

THE *Friend*



A new pioneer
SONG!

See page 33

FRIENDS by Mail



Friend and Family



I read the *Friend* every day because I love to read it a lot and it makes me feel the Spirit. I use the *Friend* almost every time it's my turn to do the lesson in family home evening. It helps my family feel the Spirit.

Xiulan J., age 8, Utah, USA

Rowdy to Reverent



I really liked the story "*Rowdy to Reverent*" (July 2015). It was interesting how Larry helped Brennan to be reverent by being reverent himself. I love how it teaches me to be a good example to others.

Bryant S., age 11, Arizona, USA

Scripture Figures

Thank you for the scripture figure puppets. We have enjoyed making them and now have a large collection. It makes learning the scripture stories fun!

Peter and Curtis B., ages 5 and 3, Utah, USA

Find scripture figures at lessonhelps.lds.org under "By Category."



Dear Friends,

Family stories can be funny, surprising, and inspiring. This month you can read a hilarious story about ducks (page 8) and a great story about an athlete who had help from God in an important race (page 34). These are both family stories from the authors! How can you gather and share your family stories?

Love,

The *Friend*

Was there a story or activity this month that helped you? Tell us about it! Turn to page 39 to find out how.

How We Read the *Friend*

We like to read the *Friend* in the bike trailer together while our grandparents pull us on their bicycle built for two!

Emmie and Ian A., both age 3, Georgia, USA



◆ **Primary Connection** Find stories and activities to go with this month's sharing time theme and lessons.
Find more at lessonhelps.lds.org.

STORIES AND FEATURES

- 2 **From the First Presidency:** A Priceless Heritage / President Henry B. Eyring
- 4 Mini Missionaries
- 6 Family Night Fun
- 8 The Ducks' New Clothes
- ◆ 10 Abraham Abraham and Me
- ◆ 12 **Answers from an Apostle:** Elder M. Russell Ballard
- 14 **Friends Who Stand Tall:** Friends and Faith
- 16 Ryan the Unstoppable Reader!
- 19 Bulletin Board
- ◆ 20 **Book of Mormon Hero:** Captain Moroni Was Brave
- ◆ 21 I Can Read the Book of Mormon
- ◆ 22 **Friend to Friend:** Picking Blackberries / Elder Kevin S. Hamilton
- 26 No Matter Who You Are
- 28 Show and Tell
- 32 Question Corner
- 38 Matt and Mandy
- 39 Stop and Flip

MUSIC

- 33 When I Hear of Pioneer Children

FOR OLDER KIDS

- 34 Clarence vs. the Champion
- 36 Want to Come to Church?

THINGS TO MAKE AND DO

- ◆ 11 Funstuff: A Holy Place
- 18 Funstuff: Hidden Picture
- 24 Your Path to Heavenly Father
- 30 My Path to Heavenly Father Cards
- 31 **Happy Sabbath:** A Beautiful World
- 37 Funstuff: Pioneer Puzzlers

FRIEND JUNIOR

- ◆ IBC For Parents of Little Ones
- FJ1 Bright Idea
- ◆ FJ2 Lemonade for Grandpa
- ◆ FJ3 A Happy Sharing Day
- ◆ FJ4 **Book of Mormon Stories:** Captain Moroni's Flag
- ◆ FJ7 Coloring Page
- ◆ FJ8 Forever Brothers

Front cover by Dan Burr
Back cover by Karly Jade Catto

Volume 46 Number 1 July 2016

The First Presidency:

Thomas S. Monson, Henry B. Eyring,
Dieter F. Uchtdorf

The Quorum of the Twelve Apostles:

Russell M. Nelson, Dallin H. Oaks, M. Russell Ballard,
Robert D. Hales, Jeffrey R. Holland, David A. Bednar,
Quentin L. Cook, D. Todd Christofferson, Neil L.
Andersen, Ronald A. Rasband, Gary E. Stevenson,
Dale G. Renlund

Editor: Joseph W. Sitati

Assistant Editors: James B. Martino, Carol F. McConkie

Advisers: Brian K. Ashton, Randall K. Bennett, Jean B.
Bingham, Craig A. Cardon, Christoffel Golden, Douglas
D. Holmes, Larry R. Lawrence, Carole M. Stephens

Managing Director: Peter F. Evans
Director of Operations: Vincent A. Vaughn
Director of Church Magazines: Allan R. Loyborg
Business Manager: Garff Cannon

Managing Editor: Jan Pinborough

Assistant Managing Editor: Marissa Widdison

Copyeditor: Lori Fuller

Administrative Assistant: Carrie Kasten

Writing and Editing: David Dickson, Matthew
Flitton, Jill Hacking, Charlotte Larcabal, Michael R.
Morris, Eric Murdock, Richard M. Romney, Mindy
Anne Selu, Paul VanDenBerghe

Editorial Intern: Shanna D'Avila

Managing Art Director: J. Scott Knudsen

Art Director: Mark W. Robison

Design: Thomas S. Child, Brad Teare

Intellectual Property Coordinator:
Collette Nebeker Aune

Production: Marlene Roschek

Prepress: Joshua Dennis

Printing Director: Steven T. Lewis

Distribution Director: Stephen R. Christiansen

© 2016 by Intellectual Reserve, Inc.

All rights reserved. The *Friend* (ISSN 0009-4102) is
published monthly by The Church of Jesus Christ of
Latter-day Saints, 50 E. North Temple St., Salt Lake
City, Utah 84150-0024, 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 store.lds.org.

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. 2393, Salt
Lake City, UT 84150-0024, United States of America.

Hidden CTR Rings



Level 1: Wave a flag.

Level 2: Drive safely!

Level 3: No hint!

Unsolicited material is welcome, but no responsibility
is assumed. For return, include self-addressed,
stamped envelope. Children's submissions will not be
returned. Email: friend@ldschurch.org.

The *Friend* can be found on the Internet at
friend.lds.org.

Text and visual material in the *Friend* may be copied
for incidental, noncommercial church or home use.
Visual material may not be copied if restrictions
are indicated in the credit line with the artwork.

Copyright questions should be addressed to
Intellectual Property Office, 50 E. North Temple St.,
Salt Lake City, UT 84150, United States of America;
email: cor-intellectualproperty@ldschurch.org.

POSTMASTER: Send all UAA to CFS (see DMM
507.1.5.2). NONPOSTAL AND MILITARY

FACILITIES: Send address changes to Distribution
Services, P.O. Box 26368, Salt Lake City, UT 84126-
0368, USA.

Canada Post Information: Publication Agreement
#40017431.



FROM THE FIRST PRESIDENCY

A Priceless Heritage

By President Henry B. Eyring

First Counselor in the First Presidency

I owe much of my happiness to a man I have never met. He was one of my great-grandparents. He left me a priceless **heritage** of hope.

His name was Heinrich Eyring. He was born into a wealthy family in Germany, but both of his parents died when he was young. He was left without any money. He felt that his best hope was in going to the United States. He moved to Missouri. There he worked with a man who was a Latter-day Saint. He gave Heinrich a copy of a Church pamphlet. Heinrich read it and studied every word he could find about the Latter-day Saints. He prayed to know if there really were angels that appeared to men, whether there was a living prophet, and whether he had found a true religion. After two months of careful study and prayer, Heinrich was told in a dream that he should be baptized. On March 11, 1855, Heinrich was baptized in a pool of rainwater.

Heinrich left a written history for his **descendants**. In that history I can feel his love for those of us who would follow. I feel his hope that his descendants might choose to follow him on the path back to our heavenly home. He knew it would not be one choice to make, but many small choices.

Like my ancestor Heinrich, you may be the first in your family to make sacred covenants.

We are all children of a living God. Jesus of Nazareth is His Beloved Son, and this is His Church. It has the keys of the priesthood, and so families can be forever. This is our priceless heritage of hope. ♦

Adapted from "A Priceless Heritage of Hope," Ensign, May 2014, 22–25.

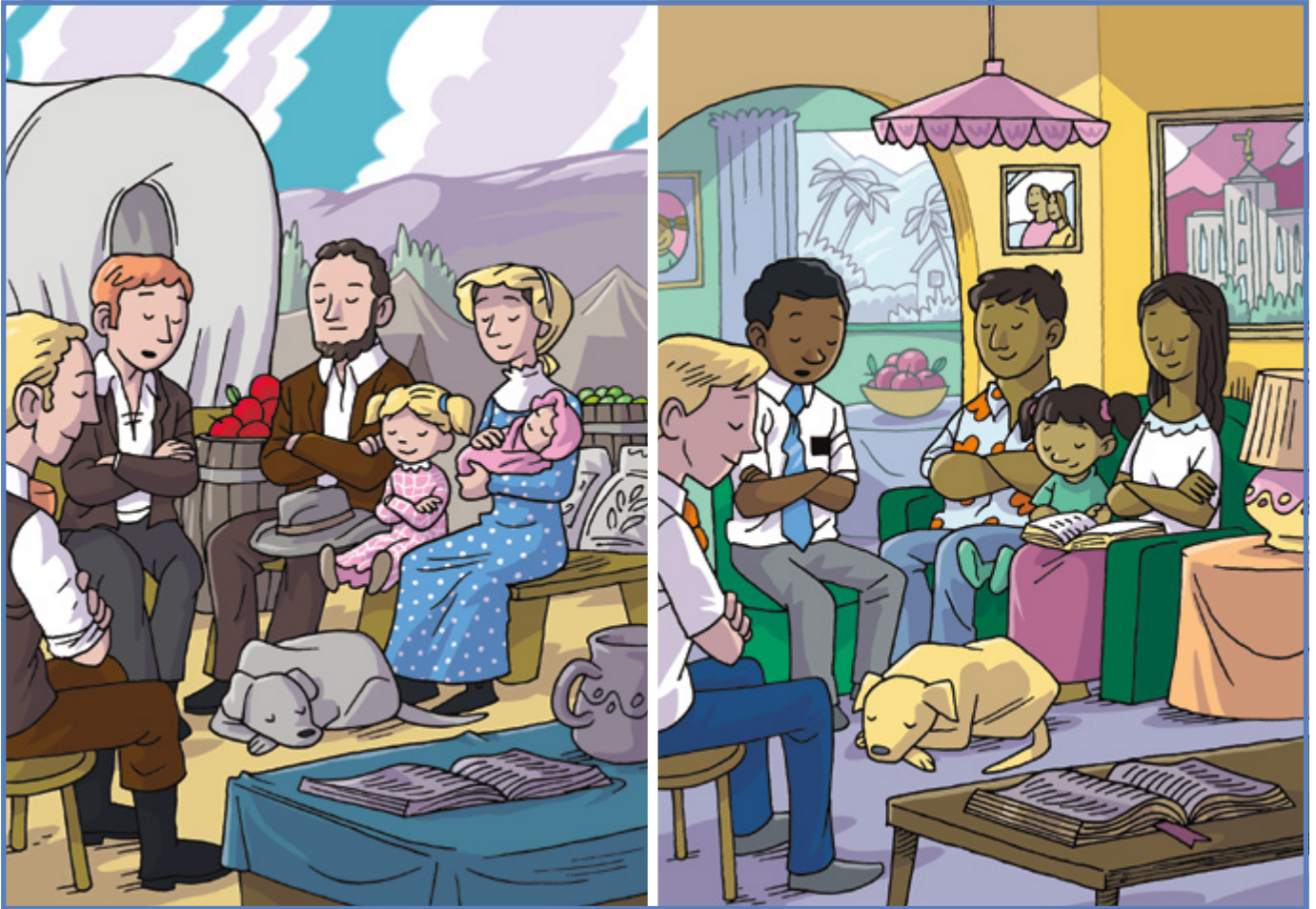


something passed down
to the next generations

children, grandchildren, and
great-grandchildren

PIONEERS THEN, PIONEERS NOW

Heinrich was a pioneer in President Eyring's family. Who are the pioneers in your family? Look at the pictures below. One shows a pioneer family in the early days of the Church. The other shows a pioneer family today. What is the same about both pictures? What is different?



I CAN BE A PIONEER BY SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE FOR OTHERS TO FOLLOW!



MINI MISSIONARIES



By Elizabeth Child

(Based on a true story)

*"I want to be a missionary now.
I don't want to wait until I'm grown"*
(Children's Songbook, 168).

Early one morning, Sam and Lindsay climbed out of their beds and walked to the kitchen. They saw a sign with bright blue letters hanging over the doorway.

"Mini MTC," Lindsay read.

"What's *MTC*?" Sam asked.

Just then, Mom walked into the kitchen. "Good morning and welcome to the Missionary Training Center!" she said. "You get to be missionaries today!" She handed Lindsay a piece of paper. "Here is your schedule."

Lindsay read the first line. "Prayer and scripture study."

Sam and Lindsay got their scriptures and sat with Mom. Sam said a prayer. Then they read Mark 16:15 together. "And [Jesus] said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

"What do you think that means?" Mom asked.

"Jesus wants us to share the gospel with everyone," Lindsay said.

After scripture study Lindsay read the next line on their schedule. "Language study."

Mom handed them some sticky notes. "Sometimes missionaries learn new languages. Let's write Spanish words on sticky notes and label things we see."

Sam looked around the kitchen. "How do you say 'milk' in Spanish?"

"*Leche*," Mom said. She wrote it on a sticky note and handed it to Sam. Sam stuck it onto the milk carton.

"*Leche*," he repeated.

Soon Spanish words dotted the kitchen. For breakfast, they ate *panqueques* (pancakes) and *fresas* (strawberries).

Next on their schedule was "Get ready for the day."

"We should wear missionary clothes!" Sam said. He ran to put on a white shirt and tie, and Lindsay picked out a purple dress.

Sam smiled proudly as Mom pinned a homemade black nametag to his shirt. "Now what?" he asked.

"Missionary service."



Lindsay frowned. "Who can we serve?"

"Well, Mrs. Mason just had surgery," Mom said. "How do you think we could serve her?"

"Let's take her lunch and see what we can do to help," Sam said.

As they walked to Mrs. Mason's house, Lindsay saw the drooping flowers in her yard. "I can water her plants!"

"I can feed her cat," said Sam.

Lindsay and Sam watered the plants and fed the cat while Mom chatted with Mrs. Mason. When they finished, Sam and Lindsay shook Mrs. Mason's hand.

"Is there anything else we can do?" Lindsay asked.

"Well," Mrs. Mason said, "I could use some cheering up. Do you know any happy songs?"

Sam and Lindsay sang their favorite Primary song. "I am a child of God, and He has sent me here. . . ."

When they finished, Sam and Lindsay saw tears in Mrs. Mason's eyes.

"I've never heard that song," Mrs. Mason said. "It was beautiful. Thank you for everything, especially the song."

Sam and Lindsay were quiet as they walked home.

"You've been real missionaries today," Mom said. "You prepared yourselves, you served, and you taught the gospel, just like missionaries."

"When did we teach the gospel?" Sam asked.

"When you sang, you shared your testimony that we are children of God," Mom said. "I think that's just what Mrs. Mason needed to hear."

"Do missionaries always feel this good?" Lindsay said. "If they do, I'm going to be a missionary every day." ♦

The author lives in Utah, USA.

Turn the page for an activity to go with this story!



I wanted to invite some friends to Cub Scouts because I knew they would have a really good time. We all went to Scouts together and had a good time! All of my friends said they wanted to come again. I felt good inside for inviting them.

Spencer P., age 10, Arizona, USA

Family Night FUN

MINI MTC

Read “Mini Missionaries” on page 4. You can create your own Missionary Training Center, just like Sam and Lindsay! Here are some ideas:

- Make your own missionary name badges.
- Try some things that Sam and Lindsay did, like language study or service.
- Make your own daily planners like missionaries use. Then follow the schedule!
- Create a family mission plan. Talk about how your family can share the gospel.
- Invite the missionaries over for dinner. Ask how your family can help them.
- Send a package or letter to a missionary.



Is there a topic you'd like to learn about with your family? Go to lessonhelps.lds.org to find stories, activities, and media.

Here are some family home evening ideas from this month's magazine. What other ideas can you come up with?

Tracting Trail Mixes

Missionaries need to stay healthy so they can help others. Here's a healthy snack to try. Be sure to get an adult's help.



Try some of these combinations. Or invent your own!

- Peanuts, raisins, and small chocolate candies
- Almonds, dried cherries, chocolate chips, sea salt, and cinnamon
- Macadamia nuts, white chocolate chips, dried pineapple, and coconut flakes
- Banana chips, peanut butter chips, peanuts, cashews, and chocolate chips





FRIENDSHIP FIRST

When you show love and friendship, you're also being a missionary. Try these to be a missionary *and* a friend!

- Smile at someone.
- Sit by someone new at lunch or play with someone new at recess.
- Make a card or treats for a neighbor.
- Be nice to your family.
- Treat others the way Jesus would.



TASTY TREATS

Try these for FHE this month!

- Drizzle orange slices with honey and sprinkle with cinnamon.
- Top tomato or zucchini slices with salt, pepper, and cheese. Broil until cheese is bubbly.
- Put blended fruit or fruit juice in small cups and put a craft stick in the middle. Put in the freezer until frozen.



MORE FHE IDEAS

Look for these pictures in the magazine to find the stories and articles they go with! (Find the page numbers below.)



IDEA 1: Read "The Ducks' New Clothes," and ask a grandparent to share a childhood story. What are some of your favorite family stories?

IDEA 2: Read "Clarence vs. the Champion." How have you been blessed by keeping the Word of Wisdom? Help make a healthy meal or snack for your family to enjoy!



IDEA 3: This life is our time to learn and grow from our experiences. Play the game "Your Path to Heavenly Father" and talk about what you learned.



Idea 1: 8; Idea 2: 34; Idea 3: 24, 30

The DUCKS' New

By Lenore F. Frodsham

(Based on a story from the author's family)

"The hearts of the children turn to their fathers.

Malachi prophesied the hearts shall turn"

(Children's Songbook, 92).

It took Ann and Walter Huish a long time and a lot of determination to make it to the Salt Lake Valley. Their pioneer journey started in England, where the missionaries taught and baptized them. But Walter and Ann wanted to live close to other members of the Church. They decided to leave their home in England and sail across the ocean to America. Their voyage took 50 days!

Next they had to take a boat up the Mississippi River. They stopped in St. Louis, where Walter worked hard to earn money for the trek to the Salt Lake Valley. He worked for many years so they could have money to make the trip. Finally they were able to travel the final 1,300 miles (2,090 km) across the plains. At last their trek was over!

Walter and Ann settled down in the small town of Payson, Utah. Lots of other Church members lived there, and Walter and Ann were excited to raise their family



Clothes

there. They built a home and started a shop to build machines and furniture.

Walter took care of the shop. Ann took care of their home and a flock of ducks. She was very proud of her ducks. One day, when she went out to hang some clothes out to dry, she saw something very shocking. Her ducks were all lying still on the ground.

The poor ducks! Ann was so sad that her precious ducks had died. She sat down to think about what to do. Then she went to find a large flour sack. She knew

*The poor ducks!
Ann didn't want them
to get cold.*



that the ducks' feathers would be good for making beds, pillows, and quilts. Ann sadly plucked the feathers off the ducks. Then she took the big bag of feathers inside, leaving the ducks lying peacefully on the ground.

That evening Walter came home from his shop. He looked confused. "What happened to the ducks?" he asked. "Why are they running around without their feathers?"

Ann rushed outside. She was so surprised to see her featherless ducks running about in confusion. Looking around, Ann noticed a large patch of brightly colored wildflowers nearby. The ducks had eaten the flowers, and the flowers had made the ducks go to sleep. They had slept peacefully while Ann had plucked out their feathers.

Ann didn't want her ducks to get cold. So she went right to work knitting a sweater for each one of them. The ducks' sweaters kept them warm until their feathers grew back. But until then, they were finest and best-dressed ducks in town! ♦

The author lives in Utah, USA.

SAVE YOUR FAMILY'S STORIES!

1. "What's a fun family story?"



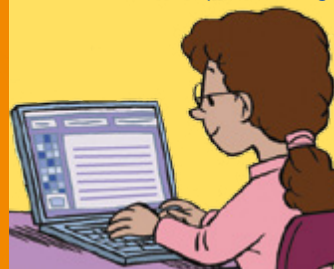
2. Write or record the story.



3. Share it with your family.



4. Add it to [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org).





Abraham Abraham and Me



By James B., age 12, Utah, USA

One Friday night I went to do temple baptisms for the first time. I thought the temple would be a spotless place where I could feel the Spirit. I was not disappointed. When I first arrived, I saw my Papa Skip. He was working in the baptistry that night. He was dressed all in white. White tie, white jacket, white everything!

I was going to be baptized for a special ancestor with a fun name. His name was Abraham Abraham. I had never heard of anyone who had the same first and last names. I felt really good when I was baptized for him. I felt like he was happy to finally have a chance to be a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

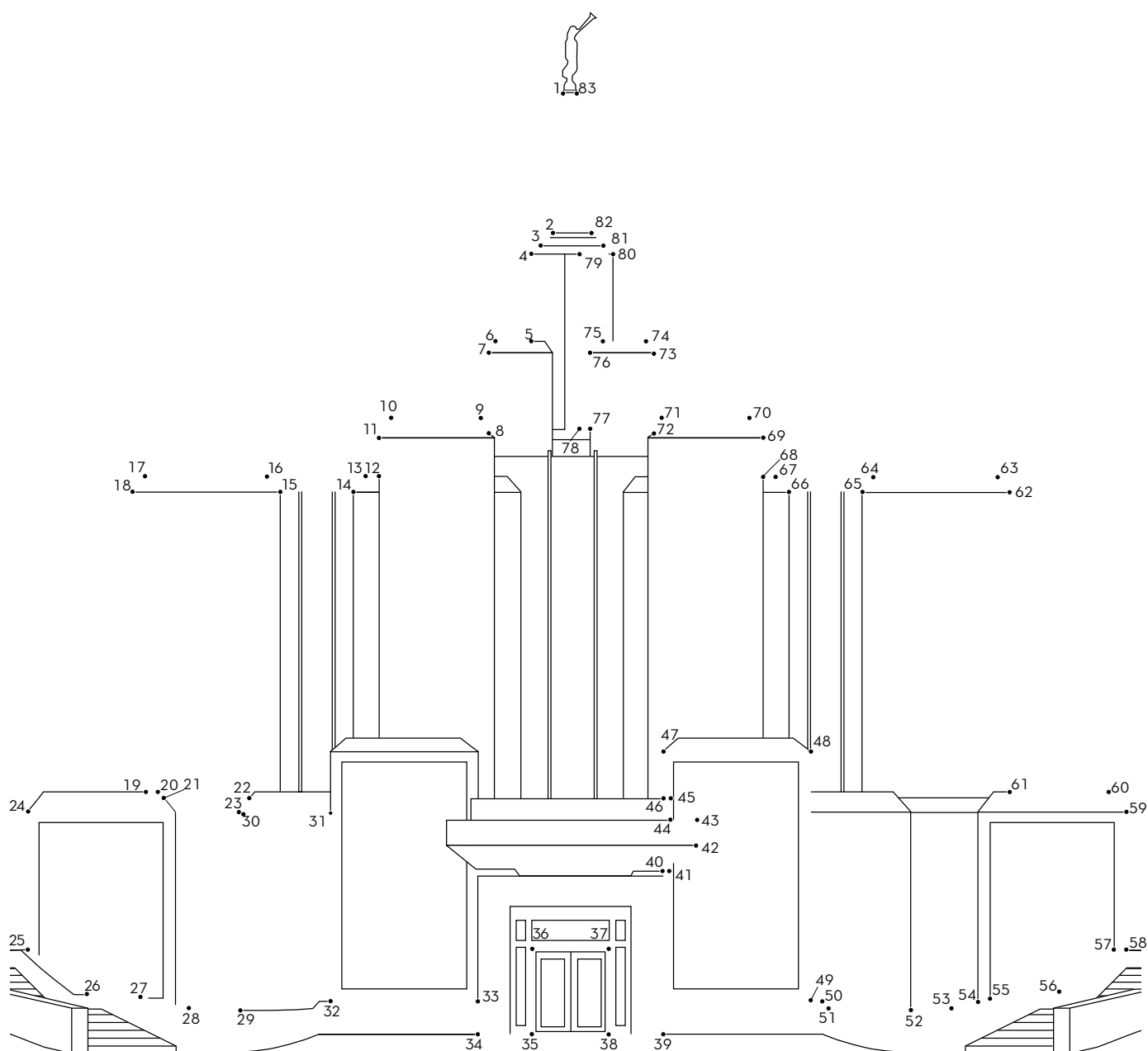
Before I was confirmed for Abraham Abraham, Papa Skip talked to me about the importance of being part of the Church. Temples provide opportunities for all of God's children to become members of His Church. When we're confirmed, we receive one of the best gifts in the whole world. When we are worthy, we get to have the Spirit with us! This means when we have choices to make, we should listen for the Spirit to help us make wise choices. It means I must listen for the Spirit to lead me instead of letting the world lead me.

I want to live my life so that someday I will get to shake Abraham Abraham's hand and tell him how happy it made me to help him become a member of the Church.

When I left the temple, my mom asked me my thoughts about the temple. I said, "It was a great experience, and I want to go back again!" ♦



A Holy Place



Within my walls the promises
You make will always hold.
A family that's forever
Is worth much more than gold!

What am I?



**From Elder
M. Russell
Ballard**

Of the Quorum
of the Twelve
Apostles

How are missionaries called?

*First, your bishop and stake
president interview you.*



*Next, one of the Twelve
Apostles sees your picture
and information about you
on a computer screen.*



They look into your eyes.



*Then, by the power of the Spirit of the Lord, they assign
you to one of the Church's 409 missions.*

From "The Greatest Generation of Young Adults," Ensign, May 2015, 67–70.

Meet Elder M. Russell Ballard

He is the only boy in his family. He has three sisters.



He worked for his father's car dealership in the early 1950s and was the top salesperson.



He served in the United States Army Reserve and became a first lieutenant.



On his mission in England, he and his companions held meetings in marketplaces or town squares. They set up a stand, sang hymns, and shared their testimonies.



He met his wife, Barbara Bowen, at a dance in college.



WHAT IS AN APOSTLE?

When Jesus was on the earth, He called 12 men to be His special helpers and witnesses. They were called Apostles. He has called Apostles to be His special helpers and witnesses today. They testify of Jesus Christ to the whole world. Elder Ballard is an Apostle.

Watch videos about the Apostles at [children.lds.org](https://www.children.lds.org). Click on "Videos" and "Meet the Apostles."

Friends. and Faith

From an interview by Melissa Hart



Hi!
I'm Ivana.

I live in Bogotá, Colombia, and I stand tall by sharing the gospel with my friends and family.



Here I am with my friend Luisa.

I go to a Catholic school for girls. Some of my beliefs are different than those of my classmates and teachers, but they respect me, and I respect them. They are curious about my religion, and I get to share it with them!

A teacher asked me if we believed the same things as Catholics. I told her that we believe in Jesus Christ. I also talked about the Book of Mormon, the Bible, and the Doctrine and Covenants.

My dad isn't a member of the Church, but he often comes to the activities. I tease him that he is a "Cath-ormon" (Catholic-Mormon).



We visited Salt Lake City for general conference and heard President Monson speak. His words are so beautiful, and they teach about the gospel.



I invited one school friend to come to my baptism, and she did! I'm glad I got to share that experience with her.



The Bogotá Colombia Temple is beautiful. I want to go inside someday so I can learn more about the gospel. My friend Laura came with me when I visited the temple grounds.

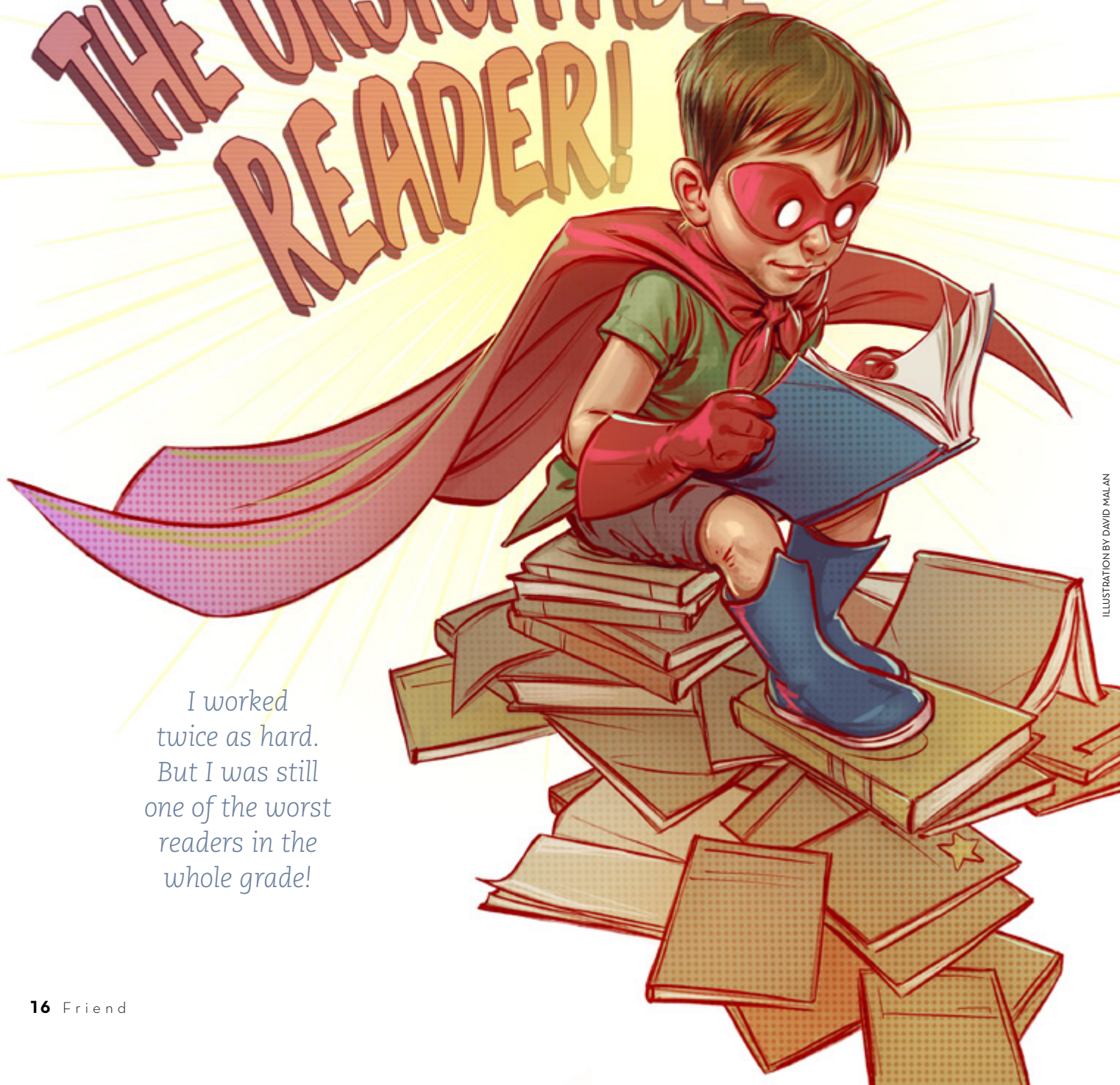
IVANA'S TIPS FOR STANDING TALL

- Smile and share stories from church and scriptures with others.
- Attend Church meetings every Sunday.
- Have family home evening.
- Try to read the scriptures every day.



RYAN

THE UNSTOPPABLE READER!



I worked
twice as hard.
But I was still
one of the worst
readers in the
whole grade!

By Jessica Larsen

(Based on a true story)

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me"
(*Philippians 4:13*).

Three weeks until summer break, Ryan!" my friend Logan said after recess. "I can't wait to swim and hike!"

"Me too!" I said. I walked into the classroom smiling, but then I saw the chairs set in circles. That meant reading groups.

"Everyone get in your groups!" Mr. Carson said. "Blue group, Mrs. Bush is waiting for you in room 205."

I trudged to my desk and grabbed my book. Most of my classmates had been able to read this book years ago. Everyone knew the blue group was for kids who couldn't read well. I'd been part of it since kindergarten. That was when I found out I had a learning disability. Mom says it means my brain just understands things differently.

It's not fair, I thought as I walked to room 205. I held the book to my chest so no one could see it was for little kids. I hated being different. I worked twice as hard as any of my friends. But I was still one of the worst readers in the whole grade!

After an hour of reading, Mrs. Bush said we were done. "Good work," she told us. "I know reading is hard, and it would be easy to give up. But keep working at it! You *can* improve. And don't forget your summer reading packet."

I took the packet and walked back to my classroom. Every summer I got a reading packet with stories to read out loud, questions to answer, and other things to help me with my reading. None of my friends had homework over the summer. But I really wanted to be able to read, so the extra work was worth it.

At least I'll still have some time to play this summer, I thought.

But when Mom picked me up from school, she had some news. "I just learned about a new computer



My biggest challenge is that I have anxiety, which means worrying about things that are not a big deal. I pray about it, and my daddy gives me priesthood blessings. I still have anxiety, but I know that my Heavenly Father has helped me, because it has gotten better.

Kate L., age 7, Washington, USA

program that can help you read better," she said as I got into the car. "It will help your brain make better connections."

"That sounds cool," I said.

"You'll need to work on it for a few hours every day."

More homework over the summer? Part of me wanted to just quit trying. But an even bigger part of me knew I really wanted to read better. And that would take a lot of work. I took a deep breath. "OK, I'll do it."

It was a long, hard summer. I spent most of my time working on my reading exercises or the computer program. And I prayed every day for Heavenly Father's help.

When school started again, I tried my hardest to follow along with the class reading. I was still pretty slow, but I could do it!

Soon my teacher asked to talk to me at lunch. That made me nervous. What would she say?

"Ryan, I've seen you reading along with the class this week. I know how hard you worked this summer," Ms. Andersen said. "I'm going to put you in a higher reading group."

"Really?" I said.

She nodded. "You'll have to work a little harder than some of the other kids and promise to read every single day, but I think you can do this. Are you up for the challenge?"

"Yes!" I said. I walked out to lunch feeling happy and strong. My hard work during the summer *had* helped me! And Heavenly Father had answered my prayers. I knew I could keep working hard. And I knew Heavenly Father would keep helping me. ♦

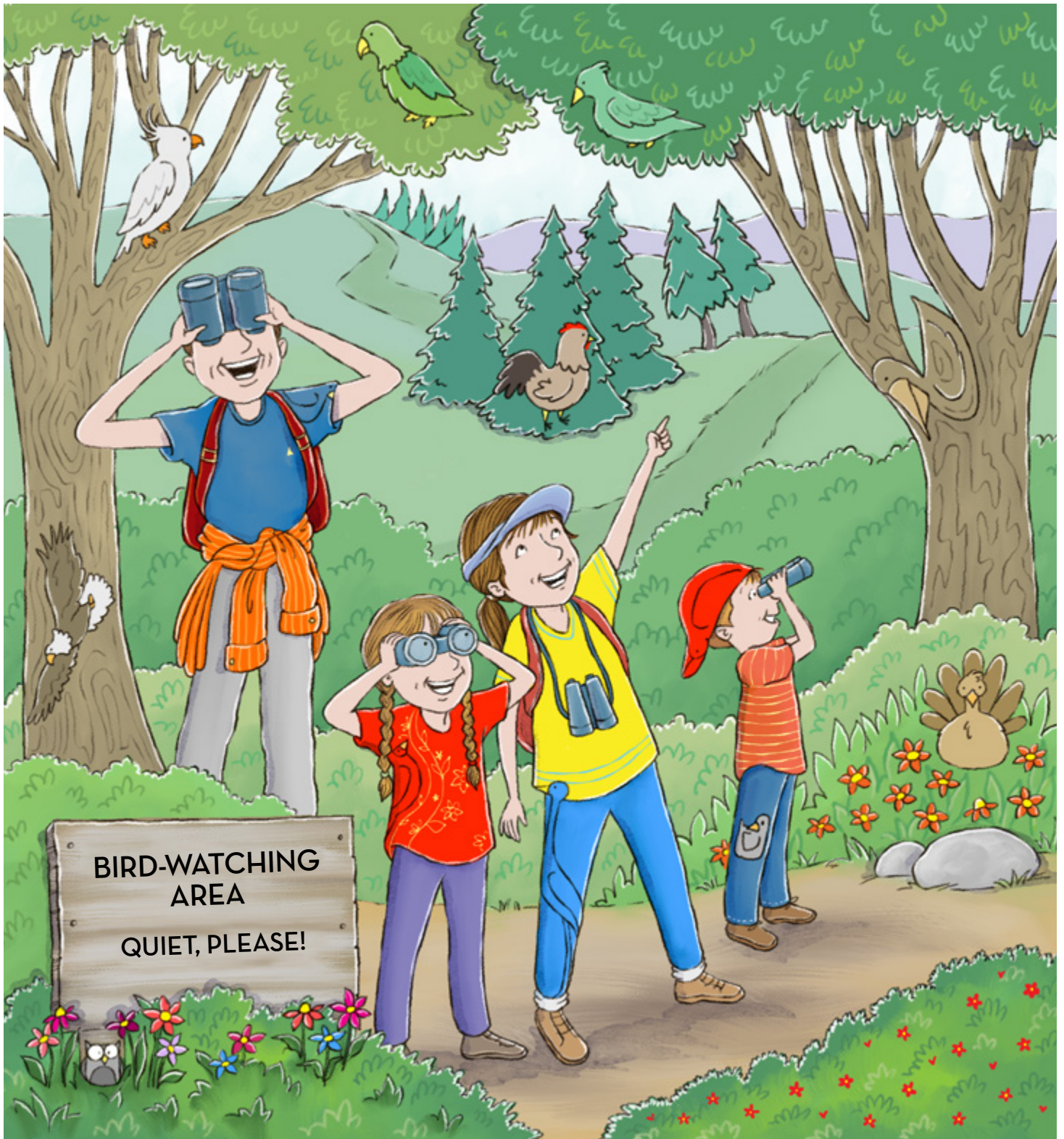
The author lives in Arizona, USA.

Ryan finished high school and went to college.

I've had to work hard at reading too. But it's worth it!

Hidden Picture

“Look, another one!” This family is trying to find as many different birds as possible today. Can you help them find all 13?





•BULLETIN• BOARD



PLAY FUCHI!

Have you met Ivana on page 14? In Colombia, where she lives, people often play a game called *fuchi*. The rules are simple—pass the *fuchi* to each other using only your feet. To try this at home, you could use a hacky sack, small ball, or balloon. What tricks can you do without letting the *fuchi* touch the ground?

God Gives Us GOOD FOOD

This vegetable might look like a *fuchi*, but it's for eating, not kicking! This is a brussels sprout, probably named after the city in Belgium where it might've first grown. Three years ago, scientists used a special battery powered by a thousand brussels sprouts to light a Christmas tree in London!



TEMPLE CONNECTION

This is a picture of the temple in Bogotá, Colombia. It took 15 years to finish! Ivana said she likes walking around the temple grounds and looking at the beautiful plants there. What is special to you about the temple? Maybe you could help your family plan a temple trip soon!



ASK YOUR FAMILY

What's something you've learned from the scriptures lately?

Captain Moroni Was Brave

Captain Moroni led the Nephite army. He loved to obey Heavenly Father. He helped the Nephite soldiers defend themselves against the Lamanites. He reminded them of Heavenly Father's blessings. He reminded them of their freedom and their families so they could be brave.



A lot of children at school use language that makes me uncomfortable. My mom and I said a prayer to ask for courage and to know the best thing to do. The next day when they started to use that language, I politely said, "Please stop using those words. It makes me feel uncomfortable." They said, "OK, sorry." That made me feel happy inside, and I was glad I learned that Heavenly Father will help me when I ask for help.

Bella T., age 10, Virginia, USA



Grant L., age 10, Florida, USA



Cut, fold, and keep this challenge card!



I CAN BE BRAVE!

- ☐ Memorize [Alma 48:11-12](#).
Read [verse 17](#) too!
- ☐ Help someone who is worried or scared be brave. Share your testimony with them.
- ☐ Watch [chapters 31-33 and 35](#) of the Book of Mormon stories at children.lds.org.
- ☐ I challenge myself to ...

This Month's Scriptures

After you read a scripture passage, color the matching numbered areas on the title of liberty!

1 Alma 43:9-12, 16-23, 47-54

2 Alma 44:1-10, 12, 19-20

3 Alma 46:10-16, 21-22

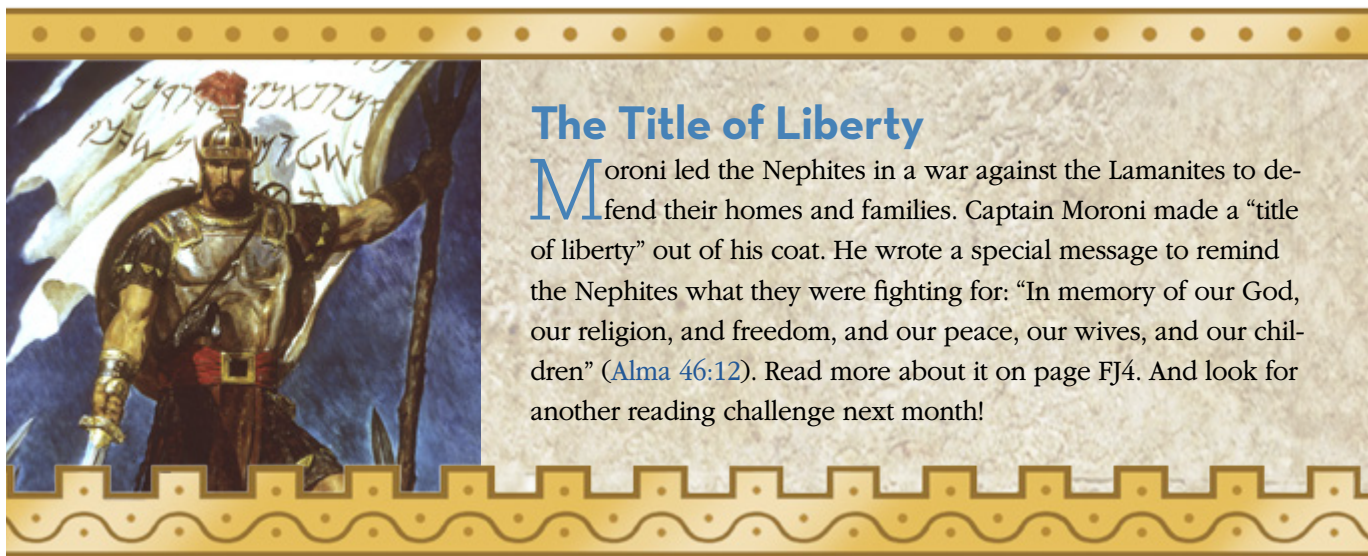
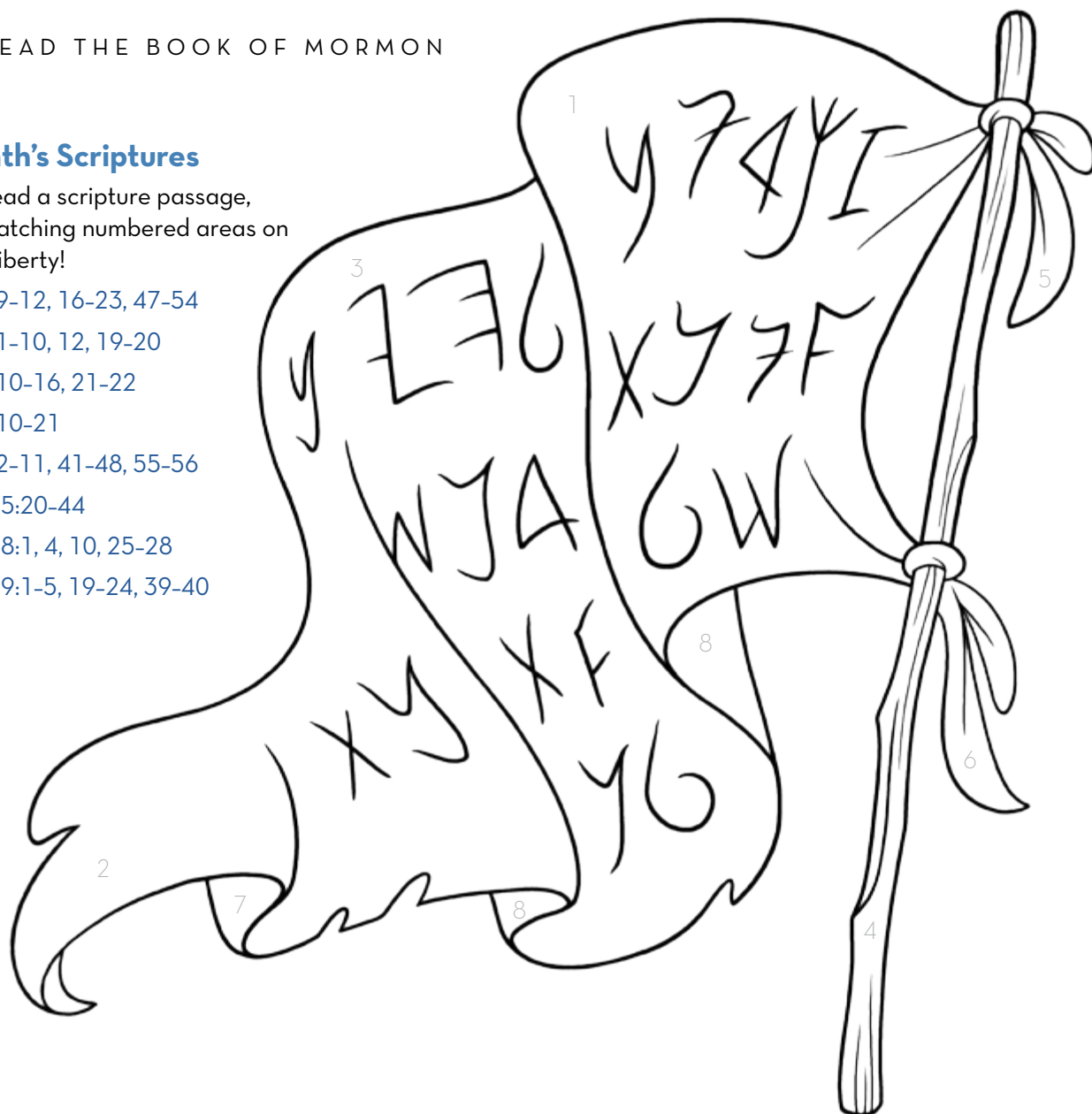
4 Alma 53:10-21

5 Alma 56:2-11, 41-48, 55-56

6 Helaman 5:20-44

7 Helaman 8:1, 4, 10, 25-28

8 Helaman 9:1-5, 19-24, 39-40



The Title of Liberty

Moroni led the Nephites in a war against the Lamanites to defend their homes and families. Captain Moroni made a “title of liberty” out of his coat. He wrote a special message to remind the Nephites what they were fighting for: “In memory of our God, our religion, and freedom, and our peace, our wives, and our children” (Alma 46:12). Read more about it on page FJ4. And look for another reading challenge next month!



FRIEND TO FRIEND

*From an interview with Elder Kevin S. Hamilton
of the Seventy; by McKelle George*



"Be diligent, that thereby [you] might win the prize"
(Mosiah 4:27).

My dad was an apple grower in Washington, USA, and so were my grandparents. There were all kinds of jobs to do, so I learned how to work when I was young. My grandmother lived on a hill surrounded by apple trees. At the bottom of the hill there were blackberry bushes.

In the summertime the bushes were full of ripe berries. My grandmother would give my younger brothers and sisters and me each a plastic bucket. She'd tell us to come back with buckets full of blackberries. Then she made jam and syrup and all kinds of yummy things.

It was hot, and blackberry bushes have lots of thorns. And worst of all, there were snakes! We used every excuse we could think of to not pick blackberries. But I was the oldest, so I had to be a good example. Even though it was hard, we worked. It seemed to take *forever* to fill up our buckets. We got distracted. We watched for snakes. We ate a bunch of berries.

When our buckets were finally full, we took them back up to my grandmother. Then we could play for the rest of the day. At dinner that night, my grandmother always served a blackberry cobbler or pie. It was delicious! We ate it hot out of the oven with a scoop of ice cream.

We learned a couple of things from our summers picking blackberries. First, everybody worked. Everyone in the family, no matter how small, could help in some way. Second, we learned that if we wanted to enjoy the blackberry pie, we had to do the work. Years later as a young missionary, I learned how important work is. Heavenly Father blesses us when we put in effort. If we work hard and keep the commandments, we will be blessed. ♦



CAN WORK BE FUN?

- ☐ Secretly do your chores without getting caught!
- ☐ Learn a fun new skill or read a good book that seems a little hard.
- ☐ Help with yard work or tidy a room. Set a timer and make it a race!
- ☐ Help make dinner, and do the dishes afterward. Pretend your kitchen is a restaurant.

What other ideas do you have?

Blackberries

Mmm. Blackberry pie!
I'd work hard for that.

I've seen you work
hard just to get the
last cookie crumbs!





Your Path to HEAVENLY FATHER

Your path back to Heavenly Father has some necessary steps. It also has other experiences that are not necessary but that help you learn. Find out more as you play this fun game!

By Olivia Corey Randall

YOU WILL NEED

- a die
- a game piece for each player (a bead, button, or candy)
- a “My Path to Heavenly Father” card for each player (see page 30 or print extras at friend.lds.org)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Start from any footprint on the board.
2. For each turn, roll the die and move that many squares. You can move in all directions in a turn, including diagonally.
3. When you land on a colored square, mark it off on your card. Collect all the “Steps to Salvation,” then see how many “Other Experiences” you can get.
4. When everyone has collected all of their “Steps to Salvation,” have all the players move to any footprint to finish the game.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY JOSH TALBOT



Be baptized



Tie your shoes





Go to school



Premortal life



Receive the Holy Ghost



Play sports or games



Be sealed to your husband or wife



Make a friend



Keep the commandments



Learn to ride a bike



Get a body



Take the sacrament



Lose a tooth



Read a book



Be resurrected



Share your toys



Go to the temple



No Matter Who You Are

By Linda Davies

Church Magazines
(Based on a true story)

“What’s going to happen since I’m not sealed to my family?”



“I am a child of God, and He has sent me here” (Children’s Songbook, 2).

Just right, Andi thought as she quickly looked in the mirror. She was wearing her favorite red dress. She always wanted to look her best on Sundays. She ran down to breakfast.

Andi was just finishing her last piece of toast when the Reeder’s car horn honked from the driveway. “Bye, Mom! Bye, Dad!” Andi said, kissing them as she ran out the door.

Even though Mom and Dad weren’t members of the Church, they encouraged Andi to go to church each week. The Reeder family had given her a ride almost every Sunday since she was baptized and confirmed. Andi liked how they always made her feel so welcome and loved.

After sacrament meeting it was time for Primary. Andi loved being in Brother and Sister Long’s class. They were kind, and their lessons were always the best.

“Today we’re going to talk about temples,” Sister Long said. “What are some things we know about temples?”

Andi knew one answer: “We can do temple baptisms.” She was excited about that because in a few years, she would be able to go to the temple to do baptisms.

“Great, Andi. What else do we know?”

“You can be married in the temple,” said Andi’s friend Allison.

“Very good,” said Sister Long.

“Anything else?”

“Families can be together forever when they’re sealed in the temple,” Allison added.

But not my family, thought Andi. *Mom and Dad haven’t been sealed in the temple!* Suddenly her face felt hot, and her eyes began to sting with tears.

“Are you OK, Andi?” asked Sister Long.

“Yes,” Andi said, trying to hold



ILLUSTRATIONS BY BRAD TEAPE



ANDI'S TIPS!

Sometimes I'm sad my family doesn't come to church. Here's what I do to feel better!

- Say a prayer.
- Ask my family to do something together after church, like go on a walk.
- Be a good example by living the gospel.
- Remember all the good things about my family.
- Do something fun, like draw, make cookies, or sing a song.

back the tears. But she could feel her heart pounding all through the rest of the lesson.

When class was over, Sister Long sat by Andi and put an arm around her. "What's the matter?" she asked.

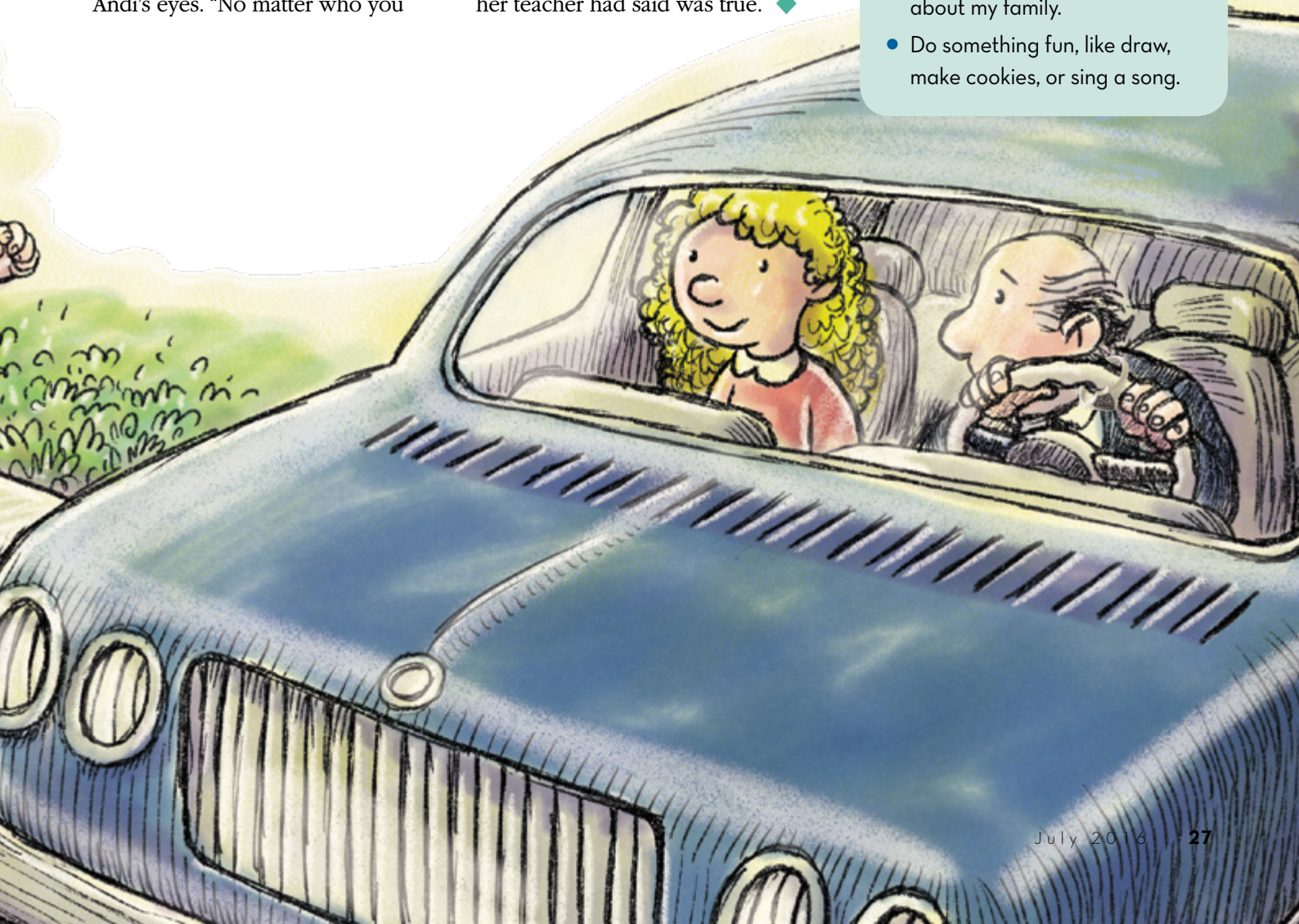
"I won't be with my mom and dad forever," Andi said. "They haven't been married in the temple. Who will I belong to after I die?

Does Heavenly Father still love me even if my parents aren't members?"

Sister Long looked straight into Andi's eyes. "No matter who you

are and no matter if your family has been to the temple or not, you are still part of Heavenly Father's family. *You* can stay close to Him and be an example to others. He will always love, guide, and protect you, no matter what. He wants to bless you and your family. You are a child of God, Andi."

Just then Andi's heart seemed to skip a beat, and the pounding stopped. Now a warm feeling filled her heart instead. She knew what her teacher had said was true. ♦



Show and tell



October 31, 2012, was a special day because I was sealed to my parents in the Cebu Philippines Temple. **Anicka V., age 6, Philippines**

Primary children from the **Kirtland Ward, Kirtland Ohio Stake, USA**, marched in the City of Kirtland Strawberry Festival. They showed photos from ward members' ancestors on their "family tree." They also handed out almost 900 pass-along cards.



Monique M., age 10, Puebla, Mexico



For my birthday, my dad took my brother and me to a reptile park. We saw alligators and crocodiles. After, we watched President Boyd K. Packer's talk on spiritual crocodiles. We need to listen to our parents and our prophet so that we can be prepared against our own spiritual crocodiles.

Jacob P., age 7, Colorado, USA



I was excited to be at a baseball game and really wanted to catch a ball. A player hit one over the fence,

and I caught it! Another boy was crying. I gave him the ball, and it felt good. This is what Heavenly Father would want me to do.

Fisk J., age 7, Wyoming, USA



For our grandparents' 60th wedding anniversary, we went to the open house for the Indianapolis Indiana Temple with 37 members of our family! The first member of the Church in Indianapolis was our great-great-grandma! We felt the Spirit that day in the temple.

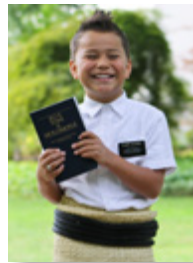
Clay and Madelyn G., ages 7 and 10, Indiana, USA

**The Sault Saint Marie
First Ward Primary,
Ontario Stake, Canada,**

has set a goal this year to memorize one scripture a month to go along with the Primary theme, "I Know the Scriptures Are True." They each have their own set of scriptures.



Anne, Spencer, Lucy, and Emily D., ages 7, 11, 5, and 13, Utah, USA



hold my Tongan Book of Mormon, and wear my dad's missionary nametag.

Tristan L., age 8, Washington, USA

I was excited on my baptism day to wear my *tupenu*,



Marstan W., age 8, Colorado, USA

Birds and Me

Birds have legs, birds can walk.
I have legs, I can walk.
Birds have wings, birds can fly.
I don't have wings, I can't fly.
But I have arms to reach the sky!

Linnea H., age 8, Ohio, USA

Standing Tall FOOTPRINTS



When my friends were fighting at recess, I asked them both to stop. It made me feel good.

Ezekiel F., age 5, Oklahoma, USA



I can be helpful and good in the house.

Caitlin B., age 9, Hampshire, England



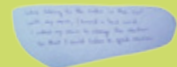
I can stand tall by choosing good video games.

Alexia C., age 10, Utah, USA



I heard a bad word on the radio. I asked my mom to change the station.

Marcus M., age 4, Alaska, USA



I choose the right by helping others that are in need. I do this because I am righteous.

Dimon B., age 9, Indiana, USA



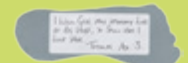
I like to share the gospel with my classmates. I'm excited to tell them about my baptism.

Kielah F., age 7, Oklahoma, USA



I will give my mommy lots of big hugs to show her I love her.

Thomas B., age 3, Hampshire, England



I can stand tall by setting a good example at school and church.

Dani C., age 8, Utah, USA



Send us your footprint!
See how on page 39.

Use these cards to play the game on page 24.



My Path to HEAVENLY FATHER

STEPS TO SALVATION

- ☐ Premortal life
- ☐ Get a body
- ☐ Be baptized
- ☐ Receive the Holy Ghost
- ☐ Take the sacrament
- ☐ Keep the commandments
- ☐ Go to the temple
- ☐ Be sealed to your husband or wife
- ☐ Be resurrected

OTHER EXPERIENCES

- ☐ Go to school
- ☐ Learn to ride a bike
- ☐ Lose a tooth
- ☐ Tie your shoes
- ☐ Make a friend
- ☐ Read a book
- ☐ Play sports or games
- ☐ Share your toys

My Path to HEAVENLY FATHER

STEPS TO SALVATION

- ☐ Premortal life
- ☐ Get a body
- ☐ Be baptized
- ☐ Receive the Holy Ghost
- ☐ Take the sacrament
- ☐ Keep the commandments
- ☐ Go to the temple
- ☐ Be sealed to your husband or wife
- ☐ Be resurrected

OTHER EXPERIENCES

- ☐ Go to school
- ☐ Learn to ride a bike
- ☐ Lose a tooth
- ☐ Tie your shoes
- ☐ Make a friend
- ☐ Read a book
- ☐ Play sports or games
- ☐ Share your toys

My Path to HEAVENLY FATHER

STEPS TO SALVATION

- ☐ Premortal life
- ☐ Get a body
- ☐ Be baptized
- ☐ Receive the Holy Ghost
- ☐ Take the sacrament
- ☐ Keep the commandments
- ☐ Go to the temple
- ☐ Be sealed to your husband or wife
- ☐ Be resurrected

OTHER EXPERIENCES

- ☐ Go to school
- ☐ Learn to ride a bike
- ☐ Lose a tooth
- ☐ Tie your shoes
- ☐ Make a friend
- ☐ Read a book
- ☐ Play sports or games
- ☐ Share your toys

My Path to HEAVENLY FATHER

STEPS TO SALVATION

- ☐ Premortal life
- ☐ Get a body
- ☐ Be baptized
- ☐ Receive the Holy Ghost
- ☐ Take the sacrament
- ☐ Keep the commandments
- ☐ Go to the temple
- ☐ Be sealed to your husband or wife
- ☐ Be resurrected

OTHER EXPERIENCES

- ☐ Go to school
- ☐ Learn to ride a bike
- ☐ Lose a tooth
- ☐ Tie your shoes
- ☐ Make a friend
- ☐ Read a book
- ☐ Play sports or games
- ☐ Share your toys

Print more copies at friend.lds.org.



A Beautiful World

Do this activity with your family!

Can you finish this line from a Primary song? "I'm glad that I live in this beautiful world Heav'nly Father _____" (*Children's Songbook*, 228).



On Sunday, take time to think about your favorite things in nature. Copy the page below for each member of your family. Then go on a walk together. Find a place where everyone can stop to fill in their booklets. Afterward, share what you learned with each other! Can you find a scripture that talks about God's creations?

Spend one minute <i>TOUCHING</i> things around you. I feel...		Spend one minute <i>LOOKING</i> . I see...	



Visit friend.lds.org during July to watch a "Through Your Eyes" video.
Send us your photos of Heavenly Father's creations!



QUESTION CORNER

When my mom and dad argue, I feel very worried and sad. What can I do?



You can say a prayer to help your mom and dad get over their problem and hum some Church songs to make you feel better.

Addison S., age 10, Washington, USA



My siblings and I go to our rooms and listen to the Tabernacle Choir. This has helped us feel peace.

Ben M., age 11, Brisbane, Australia



To make them happy I would tell them funny jokes and tell them how school is. When they start laughing, I feel the Holy Ghost telling me I did the right thing.

Elena M., age 12, California, USA



You can pray to Heavenly Father. That always makes me feel better.

Hayden H., age 6, Alberta, Canada



Max: I would give them hugs and sing them a Primary song to remind them of Jesus.

Gabe: Make your parents feel better by drawing a picture of your family in heaven.

Max and Gabe C., ages 6 and 10, Kochi, India



I would pray to Heavenly Father and ask Him to help my parents when they argue so they can feel the Spirit and solve their problems.

Ethan M., age 11, California, USA

Responses are intended for help and perspective, not as pronouncements of Church doctrine.

NEXT QUESTION

“How do I know when I’m old enough to start fasting?”

Send us your answer and photo by July 31. Email us at friend@ldschurch.org with “Question Corner” in the subject line. Use the permission statement on page 39.

Read more Question Corner answers at FriendQC.lds.org.

When I Hear of Pioneer Children

With conviction ♩ = 120-126

Words and music by
Janice Kapp Perry

C Dm⁷ C F G

1. When I hear of pi - o - neer child-den, _____ Of tri - als and cour - age and
2. When I hear of pi - o - neer child-ren, _____ I want to be strong for my

C F Dm C

faith, _____ I want to be will - ing as they were _____ To
day. _____ I'll try to keep all the com - mand - ments _____ And

G D⁷ G C Dm⁷

look to the Lord for my strength. _____ I'll fol - low the proph - ets as
be a true Lat - ter - day Saint. _____ I'll stand as a shin - ing ex -

C F E⁷ Am

they did, _____ For I want to build Zi - on too! _____ And
am - ple _____ That oth - ers who fol - low will see. _____ I'll

F C Dm⁷ G⁷ C

I will have faith to do hard things _____ When that's what He needs me to do. _____
be like those pi - o - neer child - ren; _____ The Lord is de - pen - ding on me. _____

© 2016 by Janice Kapp Perry. All rights reserved.

This song may be copied for incidental, noncommercial church or home use.

This notice must be included on each copy made.

Watch a sing-along video for this song at
children.lds.org. Click on "Videos and Music."

Clarence vs. the Champion



By Lori Fuller

Church Magazines
(Based on a true story)

Clarence stared out the car window as the harbor came into view. Boats floated in the water in front of colorful houses and shops. Copenhagen, Denmark, was a beautiful city filled with palaces, mansions, and parks. It was not at all like Clarence's hometown in Utah, USA. Clarence could picture the dusty streets where he ran races as a boy. Now he was a member of the United States track team, and tomorrow he would be facing a famous Danish runner in an important race.

The car stopped at a small chapel where a Church meeting had already started.

As Clarence slipped into the back of the meeting, one of the missionaries sitting on the stand recognized him from a news article about tomorrow's race. The branch president asked Clarence to come up and speak.

After Clarence told why he was visiting, a boy stood up and raised his hand. "Do you think you can beat the Danish champion?" he asked.

Clarence wasn't sure what to say. The Danish runner *did* have a better time in the mile that season.

"Of course he can," said one of the missionaries before Clarence could answer. "Because he lives the Word of Wisdom." He opened his scriptures to [Doctrine and Covenants 89](#). He read the promise that those who keep the Word of Wisdom "shall run and not be weary, and shall walk and not faint" ([verse 20](#)).

Clarence saw a long row of boys looking up at him. What could he say? As a child he had promised to always keep the Word of Wisdom. But that alone didn't mean he could win this race. Winning also required practice and skill. As Clarence left the meeting, he thought, *Well, no one from church will be at the race tomorrow anyway.*



CLARENCE'S CHOICE

Clarence F. Robison raced in the 1948 Summer Olympics and became a great college track coach. When he was young, he promised his mother he would always keep the Word of Wisdom. He knew this wouldn't make him win all his races. But he knew that Heavenly Father could help him do his best when he was clean and worthy and faithful.

The next evening as Clarence was warming up for his race, he looked up and saw the two missionaries with a group of about 17 boys. They *had* come!

As they got closer, one of the missionaries whispered to Clarence, "If you've ever run fast in your life, you'd better run fast tonight." Many of the boys weren't members of the Church but had come with their friends to see if the Word of Wisdom was really true.

Clarence was worried. In this race, his best might not be good enough. But he was running for a principle of the gospel of Jesus Christ. He *had* to win. He had never prayed to win before, but he found an empty room to kneel and pray.

He prayed, "Father in Heaven, I know the Word of Wisdom is true, and I have never broken it. Please bless me with victory in this race." As he walked out to the starting line, he knew Heavenly Father had heard his prayer.

He trusted Heavenly Father's will.

The evening was rainy and muddy. As Clarence began the race, it seemed just like many other mile races he had run. The pace was fast, and the Danish champion was ahead. But as Clarence finished the third lap, suddenly he was not tired anymore. He started running faster, and it didn't hurt. Going even a little faster still didn't hurt. He passed the Danish champion and *still* went faster.

As Clarence came around the turn, his coach yelled, "Slow down! You'll never make the finish line!" But Clarence knew he could keep running. And when he finished the race, he was more than 50 yards (46 m) ahead of the Danish runner! He knew he had won because Heavenly Father had answered his prayer and because the Word of Wisdom is true. ♦

Want to Come to Church?



**By Emma K., age 10,
Missouri, USA**

A few years ago, my younger sister, Brooklynn, and I visited my

aunt and uncle for a couple of weeks.

We had only been at my aunt's house for a few minutes when my cousin Jenna and her boyfriend, Merrick, burst inside, eager to see us.

Over the next few weeks, we did many things with Jenna and Merrick. We went swimming together, rode scooters, watched movies, and jumped on Jenna's trampoline. We also played card games together. But my favorite activity was dressing Merrick up in costumes.

Merrick was not a member of the Church. But since we had become good friends, I decided to invite him to come to church with us. Jenna, Brooklynn, and I were very happy when Merrick said

Who knew where a simple question could lead?

yes. It was a wonderful Sunday being able to see Merrick at church, smiling and listening to the talks about eternal families. He wanted to know more about our beliefs and

came to church the next week too.

Two months later Merrick was baptized. Then he left to join the military. He and Jenna wrote to each other while he was away. After two years Merrick and Jenna were married in the Salt Lake Temple! It was wonderful to see

Jenna and Merrick coming out of the temple together. Who would have guessed two years ago that an eight-year-old girl asking a simple question could help lead to a temple marriage?

Knowing the wonderful happiness that can come from inviting someone to church has given me courage and excitement to be a young missionary to my friends and neighbors. ♦



Pioneer Puzzlers



Life was different for the pioneers in many ways. Here are pictures of some objects from the 1800s. What do you think these were? (Check your answers on page 39.)

- A. a barometer (a device to measure air pressure to help predict rainy weather)**
- B. a candle holder**
- C. a bottle to store ink**
- D. a liquid-fuel stove designed to fit in a pocket**



- A. a small musical instrument**
- B. a tool to plant seeds in rocky soil**
- C. a horn to call lost cows back to the herd**
- D. a container to carry and pour out gunpowder**

These sunglasses belonged to someone in early Church history. Think you can guess who?

- A. Joseph Smith**
- B. Hyrum Smith**
- C. Oliver Cowdery**
- D. Brigham Young**



There are things in our house I don't recognize!

Yeah, like these big, black CDs.



MATT AND MANDY



FUNSTUFF ANSWERS

Page 37: C, D, D



HIDDEN CTR RINGS

Did you find the rings?
Look on pages FJ5 and 27!
The June level 3 ring was on page 36.

Through Your Eyes



This is a photo of my stream. I am thankful for all creations.

Alyssa F., age 7, Maryland, USA

How to Write to the Friend

To send us a letter, drawing, poem, or footprint...

1. Fill out the form below and send it in with your story or artwork.
2. Send a school picture or other high-resolution photo.
3. We might edit your submission for length or clarity, and we can't return it to you.
4. You must be at least three years old.

Please send your submission to:

Friend Magazine
50 E. North Temple St., Rm. 2393
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-0024
Or email: friend@ldschurch.org

The following information and permission must be included:

First and last name

Age

Boy/Girl

State/Province, Country

I give my permission to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to use my child's submission and photo on the Church websites and social media platforms as well as for Church reports, print products, video, publications, and training materials.

Signature of parent or legal guardian

Email of parent or legal guardian



To read more,
close the magazine
and flip it over!

The Last Laugh

Are there
bonus points for
neutralizing hostile
alien forces along
the way?



THE Friend

JUNIOR



THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

For Parents of Little Ones



You can help your child practice fairness by taking turns. Setting a timer can help. Here are some tips:

Let your children start by sharing things they don't care about too much. Then they can see how good sharing feels when they're not too anxious about their toys.

Even before your child yanks a toy out of their sibling's hands for the first time, you can begin teaching the concept of sharing. It's normal for children to feel attached to things. Also, very young children don't understand that others have feelings like their own. Empathy develops gradually in the preschool years.



Allow your child to put away favorite toys before friends come to play. Anything left out for playtime is fair game. (And playtime is no fun for anyone if *nothing* is left out.)

Teach by sharing! Lend books to your friends. Share your snacks with your kids. Show how happy it makes you to care about people more than things. When your children are old enough to begin feeling generous too, they'll know how to show it from the ways you've shared.

Make a treat and invite your children to serve it to each other.



You can read past letters at FriendFPLOlds.org.



“Jesus said love everyone;
treat them kindly too.”
—*Children’s Songbook*, 61



Lemonade for Grandpa

By Jennifer Maddy



Emily

poured the last of the



lemonade

into her



cup

and went outside.

It was a hot day!



Emily

was glad she had some cold



lemonade

. Then she

saw



Grandpa

pushing the



lawn mower

. He looked hot and tired.



Emily

really

wanted the whole



cup

of



lemonade

. But she knew



Grandpa

would be thirsty.



Emily

went back inside. She got another



cup

and poured in half of

her



lemonade

. Then she took it outside to



Grandpa

. He stopped the



lawn mower

They drank their



lemonade



Grandpa

smiled and said, "Thank you for

sharing your



lemonade

!"

A Happy Sharing Day

Have a happy day by sharing!

Match up the things below with people you can share them with.



Toy



Book



Ball



Game



Book of Mormon



Apple



Smile



Mommy



Daddy



Sister



Brother



Grandma



Grandpa



Friend

Captain Moroni's Flag

Once there was a wicked king. He wanted to rule over the Nephite people.



Moroni was the captain of the Nephite army. He was strong, and he loved God.

Captain Moroni wanted to protect his people from the wicked king's army.



He decided to make a flag for his people.



Captain Moroni's flag reminded his people that they should follow God and protect their families. Then they could have peace. ♦

I Can Say I'm Sorry



Forever Brothers

By Marianne Sorensen Lemon

(Based on a true story)

Markus sat in the temple with his new family. They were all dressed in white. Now that Markus was adopted, he was so excited to be sealed to his family!

Brother Ray stood up. He was the temple sealer. “This is a big day,” he said. “Do you know why?”

“Now we can be together forever,” Markus said. He looked at his parents and his big brother, Caleb.

“That’s right,” Brother Ray said. “In the temple we seal families forever.” He looked at Caleb. He asked, “Do you know how we can do that?”

Caleb smiled. “With the priesthood,” he said.

“That’s right. Heavenly Father gives us His power. We use it to bless people in big ways and little ways.”





ILLUSTRATION BY TAEJEONG BAE

The family knelt down. Caleb was already sealed to his parents. He watched while Markus was sealed to them too.

The sealing ended. Dad pointed to two mirrors. They faced each other across the room. “How far can you see in that mirror?” he asked.

Markus stood up tall. He saw his family in the mirror. He saw them over and over again. “Forever and ever!” he said.

“Our family can be forever too. Isn’t that right, Caleb?” Dad said. “Now you and Markus can be forever brothers!”

“Yeah.” Caleb put an arm around Markus. “I waited a long time for a brother. I want to keep him forever!” ◆

The author lives in Idaho, USA.

Question for You

How has Heavenly Father blessed your family?