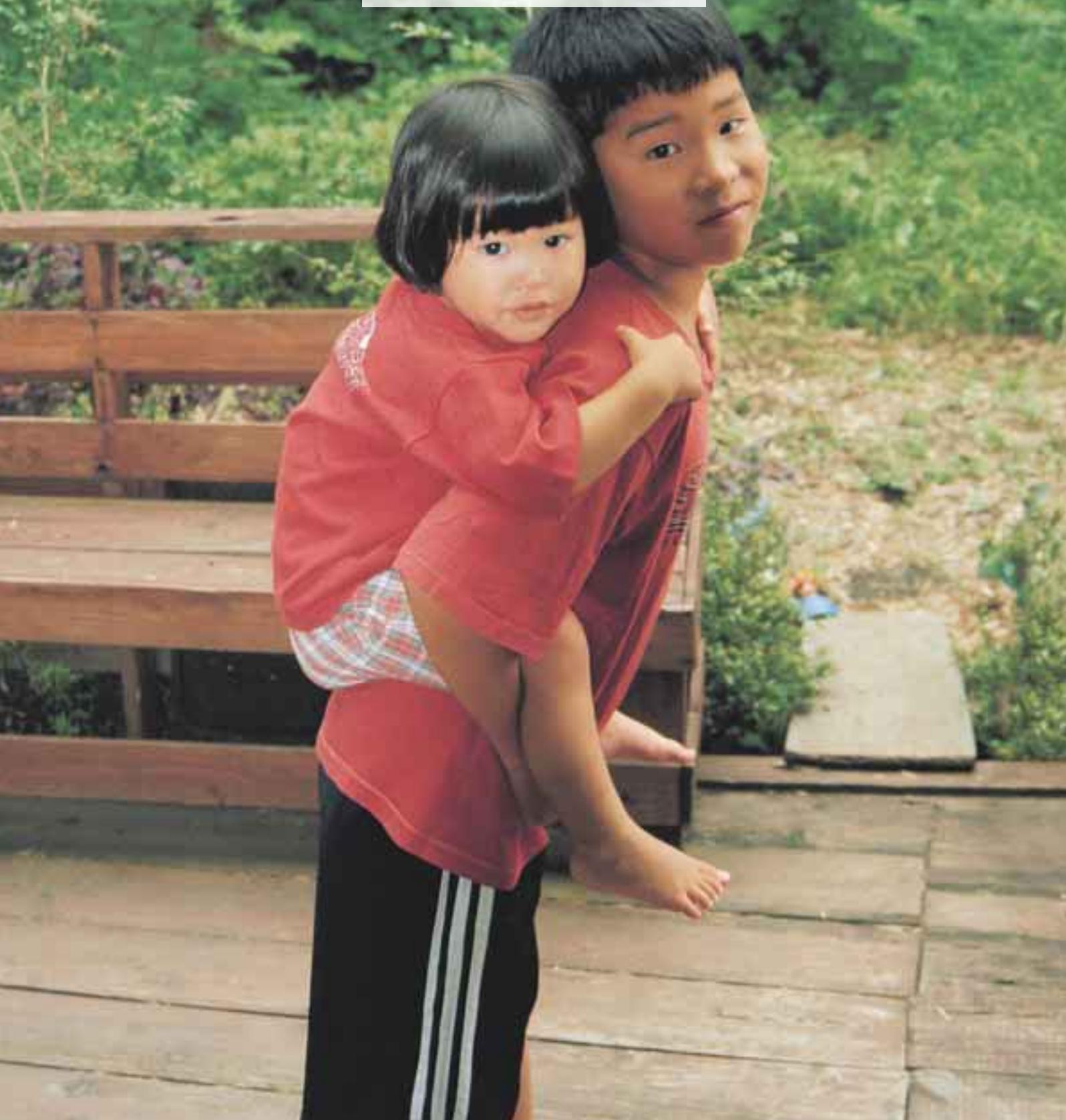


# *the Friend*

JUNE 2001



# “BEHOLD YOUR LITTLE ONES”



*Fear not, little children, for you are mine* (Doctrine and Covenants 50:41).

**Heavenly Father loves children. So does His Son, Jesus Christ. Prophets often speak of that love, including our prophet today, President Gordon B. Hinckley. In a message to par-**

**ents, President Hinckley talked about how much you are loved and how much he wants you to learn about Heavenly Father and Jesus. Here are some of the things he said:**

**M**y wife and I once took some of our grandchildren to the circus. I was more interested in watching them and many others of their age than in watching the man on the flying trapeze. I looked at them in wonder as they alternately laughed and stared wide-eyed at the exciting things before them. I thought of the miracle of children, for it is children who become the world's constant renewal of life and purpose. Observing them, . . . my mind reverted to the beautiful and touching scene recorded in the book of 3 Nephi when the resurrected Lord took little children in His arms and wept as He blessed them and said to the people, “Behold your little ones” (3 Nephi 17:23). . . .

The story is told that in ancient Rome a group of women were, with vanity, showing their jewels one to another. Among them was Cornelia, the mother of two boys. One of the women said to her, “And where are your jewels?” to which Cornelia responded, pointing to her sons, “These are my jewels.” Under her tutelage, and walking after the virtues of her life, they grew to become [great men] Gaius and Tiberius Gracchus . . . two of the most persuasive and effective reformers in Roman history. . . .

Said Isaiah of old, “All thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children” (Isaiah 54:13).

I humbly pray for that peace in behalf of all children.

**When you learn about Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ, it brings peace to your heart. It helps you to know that you can keep the commandments and do what is right. Remember to think of Them often, and remember that They love you.**

(See *Ensign*, June 2001, pages 2–5.)



Volume 31 Number 6  
June 2001

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Send manuscripts to the *Friend*, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3226. Send subscriptions to Salt Lake Distribution Center, Church Magazines, P.O. Box 26368, Salt Lake City, Utah 84126-0368. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Salt Lake Distribution Center, Church Magazines, P.O. Box 26368, Salt Lake City, Utah 84126-0368.

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# the Friend

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

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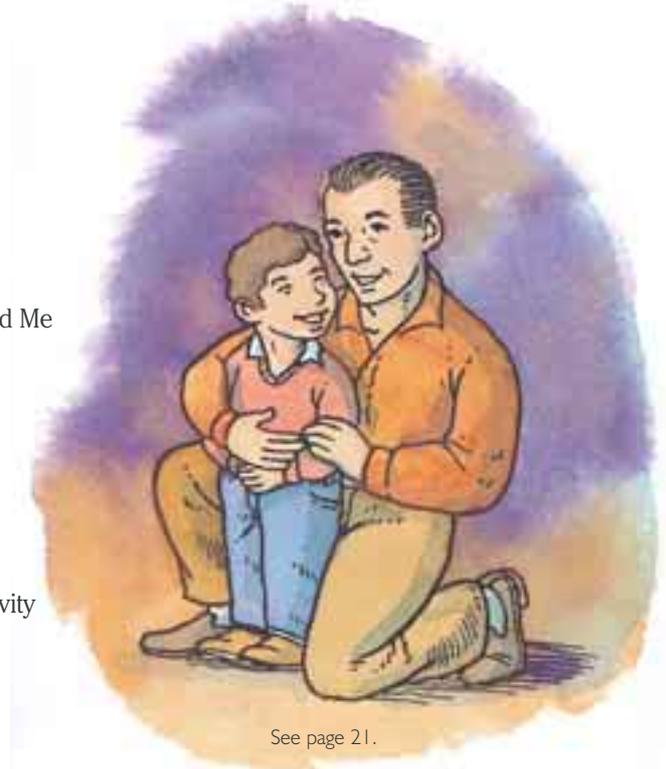
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Cover photo by Melvin Leavitt



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# A Lesson for Mother

By Carolee H. Smith

## A TRUE STORY



*[On] Saturday . . . we shop at the store, So we won't have to work until Monday (Children's Songbook, page 196).*

**E**ight-year-old Stewart was feeling happy. He had already been to church with his family. They had a big family, and this was a special day. Lots of friends and relatives were coming to eat dinner with them. Stewart was glad, because he loved being with all his cousins.

When his mother asked him if he'd like to go with her in the car, he quickly climbed in. As they drove around the corner, she told him that they were going to the store to get a few things that she needed for the dinner.

Stewart didn't feel so happy anymore.

When the car pulled into the store parking lot, Mother climbed out and looked for Stewart. Where was he? She looked and looked. Finally she saw



him crouched down in the backseat. “Aren’t you coming in with me, sweetheart?”

“No,” he mumbled miserably.

“OK. I’ll hurry.”

It wasn’t long until Mother came back carrying a bag. She put it into the backseat. As she drove home, she reached over and patted Stewart’s hand. “Why don’t you tell me what you are upset about.”

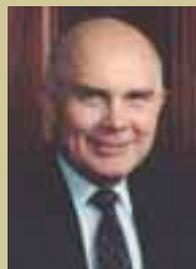
“I didn’t know that you were going to the store. I don’t ever want to go to the store on Heavenly Father’s special day.”

“Oh, Stewart, I’m so sorry! I will never go to the store on Heavenly Father’s day again.”

Mother knew that her little boy had made a better choice than she had. She knew that she

shouldn’t shop on the Sabbath, even this one time, when it had seemed so important. Stewart taught her a lesson that she never forgot.

Stewart is all grown up now, and his mother is a grandma. Both of them remember that sunny Sunday afternoon and the lesson he taught her about keeping the Sabbath Day.



*Modern-day prophets have encouraged us not to shop on Sunday.*

Elder Dallin H. Oaks of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles  
(*Ensign*, February 2000, page 54.)

# They Spoke to Us

Report from the 171st Annual General Conference, March 31 – April 1, 2001

**President Gordon B. Hinckley:** Let us be good people. Let us be friendly people. Let us be neighborly people. Let us be what members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints ought to be.

**President Thomas S. Monson, First Counselor in the First Presidency:** A friend is more concerned about helping people than getting credit. A friend cares. A friend loves. A friend listens. And a friend reaches out.

**President James E. Faust, Second Counselor in the First Presidency:** Our first birth takes place when we are born into mortality. Our second birth begins when we are baptized by water by one holding the priesthood of God and is completed when we are confirmed, and “then cometh a remission of [our] sins by fire and by the Holy Ghost” (2 Nephi 31:17).

**President Boyd K. Packer, Acting President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles:** We all make mistakes. Sometimes we harm ourselves and seriously injure others in ways that we alone cannot repair. We break things that we alone cannot fix. . . . That is when the healing power of the Atonement will help.

The Lord said, “Behold, I, God, have suffered these things for all, that they might not suffer if they would repent” (Doctrine and Covenants 19:16).

**Elder Neal A. Maxwell of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles:** The more we know of Jesus, the more we will love Him. The more we know of Jesus, the more we will trust Him. The more we know of Jesus, the more we will want to be like Him and to be with Him.

**Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles:** Today I make you a promise. It’s a simple one, but it is true. If you will listen to the living prophet and the apostles and heed our counsel, you will not go astray.

**Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles:** Fasting, coupled with mighty prayer, is powerful. It can fill our minds with the revelations of the Spirit. It can strengthen us against times of temptation.

**Elder Jeffrey R. Holland of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles:** Surely there is no more powerful missionary message we can send to this world than the example of a loving and happy Latter-day Saint life.

**Elder John H. Groberg of the Seventy:** When we are humble, clean, and pure of hand, heart, and mind, nothing righteous is impossible. An ancient Oriental saying declares, “If a man lives a pure life, nothing can destroy him.”

**Elder L. Lionel Kendrick of the Seventy:** To be reverent is not just to be quiet. It involves an awareness of what is taking place. It involves a divine desire to learn and to be receptive to the promptings of the Spirit. It involves a striving to seek added light and knowledge.

**Sister Sydney S. Reynolds, First Counselor in the Primary General Presidency:** God did part the Red Sea, and He did give us the Book of Mormon. He can heal us of our sins, and He can and will bless us, His children, in our daily lives. I know that He lives and loves us and is today a God of miracles.



*From Latter-day Prophets:*

# George Albert Smith



**Many years ago, while George Albert Smith was the eighth President of the Church, he promised that people would be blessed with testimonies and happiness as they followed the commandments Heavenly Father gives through His prophets. That counsel is still true. We are blessed as we follow the prophet.**

I had a man say to me one day after I had taught the gospel to him for an hour or so on a train, “I’d give a lot to have the assurance that you have.” And I replied: “You do not have to give anything to have the assurance that I have except to keep the commandments of the Lord. If you do that, you will know that the gospel of Jesus Christ is on earth. You will know that the authority of the priesthood is on earth.”

How beautiful it is to realize that men who are worthy may receive that priesthood, and in the authority that is given them, do so many things that are a blessing to our Father’s other children. . . .

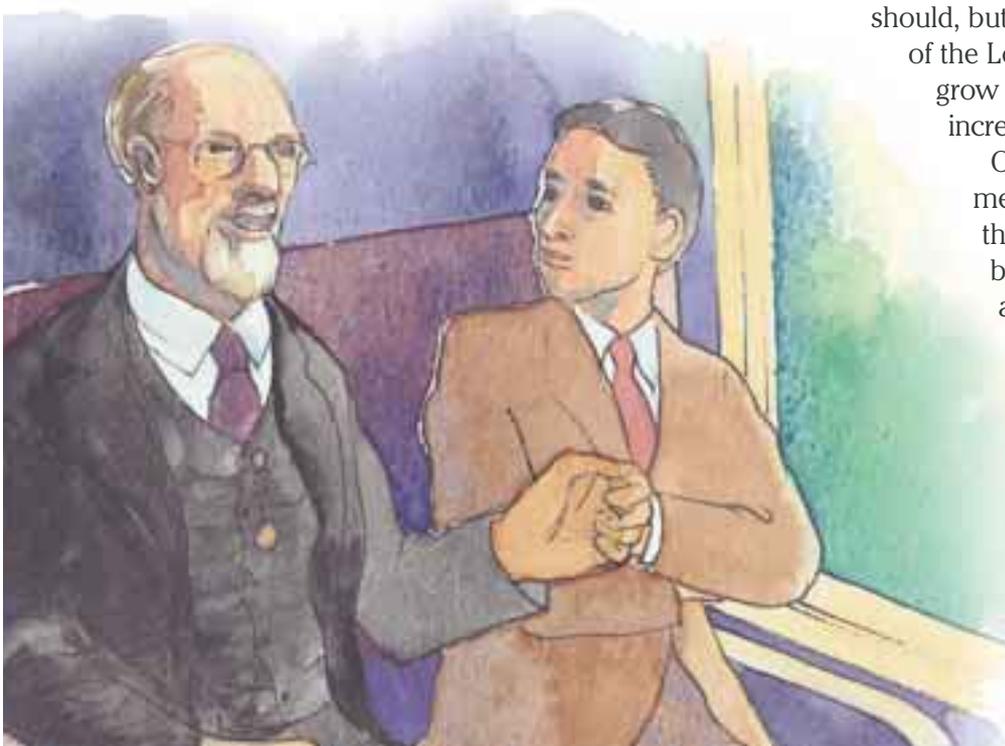
Within the week, I listened to one of the brethren who has just returned from the mission field. He has been out nearly five years, and he told of some of the experiences in the field. He told of people that had illness and the doctors did everything they could for them, but they could not heal them. But the humble missionaries, the humble men who held the priesthood, placed their hands upon the heads of those who were afflicted and rebuked their ailments, and they were healed.

That would not occur without faith, and our faith is conditioned upon our righteous lives. We cannot live improperly and have faith as we should, but if we keep the commandments of the Lord, we can have faith, and it will grow and increase as our righteousness increases. . . .

Our duty is to keep the commandments of God, and he has promised that if we will do that we will enjoy blessings that we cannot enjoy in any other way.

I am happy to be with you today. . . . Now are you happy? If you are keeping the commandments of God, I am sure you are happy.

**(Conference Report, September 1950 and October 1950, pages 6 and 159.)**



## Friend to Friend

*The Lord will go before you (Isaiah 52:12).*

**From an interview with Elder Ray H. Wood of the Seventy, currently serving as President of the Africa Southeast Area; by Jan Pinborough**

I was born in July 1931 in Salt Lake City. The home I grew up in was right across the street from the Utah State Capitol. My friends and I knew that building like the backs of our hands. We knew every tunnel and stairway in it. We used to climb to the dome on the little steel ladder that went all the way to the top inside of it. We also played golf, football, and baseball on the big lawns surrounding the capitol.

When I was about eight years old, I attended Lafayette School, which was very close to Temple Square. One day at lunchtime, my mother took me

Playing in the snow at age 2



# EVERY STEP

out for lunch at the Lion House, which is a house where President Brigham Young used to live. While we were there, she noticed President Heber J. Grant eating lunch. Taking me over, she introduced me to him, and he shook my hand. I knew he was different from other men. Since that time, I have shaken hands with the next eight Presidents of the Church. Each time, I could feel the honor and dignity of the prophet.

One Sunday when I was twelve years old, I was sitting on the front row with the deacons at the missionary farewell of President Benjamin J. Bowering. In his talk, President Bowering said, “There has never been a time in my life when I have not known that the gospel is true.” The minute I heard him say that, I realized that I felt the same way. At

that moment, the stirrings of the Spirit and the strength of my testimony became evident to me, and those feelings have stayed with me all my life. Because of that talk, I recognized what I had—a testimony of the gospel.

I believe that the Lord knows the experiences and trials that each of us needs in life and that He will guide us if we do what we should. I had always planned to go on a mission. In the spring of 1950, I was eighteen and finishing my sophomore year at the University of Utah. I was studying for my final tests when my father, who was also my bishop, came into

With his parents, Ray and Mary Wood, at age 5



my room and asked me, “Are you ready to go on your mission?”

I said, “Yes, Dad, I am.”

He asked, “Is your life in order?”

I said, “Yes, it is.”

“Good,” he said. “You’ll leave in two months.”

I immediately submitted my papers and soon received my call from President George Albert Smith. Before I reached the British Isles Mission two months later, the Korean War had started and there were restrictions on the number of young men who could serve missions. If I had waited to go, I might not have been able to serve a mission.

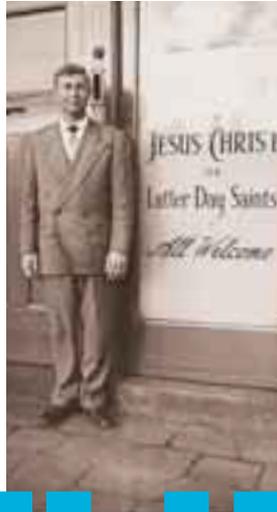
An experience that I had on my mission shows how Heavenly Father watches over us. My companion and I had just taught and baptized a family in Leeds, England. Then we were transferred to Bradford, about a half-hour bus trip away. One day, my companion and I were getting ready to

visit some missionaries in our district, but it seemed like we just could not get out the door. Each time we left, we realized that we had forgotten something.

With his best friend, Werner Widtsoe Kiepe, at age 6



As a missionary in 1950



Elder Wood and his wife, Ann



# OF THE WAY

After returning three times, we thought, *Maybe there's some reason we should stay here.* We sat down, and within a few minutes, the phone rang. It was the mother of the family we had baptized in Leeds. She was very ill, and she needed us to come give her a blessing. We immediately left for the bus stop, where the bus was just about to leave. When we changed buses, we again caught our bus very quickly. When we arrived, the woman was so sick that she was shivering badly, and we couldn't even understand her words. My companion and I gave her a blessing, and as I said the words, we both felt so much strength leave us that we had to sit down for almost ten minutes. During that time, she was able to stand, go to her kitchen, and prepare something for the three of us to drink. When we left half an hour later, she was completely healed and waved to us at the door. Not all priesthood blessings are answered so quickly and happily, but we were overjoyed for it to happen to this good sister.

I met my wife, Ann, when we were both singing in choirs at the University of Utah. For a short time after we married, we lived in the same area where I grew up. We had very little money. Sometimes

when we went on a date, Ann popped a bag of popcorn and we drove downtown in our old car to a movie theater. We didn't have enough money to buy tickets, so we sat in our car and ate our popcorn while we watched the interesting people going into the theater! While I was getting my law degree, I drove an oil truck to earn money to support our family. Our first three children—twins and another daughter—were born in one year!

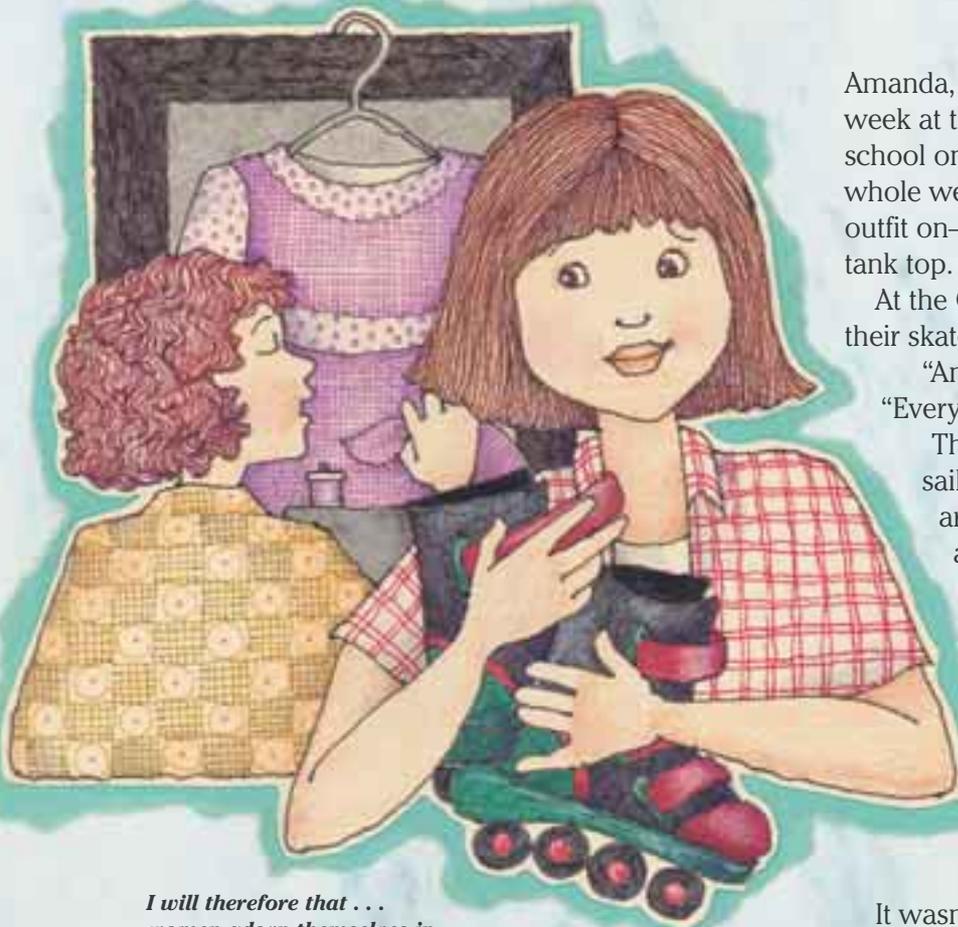
There is a story about a little girl whose father worked digging wells. Every day the little girl took a sack lunch to her father. Looking down into the dark hole, she couldn't see her father working at the bottom, but he could see her standing in the light. Every day, she called out to her father. He told her to drop the sack down to him, and he would catch it. One day, her father said, "Why don't you come down and join me for lunch today? If you'll just jump into the hole, I'll catch you."

"But, Daddy, I can't see you."

"I can see you, and I will catch you."

Trusting, the little girl jumped. Her father caught her, and they enjoyed their lunch together.

We do not always know what the Lord has in store for us or why certain things happen. But if our lives are in order, the Lord will guard us and guide us and bless us every step of the way.



*I will therefore that . . . women adorn themselves in modest apparel (1 Timothy 2:8-9).*

**BASED ON A TRUE INCIDENT**  
By Janice Barrett Graham



Claire's friends were here. She grabbed her in-line skates from the shelf in the hallway. "Bye, Mom!" she called to her mother, who was sewing in the other room.

"Bye, Claire! I know you'll be good and have a good time, too!"

Mom always said that same thing whenever Claire went off with her friends. She was eleven, about to turn twelve. A few weeks back, Claire, Jessica,

Amanda, and Whitney had decided to skate once a week at the Recreation Center downtown. After school on Fridays was Claire's favorite time of the whole week. And today she even had a cute new outfit on—a red plaid button shirt over a cream tank top.

At the Center, Claire sat by Jessica as they put on their skates. "Let's try the jump today," she said.

"And let's work on our turns," Jessica said. "Everybody ready?"

The girls hopped off the wooden bench and sailed onto the floor. Claire threw out her arms and caught her balance, teetering around like a listing sailboat. Halfway around the room, she felt suddenly at ease, her feet relaxing inside her skates, her body gliding effortlessly along the glistening sea of wooden floor as if pushed by a wind.

"Hey, Claire, that's a cute shirt," said Jessica. "Is it new?"

"Do you really like it? My mom found it on sale."

It wasn't long before the girls were ready for the jump. A wooden ramp was set up in the middle of the skating rink, reminding Claire of an ocean wave. The four girls lined up behind her and sped around the rink, building up speed for the jump. Claire hit the ramp and for a split second floated on air a few inches above the floor. "Whee!" The others followed with squeals of delight.

After several jumps, Claire wiped her forehead. "I'm hot. Let's work on our turns, Jessica."

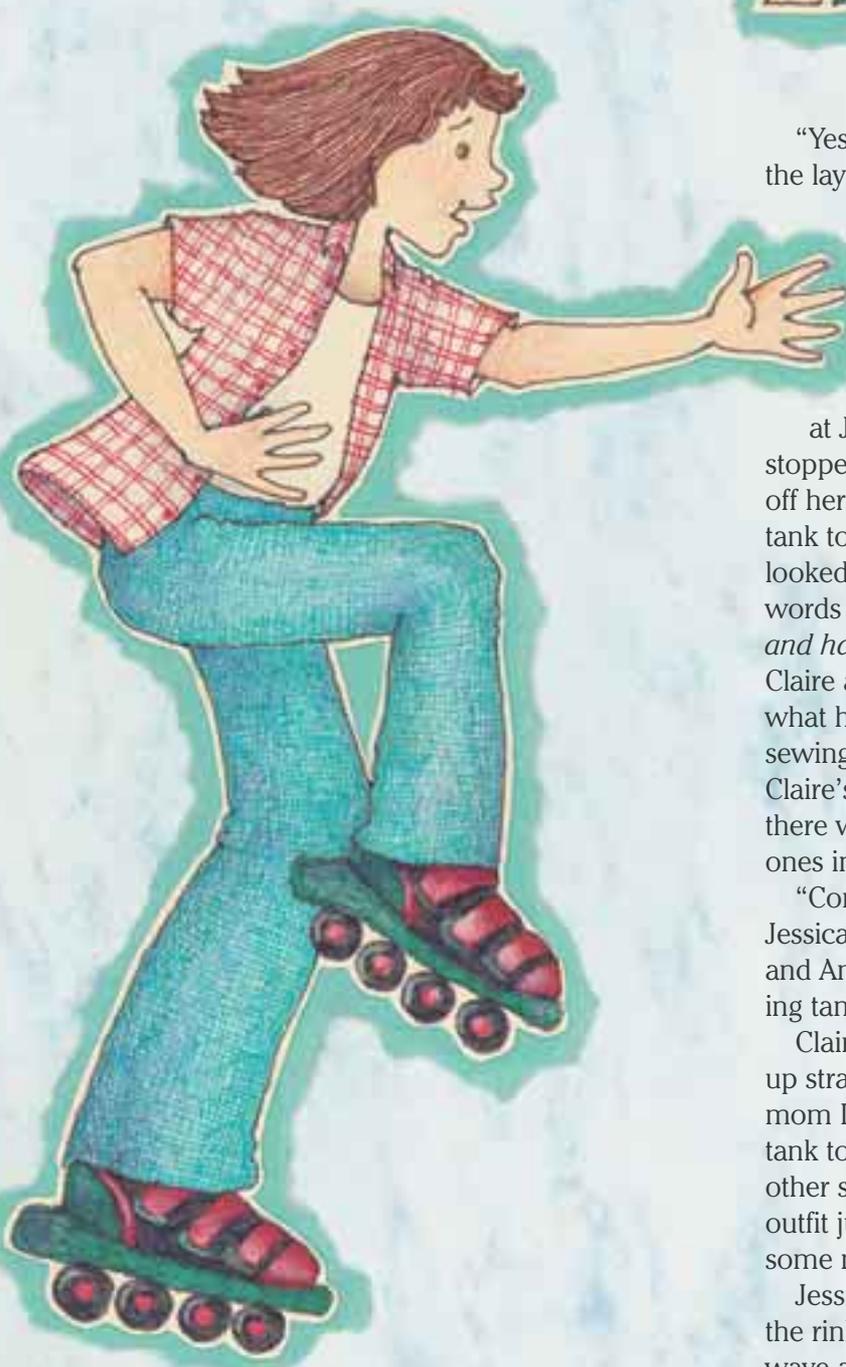
The two friends went over to a quiet corner of the rink. Full 360° turns required patience and a lot of slow practice.

"I did it!" Jessica exulted. "Now you."

# CLAIRE IN-LINE

Claire took one glide forward and twisted her body, her skates making a half circle. Around she went in a shaky, slow-motion twirl. "I did it, too! But it needs work."

"You get better every time," Jessica called over her shoulder, in the middle of another turn. "Is that a tank top you're wearing underneath your new shirt? Is it new, too?"



"Yes, I got it just to wear under my shirts. I think the layers look cool."

"They look cool, but it's hot skating and you're wearing two shirts," Jessica pointed out, skating around Claire. "Why don't you take off your shirt and skate in your tank top?"

Claire finished a turn and looked straight at Jessica. "I promised my mom—" She stopped when she noticed that Jessica had taken off her sweater and was skating in a thin-strapped tank top herself. Her bare arms and shoulders looked cool. Still, she remembered her mother's words as she left the house. *"I know you'll be good and have a good time, too."*

Claire also remembered what her mother was sewing—a prom dress for Claire's big sister because there weren't any modest ones in the stores.

"Come on, Claire," said Jessica. "Look at Whitney and Amanda. They're wearing tank tops, too."

Claire braked and stood up straight. "I promised my mom I would only wear the tank top if I wore it under other shirts. Besides I like my outfit just like this. Let's do some more jumps."

Jessica shrugged. Claire led the way, sailing around the rink, building up speed for the jump. She hit the wave and flew, her new red plaid shirttails flapping in the breeze.



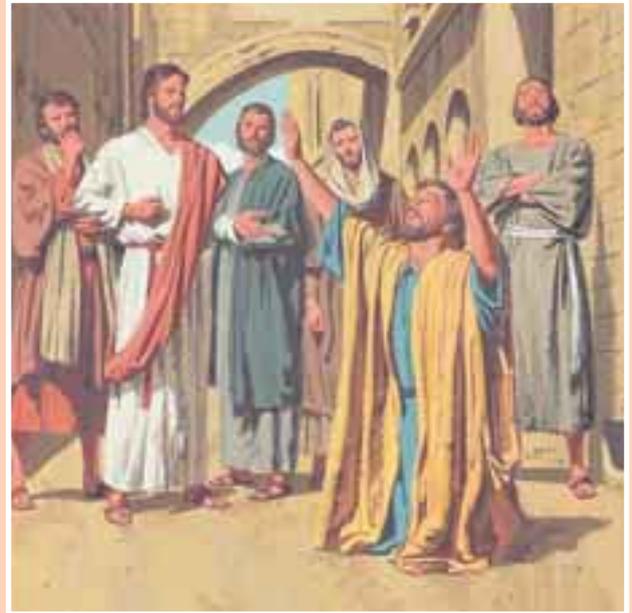
**Be Clean.**

*How truly beautiful is a well-groomed young woman who is clean in body and mind. She is a daughter of God in whom her Eternal Father can take pride.*

President Gordon B. Hinckley  
(*Friend*, Feb. 2001, page 25.)

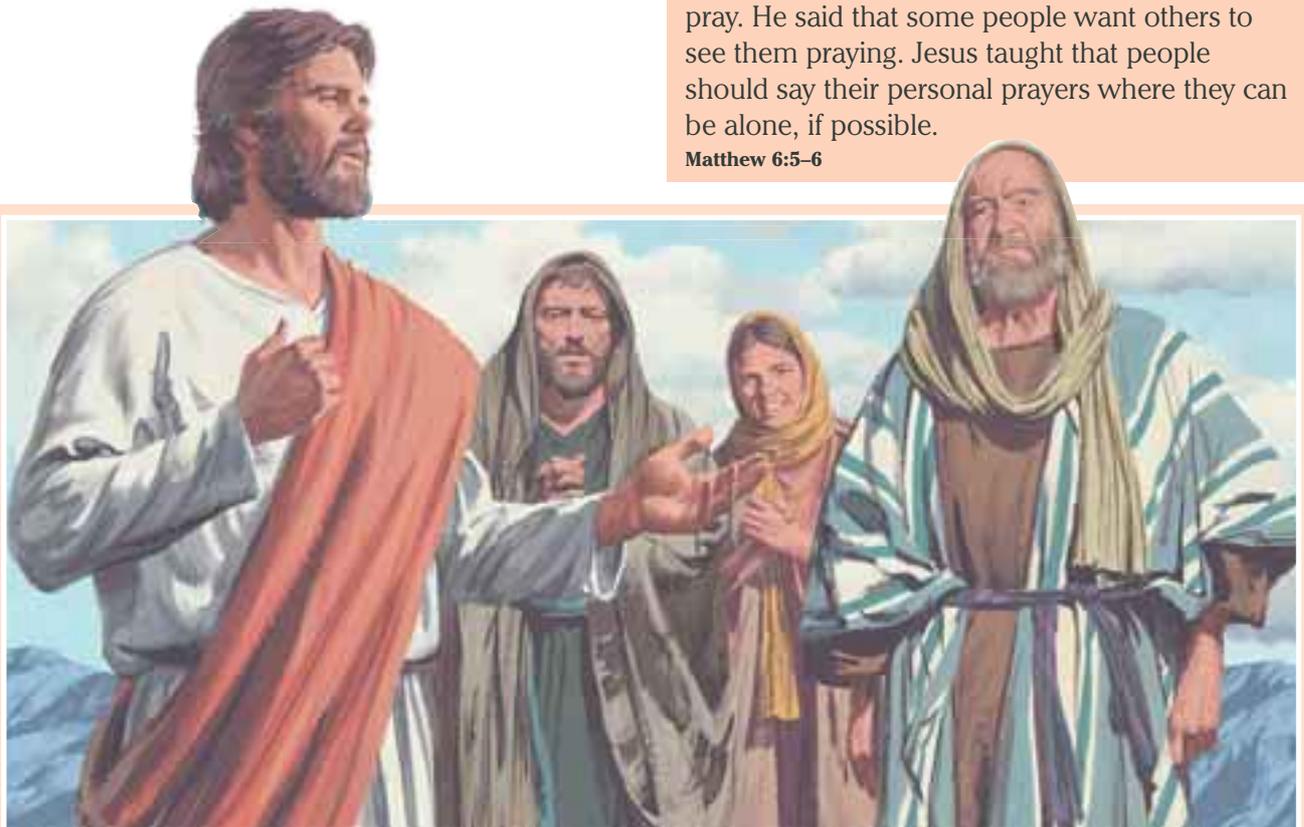
# JESUS TEACHES ABOUT PRAYER

Chapter 21



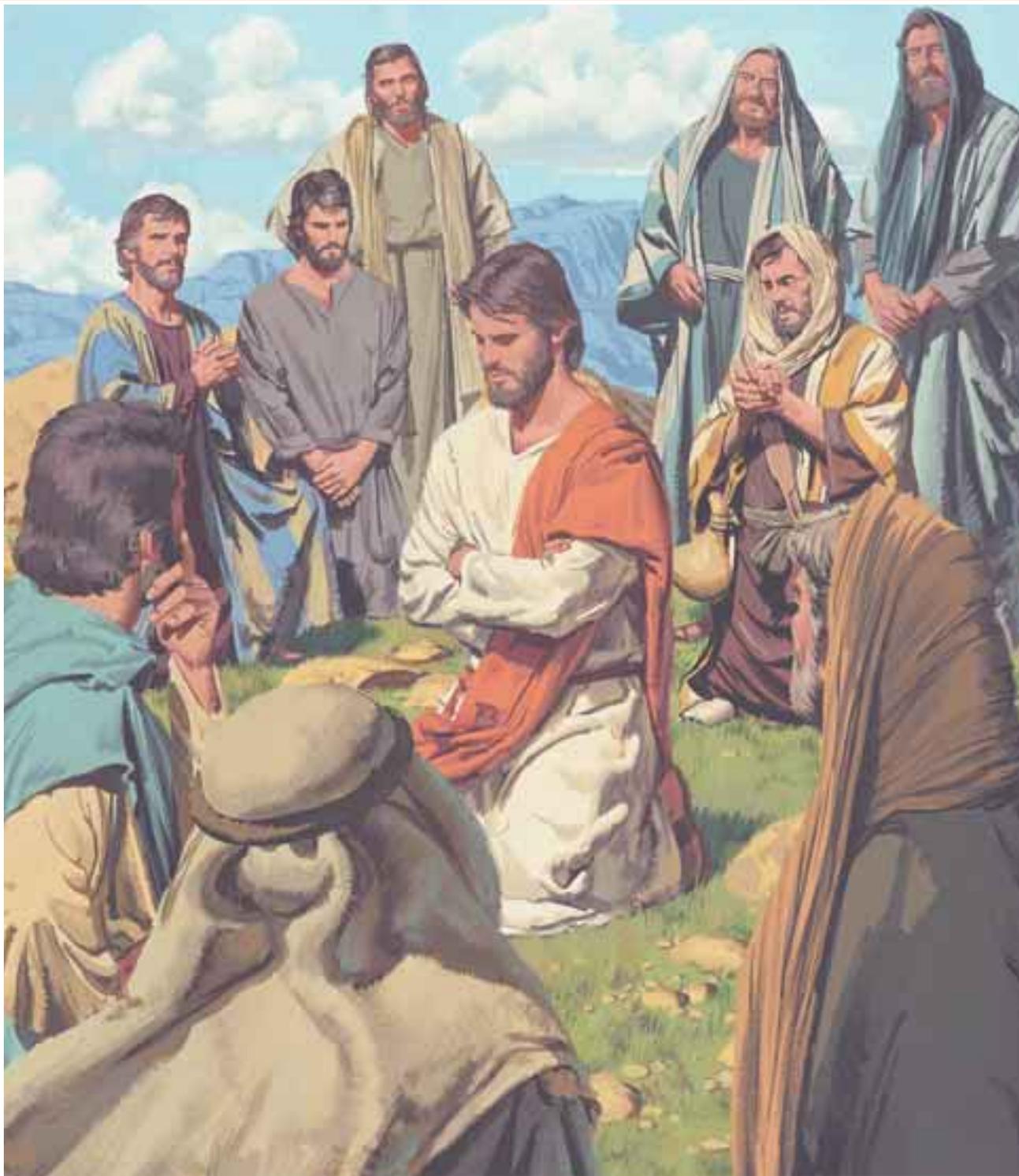
Jesus taught His disciples (followers) how to pray. He said that some people want others to see them praying. Jesus taught that people should say their personal prayers where they can be alone, if possible.

**Matthew 6:5-6**



He said that some people say the same words over and over when they pray. They do not really think about what they are saying. But people *should* think about what they say. They should pray sincerely for what they need.

**Matthew 6:7-8**



The Savior said a prayer as an example for His disciples. He began by saying, “Our Father . . . in heaven.” He thanked Heavenly Father. He asked Heavenly Father for help. He said “amen” at the end of His prayer. Later, Jesus told His disciples to pray in His name. He promised that Heavenly Father would answer their prayers and bless them.

**Matthew 6:9–13; Matthew 21:22; John 16:23**

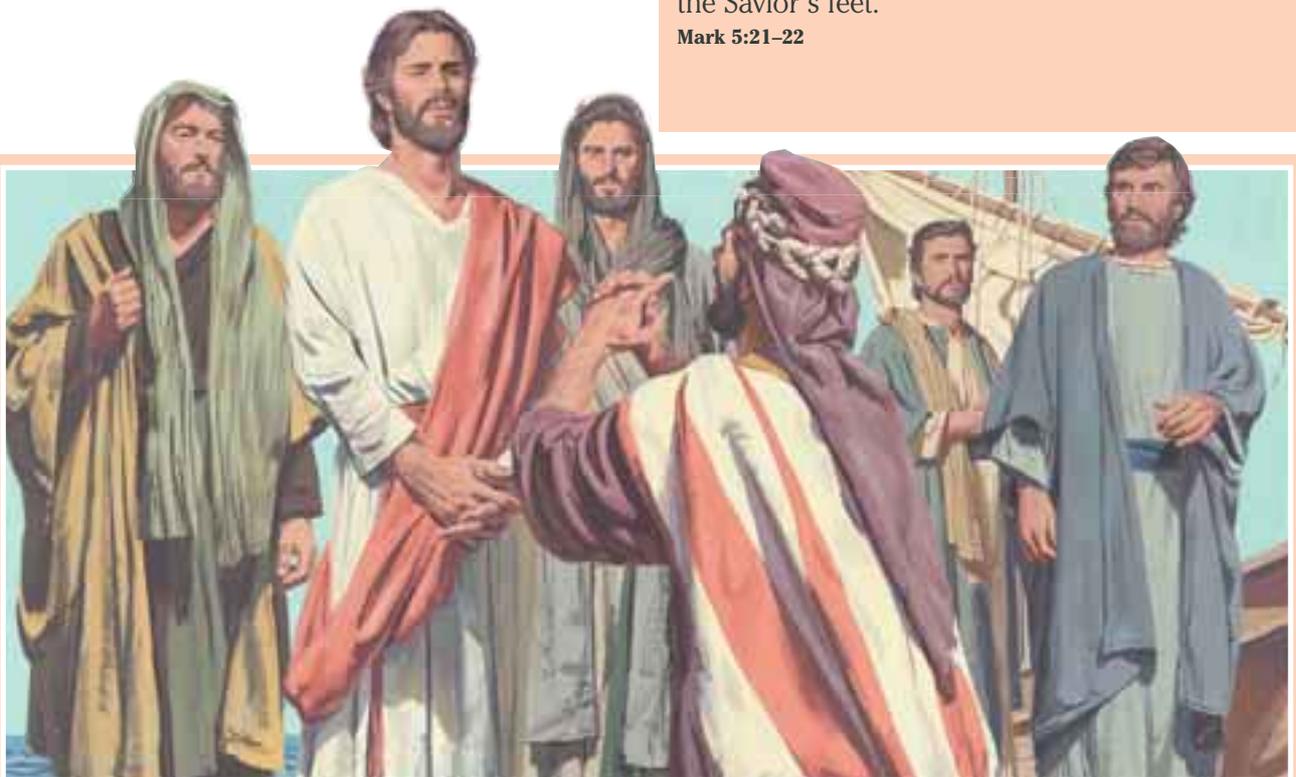
# JAIRUS'S DAUGHTER IS RAISED FROM THE DEAD

Chapter 22



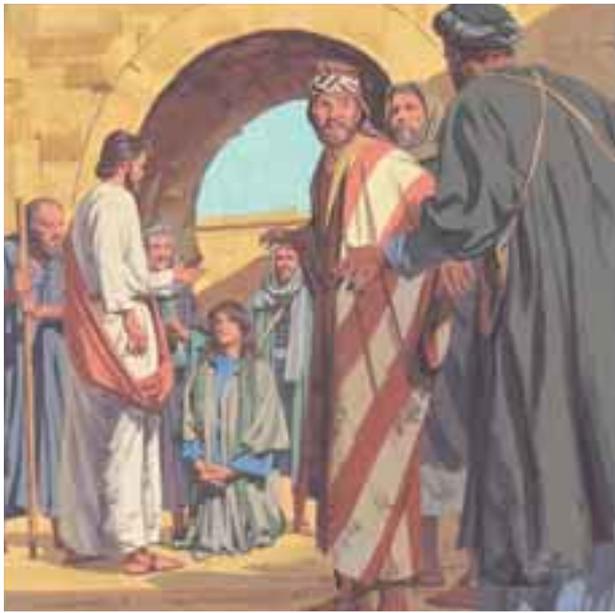
Jesus left a ship and was surrounded by many people. Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue, fell at the Savior's feet.

**Mark 5:21-22**



Jairus said that his twelve-year-old daughter was very ill. He begged Jesus to come and bless her that she would get better and not die.

**Mark 5:23**



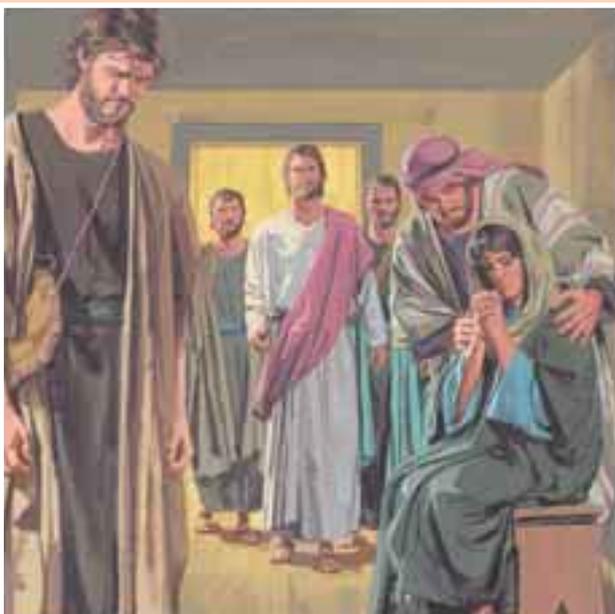
As Jesus started to follow Jairus home, other people crowded around, asking Him for blessings. The Savior stopped to heal a woman. As He was talking to her, someone came to tell Jairus that it was too late—his daughter was dead.

**Mark 5:24–35**



Hearing what was said, Jesus told Jairus to not be sad but to believe in Him.

**Mark 5:36**



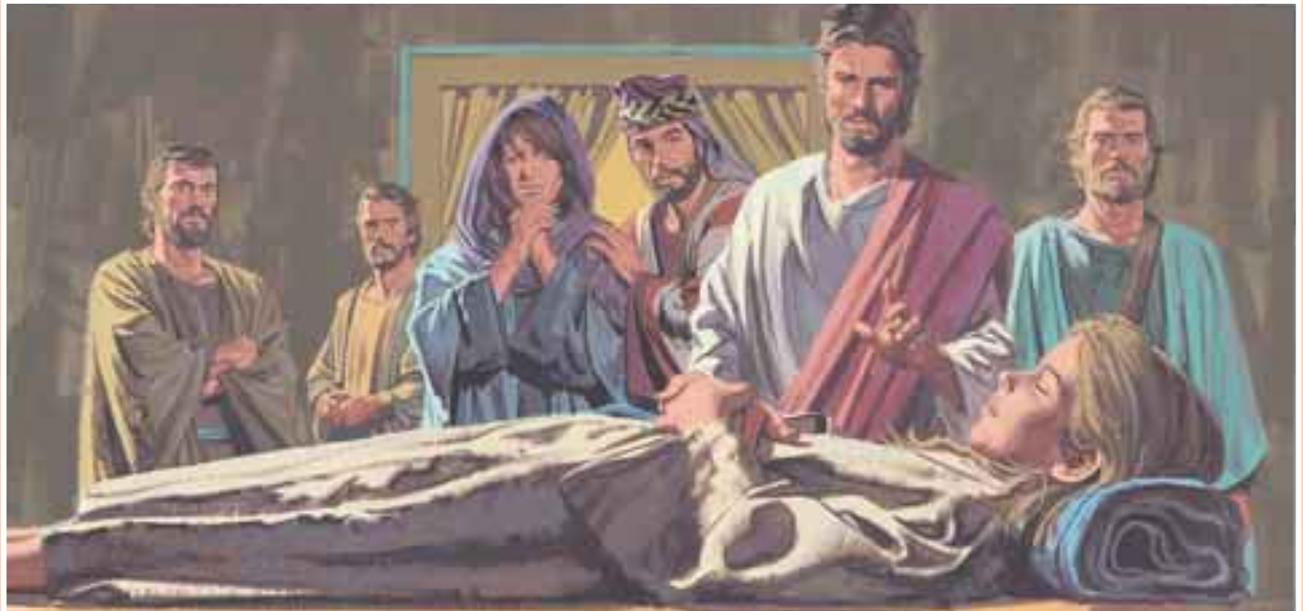
Then He and Peter, James, and John went to Jairus's house. The house was filled with people weeping and wailing because of the little girl's death.

**Mark 5:37–38**



Jesus asked why they were making so much noise. He said that the girl was not dead but was sleeping. The people laughed at Him for saying that. They were sure that the girl was dead.

**Mark 5:39–40**



The Savior had everyone leave the house except Jairus, his wife, and the disciples. They went to the room where the little girl was lying.

**Mark 5:40**



Taking the girl by the hand, Jesus told her to arise. She got up and walked. Her parents were amazed. Jesus told them to not tell anyone what had happened and said that they should give the girl something to eat.

**Mark 5:41-43**

# FRIENDS IN THE NEWS



**Christine Code**, 9, Aberfeldy, Victoria, Australia, likes to play three instruments, read books, and play with her little brother, Ian. She always tries to do her best and likes to give talks in Primary.



**Andrew Cook**, 8, Syracuse, Utah, likes basketball and playing with his cousins. He has a big smile for everyone. This is a surprise from his sister, Katie.



**Claralyn Ann Miller**, 7, Savage, Minnesota, is looking forward to being baptized. She likes to swim and can stand on her head. She enjoys Primary and is a good friend.



Born on Pioneer Day, **Robert Stephen McKenzie Lynch**, 3, Port Charlotte, Florida, likes to practice his "missionary handshake." He looks forward to Sundays and singing his favorite song, "Popcorn Popping," in Primary.



**Caitlin Schille**, 7, Federal Way, Washington, likes to go to school, travel, and draw. She enjoys Primary, especially singing time. She sang a solo in sacrament meeting and is on a swim team.



**Franklin Earl Wheat**, 10, Indianapolis, Indiana, loves the gospel and his family. He has earned his Faith in God and Gospel in Action awards. He has a brown belt in karate, likes to play electronic games, and has a wonderful sense of humor.



**Lane Munson**, 5, Meridian, Idaho, likes to sing "I Lived in Heaven." She takes good care of her little brother, Reed, and her family's roses and strawberries. She likes to swim and jump off the diving board.



**Jared Norton**, 6, Tucson, Arizona, enjoys Primary and having the missionaries over to dinner. He likes working with his dad, swimming, riding his bike, and helping with his brother and sisters.



**Cassie Cronin**, 10, Alma, Arkansas, likes to read, shop, and make necklaces. She enjoys the story of Alma the Younger in the Book of Mormon, and she attended the Oklahoma City Oklahoma Temple dedication with her family.



The favorite part of the day for **Jaam Hunt**, 8, St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, is reading with his mom or dad. He likes basketball and playing with his dog, Joey. He works hard on his reading, writing, and math.



**Josie Cook**, 11, Afton, Wyoming, likes to play the violin and the piano. She enjoys sports and animals. She has 4-H projects in sewing, cooking, pigs, and horses. She wants to go on a mission when she grows up.



**Christian Tadjie**, 3, Charlottesville, Virginia, is learning an article of faith each month with his ward Primary. He loves the Book of Mormon, family home evening, and playing outside with his younger brother, Jacob.



**Nadia Marie Fale**, 7, Laie, Hawaii, likes school, playing the piano, rollerblading, and going to the beach to swim. She loves her Primary class and teacher.



**Andrew Pokora**, 5, Breckenridge, Missouri, enjoys playing computer games and tossing rocks into his grandpa's pond. He likes to visit the Church history sites of Adam-ondi-Ahman and Liberty Jail, which are both in Missouri.



Church, Primary, and Achievement Day activities are favorites of **Melissa Medaris**, 10, Omaha, Nebraska. She plays computer games with her brothers and sisters and likes to swim, sing, play the piano, and twirl the baton.



**Bryce Shepherd**, 6, Henderson, Nevada, likes to ride his bike and his four-wheeler. He enjoys dirt bikes, collecting bugs, and reading stories.



**Hannah Stoehr**, 6, Arvada, Colorado, enjoys reading the Book of Mormon. She is especially close to her oldest brother, Tyler, who is serving a mission in Korea.



**Donnie Winter**, 11, Yorba Linda, California, skateboards, snowboards, and wrestles. He has played on championship baseball and football teams. He wants to earn his Eagle in Scouting, serve a mission, and go to college.



**Megan Foster**, 7, Huntsville, Texas, likes to swim, play the piano, and go to dance class. She has a sister, Rachel, and a brother, Ryan.



**Trevor Cashmore**, 5, Phoenix, Arizona, enjoys building things. He likes science, and he loves his brother and sisters and the people in his ward.



**Adriana Turley**, 8, Levan, Utah, knows how to play the piano and the violin. She enjoys singing and is happy that she was baptized and confirmed by her dad.

Please send submissions to Friends in the News, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3226. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least six months. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published. Upon request, material not published will be returned to sender if a self-addressed, stamped envelope is enclosed.

# our creative friends

## Follow the Prophet

Follow the prophet every day.  
Do it in every single way.  
Follow the prophet when you're dreary.  
Follow the prophet when you're weary.

Following the prophet is the thing to do—  
Following the prophet, me and you!  
Follow the prophet at home and at school.  
Following the prophet is the perfect tool.

*Alyssa Brady, age 10  
Grace, Idaho*



*Emily Lowe, age 8  
Vancouver, Washington*



*Chelsey Bush, age 9  
Montpelier, Vermont*

*Michael Disney Luke, age 8  
Kaysville, Utah*



*Mandy Johnson, age 11  
Hurricane, Utah*



# HAPPY Birthday,

## Found

### Lost

I have no light. I can't see anything.  
Where am I going?  
I fall. . . . I can't find my way.

The first sadness is awful. I can't find the light.  
All the lights are out.  
No candles—no lamps—just like a cave when you  
Are stuck in it and don't know where the end is.

A mist is coming over me. . . . I'm trying to hold on.  
I need someone to guide me.  
I'm scared of the dark!  
Can I come out?

A man, in the mist,  
Walks and talks with God  
And then walks and talks with me.

### Found.

The light is clear now. I will walk toward it.  
I walk out of the mist.  
I am comforted by the sight of this man . . .  
A prophet of God.

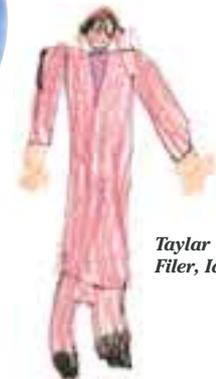
*Emily Anna Thornton, age 7  
Naperville, Illinois*



*Hans Jensen, age 5  
Galway, Ireland*



*Zachary Howe, age 11  
Lone Pine, California*



*Taylor VanTassell, age 5  
Filer, Idaho*



*Parker Taggart, age 5  
Farmington, Utah*

(Almost every year President Gordon B. Hinckley plants a tree. One year he planted a black walnut tree. After thirty-six years, it died. It is now the pulpit in the new Conference Center.)

### Strong and True

I started out a little sprig; not tall, not big, not strong, but true.  
He loved me, and I loved him, too!  
Using good, strong, faithful hands,  
he placed me in the ground, and with the feel of soil  
my joy flourished all around.  
I wished that I could thank him for the joy he'd given me.  
Of course I couldn't talk because I was a tree.  
I watched his children throughout the years play and grow,  
so free.  
I also was becoming a bigger, stronger tree—yippee!  
Soon I grew big enough for them to climb my trunk.  
It tickles!  
(That's why some trees sway  
when you climb them in a certain way.)  
Did I laugh or giggle or shout? No—I couldn't, I have  
no doubt.  
When his children grew up and left,  
I was tall and big and strong and true.  
But then one day I ached and pained. My trunk was killing me.  
My leaves fell off, and yes, I died.  
He was sad for me, so he called up a friend and his  
friends' sons, too.

One of the sons had a great idea for a tree that was  
strong and true.  
I was cut in half, put in a kiln to dry,  
loaded on a truck, and I said with a sigh,  
"This is the final step of my journey.  
I will stop someplace to rest.  
My limbs are tired, my joints are, too.  
But oh, my trunk is strong and true!"  
At the shop I was cut and planed  
and they took off rough spots that still remained.  
Then one morning, to my surprise,  
I saw a huge room before my eyes!  
Thousands of people came to see  
the prophet of God as he placed hands on me.  
I knew that touch,  
it was those hands that filled my soul.  
They were strong and true and faithful hands.  
And now I must tell you that my heart is full  
for this man born years ago.  
At last I could finally see  
I had thanked the hands that planted me!

**Ruth Duersch, age 10**  
Orem, Utah



# President Hinckley!

### Our Prophet

President Hinckley travels all day.  
He teaches us how to read the scriptures and pray.  
He sets an example to all of us.  
We should listen to his words, not make a fuss.

At conference he speaks with a great big smile.  
Sometimes he speaks for quite a long while.  
We should keep the commandments like he wants us to—  
Do what's right and always be true.

**Jacob Smith, age 6**  
Wigston, Leicester, England

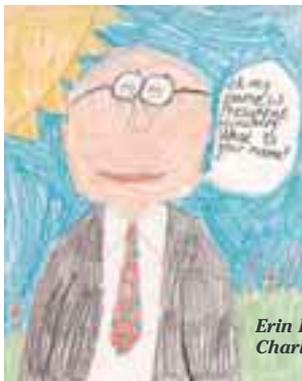
PRESIDENT HINCKLEY



**Danielle Stanford, age 9**  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada



**Alex Dutton, age 6**  
Riverton, Utah



**Erin Ray Emmett, age 7**  
Charleston, Illinois



**Katie Bowns, age 7**  
Nyssa, Oregon



The

*I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father (John 5:30).*



# ERRAND

FICTION

By Craig Thompson





**O**h no,” Michael moaned to himself. “Not another errand!” He knew that he shouldn’t feel this way. He loved his father. But ever since his father’s accident, it seemed like all he ever did was ask Michael to run errands for him.

“I’m coming.” Michael could hear the irritation in his words and guiltily hoped that his father would hear it, too, and respond with a “Never mind.” But there was no reply, so Michael slowly made his way to his parents’ bedroom.

**E**ven though it had been over four months since the car accident, it still seemed strange to see his father in bed during the daytime hours. Michael knew that it was difficult for his father to lie there day after day, but it was difficult for him, too. He had been eager to run errands for his father during the first few weeks. But lately it was getting harder to give up what he wanted to do. Again today he had had to tell his best friend, Brad, that he couldn’t come over after school because he was needed at home.

It didn’t help that in a few days Michael would

turn twelve. There would be few presents and no party with his friends. His mother and father had said that they were sorry—they didn’t have the time or the money this year for a friend party. It would have to be a family-only party.

Life before the accident seemed like a distant dream. Money had not been a real problem then. Now Michael worried more and more about what would happen to him and his family. His mother had taken a part-time job at a bakery to help make ends meet. Michael knew that as the oldest child in his family, he had a responsibility to help as much as he could. Lately, though, that responsibility seemed to weigh more and more, even though he did the same things: caring for his younger siblings, mowing the lawn, vacuuming the carpet, washing clothes and dishes, helping prepare meals when Mom worked late, *and* running errands for Dad.

**A**s Michael went into his parents’ bedroom, the afternoon sun spilled through the window and across the multicolored quilt tucked around his father. His father turned the quilt

back and slowly pushed himself up against the pillows behind him. “Michael, come here a minute, please.” Even though his face showed the strain of sitting up, he smiled at Michael. “I have an errand for you.”

Michael could feel the irritation building again. He didn’t want to run any more errands.

“Please get my scriptures for me. They’re on top of the dresser.” Michael’s father pointed toward the far end of the room.

Michael had always liked the smell and feel of the leather cover of his father’s worn scriptures. He handed them to his father and was about to leave, when his father said, “Hold on a minute. I want to say something to you. I know that these past four months have not been easy for you. You’ve given up a lot to help take care of me and the rest of the family. I want you to know how much I appreciate what you have done and how much I love you.” As Michael felt his irritation begin to seep away, his father continued. “There’s something else I want you to know. Even though you’ve given up many things, I’ve noticed that you’ve acquired others that are more important.”

“Huh?” Michael could think of several things that he’d given up, but *nothing* that he had gained during the past four months. “What things?”

“Well, every time you run an errand for me, you come back with something for both of us.”

None of what his father was saying made any sense to Michael. *Maybe the accident caused some brain damage*, he thought with concern.

Michael’s father saw his look of bewilderment and laughed softly. “Let me explain. I’ve seen you grow more these past four months than at any other time in your life. Every time you went on an errand, you came back with more maturity, more talents, and more skills.” He held up the scriptures. “The Savior taught that He only did the things His Father sent Him to do. His whole life was an errand for His Father. He willingly gave up His will to do the will of His Father. Because of that, He received everything His Father has.\* In a few days, you’ll receive the Aaronic Priesthood and will be ordained a deacon.

Do you know what that means?”

“I’ll be able to pass the sacrament, and I’ll go to priesthood meeting instead of Primary.”

“That’s right. But it means much more than that. It also means that you will be on the Lord’s errand. If you always do what He asks of you, even if it means giving up everything you have, what you receive in return will be far more valuable than any earthly possession or entertainment.”

Michael left the room with a completely different feeling than he’d had when he had entered. Pondering what his father had said, he realized that not all the changes in his life had been too hard—not if they made him a better person.

From downstairs, he heard his mother call, “Michael, can you run an errand for me?”

This time, he responded quickly and with joy.



# When My Father Kneels to Hold Me

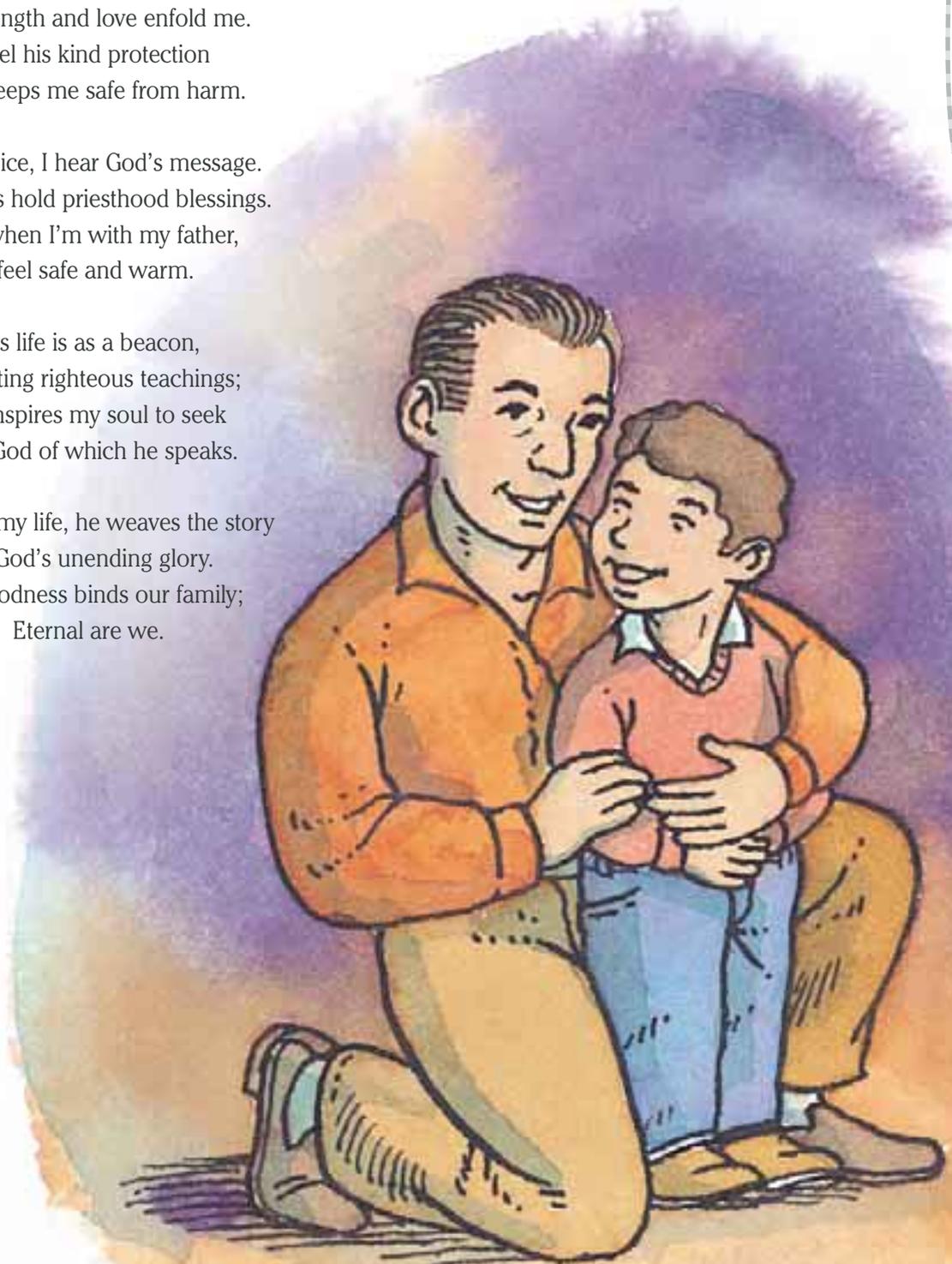
*By Barbara Werrett Nielsen*

When my father kneels to hold me,  
His strength and love enfold me.  
I feel his kind protection  
That keeps me safe from harm.

In his voice, I hear God's message.  
His hands hold priesthood blessings.  
And when I'm with my father,  
I feel safe and warm.

His life is as a beacon,  
Reflecting righteous teachings;  
He inspires my soul to seek  
That God of which he speaks.

Through my life, he weaves the story  
Of God's unending glory.  
His goodness binds our family;  
Eternal are we.





## Potato Boats

By Paula Weed

- 3 large baking potatoes, scrubbed
- 1/2 cup grated cheddar cheese
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 4 tablespoons milk
- 1 1/2 tablespoons chopped green onions
- 6 slices mild, semisoft cheese, individually wrapped
- 6 wooden skewers
- 18 pitted olives
- 18 round carrot slices

1. With a fork, prick the potatoes several times and place them in a 375° F (190° C) oven and bake them for 1–1 1/2 hours or until done.

2. Let the potatoes cool slightly, then cut each in half lengthwise. Without breaking the skin, carefully scoop out the potato pulp and put it into a bowl. Mash the pulp, then stir in the cheese, butter, milk, and chopped green onions.

3. Fill the potato skins with the pulp mixture, place them on a cookie sheet, return to the oven, and bake for 15 minutes.

4. To make each sail, poke a skewer diagonally through the top and bottom corners of a wrapped slice of cheese (see illustration). Push one end of the skewer into the potato to stand the sail up (see illustration). For the people, place three olives, hole side up, on each potato boat. Top each olive with a carrot slice for a hat (see illustration). Makes 6 servings.

You can show your love and appreciation for your father by cooking him a meal. With your mother's help, or another older person's help, you can prepare these recipes for a lunch or dinner. Any of these recipes would be fun to make for a family home evening treat.

## Bacon Cheddar Muffins

- 2 cups flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup milk
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 8 bacon slices, cooked and crumbled
- 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese

1. In a medium bowl, combine the flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. Add the milk and mayonnaise and stir until just moistened. Gently fold in the bacon and cheese.

2. Fill greased or paper-lined muffin cups 2/3 full.

3. Bake at 425° F (220° C) for 15–18 minutes or until golden brown.



## Peanut Butter Smiles

By Heidi H. Bentley

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup shortening
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 3 cups flour
- 1/3 cup peanut butter
- 1/2 cup raisins or chocolate chips

1. In a large bowl, cream together the sugars and shortening. Mix in the eggs, soda, salt, and vanilla. Stir in the flour.

2. Place the dough on a lightly floured surface or a piece of waxed paper. With a floured rolling pin, roll the dough into a rectangle about 1/2" (1.3 cm) thick.

3. Spread the peanut butter in a 3" (7.6 cm) wide strip lengthwise down the center of the dough leaving 2" (5 cm) or more uncovered on each side.

4. Starting with a lengthwise edge (without peanut butter), roll the dough into a log.

5. Cut the log into 1/2" (1.3 cm) slices and place them on a greased cookie sheet.

6. Look for the "smile" on each cookie, then add the raisin or chocolate chip eyes and nose on each cookie.

7. Bake at 350° F (175° C) for 12 minutes or until done. Wait one minute, then use a spatula to place cookies on a wire rack to cool.

## FATHERS ARE SPECIAL

By Charlotte G. Lindstrom

To discover a line from a song that tells us something fathers do for us, write the answer to each addition problem above its letter. Then place that letter on each blank in the code that has that number below it. (See answers on page 26.)

$\overline{\text{A}}$	$\overline{\text{B}}$	$\overline{\text{C}}$	$\overline{\text{D}}$	$\overline{\text{E}}$	$\overline{\text{G}}$	$\overline{\text{H}}$	$\overline{\text{I}}$	$\overline{\text{K}}$
13+22	9+15	9+7	19+24	21+34	13+23	41+25	9+16	42+21

$\overline{\text{M}}$	$\overline{\text{N}}$	$\overline{\text{O}}$	$\overline{\text{R}}$	$\overline{\text{S}}$	$\overline{\text{T}}$	$\overline{\text{U}}$	$\overline{\text{V}}$	$\overline{\text{Y}}$
37+17	11+15	29+36	18+15	16+18	22+34	28+17	18+28	33+31

“  
 $\overline{56}$   $\overline{66}$   $\overline{55}$   $\overline{64}$      $\overline{36}$   $\overline{45}$   $\overline{25}$   $\overline{43}$   $\overline{55}$      $\overline{45}$   $\overline{34}$      $\overline{35}$   $\overline{26}$   $\overline{43}$

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$\overline{65}$   $\overline{45}$   $\overline{33}$      $\overline{66}$   $\overline{65}$   $\overline{54}$   $\overline{55}$      $\overline{35}$   $\overline{24}$   $\overline{65}$   $\overline{46}$   $\overline{55}$  .”

## PEBBLE PICTURES

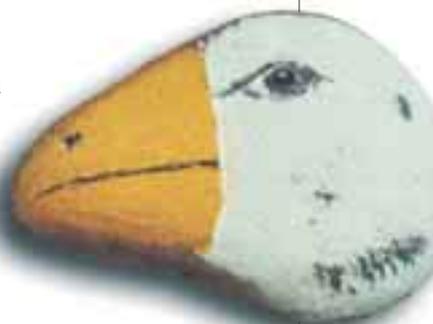
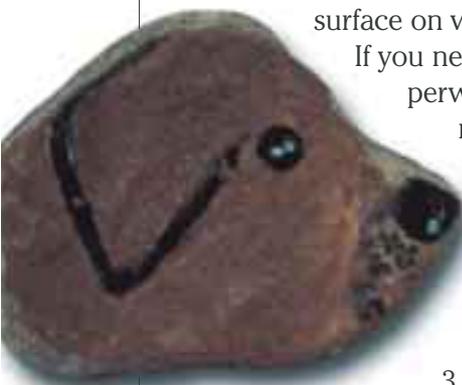
By A. Coleman

Stones with unusual hollows or ridges, but with a smooth surface on which to paint, make wonderful pebble pictures.

If you need a gift idea, a pebble picture makes a nice paperweight. Pebbles can be found on the beach, by the riverside, or maybe in your neighborhood or yard.

To make pebble pictures and/or a paperweight, you will need: pebbles, a pencil, paper, newspaper, paintbrushes, a variety of colors of acrylic paints (including white), and clear varnish.

1. Finding the stones is part of the fun. Ask an older person or adult to go with you to find your just-right pebbles.
2. Wash and dry the pebbles.
3. Select one to paint, then study it carefully. Can you see a shape or pattern or an animal's face in the stone? After you have an idea for your picture, sketch it out on the paper.
4. Cover your work area with newspaper. Paint the entire stone white; let dry.
5. Follow the sketch that you have made to paint your picture on the stone; let dry.
6. Paint the finished stone with a thin coat of clear varnish; let dry.



Please smile with favor upon them. Please listen to them as they lift their voices in prayer unto Thee.  
Please lead them gently by the hand in the direction they should follow.  
(From President Gordon B. Hinckley's prayer for youth, *Ensign*, January 2001, page 11.)



# Be a Standard- Bearer

**A standard-bearer** is someone who holds a standard high for all to see and follow. Each member of the First Presidency has recently talked about the standards we should live by as members of the Church. Carefully remove these pages from the magazine and put them where you will see them often. Then follow the advice of our prophets, and be a standard-bearer!





President  
Gordon B. Hinckley



President  
Thomas S. Monson  
First Counselor in the First Presidency



President  
James E. Faust  
Second Counselor in the First Presidency

**Be grateful.** Let a spirit of thanksgiving guide and bless your days and nights. Work at it.

**Be smart.** You need all the education you can get.

**Be clean.** Avoid evil talk. . . . Choose your friends carefully. . . . Don't waste your time in destructive entertainment. . . . [Respect] the body which the Lord has given you. Stay away from [pornography] . . . and . . . from illicit drugs. . . . They will destroy you.

**Be true.** Be loyal to the Church. . . . Be true to your own convictions. You know what is right, and you know what is wrong.

**Be humble.** [Be] willing to listen to the whisperings of the still, small voice.

**Be prayerful.** You need [the Lord's] help, and you know that you need His help. You cannot do it alone.

*(New Era, January 2001, pages 4–15.)*

**Choose your friends with caution.** We tend to become like those whom we admire . . . and they are usually our friends.

**Plan your future with purpose.** You are sons and daughters of Almighty God. You have a destiny to fulfill, a life to live, a contribution to make, a goal to achieve.

**Frame your life with faith.** Faith becomes an anchor to our lives. . . . Wherever we may be, our Heavenly Father can hear and answer the prayer offered in faith.

*(Ensign, February 2001, pages 2–7.)*

**Change bad behavior.** We need to change our bad behavior. We need to repent. As Alma said to his son Corianton, “Wickedness never was happiness.”

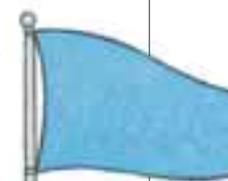
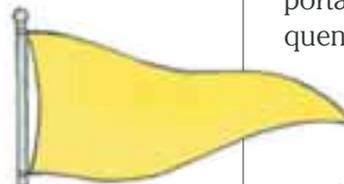
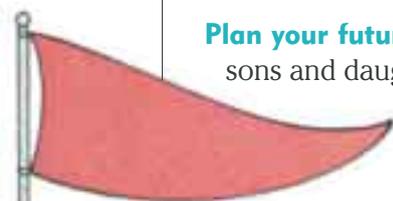
**Forgive ourselves and others.** Forgiveness is an important part of putting bad behavior behind us. As we make the necessary changes, we need to forgive ourselves.

**Gain confidence by making good choices.** You are now beginning to make important choices. Choices have consequences. In some measure these choices will affect not only the rest of your life but all eternity.

**Give service.** If we really want to feel better about ourselves, we should do deeds of kindness.

**Choose happiness.** As President Harold B. Lee once said: “Happiness does not depend on what happens outside of you but on what happens inside of you. It is measured by the spirit with which you meet the problems of life.” It will often be necessary for all of us to choose between having a good time and leading a good life.

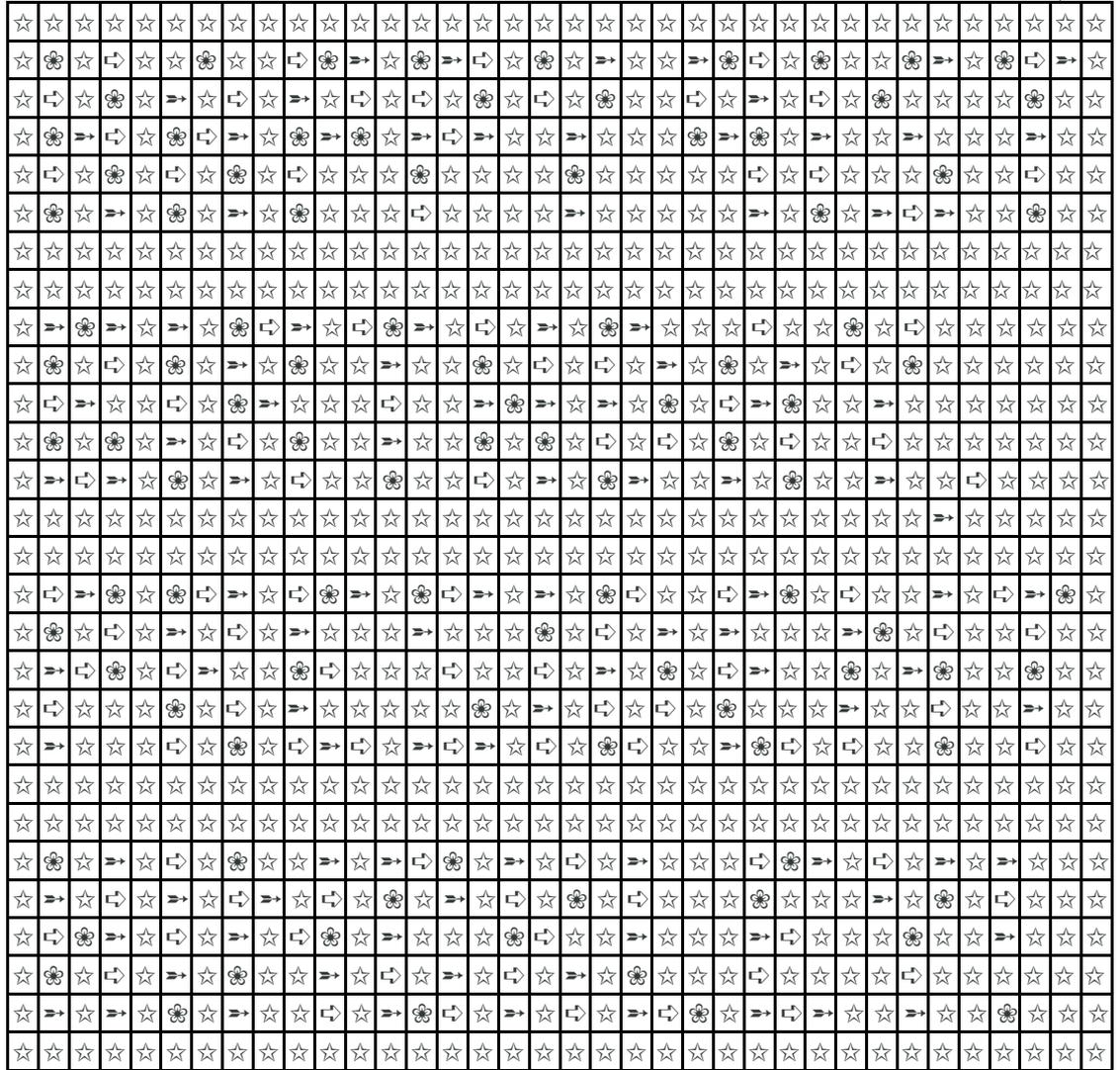
*(Ensign, March 2001, pages 2–7.)*



## Hidden Message

By Hilary Hendricks

To find a hidden message, color in every box that is marked with an arrow or a flower. Leave the boxes with stars blank. Hold up the design and read!



## Funstuf Answers

*Hidden Message: HAPPY 91ST BIRTHDAY, PRESIDENT HINCKLEY!*  
*President Willard Woodruff Crossword:*  
 Across—(3) Holy Ghost, (4) protected, (6) sawmill, (8) chills, (9) schoolhouse, (10) mission. Down—(1) United Brethren, (2) journal, (5) temple, (7) fish.  
*Fathers Are Special: A=35, B=24, C=16, D=43, E=55, G=36, H=66, I=25, K=63, M=54, N=26, O=65, R=33, S=34, T=56, U=45, V=46, Y=64. "They guide us and direct us Back to our home above"*  
*(Children's Songbook, page 209).*





Written and  
photographed by  
Melvin Leavitt

# The Honda Family of Tokyo, Japan

**H**ow many children nowadays live anywhere near a palace where a real live emperor lives? Satoru (11), Masashi (10), Tacumi (9), Motoi (6), Izumi (5), and Megumi (2) Honda do. Their city also has sumo wrestlers, baseball teams, *kabuki*\* theaters, skyscrapers, and companies

that make a lot of the world's cars and electronics. They live in Tokyo, Japan's capital and largest city.

The Hondas are a large family by Japanese standards, and a happy one by any standard. They look out for one another. Each child takes responsibility for all those who are younger. This is a great help to their mother, Mihato, and father, Takaharu.

The children all have talents that make family life go more smoothly. Satoru is an excellent cook. Chinese food is his favorite, but he can also cook Japanese, Italian, American—you name it—following a recipe or using whatever he finds in the refrigerator. When Sister Honda

gave birth to Megumi, Satoru cooked the family's dinners by himself for a whole month.

Satoru enjoys crossword puzzles and anything else that gives his brain a good workout. He is always eager to learn new things.

He will become a deacon soon, and Brother Honda has been giving him lessons about the Aaronic Priesthood. As part of these lessons, they went to a cemetery to do family history research. Satoru, who is a

quick learner, had to master an old form of writing to read the names and dates. He plans to be baptized in the Tokyo Japan Temple for



his ancestors when he turns twelve.

Masashi enjoys sports. He plays forward on a soccer team that took second place in its league. He refuses to play in Sunday matches, although his coach and teammates want him to. He is also good at skiing and baseball. He is the first one in the family to start playing any game and the last one to stop.

Masashi is kind to his little brothers and sisters and has a special knack for getting them to bed in the summertime. He likes giving them piggyback rides, too. At school he is a peacemaker who sees the good in others.

When one boy didn't get along with his classmates, Masashi helped him fit in.

Tacumi is a natural handyman and likes to build things. An enthusiastic recycler, he uses worn-out or discarded items

to make toys for his young sisters.

He concentrates intensely on the task at hand and doesn't give up until he has mastered it. He was the weakest skier and swimmer of the three older brothers, but he worked so hard to improve that he became the best.

Being a loyal friend is another of Tacumi's talents. His schoolteacher noticed that when she asked students to divide into groups, Tacumi would make a group with any children who were left out. When his mother asked him who his best friend



Satoru and Tacumi in a bamboo grove.



Megumi and Izumi play with their toys.



Masashi, Motoi, and Tacumi playing soccer.

was, he answered, "Everyone!"

Motoi has one of the world's cutest smiles. He smiled earlier than anyone else in the family, and he's smiled often ever since. Although he is a little cautious, he's always willing to follow his big brothers' examples and grow stronger. It was hard for him to learn to swim because he didn't like putting his face into the water. He worked on the task a whole summer until he could swim just fine.

Motoi is looking forward to his baptism, and he studies the scriptures to prepare himself. He has a strong spirit. Hospitalized twice for painful conditions, he faced his suffering with patience and courage.

Izumi is energetic. She's not afraid to tell her four big brothers what to do and what not to do, and they actually listen to her! She likes to help her mother. Whatever she sees Sister Honda

doing, she must do, too.

Once Izumi wanted to plant flowers, so Sister Honda got her some seeds. When the



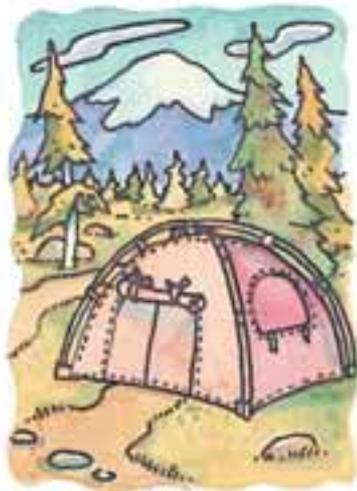
Motoi holding a frog.

flowers bloomed, Izumi gave a bouquet to her kindergarten teacher. This, she explained, was why she had wanted to plant flowers in the first place.

Megumi loves animals. She goes right up to even the biggest dogs, which makes her mother nervous. “Megumi is the mood-maker in the family and a great talker,” Sister Honda adds.

On the kitchen wall is a paper wheel showing each child’s family home evening assignment. Commuting takes a long time in Tokyo, and like most men, Dad gets home late from his job in downtown Tokyo. So Sister Honda usually starts family home evening until he arrives. The children do their parts eagerly.

When their ward is on an early schedule, the Hondas follow a unique family tradition. On the first Sunday of the month, Brother Honda fixes dinner by himself. On the second Sunday, Satoru



helps him. On the third Sunday, it’s Masashi’s turn to help him, and so on. After each meal, the children play paper, rocks, and scissors to see who will clean up. Izumi always wants to lose because she enjoys cleaning and washing.

Each summer, the family goes camping in the mountains or by a river. In wintertime, they enjoy skiing trips. They love one another’s company. In spite of their very busy lives, they can always be found together for Church meetings, prayer, scripture study, dinner, and fun.

A song in the *Children’s Songbook*<sup>†</sup> describes the Honda home perfectly. Love truly is spoken here.



Satoru doing his homework.

## Reading Japanese

Learning to read Japanese is much more difficult than learning to read English. English is largely phonetic. That is, each of its letters represents a sound or sounds, so *d-o-g* can be sounded out to get *dog*. Japanese has four different writing systems. The most important one, kanji, is not phonetic. It uses some two thousand Chinese characters that represent concepts, not sounds. These can be combined to make thousands of other concepts. These characters and combinations cannot be sounded out but must simply be memorized. Each Japanese child also learns two phonetic systems—hiragana (phonetic symbols made from simplified kanji characters) and katakana (used mostly for writing foreign words or names so that they can be pronounced correctly). Many also learn *Romaji* (Roman letters such as we use in English. People’s names in this article are written in *Romaji*.). Mastering this complex system helps develop excellent concentration and memory skills. Here is President Hinckley’s name written in Kanji, and Katakana:

[Gordon] [B.] [Hinckley] [President]

ゴードン・B・ヒンクレー 大管長

Katakana

Kanji

<sup>†</sup> See pages 190–191.



FOR LITTLE FRIENDS

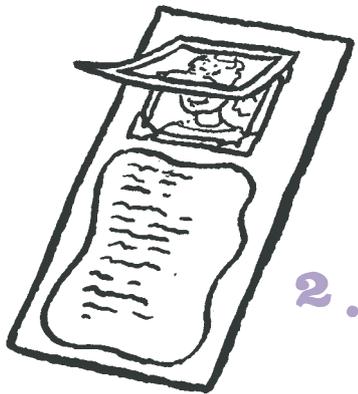
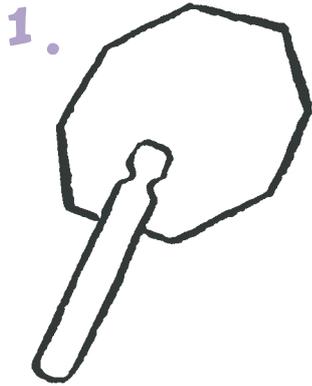
# Father's Day Stop Sign



## Instructions

Mount pages 30 and 31 on poster board or cardboard. Cut out the stop sign and the Father's Day card. Glue, or have an older person staple, a paint-stirring stick or dowel to the back of the stop sign, as shown in illustration 1. Glue your photo onto the card, as shown in illustration 2. Give them both to your father on Father's Day. Tell him that whenever he holds up the stop sign, you will stop and see what he needs.

# Father's Day Card



## Stopping for Daddy

If you should want a hug, I'll stop and hug you.  
If you should want some help, I'll stop and help.  
And if you see me doing something naughty,  
Just tell me and I'll stop without a yelp.

If you should need a song, I'll stop and sing one.  
If you should need a kiss, that's what you'll get.  
I'll gladly stop whatever I am doing  
To help the greatest dad I've ever met.

If you should need a snack, I'll stop and fix one.  
A listening ear? I'll stop and give you two.  
You're always there for me, and, dearest Daddy,  
I plan on always being there for you.

So if you ever need my full attention,  
Hold up this little sign, and there I'll be.  
I'll always stop for you because I love you—  
You taught me how by always loving me.

Cut along the broken line.

# Valentines for a



## I love the prophet because

He loves me.

*Rebecca Pugh, 9, Bath, England*

He is a seer and revelator.

*Jeslyn McGinnis, 10, Pinedale, Wyoming*

He is smiley.

*Michaud Isaline, 5, Lausanne, Switzerland*

He's Jesus' friend.

*Olivia Harding, 3, Lexington, Kentucky*

He is called by our Father in Heaven to speak for Him.

*Maloagalelei Taala, 5, Pago Pago, American Samoa*

I think he would give me a big hug and a kiss if I could meet him.

*Lindsey Rees, 5, Ashburn, Virginia*

He has a kind and loving face.

*Abigail Hull, 7, Aberdeen, Scotland*

He is tender and kind.

*Sze-Yu Fan, 10, Hong Kong, China*

He loves everybody in the whole world.

*Amelita Larson, 6, Townsville, Queensland, Australia*

I feel good inside when I listen to him.

*Randall O'Dell, 7, Bryan, Texas*

He looks like a grandpa.

*Emily Burden, 4, Budapest, Hungary*

He works for Jesus.

*CaLeigh Dellipoali, 3, Stamford, Connecticut*

He is a good man.

*Feauai Seuea, 10, Sauniatu, Samoa*

He is a great example for me.

*Rumiana Skotcheva, 13, Sophia, Bulgaria*

In February, we asked for valentines for the prophet. Your response was astonishing! We received almost thirty thousand valentines, each full of love, wisdom, and faith. If only we could publish them all! The sad truth is, we have space for fewer than one out of three hundred and fifty, and then only a few words per valentine. Please know that even if your name does not appear here, your help was deeply appreciated. Thank you!

He teaches me about the Saviour and Heavenly Father.

*Francesca James Clementine, 9, Runcorn, England*

He loves Jesus Christ, and so do I.

*Macy West, 8, Franklin, Indiana*

He leads us back to Heavenly Father.

*Jared Jensen, 8, Moses Lake, Washington*

He's giving and caring.

*Brock Nichols, 10, Lindon, Utah*

He tells us true stuff. He tells us what the Savior tells him. He helps us learn how to live with God again.

*Cumberland Gap Ward Primary, Knoxville Tennessee Stake*

He never lies to me.

*Aimee, 7, Rapid City, South Dakota*

He is a true prophet, and he tells good stories and jokes.

*Jason Langley, 4, Cedar City, Utah*

He travels around the world to share the gospel with everyone.

*Lauren Peterson, 12, Lansdale, Pennsylvania*

He's nice, and he loves everyone.

*Ivy Hill, 7, Smithfield, North Carolina*

He's funny. He gives good speeches.

*Jordan Rinber, 7, Las Vegas, Nevada*

He knows the way.

*Taylor and Brayden Monson, 3 and 2, Arlington, Massachusetts*

He helps me to walk in the light.

*Jessy Agle, 8, Cypress, California*

He helped build more temples so it's easier to get to one.

*Jackson Udy, 9, Columbia, Maryland*

He tells me what the Lord wants me to do.

*Christian Muhlestein, 8, Laplace, Louisiana*

He is my friend.

*Jonathan Beer, 6, Berlin, Germany*

He helps people.

*Madison Redgar, 8, Topeka, Kansas*

He is kind and treats everyone the same.

*Chris Nenow, 11, Salt Lake City, Utah*

He is always smiling and looks happy.

*Emily Uhl, 11, Sioux City, Iowa*

I know in my heart that he won't lead me astray.

*Rebecca Jones, 10, Aurora, Colorado*

He gave my sister a blessing when she had cancer. He helped my whole family feel better.

*Tyler Mckinley, 5, Simpsonville, South Carolina*

When times are hard and I'm about to do something wrong, I think of him and his teachings, and it stops me.

*Sierra Crowley, 11, Mesa, Arizona*

He sets a good example.

*Kyle Gurr, 10, American Fork, Utah*

He's wise.

*Jenny Cuevas, 10, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi*

He's kind and courteous. He loves everyone and does everything he is told by Heavenly Father. He teaches us not to judge things from the outside but from the inside. He tells us what we should do and should not do, and he knows what he's talking about.

*Shelley 7<sup>th</sup> Ward Primary, Shelley Idaho Stake*

He's so cute.

*Kate Johnson, 4, Morton Grove, Illinois*

He's good.

*Josh Roode, 4, Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada*

He says "please," like me.

*Meilani Tew, 3, Payson, Utah*

He cares about me.

*Lewis Wearne, 6, Copiapo, Chile*

He has such a great sense of humor, and he talks directly to us.

*Zach Edens, 10, Fairfax, Oklahoma*

I met him when he came to Guam.

*Nephi Aros, 5, Guam*

# Prophet



## I will follow him by

Obeying his counsel and guidance.

*Ane Marie Faka'osi, 9, Nuku'alofa, Tonga*

Caring about others the way he cares about me.

*Cami Fuhrman, 10, Salt Lake City, Utah*

Keeping the commandments.

*Mark Remington, 11, Cardston, Alberta, Canada*

Reading my scriptures.

*Courtney Jane Donald, 6, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia*

Preaching the word of God.

*Chinonso Ibeachi, 9, Port Harcourt, Nigeria*

Loving all the people around me.

*Kimberly Jeo, 5, Singapore*

Sharing my toys with my brother and sister.

Setting a good example.

*Christopher Webb, 4, and Erik Webb, 6, Rimbo, Sweden*

Always repenting of my sins and not repeating them.

*Kylie Woon, 10, Shanghai, China*

Following his good example.

*Sebastian Nanena, 8, London, England*

Going to church.

*Kayleann Solomone, 7, Suva, Fiji*

Following the six B's.

*Felisha Trumpet, 11, Toronto, Ontario, Canada*

Being prayerful.

*Mark Norton, 11, Billingham, England*

Standing up for what I believe in.

*Courtney Stutznegger, 10, West Linn, Oregon*

Going to video conference and listening to him.

*Jared Mayer, 11, Wainuiomata, New Zealand*

Being a good girl for Mummy and Daddy.

*Kayley Forsyth, 2, Glasgow, Scotland*

Being happy.

*Christian Diaz, 4, Bronx, New York*

Trying to be like Jesus.

*Megan McAdams, 11, Broadview Heights, Ohio*

Choosing the right.

*Victoria Ngawaka, 10, Great Barrier Island, New Zealand*

Telling the truth and helping at home.

*Kong Xiong, 6, La Crosse, Wisconsin*

Not drinking, smoking, or using drugs.

*Brittany Mundell, 10, Fairmont, West Virginia*

Doing my chores. Saving money for my mission. Not having multiple piercings in my ears.

*Calvin Latour, 10, and Iris Latour, 11, Oosterbeek, Netherlands*

Obedying my mother and father.

*Tatyana Wright, 6, Washington, D.C.*

Dressing modestly.

*Ashley Fairwell, 9, Bartlesville, Oklahoma*

Praying for him.

*Melissa Eging, 4, Sparta, New Jersey*

Being nice to others and always telling the truth.

*Ryan Mullinax, 4, Las Vegas, Nevada*

Treating others the way I want to be treated.

*Brittney Johnston, 8, Kapolei, Hawaii*

Being a good girl and not hitting my brother.

*Shalynn Randall, 4, Lincoln, Nebraska*

Getting baptized when I am eight.

*Nate, 5, Bemidji, Minnesota*

Preparing to go to the temple.

*Tausha Sutherland, 10, Laurel, Montana*

Doing what he tells me to do.

*John Zeuhike, 8, Cadillac, Michigan*

Being clean, humble, grateful, smart, true, and prayerful. And having family home evening.

*Craig Lewis, 8, and Jakob Lewis, 6, O'Fallon, Missouri*

Keeping my baptismal covenants.

*Lauren Bush, 11, Topsham, Maine*

Not watching bad movies.

*Kevin O. Lunt, 10, Charleston, Illinois*

Loving all people, no matter their skin color or anything else.

*Ben Hughes, 11, Grants Pass, Oregon*

Going on a mission.

*Lexie Wagoner, 6, Snellville, Georgia*

Not forgetting to pay my tithing when I get my allowance, listening to the Holy Ghost, listening to conference, helping people with no home and no money, being very nice, setting an example, caring for one another, keeping the Sabbath day holy, and trying to be as righteous as possible.

*North Shore 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward Primary, Wilmette Illinois Stake*

Not stealing.

*Dana Holland, 5, Wilmington, Delaware*

Going to school and learning.

*Lucas, 10, Mesa, Arizona*

Having more faith.

*Emily Liscom, 8, Melbourne, Florida*

Being kind to children.

*Collin Foster, 7, Prattville, Alabama*

Cleaning up my room if I make a mess.

*Haylee Lovelace, 5, Huntsville, Arkansas*

Using good language.

*Alan Lochridge, 10, Dillon, Montana*

Doing what he says.

*Genevieve Bee, 8, Homer, Alaska*

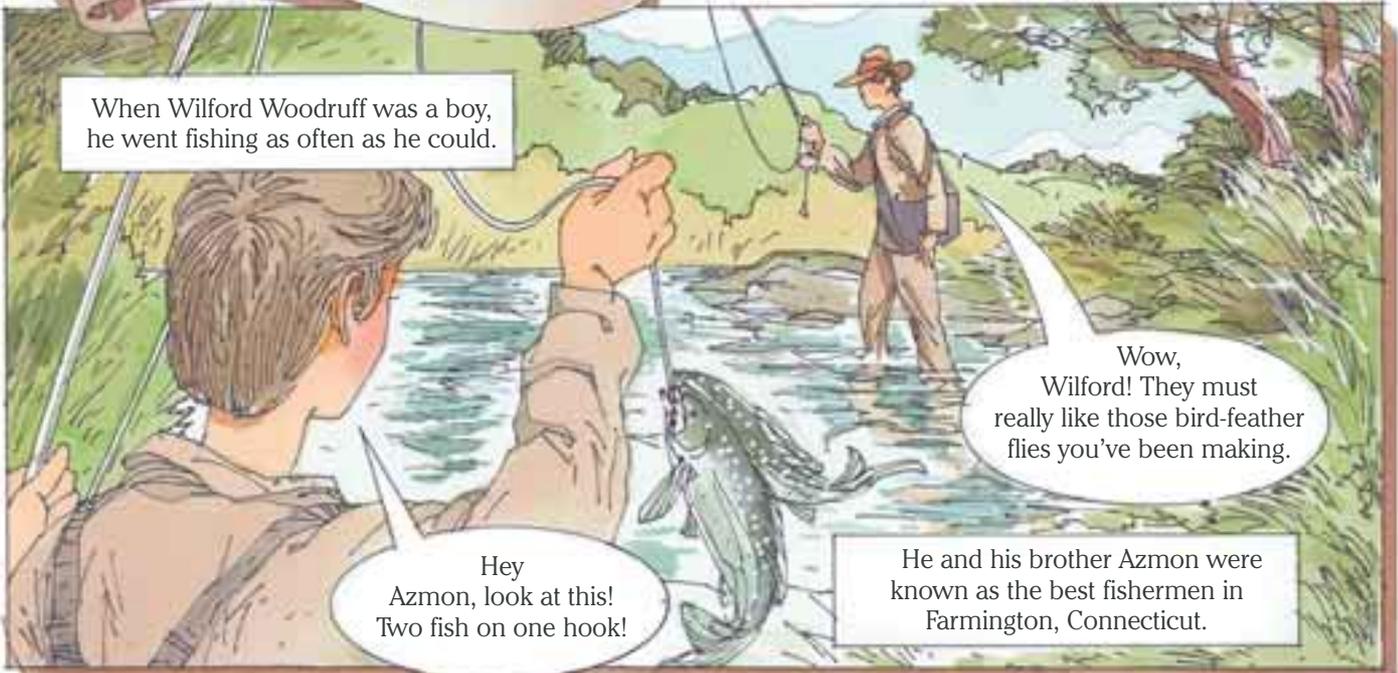


# FROM THE LIVES OF THE CHURCH PRESIDENTS

## Wilford Woodruff, Fisherman of the Lord



When Wilford Woodruff was a boy, he went fishing as often as he could.

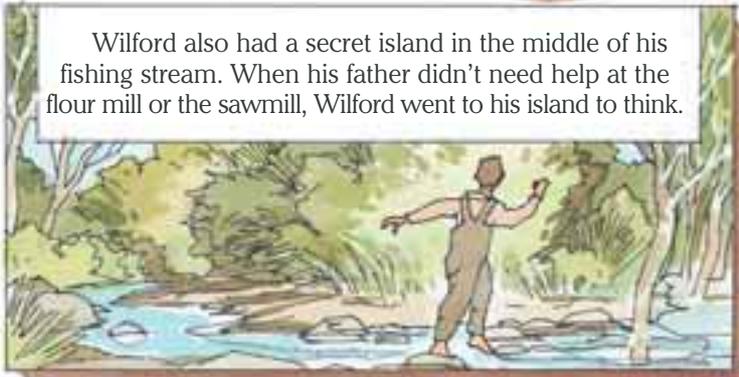


Hey Azmon, look at this! Two fish on one hook!

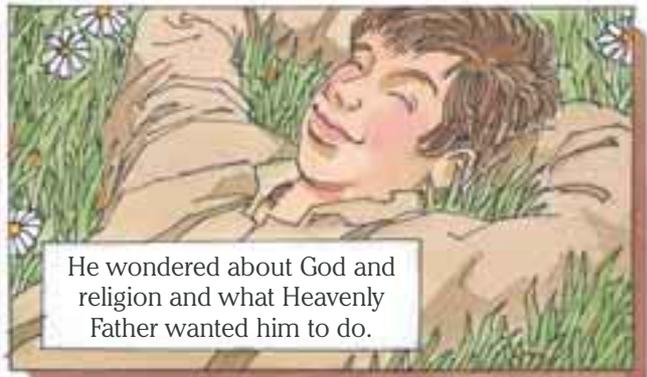
Wow, Wilford! They must really like those bird-feather flies you've been making.

He and his brother Azmon were known as the best fishermen in Farmington, Connecticut.

Wilford also had a secret island in the middle of his fishing stream. When his father didn't need help at the flour mill or the sawmill, Wilford went to his island to think.

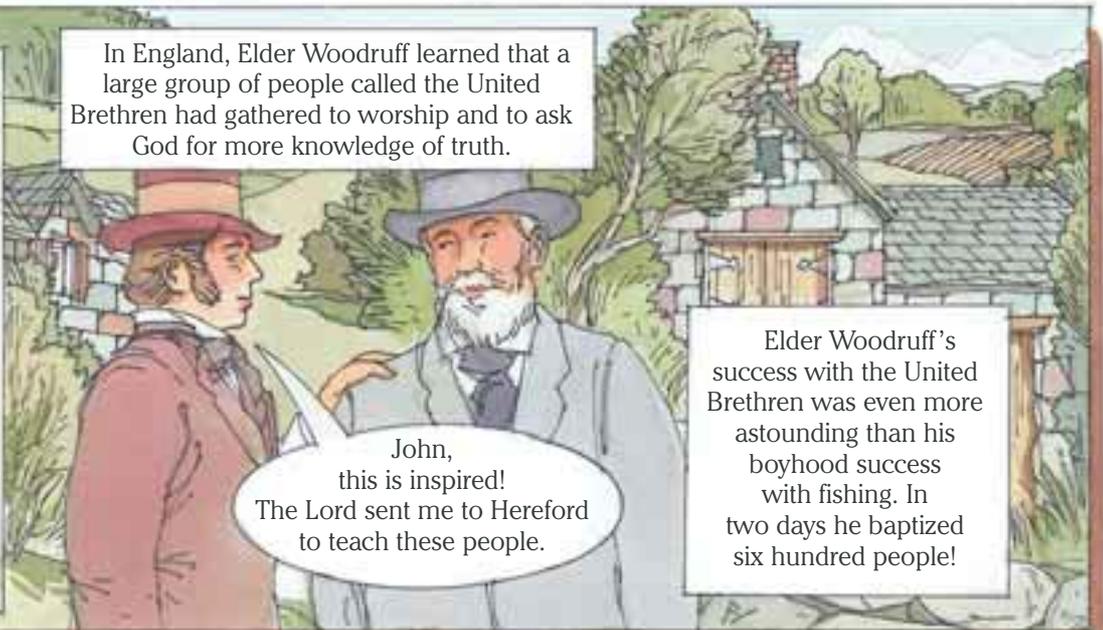


He wondered about God and religion and what Heavenly Father wanted him to do.



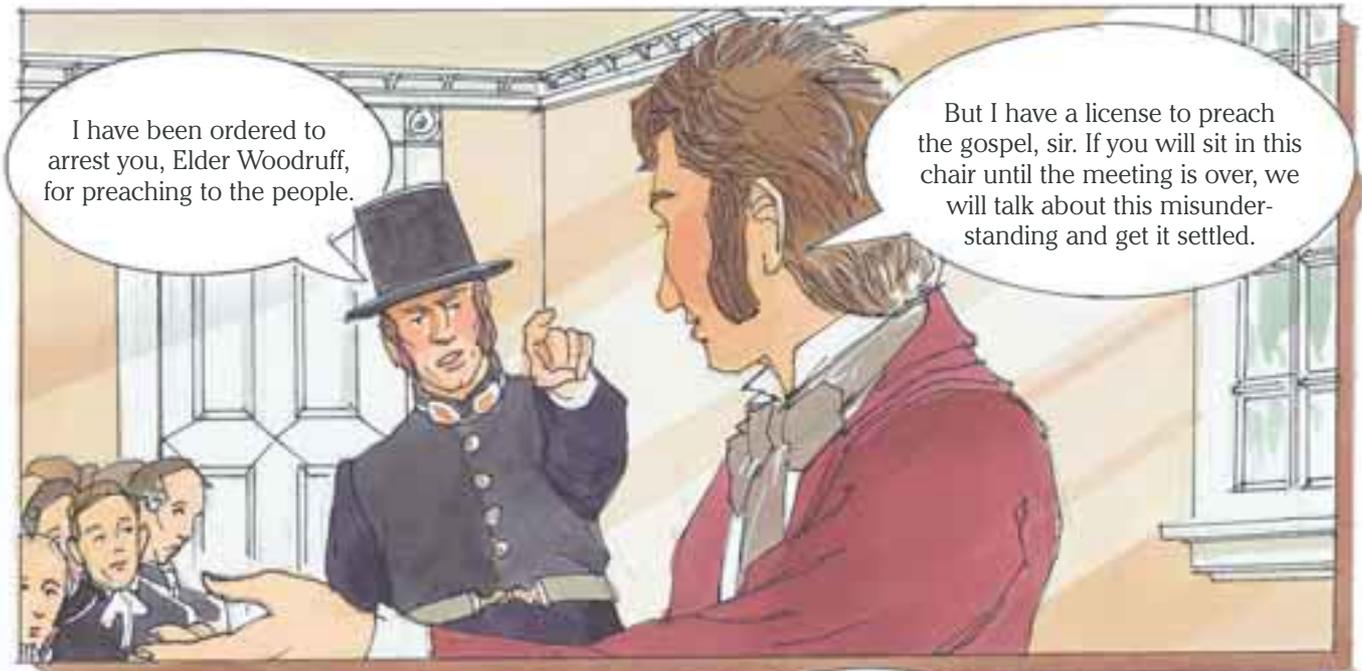
Years later, when Wilford Woodruff heard the missionaries explain that prophets and apostles were again on the earth, he was filled with joy. Wilford joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Soon after, the Prophet Joseph Smith called him to be an Apostle and to serve a mission to England with the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.

In England, Elder Woodruff learned that a large group of people called the United Brethren had gathered to worship and to ask God for more knowledge of truth.



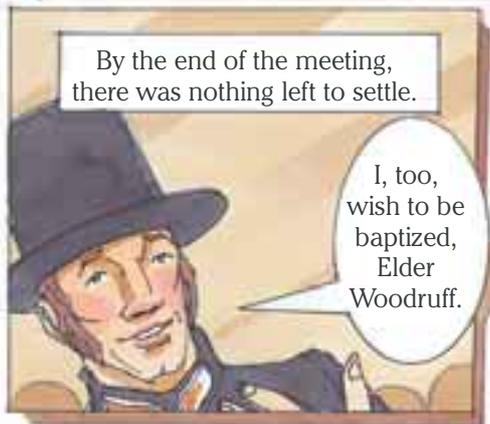
John, this is inspired! The Lord sent me to Hereford to teach these people.

Elder Woodruff's success with the United Brethren was even more astounding than his boyhood success with fishing. In two days he baptized six hundred people!



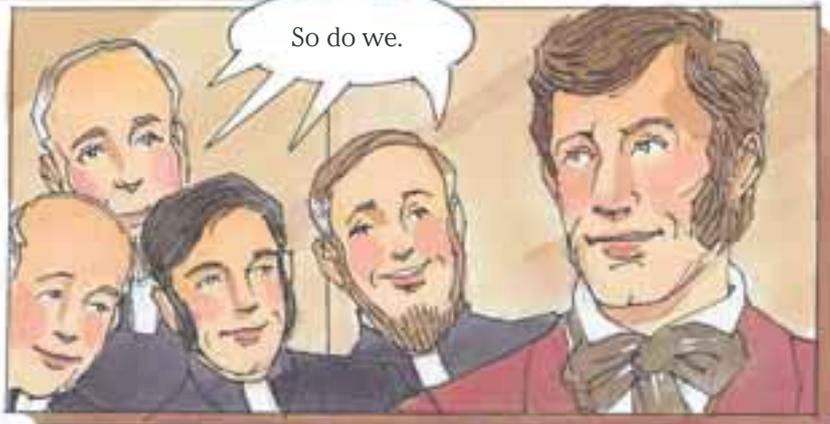
I have been ordered to arrest you, Elder Woodruff, for preaching to the people.

But I have a license to preach the gospel, sir. If you will sit in this chair until the meeting is over, we will talk about this misunderstanding and get it settled.

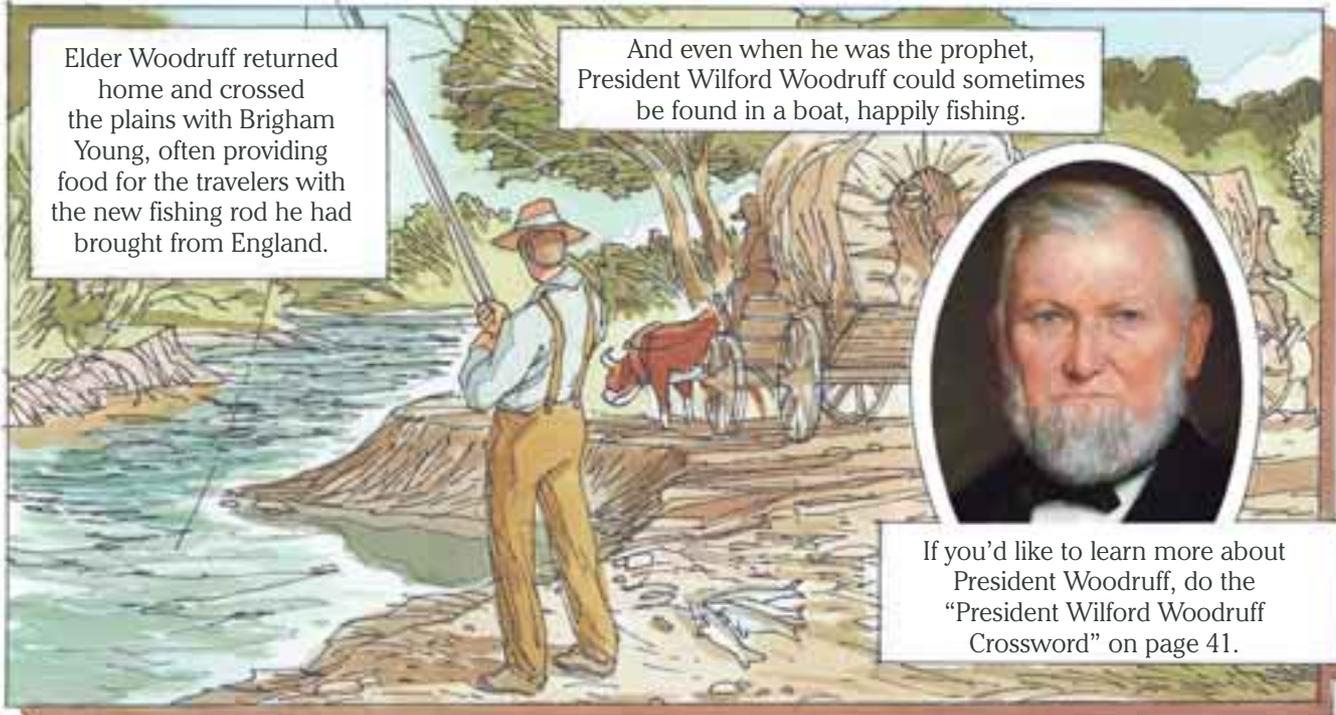


By the end of the meeting, there was nothing left to settle.

I, too, wish to be baptized, Elder Woodruff.



So do we.



Elder Woodruff returned home and crossed the plains with Brigham Young, often providing food for the travelers with the new fishing rod he had brought from England.

And even when he was the prophet, President Wilford Woodruff could sometimes be found in a boat, happily fishing.



If you'd like to learn more about President Woodruff, do the "President Wilford Woodruff Crossword" on page 41.



Be full of charity towards all men (D&C 121:45).

## BASKETBALL PROBLEM



By Brigham A. Wright

I was on a basketball team when I was in third grade. After playing the first and second quarters, we'd practice shooting the basketball during halftime. One boy never brought a ball but always

tried to get mine away from me and play keep away. It happened every halftime, and it wasn't much fun.

My mom and I decided that we needed to do something about it—but what? We could talk to his parents, we could confront him about it, but neither seemed the right thing to do. After thinking about it, we decided to bring another ball for him to play with.

At the beginning of halftime of the next game, before he could start his tricks, I handed him my basketball and said, "Why don't you use this?" He stopped for a minute, then started shooting baskets. I went to the bench and got the other ball from my mom and started shooting baskets, too. He saw me and said, "Oh, you brought another ball." But he didn't try to take it from me. I kept bringing two balls and sharing one with him. After about three games, he started bringing his own ball.

Was what I did hard to do? No. I learned that sharing is better than bringing one thing and not sharing and that sometimes we have to go even farther, if the other person isn't willing to share with us.



I still bring two basketballs to my games. After all, you never know who needs a little extra friendship.

**Brigham A. Wright, age 8**  
Allen Fourth Ward  
McKinney Texas Stake

Comfort those that stand in need of comfort (Mosiah 18:9).

## REMEMBERING JESUS



By Brooke Chapman

One Wednesday afternoon, I really made a difference in my life as well as in another person's life. A girl in my class had been very annoying and had refused to answer our teacher when he

asked her questions. He very patiently asked her to go to the principal's office, but again she refused, so he decided to do something different.

All the girls at our group of desks were stunned when he had her sit by us. Then he told us that since she was being disagreeable, we could move our desks away from her. One by one, the other girls moved their desks.

We all know how it feels to be left alone without anyone. I could have increased my popularity by going off, too, which I thought about doing. Or I could stay with her and be more Christlike and not have a guilty conscience. I remembered all the times that Jesus stood up for those who had no one, and I decided to be like Him.

The poor girl started crying, so I put my arm around her and comforted her. I knew that I had chosen the right, and I knew that Father in Heaven smiles when He sees us love each other. That was the day when I knew that, indeed, it is very possible to love one another.

**Brooke Chapman, age 11**  
Sitka Ward  
Juneau Alaska Stake

*The temple is a holy place Where we are sealed together*  
(*Children's Songbook*, page 95).

## TOGETHER FOREVER



By Jedidiah Jensen

**M**y big brother and I were sealed to our parents in the Provo Utah Temple. We drove for a long time to get there. When we went into the temple, Grandma Lee, who serves at the temple, and another nice lady took my brother and me to a special room. We listened to stories, had cookies and punch, and watched a movie about temples. Then we dressed in white clothes—I even wore a little white tie. The nice lady took us to the

room where our parents and other family members were. When we were sealed to each other there, I felt happy. I know that our family will be together forever if we keep the commandments.

**Jedidiah Jensen, age 5**  
Rapid City First Ward  
Rapid City South Dakota Stake

*A special gift is kindness. Such happiness it brings.*  
(*Children's Songbook*, page 145.)

## CHEERING UP A FRIEND



By Jenny Yoder

**E**llen's friend Lara broke her leg, and it hurt. Ellen and her mom went to the store and bought a coloring book for Lara. Thinking that Jesus Christ would do something more to cheer up her friend, Ellen asked if they could buy some fingernail polish for Lara, too. Ellen was sure that if she painted Lara's toenails, it would cheer her up while she had to wear the clunky cast. It did. Lara said it tickled when her toenails were painted, and she thinks that Ellen is the best friend she could have.



**Ellen Yoder (right), age 5,**  
with her friend Lara Hayes, age 4  
Chicago Heights (Illinois) Ward  
Valparaiso Indiana Stake



# Blessings Come When We Follow the Prophet



LEHI'S FAMILY LEAVING JERUSALEM BY SCOTT SNOW

*He spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began (Luke 1:70).*

*By Diane Nichols*

**D**o you like where you live? What do you like about it? Do you have special friends you enjoy being with? Do you have a favorite toy or book? A special place where you keep your favorite things? Imagine that your parents came to you and said that your family needed to leave all of

its favorite things behind and travel to a new land? Do you think it would be hard to leave your home, your friends, and your favorite things?

That is what happened to Nephi and his family. His father, Lehi, was a prophet. The Lord warned him that Jerusalem was going to be destroyed and that he should take his family and leave. The Lord told Lehi that He had prepared a new land for his

family. As they left Jerusalem and traveled in the desert, Nephi's older brothers Laman and Lemuel constantly complained. They did not want to leave everything behind. The journey was hard, and they didn't believe that Jerusalem would be destroyed. Nephi and his brother Sam did not complain. They knew that their father was a prophet of God. They were obedient to the things he asked them to do. Because of Nephi's faith and obedience, the Lord gave him a wonderful promise: As long as Nephi's descendants obeyed Heavenly Father, they would be blessed in the new land.

When we study the Book of Mormon, we see that the Lord kept His promise to Nephi. Whenever the people followed the prophet and obeyed the commandments, they were blessed and were happy. When they would not listen to the prophets and were disobedient, there were wars and hard times and the people were not happy.

Our Heavenly Father loves all of His children very much and wants us to be happy. If we follow His prophets, we will be. President Gordon B. Hinckley has asked us to do certain things that will make our lives happier. He has asked us to read the scriptures daily, to keep the Sabbath Day holy, to share the gospel with our friends, and to stand for the right. Heavenly Father knows that it isn't always easy to do what He has the prophet ask us to do. Sometimes we have to make sacrifices to be obedient. But when we follow the prophet and do what Heavenly Father wants us to do, He will bless us and we will find happiness.

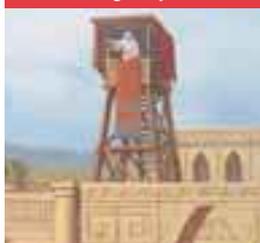
## Blessings of Obedience

Look at the pictures on this page. Match each prophet (A–G) with his teaching (1–7).

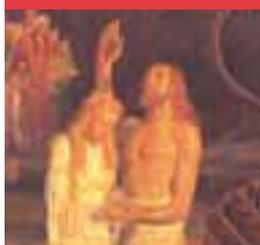
A. Joseph Smith



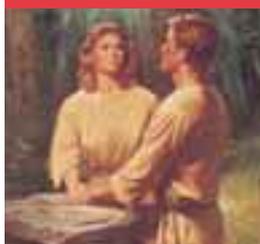
B. King Benjamin



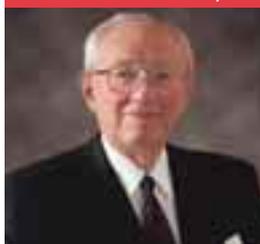
C. Alma



D. Adam



E. Gordon B. Hinckley



F. Noah



G. Enoch



- \_\_\_ 1. The first prophet, he taught his children to pray and promised that if they did, they would be guided by the spirit of inspiration (see *Moses* 5:4–5, 12; 6:4–5).
- \_\_\_ 2. He taught the people to repent and keep the commandments and promised that if they did, they would prosper and be protected from their enemies (see *Moses* 6:32–33, 57–58; 7:10, 13–17).
- \_\_\_ 3. He warned the people that if they did not repent, they would be destroyed in a flood (see *Moses* 8:20–24).
- \_\_\_ 4. He taught the people that if they loved and served one another, they would prosper in the land and be blessed (see *Mosiah* 2:17–24, 41).
- \_\_\_ 5. He taught the people that if they were baptized and kept their covenants, the Lord would pour out His Spirit upon them to teach and guide them (see *Mosiah* 18:8–10).
- \_\_\_ 6. He taught that those who keep the Word of Wisdom will receive health, wisdom, and treasures of knowledge and that the destroying angel will pass by them (see *Doctrine and Covenants* 89).
- \_\_\_ 7. He has promised us that if we will study the scriptures and stand for the right, we will receive a testimony of Jesus Christ and others will be interested in the Church because of our example. (See *Ensign*, June 2000, pages 18–19; *Ensign*, May 1999, page 88.)

Answers: (1) d, (2) g, (3) f, (4) b, (5) c, (6) a, (7) e.



## Sharing Time Ideas

(Note: CS = *Children's Songbook*; GAK = *Gospel Art Kit*)

1. *For younger children:* Tell the story of Moses. Bring some objects and pictures that illustrate various parts of the story, such as a basket or GAK 106, a staff, GAK 107, a rock, a picture of the Red Sea (or another body of water), etc.

*For older children:* Have the children identify the objects or pictures listed above and tell how they relate to incidents in Moses' life. Tell the children that Moses was one of the great prophets in the Old Testament. Explain that the Lord blessed the Israelites many times, providing food for them and keeping them safe as they obeyed the commandments given to them through this prophet. But even though the Israelites saw many miracles, sometimes they were not obedient and Moses had to tell them to repent or the Lord would cease to bless them. Have the children sing the fifth verse of "Follow the Prophet" (CS, pp. 110–111). Bear your testimony that the Lord will bless us as we obey the prophet today.

2. Choose an Old Testament or Book of Mormon prophet, such as Enoch (Moses 6–7; *Primary 6* manual, Lesson 7, pp. 22–30); Noah (*Primary 6* manual, Lesson 8, pp. 31–34; GAK 102–103); Moses (*Primary 6* manual, Lesson 18, pp. 75–79; GAK 107); Lehi (*Primary 4* manual, Lessons 2 and 5, pp. 6–8 and 18–22; GAK 300–301); King Benjamin (*Primary 4* manual, Lesson 10, pp. 39–42; GAK 307). Assign each child or class a part of the story to illustrate. As the children draw their pictures, have the Primary pianist play reverent songs. Collect the pictures. As the children practice singing "Follow the Prophet" (CS, pp. 110–111), tape the pictures together in order to use in a roller box (see "Roller Boxes," *Teaching, No Greater Call*, pp. 178–179) or to hang on the wall. After the children finish singing, show the individual pictures while telling the story of each prophet.

3. Assign several adults to portray various prophets or a person who followed the assigned prophet. Have the adults prepare by reading about their prophet. (For example: Adam (Moses 5:4–12, 58–59), Enoch (Moses 6:26–28; 7:13–21), Noah (Gen. 6–8), Moses (Ex. 3, Num. 14), Daniel (Dan. 6).) Place the adults at different stations around the room. (See "Stations," *Teaching, No Greater Call*, p. 179.) Divide the children into groups and have them pretend to be reporters interviewing the "prophets." Suggest questions for them to use that will help them discover who each prophet is, what he asked the people to do, and how the people were blessed who obeyed his teachings. Rotate the groups through the different stations until they have interviewed every "prophet." After the interviews, have each child draw a picture of one of the prophets. Using a pretend microphone, interview a child to find out what he/she learned about the prophet he/she drew, what that prophet taught, and how the people were blessed who obeyed. Repeat for each prophet. Ask the children if they can think of things the prophet today has asked us to do. Bear your testimony that as we obey the latter-day prophets, we will be blessed, just as people were in ancient times.

4. *For younger children:* Tell the story of Noah to the children. Have several of the children come up and pretend to be different animals that entered the ark. Have the other children guess which animals they are.

*For older children:* Copy parts of the story of Noah from the scriptures (Gen. 6:9–21; Moses 8:22–30). Cut the copy into separate incidents and give one to each class. Have the classes role-play or tell their part of the story for the rest of the children. Draw a picture of an ark sitting in water on one half of the chalkboard. Draw the waterline clear across the board. Ask the children to name the things that Noah and his family did to obey the Lord (obey God's

commandments, build an ark, put food in the ark, gather animals for the ark, move into the ark). Write these on the chalkboard above the water next to the ark. Next, ask for a list of things the wicked people did or did not do (did not listen to the prophet Noah, did not repent, were scornful, tried to kill Noah). Write these things below the waterline. Point out that God protected those who were obedient to His prophet. Those who were not obedient were destroyed. Draw a rainbow over the ark and explain that the Lord promised Noah that He would never again send a flood to cover the earth (see Gen. 9:13–15). For each color on the rainbow, have the children name one blessing that we receive when we follow the prophet today. Explain that the rainbow helps people remember God's promise to Noah. When we obey the latter-day prophets, the Lord will bless us just as He did Noah and his family.

5. Make a large paper heart and cut it into several puzzle pieces. Tape the pieces underneath the seats of some of the chairs before the children come into Primary. Invite a priesthood brother to come and portray the prophet Alma. Have him tell the children about what Alma taught the people by the Waters of Mormon before he baptized them (see Mosiah 18). Have him explain Mosiah 18:21 to the children. Have the children look under their seats for a puzzle piece. Ask those who find puzzle pieces to tell how our hearts can be knit together "in unity and in love one towards another" (Mosiah 18:21). As they respond, have them place their piece of the heart up on the wall. Continue, putting the pieces together until the heart is complete. (You may want to draw a heart pattern the same size as the original heart on another piece of paper for the children to fit their pieces into.) Tell the children that the prophet today wants us to be kind to each other and to love one another. He wants our hearts to be knit together in love, just as Alma wanted that for the people of his day. Sing "I'm Trying to Be like Jesus" (CS, pp. 78–79) and "Jesus Said Love Everyone" (CS, p. 61).

6. *Song Presentation:* "Follow the Prophet" (CS, pp. 110–111). If desired, this song presentation may be done in stages throughout the month. Each week, choose three of the prophets from the song. Write several questions for the children to answer about each prophet. For example: Adam—Who was the first prophet in the Bible? Where did he live? What did he do there? What is a descendant? Who are his descendants? Cut out as many musical notes as you have questions about the prophets. Use a different color of paper for each prophet. Write a question on the back of each note. Place the notes on the floor, question-side down, at the front of the Primary room. In advance, ask three children to represent one of the selected prophets. The week before, give them the answers to the questions about each one's prophet to study. Have the three children stand at the front of the room, holding pictures of the prophets they represent. Have the other Primary children take turns tossing a beanbag onto the notes on the floor. When the beanbag lands on a note, the child who threw the beanbag turns the note over and asks the question written on it. The child representing the prophet answers the question or gets his or her class to help answer it. After all the questions have been answered, sing the verses of "Follow the Prophet" that apply to the prophets just learned about. You may wish to have the child representing the prophet lead the singing for that prophet's verse.

7. Additional *Friend* resources: "Commandments," Mar. 1995, pp. 12–13, 46; "Prophets ABC," June 1995, p. 11; "John the Revelator," Aug. 1995, p. 48; "Benjamin—Nephite Prophet-King," Apr. 1996, p. 48; "Follow the Prophet," Feb. 1997, pp. 24–25; "Who Am I?" June 1997, pp. 24–25; "Mormon and His Teachings," Apr. 1997, pp. 15–19; "Follow the Prophet," this issue, pages 46–47.



## President Wilford Woodruff Crossword

By Hilary Hendricks

You can learn about President Wilford Woodruff, the fourth President of the Church, by doing this crossword puzzle. Read the clues, then fill in the puzzle by choosing the correct answer from the words below.

- chills
- fish
- Holy Ghost**
- journal
- mission
- protected
- sawmill
- schoolhouse
- temple
- United Brethren**

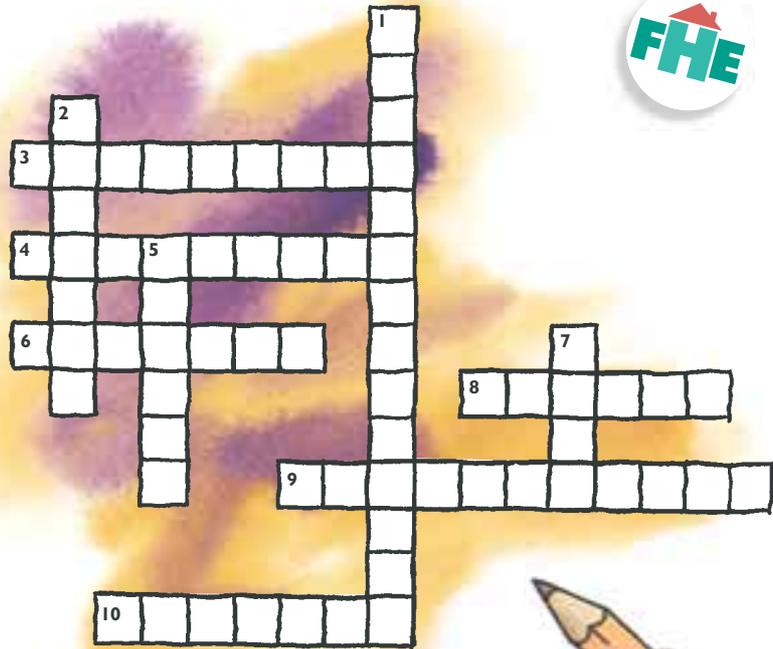
### Across

3. President Woodruff told the missionaries to always have the \_\_\_\_\_ with them so that they could be guided and helped by Heavenly Father.

4. Through many dangers and adventures, he said that he felt \_\_\_\_\_ by Heavenly Father.

6. He grew up working hard in his family's flour mill and \_\_\_\_\_.

8. When it was time for him to leave for England with the other Apostles, he got out of bed and left, even though he and his wife were both seriously ill with a fever and \_\_\_\_\_.



9. After wondering about which church to join, he was delighted to hear that in the nearby \_\_\_\_\_, missionaries were preaching about a restored gospel. He raced there to hear them.

10. When Joseph Smith called him to be an Apostle, the Prophet told him that the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles would soon be leaving on a \_\_\_\_\_ to England.



### Down

1. While in England, Elder Woodruff found this group of people who were looking for the truth. After teaching them for two days, he baptized six hundred of them.

2. For most of his life, President Woodruff wrote in a \_\_\_\_\_ daily.

5. He dedicated this building in Salt Lake City. The Saints had worked to build it for forty years.

7. He loved to hunt and \_\_\_\_\_. He even made artificial flies for bait.

# SEEK, Then Follow The Prophet's Counsel

*He spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began (Luke 1:70).*

**A**fter Jesus Christ was resurrected, He left the care of His church to His Apostles. Peter was the chief Apostle, or President of the Church. At this time, there were only Jews as members, and no gentiles (non-Jews).\*

Then a Roman centurion (a man who commanded a hundred soldiers) named Cornelius had a vision in which an angel told him that his prayers had been answered. The angel also told him to send for Peter to come and teach him.

While Cornelius's servants were coming to get Peter, he, too, had a vision. He saw a "vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:

"Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts . . . , and creeping things, and fowls of the air."

Now, the Jews had been taught to not mingle with gentiles and that certain animals were "unclean" and were not to be eaten. So when a voice came to Peter, telling him to eat the animals that were in the vessel, he protested, "Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean."

But the voice told him, "What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common."

Then Peter, upon going to the house of Cornelius and hearing of his vision, understood that the gospel was to be taken to the gentiles—that is, to all people, everywhere—that God considered them worthy to be taught the gospel. So Peter taught Cornelius and all his household. As the chief Apostle, or prophet, taught them, the Holy Ghost testified to them that what he said was true. Peter told them that they must be baptized so that they might receive the blessing of the gift of the Holy Ghost.

The Jews who followed Christ heard about Peter teaching these gentiles, and they asked Peter about it. When he told them about his and Cornelius's visions and how the Holy Ghost had testified to them of Jesus Christ and His gospel, the Jews accepted them into the Church, another blessing for Cornelius and his household.†

Cornelius, believed to be the first non-Jew who was taught the gospel, teaches us the importance of—and the blessings that come from—seeking the truth by following the counsel of the prophet.

\*See Matthew 16:18–19; Bible Dictionary—"Peter," page 749; "Gentile," page 679.

†See Acts 10–11:18.

1



2



3



## Poster Article Activity: Retell the Story of Cornelius and Peter

**Instructions:** Remove pages 42–43 from the magazine and mount on lightweight cardboard. Cut out the picture strips and glue them together in numbered order. Cut out the house and cut two slits inside it along the broken lines. With the

house facing you, push the strip from the back through the right slit of the frame and back out through the left slit. Look at each picture and retell the story of Cornelius and Peter (see page 42).



4



5



6



GLUE HERE

# Teresa's Dream



*And this is my gospel—repentance and baptism by water (Doctrine and Covenants 39:6).*

**BASED ON A TRUE STORY**  
*By Jane McBride Choate*

missionaries taught and to join The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

**T**eresa Perez had had the same dream for three nights in a row. In her dream, she saw a small room filled with white clothing hanging from a line.

In their small town outside

of Madrid, Spain, nearly everyone belonged to the same church. Some family members and friends had made unkind remarks about the “Mormons” and ridiculed Teresa’s family for even listening to the missionaries.

Teresa didn’t understand everything that the missionaries taught, but she liked the warm feeling she had as she listened to them. They spoke of Jesus Christ and of His love for all children. Teresa liked that. In her old church, she rarely heard about Jesus’ love.

She saw love for the Savior and His gospel in the elders’ eyes. She heard it in their voices when they spoke of Him.



Could the dream have something to do with the lessons she and her family had been taking from the missionaries?

Elder Nichols and Elder Benjamin had started teaching her family three weeks ago and challenging them to read the Book of Mormon and to pray.

She and her parents had started reading the Book of Mormon and praying together. Teresa knew that her parents were struggling with the decision to accept the gospel that the American



When the missionaries arrived that day, Teresa told them of her dream.

“Can you describe the clothes?” Elder Nichols asked.

“There were lots of white clothes hanging from a line. Pants. Shirts. Dresses. Some were little and some bigger.”

Elder Nichols looked at Teresa’s papa. “Can you meet us at the church tomorrow evening?”

Papa nodded. “We will be there.”

The lesson continued, but Teresa barely heard what the young elders said. Her dream and Elder Nichols’s request filled her mind.

That night, the dream came once more. The beautiful white clothes were so white that they shined.

Teresa and her parents made the hour-long trip by bus to the chapel. Elders Nichols and Benjamin met them at the door and led them down a hallway to a small room.

“Is this what you saw in your dream?” Elder Nichols asked.



Teresa looked at the white clothes of all different sizes hanging from a large rack. There were dresses, pants, shirts, just as in her dream! “Yes. It is just as I saw in my dream.”

“These are baptismal clothes.” Elder Nichols explained, “When a person gets baptized, he or she wears all white. It’s a symbol of purity.”

A frown crossed her papa’s face. “We have been baptized. When we were babies. For Teresa, that was only ten years ago.”

“We understand,” Elder Benjamin said. He pointed to the scriptures he always carried. “We learn from the prophets that those who take upon themselves the name of Christ must be baptized by the proper authority.”

Teresa remembered that from the discussions. “The priesthood.”



Elder Benjamin nodded. Then he bore his testimony. Elder Nichols followed. Tears filled his eyes as he spoke of his love for Jesus Christ and of his gratitude for the priesthood which he held and which included the proper authority to baptize people.

Teresa heard the truth in the testimonies. Even more, she felt it. She turned to her father and mother. “It is good, what we hear. I feel it.” She placed a hand on her heart. “I feel it here.”

Elder Nichols smiled. “The word *gospel* means the good news.”

Teresa’s papa wiped tears from his eyes. “Good news. You have brought us very good news.”

“Always we search for something,” her mama said. “Now we have found it.”

“When can we be baptized?” Teresa asked.

Elder Nichols’ smile widened. “How does Saturday sound?”



# Follow the



We should follow the counsel of the prophets of every dispensation. They will guide us to choose the right.

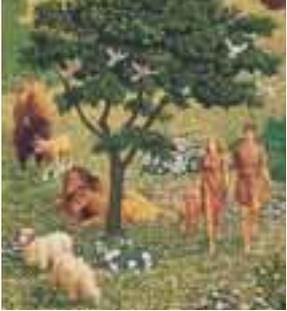
To help you learn the words to the song "Follow the Prophet" (*Children's Songbook*, pages 110–111), carefully remove page 47 from the magazine. Mount it on heavier paper, if you desire, and then cut out the picture clues along the broken lines. Place them in a box or bag. Take turns drawing them out one at a time and then singing the verse of the song that they remind you of.



# Prophet



You may want to write some new verses for other prophets that you know about. Here are some examples of the many that our readers have sent to the *Friend*. Draw a picture clue for the new verses you write, and include them as you do this musical activity.

<p>Adam</p> 	<p>Enoch</p> 
<p>Noah</p> 	<p>Abraham</p> 
<p>Moses</p> 	<p>Samuel</p> 
<p>Jonah</p> 	<p>Daniel</p> 
<p>Now</p> 	<p>Write your own verse!</p>

**Joseph was a prophet,  
First one in our day.  
He saw God and Jesus  
When he went to pray.  
He prayed with great faith  
To know which church was true.  
Jesus said to "join none.  
Truth shall come through you."**  
*(author unknown)*

**Brigham Young, the prophet,  
Valiant to the end,  
"Lion of the Lord,"  
He was Jesus' friend.  
Led the Saints to safety  
Far out in the West,  
Helped them to grow mighty,  
Equal to the test.**  
*Sharon Y. Cupp*

**Nephi was a prophet,  
Tried to get the plates.  
He dressed up as Laban  
By the city gates.  
With his brothers waiting,  
Nephi went inside.  
He knew God would help him  
And with him abide.**  
*Glenn Kidder*

**Samuel was a prophet,  
Lamanite by birth,  
Prophesied the time when  
Christ would come to earth.  
Cried to all, "Repentance!"  
Shouted from the wall.  
Wicked would not listen,  
Tried to make him fall.**  
*Holly W. Hancock*

# Guide to the *Friend*

The Guide to the *Friend* can help you find stories or articles for preparing lessons or talks for church or for family home evening. Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned in Family Home Evening Ideas.



## FAMILY HOME EVENING IDEAS

1. Read “A Lesson for Mother” (pages 2–3), then make two lists—“Things We Need to Stop Doing to Keep the Sabbath Day Holy” and “Things We Can Do on the Sabbath Day to Keep It Holy.” Post the lists to help you remember.
2. Ask a family member to tell the story “Claire In-Line” (pages 8–9). Look at “Be a Standard-Bearer” (pages 24–25), and discuss which of the standards Claire was following by her choice. Go through all the standards and discuss ways you can follow them.
3. Assign a younger family member to learn and present the poem “Stopping for Daddy” (page 31). Then tell the story “The Errand” (pages 18–20). Ask your father to tell each of you the kind of person he wants you to become.
4. Do the “President Wilford Woodruff Crossword”



See pages 8–9.

(page 41), then read the story “Wilford Woodruff, Fisherman of the Lord” (pages 34–35). Share ways that you have tried to share the gospel with others.

5. Make the cutouts as directed and use them to tell the story “Seek, Then Follow the Prophet’s Counsel” (pages 42–43). Invite a family member or a friend who has served a mission to share

some missionary experiences, or tell the story “Teresa’s Dream” (pages 44–45).

6. Do the music activity “Follow the Prophet” (pages 46–47) for a fun evening.

7. Make “Peanut Butter Smiles” or “Bacon Cheddar Muffins” (page 22) for refreshments.

## HOW TO HONOR DAD

1. Write in your journal about a time you chose the right by obeying your father even though you didn’t want to. Were you glad that you did?
2. Tell your father that you love him. Show him your love by doing your chores without being asked, being reverent during family home evening, leaving a nice note or picture under his pillow about things he does to make you happy.
3. Ask your dad to tell you stories about when he was a child, or ask your mom, a grandparent, aunt, or uncle to tell you about him. Write your favorite story about him in your journal.

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(m) = music  
(p) = poem  
(P) = poster

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## Honest Art Choice

**My teacher was out of the room,** helping other students. Some of the rest of us who didn't need to use the computers were messing around—walking around, reading, goofing off. I was at my desk, quietly drawing a comic page I had been working on.

Jason\* came over and said, "Will you draw this for me?" He pointed to a picture in our social studies book that he wanted to use for an assignment.



When I asked why, he replied, "I can't draw very well, so can you draw this for me? The teacher won't know it was you, I swear."

I thought, *What should I do? He knows I'm a good artist, but this just doesn't seem honest.*

"Ehhhhh, no," I said.

"Why not? Please, man," he begged.

"Because this isn't right. I don't want to," I told him.

"OK, if you can tell me five reasons why it's not right, I won't bug you anymore."

"Look," I said, "why can't you do it? Just do your best. It isn't like he's going to give you a bad grade for a not-so-good picture. Just try."

"But . . ." he started, then trailed off and walked away from my desk.

It was really hard to make that choice. I thought that if I didn't draw the picture, he wouldn't like me and I couldn't be his friend. But now he's just like



normal. I'm glad I made the right choice.

*Austin Lee Ballard, age 11  
Rexburg, Idaho*

## Thinking About Jesus

**In sacrament meeting,** we take bread and water because

it helps us to think about Jesus. I look at pictures of Jesus, too. My favorite pictures are the picture of Jesus wearing a red sweater and the one where He is walking on a white cloud. In the cloud picture, He is saying to me, "Come give Me a hug."



*Brynlee Paige Norton, age 3  
Park Forest, Illinois*

## Lunch Break

**When I was seven years old,** my family moved to Canada from Horsham, England. Choosing the right in England is the same as choosing the right in Canada. At school on my lunch break, sometimes I go to the corner store with friends. I see kids smoking, using bad language, and looking at inappropriate magazines. By learning to choose the right while I was in Primary, I'm still able to make good choices now by staying away from bad influences.



*Daniel Brownlee, age 12  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada*

\*Name has been changed.

*I love sister;  
she loves me.*

*We love brother,  
yes sirree;*

*He loves us,  
and so you see,*

*We are a happy family.*

*(Children's Songbook, page 198.)*