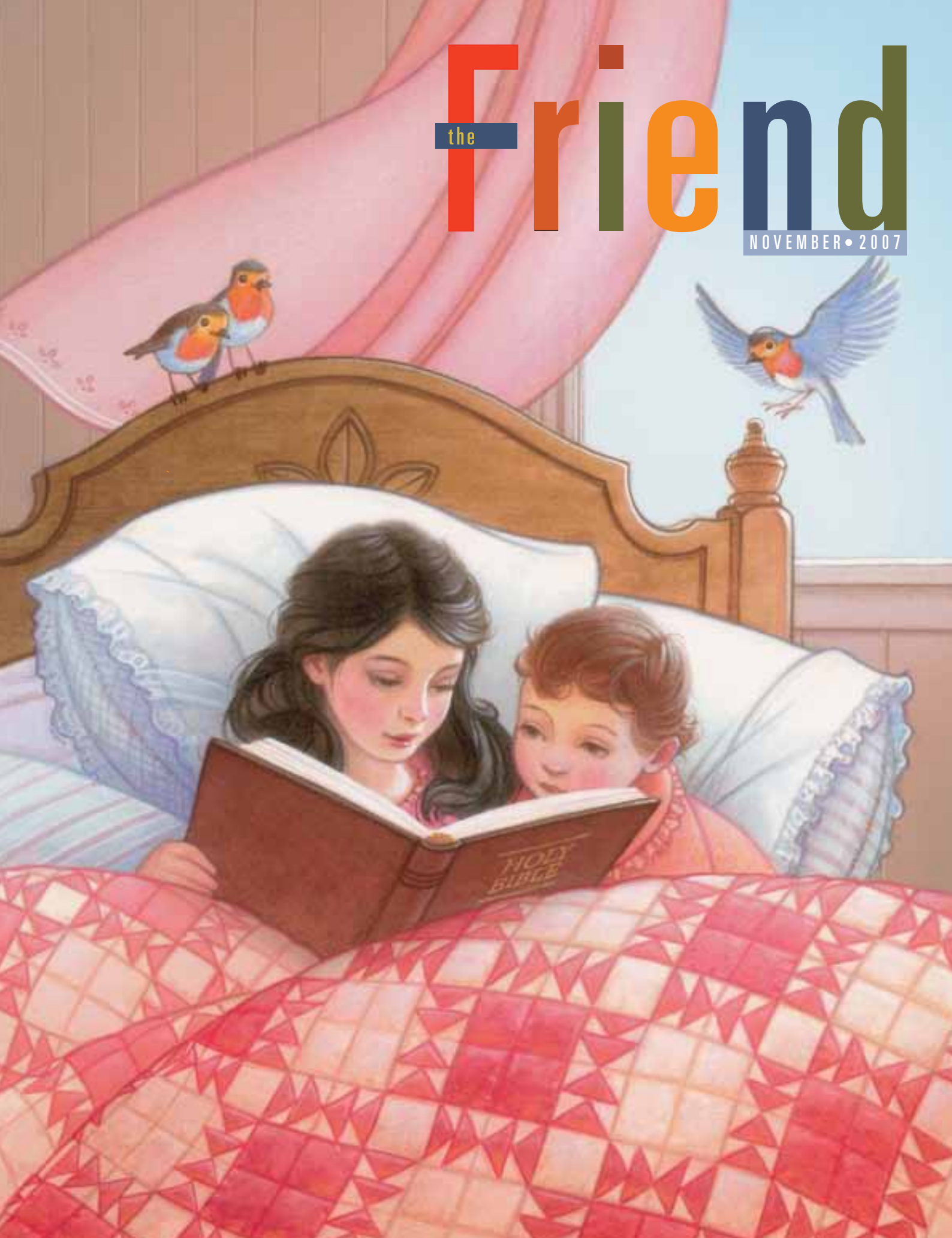


the friend

NOVEMBER • 2007



Friends by Mail



Following Kayla and the Spirit

When I went to Delaware this summer, my papa and I took his dog Kayla for a walk at a bird sanctuary. We walked so far into the woods that we got lost. We tried for hours to find our way back to the car. We thought we might have to build a shelter and sleep there because it was getting dark. The Holy Ghost prompted Papa to let Kayla off the leash, and she would lead us back to the car. Papa listened, and we found our way out of the woods. I know that if we listen to the Holy Ghost we will be blessed.

Gavin E., age 6, California, with help from his mom



Biking Prayer

I was biking with my dad when I got sick. I felt awful. It was too far to ride home, so we sat down on the sidewalk and I asked Dad to say a prayer for me. Then we walked down the street and found a lady who gave me a chair in the shade and a glass of water. She let us call my mom on her phone, and Mom came and picked me up. Once I got home I rested for a while and felt fine. I am thankful that Heavenly Father answered our prayer and helped us.

Jared K., age 7, British Columbia, Canada

My Baptism

About a year ago I was baptized and confirmed a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. When my dad confirmed me, many of my family, friends, and neighbors were there with me. By the time the ordinance was done, I was in tears because I could feel the Spirit. I shook everyone's hand and gave them a hug. From that day on, I have always tried to choose the right.

Mckaley Ann S., age 9, Utah



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November 2007

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the friend

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



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

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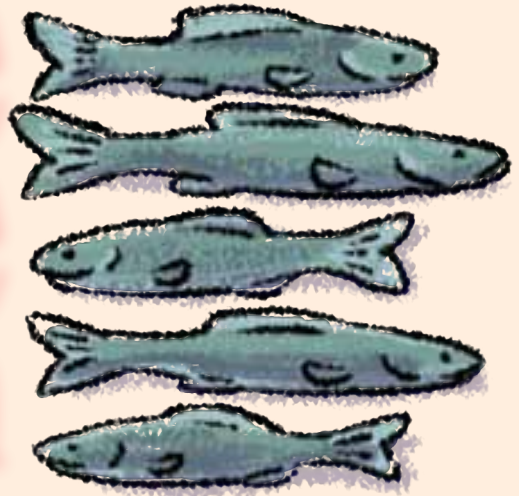
Cover by Hala Wittwer





President Hinckley shows how good things can happen even when keeping a commandment is very hard.

Five Little Fish



BY PRESIDENT GORDON B. HINCKLEY

As a young man recently returned from his mission, Rene found the girl he wanted to marry. They were happy, but very poor.

Then came a difficult time when their food and money ran out. It was a Saturday, and the cupboard was literally bare. Rene felt distraught that his young wife was hungry.

He decided he had no other choice than to use their

tithing money and go purchase food.

As he was leaving the house, his wife stopped him and asked him where he was going. He told her he was going to buy food. She asked him where he got the money. He told her that it was the tithing money. She said, "That is the Lord's money—you will not use that to buy food." He put the money back, and they went to bed hungry that night.

The next morning they had no breakfast, and they went to church fasting. Rene





gave the tithing money to the bishop, but he was too proud to tell the bishop that they were in need.

After the meetings he and his wife left the chapel and started to walk home. They hadn't gone very far when a new member called to them from his house. This man was a fisherman and told them he had more fish than he could use. He wrapped five little fish in a newspaper for them, and they thanked him. As they continued to walk home, they were stopped by another member who gave them tortillas; then someone else stopped them and

gave them rice; another member saw them and gave them beans.

When they arrived home, they had enough food for two weeks. They were even more surprised when they unwrapped the package of fish and found two very large fish and not the five smaller ones they thought they had seen. They cut the fish in portions and stored it in their neighbor's freezer.

They have repeatedly testified that never since then have they gone hungry. ●

From a September 2006 general Relief Society meeting address.

Things to think about

1. What would you do if you were hungry and the only money you had was for tithing?

2. Did the people who gave Rene and his wife food know they didn't have food? If they didn't, why do you think they gave them food?

3. What blessings did Rene and his wife receive because they paid tithing? What blessings have you received?





Rock Soup

BY MICHELE H. MIRABILE

(Based on a true story)

Let the peace of God rule in your hearts, . . . and be ye thankful (Colossians 3:15).

Eliza was hungry. Her stomach churned and rumbled so loudly she was certain everyone at the table could hear it. But no one paid any attention. They were all too busy pushing the small portion of greens around on their plates, and waiting for their mother to sit down so they could say the blessing.

It had been a long winter, and the growing season in their small farming town had been too short, leaving little money for food and supplies. Now the Forsyth family was going hungry. For the past three weeks, all they'd had to eat was pigweed. Eliza didn't want to complain, but pigweed was yucky and she didn't want to eat it anymore.

"Do we have to eat this again?" she asked, poking at the stringy greens with her fork.

"Count your blessings, Eliza," Father said in a quiet voice. "Be thankful that you have something warm to fill your stomach. It's more than a lot of people have right now."

Eliza hoped she hadn't made her father feel bad. He worked so hard to take care of their family. It wasn't his fault that they were having hard times.

"Soup's on," Mother said, carrying a large pot to the table. "Move your elbows and pass your bowls."

Eliza's stomach grumbled in anticipation. Her mother made the best soup in town, and she couldn't wait to sink her teeth into a sweet carrot or meaty potato.

But as she watched her mother fill the bowls with hot, steaming liquid, Eliza's heart sank. There were no carrots in sight. No potatoes. No beans. No meat of any kind. Just rocks. There were rocks in her soup!

At the sight of the stones in the bottom of her bowl, her eyes filled with tears and she groaned. "I'm hungry,



Mother. Don't we have anything else to eat?"

"Yuck," said Eliza's sister Agnes as she plucked a large brown chunk from her bowl. "What's this?"

"That's part of Uncle George's saddle," Mother said, looking around the table at the faces of her unbelieving family. "He doesn't need it anymore, so I cut it up and boiled it to give the soup some flavor. Just set it aside. It's not for eating."

"What are the rocks for?" asked Neal, scrunching up his face as he pushed the rocks around with his spoon.

Mother smiled. "Those are just for fun. Now please fold your arms. Eliza, will you bless the food?"

Eliza didn't want to. She wasn't grateful for weeds and rocks and boiled saddles.

"Don't forget to thank Heavenly Father for keeping us safe, and for giving us so many blessings," Mother said.

Eliza looked into her bowl of rock soup, then around her at the bowed heads of her family. Despite the long, cold winter they had endured, all of them were safe and healthy. They had a house to live in, clothes to wear, and plenty of firewood to keep them warm. And in spite of their suffering, they were kind

to their neighbors and each other. Mother was right. They really did have much to be thankful for.

"Thank Thee, Heavenly Father, for the food our mother has prepared," Eliza prayed.

She thanked Him for the pigweed that grew plentifully on the farm.

She thanked Him for the rocks that covered the west pasture, because without them, they wouldn't be having rock soup.

And she thanked Him for her family and the love they shared.

When Eliza finished her prayer, she had a warm feeling and knew that Heavenly Father loved her.

When dinner was over, the aching emptiness of her stomach was filled with the best soup Eliza had eaten in a long time. ●

"Walk with gratitude before him who is the giver of life and every good gift."

President Gordon B. Hinckley, "With All Thy Getting Get Understanding," *Ensign*, Aug. 1988, 4.



My **BUSY** Body

BY JACQUELINE SCHIFF



My head can nod.

My eyes can blink.

My nose can sniff
The garden scents.

1.
My face can smile.

My body's busy.
I thank Thee, God.

My hands can clap.

My arms can reach.

My knees can bend.

My feet can dance.

My toes can tap.



PRAYER and WORK



From an interview with Elder Neil L. Andersen of the Seventy; by Callie Buys

Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded (2 Chronicles 15:7).

I grew up on a small farm in Idaho, and I remember raising rabbits. They were soft and friendly and wonderful to snuggle with. But sometimes they would gnaw a hole in their little compartments and escape. This was very dangerous because dogs or cats could hurt them.

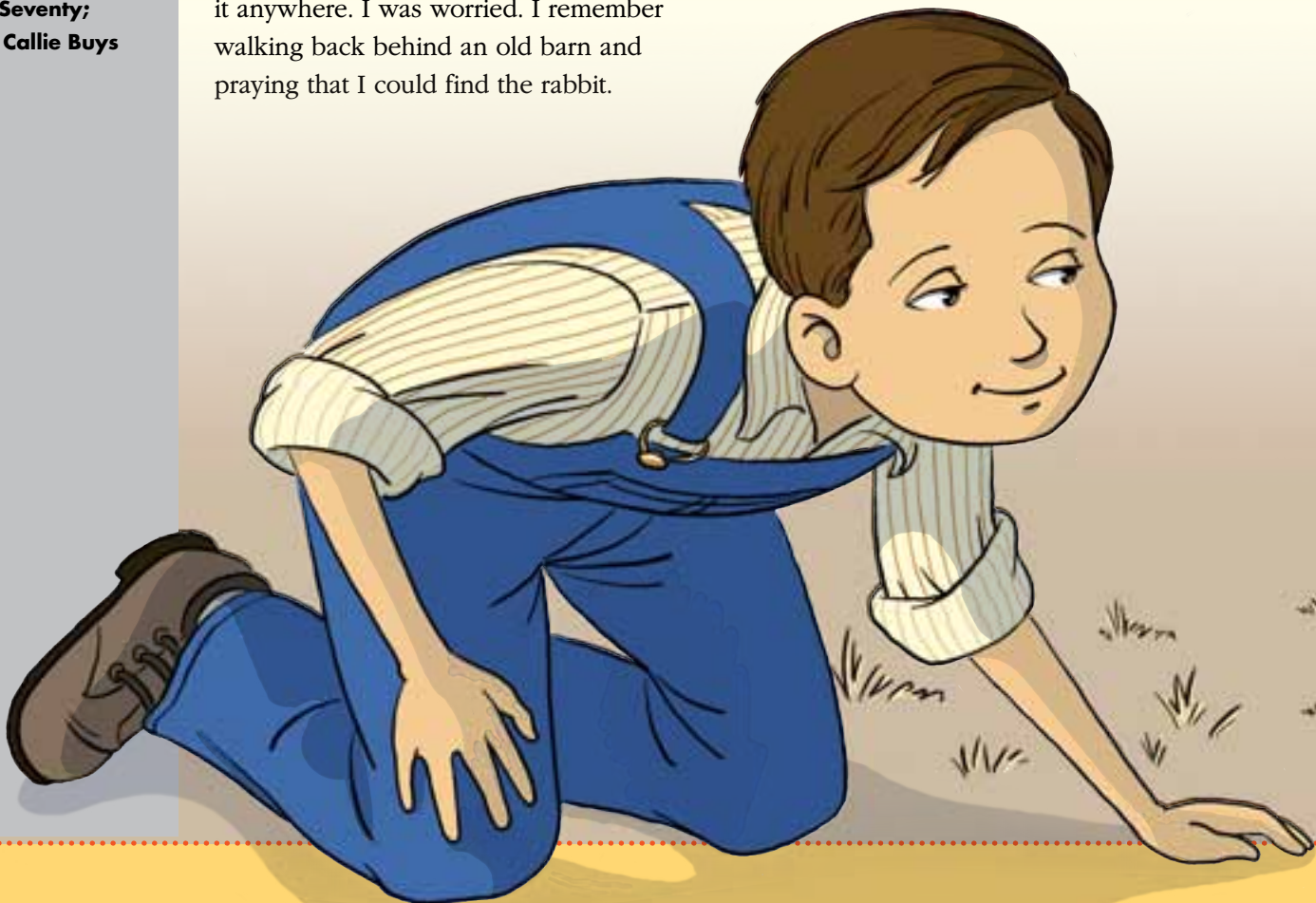
When I was about seven years old, a rabbit I especially liked got out. I looked all over our little farm, but I could not find it anywhere. I was worried. I remember walking back behind an old barn and praying that I could find the rabbit.

Immediately after the prayer, an image came into my mind of a spot beneath some boards. I had a feeling that I would find my rabbit there. And sure enough, I went to that spot and found my rabbit.

This experience taught me that the Lord responds to the small and simple prayers of all of us. In D&C 8:2 He says, “I will tell you in your mind and in your heart.”

The Lord answers the prayers of all who pray with a sincere heart, believing that He will answer those prayers.

As a young boy on our farm, I also





Elder Andersen (front middle) and his family

learned how to work. From the time I was about five years old, we always had cows to milk. In all seasons of the year we got up at 5:30 in the morning to milk our cows. I can remember milking them on Christmas morning, and leaving the events of our community on other holidays to go home to do the milking.

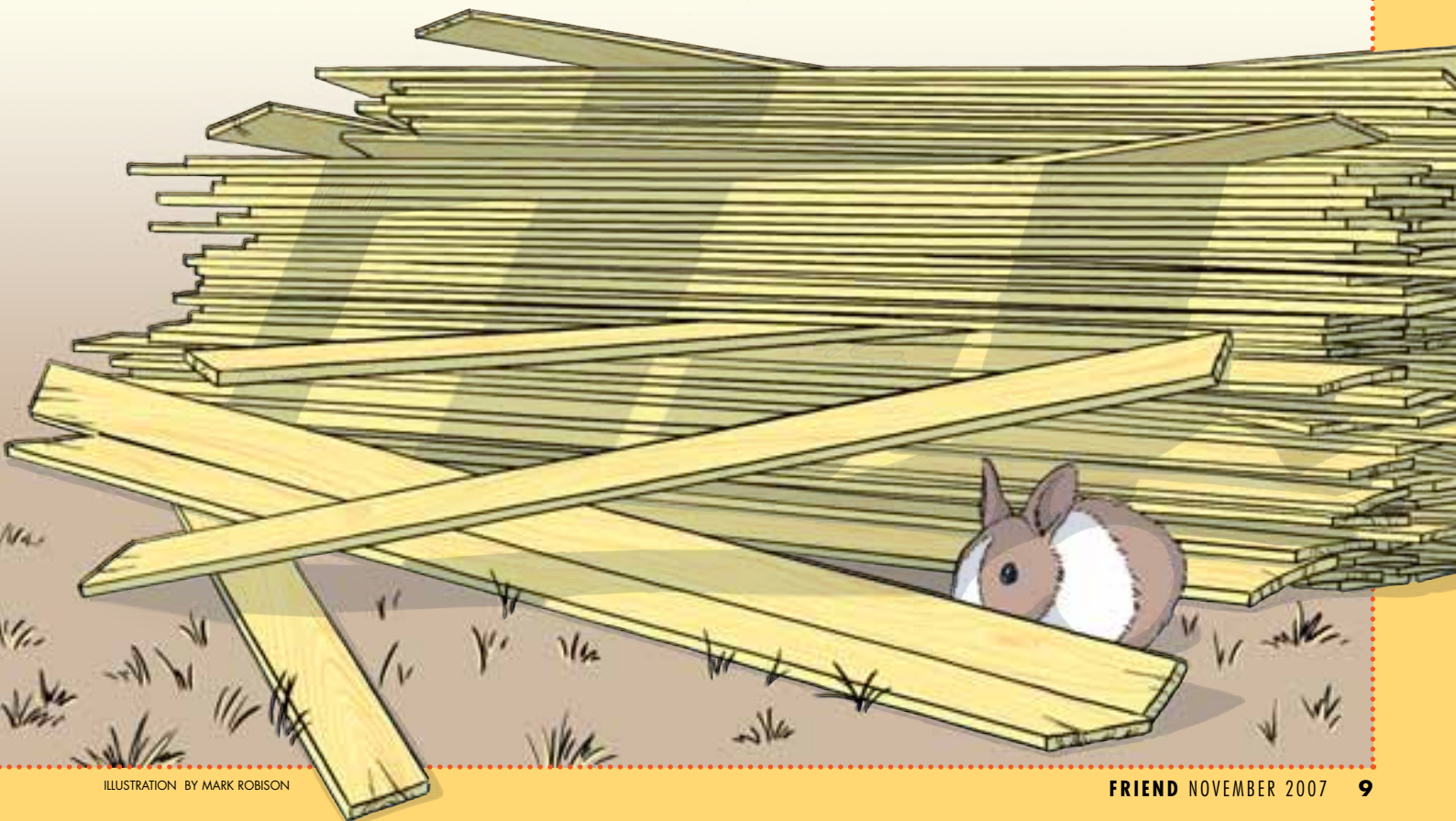
At the time, this seemed somewhat unfair to me since many of my friends did not have the same requirements. Now I realize that all of the things I learned when I was younger about working have blessed me. Work is a part of life. The Lord has said, “Wo unto you . . . who will not labor with your own hands” (D&C 56:17). We all must learn how to work.

Sometimes when our parents ask us to fulfill duties, we feel it is unfair, or we would prefer to play. But our parents have a responsibility to teach us how to work, and they do this because they love us.

Another principle I learned from working was the principle of paying tithing. My family did not have very much money, but my parents paid us a small amount for the work we did. I knew that all things came from the Lord and that 10 percent should be returned to Him.

It always gave me great satisfaction to fill out the envelope and give the small amount of tithing I owed to the Lord. The few nickels and dimes I gave as a young boy set a pattern that was easy to follow when I later received more money for my work. I still felt that same powerful feeling of satisfaction in knowing that by paying my tithing, I was doing what the Lord wanted me to do.

We learn many things when we are young. It is important that we listen to and obey our parents. They will help us learn those things that will bring us happy and righteous lives. ●



*He gave him tithes of all
(Genesis 14:20).*

Tithing Shoes

BY PATRICIA AND DEWAYNE WARNOCK
(Based on a true story)

*I can't go to
church on
Sunday!*

Jene looked up in surprise when she heard those words coming from her older brother, Rolf. On Rolf's feet were shoes that were too worn out to wear anymore. His toes stuck out from under torn leather. Ragged ends of broken shoelaces dangled uselessly. These were the only shoes Rolf had.

"I can't walk around in these anymore," he said. "And I can't go to church or to town without shoes." He flopped down on the floor and rested his chin in his hands.

Mother walked over to the kitchen cupboard and



pulled out a jar. The children knew what was in that jar—tithing money.

Holding out a few dollar bills, Mother said:

This is all the money I have.

It's enough to pay tithing on what your father was paid the last time he found work." They all stared at it for a minute, and then she added, "It would be enough to buy shoes, but I can't do both."

She put the money back in the jar and sat down at the kitchen table. "I need to think about this for a while," she said.

For a long time the children played quietly, trying not to disturb their mother while she sat at the table. Finally, she stood up and walked toward the door. "I don't know what Rolf will do for shoes," she said quietly. "But I'll feel better if our tithing is paid. I'll go take the money down to the bishop's house right now," she said.

Jene ran out the door behind her. "Can I go too?" she asked.

"Yes, come along if you want," Mother said.

Jene and her mother silently walked the six blocks to the bishop's house. As they reached the door, her mother took the money out of her pocket and looked at it one more time. Jene



saw the worried look on her mother's face. "Come in, come in," Bishop Johnson said, smiling at them. He shook Jene's hand and thanked her mother when she handed him the money. Then he said,

I know it's not easy sometimes to pay tithing, but the Lord blesses us when we do.

On their way home, Jene and her mother saw their neighbor Mrs. Colgrove coming out her front door. She waved for them to come over to her front gate. As they got closer, Mrs. Colgrove held out a pair of leather shoes to Jene's mother.

"I've been meaning to bring these over to you," she said. "I thought maybe one of your children could use them."

Mother looked at the shoes with amazement. Jene clapped her hands happily as she realized they looked very close to the size Rolf needed.

Finally Mother was able to speak. "Thank you . . .



"If we decide now to be a full-tithe payer and if we are steady in paying it, blessings will flow."

Elder Henry B. Eyring of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Spiritual Preparedness: Start Early and Be Steady," *Ensign*, Nov. 2005, 40.



thank you so much," she said, rubbing the soft leather.

Jene took off running toward home. Bursting through the kitchen door she shouted:

*Rolf, Rolf!
You have
new shoes!*

Jene and Rolf followed her to her bedroom and watched as she opened a big wooden chest.

"Why would you want to put those old shoes in there?" Jene asked.

With a tear in her eye, Mother answered:

*These shoes need to be
kept forever. Whenever we
look at them we'll remember
that the Lord blesses us when
we pay our tithing.*

Rolf jumped up, looking puzzled. Jene pointed outside to their mother who was walking into the yard holding the shoes. Soon Mother was explaining to Rolf where the shoes had come from.

Rolf quickly put them on and marched around the room to show how well they fit. Picking up the old pair of raggedy shoes from the floor, he said, "Now we can dump these in the garbage where they belong!"

"Oh no," Mother said, taking the shoes out of his hands. "These are very special shoes," she said. "They need to be kept in a special place."



Jene and Rolf grew up and had children and homes of their own.

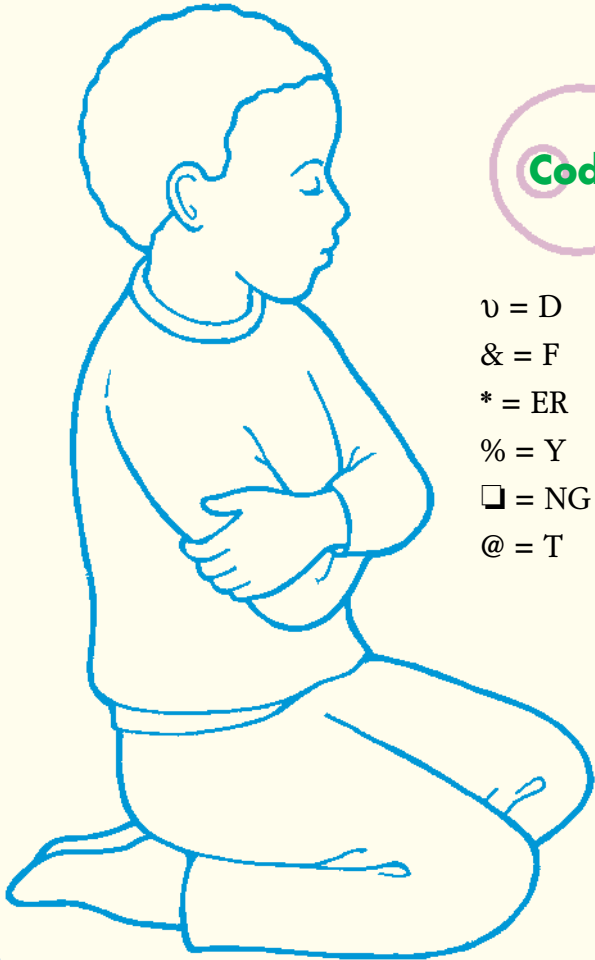
When their mother died, Jene was given the wooden trunk full of special things. The shoes are still in there and are taken out from time to time so that children and grandchildren can hear the story about the lesson learned long ago from a pair of old, worn-out shoes. ●

Be Thankful

BY GUY BELLERANTI

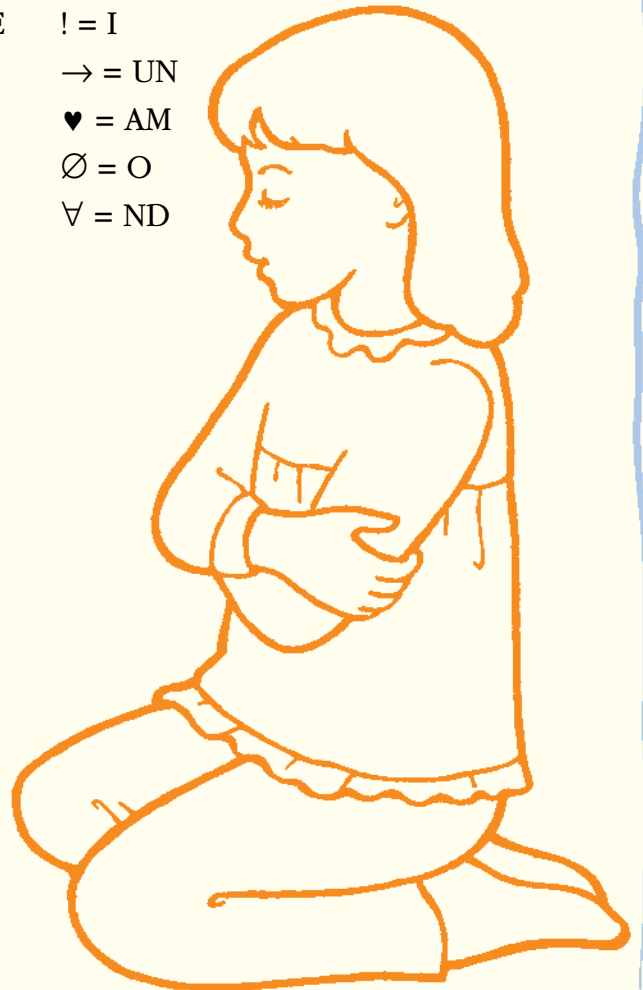
Psalm 100:4 reads, "Be thankful unto him, and bless his name." We can live with a thankful heart and be grateful for all that we have.

Six things to be thankful for are written in code below. Use the code key to find out what they are.



Code Key:

v = D	∃ = R	⊆ = S
& = F	? = L	↑ = PP
* = ER	V = SHE	! = I
% = Y	# = H	→ = UN
□ = NG	Π = IE	♥ = AM
@ = T	[= C	∅ = O
		∇ = ND

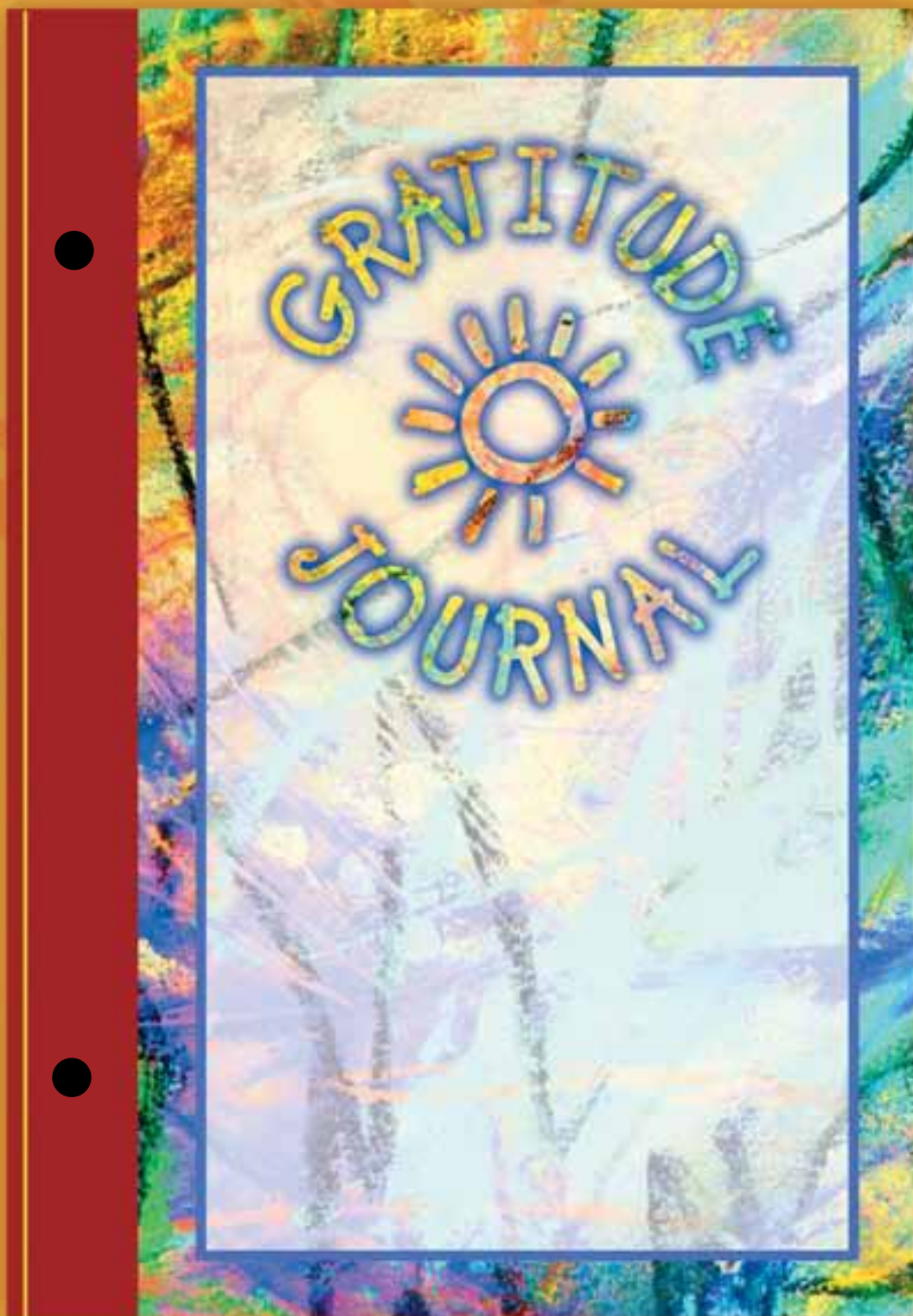


Six things to be thankful for:

1. & ∃ Π ∇ ⊆ _____
2. [? ∅ @ # ! □ _____
3. ∅ ↑ ∅ ∃ @ → ! @ Π ⊆ _____
4. & ∅ ∅ v _____
5. & ♥ ! ? % _____
6. ∇ ? @ * _____

Can you think of more?

ILLUSTRATIONS BY BETH WHITTAKER



TWO Little Words



Thou shalt thank the Lord thy God in all things
(D&C 59:7).

BY ELIZABETH RICKS



“There are two little words in the English language that perhaps mean more than all others,” says President Gordon B. Hinckley. “They are ‘thank you’ ” (“A Prophet’s Counsel and Prayer for Youth,” *Ensign*, Jan. 2001, 4). Every language has comparable words, such as *gracias*, *merci*, *danke*, *obrigado*, and *arigato*.

You can say thank you by writing a kind note to someone who has done something special for you or who has given you a gift. You can say thank you by helping someone who has helped you.

Another way to show your gratitude is to be respectful. Amanda’s mother made her a beautiful dress. When Amanda wasn’t wearing the dress, she carefully hung it up. That showed her mother that she was grateful for the dress. Daniel’s grandfather gave him a book that he had read when he was a boy. By keeping the book on the bookshelf when he wasn’t reading it and by turning the old pages very carefully, Daniel showed his grandfather that he was grateful for the book.

It is important to say thank you; in fact, we are commanded to be thankful. In the Doctrine and

Covenants, the Lord says, “Thou shalt thank the Lord thy God in all things” (D&C 59:7).

We show Heavenly Father and Jesus that we are grateful to Them by keeping Their commandments. When we are baptized, we show obedience to the Lord. When we read the scriptures, we show that we are thankful to have the word of God. When we partake of the sacrament reverently, we are showing our gratitude for Jesus Christ’s Atonement.

As you realize all of the blessings that you have, your faith will grow. Your faith will be another blessing that you will be grateful for. ●

Activity

Remove page 14 from the *Friend*. Mount it on heavier paper to form the cover of a book and use an extra piece of heavy paper for the back cover. Add pieces of paper to the inside of your journal. Punch holes where indicated and thread a ribbon through the book. In your Gratitude Journal, write or draw things for which you are grateful. You can include things such as family, friends, home, and love. What else can you think of?

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

Sharing Time Ideas

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

1. Using a box or other materials, make a simple replica of a home. You may want to draw a front door and some windows on the box. Tell the children that the box represents a home and ask them to name some of the things in their homes that they are grateful for. Before Primary, prepare wordstrips for the older children and pictures for the younger children of things that are in our homes. Inside the box have wordstrips or pictures such as "bed," "sofa," "scriptures," and "sink." Also include family members and possibly pets. When the children have guessed all of the things that are in the box, show them the empty box but explain that some of the most important things in a home cannot be seen. Help them name intangible things such as "love," "the gospel," and "gratitude." Explain that our homes are happier when we are grateful. Also explain that we are commanded to be thankful.

Sing "I Am Glad for Many Things" (p. 151). Choose three pictures or wordstrips that you took from the box and sing those words instead of "many things" in the first line. For example, you might sing, "I am glad for a soft bed, a warm stove, a sink. I am glad for many things that are mine today." Express your gratitude for your home and family and bear testimony that these are blessings from a loving Heavenly Father.

The music director might consider teaching "Our House Becomes a Home" (*Friend* July 1996, 12–13) to reinforce the blessings of home.

2. Write the word *belong* on the chalkboard and ask the children to think of something that they belong to. For example, each child belongs to a family. Quickly brainstorm ideas (see "Brainstorming," *TNGC*, 160–61). They might think of school classes, clubs, or teams.

Sing "The Church of Jesus Christ" (p. 77) and explain that this song tells some of the blessings of being a member of the Church. Tell them that you are going to discover more blessings. Divide the Primary into six groups and give each group one of the following pictures or objects: GAK 615 (Serving One Another), GAK 616 (Family Togetherness), GAK 604 (The Sacrament), GAK 602 (The Gift of the Holy Ghost), a picture of the temple for your area, and a Book of Mormon. Ask each group to discuss how this picture or object represents a blessing of membership in the Church. For example, one group might say, "When we are members of the Church, the people in our ward help each other," or "We can live forever with our families when we are sealed in the temple." Give each group ample time to report.

Have the children listen to a quote from President Hinckley that tells how wonderful it is to be a member of the Church: "What a marvelous thing it is to belong to a society whose purposes are noble, whose accomplishments are tremendous, whose work is uplifting, even heroic. Be loyal to the Church under all circumstances. I make you a promise that the authorities of this Church will never lead you astray. They will lead you in paths of happiness" ("A Prophet's Counsel and Prayer for Youth," *Ensign*, Jan. 2001, 9). Explain that another great blessing is having a living prophet on the earth. Bear your witness of the prophet and testify that the leaders of the Church will indeed "lead you in paths of happiness." Sing "Latter-day Prophets" (p. 134).

3. Display these GAK pictures on one half of the chalkboard: 601 (Baptism), 602 (The Gift of the Holy Ghost), 603 (Blessing the Sacrament), 604 (Passing the Sacrament), 611 (The Bishop), 612 (Missionaries Teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ), 613 (Administering to

the Sick), 614 (Home Teaching). Ask the children what the pictures have in common (the priesthood). Ask who is able to receive the priesthood (worthy male members of the Church). Explain that both boys and girls are blessed by the power of the priesthood. Sing both verses of "Love Is Spoken Here" (pp. 190–91).

Prepare wordstrips beforehand that describe each picture. Attach the wordstrips in random order to the other half of the chalkboard. Ask who has had an experience with priesthood power. Let a volunteer tell his or her experience, then draw a line from the wordstrip to the matching picture that relates to the child's story. Continue until all the pictures and wordstrips have been matched.

Sing "The Priesthood Is Restored" (p. 89). With the approval of the bishop or branch president, invite a priesthood holder and his wife to discuss the blessings of the priesthood, such as administering the sacrament, home teaching, baptizing, and blessing the sick. Ask them to bear testimony of the blessings that come to both men and women through the priesthood.

4. Begin Primary by thanking the people who make Primary enjoyable each week: the music director and pianist, the teachers, the members of the Primary presidency, and the children. One way to show your gratitude is to say thank you. Ask the children how they can show their gratitude for Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. Sing "Children All Over the World" (pp. 16–17).

Another way to show our gratitude and love is through our actions. When He was on the earth, Jesus told the people how they should show their love for Him. Ask the children to listen for the way we show our love for Jesus as you read John 14:15. Help the children memorize the scripture (See "Memorization," *TNGC*, 171–72).

One way we can show our gratitude and love for Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ is by being reverent and respectful when we come to church.

Ask the children to listen to a song on the piano and see how the music makes them feel. Have the pianist play "Reverence Is a Feeling" (*Friend*, Sept. 1996, 5). Make a list of words that describe the feeling of reverence. Sing the song, defining such words as "honor" and "awe." Explain that "our Father's law" means Heavenly Father's commandments. Play a sing-and-listen game. When the music director points to his or her mouth, the children should sing, but when he or she points to his or her ears, the children should listen.

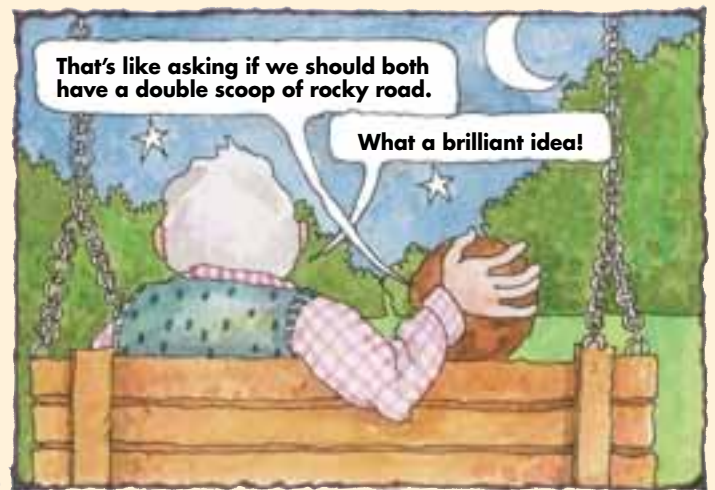
Testify that we show gratitude for Heavenly Father and Jesus when we obey Their commandments. If possible, share a personal experience of a time when you felt especially blessed for keeping the commandments.

5. Sing "Latter-day Prophets" (p. 134) using GAK pictures as reminders of each prophet. Before Primary, obtain enough hymnbooks so that each child can have access to one. Introduce the children to the Authors and Composers index on page 387. Tell them that four of our hymns were written by Presidents of the Church and let them search the index for those hymns. Explain that an asterisk (*) beside people's names indicates that they are LDS, so the children should look at the names with asterisks by them. Use the hymnbooks to sing three of the hymns (135, 127, 262).

6. *Friend* references: "Grateful Heart," May 1994, inside front cover; "My Thank-You Song," Nov. 1986, 39; "What to Do Now?" Oct. 2006, 48; "Sacred Priesthood Blessings," Oct. 2004, 2; "Blessed by the Priesthood," July 2006, 8–9; "The First Thanksgiving in Utah," Nov. 2004, 4–6; " 'But Where Are the Nine?' " Nov. 1975, 38–39.



MATT AND Mandy



Magic DOORS

THE KEARL FAMILY OF CALGARY, ALBERTA, CANADA

BY MELVIN LEAVITT
Church Magazines

Dan, Emily, and Scott Kearl live on the edge of a wild ravine on the outskirts of Calgary, Alberta, Canada. A path runs alongside the brink, and they often walk there with their parents and their dog, Joey. Here they come now—would you like to meet them?



The Cardston Alberta Temple



SCOTT, age 8

One of Scott's schoolteachers calls him "liquid sunshine" because he's usually in motion and almost always happy. He is a natural comedian who loves to see people laugh. He's also a peacemaker and wants everybody to be as happy as he is. He is thrilled to have started Cub Scouts and has already earned a badge. He's delighted that he now reads well enough to take a full part in family scripture study.

Scott plays goalie on a soccer team and likes going to professional hockey games with Dad. He wants to be a firefighter when he grows up. He likes to play with his virtual pet, play video games, ice-skate, and go sledding. His favorite food is cheese pizza.



Emily, age 11

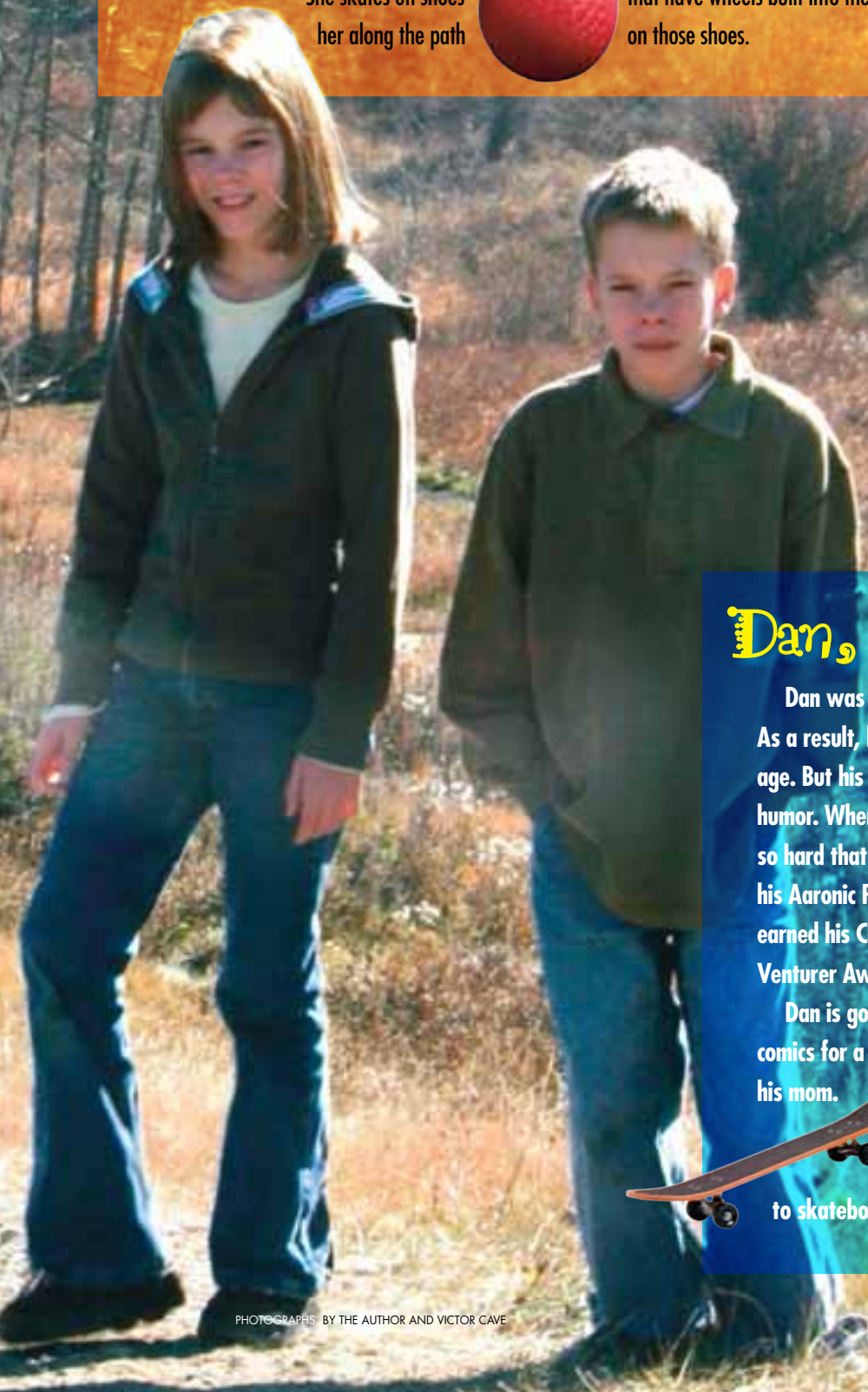
Emily is a hard-working girl who does her best at everything she does. She turns in her school assignments early and then helps others with theirs.

Emily is known as the “dominoes queen” of the family because she often wins at dominoes. She likes gym at school and is the top dodgeball player. Her greatest goals are to be married in the Cardston Alberta Temple and be a good

mom. Emily likes to scrapbook while listening to music. She skates on shoes her along the path



that have wheels built into them. Sometimes Joey tows on those shoes.



Dan, age 14

Dan was born too early and had to fight for his life. As a result, he is a little shorter than other young men his age. But his determination is gigantic, and so is his sense of humor. When the family watches a funny movie, he laughs so hard that everyone else has to join in. He is faithful in his Aaronic Priesthood duties and is an avid Scouter. He has earned his Chief Scout Award and plans to earn his Queen’s Venturer Award before he turns 16.

Dan is good at art and wants to draw Japanese comics for a living. He is a computer whiz and often helps his mom. He shares the gospel with his friends and loves to do baptisms for the dead in the Cardston Alberta Temple. He likes to skateboard and play basketball and soccer.



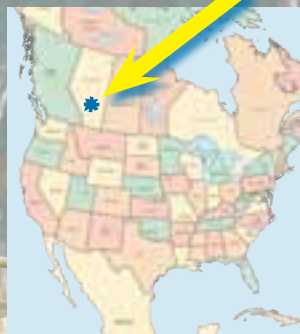
As fun as they are individually, the Kearl children are even more fun together. They like to play fetch and keep-away with Joey, bounce on their trampoline, and roast marshmallows for s'mores. They also like to play with their many cousins. Above all, they enjoy camping out. The Canadian Rockies rise from the Great Plains in a wall of snow-capped peaks just 40 miles (64 km) west of Calgary. The Kearls take full advantage of the breathtaking scenery and endless camping sites the Rockies offer. Brother Kearl's 95-year-old grandfather owns a homestead in a remote area at the foot of Old Chief Mountain near the United States border. The Kearls often join him there. It's pitch-black at night, and the stars are a burning river in the sky.



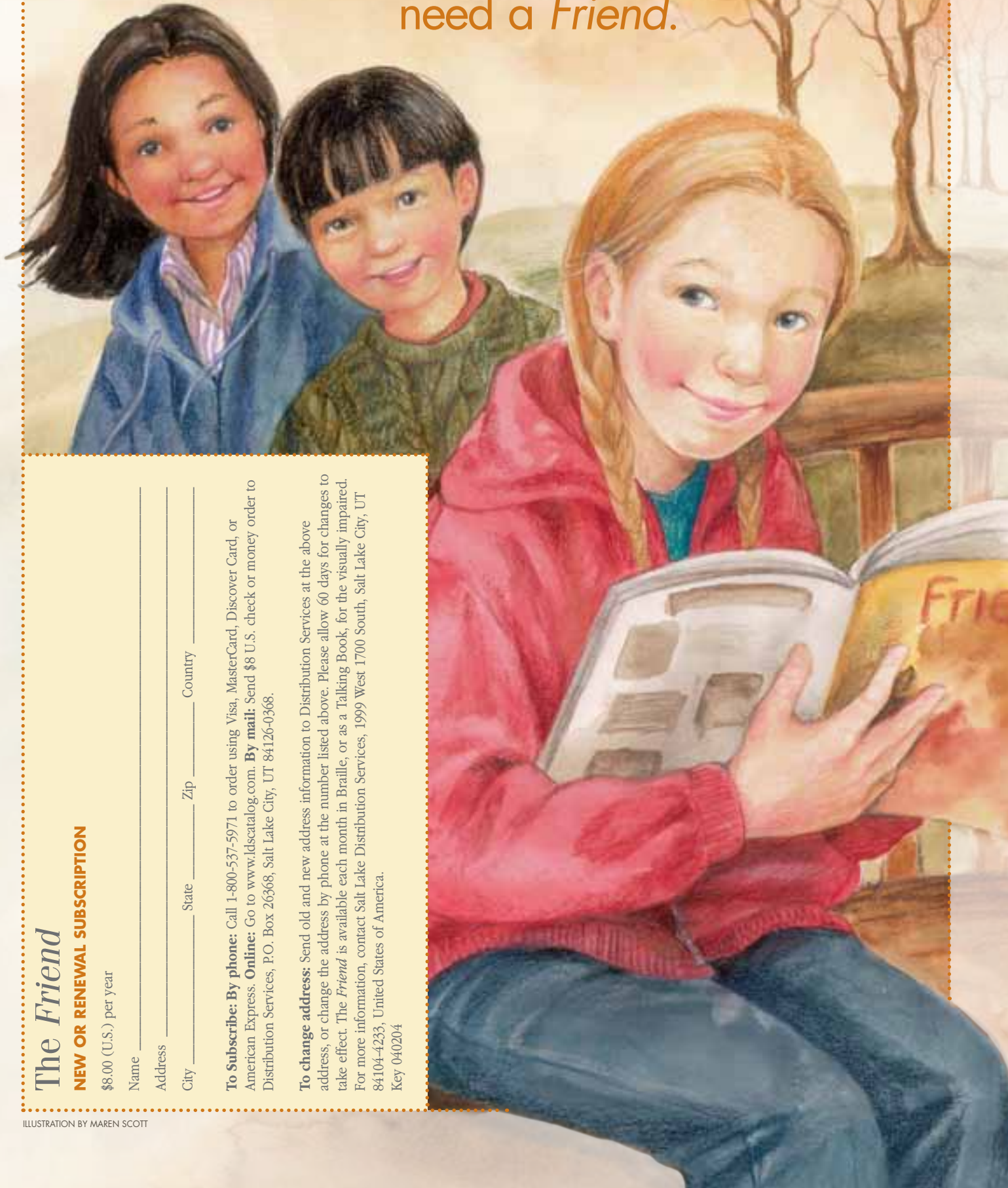
The Kearls enjoy being phantoms. This means leaving a treat and a poem on someone's doorstep and running away. In spite of close calls, not one of them has yet been caught in the act. Each Christmas they choose two families and become super-phantoms by doing the Twelve Days of Christmas for both.

The Kearls' home almost seems to have magic doors. Step out the front door and you're in the city. Exit the back door and you're in the countryside by the ravine. But step back inside through either door and you find the best magic of all—the peace and safety of a loving home. ●

Where in the world is Calgary, Alberta, Canada?



Sometimes friends
need a *Friend*.



The *Friend*

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Key 040204

Book Reviews

Picture Books

Pop's Bridge, by Eve Bunting, illustrated by C. F. Payne. Robert's and Charlie's fathers are helping to create the Golden Gate Bridge. Robert's father is a "sky-walker," a worker who balances high in the air to spin and bend the cables. Charlie's father helps to paint the bridge. Is one job more important than the other?

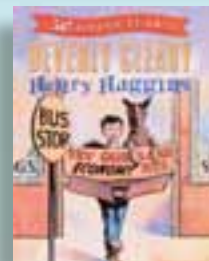


Zuzu's Wishing Cake, by Linda Michelin, pictures by D. B. Johnson. Zuzu loves to smile and play. But as much as she tries, she can't get the boy next door to smile. But Zuzu has a plan. She makes a wishing cake to share!



For Children ages 5-9

*Henry Huggins**, by Beverly Cleary, illustrated by Louis Darling.



When Henry adopts a stray dog and tries to take him home on the bus, the pair has the first of many adventures together. How does Henry end up with gallons of fish? Why is the dog pink when he enters the dog show? Find out in this classic story.



*The Story of Doctor Dolittle**, by Hugh Lofting. John Dolittle is known all over the world, but not by people . . . he is known by animals! This special doctor learns to speak the language of animals, and when he is asked to travel across the ocean to cure sick monkeys, he can't refuse. Join the doctor and his animal companions on an exciting voyage.



For Children Ages 10–12

A Single Shard, by Linda Sue Park. Every day, Tree-ear hides and watches Min, the master potter. When Min discovers the boy and offers him work, Tree-ear hopes that he will soon be able to create beautiful pottery. But when his chores are only chopping wood and digging for clay, he longs for a way to prove his worth to his master.

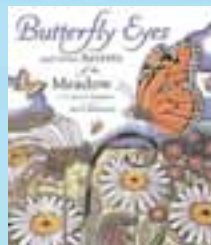


Fairest, by Gail Carson Levine. Aza is not beautiful, but her appearance is offset by her beautiful singing voice. When Aza has the opportunity to go to the capital city, she learns about true beauty, honesty, and lasting friendship.

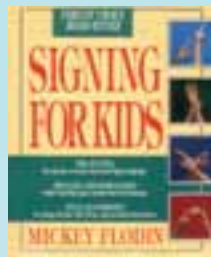


Nonfiction

Butterfly Eyes and Other Secrets of the Meadow, by Joyce Sidman, illustrated by Beth Krommes. Discover the hidden world of the meadow in these poetry riddles. Detailed illustrations accompany each poem and show some of the things only a careful observer might spot.



Signing for Kids, by Mickey Flodin. Have you ever wanted to learn sign language? This easy-to-follow book will teach you how to communicate using a manual alphabet, as well as how to sign words about animals, food, school, family, friends, and more.



These reviews do not constitute official Church endorsement of these books, but the books have been carefully reviewed to ensure that Church standards are observed. **Warning:** Occasionally, characters who are not members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints do not follow the Word of Wisdom. Selections where this occurs are marked with an asterisk (*).





1. Karl is taking two pairs of shoes to Russia. He will do a lot of walking, so he will need the extra pair!

Adam and Tamira exercise by playing outside so they can be strong and healthy.



2. Before Karl goes on his mission, he needs to attend the temple.



Tamira
who
pre

KARL'S MISSION



Adam and Tamira want to follow the prophet too. They listen carefully to his words during general conference, and try to live righteously.

6. Karl was excited to receive his mission call. He knew he was following the prophet by accepting the call to share the gospel with others.



5. Karl prays every day as he prepares for his mission. He prays both when he is alone, and with his family.

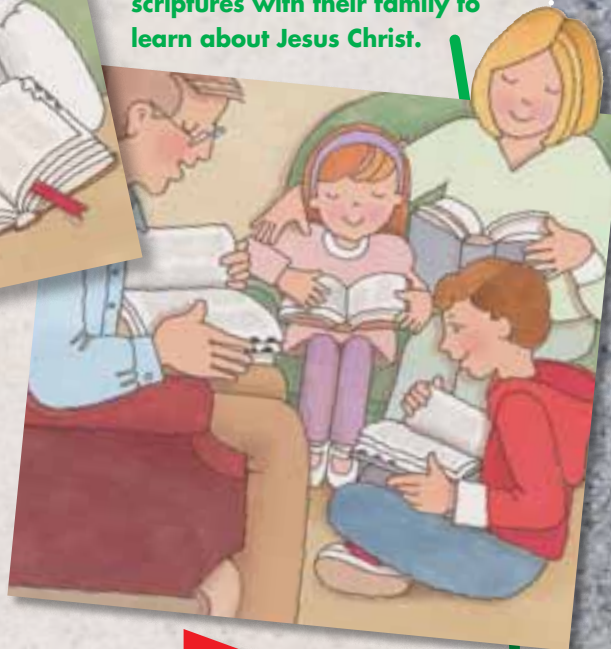


Tamira and Adam can go to the temple when they are older. Right now they can prepare by following what Christ has taught.



Tamira and Adam study the scriptures with their family to learn about Jesus Christ.

3. Every missionary needs to have his or her own set of scriptures. But even more important than having them is knowing what is in them.



ION

BY BRITNEY RULE

Adam and Tamira's older brother, Karl, is going on a mission to Russia. Tamira and Adam want to be missionaries too. As they help Karl pack, they are reminded how they can prepare for missionary work.

Tamira and Adam remember to say their prayers to grow closer to Heavenly Father.



Tamira and Adam have pictures of Jesus Christ in their bedrooms so they can remember Him every day.

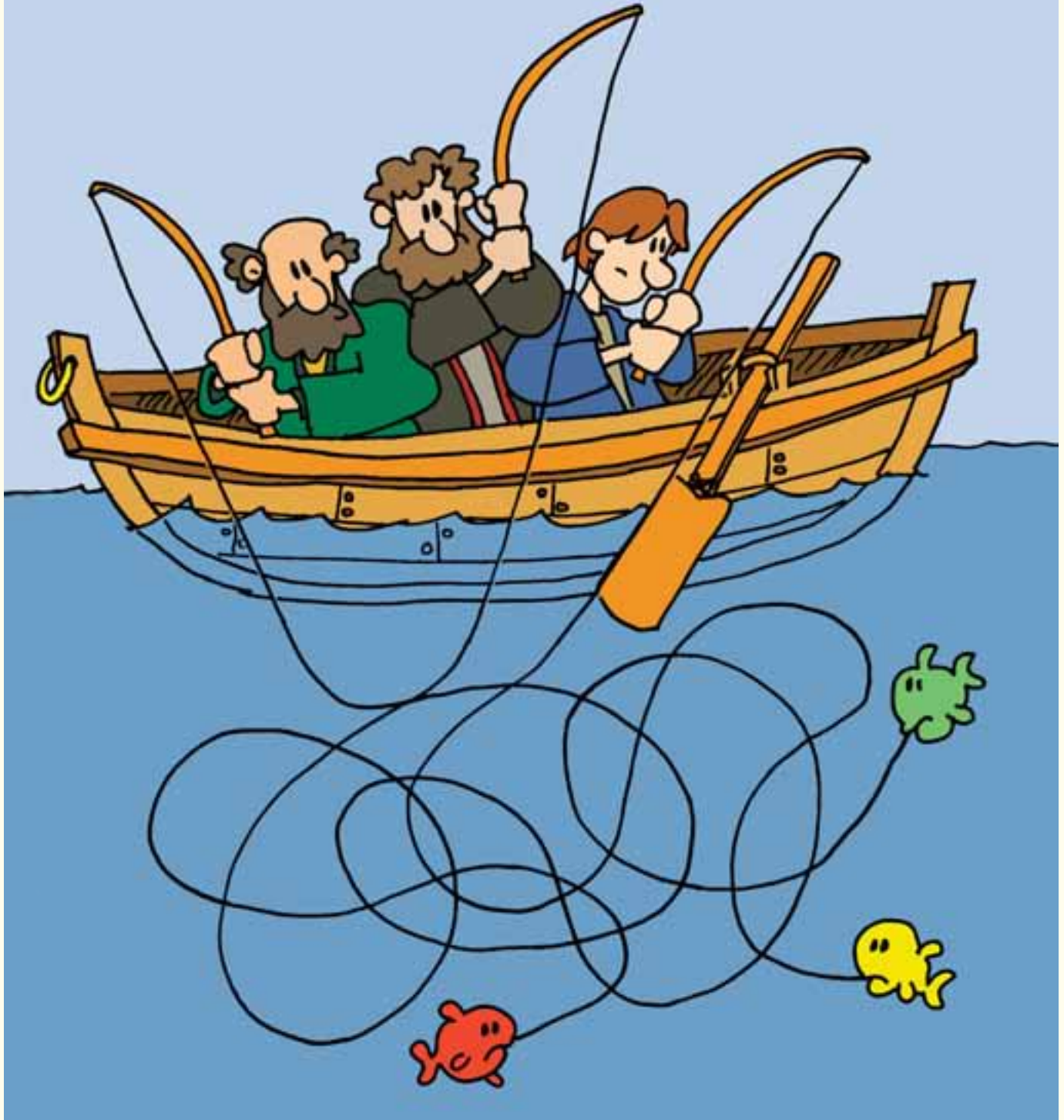


4. Karl carries a picture of Christ to remember to be like Jesus.

Fishers of Men

BY ARIE VAN DE GRAAF

Before they were Apostles of Jesus Christ, Peter, James, and John were fishermen. Can you sort out which fish Peter, James, and John (from left to right) have caught?



crescent rolls



1

In a small bowl, mix the yeast, tablespoon of sugar, and warm water. Set

aside for three to four minutes, allowing the yeast to activate. In a separate bowl, mix the salt, oil, and 1/2 cup sugar. Stir in the yeast mixture. Add the eggs and warm milk. Slowly stir in the flour. Add an additional

1/2 to 1 cup of flour if the dough is too sticky to form a ball.



With your family's help, make these delicious rolls for a special family dinner. You might like to read the *Friend* while you wait for the dough to rise.

2

Cover the dough and let it rise for three or four hours.

1 scant tablespoon yeast

1 tablespoon sugar

1/3 cup warm water*

3/4 teaspoon salt

1/2 cup canola oil

1/2 cup sugar

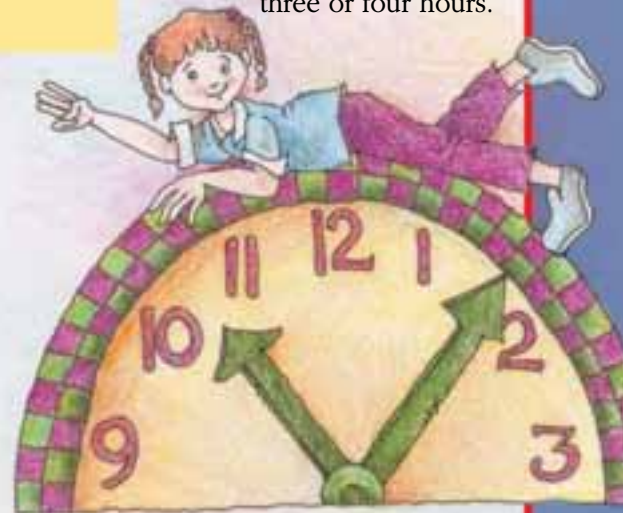
3 eggs, beaten

1 cup warm milk*

5 cups flour, more as needed

1/2 cup butter, melted

*Must be 110°–112°F (43°–44°C) for the yeast to activate. (Liquid should feel warm to the touch.)



3

Divide the dough into two pieces. Roll each piece into a circle about 1/4-inch thick. Brush the dough with melted butter. Slice the dough like a pizza into 12 wedges and roll up each wedge from the wide end to the narrow end. Place the rolls on baking sheets with the narrow tip of dough tucked underneath. Cover the rolls with a clean dish towel and let them rise for another two or three hours.



4

Brush the tops of the rolls lightly with butter and bake them for 10 minutes at 375°F (190°C). Makes 2 dozen.



Too OLD for Primary

BY REBECCA
WILKINSON

(Based on a true story)

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

Jayson slumped in his seat. “This is so boring,” he thought. “I’m too old for Primary.” He looked around at the other children. Some were smiling or nodding. They actually looked interested in what Sister Simmons was saying. “How could anyone enjoy this?” he thought glumly.

For several months Jayson had dreaded

Primary. He didn’t mind class so much; his teacher involved everyone with fun lessons. But singing and sharing time just weren’t interesting anymore. The lessons were for younger children, and the songs he used to love now seemed childish.

Jayson had talked with Mom about the problem. She told him



that Primary was for everyone and that if he tried hard to listen, there would always be something just for him. Mom was almost never wrong, but this must be an exception.

He glanced at the clock—still 20 minutes to go. He started looking for ways to make the time speed up. He folded up his class handout. Pretty soon he started swinging his feet back and forth. Just as he was about to see how long he could hold his breath, Jayson heard something amazing. “I made a big mistake,” Sister Simmons said.

“Well, this is new,” Jayson thought. “Teachers don’t talk about their mistakes.”

“When I was 12 years old I had some friends who used bad language,” Sister Simmons said, “and I noticed that whenever I got mad a swear word would pop into my head. I wasn’t worried, because I knew that I wouldn’t actually say the words. But one day I got mad during

recess and took the Lord’s name in vain. I felt so sad! I couldn’t believe that I had crossed the line between words in my head and words in my mouth.”

Jayson sat up straight, the clock forgotten. Sister Simmons told how she had talked with her parents that night and asked her father for a priesthood blessing. The bad words didn’t go away immediately, but as she crowded them out with good thoughts, they came



less often. After a while, they went away completely.

Jayson couldn't believe it! He had been having exactly the same problem. Lots of his friends at school swore, and cuss words always seemed to be floating around in his head. Just the other day he had called a boy a bad name for kicking a ball over the school fence. He felt terrible afterward! But he didn't have the courage to ask his parents for help. He was afraid they would forbid him from hanging out with his friends.

Sitting there in Primary, he suddenly stopped being afraid. Sister Simmons had faced the problem, and so could he. Her parents had understood, and so would his. Maybe he could even get a blessing from his dad, just like Sister Simmons had. A happy feeling came over him, and he felt better than he had in weeks.

The next thing he knew, the closing prayer was being said, and all the other children were leaving the Primary room. Jayson sat thinking a few moments, then slowly got to his feet. He noticed that Sister Simmons was giving him a worried look. "Are you OK?" she asked.

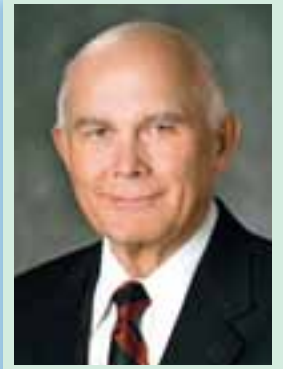
Jayson grinned. "I'm great actually, and my mom was right as usual. Primary really does have something for everybody—if you just keep listening." ●



Are you
Ok?



What should I be thankful for in my life?



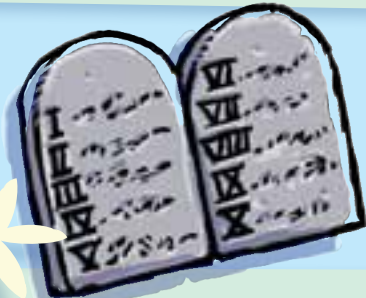
Elder Dallin H. Oaks of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles shares some of his thoughts on this subject.



We have so much for which to give thanks. First and foremost, we are thankful for our Savior Jesus Christ.



We give thanks for the revealed truths that provide a standard against which to measure all things.



We give thanks for commandments. They are directions away from pitfalls, and they are invitations to blessings.



We should even give thanks for our afflictions because they turn our hearts to God and give us opportunities to prepare for what God would have us become.



Let us give thanks for what we are and for the circumstances God has given us for our personal journey through mortality.

From "Give Thanks in All Things," Ensign, May 2003, 95-97.



Trying to Be Like Jesus

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

I Said "Sorry"

By Garrett O.



Today in my Primary class we were reading in the book of Malachi. When my friend Carter read, I giggled

because he read some words wrong. Afterward I was sad because I'm not very good at math and I wouldn't like it if he giggled when I got an answer wrong.

When I got home I called him and said I was sorry. I feel better now.

Garret O., age 10, Utah



A Brave Friend

By Joseph V.



I was playing at a friend's house when another boy came over to play. The other boy

began using bad language and not being nice. My friend asked the boy to stop. He didn't, so my

friend told him to go home. The boy refused. My friend called the boy's mom on the phone, explained what was going on, and handed the phone to the boy. He hung up on his mom. My friend called her again, and this time the boy listened to his mom and went home.

This was a brave thing for my friend to do. I am thankful for good friends who are not afraid to stand up for what is right. I know that friends like that help me to choose the right.

Joseph V., age 11, Arizona



My Buddy

By Jackson M.



In my first-grade class at school, my teacher told all the students to select a buddy for a class activity. There was one boy nobody wanted to be buddies with, and he was really sad. So I went over to him and said I would be his buddy. That made him really happy. I'm glad I was able to help someone feel better.

Jackson M., age 7, Virginia



Web-Site Warning

By Devonee Tay P.

I decided to start my own Web site. But after a few days of making the site, I felt very uncomfortable because I hadn't asked my parents for permission first. I didn't want them to know that I had a Web site, but something inside me told me to tell them and show them my site. When I showed Mom and Dad my Web site they were pleased that I had been careful not to use my last name, but told me that I would have to delete it

because they couldn't be sure it would be secure (safe). I'm glad that my parents are helping me understand what dangers are out there and how I can be safe. Most of all, though, I'm thankful to the Holy Ghost for warning me to tell my parents.

Devonee Tay P., age 11, Idaho



Ring of Truth

By Tyler M. D. with help from his mom



My Primary teacher gave everyone in my class a CTR ring. I wore mine to school. My teachers asked me what it

meant. I told them it stands for "Choose the Right," and that I learn to choose the right at church. I also let a friend wear it and told her what it meant. I was happy that I could share my beliefs with my friends and teachers.

Tyler M. D., age 5, Florida





BY DEBBRA B. NANCE
(Based on a true story)

Be thou humble; and the Lord thy God shall lead thee by the hand, and give thee answer to thy prayers (D&C 112:10).

Suzy gripped my arm and dragged me into an empty classroom. “Debbie, I think I’m going to die.”

“Now look, Suzy,” I said, loosening her fingers from my arm, “I don’t think you can die from giving a talk.”

“But my heart is pounding and I feel sick,” she said. “Maybe I’m going to have a heart attack.”

“Calm down and tell me what I can do to help,” I suggested. Suzy is my best friend. She and I and the other 12-year-olds who were advancing to Young Women had been asked to give talks at a program. It was starting in only a few minutes.

“Maybe you could help me run away,” Suzy said hopefully.

“Suzy, you’re the bishop’s daughter. Everyone expects you to be there. I think they would notice if you were gone.”

“There must be something I can do,” Suzy said as she paced between the door and wall.

“What exactly is the problem?” I asked.

“I didn’t prepare my talk the way I

usually do and I don’t have any notes.” She stopped and turned to face me. “My dad said I’m old enough to give a talk from my heart. Now I’m terrified and I

won’t remember anything.”

“Can’t you talk to him again?” I asked. “It’s too late. He said whatever I said would be fine. But I’m afraid I’m going to make a fool of myself. I think the only solution is to run away.”

“Wait a minute,” I said. I knew there must be a better solution to Suzy’s problem. Suddenly a thought came to me. “Come on,” I said, pulling Suzy with me. We went down the hall away from the Primary room toward the chapel. “Let’s go in here and say a prayer,” I said softly. “Then things will be all right.” I opened the heavy door and we peeked inside. The room was empty and a little light shone from somewhere up front.

Suzy and I tiptoed into the chapel and dropped to our knees. I told her I would pray. I asked Heavenly Father to bless Suzy to be able to give her talk, and to bless her with the Spirit so she would be calm and know that He loved her. I don’t remember what else I said. What I do remember is the warm feeling that surrounded me as we knelt in the chapel. I knew without a doubt that Heavenly Father loved Suzy and would help her, and I knew that Heavenly Father loved me too.

After a few moments we got up from our knees and headed to the Primary room to give our talks. Suzy did fine without notes. I will never forget the feeling of complete love that surrounded me as we knelt in the darkened chapel to ask Heavenly Father for help. ●

The ANSWER



Thankful

BY ERIN SHAKESPEAR

I am so thankful,
So thankful to Thee,



For flowers and sunshine
And birds and tall trees.



For mountains to climb
And stars that glow,



For bright cheery days
And those filled with snow.



For friends who laugh
And mothers who sing.



I am so thankful
For everything!



I am thankful for—

In the space below draw a picture of something you are thankful for.







Establish a house, even a house of prayer (D&C 109:8).








What Daniel Forgot





BY LANA KRUMWIEDE

(Based on a true story)





 loved **2** visit . He liked **2** help . She asked  if he would

set the .  put the  on the . Then  put  s **&**  s

&  s on the . "**U4** got something,"  said. "I **4** got the ,

 said.  put the  on the . "**U4** got something,"  said again.

"I **4** got the ,

napkins  said. He put the  on the . "**U4** got something

else,"  said.  looked at the . He had remembered ,  s,  s,  s,

, and . "What did I **4** get?"  asked.  . "**U4** got **2**

turn the  s around **4** .   too. He turned the  s around so

his  could kneel around the  **4** . "How could I **4** get?"  asked.

"I love  at 's 's ." ●



Paper-Sack Turkey

BY CHAUNCEY MOBBERLY

You will need: tissue paper or newspaper, a brown paper sack, glue, lightweight cardboard, scissors, and crayons.

1. Stuff a few sheets of tissue paper or newspaper into the bottom of the paper sack to form the turkey's body.

2. Glue the edges of the top part of the sack together.

3. From the lightweight cardboard, cut two triangle-shaped pieces for the feet. Color them, then glue them to the paper sack.

4. Draw, color, and cut out a large "S" shape for turkey's head, eye, neck, wattle, and beak from lightweight cardboard. Glue it to the front of the paper-sack body.

5. Cut out a wing shape on a piece of colored paper.

6. Draw, color, and cut out several feathers. Glue them to the back of the paper-sack body.



Banana Bun



Friends in the News



Forest Grove Second Ward

The senior Primary children of the Forest Grove Second Ward, Hillsboro Oregon Stake, love to sing. Their favorite song is "Scripture Power." One Sunday after singing the second verse, they asked if they could learn the third verse. When they found out there wasn't one, they wrote a third verse together. They memorized scriptures outlined in the Primary program and had a Scripture Power Banquet.



Madison B., 4, Ohio, enjoys singing Primary songs, saying prayers, and learning about Jesus. She also likes playing with her brother Hunter, helping with her little brother Jackson, swimming, gymnastics, and ballet.



E. M. Noah B., 8, Utah, was baptized by his grandpa. His favorite Primary song is "I Am a Child of God." He is quick to smile and joke around. He enjoys playing soccer with his friends, and he is a good student.



Emily Rose and Aubrey C., 5 and 4, Missouri, have two brothers and two other sisters. Emily enjoys singing, drawing pictures for others, reading, and school. She wants to be obedient to what her parents teach her. Aubrey has a generous heart. She is a big helper and loves to make her baby brother, Seth, smile. She has a great sense of humor.



Nate and Evan C., 9 and 6, Utah, are brothers and best friends. They enjoy family home evening, Primary, doing art projects, and playing football or baseball with their dad. Nate enjoys Cub Scouts and Evan is anxious to become a Cub Scout too.



Levi M., 4, Nevada, likes to learn about Nephi. He enjoys playing with his big brother, wrestling with his dad, and playing T-ball. He is learning his ABCs and he just learned how to write his name.



Annie L. H., 6, Colorado, enjoys Primary, reading books, singing, and making up plays. Her favorite Primary songs are about families. She is a great older sister and a big help to her mom and dad.

Rochester Ward

The Primary children of the Rochester Ward, Centralia Washington Stake, had this picture taken so they could "send hugs" to their bishop who was in the hospital battling cancer. He said their prayers and hugs helped him feel better!



Tiffany C., 4, Texas, enjoys ballet dancing and pretending to be a princess. She also enjoys playing piano, swimming, and practicing gymnastics and kung fu. She can recite the Articles of Faith.



Thomas B., 9, South Carolina, enjoys playing soccer, running with his seven brothers, and playing with his two little sisters. One of his chores is feeding the cow each day.



Stony Point Ward and Santa Rosa (Spanish) Branch

Children of the Stony Point Ward and Santa Rosa (Spanish) Branch, Santa Rosa California Stake, enjoyed a Primary activity day together visiting the grounds of the Oakland California Temple.



Zach and Jayden T., 6 and 4, Idaho, enjoy being with family and friends. Zach likes to make people laugh, ride his bike, swim, and play basketball. One of his favorite things to do is give talks in Primary. Jayden is a joy to be around. He likes to be a helper and often plays with his younger brother. He likes riding bikes and jumping on the trampoline. His favorite Primary song is "Scripture Power."

Lauren B., 10, New York, likes to play soccer and golf. She is learning to play the piano and flute. She likes to attend church and activity days and visit relatives. She would like to be a doctor when she grows up.



Shanna and Chelsea C., 11 and 9, Illinois, enjoy music. Shanna plays the saxophone and Chelsea plays the flute. Shanna likes riding horses and playing with her friends. Her favorite Primary song is "Love Is Spoken Here." Chelsea likes to dance, play with her dogs, and help her mom. Her favorite Primary song is "Latter-day Prophets."



Crystal Shores Ward

For a Primary activity day, children of the Crystal Shores Ward, Gilbert Arizona Val Vista Stake, collected toys for Iraqi children and wrote letters to them. Then the children played missionary relay race games and listened to the missionaries talk about service and sharing the gospel. To finish off the morning, they enjoyed hot dogs, watermelon, and a frozen treat.



FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT SPENCER W. KIMBALL

Camilla, a Cherished Companion

One day, Spencer was looking through the local newspaper. He came across the name of a girl he had met briefly prior to his mission.

“Camilla Eyring.”
That’s the girl I’m going to marry!



This feeling was so strong that Spencer decided he had to meet her again. He arranged to be on the same bus as she was.

I hear you’re a teacher. What do you think of Shakespeare?

What an excellent question. It’s nice to have an intelligent conversation.

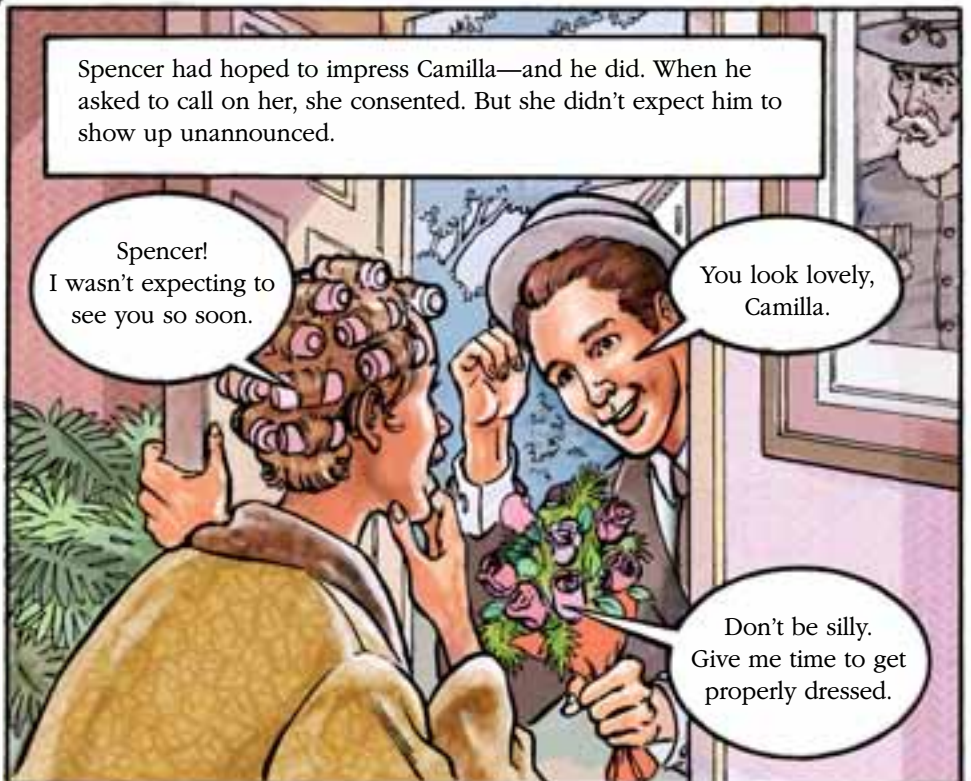


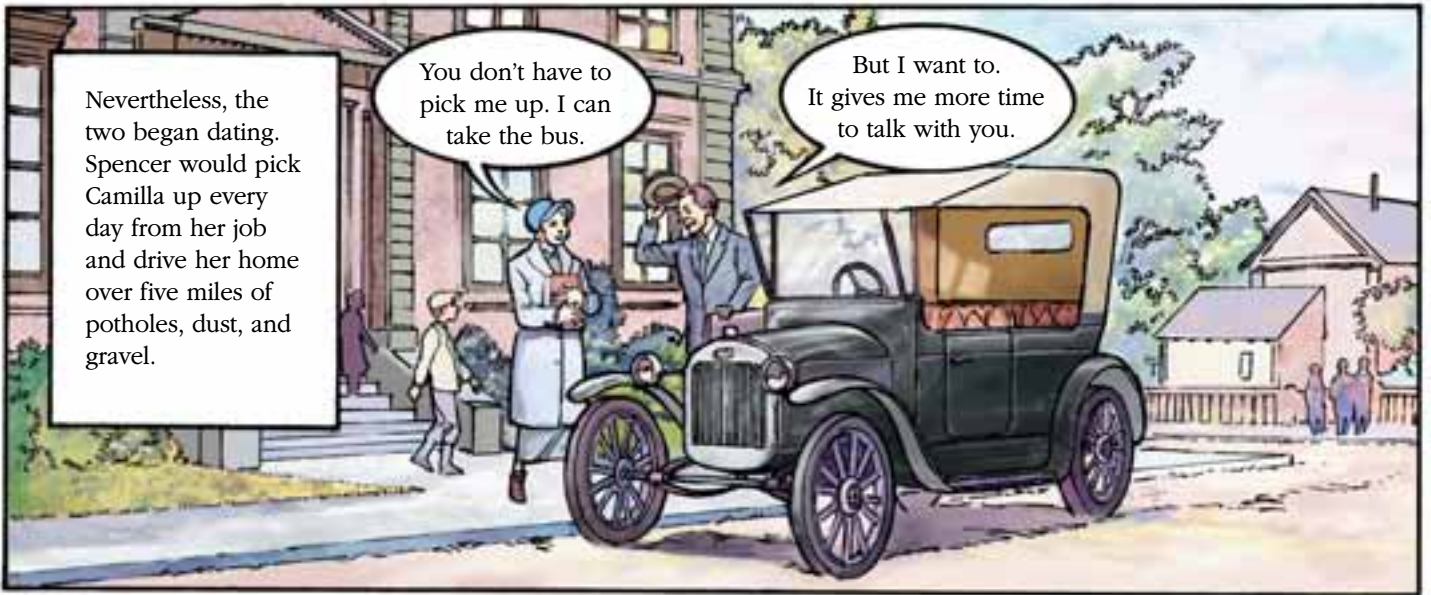
Spencer had hoped to impress Camilla—and he did. When he asked to call on her, she consented. But she didn’t expect him to show up unannounced.

Spencer!
I wasn’t expecting to see you so soon.

You look lovely, Camilla.

Don’t be silly.
Give me time to get properly dressed.

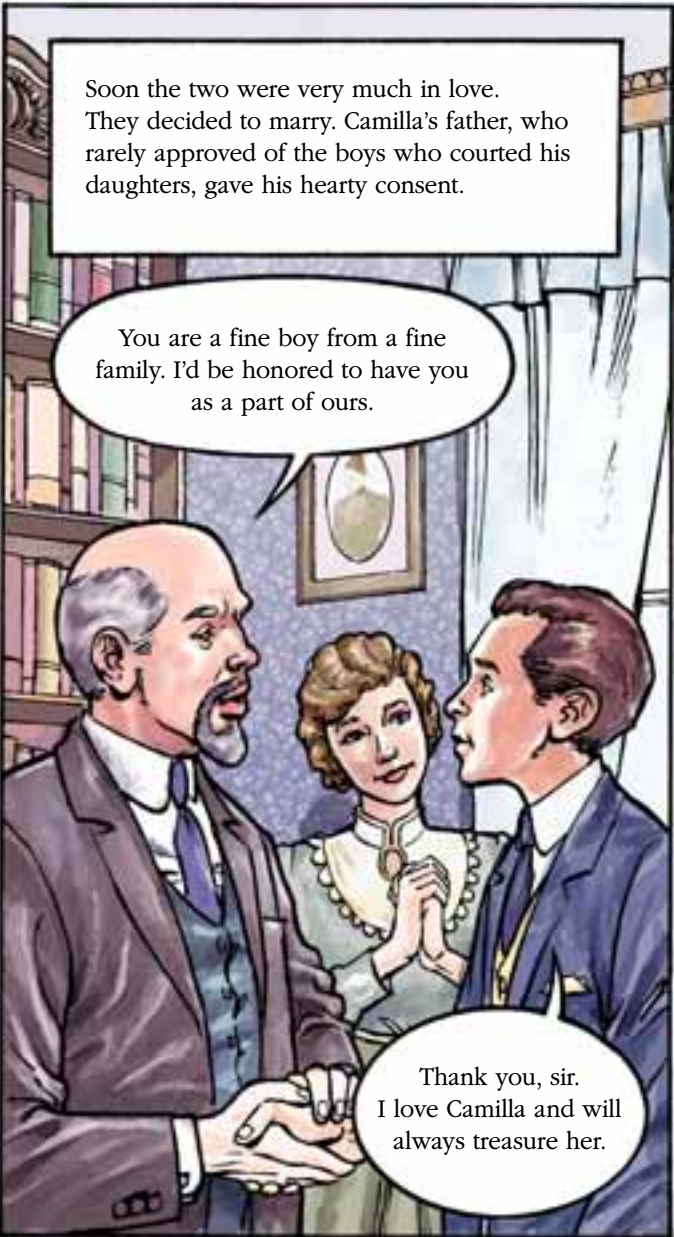




Nevertheless, the two began dating. Spencer would pick Camilla up every day from her job and drive her home over five miles of potholes, dust, and gravel.

You don't have to pick me up. I can take the bus.

But I want to. It gives me more time to talk with you.



Soon the two were very much in love. They decided to marry. Camilla's father, who rarely approved of the boys who courted his daughters, gave his hearty consent.

You are a fine boy from a fine family. I'd be honored to have you as a part of ours.

Thank you, sir. I love Camilla and will always treasure her.



Throughout his life, Spencer W. Kimball constantly spoke of his deep feelings for Camilla. She was his dear companion—a good mother and a supportive wife.

Camilla, I've been called to be an Apostle. But I feel unworthy of such a call.

You can do it, Spencer. I know you can.

And, with her support, he did.

Full Rainbow

Once long ago the world had a scare.
 The people got too wicked for Heavenly Father to bear.
 He told Noah, "Build an ark right away,
 "For it's going to rain for more than a day.
 "Take every animal known to you,
 "Every animal in pairs of two."
 And Noah did. It was hard because it was amid
 The taunts and laughs of all around
 Who wouldn't believe that there'd soon be no ground.
 Then it started to rain.
 The people knew Noah wasn't insane.
 Soon all the people were gone,
 Except the animals and people on
 Noah's ark.
 Forty days and forty nights the sky was dark
 While it really rained, but then it stopped.
 So off the ship Noah dropped
 A dove.
 Then another was sent to fly above.
 And that one found the new fresh ground.
 Noah stopped his ship,
 And they all looked at what started to dip
 Across the sky.
 "A rainbow!" they sighed.
 A promise true, right in the sky blue,
 That Heavenly Father won't flood the world again.

Dana C. P., age 12, Minnesota

Holy Ghost

When you are confirmed, you receive a gift you
 should cherish the most.
 For it is the gift of the Holy Ghost.
 If you are righteous you won't have as much strife
 Because He will be there to guide you through life.
 He gives you the truth and lets you know what
 you should know.
 Best of all, He comforts you when you have no
 place to go.
 I have the gift of the Holy Ghost,
 And it is the gift I cherish the most.

Eric Y., age 11, Tennessee

Nephi

Courageous, reverent,
 Obeys the Lord,
 True, loyal, very brave,
 Strong.

Joshua W., age 9, Hawaii

Testimony

When I bear my testimony
 My heart fills with love
 and I give thanks to my Father above
 For blessing me with strength
 and enduring faith.
 I know Heavenly Father will
 stand by me with love.

Auburn R., age 11, Alberta, Canada



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My Dream Pet



4



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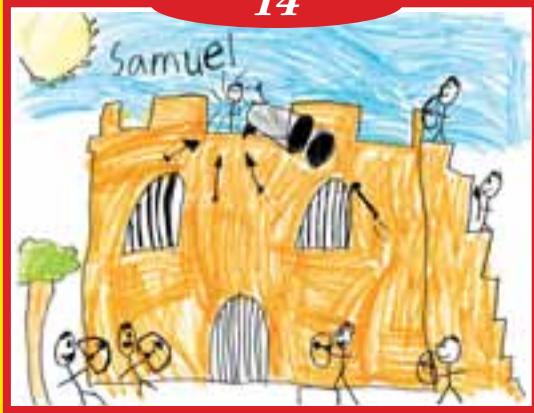
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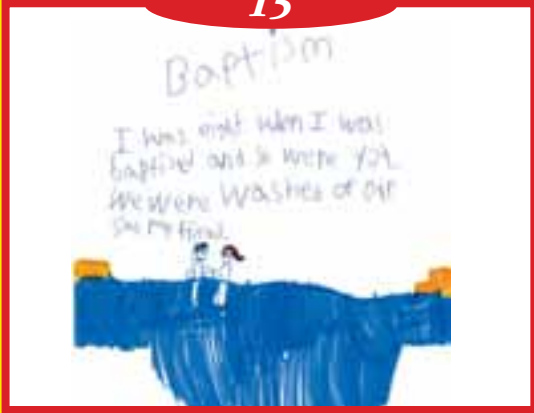
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Drawings

- 1 Caleb C., age 7, Iowa
- 2 Dallin W., age 7, Connecticut
- 3 Clay S., age 8, Wyoming
- 4 Ryan K., age 11, Arizona
- 5 Cristina R., age 9, Mexico
- 6 Tyler H., age 6, Washington
- 7 Jared L., age 9, Utah
- 8 Andee G., age 11, Utah
- 9 Marie W., age 9, Nevada
- 10 Sydney H., age 7, California
- 11 Jency C., age 6, Idaho
- 12 Brianna A., age 8, Pennsylvania
- 13 Ben V., age 7, Texas
- 14 Asher M., age 7, Georgia
- 15 Susie P., age 8, Nova Scotia, Canada



9 LEPERS



and a
thank-you
note



BY JANE MCBRIDE CHOATE

(Based on a true story)

Look up the following scriptures: Psalm 92:1, James 4:10, 2 Nephi 9:52. Which one do you think fits the story best? Write that scripture on the blank lines.

During Primary sharing time, Sister Keddington held up a picture of Jesus with the ten lepers. Shaun knew the story. It was one of his mother's favorites, and she told it often in family home evening.

"Who can tell us this story?" Sister Keddington asked.

Shaun raised his hand. "Jesus healed ten

men who had leprosy. But only one remembered to thank Jesus for curing him. The other nine walked away without saying anything.”

“How do you think that made Jesus feel?” Sister Keddington asked.

“Sad,” Shaun said.

Sister Keddington nodded. “I think Jesus felt very sad when the other nine men walked away without thanking Him.”

Shaun thought about last Sunday when his mother had asked him to write a thank-you note to his grandparents for the birthday gift they had sent him. Shaun had been too busy playing with his new game to take time to write them.

Then he thought about Jesus’s disappointment with the men who didn’t show their gratitude to Him. Was that how his grandparents felt because he hadn’t bothered to thank them for their gift?

His grandparents lived almost 2,000 miles away. Shaun didn’t get to see them very often, but he knew that they loved him, just as he loved them. His grandma wrote him every week, and his grandpa always had a new joke to tell Shaun when they phoned each Sunday night.

After Shaun’s family got home from church, he didn’t stop in the kitchen for a snack as he usually did. He hurried to his room and pulled out a notebook of lined paper.

Shaun spent a long time writing the note to his grandparents, making his letters in neat cursive. He thanked them for the gift and told them how much he loved them.

When he finished, he read the letter again. Satisfied with it, he ran downstairs and found his mother. “Mom, do you have an envelope and stamp I can use? I wrote the thank-you note to Grandma and Grandpa.”

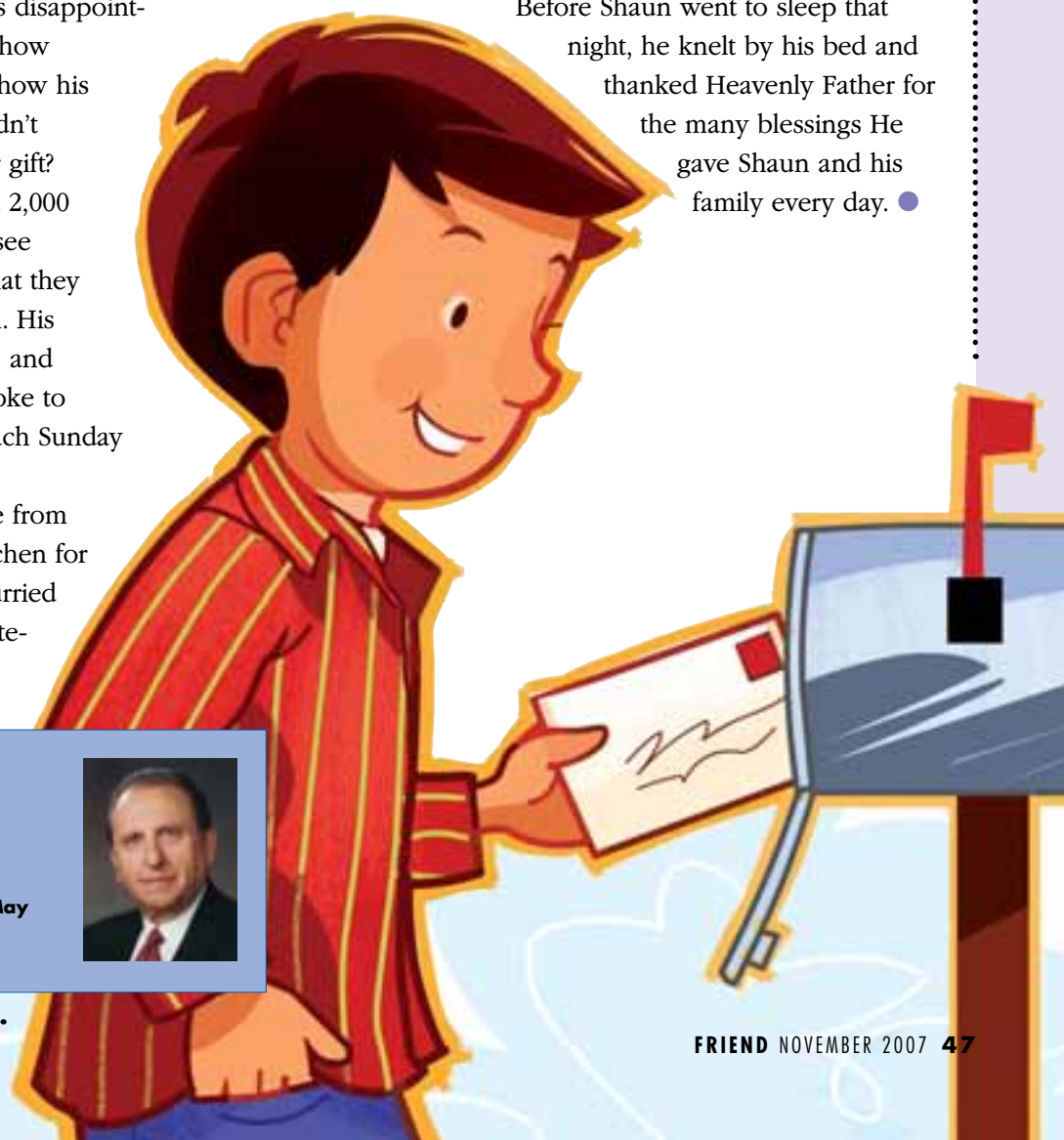
His mother smiled. “I know they’ll be glad to get it.”

With her help, Shaun addressed the envelope and slipped the letter inside.

“There’s someone else who deserves our gratitude as well,” his mother said.

Shaun knew she meant Heavenly Father.

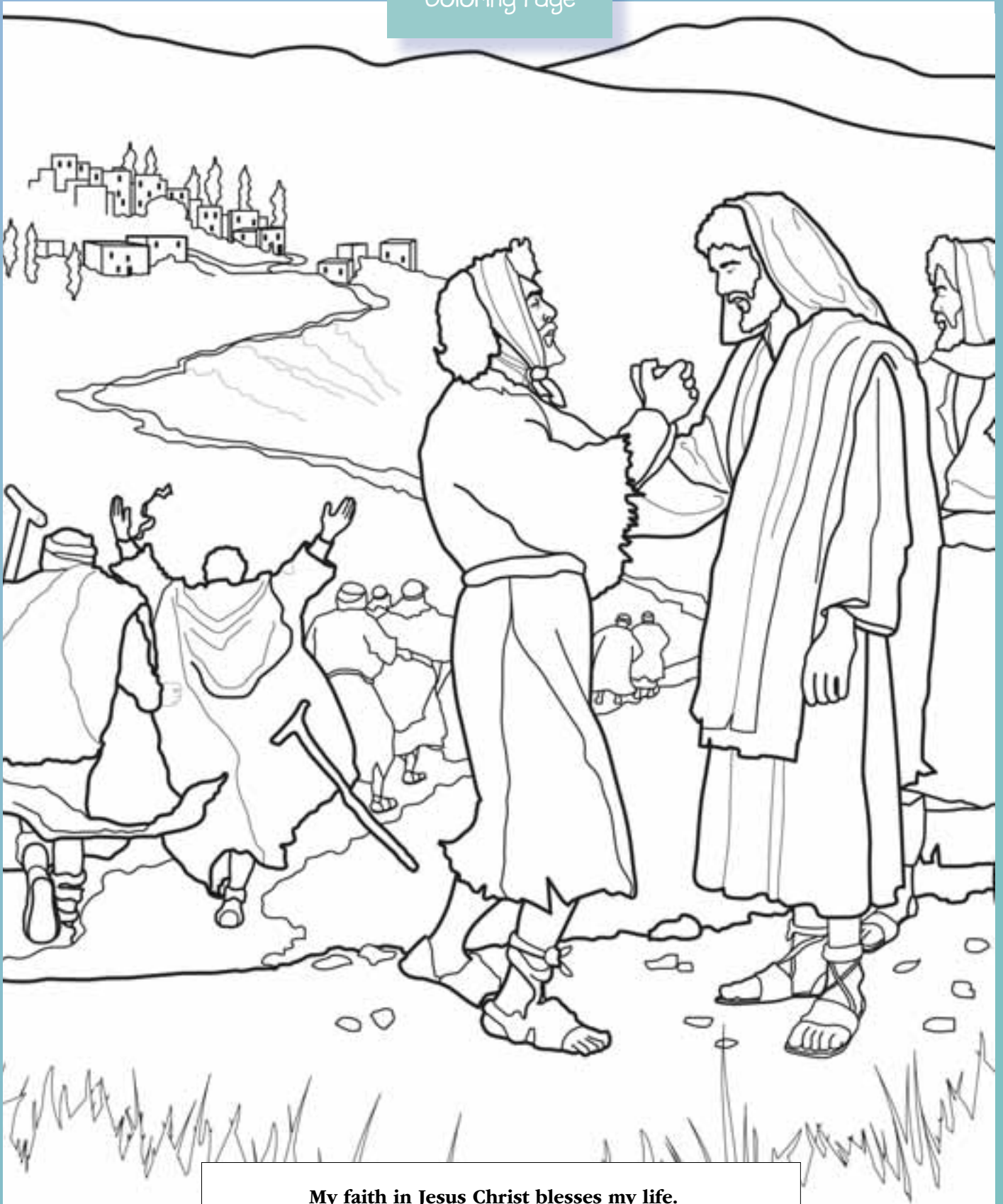
Before Shaun went to sleep that night, he knelt by his bed and thanked Heavenly Father for the many blessings He gave Shaun and his family every day. ●



“I urge that you exemplify [show] . . . an attitude of gratitude.”

President Thomas S. Monson, First Counselor in the First Presidency, “Pathways to Perfection,” *Ensign*, May 2002, 99.





My faith in Jesus Christ blesses my life.
I am thankful for my blessings.
"Thou shalt thank the Lord thy God in all things" (D&C 59:7).

Guide to the Friend



The Guide to the Friend can help you find stories or articles for preparing lessons or talks for church or for family home evening. The Primary theme for November is "My faith in Jesus Christ blesses my life. I am thankful for my blessings."

Family Home Evening Ideas

Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned below.

1. What blessings did Heavenly Father give Rene and his wife for keeping His commandments (pp. 2–3)? Heavenly Father gives us many blessings. Read Elder Dallin H. Oaks's list of some things we have to be thankful for (p. 31). Then do the "Thankful" activity (pp. 36–37).

2. What did Mother say the rocks in the soup were for (pp. 4–6)? It is easier to get through hard times when we find things to be grateful for and ways to have fun. Go on a family walk to collect rocks. Using a permanent marker, write something you are grateful for on the bottom of each rock. Then, using paint, markers, or pieces of paper, decorate the rocks. Set them where you can see them to remind you to be grateful and to have fun.

3. Read Genesis 1:27, D&C 130:22, and Alma 40:23. Why do we need physical bodies? What will happen to them in the Resurrection? Read "My Busy Body" (p. 7) and act out each of the lines. Then invite each person in your family to take a turn calling out a different body part. Following the pattern in the poem, let everyone else name something you can do with that body part.



4. Before you read "Prayer and Work" (pp. 8–9), tell your family to listen for things Elder Andersen did as a child and for things Heavenly Father did for him. After reading the story, see how many you can name. What was one way Elder Andersen was blessed for his faith with something he could touch? What was one thing he was blessed with that he couldn't touch? Name blessings your family has received.

5. Read "Tithing Shoes" (pp. 10–12). Talk about a way Heavenly Father has blessed your family for paying tithing. One blessing is having shoes. Each of you set one pair of your shoes in a pile and turn out the lights so that the room you are in is dark. Then let everyone race to find, by touch, his or her own shoes.



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

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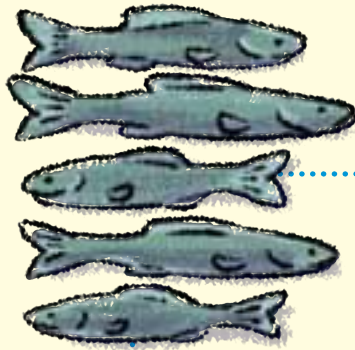
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What's in the *Friend* this month?



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Did Rene pay his tithing or buy food?

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How are Adam and Tamira preparing to be missionaries?



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What is "The Answer"?

