they hum the verse. Have the children close their eyes and visualize falling rain as you sing the up and down melody of the chorus. Help them pitch-lead "the falling rain" with you as they hum the chorus. Teach the message of the song by directing the children's listening and asking questions about the message; (for example, "What makes the earth clean?" or "What makes me clean?") Ask a question before you sing, sing, take responses, and have the children sing with you. Repeat. Bear your testimony.

6. *Friend* references: "I Will Make and Keep My Baptismal Covenant," Jan. 2000, insert; "Covenants at the Waters of Mormon," Apr. 2000, 10–11; "A Sacred Promise," *Sharing Time*, Mar. 2000, 12–14; "I Come to the Water," Mar. 2000, 46–47; "Faith Helps Us Choose the Right," *Sharing Time*, Oct. 2002, 33–35; "The Right Key," Mar. 2000, 2–5. These references and others can be found at [www.lds.org](http://www.lds.org). Click on Gospel Library.



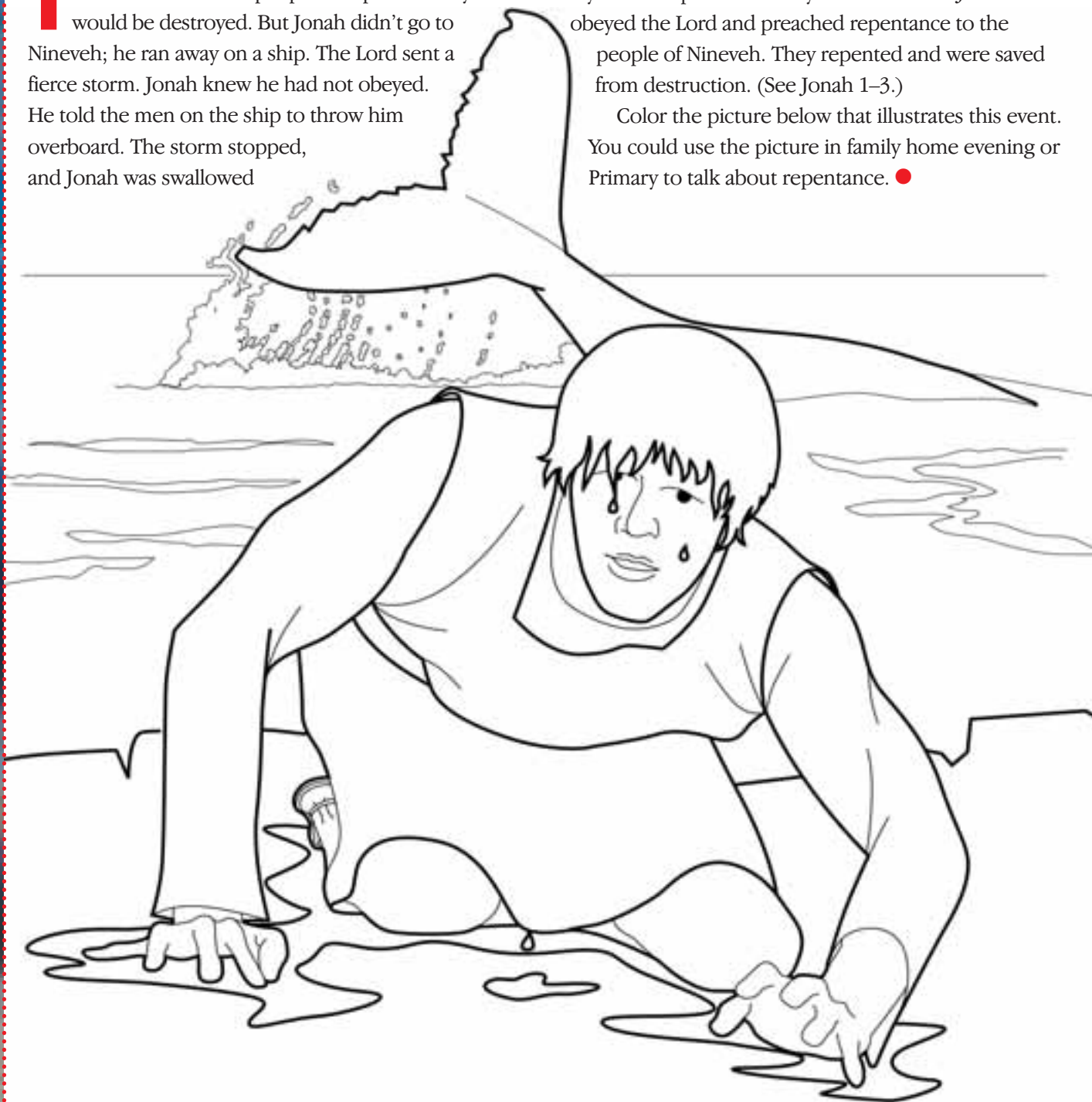


# Jonah Repents

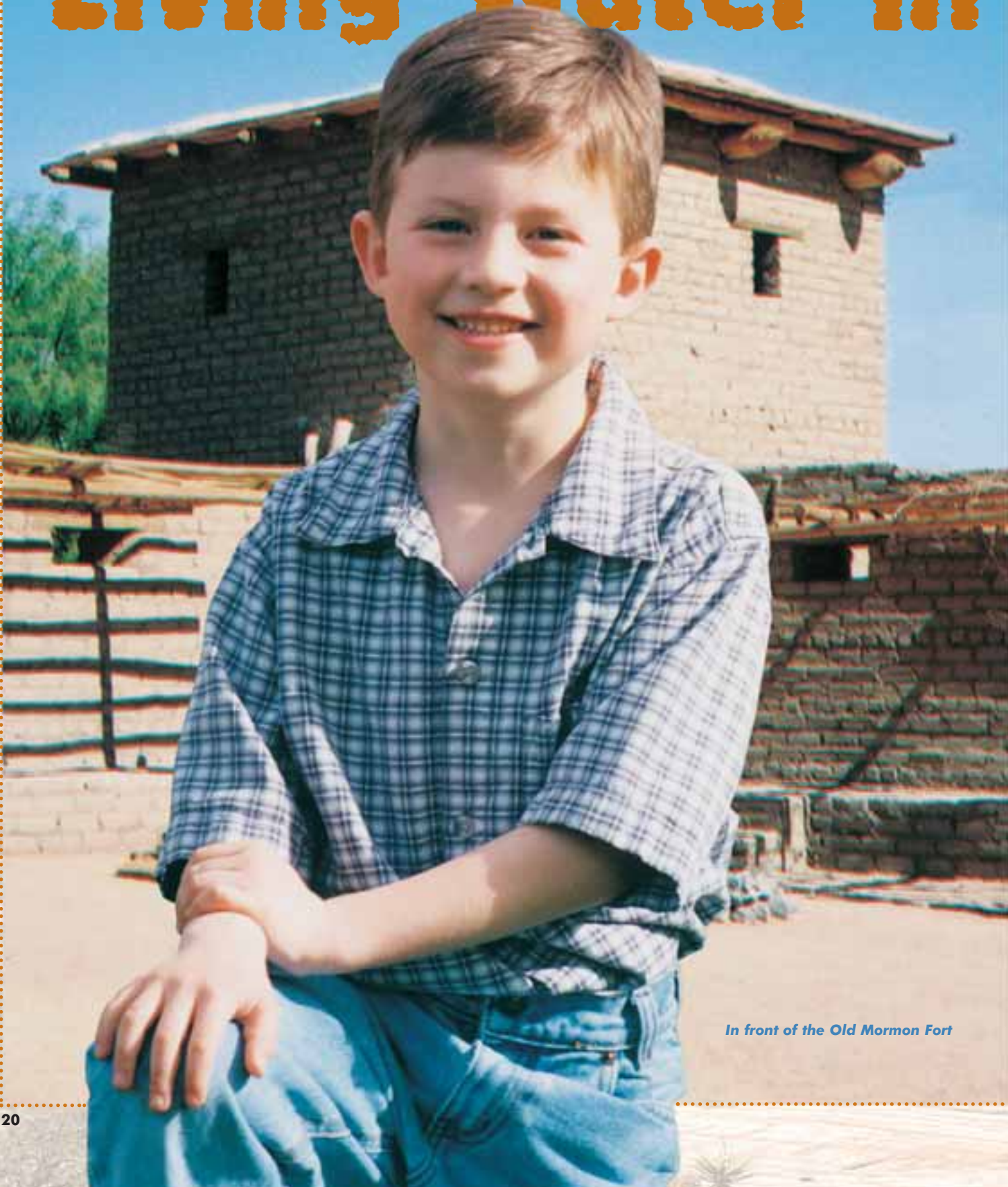
**T**he Lord told the prophet Jonah to go to the city of Nineveh and tell the people to repent or they would be destroyed. But Jonah didn't go to Nineveh; he ran away on a ship. The Lord sent a fierce storm. Jonah knew he had not obeyed. He told the men on the ship to throw him overboard. The storm stopped, and Jonah was swallowed

by a large fish. Jonah prayed and repented. After three days the fish put him on dry land. This time Jonah obeyed the Lord and preached repentance to the people of Nineveh. They repented and were saved from destruction. (See Jonah 1-3.)

Color the picture below that illustrates this event. You could use the picture in family home evening or Primary to talk about repentance. ●



# Living Water in



*In front of the Old Mormon Fort*



# the Desert

## Braeden Smith of Las Vegas, Nevada

BY NETTIE HUNSAKER FRANCIS

**L**as Vegas, Nevada, is known for its dry climate and barren desert. When the Latter-day Saint pioneers first came to Las Vegas in 1855, they settled near a spring of water and built a fort to keep their families safe from danger.

Today, a few miles from the Old Mormon Fort and original spring of water, lives Braeden Smith. Just like the fort of old protected the pioneers, eight-year-old Braeden also feels protection—the protection of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Braeden has lived in Las Vegas his entire life. He loves sports, especially baseball and soccer. “His dad, Scott, has always been his coach,” says his mom, Sister Linda Smith. When Braeden plays ball, it’s a chance for him and his dad to spend time together. They are good friends.

Perhaps that’s one of the reasons

Braeden was so thrilled to have his dad baptize him. Braeden’s three older brothers, Logan (18), Karsten (15), and Kyler (12), were all baptized by their uncle Kelly Keetch. When Braeden was seven, he set a goal to be baptized and hoped that his dad would be the one to do it. Six months before Braeden turned eight, his dad was baptized! Logan, Braeden’s oldest brother, baptized his dad on that memorable day.

Brother Smith gives his wife and children credit for his baptism. “I would work or sleep in on Sundays, but they would get up and go to church every week.” Brother Smith watched his family faithfully attend church for 10 years. During that time the children continually involved him in their Church and Scouting activities. He finally began going to church with them.

“There’s no way to be involved in the Church and not feel the Spirit,” says Brother Smith. “The ward members made me feel so welcome and accepted. It was an easy decision to be baptized.”

Just over a year after their dad’s baptism, the family reached another goal: being sealed together as an eternal family in the temple. “Being together in the temple was



*Braeden was named “Viking of the Day” at Cub Scout day camp.*

*Left: One of the family’s happiest days was when they were sealed together as a family in the Las Vegas Nevada Temple.*

*Visiting a theme park.*





**An illustration from Braeden's book.**

**Right: An outing with the family.**

**Braeden was thrilled when his dad was able to baptize him.**



something we had all looked forward to for a long time," comments Sister Smith. Braeden remembers, "Right when we were sealed I felt deep down that now we could be a family in heaven."

All four boys have set goals to serve missions for the Church. Braeden isn't waiting until he's 19 to be a missionary, though. He is already sharing the gospel through his example. His best friend and next-door neighbor, Aaron, watched Braeden go to church each week. Soon Aaron became interested in the gospel, and he has since been baptized along with his family.

Braeden's grandpa is another good friend. "I like to help my grandpa work in the yard and build things." In return, his grandpa gives him exciting wheelbarrow rides around the yard. They also like to go to the park together.

Braeden is a good Cub Scout. His dad helped him with his Pinewood Derby racer, and it won! "One of my favorite things about Cub Scouts is day camp," Braeden says. He smiles as he remembers the crafts and archery. He was even chosen "Viking of the Day." All four of the Smith boys are active in Scouting. Logan is an Eagle Scout, and Karsten, Kyler, and Braeden plan on becoming Eagle Scouts, too.

When he grows up, Braeden wants to be an author and an illustrator. In his spare time he likes to write short stories and illustrate them. He is working on a book right now called *Jack and the Foxes*. At school he enjoys art and computer time. He is a good

student and a friend to his classmates.

Around the house Braeden is always willing to help, whether it's vacuuming, dusting, or just cleaning up his room. He is especially helpful with his younger sister, Ashlyn (4). Braeden and Ashlyn enjoy attending Primary together. Sister Smith is the Primary president and likes spending much of her time at church with her two youngest children. Braeden smiles as he comments that Ashlyn, a Sunbeam, is a very enthusiastic singer!

One of the biggest changes since Brother Smith's baptism is the family's focus on family home evening. "We've always spent family time together doing fun things," says Sister Smith. "Now we also take time to read the scriptures and have a lesson. We've gone from having just 'family time' to 'family home evening.'" Braeden is always willing to participate in family home evening and family scripture study.

Like the adobe walls of the Old Mormon Fort that protected the pioneers, the Smiths feel the protection of the gospel around their family. And even though Las Vegas is in a dry desert, Braeden knows that his family will never thirst spiritually. They can drink freely of the "living water" of the gospel of Jesus Christ. ●

*Nettie Hunsaker Francis is a member of the Las Vegas Third Ward, Las Vegas Nevada Stake.*





## Just Like Us

BY RONDA GIBB HINRICHSSEN

Find each word in the following list of things we have in common with the pioneers by reading forward, backward, down, up, and diagonally.

**CHURCH**

**FAMILIES**

**FAITH**

**FRIENDS**

**FUN**

**GAMES**

**HOLY GHOST**

**LOVE**

**MUSIC**

**PRAYER**

**SCRIPTURES**

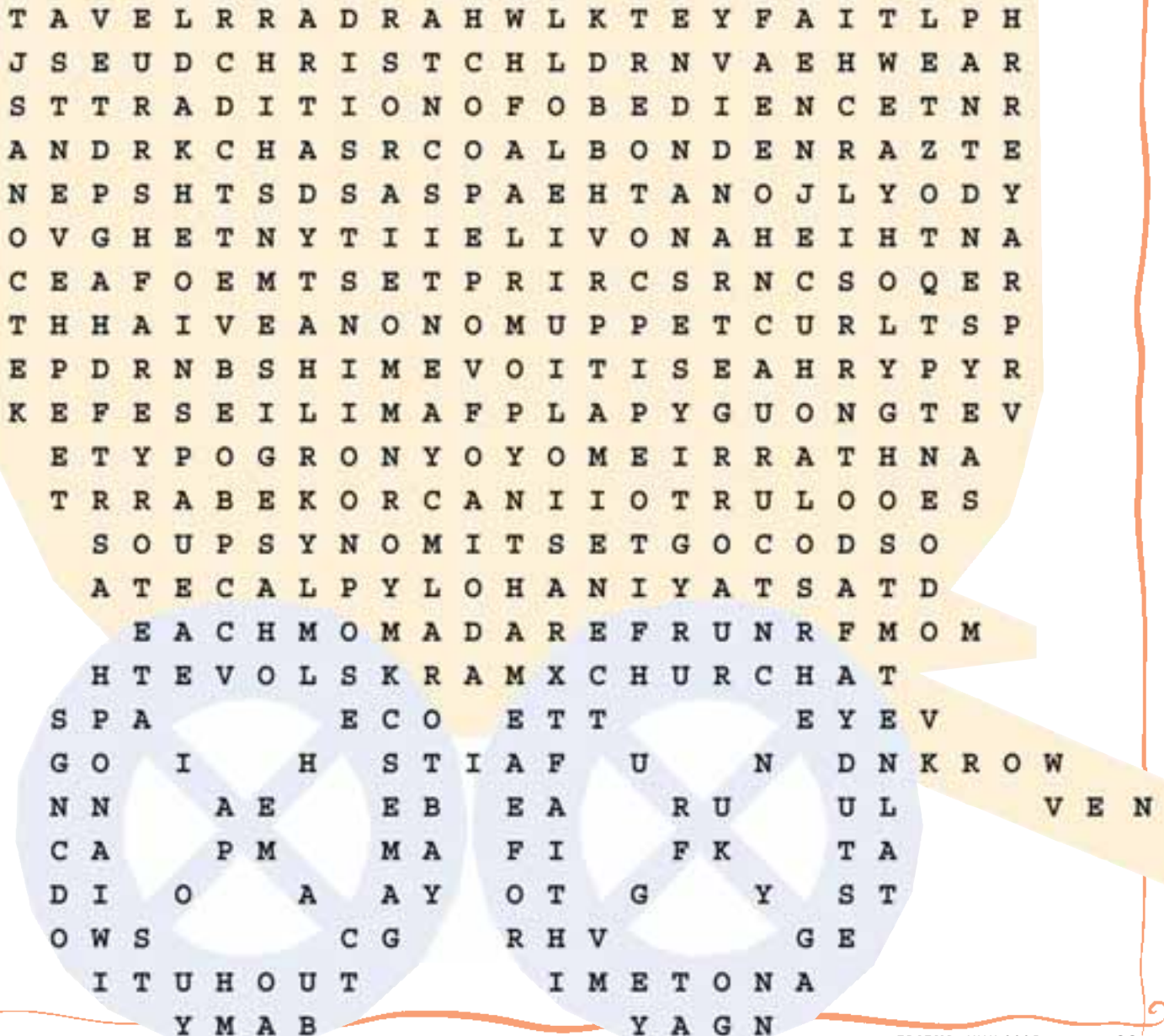
**STUDY**

**TALENTS**

**TESTIMONY**

**TRADITION OF OBEDIENCE**

**WORK**



# FILL THE

BY MARISSA WIDDISON

**M**iguel is getting baptized today! Help him fill the font by answering these questions. Start with the first question, which is next to the bottom step of the font. Look up the related scripture, and find the word in the scripture that would best answer the question. Write the answer in the space on the other side of the font. After you have written the answer, color the water for that level. Then move up to answer the next question. Answer all five questions to fill the font with water for Miguel.



5. Miguel can partake of the \_\_\_\_\_ every Sunday to remind him of the baptismal covenants he is making with the Lord. (See D&C 27:2.)

4. After he is baptized, Miguel will be blessed to receive the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Ghost. (See D&C 33:15.)

3. To help prepare Miguel for baptism, he has had an interview with this ward leader. \_\_\_\_\_ (See D&C 72:7.)

2. Miguel's *abuela*, *tia*, *hermano*, and *madre* are all members of Miguel's \_\_\_\_\_ who have come to watch him be baptized. (See 2 Nephi 2:20.)

1. Miguel's uncle is going to baptize Miguel. He changed into clothes that are this color in order to perform the sacred ordinance. \_\_\_\_\_ (See 1 Nephi 14:19.)





# THE FONT



5. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

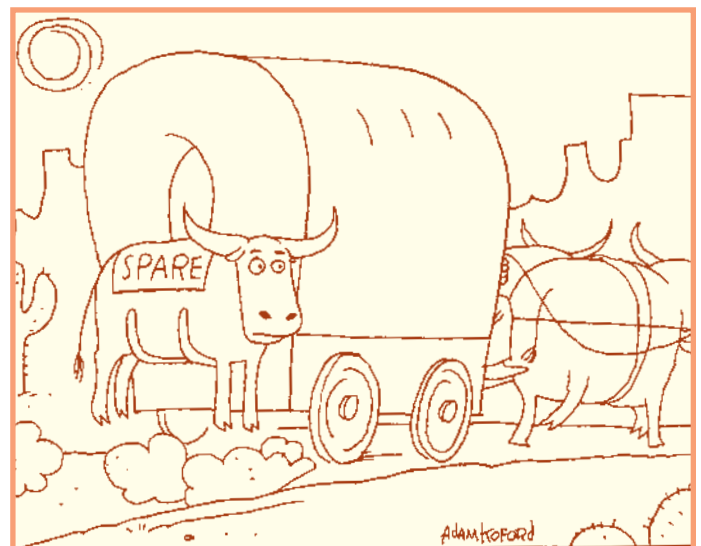
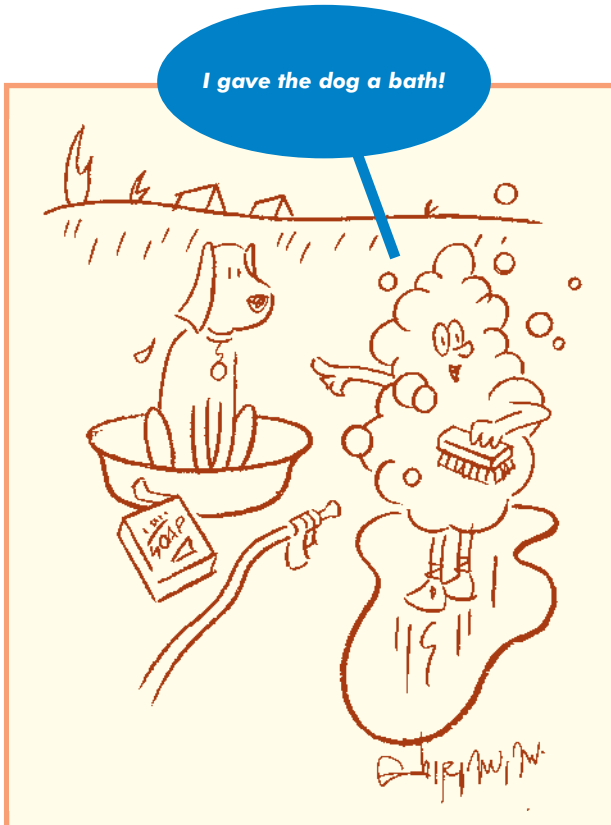
# Finding the Way Home

BY KAY TIMPSON

We are all children of Heavenly Father, and He loves us. He wants us to return to Him. Isn't that wonderful? There is a simple way we can be sure to return to our heavenly home. To find out how, just follow the instructions and then read the circled words. If you do what the circled words say, you will be able to live with Heavenly Father again.

1. Cross out all the words that start with *th*.
2. Circle all the words with only two letters.
3. Cross out all the words that have the word *red* in them.
4. Circle all the words with a double *l*.
5. Cross out all the words that end in *ing*.
6. Circle all the words that begin with *p*.
7. Cross out any name of a book in the Bible.
8. Circle all the words that rhyme with *poor*.
9. Cross out all the words that have a double *o*.
10. Circle all the words that rhyme with *cry*.
11. Circle the word that answers the question, "Whose children are we?"

there	plan
blared	book
I	living
hoping	that
Revelation	look
will	for
Matthew	glared
this	me
shared	Ruth
follow	bred
shred	being
God's	Luke
them	hook
shook	loving
Isaiah	therefore





# Friends in the News



**Rylan Rich**, 3, Greeley, Colorado, likes going to Primary and loves his teachers. He has fun playing with his sisters and riding his bike.



**Abby MacDonald**, 5, Wakefield, Massachusetts, likes to learn about the gospel. She is trying to always choose the right. She enjoys reading, dancing, doing crafts, and going to preschool.



**Iosefa Trainer**, 10, Hilo, Hawaii, is starting on his Webelos rank for Cub Scouts. He likes to build with interlocking blocks. He enjoys reading, going to school, and helping his dad fix things.



**MaryAnn Haynie**, 8, Pilot Hill, California, enjoys biking. "I like my Primary teacher," she says, "and my favorite song is 'Book of Mormon Stories.' I have been to the visitors' center at the Oakland Temple."



**Phillip Desrosiers**, 11, Guelph, Ontario, Canada, was baptized into the Church last year. He enjoys computer games, camping, and karate. He likes giving talks in Primary and learning about history.



**Katelyn Stum**, 4, Lexington, Kentucky, likes bubble gum and gymnastics. She also likes talking in sign language and acting out scripture stories. She loves to smile and laugh.



**Kyle Landon Barrett**, 8, The Woodlands, Texas, was very happy to be baptized last year. Kyle likes chess, karate, and playing the piano. He is a good brother to his sister, Kendall, and he enjoys Primary.



**Rebecca Miller**, 11, Las Vegas, Nevada, has a hamster and likes to read. "My mom was born in the Church, and my dad is a convert," she reports. "My favorite subject in school is life science."



**Riley Kris Hammon**, 7, Menan, Idaho, likes to go camping and hiking with his family. He also enjoys playing baseball. Riley can't wait to go on a mission.



**Monique Poirier**, 11, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, is a good swimmer. She likes math, and she has a strong testimony of the gospel.



**Benjamin Humes**, 4, Germantown, Maryland, likes to sing, do puzzles, and listen to stories. He enjoys family home evening and has learned all of the Presidents of the Church by name.



**Abby Walker**, 6, Gilbert, Arizona, likes going to school, tumbling, dancing, reading, and drawing. She enjoys playing with her two younger sisters, Emily and Elizabeth.



**Matthew Matzopoulos**, 10, Windhoek, Namibia, received a Gold Certificate from the Namibian National Young Scientists competition for his project. He later represented his country at an international science fair.



**Jessica Naber**, 7, Fargo, North Dakota, likes to ride her bike, draw pictures, and write letters to family members. She is very excited to be baptized by her daddy.



**Richard Bassett**, 6, Bartlesville, Oklahoma, enjoys roller-skating, playing basketball, and reading. He is eager to be a Cub Scout and to be baptized like his brothers and sister. He is happy and energetic.



**Kesly Porter**, 5, Corinne, Utah, enjoys riding her miniature horse, Buddy. Kesly loves her younger sisters, Britney and Jenny. She is a great helper and wants to have children of her own someday.



Gymnast **John Lim**, 10, Renton, Washington, competed in a regional championship last year. He took first place in the all-around, floor exercise, and pommel horse. He never competes on Sunday.



**Esther Johnson**, 5, Savoy, Illinois, likes to play dolls with her sister. She also enjoys playing outside with her brother. She appreciates family scripture study because it helps her choose the right all day.



**Jake Thomas Smoyer**, 8, Twin City, Georgia, enjoys riding his bike and singing Primary songs. He also likes playing with his brother and sister, reading the scriptures, and writing in his journal.



**Dea Angela B. Miale**, 8, Taytay Razal, Philippines, enjoys reading and dressing her little sister for church. Dea's favorite part of Primary is singing time, especially when they sing "I Am a Child of God."



**Hunter Bastian**, 4, Delaware, Ohio, likes to help with his younger sister, Madison. He also likes trains, cooking, swimming, and playing soccer. "When I go to Primary I enjoy learning about Jesus," he says.



**Jeanette Kosorok**, 11, Madison, Wisconsin, likes making crafts and talking with her sister, Jessica. She loves babies, and her favorite animal is the baby harp seal. She wants to be an actress when she grows up.

Please send submissions to *Friend* Editorial, Friends in the News, 50 E. North Temple St. Rm. 2420, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, United States of America. A written statement by a parent or legal guardian granting permission to publish the child's photo must be included. Children whose pictures are submitted must be at least three years old. 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. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned.



BY JANE McBRIDE CHOATE

(Based on an experience of a family  
in the author's ward)

*The gate by which ye should enter is  
repentance and baptism (2 Nephi 31:17).*

Logan had turned eight years old last week. Today was a special day—he was going to be baptized. He and his father dressed in white clothes and took their seats near the baptismal font.

Logan's brother-in-law, Ryan, was asked to give a talk at the baptism. After the opening song and prayer, Ryan read the fourth article of faith: "We believe that the first principles

and ordinances of the Gospel are: first, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; second, Repentance; third, Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; fourth, Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Then Ryan placed a blue paper square on the floor at one side of the room and a white paper square at the other side. "Logan, come stand on this blue square," he said. "Can you get from the blue square to the white square without stepping on the carpet?"

Logan looked across the room and shook his head. "It's too far."

Ryan nodded. "It's too far for you to get

# Logan's Baptism





there by yourself. And do you think you can return to Heavenly Father without help?"

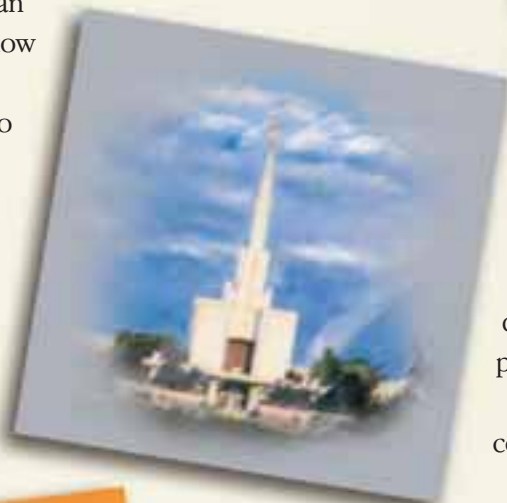
Logan shook his head again.

Ryan placed six more squares on the floor, each square a different color. "Heavenly Father has given us steps to bring us back to Him. Do you know what they are?"

Logan thought of the article of faith Ryan had just read. "The first one is faith." Ryan nodded as Logan stepped onto the red square. "And the second one is repentance." Logan moved to the yellow square.

Ryan pointed to the green square. "This one represents one of the steps you're taking today."

Smiling, Logan stepped onto the green square.



temple ordinances. What do you think the last square stands for?"

Logan couldn't remember any more steps. Then it dawned on him—it was the simple truth taught by prophets and scriptures. "Stay righteous," he said.

"Exactly," Ryan said. "After making all of these covenants, we must stay faithful."

Logan sat down and Ryan finished his talk. Then Logan and his father entered the baptismal font. With the authority of the priesthood, Logan's father baptized him. After they had changed into dry clothes, Logan was confirmed a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



"Baptism,"

he said. He was much closer to the white square now, but there were still three more in between.

"The orange square represents receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost,"

Ryan said, "another step you'll take today."

Logan stepped onto the orange square.

"What do you think the last two squares represent?" Ryan asked.

Logan thought for a moment. The fourth article of faith included only the *first* four principles and ordinances of the gospel. He had learned in Primary that baptism was the first of many covenants he would make. "Does the next square stand for the temple?" he asked.

"Right!" Ryan beamed. "After your baptism and confirmation, you'll prepare to receive the priesthood and



"The [ordinances] of baptism and receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost [take] us out of this world and into the kingdom of God."

**Elder Robert D. Hales of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "The Covenant of Baptism: To Be in the Kingdom and of the Kingdom," *Ensign*, Nov. 2000, 7.**

"Remember the Spirit you feel right now," Ryan said afterward as he hugged Logan. "Try to keep it with you for the rest of your life."

Logan knew he would never forget this special day—a day he had taken two important steps toward his heavenly home. ●

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

You don't have to push a handcart, leave your fam'ly dear, or walk a thousand miles or more to be a pioneer!  
(Children's Songbook, 218–19.)

# Pioneer Trip

BY LORI MORTENSEN

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



summer my and packed our for a long trip. “Where are we going?” asked.

“Are we going the ?” “No,” said . “Are we going ’s ?” “No,” said .

“Are we going the ?” asked. “Yes,” said . “But we are not going just any

. We are going follow the trail the Rocky .” “Oh,” said.

remembered about in Primary, but never thought would get see where

the once walked. drove for a long time. We saw the in Kirtland, . We saw the

in Nauvoo, . We saw where the crossed the River in their s. Then

drove our across the plains. The was hot. was glad could ride in a

and not a . “It must have been hard be a .

 said as we arrived at the Salt Lake

. “It was,” agreed. “But the knew it was important follow the .

 “

guess that makes me a , too!” declared. smiled and gave me a hug.





# Garden Chase

BY ROBERTA L. FAIRALL

Help the butterfly get away from the bird by following the unbroken line to the arrow.



# Animal Riddles

BY O. J. ROBERTSON

My tail is curly.  
I eat and grow big.  
I root and grunt.  
I am a \_\_\_\_ \_ .

I play with a ball  
Like an acrobat.  
I'm soft and furry.  
I am a \_\_\_\_ \_ .

When days are warm,  
I sit in a bog.  
When I sing, I croak.  
I am a \_\_\_\_ \_ .

I'm big like a ship,  
But I do not sail.  
I spout up a spray.  
I am a \_\_\_\_ \_ .





# Animal Snack

For each snack, you will need: a celery stalk 3" (4 cm) long, 1–2 tablespoons peanut butter, and an animal cracker.

1. Have an older person cut a thin slice off the rounded side of the celery stalk so it will lie flat.

2. Fill the celery stalk with peanut butter, then stand an animal cracker up in the peanut butter.



# Pioneer Handcart

BY CYNTHIA SHORES

To make a handcart, you will need: scissors, ruler, an empty juice box (2 1/2" x 4"/6 x 10 cm), a pen, two brass paper fasteners, two plastic lids 3" (8 cm) in diameter, and a straw.

1. With an adult's help, cut out one of the largest sides of the juice box leaving a 1/4" (.6 cm) border (see illustration).

Rinse the juice box and wipe dry.

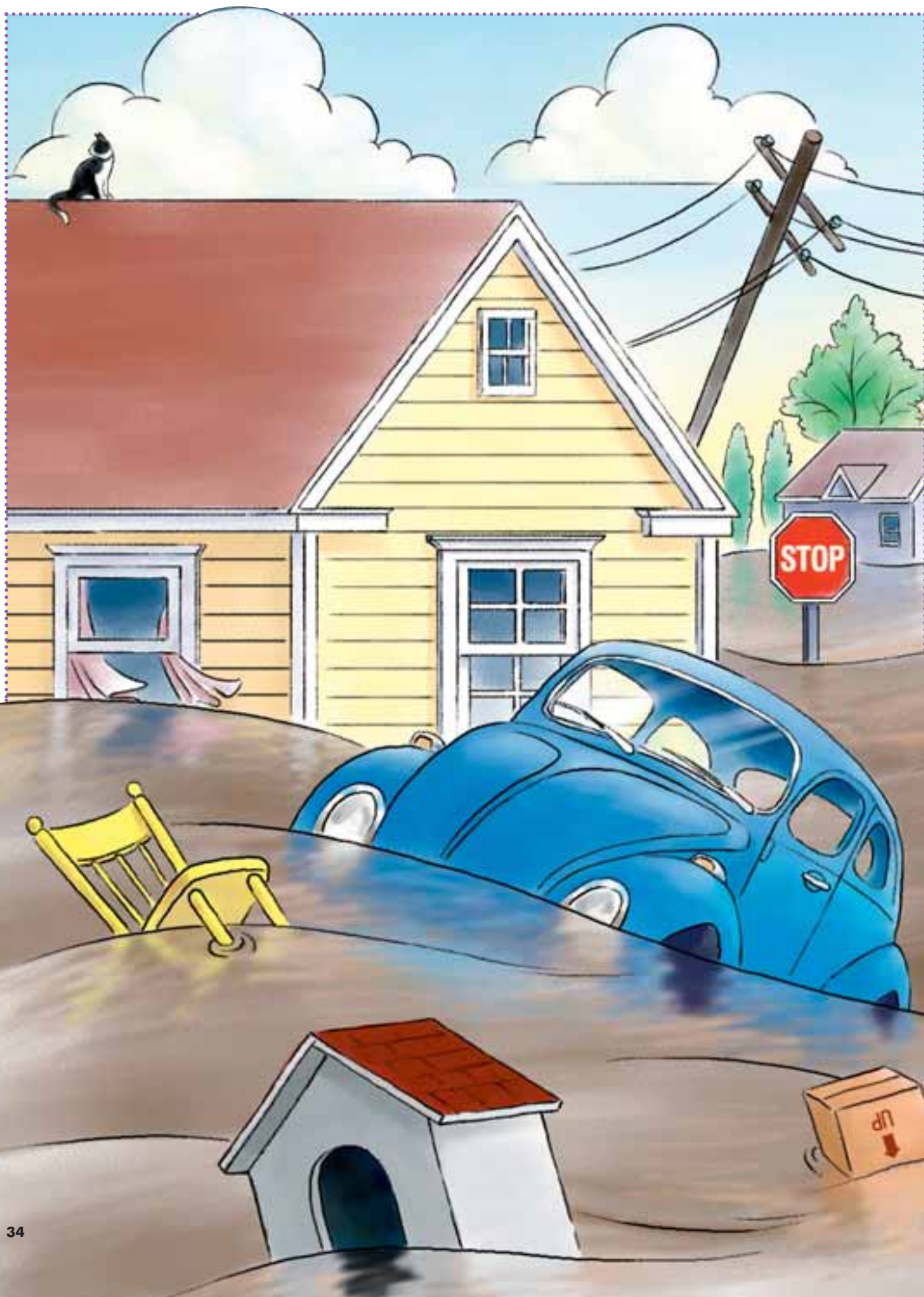
2. Using a pen, poke a hole in the middle of each long side of the juice box (see illustration). Then poke a hole in the middle of each

plastic lid. Attach the plastic lid wheels to the juice box with the brass paper fasteners.

3. Poke a hole in the juice box 1 1/2" (4 cm) from the straw hole (see illustration). Cut the straw 6" (15 cm) long. Bend the straw 2" (5 cm) from each end to crease. Place the ends of the straw in the holes.











# HIGHER GROUND

BY RONDA GIBB HINRICHSEN

(Based on a personal experience of the author)

*When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee (Isaiah 43:2).*

One calm summer day in Rexburg, Idaho, ten-year-old Ronda was cleaning her room.

"Everyone come to the living room! Now!"

Dad's voice was urgent.

Ronda ran. So did her younger sisters and brother, Ranae, Raelin, and Kory.

"The Teton Dam has burst!"\* Dad said. "Everyone grab your shoes and socks and hurry to the car!"

The four children raced to their bedrooms. Mom picked up baby Kevin.

Minutes later, they climbed into the car.

"Where are we going?" Ronda asked.

"To the hill," Dad answered.

"We'll be safe there," Mom added.

When they arrived at the hill, Dad parked the car across the street from the Ricks College (Brigham Young University—Idaho) campus. Ronda opened the door.

"When will the water get here?"

"I don't know," Mom said. "We'll have to watch and wait." She climbed out of the car. "But let's say a prayer first, OK?"

Ronda moved next to her mother. Everyone folded their arms and closed their eyes. They asked Heavenly Father to protect their home and family.

After the prayer, Ronda looked out across the valley. She watched and waited and watched and waited until a tall wave of brown-gray debris-filled water surged into town. Ronda stared at it.

"Ohhhhhh!" Mom groaned, fighting back tears.

The wave knocked over trees and turned logs from the lumberyard into battering rams.

Dad's shoulders slumped. "I had no idea it would be this bad," he said.

The water plunged through houses, carrying some away. It lifted empty cars and heaved them into buildings. Smash! Splash! Silence.

Finally, Mom looked at Dad. "What should we do?"

"Let's go to the campus. Maybe someone there will know."

Waiting for Dad to find out what to do was difficult for Ronda and her brothers and sisters. They were tired and hungry, and they didn't know when or where they might get food again.

But eventually Dad returned. "Some people were handing out sandwiches," he said. "Does anyone want one?"

"I do," Kory said. He held out his hand.

Mom took one, too. She broke a bit of bread off for Kevin. "Have you found out what we should do?"

"The Church is here to help. They own the college, and they will let us live in the empty dorms and eat in the cafeteria while we rebuild."

"Rebuild? Have we lost everything then?"

Dad looked at the ground. "I don't know yet," he said.

The next day, Dad went into town to check on their home. Ronda and the rest of her family were waiting for



him when he returned. “Our house is still standing,” he told them, “but we have a lot of work ahead of us. Everything inside is gone or destroyed.”

“Everything? Our beds? Toys?” Ronda pictured their living room. “What about the piano?”

“Yes.”

Mom started to cry. “And the food storage?”

“The basement is filled with water,” Dad said. “I won’t know until we get it pumped out.”

“Can we see our house?” Ranae asked.

“Not now. There are sharp objects and broken glass everywhere.”

“You children will have to stay here on campus with me,” Mom added.

Ronda knelt next to Kevin. “For how long?”

“Until I can make our house safe again,” Dad answered.

Safe again. Ronda rubbed at a smudge on the front of her shirt—the shirt she’d put on yesterday morning. Would she ever really feel safe again?

Just as Dad had said, the following days were filled with work. Dad pumped water out of their basement, shoveled mud from every room, and hauled out truckloads of rubble. Mom, Ronda, and her brothers and

sisters stood in long distribution lines, searched through piles of charitable donations, and tried to clean smelly, slimy mud from the few belongings Dad was able to salvage. They were all very, very tired.

When the second Sunday after the disaster came, Ronda was glad. That day the work stopped, and her family attended a special conference in the college gymnasium. The prophet, President Spencer W. Kimball, had come to speak to them.

Ronda shifted anxiously in her seat. There were so many people—thousands of them! Were they all flood victims?

Suddenly, a hush fell over the congregation. Ronda looked toward the stage. President Kimball had entered the room.

The prophet’s words stuck in her mind. First, he reminded them of how blessed they were that the flood had happened in daytime. Then, President Kimball said they must be strong through the long and difficult days ahead. They must be like the pioneers.

Like the pioneers. Ronda pictured the pioneers in her mind. They had trudged through mounds of mud. They had lived in wagons for several months. They had relied on each other for everything.

Ronda sat up taller as a feeling of peace and strength filled her heart. The prophet was right! They could be like the pioneers! And like those who had settled the Salt Lake Valley so long ago, she knew they could make their own valley safe and right again. ●

*Ronda Gibb Hinrichsen is a member of the Perry Third Ward, Willard Utah Stake.*

\* On June 5, 1976, the earthen walls of the Teton Dam gave way, releasing some 80 billion gallons of water. The downstream flooding took 11 lives, destroyed about 3,000 homes, and caused hundreds of millions of dollars in damage.





# Getting to Know Elder L. Tom Perry

To learn more about Elder L. Tom Perry of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, choose from the list of words below to complete the crossword puzzle.

bishop  
finance  
green  
Logan  
Lowell  
Northern  
quit  
Stretch  
Sunday  
three

## Across

2. Elder Perry said that he learned a lot about Church callings from his father, who served as a \_\_\_\_\_ for the first 18 years of Elder Perry's life.

5. Elder Perry married his wife Virginia Lee in the \_\_\_\_\_ Temple on July 18, 1947. After Virginia died in 1974, Elder Perry later married Barbara Dayton.

8. Once when Elder Perry was working as a businessman, his bosses asked him to break a promise. Instead of compromising his morals, Elder Perry decided to \_\_\_\_\_ his job.

9. Elder Perry is the father of \_\_\_\_\_ children.

10. Elder Perry attended Utah State University where he studied \_\_\_\_\_.

## Down

1. This is what the "L" in Elder Perry's name stands for. \_\_\_\_\_

3. When he was a boy, Elder Perry's nickname was "\_\_\_\_\_" because he was so tall.

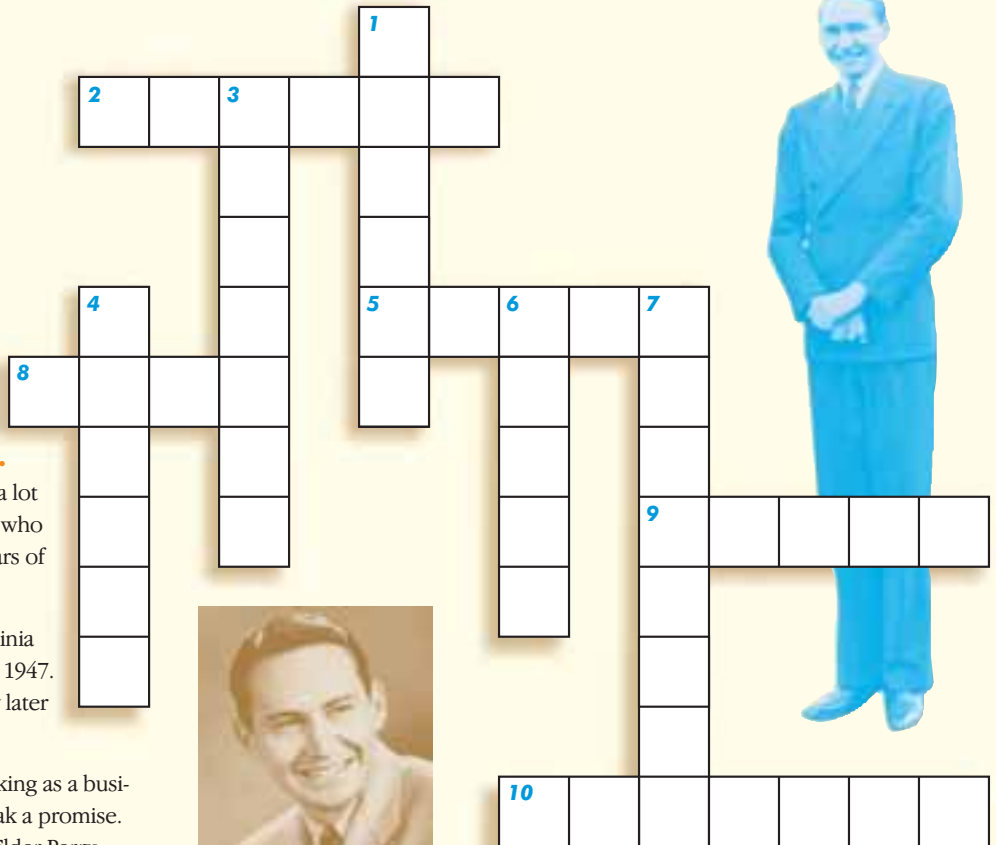
4. "I enjoy children," Elder Perry says.

"The best Church position I ever had in the early days was being a member of the \_\_\_\_\_ School presidency [over the children's classes]."

6. While serving as a Marine during World War II, Elder Perry and one other Latter-day Saint soldier held church services every Sunday. They kept their sacrament supplies in a small trunk that was painted this color.

7. Although this mission is now divided into many smaller missions, Elder Perry served as a missionary in the \_\_\_\_\_ States Mission.

(See *Ensign*, May 1974, 120–21, Aug. 1986, 15–21; *Friend*, July 2004, 39.)





# Trying to Be Like Jesus

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

## A Second Mile

By Barbara Hopf

**M**y three children and I were on our way home after shopping when we passed the man with the newspapers for the first time.

I let Emmily, 2, hand him some money to buy a paper. Lisa, 6, asked, "What is that man doing? Why is he selling newspapers on the street instead of in the store?"

I explained that he was selling a special newspaper and that the

people who sell the special newspaper don't have much money. They often don't have a home or a family to help them. But they can earn a little money by selling newspapers, and we can help them by buying one.

Many weeks later—on a rainy day—we were on our way to the children's gymnastics lesson. Because we had to stop at the store, we didn't take the direct route. After we had made our purchases, I wondered out loud which route we should take to the lesson. We could take a shorter route through a side street or a longer one taking us past the corner

with the street vendor. I looked at Lisa and waited for her to choose.

"Let's take the long way, Mom, and buy a newspaper," she said. "Jesus would have done that." We went the second mile that rainy day and bought one of many more newspapers.

*Lisa Hopf, age 6, is a member of the Stade Branch, Hamburg Germany Stake.*

## Unusual Heroism

By Elizabeth Jackson

**O**n July 24, 2002, my son Steven Jackson and his nephew Taylor Miller were playing in the Pacific







Ocean when they were sucked out by a rip tide. Both were nine years old. Neither boy could swim, but

Steven had strong legs and could dog-paddle. Taylor was having trouble staying above water, so Steven pulled him up and paddled for both of them. They were constantly being pulled under the water, but Steven kept encouraging Taylor not to give up, because help was coming.

In October 2003, the National Court of Honor of the Boy Scouts of America honored Steven for unusual heroism for saving Taylor's life at considerable risk to himself.

*Steven Jackson, age 11, is a member of the Fayette Branch, Bessemer Alabama Stake.*

## My Primary Talk

By Evan Darbous



**C**hrist is our best example of service. He served others throughout His life. When I serve others, it makes

me feel good. The other day we were going to give a rocking horse to a boy in our ward, but it had to be put together. I was excited to do this because I could picture the joy on the boy's face when he got on the horse. When the horse was assembled, I helped Mom put it in

the car to take to the boy's house. Sometimes I complain about doing things like this, but when they are over I'm glad that I did them, and I'm happy.

*Evan Darbous, age 10, is a member of the Pittsburgh Sixth Ward, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania Stake.*

## I Know I Can Repent When I Make a Mistake\*

By McKell Lewis

**O**nce our family spent a night at the home of some out-of-town friends. The next day, our friends' sons went to school, and we were packing up to leave. My sister and I thought it would be funny to sneak



into the boys' room and put silly notes on their bed. We also got a bottle of glue and squirted glue on their beds.

Afterward, I didn't feel good inside. It didn't seem funny anymore. I decided to tell my mom what we had done. I knew that we also needed to clean up the glue and confess to our friends. I know that the Holy Ghost helped me to understand that what we did was wrong and that I should tell my mom about it. I learned that I should respect other people's property.

*McKell Lewis, age 8, is a member of the Plum Creek Ward, Castle Rock Colorado Stake.*

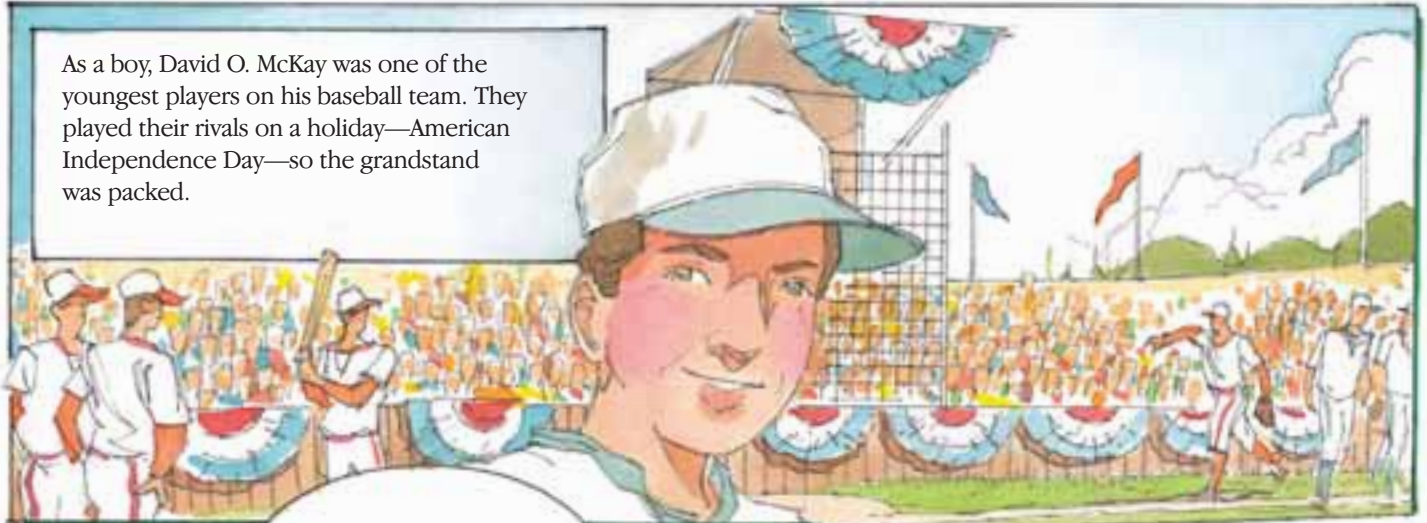




FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT DAVID O. MCKAY

## Standing Up to a Bully

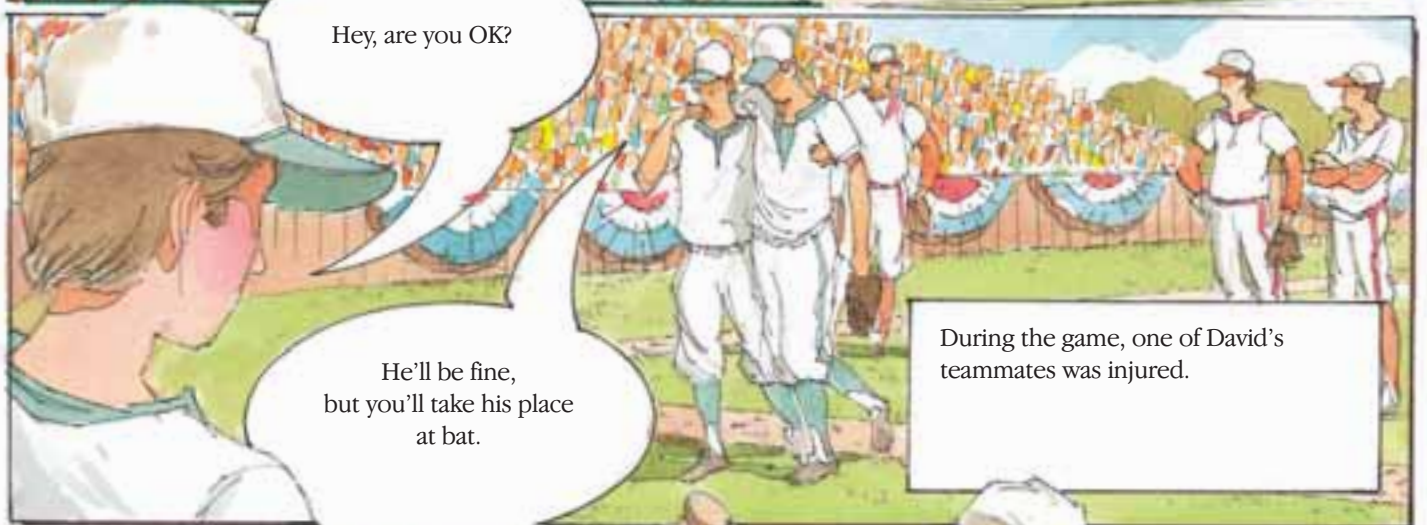
As a boy, David O. McKay was one of the youngest players on his baseball team. They played their rivals on a holiday—American Independence Day—so the grandstand was packed.



Hey, are you OK?

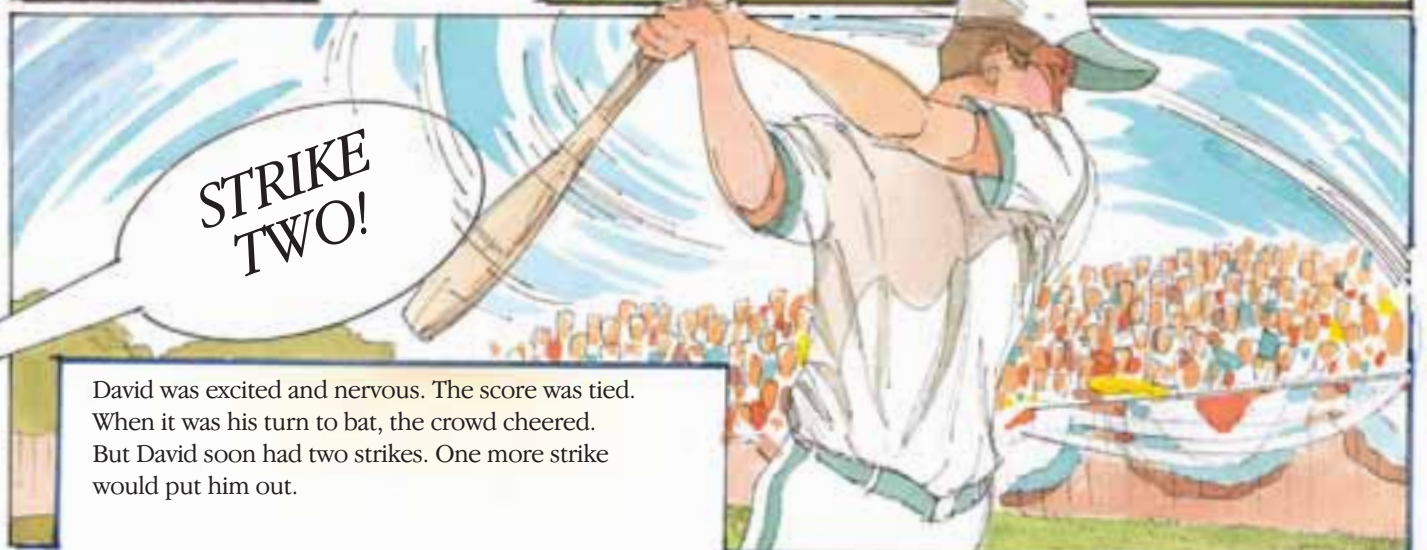
He'll be fine,  
but you'll take his place  
at bat.

During the game, one of David's  
teammates was injured.



**STRIKE  
TWO!**

David was excited and nervous. The score was tied. When it was his turn to bat, the crowd cheered. But David soon had two strikes. One more strike would put him out.





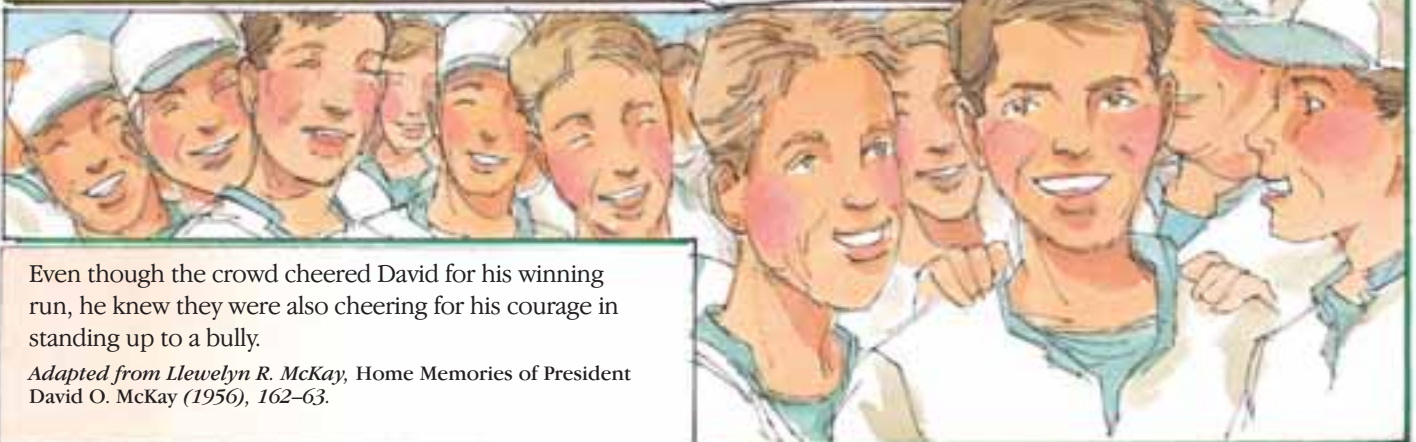
The pitcher stormed toward David and picked up a baseball bat.

The field went silent. David stayed calm.

That was strike three.  
Get out of here, kid, or I'll  
hurt you!

The umpire called only  
two strikes. Go back to your  
pitcher's mound and try to get  
me out; you still have one  
more chance!

The pitcher saw the determination on David's face and  
returned to the pitcher's mound. David's bat smacked  
the ball, and he ran to second base. The next batter sent  
David to home plate; it was the deciding run of the game.



Even though the crowd cheered David for his winning  
run, he knew they were also cheering for his courage in  
standing up to a bully.

*Adapted from Llewellyn R. McKay, Home Memories of President  
David O. McKay (1956), 162–63.*



BY ANA NELSON SHAW

(Based on experiences of the author's ancestors)

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

A hot, dry wind blew through Maggie's open window, bringing in dust and the smell of sagebrush. Summer weekends were lonely—Maggie's father was seeing to business outside Rush Valley, and her older brothers were away rounding up the cattle and hauling ore for the mines nearby. Only Mother and Aunt Laura were there to keep her company in the big adobe house. And since it was the Sabbath, Maggie couldn't play outside with her colt or her new kittens or run around the yard looking for tiny wildflowers.

Even worse, Mother was sick. She had hardly eaten for days, and worry hung over the house. Maggie wanted more than anything to see Mother well and happy. "Maybe I'll go see if she's well enough to eat today," Maggie thought. She tiptoed across the hall to Mother's room and peeked inside.

"Mother, you're awake!" Maggie said, relieved, as she approached Mother's big bed. "What would you like to eat?"

"Well, dear," Mother answered, "I don't have much

choice. I'll have to settle for what we have on hand."

The nearest store was 10 miles away. With the boys away and Mother sick, no one had gone for groceries in weeks, and there was nothing in the cellar but canned tomatoes. Maggie hesitated to remind her mother of this—she knew

Mother found the idea of eating more tomatoes even less appetizing than she did herself.

"Don't worry, Maggie. I know there's nothing but tomatoes." Mother smiled. "If I could have what I really want most, it would be some good, cold peaches fresh from the cellar. But I guess I'll just imagine the tomatoes are peaches instead!" She laughed, which made Maggie feel better.

Maggie started heading for the cellar, but stopped to kneel and say a quick prayer before going downstairs.

"Heavenly Father," she said. "I can't stand to see Mother so sick and sad. I want to bring her peaches for dinner. Please help me find some. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen."

When Maggie stood up, her heart felt lighter. She knew Heavenly Father had heard her prayer. She walked into the cool, dark cellar and lit a candle so she could







see. Two identical cases of tomatoes were stacked one on top of the other. The top case was open. Maggie walked around the cellar with her candle, peering in the corners, but there were no peaches to be seen. Other than the tomatoes, the cellar was completely empty.

Maggie lifted up the heavy box of tomatoes and set it on the floor. She took a hammer from the table beside her and pried one board loose from the second case of tomatoes. Out came one can, which Maggie set down on the table. Then she lifted another can out from the bottom layer. That was the one! The picture label was of bright red tomatoes, but Maggie knew there was something else inside.

She ran as fast as she could back up to her mother's room. "Mother!" she cried, "I've got your peaches!"

"Looks very much like tomatoes to me, Maggie," Aunt Laura said.

"I don't care what the label says," Maggie insisted. "These are peaches."

"Bless your heart," Mother said kindly. "We'll imagine they are peaches and eat them anyway."

Maggie rushed to get the can opener from the kitchen, and ran back to the bedroom at top speed. As her mother jabbed the opener into the can, golden peach juice oozed out. Maggie dipped her finger in and



tasted the sweet juice.

"Oh, Mother, the Lord heard my prayer!" Maggie exclaimed. "They are peaches!"

A few minutes later, Mother sat holding a big dish of beautiful orange peaches on a tray. Tears filled her eyes. "Oh, my Maggie," she whispered, "how did you do it?" Maggie told her about her prayer and how she knew exactly where to look.

"Well," Aunt Laura said, "They just made a mistake when they labeled the cans. Isn't that a strange coincidence?" Mother looked at Aunt Laura.

"All my life I've never found peaches in tomato cans, and yet there they were for Maggie when she prayed. I know the Lord answered her prayers and guided her hand to that one can, so don't try to tell me it was just a coincidence."

She kissed Maggie on the cheek. "Go along now, dear. I think I'll get some good rest today."

Maggie walked back to her room and knelt beside the bed to thank Heavenly Father for His guidance. She knew that answers to prayer were real, and she would never forget it. ●

*Ana Nelson Shaw is a member of the Merced First Ward, Merced California Stake.*



"Believe in prayer. . . . The Lord will hear the prayers of faithful people. . . . I believe that with all my heart."

**President Gordon B. Hinckley, "Latter-day Counsel: Selections from Addresses of President Gordon B. Hinckley," Ensign, Apr. 2002, 73.**



# I Want to Be Baptized

Thoughtfully ♩ = 100-112

Words by Gary Croxall  
Music by Kathleen Holyoak

I want to be bap - tized in clothes pure and white, To  
want to be bap - tized when I have turned eight, To  
want to be bap - tized by God's priest - hood pow'r, Be

*with feeling*

fol - low the Sav - ior, to do what is right. I'll cov - e - nant  
en - ter Christ's king - dom through bap - ti - sm's gate. I'll take His name  
giv - en His Spir - it, be cleansed as by fire. The Spir - it will

with Him to al - ways be true, For — this is the thing that He  
glad - ly, be known as His child, And — strive to be wor - thy, more  
guide me if I will o - bey And — help me re - turn to my

1. 2. wants me to do. I  
Christ - like and mild. I  
3. slowing a tempo Fa - ther one day. —

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BY REBECCA TODD ARCHIBALD

(Based on an incident that occurred in 1863)

Mary Wilkenson awoke to the sound of rain pattering against the tent. It had rained on and off for days, and she longed for sunlight to break through the gray cloud cover. Perhaps today the company would finally be assembled.

Mary and her eight brothers and sisters had traveled with their parents across the sea from Bradford, England. At times it had seemed that the angry black sea would engulf the ship, but they had made it to the eastern shore of America and then continued on to Winter Quarters.

Mary couldn't wait to get going again. The thought of living among the Saints in Salt Lake filled her with excitement. But waiting for Captain Henry Miller's company to be made up was taking its toll on Mary's family. Their makeshift tent did little to protect them from the cold.

Mother had taken ill a few days ago. She lay wrapped up in the few blankets that neighbors could spare. Mary stood up and folded up the little blanket that made her bed, threw her shawl over her head, and went outside to find what little food she could for breakfast. Her arms and legs dragged in exhaustion.

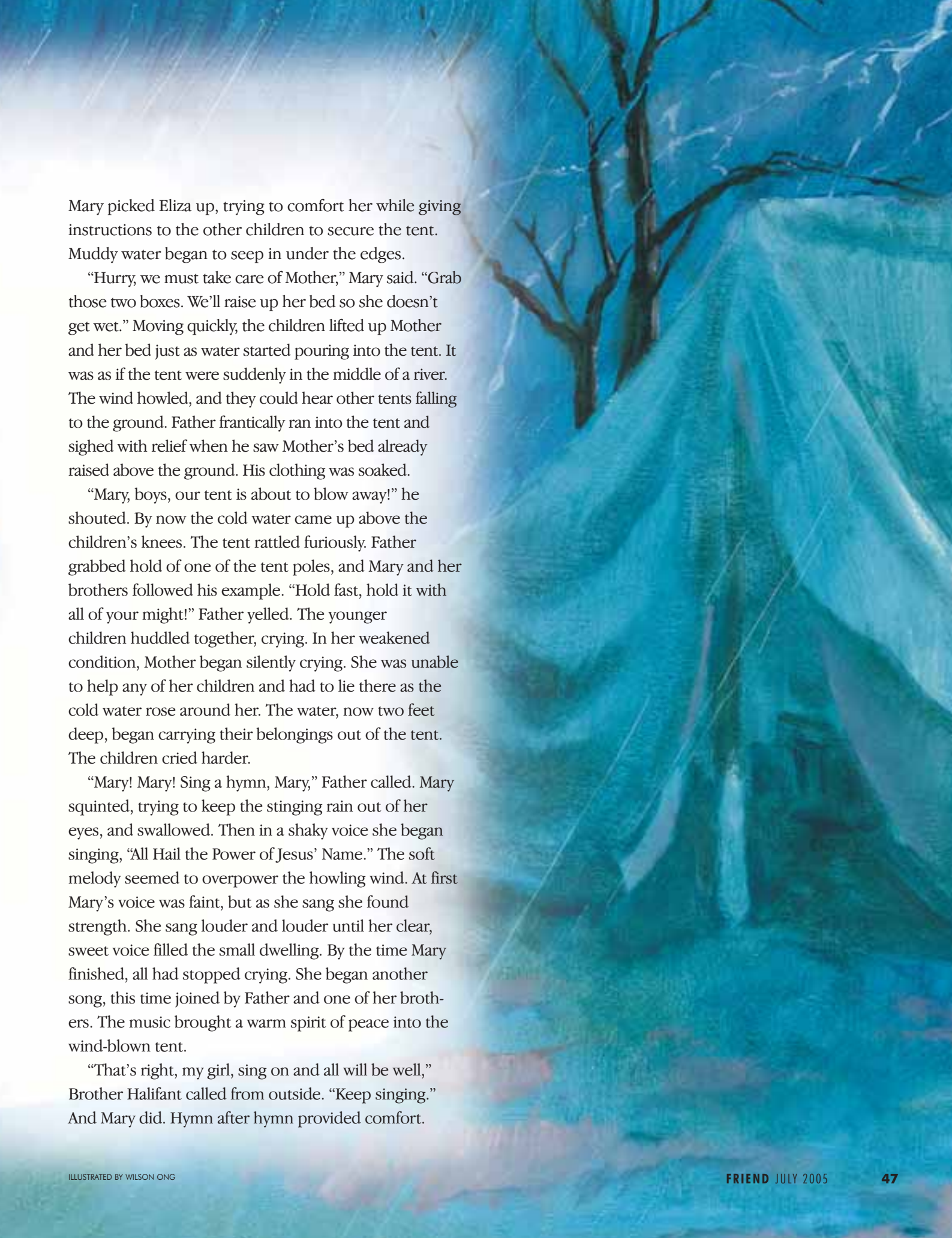
A cold wind whipped through the camp, forcing Mary to cling tightly to her shawl. Just then, thunder exploded in the sky. Wincing at the sound, she looked up to see large black clouds directly overhead. And then the rain started pouring. The wind blew the rain so hard that it felt like pebbles hitting her bare hands and face. She ran back to the tent, taking refuge inside.

"What's happening, Mary?" four-year-old Eliza asked. The thunder sounded again, exploding like a cannon, and the tent shook in the fierce wind. Eliza started to cry.

# A Song Amid a STORM





A blue-toned illustration of a tent in a storm. The tent is a simple A-frame structure, partially submerged in water. A dark, leafless tree stands behind the tent. The sky is dark and rainy, with white streaks representing falling rain. The overall mood is somber and urgent.

Mary picked Eliza up, trying to comfort her while giving instructions to the other children to secure the tent. Muddy water began to seep in under the edges.

“Hurry, we must take care of Mother,” Mary said. “Grab those two boxes. We’ll raise up her bed so she doesn’t get wet.” Moving quickly, the children lifted up Mother and her bed just as water started pouring into the tent. It was as if the tent were suddenly in the middle of a river. The wind howled, and they could hear other tents falling to the ground. Father frantically ran into the tent and sighed with relief when he saw Mother’s bed already raised above the ground. His clothing was soaked.

“Mary, boys, our tent is about to blow away!” he shouted. By now the cold water came up above the children’s knees. The tent rattled furiously. Father grabbed hold of one of the tent poles, and Mary and her brothers followed his example. “Hold fast, hold it with all of your might!” Father yelled. The younger children huddled together, crying. In her weakened condition, Mother began silently crying. She was unable to help any of her children and had to lie there as the cold water rose around her. The water, now two feet deep, began carrying their belongings out of the tent. The children cried harder.

“Mary! Mary! Sing a hymn, Mary,” Father called. Mary squinted, trying to keep the stinging rain out of her eyes, and swallowed. Then in a shaky voice she began singing, “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name.” The soft melody seemed to overpower the howling wind. At first Mary’s voice was faint, but as she sang she found strength. She sang louder and louder until her clear, sweet voice filled the small dwelling. By the time Mary finished, all had stopped crying. She began another song, this time joined by Father and one of her brothers. The music brought a warm spirit of peace into the wind-blown tent.

“That’s right, my girl, sing on and all will be well,” Brother Halifant called from outside. “Keep singing.” And Mary did. Hymn after hymn provided comfort.



Soon even Eliza sang along enthusiastically, the music making her forget her fear. At last the walls of the tent quit shaking and the wind retreated. Mary exhaled in relief. She let go of the pole, her fingers aching from holding it so tightly. After tending to Mother, she tried to dump the water from the few belongings the current of rainwater had left behind.

“Everyone, come! We’re gathering for prayer,” a loud voice called through the camp. Mary took Eliza’s hand and walked with the family to where the Saints were gathering. Every other tent except the Wilkenson’s and one other had been blown down. The water had carried away trunks and boxes and lodged them in the brown mud. Mary tried to walk so that her legs would not touch her icy wet clothing, and little Eliza shivered in her wet nightgown.

They all bowed their heads in prayer, pleading for strength and comfort. Then Brother McAlister spoke. “Brothers and

sisters, the storm is over. We made it through, and the Lord has heard our prayers.” Brother McAlister surveyed the crowd. Everyone was wet, and many had mud smeared across their clothing and faces. “I promise that the Lord will protect everyone from taking cold. No one will get sick because of the storm.”

Mary wiped the tears from her eyes with her numb hands. She knew the Lord would protect her and her family—she had felt His love as she sang.

As the days passed, no one caught a cold. Those who were already sick, including Mother, did not get any worse. Within a few days, the Wilkenson’s were packing up to start moving across the plains. As Mary helped load the wagon, she softly hummed the song

that had brought peace to their tent a few days before, finding strength for the journey ahead. ●

*Rebecca Todd Archibald is a member of the Valparaiso Ward, Menlo Park California Stake.*



“Singing our beautiful, worshipful hymns is food for our souls.”

**President James E. Faust, Second Counselor in the First Presidency, “Spiritual Healing,” Ensign, May 1992, 8.**



## 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 July is "I follow Heavenly Father's plan by repenting and being baptized."*



## Family Home Evening Ideas

*Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned below.*

1. Read President Gordon B. Hinckley's message "Set upon a Hill" (pages 2–3). Why does the temple remind him of a city set on a hill? How can we be like a city set on a hill? When we live righteously, we have the Holy Ghost with us and it shows in the way we act, look, and feel. Discuss ways to be good examples.

2. Complete the activity "Jonah Repents" (page 19) and use it to share the story of Jonah and the whale. What must we do when we have made a mistake? Can you think of other examples of repentance in the scriptures? Read "The Giraffe Lesson" (pages 4–6) and discuss how Ann repents.

3. To learn about baptism, complete the activity "Fill the Font" (pages 24–25). Then put eight different colored squares of paper on the floor and have family members participate along with Logan while you read "Logan's Baptism" (pages 28–29). Have family members identify which "square" they are on (which ordinances they have yet to complete) and what they can do to progress.

4. Read "The Skipper's Son" (pages 10–12). What difficult decision does Fei face when his father decides to be baptized? Discuss the

sacrifices others, such as ancestors or early Saints, made that have influenced where you are today. What righteous decisions can you make that will influence your future families for good?

5. In the story "Higher Ground" (pages 34–36), a prophet reminds members of Ronda's community that they can be like pioneers. How can we? Have each family member write on paper strips 20 things that are most important to them, including both things they own and things that cannot be seen, like a testimony. Make a "Pioneer Handcart" (page 33). Decide which 10 paper strips you would put inside. Then if you can, cut it down to five. Discuss why you chose what you did and how you can always focus on righteous priorities.



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## The Friend

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# What's in the *Friend* this month?



## page 2

President Hinckley tells us to set an example for the world by living the standards of the Church.

## page 28

Find out what important steps Logan takes toward his heavenly home.



## page 33

Make a “Pioneer Handcart” in family home evening; then make and enjoy an “Animal Snack.”

