

A detailed oil painting depicting a group of pioneers crossing a river. In the foreground, a woman in a red shawl carries a baby in her arms, while a young girl in a yellow dress stands beside her. In the background, men are pushing a large wooden wagon across the water. The scene is set in a rugged, natural landscape with trees and hills.

the friend

JULY • 2008

Friends by Mail



I Knew the Answer



One day, I was playing a trivia game with two of my neighbors. In the game you draw a card and answer the question on it. If you answer correctly, you get to advance on the game board. I drew a card that asked this question: “One of the world’s major religions was established by a man named Joseph Smith. What is the common name for the members of this religion?” My two neighbors are not members of the Church, so they looked confused, but I had a big smile on my face. I knew the answer! I quickly said, “Mormons!” I was so surprised to read a card about my religion. I was very happy that I knew the right answer.

Courtney N., age 10, Florida

Pioneers in a Storm



I was listening to President Hinckley speak in general conference. He was talking about the pioneers. The prophet said there was a big storm while the pioneers were walking. It made me

feel sad for them. When I heard this story, I felt like drawing a picture of them. I am thankful for the pioneers.

Bennett L., age 6, Idaho



Scared to Say “I’m Sorry”

Once, I had to apologize to an adult for something I said that was unkind. I was outside playing with my cousin when my dad called me inside to talk to the adult on the phone. I felt very scared to talk to her, but I knew that I had to do it. Even though I was scared, I am glad I did it because I felt happy inside and relieved after I did it.

Kathleen Suzanne T., age 7, Utah



Volume 38 Number 7
July 2008

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0009-4102) is published monthly by The
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,
50 E. North Temple St., Salt Lake City, Utah
84150-3220, United States of America.
Periodicals Postage Paid at Salt Lake City, Utah.

To subscribe: By phone: Call
1-800-537-5971 to order using Visa,
MasterCard, Discover Card, or American
Express.

Online: Go to www.ldsatalog.com.

By mail: Send \$8 U.S. check or money order
to Distribution Services, P.O. Box 26368, Salt
Lake City, UT 84126-0368.

To change address: Send old and new
address information to Distribution Services
at the above address, or change the address
by phone at the number listed above. Please
allow 60 days for changes to take effect.

Submit manuscripts or art to:
Friend Editorial, 50 E. North Temple St. Rm.
2430, Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3220, United
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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
Distribution Services, P.O. Box 26368, Salt Lake
City, UT 84126-0368, USA.

Canada Post Information: Publication
Agreement #40017431.

the Friend

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



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

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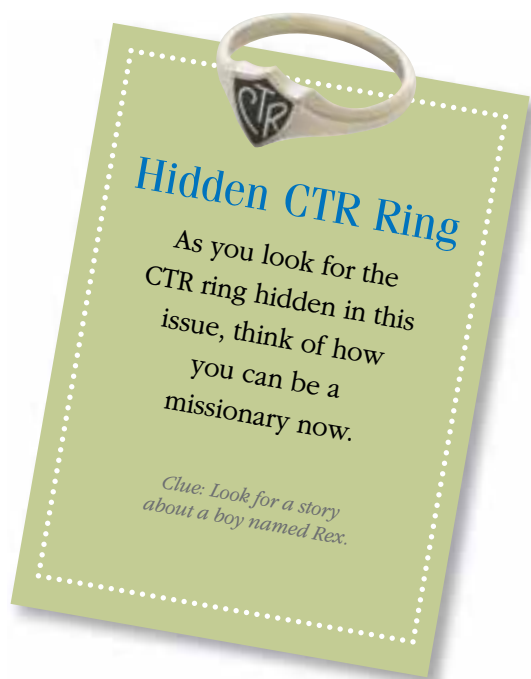
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Cover by David Koch





THE GIFT OF THE GOSPEL

BY PRESIDENT HENRY B. EYRING
First Counselor in the First Presidency

Saturday is a market day across the world. In Ghana, Ecuador, and the Philippine Islands, people bring produce and handi-crafts to town to sell. They talk with those they meet on the road. Among those are Latter-day Saints. Much of their talk would be the same as you would hear anywhere in the world. But there will be a difference in the Latter-day Saints. It would be noticeable in their eyes as much as in their words. They listen carefully with the look of someone who cares.

If the conversation lasts more than a few minutes, it would turn to things that matter deeply to both of them. They would talk of what they believe brings happiness and what brings sadness. Sometimes the Latter-day Saint would be asked, “Why are you so much at peace?” And then there would come a quiet answer. Perhaps it would be about Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, appearing to the young boy Joseph Smith. It might be about the resurrected Savior’s loving ministry, as described in the Book of Mormon.

You might ask, “How could I do that? How could I become better at sharing my faith?”

I’ve studied carefully and prayerfully some who are faithful and effective witnesses of the Savior and His Church. There is no single pattern in what they do. Some always carry a Book of Mormon to give away. Others set a date to find someone for the missionaries to teach. Each has prayed to know what to do.



President Eyring encourages us to share the gospel.

To do what we are to do, we will have to become like them in at least two ways. First, they feel that they are the beloved children of a loving Heavenly Father. Because of that, they turn to Him easily and often in prayer. Second, those who speak easily of the gospel are grateful disciples of Jesus Christ. They prize what the gospel has meant to them. The memory of the gift they have received makes them eager for others to receive it. They have felt the love of the Savior.

Pray for the chance to encounter people who sense there could be something better in their lives. Pray to know what you should do to help them. Your prayers will be answered. You will meet people prepared by the Lord. And you will feel yourself drawing closer to your Heavenly Father, knowing you have done what He asked of you, because He loves you and trusts you. ●

From an April 2003 general conference address.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- 1. What do you think it means to “listen carefully with the look of someone who cares”? How is that part of sharing the gospel?**
- 2. How can you feel closer to Heavenly Father and know you are His child?**
- 3. Why are you grateful to be a member of the Church? Can you think of people who might be looking for the same blessings in their lives?**





Do You Want to Go to Primary with Me?

By small and simple things are great things brought to pass (Alma 37:6).

BY RENÉE HARDING

(Based on a true story)

Everyone in the third grade would agree, including me, that Christy was queen of the monkey bars and swings. No one could climb as fast or swing as high as Christy could. And she was equally as good at playing games. But the most important thing to me about Christy was that she and I were good friends. One day at school during recess, Christy asked, “Do you want to go to Primary with me?”

I’d never heard of Primary before. “What’s that?” I asked.

Christy explained, “Primary is something special at my church, just for children. If you go, you’ll sing songs, make new friends, learn new things, and you can meet my Primary teacher, who is really, really nice.”

“As nice as Mrs. Palmer?”

I asked, certain that no teacher could

be as nice as our third-grade teacher.

Christy laughed. “Yes, she’s as nice as Mrs. Palmer.”

After school I ran all the way home to ask my mom if I could go to Primary. But Mom wasn’t as thrilled about the idea as I was. “I need a little bit more information,” she said. “What’s the name of Christy’s church?”

Well, that was a tough question to start out with because, as I told Mom, “I can’t remember the name. It’s a long name

I’ve never heard before.” I could tell by Mom’s worried expression that was the wrong thing to say.

“Hold on. I’m going to call Christy right now!” I ran to the phone and dialed Christy’s number before Mom could say another word. The phone rang twice before Christy



“The most effective missionaries, member and full-time, always act out of love.”

**Elder Dallin H. Oaks
of the Quorum of the
Twelve Apostles¹**

A young girl with long dark hair, wearing a pink shirt, is shown from the chest up, looking upwards. She is holding onto a large, grey, multi-armed structure that resembles a stylized sun or a starburst. The structure has a central green circle and several grey arms extending outwards. The background is a bright blue sky with white clouds.

picked it up. “Hello?”

“Christy!” I exclaimed.

“What’s the name of your church again?” I listened carefully and then said, “Mom, the name of Christy’s church is The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.” When the frown on Mom’s face didn’t disappear, I knew I needed help. I said into the phone, “Christy, do you think your mom could talk to my mom about Primary?”

I think Christy heard the desperation in my voice because she got her mom on the phone in five seconds flat. Our moms were soon talking and laughing like old friends. Then my mom told Christy’s mom that, yes, I could go to Primary!

When I went to Primary for the first time, it was everything Christy said it would be and more. Christy was right—our Primary teacher was really, really nice. Every bit as nice as Mrs. Palmer. She even gave me my very own booklet about faith in God.

I went home that day and showed Mom my booklet and told her all about Primary.



of questions, and the man seemed excited to answer every one of them. When the tour was over, Mom wrote her name and address in the guest book and then checked a box with the word “YES” next to it, saying she’d like to receive more information about the Church.

When we got home from our vacation, two young men who called themselves elders came to our apartment. They told us they were missionaries who got a message all the way from the visitors’ center in Salt Lake City that Mom would like more information about the Church. They said they would love to teach our family about Heavenly Father’s plan and the gospel of Jesus Christ. That’s when the missionaries started teaching our family.

The first time we went to church together, I told my family to be sure to fold their arms when we walked into the chapel. I’d learned at Primary that this was a way to show reverence. We all tried that day to keep our arms folded, but so many people came up to us to shake our hands and welcome us to church that our arms didn’t stay folded for very long.

At the end of our lessons with the missionaries, they asked Mom if she would like to be baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She said she needed to pray about it. The next morning at 6:00 a.m., Mom called the missionaries and said she had prayed all night about being baptized and the answer was yes! My brothers and I also told them we wanted to be baptized.

I still remember stepping into the water in the baptismal font. I was wearing white and feeling so happy inside that I wanted to laugh and shout at the same time. I looked up and saw Mom crying happy tears. Then I looked at Christy, who was just about as excited as I was because it really all started with her when she asked, “Do you want to go to Primary with me?” ●

I even sang the “Hello Song” (*Children’s Songbook*, 260) to her and my two brothers, which all the kids had sung to me. As Mom studied the picture of Jesus Christ on the front of my booklet and read some of the pages inside, she got a quiet, thoughtful look on her face. Then she said I could go with Christy to Primary every week if I wanted to.

I definitely wanted to, but I actually went only a few more times after that because school let out and our family went on a summer vacation. We loaded up our car and drove from California all the way to my grandmother’s farm in Illinois.

On the second day of our trip, as we drove into Utah, we saw billboards on the highway with the name of Christy’s church on them. They invited people to see something called the visitors’ center in Salt Lake City. Mom said she’d like to stop there so she could find out more about the Church.

When we walked through the door of the visitors’ center, we were greeted by a friendly man wearing a name tag. As he showed us around, Mom had a lot



BECAUSE I KNOW WE ARE ALL CHILDREN OF GOD, I WILL SHARE THE GOSPEL WITH OTHERS.

“And if it so be that you should labor all your days in crying repentance unto this people, and bring, save it be one soul unto me, how great shall be your joy with him in the kingdom of my Father!” (D&C 18:15).

Sons and Daughters of God



From an interview with Elder Paul K. Sybrowsky of the Seventy, currently serving as President of the Australia Area; by Melvin Leavitt

Have we not all one father?
(Malachi 2:10).

I was born of goodly parents. My father and mother held to the values of honesty and integrity that the Church teaches, but they were not active in the Church. Still, my friends went to Primary, so I did too. I felt happy there and never wanted to miss it.

The Primary became my Church family. I went to sacrament meeting each week and sat with my Primary friends. I did not fully understand the meaning of the sacrament, but I knew that I felt something special when I partook of it. I understood the feeling of a covenant before I ever learned that word.

When I turned 12, my Aaronic Priesthood quorum became my second Church family. I felt a great love and reverence for the priesthood. As a deacons quorum president, I conducted quorum meetings, and when a new deacon was ordained, I welcomed him with a little speech. I remember saying, “This is the priesthood of God. You need to honor it.”

After high school I joined the army reserve. My commanding officer gave me the opportunity of becoming a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army. He was very gracious but also very large and imposing. People didn’t turn him down. I asked if I could go home and think it over.

I prayed that night, and into my mind came the baptism prayer found in Doctrine and Covenants 20:73: “Having been commissioned of Jesus Christ, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”

I went back the next morning and told my commanding officer that I had decided to accept a commission—but that I would be commissioned by Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. I explained that I was going to serve a mission for my church.





Elder Sybrowsky and his family in 2006.

The feeling of having that prayer answered was wonderful, and I have felt it again and again as I have prayed about important decisions.

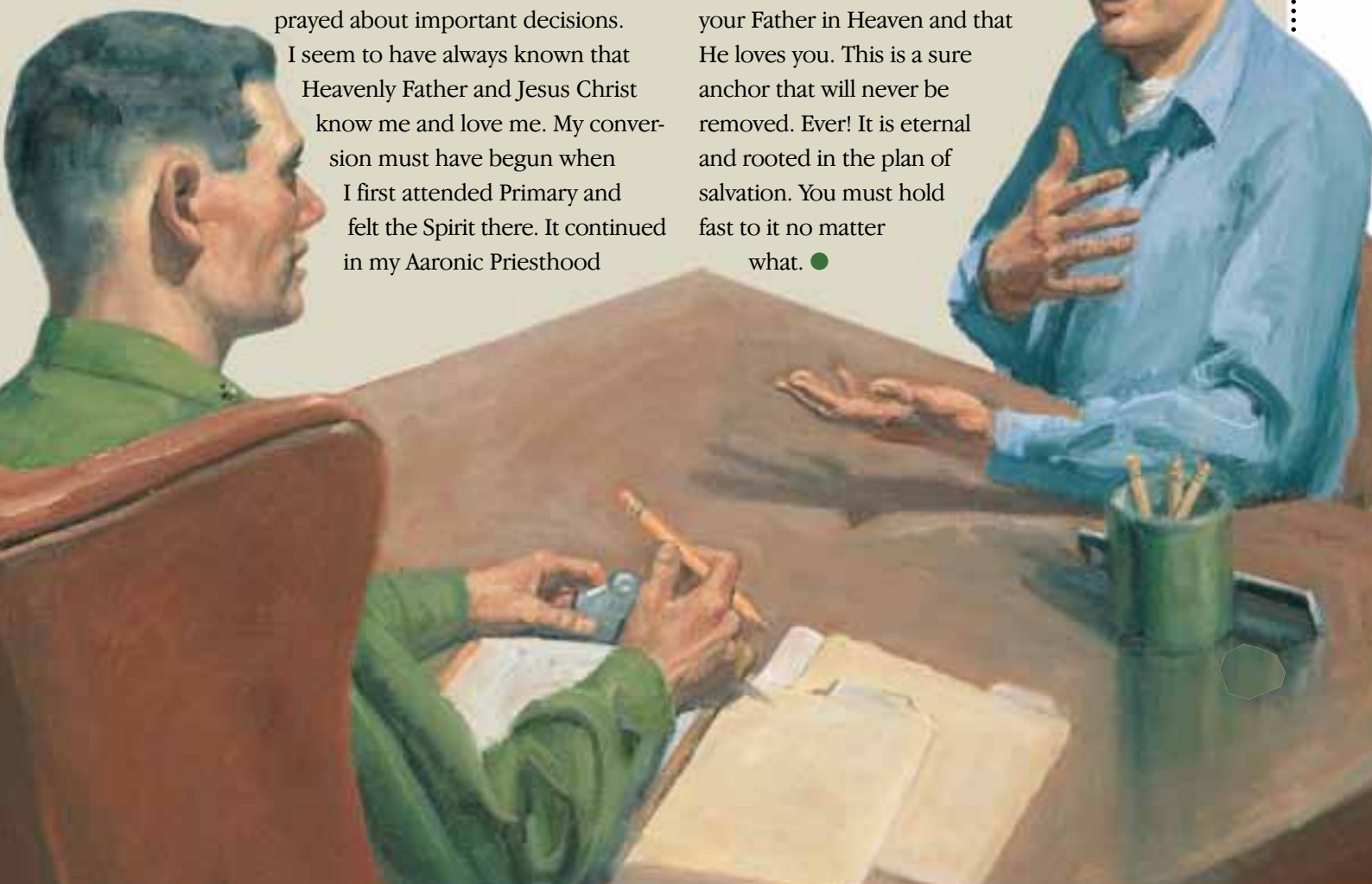
I seem to have always known that Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ know me and love me. My conversion must have begun when I first attended Primary and felt the Spirit there. It continued in my Aaronic Priesthood

quorums and in the mission field. It still continues today.

We are all sons and daughters of Heavenly Father. He never forgets this, but we sometimes do. So He has given us the principle of faith to help us remember. To help us develop faith in Him, Heavenly Father gives us the gift of experience. As I look back over my life, I'm grateful for the experiences that have helped increase my faith.

Enjoy the experiences that Heavenly Father will give you. Learn from them the things that He wants you to learn. Heavenly Father gives each of us experiences that will help increase our faith in Him and in His Son.

If some of your experiences are sad, please remember that you are a son or daughter of your Father in Heaven and that He loves you. This is a sure anchor that will never be removed. Ever! It is eternal and rooted in the plan of salvation. You must hold fast to it no matter what. ●



Pray for missionary opportunities.

Be friendly.

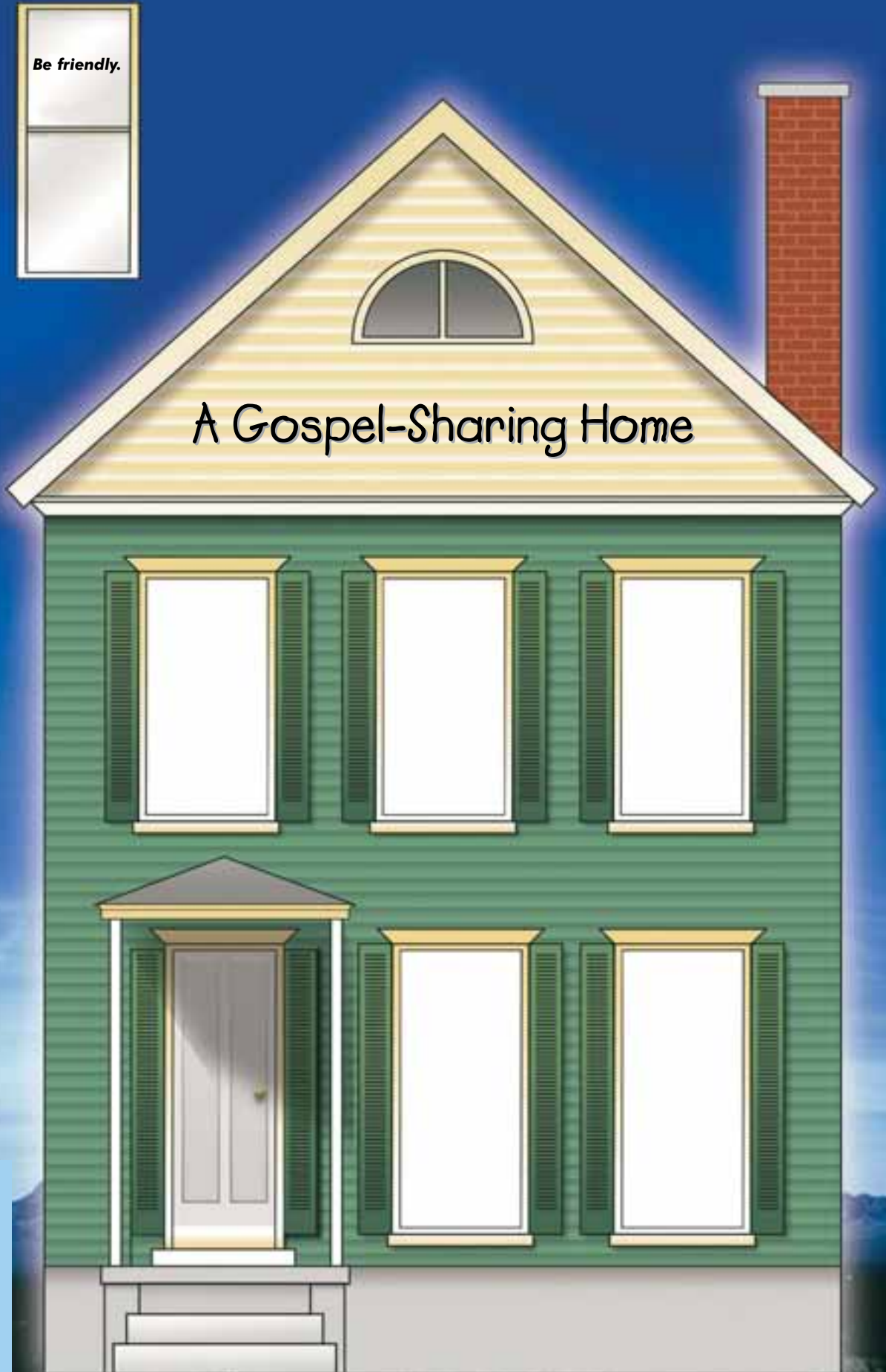
Invite your friends to Church activities.

Be a good example.

Share the gospel with others.

A Gospel-Sharing Home

Note: If you do not wish to remove pages from the magazine, this activity may be copied or printed from the Internet at www.friend.lds.org.



I Can Be a Missionary Now



And if it so be that you should . . . bring, save it be one soul unto me, how great shall be your joy (D&C 18:15).

BY LINDA CHRISTENSEN



The Apostle Paul was a great missionary. He said, “I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ” (Romans 1:16). Paul traveled to many places to share the gospel. He found joy in sharing the gospel and helping people be happy.

The Prophet Joseph Smith’s brother Samuel was the first missionary in the latter days. Since that time, more than one million men and women have served missions. Each missionary, like Samuel Smith and Paul, has a testimony of the gospel and wants to share it with others.

President David O. McKay (1873–1970) said, “Every member a missionary.”¹ That means you can be a

missionary now! Sharing the gospel with others will remind you of your baptismal covenant to always remember Jesus Christ. Remember these words:

*I can be a missionary now.
I don't have to wait until I'm grown.
I'll live each day the best that I know how,
And they'll see I have a testimony of my own,
A testimony of my very own.*² ●

Activity

Remove page 10. Cut out the home and the five windows. Glue each window in the window outlines on the gospel-sharing home. With your family, talk about the ideas on the home. Decide together what you can do to be missionaries now. Place the gospel-sharing home where your family can see it.

NOTES

1. In Conference Report, Apr. 1959, 122.
2. “I Want to Be a Missionary Now,” *Children's Songbook*, 168.

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. Gather items for simple tasks that require preparation to complete. (For example, task: washing dishes—items could include soap and a dishcloth; task: cooking—items could include a recipe and ingredients.) Prepare a bag with a different task for each class.

Ask each class to open the bag, look at the items, determine what task needs to be completed, and explain why each item is necessary to complete the task. Invite each class to share its task with the Primary.

Explain that just as we need certain things to prepare to do a task, we need to do certain things to prepare to be a good missionary. Place GAK 605 (Young Boy Praying) and 617 (Search the Scriptures) on the chalkboard, and write below them, "I will prepare to be a missionary by praying and reading the scriptures daily." Read the statement together, and ask the children to share how living this principle can prepare them to be missionaries.

Summarize the story of Alma the Younger and the sons of Mosiah. Help the children find Alma 17:2–3, and read it together. Underline the phrases "they had searched the scriptures diligently" and "they had given themselves to much prayer."

Sing the third verse of "We'll Bring the World His Truth" (pp. 172–73). Emphasize the words *prepare*, *study*, and *prayer*. Bear testimony of the power of prayer and daily scripture study and how they can prepare us to be missionaries.

2. Prior to sharing time, obtain an empty container to fill with small objects such as beans or pebbles. Put the objects in a separate container or bag. Attach a label to the empty container that reads "Faithful and Obedient." Prepare several case studies about faith and obedience for both younger and older children (see *TNGC*, 161–62).

Begin sharing time by writing "I will prepare to be a missionary by being faithful and obedient" on the chalkboard. Read it several times with the children.

Invite a child to choose a case study. Read the case study, and let the child or class answer what to do. Point out that the answer requires faith or obedience, and let the child put some of the small objects into the container. After each case study, sing the phrase "I'll do what is right; I'll follow his light. His truth I will proclaim" from "The Church of Jesus Christ" (p. 77). The phrase "His truth I will proclaim" means we will be missionaries. Continue until the "Faithful and Obedient" container is full, and then sing "The Church of Jesus Christ." Bear testimony that being faithful and obedient prepares us to be missionaries.

3. Prior to sharing time, review the story about Richard that President Gordon B. Hinckley (1910–2008) shared (see "The Need for Greater Kindness," *Ensign*, May 2006, 59–60). Be prepared to share the story in your own words.

Scramble the words of the statement "Living the gospel standards helps me be a missionary now." Invite the children to place the words in the proper order. Ask the children to name some of My Gospel Standards, and briefly discuss them.

Ask the children to listen for a gospel standard as you share President Hinckley's story. Discuss how important it is to be kind to others. If possible, invite the full-time missionaries or ward mission leader to talk about

how being kind to others and being a good friend are important parts of being a missionary.

Provide the necessary materials for each child to make a missionary puppet (see *Primary 3*, 120–21). When the puppets are completed, invite the children to choose one way to show kindness and write it on the back of their puppet. Use the puppets to sing verse 3 of "I Want to Be a Missionary Now" (p. 168), emphasizing the words "I'll live each day the best that I know how." Bear testimony that obeying gospel standards helps all of us be missionaries.

4. Divide the Primary into three groups, and have each group learn a phrase of D&C 18:15. Repeat the scripture several times, and then say it together as a group. Sing the first verse of "The Things I Do" (pp. 170–71) or "I Want to Be Missionary Now." Ask the children what kinds of things they can do to be missionaries now, and make a list on the chalkboard.

Place the gospel-sharing home from page 10 on the chalkboard. Ask a child to choose a window and place it on the home. Read the words in the window. If the idea is not on your list on the chalkboard, add it. Discuss ways to live what is described in each window. Continue to place windows on the home and discuss ways to have a gospel-sharing home.

Provide a copy of the gospel-sharing home for each child, and allow time to complete the project during sharing time. When the children are finished, review how to have a gospel-sharing home.

Tell a good experience you have had of sharing the gospel, or relate one from the *Friend*. Sing "The Things I Do" or "I Want to Be a Missionary Now." Bear testimony of the blessings we receive as we share the gospel.

5. *Song presentation*: "Called to Serve" (pp. 174–75; or *Hymns*, no. 249). Hum or play the song once. Ask the children to raise their hands if they recognize the song. Ask how the song makes them feel. Tell them the name of the song, and show GAK 612 (Missionaries Teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ). Explain that this song is a favorite of missionaries who have been called to serve.

Teach the chorus first. Sing the last phrase, "God our strength will be; press forward ever, called to serve our King." Have the children raise their hands when they hear the words "called to serve." Sing the phrase to the children, and have them listen for whom they will serve. Divide the Primary into three groups. Have the first group sing "God our strength will be," the second group sing "press forward ever," and the third group sing "called to serve our King." Sing the line several times so each group has a chance to sing each phrase.

Sing the first two lines of the chorus, and let the children discover that you repeat some words. Invite the children to sing the first two phrases with you. Sing the third phrase to the children, and ask them to listen for what kind of song they sing. Define the word *triumph* (victory, success). Sing the phrase again, and then sing the chorus together. Bear testimony that God is our strength and that He will help us do what He has called us to do.

As you teach the verses of the song, define other words, as needed, for the children.

Share a brief example of a missionary who was called to serve and did so with the strength of God (for example, Paul, Ammon, Samuel Smith, a General Authority, a local Church leader, or a member of your family).

6. *Friend* references: "Quiet Times," Nov. 2003, 8–9; "Special Witness," May 2007, 41; "Mission Impossible?" Mar. 2002, 11–13; "And a Little Child Shall Lead Them," Sept. 2002, 4–6; "Emily Shares the Gospel," Sept. 2004, 4–6; "Missionary Friends," Mar. 2007, 8–9.



What do you give to a dog that has a fever?

Mustard and ketchup.
They go on hot dogs.

What season is it when you jump on a trampoline?

Springtime.

What does the sun drink from?

Sunglasses.

What did the pig put on his sunburn?

Oinkment.



What kind of mammal can fly?

A hot-air baboon.

Knock knock.

Who's there?

Crab.

Crab who?

Crab your beach towel.
We're going swimming.

What kind of flower roars?

The dandelion.

Hot & Cold Jokes

Is it summer or winter where you live? Did you know that while it's winter in Australia, it's summer in England? Enjoy these summer and winter jokes any time of year.

What did one icicle say to another?

"Hang in there!"

Knock knock.

Who's there?

Snow.

Snow who?

Snowbody but me.



Who is Antarctica's husband?

Uncle Arctica.

What do you call a hippo at the North Pole?

Lost.



What is black and white and black and white?

A penguin doing somersaults.

Which animals are the coldest?

Mice. Except for the M, they're ice.

What does an Eskimo grow in his garden?

Iceberg lettuce.



BY ANNETTE BAY
PIMENTEL

(Based on a true story)

*Therefore, I would
that ye should be
steadfast and immov-
able, always abound-
ing in good works*
(Mosiah 5:15).

Benjamin lay back on his bed and put his feet up on the wall. He always did that when he had to think. Today's problem was the essay Miss Hardgrave had assigned in language

arts. He was supposed to write about why his parents had named him Benjamin and share it with the class.

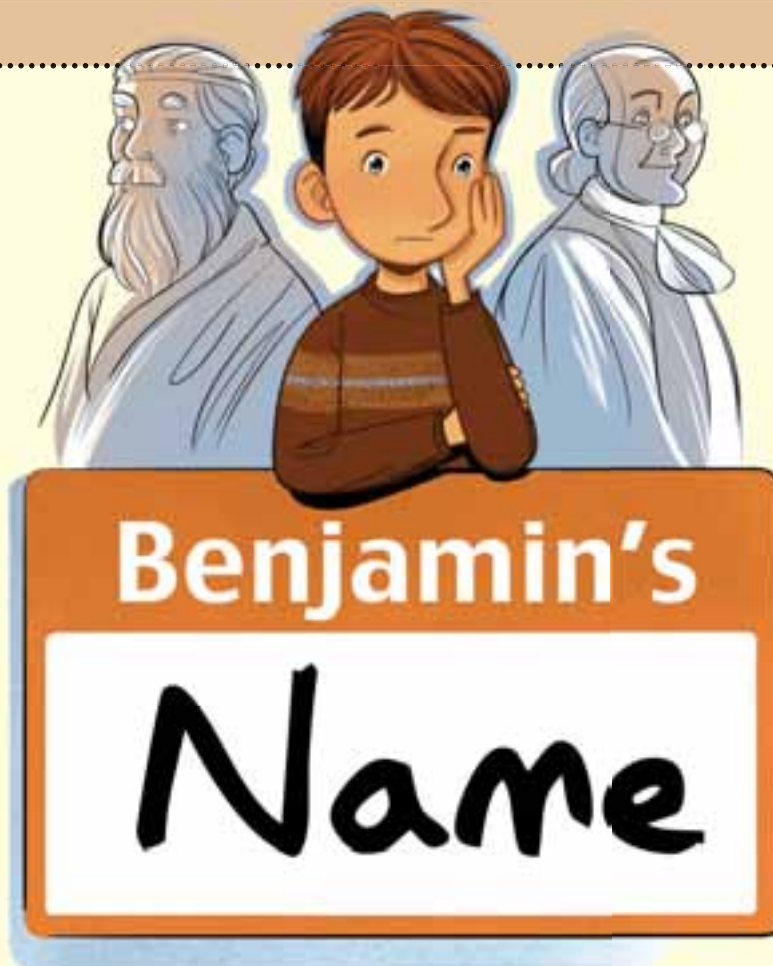
He knew, of course. There was the picture hanging right above his feet: King Benjamin on top of the tower with everyone in tents looking up at him. Benjamin nudged the frame with his toe, and the picture tilted to one side. Usually he liked knowing he was named for a righteous king in the Book of Mormon. But nobody in his school class was going to know who King Benjamin was. Or what the Book of Mormon was, for that matter. One more thing to have to explain.

Lately it seemed like he was always explaining things: why he didn't play in soccer games on Sunday, why he wouldn't watch some of the most popular movies, why he hadn't joined the same Cub Scout den everyone at school belonged to. He kicked the wall, and his door rattled.

Dad opened the door a crack and peeked in. "Aren't you asleep yet?" he asked.

"Still doing homework."

Dad came in and sat on the edge of the bed.



"Anything I can help you with?"

"What do you know about Benjamin Franklin?"

"Hmm. United States patriot, flew a kite in a thunderstorm, and he was bald." Dad rubbed his own bald head and smiled. "How's that? Are you writing a report on him?"

"Well, not exactly," Benjamin admitted. He looked down and twisted one of the

quilt's yarn ties around his finger. "I have to write about my name." Benjamin wasn't looking at Dad, but he felt his steady gaze.

Dad cleared his throat. "I admire Benjamin Franklin, but that's not who we named you for." He leaned over and straightened the picture of King Benjamin until the tower was standing straight again. "We named you after King Benjamin because we hoped you'd be like him—bold and fearless and righteous."

"But, Dad," Benjamin protested, "I can't just stand up in front of my class and say I'm named after a Book of Mormon prophet."

Dad looked surprised. "Why not?"

"This is for school. You're not supposed to talk about religion in school. It's illegal."

Dad smiled. "Maybe it would be illegal for your teacher to preach to you in class, but we're talking about answering the question she asked. There's nothing illegal about that."

"I bet nobody else even goes to church," Benjamin said.

"You'd be surprised, I think. Besides, remember what King Benjamin said?" Dad pointed to the words printed below the painting. "Mosiah 5:15. 'Be steadfast and immovable.' That means you shouldn't let other people decide who you are. Even at school."

Dad stood up and kissed Benjamin on the forehead. "You'd better go to sleep soon. It's late."

Benjamin went to his desk and pulled out a sheet of paper. Above his bed, King Benjamin looked calm and confident. His arm was raised in a grand gesture, and the people were peering out of their tents, all their eyes fastened on him. Benjamin thought about what a hard time his teacher had getting everyone to pay attention sometimes. "I bet even King Benjamin would've been nervous in front of *my* class," he muttered.

The paper on the desk seemed to stare up at him, still blank. Benjamin could hear his clock ticking.

Finally, too tired to think anymore, he started to write. "My name is Benjamin. You've all heard of Benjamin Franklin. . . ." He didn't have to actually *say* he was named for Benjamin Franklin. He'd let them draw their own conclusions.

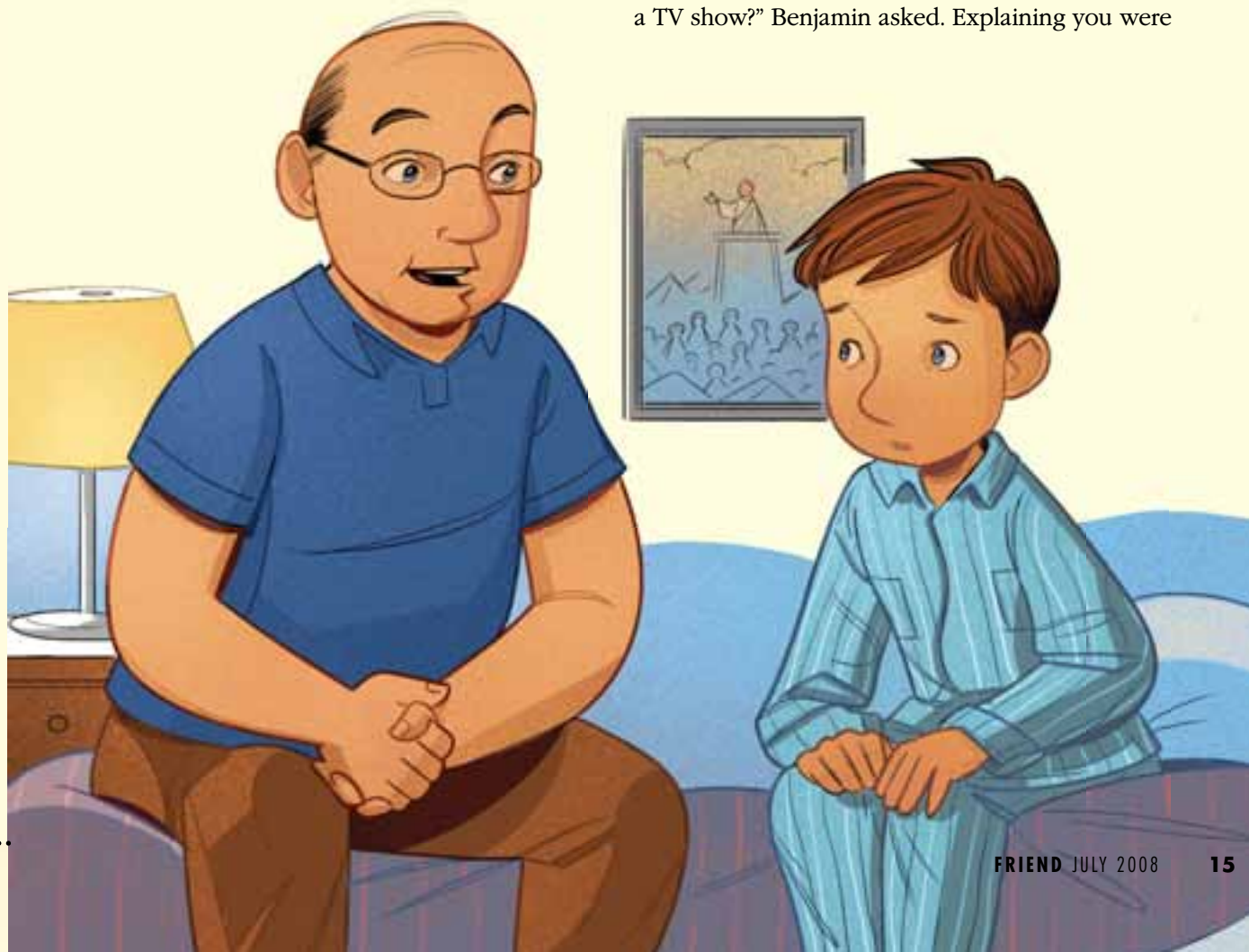
The next morning, Benjamin yawned as he waited with Yusuf and Max for the bell to ring.

"That language arts assignment," Max complained. "It's so embarrassing."

"Why?" Yusuf asked.

"My mom got my name from a TV show!" Max leaned against the wall of the school and groaned. "She thought this character named Maximilian was really handsome. She watched the show every day, and when I was born that was the first name that popped into her head."

"Are you going to tell everyone your name is from a TV show?" Benjamin asked. Explaining you were



named for a TV star would be much harder than explaining you were named for someone in the scriptures.

“No.” Max pulled his essay out of the front pocket of his backpack and smoothed out the wrinkles. “I wrote that my mom had heard the name somewhere and liked it. Where did you guys get your names?”

Benjamin leaned over and fidgeted with the zipper on his backpack. He felt uncomfortable. He couldn’t tell his two best friends that he was named for Benjamin Franklin.

Yusuf said, “My name comes from the Koran.”

“What’s the Koran?” Max wanted to know.

“It’s my book of scripture. Like your Bible. There’s a person named Yusuf in it. My parents were going to name me for my grandfather, but he told them to name me Yusuf instead.”

“You’re lucky,” Max said as the bell rang.

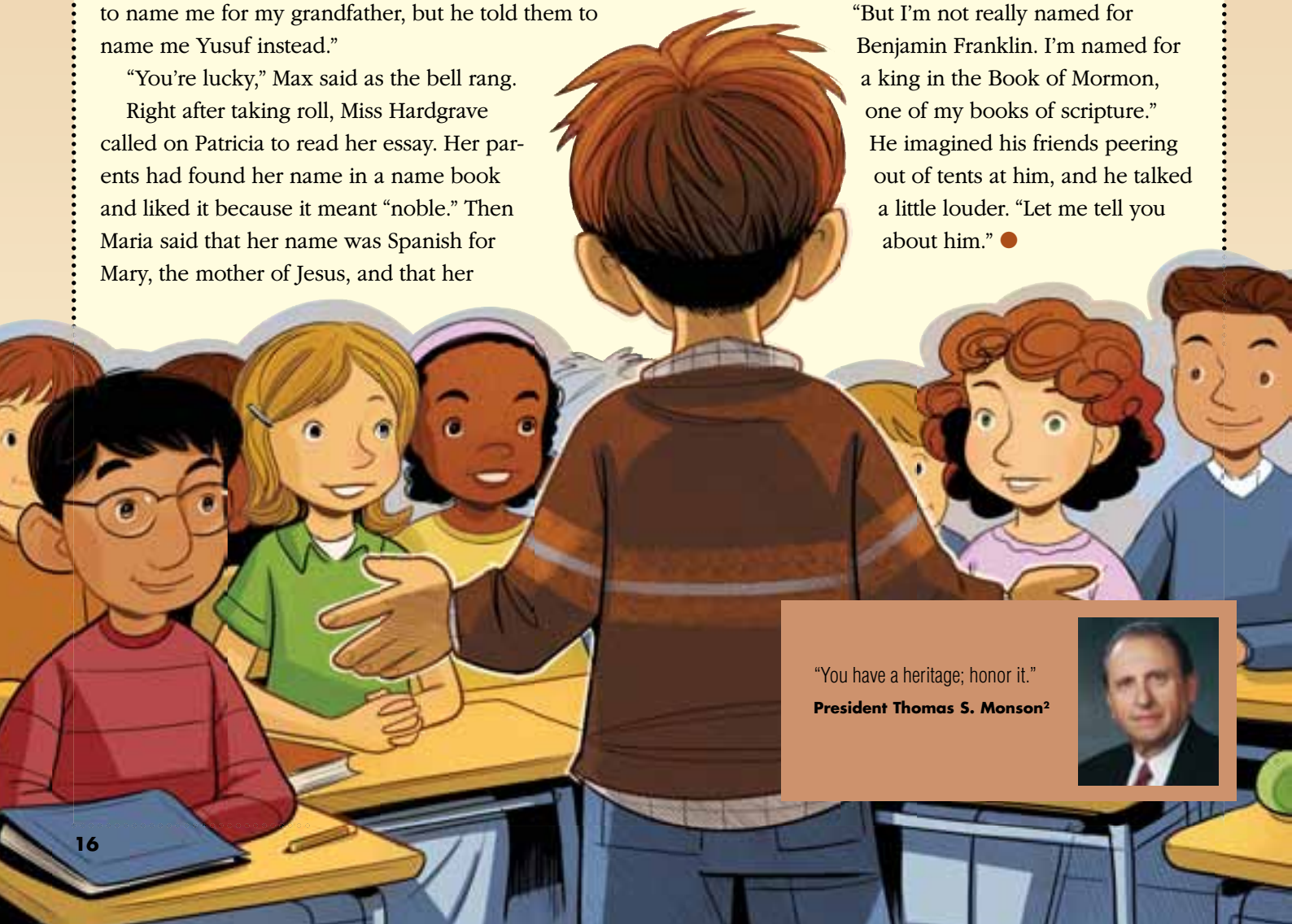
Right after taking roll, Miss Hardgrave called on Patricia to read her essay. Her parents had found her name in a name book and liked it because it meant “noble.” Then Maria said that her name was Spanish for Mary, the mother of Jesus, and that her

mother had the same name. Yong’s name meant “courageous,” and Jasmine’s parents had liked the way her name sounded.

Now it was Benjamin’s turn. He carried his essay to the front of the room. He was always nervous when he had to speak in front of the class, but today his hands seemed extra sweaty. He leaned against the chalkboard tray and read the first line of his essay to the class: “My name is Benjamin. You’ve all heard of Benjamin Franklin. . . .” He looked at the rest of what he had written and then looked up at the class. Max was looking at him. Yusuf smiled and nodded. Benjamin wondered if King Benjamin’s hands had gotten sweaty up there on that tower.

He took a deep breath and folded up his paper.

“But I’m not really named for Benjamin Franklin. I’m named for a king in the Book of Mormon, one of my books of scripture.” He imagined his friends peering out of tents at him, and he talked a little louder. “Let me tell you about him.” ●



“You have a heritage; honor it.”

President Thomas S. Monson²





Kindness

BY LANA KRUMWIEDE

Kindness looks for ways to help.
Kindness lets a friend go first.

Kindness tries to keep the peace.
Kindness never thinks the worst.

Kindness plays with everyone.
Kindness gives a loving touch.

Kindness speaks with gentle words.
Kindness never takes too much.

Kindness cares and kindness knows.
Kindness shares and kindness shows.

Letters for Uncle Eddie

BY VICKI H. BUDGE

(Based on a true story)

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



1. Jonathan looked at the clock for the eighth time. "Is it time for family home evening?" he asked again.



2. "Yes, we can start now," Dad said with a smile.



3. Jonathan and his sister, Michelle, were excited. They put paper, pencils, watercolors, and crayons on the table. Everyone sat down on their chairs and folded their arms.



4. After the prayer Dad picked up a letter and read it to them. It was from Uncle Eddie.



5. Uncle Eddie was a missionary in Central America. Jonathan liked to hear about the boys and girls there.



6. When Dad finished reading the letter, everyone began to draw a picture or write a letter to Uncle Eddie. Jonathan drew a picture of Uncle Eddie riding his bike. He drew a picture of him flying away in an airplane to Central America. Then he drew a picture of him teaching a family.



7. "When you are finished, fold your letters and drawings, and we'll put them in this envelope," Dad said.



8. Jonathan wrote a note before he folded his drawings: "Please send more pictures!" Then he signed it,
I LOVE YOU,
JONATHAN



The Sons of Mosiah

BY ELIZABETH GILES



Four sons of Mosiah
(Hold up four fingers)



chose not to be king.
(Shake head, no)



They all went on missions
(Pretend to hold scriptures and walk in place)



the gospel to bring
(Place hands palm up like an open book)



to Lamanite families
(Stretch arms out wide)



all over the land.
(Point your finger in several different places)



Hundreds were baptized.
(Open and close all ten fingers several times)



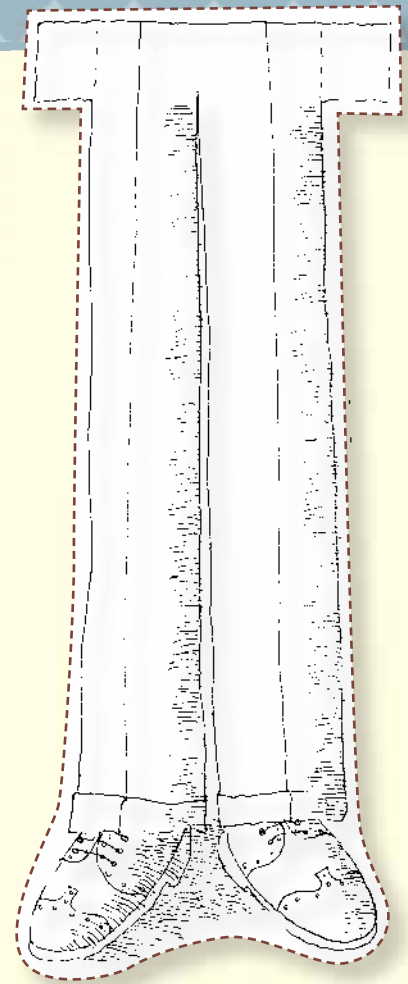
Now isn't that grand!
(Put hands on hips and nod yes)

Missionary Activity

BY ELISE BLACK

Instructions: Color the missionary, then remove this page from the magazine and mount it on heavy paper. Cut out the verses and the figures. Assemble the missionary as illustrated. Use the missionary to show “when I have grown a foot or two” as you either recite or sing the verses in family home evening.

I Hope They Call Me on a Mission

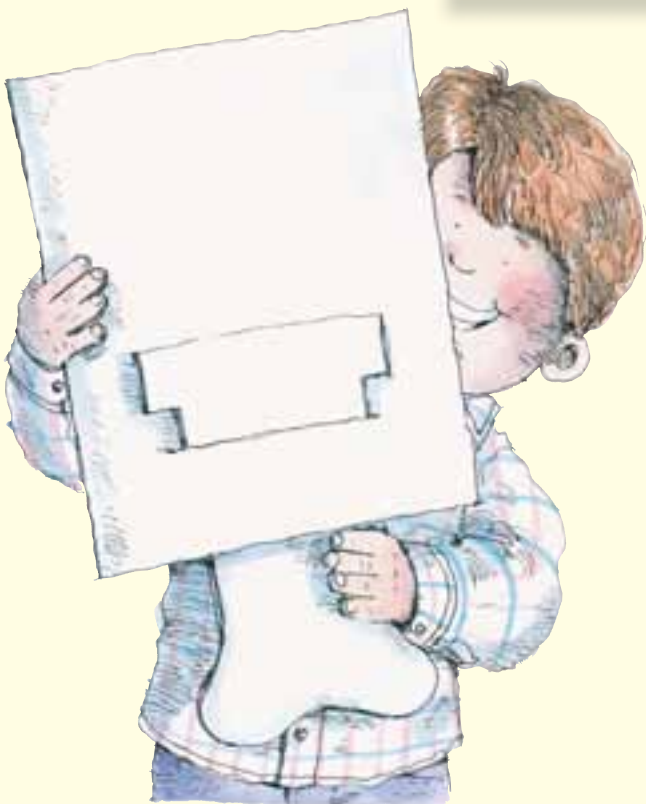


I Hope They Call Me on a Mission

By Newel Kay Brown

I hope they call me on a mission
When I have grown a foot or two.
I hope by then I will be ready
To teach and preach and work
As missionaries do.

I hope that I can share the gospel
With those who want to know the truth.
I want to be a missionary
And serve and help the Lord
While I am in my youth.
(*Children's Songbook*, 169)



Note: If you do not wish to remove pages from the magazine, this activity may be copied or printed from the Internet at www.friend.lds.org.



Friends in the News



Newark First Ward

When a Primary worker from the Newark First Ward, Wilmington Delaware Stake, planned a trip to the Grand Canyon, the Primary children wanted to send their greetings to the children who live in that area. They sent along this picture with the Primary worker and decided to send it to the *Friend* too so they could send their greetings to children all over the world.



Connor W., 5, Louisiana, is a good helper, and he likes to play with his little brother, Elijah. He likes action figures, computer games, and soccer. He also enjoys family home evening and going to school. His favorite color is green.



Madison J., 7, Arizona, likes spending time with her little sister, Maizey. She is a good friend, and she likes going to church and seeing her friends there. She enjoys drawing, playing the piano, and sports.



Ryan C., 8, Washington, learns Spanish at school. He likes to play football, basketball, and golf. He is having fun working on Cub Scout requirements.



Petawawa Branch

The Primary children and members of the Petawawa Branch, Ottawa Ontario Canada Stake (above), took part in a Christmas parade of lights. Some of the older children helped the missionaries hand out more than 500 pass-along cards. They also won first place for the best religious float.

Bakersfield California East Stake

Children of the Bakersfield California East Stake performed services for the community. They collected about 1,400 books, which were donated to a local elementary school so each student could have a book of his or her own. They also made a giant card for their bishops, learned a story and made visual aids to take home and share in family home evening, and played as a group with a parachute to learn about the importance of cooperation and service.





Worcester First Ward

Primary children of the Worcester First Ward, Boston Massachusetts Stake, had an Easter Primary activity. They pretended to take a plane ride back in time, arriving at Jesus's tomb three days after the Resurrection. A member of the bishopric, dressed like an angel, bore testimony that Jesus Christ lives.



Seth, Emma, and Xavier A., 2, 8, and 5, Idaho, planted a garden for family home evening. They enjoy reading, art projects, scripture study, singing, listening to music, and playing in the water with their dog, Spike.



Kassandra C., 5, Texas, likes to sing, play the guitar, and ride horses. She prays for all the good people in the world and for all the bad people to be good. Her favorite scripture story is the Lord sending the plague of grasshoppers to the Egyptians when Pharaoh would not let the Israelites go.



Cody N., 3, Nevada, likes wrestling with Dad and his brother Joshua. Cody is happy and tries to be obedient, and he enjoys going to nursery. His favorite song is "Book of Mormon Stories."



Amelia S., 6, Vermont, likes Primary. When she was two years old, she recited the 13th article of faith to the congregation when her family gave talks. When she was four, she sang a song in a Primary presentation. She is a wonderful older sister to Olivia, who is four years old and has special needs.



Natasha G., 12, Utah, visited the Humanitarian Center in Salt Lake City with her grandmother. After the tour, she decided she wanted to do some of the projects. She and her grandma collected materials to complete six each of the newborn, hygiene, and school kits. Natasha especially enjoyed making baby blankets and school bags because she could picture mothers and children using them.

Jack O., 7, Utah, tries to be obedient and a good listener. He likes spending time with family, drawing wildlife pictures, playing sports, and playing chess. He is excited to be baptized.



Church College of Western Samoa

Seventh-grade students at the Church College of Western Samoa are learning to speak English. They receive the *Friend* every month and learn English by reading it. They love the *Friend* and are happy they receive spiritual messages along with their language lessons.



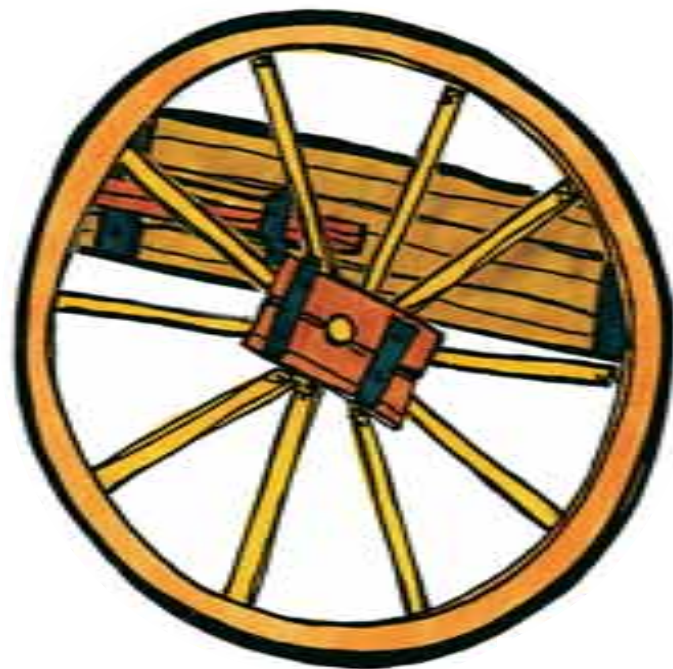
Sofia, Luis, and Natalia G., 3, 1, and 5, Honduras, love learning the gospel. Their mom teaches them about the Word of Wisdom. Natalia knows her body is a temple and that she should take care of it. Natalia and Sofia like to hum Primary songs.

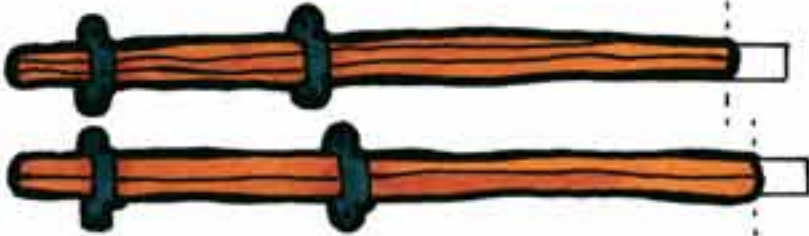
In 1856 the first handcart company of Latter-day Saint pioneers started its journey to the Salt Lake Valley. Over the next four years, more than 3,000 people pulled and pushed handcarts across the plains. To make your own handcart, follow these instructions. As you load the supplies, think about what you would have taken on the journey.

Instructions

Remove these pages from the magazine, mount them on heavier paper, and cut out the pieces. To make the bed of the handcart, fold up its sides, front, and back, and glue the tabs. Glue a wheel and a pulling shaft on each side. Glue the crossbar to the tabs on the ends of the pulling shafts. Fold the tabs on the rest of the figures so they can stand up. Place the father and mother inside the crossbar. (Glue the father's arm outside the shaft so it looks like he's pulling.) Put the daughter and supplies in the cart, and place the son where he can help push. Don't forget to hang the pot on the back!

CREATE YOUR OWN HANDCART





Note: If you do not wish to remove pages from the magazine, this activity may be copied or printed from the Internet at www.friend.lds.org.

Matching Missionaries

BY ARIE VAN DE GRAAFF



Which set of missionaries below matches the one above? See answer on page 37.

How can you match good missionaries' examples with the way you live each day? Think of five ways.



A



B



C



D



E



F

Kitchen Krafts

Plant Snacks

BY SHANNA BUTLER

Make these pretty snacks to remind you of Heavenly Father's beautiful creations.

Fruit Flowers

- 1 orange
- 1 apple
- 1 banana
- 1 grape
- 1 kiwi
- red string licorice

1. With permission or an adult's help, section the orange and arrange it on a plate like flower petals. Section the apple and arrange it on another plate like flower petals.

2. Peel and slice the banana. Place a banana slice in the middle of the oranges and put the grape on top of the banana for the flower's center.

3. Peel and slice the kiwi. Place a kiwi slice in the middle of the apples and put the tip of the banana on top of the kiwi for the flower's center. Save the rest of the banana and kiwi for later.

4. Arrange the licorice on each plate to look like flower stems.

Veggie Bouquet

- 1 tomato
- 1 cucumber
- 1 carrot

1. Slice the tomato into wedges and arrange on a plate like flower petals.

2. Use a thin, long slice of cucumber for the stem.

3. Cut the ends off the carrot, and cut a round slice from the thickest end of the carrot to be the flower's center. Shred the remaining carrot and cucumber and place around the bottom of the stem to look like grass.

ILLUSTRATION BY BRYAN BEACH





BY RACHELLE PACE CASTOR
(Based on a true story)*

Look up the following scriptures: 1 Chronicles 28:20; 2 Thessalonians 2:17; 3 Nephi 27:29. Circle the one you think fits the story best.

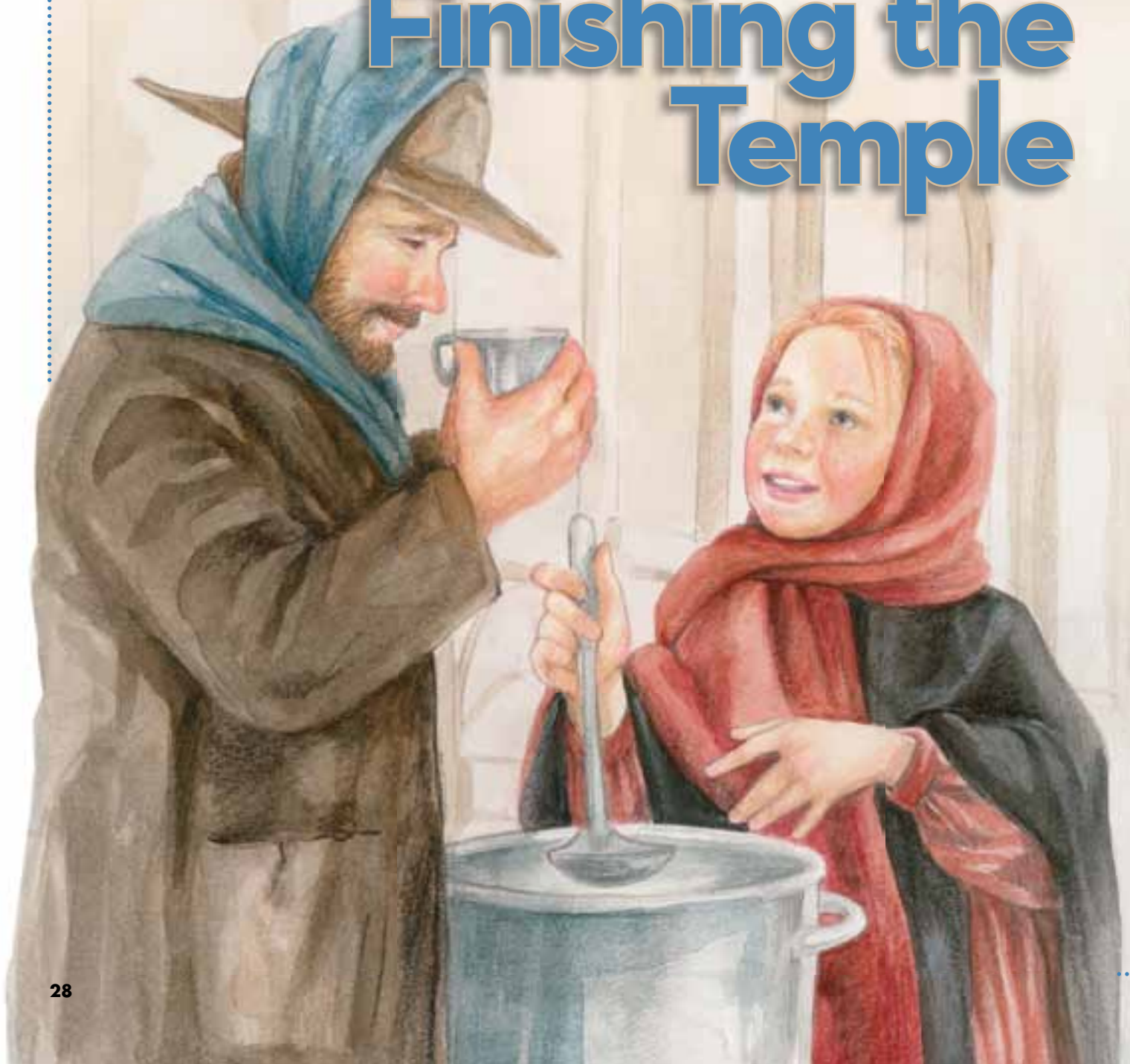
And please, Heavenly Father, bless me to know what our family can do to help build the temple," Mama prayed. Phoebe looked at Mama's face and saw tears rolling down her cheeks,

dripping onto her faded blouse. "Into bed with you now," Mama instructed.

As she pulled the covers up Phoebe asked, "Why are you crying, Mama? Is it because Papa's on another mission?"

"I do miss Papa. It will be a glorious day when we're all together again," Mama said. She tucked the

Finishing the Temple





quilts around Phoebe, tight against the bitter night. “But we have so much to be grateful for—our house here in Nauvoo, and six healthy, beautiful children. The Lord is watching over us, Phoebe.”

“But why are you crying, Mama?”

Mama sighed. “I just want so much to help finish the temple.” Mama stood up. “Good night, sweet Phoebe,” she said, and snuffed out the candle.

Phoebe found it hard to sleep. Her arms ached from scrubbing, wringing, and hanging laundry. Her thumb throbbed from pricking it again and again while mending. Even her back was tired from carrying wood.

All of Nauvoo was busy as the Saints worked to finish the temple. While the men did the heaviest labor of hauling and hammering, carving and cutting, the women and children helped by spinning, weaving, knitting, and embroidering the finest additions for the inside of the temple. They also kept the workers fed. A warm feeling filled Phoebe’s heart as she remembered dishing the soup from the big pot at the temple grounds.

“Over here, little sister,” a worker had called to her.

As she offered the soup to the stonecutter she noticed how he held the steaming cup in both hands, soaking the warmth deep into his freezing fingers. The workers

only took a moment to relax, then back they went to the next task. “Thank you, little sister,” the man had called.

And with that memory, Phoebe was sound asleep.

As the sun lightened the sky, Phoebe awakened and began to prepare for church. Sunday was the day she missed Papa most. But there were many things she loved about the Sabbath. She loved how everyone looked their best for church, and she loved how even the babies quieted when the Prophet Joseph Smith stood to speak.

This morning the Prophet thanked the Saints for their hard work on the temple and hoped they would double their efforts. Tears formed in Mama’s eyes again, and Phoebe imagined she could hear her mother praying, “How I wish we had more to give.” But they had given everything. How could Mama’s prayer be answered?

Driving home in the wagon, Mama suddenly yanked back on the reins, jerking the wagon to a stop while straining to see something near the roadside. Phoebe peered over the side of the wagon and saw two brown, furry heaps.

“Why, there’s the answer to our prayer,” Mama said. She pulled her sewing scissors from her bag and asked the older children to help her.

“Buffalo,” said little Sarah, pointing a chubby finger. Two dead buffalo lay in the underbrush and Phoebe wondered where they possibly had come from.

“Help me, children,” Mama directed. The older children pulled at the long mane hair and Mama cut and snipped until they had a large bundle of brown, coarse hair. It took a long time, but their work had just begun. The next day, they washed the hair squeaky clean with strong lye soap. Next, Phoebe brushed and brushed the hair with the carding comb till it was straight and tangle free. Mama spun the hair on a spindle, making yards of dark brown yarn.

“When we seek inspiration . . . the Lord gives gentle promptings. These require us to think, to exercise faith, to work, to struggle at times, and to act.”

Elder Richard G. Scott of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles³



All the while Phoebe held back the question until she couldn't wait another minute. “What, why . . . how could we ever use such ugly, coarse yarn for something as beautiful as the temple?”

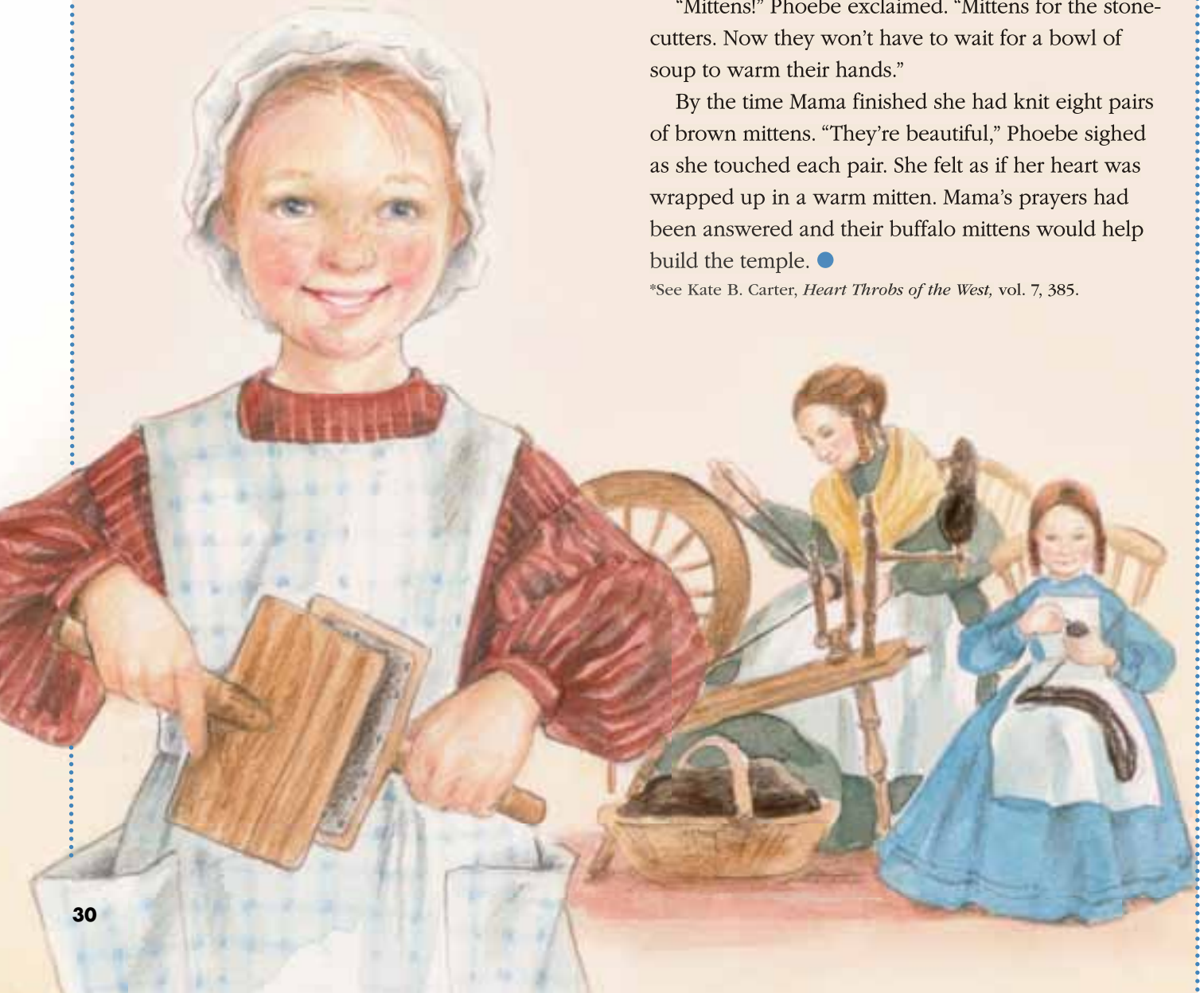
“You'll see,” Mama replied.

At last the yarn was ready. As Mama began to knit, Phoebe watched in fascination as it slowly took shape. Suddenly, the image of the stonecutter's cold, red hands came clearly to Phoebe's memory.

“Mittens!” Phoebe exclaimed. “Mittens for the stonecutters. Now they won't have to wait for a bowl of soup to warm their hands.”

By the time Mama finished she had knit eight pairs of brown mittens. “They're beautiful,” Phoebe sighed as she touched each pair. She felt as if her heart was wrapped up in a warm mitten. Mama's prayers had been answered and their buffalo mittens would help build the temple. ●

*See Kate B. Carter, *Heart Throbs of the West*, vol. 7, 385.





Why do I need to study the Bible?



Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles shares some of his thoughts on this subject.

The Holy Bible is . . . holy because it teaches truth, holy because it warms us with its spirit, holy because it teaches us to know God and understand His dealings with men, and holy because it testifies throughout its pages of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Righteous individuals were prompted by the Spirit to record both the sacred things they saw and the inspired words they heard and spoke.

Honest, diligent study of the Bible does make us better and better.

The Bible literally contains within its pages the converting, healing Spirit of Christ, which has turned men's hearts for centuries, leading them to pray, to choose right paths, and to search to find their Savior.

You young people especially, do not discount or devalue the Holy Bible. It is the sacred, holy record of the Lord's life.

Our Creative Friends

The Creation

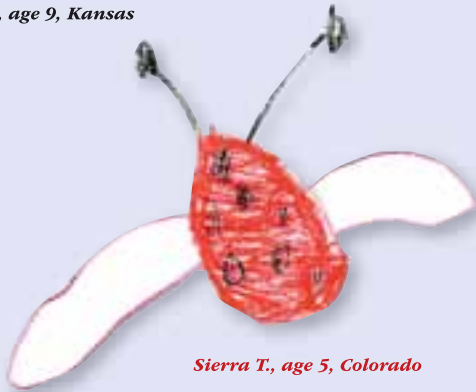
Winter, summer, spring, and fall,
God created them all.
Birds, snow, grass, and trees,
God created all of these.
Joe, Sally, Bob, and Gus,
God created all of us.

Tanner K., age 9, Kansas

Tithing

You should always pay your tithing,
One-tenth of what you've earned.
Pay your tithing before you go buying.
And that is what I've learned.

Samuel M., age 10, Utah



Sierra T., age 5, Colorado

The Pioneers

The pioneers had faith so strong,
They pulled handcarts with hearts in song.
And every night they bowed their heads
Before they got into their beds.
At morn they walked in rain or snow
Or winds that howl or winds that blow,
Some with bare feet, stained with blood,
Some with boots too small or in mud.
They barely had enough to eat,
But they sure had the devil beat!
The times were tough, as you can see,
But miracles came to be.
So then it was that final day
When anyone could shout, "Hooray!"
It was a special day, you know,
When they reached the valley-o!

Alyssa L., age 10, Minnesota

Captain Moroni

Captain Moroni was so brave.
He made a covenant he would save
The lives of his family, children, and friends,
And go to defend their cities, their lands.
To be a warrior brave and true,
He believed in their freedom and what they should do,
To be a true people and work their way through
The hardships in life that we might go through.

Shiloh P., age 8, Queensland, Australia



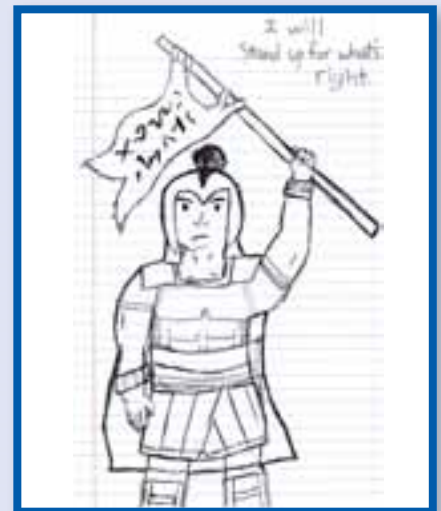
Astron V., age 11, Arizona



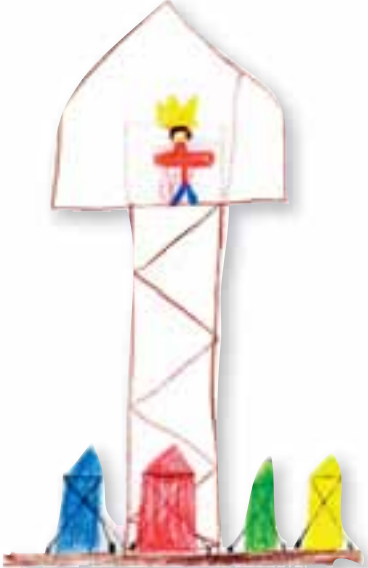
Natali A., age 7, Texas



Brooklynn S., age 6, Wyoming



Andrew D., age 11, Nevada



Connor W., age 8, Washington



Brenn A., age 4, British Columbia, Canada



Jace H., age 6, Idaho



Brandan G., age 8, Canada



Tommy C., age 8, Illinois



Taylor R., age 9, Utah



Jane W., age 6, Kentucky



Josh T., age 9, Georgia



Alison B., age 5, Pennsylvania



Sarah P., age 5, North Carolina



Making Friends



A Faithful Learner

CHILDREN ALL OVER THE WORLD PRAY, SING PRIMARY SONGS, AND LEARN ABOUT THE GOSPEL—JUST LIKE YOU! THIS MONTH LET'S MEET SELENE ZUPPARDO OF SUBBIANO, ITALY.

BY JENNIFER MADDY

Church Magazines

When you look at Selene Zuppardo, you might notice her brown eyes and friendly smile. And then you might notice that she is upside down, and her toes are where her head usually is. That's because nine-year-old Selene is doing a handstand, a move that she learned in her gymnastics class. In her hometown of Subbiano, Italy, Selene is a busy learner. She learns at gymnastics; she learns at home; she learns at school; she learns in Primary. One of the things she has learned and excels in is serving and loving her family.

Family Safety

Selene has two older sisters, three older brothers, and one younger sister, and they have a strong

family relationship. "I like that we're never alone because there are so many of us," Selene says. She likes to talk and play with her family, and they like to sing together. She also enjoys spending time with her family at the park.

Selene's brothers and sisters look out for each other and try to follow the promptings of the Holy Ghost. One time when Selene was little, she went into the kitchen and found some chemicals. Her older sister had a feeling to go look for her. She went and found Selene and stopped her before she drank the chemicals.



Where in the World Is Subbiano, Italy?



Working on a Testimony

Selene is serious about learning the gospel and developing a testimony. "She has prayed to find inspiration to help not just herself, but the family as well," says Selene's mother. "She is spiritual, determined, and tries her best at what she does."

Selene's father and grandmother passed away recently, and it has been hard for her and her family. But thanks to the gospel, her mom says, "she's been strong enough to get through it."

Before Selene was baptized, she prayed to know if the Church was true. She wanted to have a testimony. After she prayed she felt Heavenly Father telling her the Church was true, and she felt that her dad wanted her to be baptized.

About Selene

In Primary, Selene likes to participate by reading the scriptures. Her favorite scripture story is Noah's ark, which isn't surprising when you see her cuddling her cat's new kittens.



She also likes to play with her friend, Chiara. "I like to tell her my secrets," Selene says with a giggle.

It's no secret that the members of the Zuppardo family love each other very much. Selene makes that love even stronger with her kindness and spirituality. ●

Selene likes spending time with her mother, brothers, and sisters.



Sammy's FEAR



BY TRIXIE WILLIAMS

(Based on a true story)

Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid

(Joshua 1:9).

Sammy liked to do many things. He participated in karate and school sports. He enjoyed reading and kept up with his favorite book series. He attended his

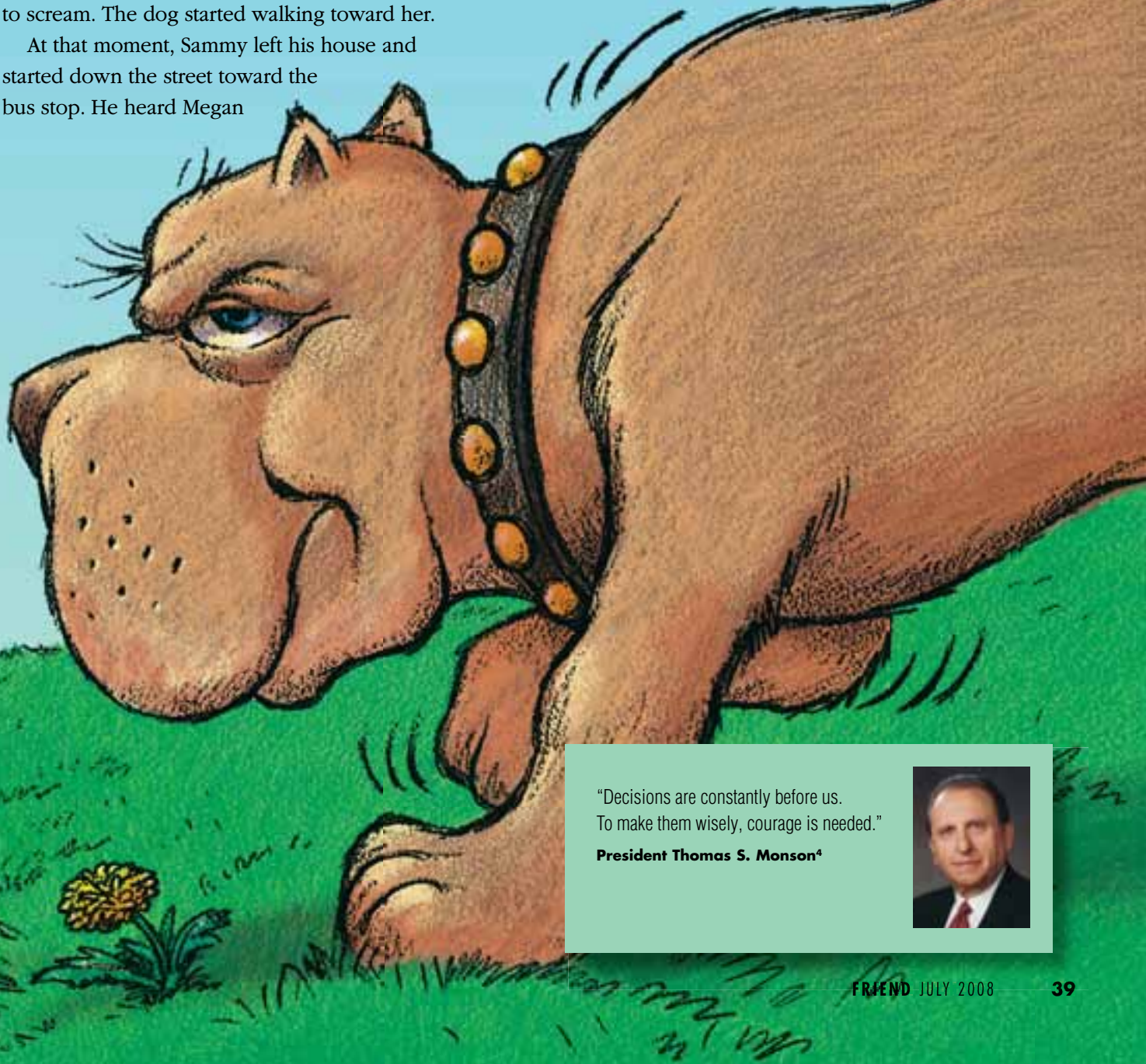
Webelos meetings and worked hard to earn the badges. But one thing Sammy *didn't* like was dogs—big, small, or anywhere in between. He wanted nothing to do with them. The sight of a dog terrified him, and he would move as quickly as he could in the opposite direction.

One morning, Sammy's neighbor Megan went skipping down the road, heading for the school bus stop. Suddenly she stopped. There in front of her was the *biggest* dog she had *ever* seen. It was tan and even taller than she was. She froze in her tracks and began to scream. The dog started walking toward her.

At that moment, Sammy left his house and started down the street toward the bus stop. He heard Megan

screaming and saw her and the dog. He started shaking, but he continued to walk closer. Then he bent down, put his hands on his knees, and called, "Come here, dog. Come." The dog looked back and forth from Sammy to Megan, and then trotted over to Sammy. Sammy held onto the dog's collar until the owner came to take the dog home. Sammy was awfully glad to see the dog go.

Sammy still doesn't like dogs. But he was glad he had the courage to help a friend in need. ●



"Decisions are constantly before us. To make them wisely, courage is needed."

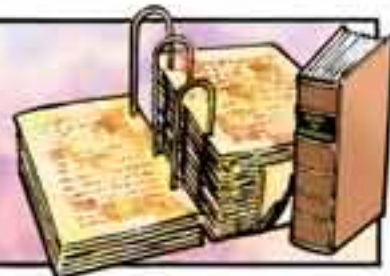
President Thomas S. Monson⁴





FROM THE LIFE OF THE PROPHET JOSEPH SMITH

Joseph Moves to Ohio



In 1831, Joseph and Emma traveled to Kirtland, Ohio. When they reached the Newel K. Whitney and Co. store, Joseph jumped out of the sleigh to greet a Church member he had never met.

Newel K. Whitney!
Thou art the man!

You have the advantage of me. I could not call you by name as you have me.

I am Joseph the Prophet. You've prayed me here.

Now what do you want of me?

Joseph had seen a vision of the Whitney family praying for him to come to Kirtland. He recognized Brother Whitney from the vision.

At this time the Church had about 400 members. Most of them lived in Kirtland. Other members moved there to be near the Prophet.

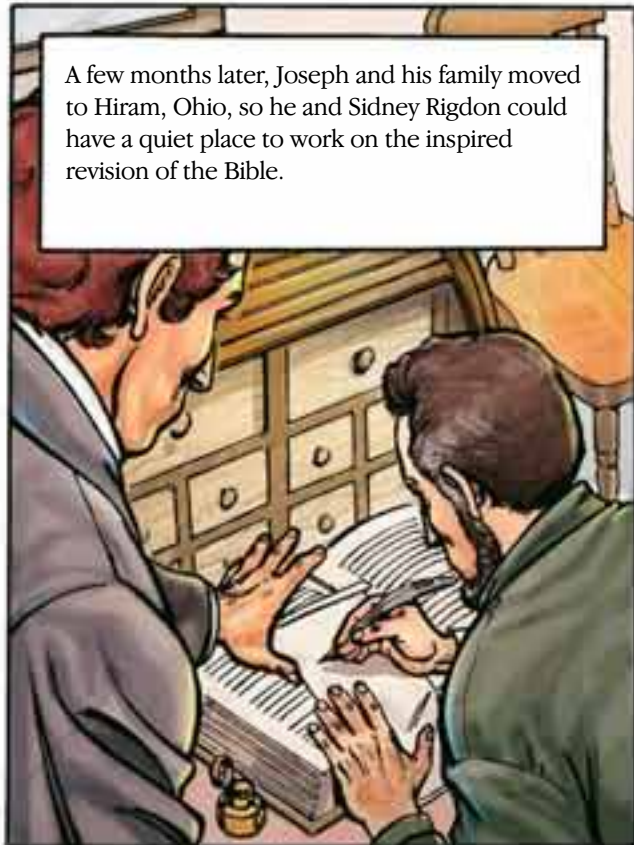
This is the Prophet Joseph.

Joseph and Emma stayed with Brother and Sister Whitney for a few weeks.

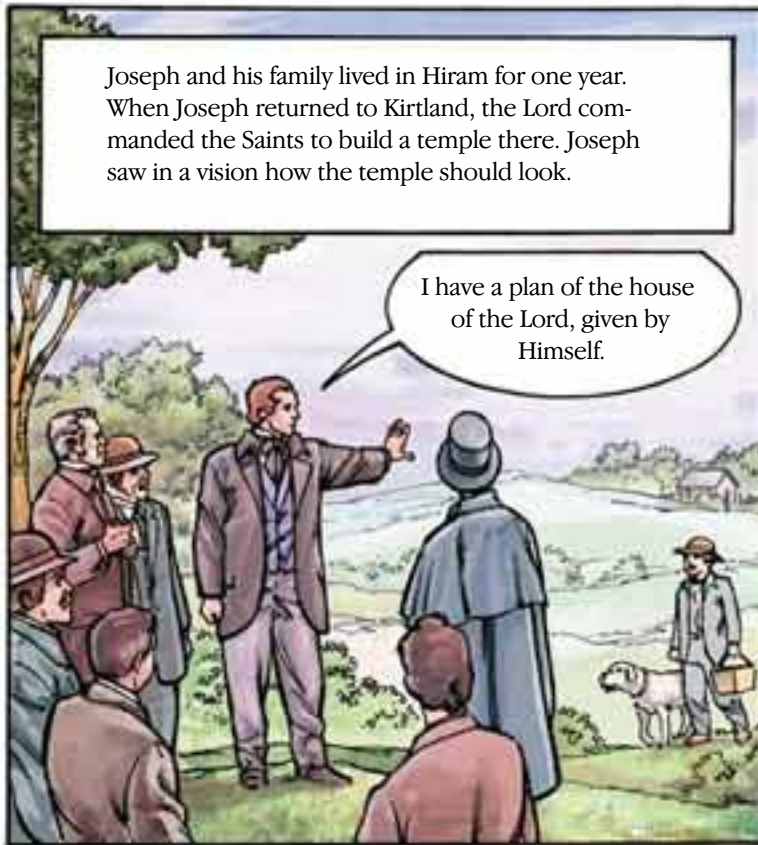
Joseph!

Joseph!

A few months later, Joseph and his family moved to Hiram, Ohio, so he and Sidney Rigdon could have a quiet place to work on the inspired revision of the Bible.



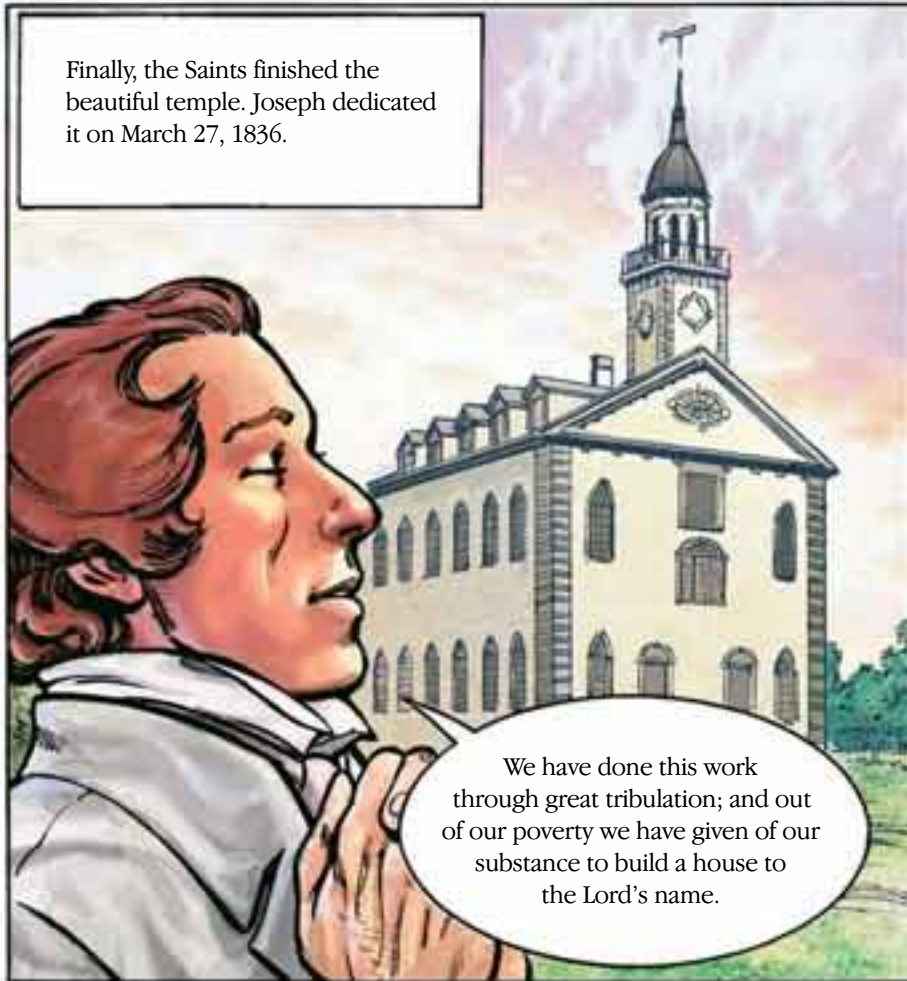
Joseph and his family lived in Hiram for one year. When Joseph returned to Kirtland, the Lord commanded the Saints to build a temple there. Joseph saw in a vision how the temple should look.

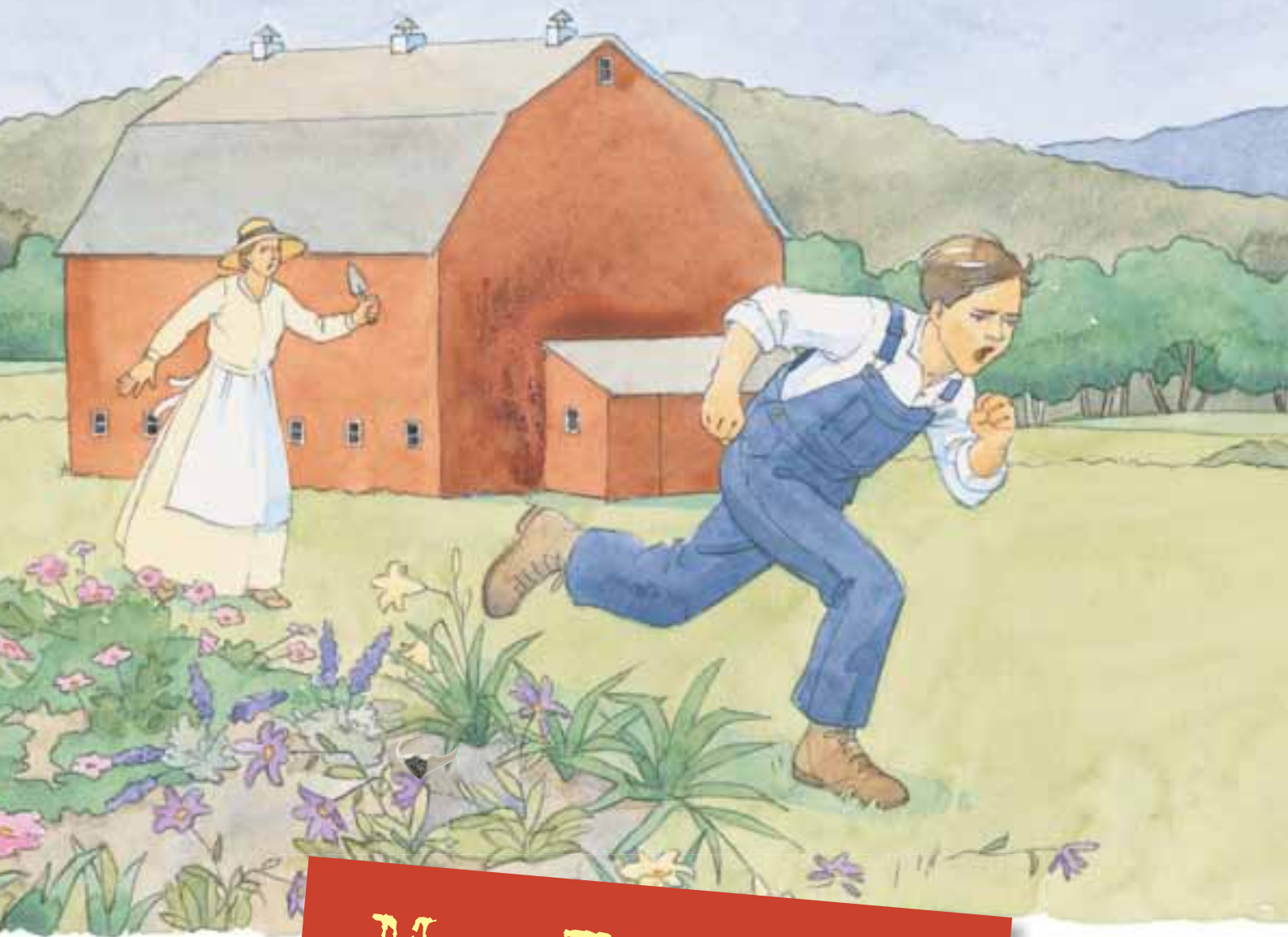


The Saints worked hard and made many sacrifices to build the temple.



Finally, the Saints finished the beautiful temple. Joseph dedicated it on March 27, 1836.





BY ANNIE
VALENTINE
TINTLE

(Based on a
true story)

*Honesty should
start with me in
all I say, in all I
do (Children's Songbook, 149).*

Rex watched the dust cloud around his bare feet as he walked up the path from the river in the summer sunshine. As he came within view of the farmhouse, he saw his mother tending the vegetable garden out back. She was a hard worker; her pantry was filled with canned beans, beets, tomatoes, and sweet fruit for the winter. She sewed and baked and took care of her family, but when she had

Mr. Lukin's TURKEYS

a moment to spare, she spent it on her little flower garden in the front yard.

It wasn't much to look at. With the list of chores she tackled each day, it

was difficult to find time to weed and water her flower patch. Each year when the seed catalog came with the mail, she spent a week's worth of evenings sitting by the fire, carefully turning through the pages to find just the right seeds for the coming year.

Suddenly, something flapping in the front yard caught Rex's attention. His mother jumped up from the vegetable patch and ran toward her flowers.



“Scat! Get out of here, you old turkeys!” There, in her flower garden, a flock of turkeys made a mess of her summer efforts. All the stems had been snapped, the flowers ruined.

Rex ran to help his mother, shooing the flock back to Mr. Lukin’s farm. Like many of the local farmers, Mr. Lukin had recently traded in his hens for a pack of turkeys. But the turkeys’ wings were stronger than hens’ wings, and they had escaped.

“Get on home!” Rex’s mother yelled, her face red. The turkeys waddled single file, demolishing every plant in their path. “Rex, chase those turkeys back where they belong.” She looked sadly at the trampled flowers.

Rex quickly herded the turkeys back down the road, yelling and flapping his arms to spur them on. As the turkeys entered Mr. Lukin’s yard, Rex decided to make one last attempt to make them stay. Looking

down, he grabbed a rock lying on the ground. He yelled and threw the rock with all his might, intending to give them a good scare.

Thunk. Rex watched with horror as the largest of Mr. Lukin’s turkeys toppled over. *Oh no.* Thoughts of old Mr. Lukin raced through Rex’s mind. The man had never been kind to Rex or his brothers. Walking over to the turkey, Rex gave the bird a nudge with his foot, hoping for some sign of life. Nothing—the bird was dead.

What was he going to do? Mr. Lukin would be furious. Looking around, he realized no one had seen him throw the rock. No one would ever know what had happened. Maybe Mr. Lukin would think the bird had died of old age or eaten something bad. Maybe Mr. Lukin wouldn’t even notice the bird was gone. Without another thought, Rex grabbed the turkey and hid it in the bushes. He wouldn’t say a word. No one would

ever know. He turned and ran home as fast as he could, fueled by uncertainty and guilt.

His mother praised him for his quick work with the turkeys, unaware of the turmoil in Rex's belly. How could he tell her what he had done? What would she think of him? As the sickness welled inside him, tears filled his eyes.

"What's wrong?" his mother asked.

He ran to her arms, sobbing as he unloaded the whole story, complete with his fears of Mr. Lukin's anger. Finally, as his sobs quieted, she pulled back to look at him. "Rex, take the bird to Mr. Lukin. If you tell him what happened—"

"Oh no! I couldn't do that!" Rex panicked as he imagined Mr. Lukin's angry response.

"Rex, believe me," his mother said. "You will never have peace if you don't face him and confess. Mr. Lukin deserves to hear the truth."

"Mr. Lukin will be so mad! He's mean and he'll yell at me." Rex's eyes filled with fresh tears as he looked at his mother's tender face. Then he thought of Heavenly Father. Rex realized Heavenly Father expected him to tell the truth.

Finally, looking down, Rex asked quietly, "Will you go with me?"

The walk to Mr. Lukin's house was torture. Leaving his mother in the yard, Rex stepped to the front porch



with the dead turkey. He cautiously knocked, praying Mr. Lukin wouldn't answer. The door opened.

"Hi, Mr. Lukin." Rex handed him the bird. "He dug in Mama's flower beds and I had to chase him out. I threw a rock and he fell. I . . . I guess I killed him. I'm sorry! Oh, please don't be mad, Mr. Lukin!" Rex looked at the ground, too frightened to watch the reaction.

There was a moment's pause, and then Mr. Lukin spoke. "That's all right, that's all right. We'll eat him for dinner today." A smile pulled at the corners of his mouth.

Rex couldn't believe what he had heard. As he walked home with his mother, he felt as if a weight had been lifted from his shoulders. He realized that doing the right thing was truly easier in the end. Facing his consequences had been far less painful than living with the guilt. ●



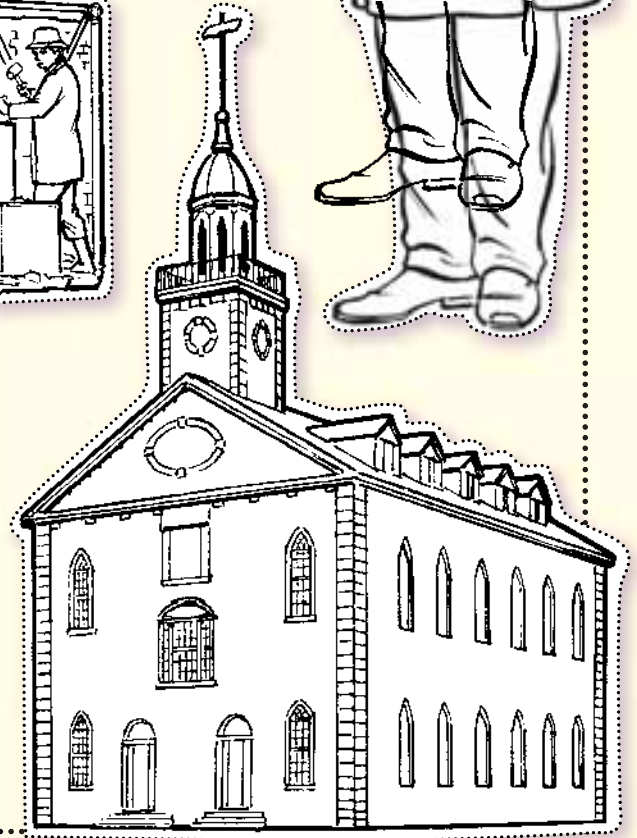
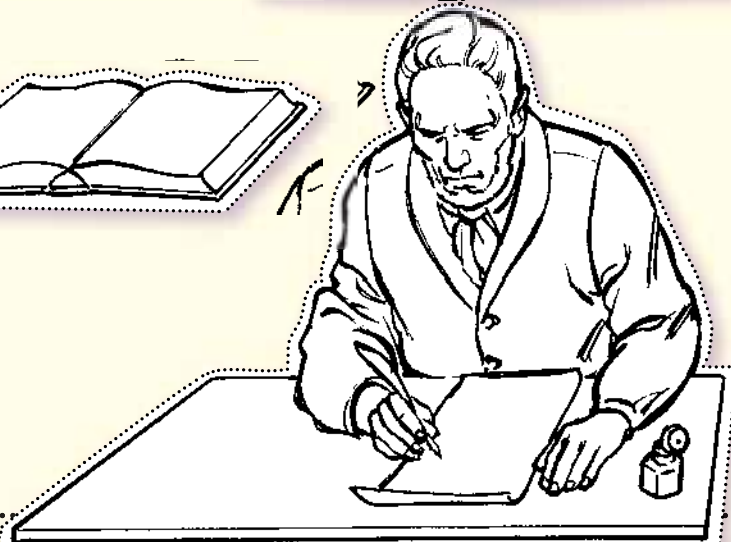
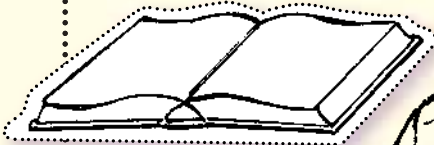
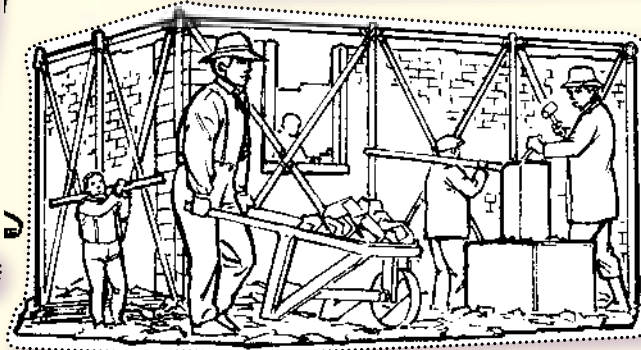
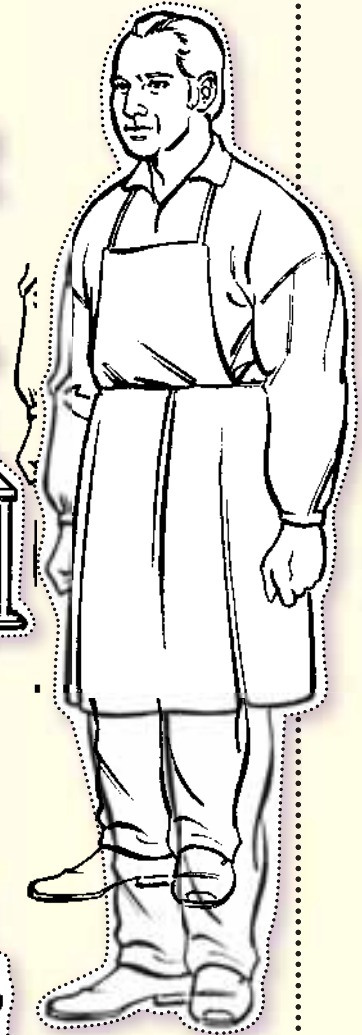
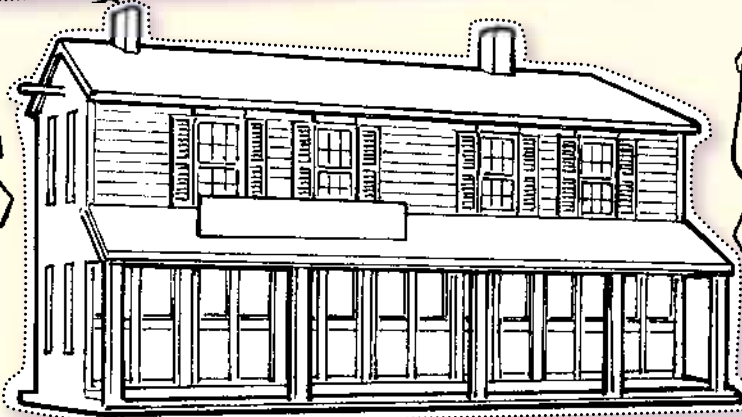
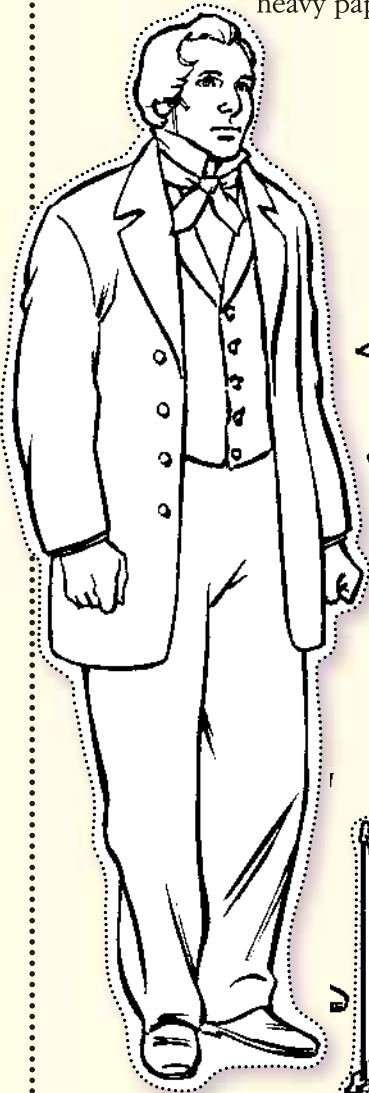
"To truly repent we must recognize our sins and feel remorse, or godly sorrow, and confess. . . . We need to . . . do all we can to correct whatever harm our actions may have caused."

**President Dieter F. Uchtdorf,
Second Counselor in the First Presidency⁵**



JOSEPH SMITH LIVES IN OHIO

Instructions: Remove this page from the magazine and color the figures. Mount them on heavy paper and cut out. Read the story on pages 40–41, then retell the story using the figures.



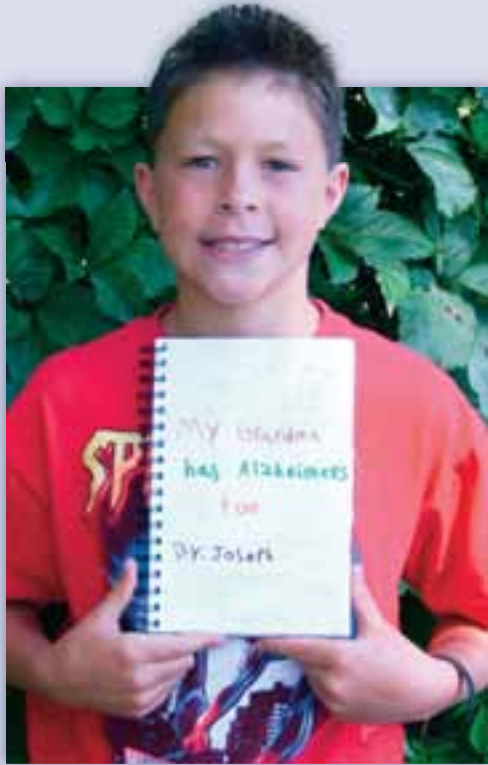
ILLUSTRATIONS BY SAL VELLUTO

Note: If you do not wish to remove pages from the magazine, this activity may be copied or printed from the Internet at www.friend.lds.org.



Trying to Be Like Jesus

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



Media Missionary

Joseph V.'s great-grandmother has Alzheimer's disease. That means that she can't remember things and sometimes doesn't recognize people. Joseph started keeping a journal about his experiences with his great-grandmother's illness, and then he wrote a book. Because of his book, *My Grandma Has Alzheimer's Too*, Joseph has been in the

newspaper, on the radio, and on TV. Now his book is going to be published.



Joseph says, "When the media ask me how my book started, I tell them first I kept a journal for two years then started to write my book. Then they say, 'How did an 11-year-old boy learn to keep a journal?' I tell them, 'My church.' "

Joseph is happy that he can bring people's attention to the disease and to the Church. He also wants to encourage young people to keep records and journals.

Joseph V., age 11, California

I Will Not Partake of Things that Are Harmful to Me*

Every Friday my class has "Food Fun Friday" when someone brings in a special snack that goes with our reading story. One Friday I was offered tea to drink. I asked, "Do I have to drink this?" My teacher said, "You can at least try it." But I didn't drink it.

A few days later my dad e-mailed my teacher explaining that we are members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and



we don't drink tea or coffee. My teacher e-mailed my dad saying she was glad I stood up for myself. I am glad I am striving to follow God's plan.

Melanie E., age 8, Tennessee

Birthday Surprise

For my sixth birthday, I got some money from my friends and family.



I put some of it in my mission-fund bank account, and my mummy gave me some of it to

spend. My sister and I went to the toy shop, and she saw a toy that she wanted but did not have any money. So I spent my birthday money and bought the toy for my sister. I love my sister, and I know that Heavenly Father is happy when we sacrifice for one another.

Jake E., age 6, Scotland

Family Fast

A few years ago our family decided to hold a special fast for the victims of a faraway natural disaster. I proposed that after our fast, we give the coins in our savings jars to the Church's humanitarian fund. We have two jars that we put coins in. One is a courtesy jar, and each time someone helps or does a kind deed, I put a coin in the jar. At the end of the year we normally use the money in this jar for a fun family activity.

The other jar is a rudeness jar, and each time someone is grouchy or quarrels, he or she puts a coin in the rudeness jar. The money in this jar is donated to children in need.

When we began our fast, we also began to count our coins. Leonardo, age 9, then went and got his own bank. He took all of

his money and some of his toys and said that he wanted to donate them too. Mariana, age 12, also got her money to add to the donation. Although the children had only a few dollars to give, it was all that they had.

Fasting is a sacrifice for Leonardo and Mariana, and so was giving up the jar money. But when they donated their own savings, I knew that they truly cared about Heavenly Father's children suffering on the other side of the world.

Regina Moreira Monteiro, Brazil





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 “Because I know we are all children of God, I will share the gospel with others.”



Family Home Evening Ideas

Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned below.

1. Read “The Gift of the Gospel” (pp. 2–3) and “Do You Want to Go to Primary with Me?” (pp. 4–6). Talk about some of the ways you can share the gospel with your neighbors, family, and friends. Set a goal to share the gospel, and write it down where you can see it. Then pray as a family for an opportunity to share the gospel.

2. Sing “I Hope They Call Me on a Mission” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 169). Make a list of all the missionaries who are serving that you know. Read “Letters for Uncle Eddie” (pp. 18–19). Using paper, pens, crayons, watercolors, or other supplies, write a letter or draw a picture for several or all of the missionaries on your list.

3. Recite the eighth article of faith together, then talk about the relationship between the Bible and the Book of Mormon. Read “Why do I need to study the Bible?” (p. 31). Have each family member choose his or her favorite Bible story and briefly tell it.

4. Read “Media Missionary” (p. 46). Why is it important to keep a journal? Read “Finishing the Temple” (pp. 28–30). Would we have this story if someone had not written it down long ago? Have

each family member set a personal goal for the next month to write in his or her journal. Think of a reward of something you can do as a family if everyone accomplishes his or her goal.

Sidebar references

1. “Sharing the Gospel,” *Ensign*, Nov. 2001, 8.
2. “Be Thou an Example,” *Ensign*, May 2005, 112.
3. “Learning to Recognize Answers to Prayer,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1989, 32.
4. “The Call for Courage,” *Ensign*, May 2004, 54.
5. “Point of Safe Return,” *Ensign*, May 2007, 100.



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(f) = Funstuf
(IFC) = inside front cover
(v) = verse

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