



We Chose to Decide Right Now



read an article in the March 2012 *Friend* by President Thomas S. Monson called "Decide Right Now." He wrote about someone deciding if he should participate in sports on Sundays. My brothers and I play a lot of different sports and we

enjoy them, but we decided to make the choice right now that we will not play sports on Sundays. I know that when the day comes when I have to decide to play or not, the decision will have already been made. I'm glad my brothers are making the same choice. I want to make this decision because I want to make my Heavenly Father happy.

Cayden C., age 11, Idaho

How I Read the Friend



like reading the *Friend* with my newly hatched Swallowtail butterfly.

Madeline S., age 11, Oregon

The *Friend* Helps Friends



ven though most of my friends think I am too old to read the *Friend*, I still skim through it every time it arrives in the mail. The story "Bald Heads and Buddies" on page 36 in the April 2012 issue caught my eye. I have a friend who had a can-

cerous tumor and lost all of her hair during treatment. (She's fine now.) Moved by your story, I photocopied it and sent it to her with a note explaining what magazine it was from and how it made me think of her. I hope to be as supportive of my friend as I help her through her struggles. Thank you for the inspiration.

Lucy W., age 12, Maryland

Dear Friends,

Many of you celebrate Thanksgiving this month. Our readers from Canada celebrated it in October. But it's always a good time to think about all the things Heavenly Father has given us—and to thank Him for those blessings.

One of the things we're most thankful for is you—our wonderful readers.

Write and tell us what you're thankful for.

Counting our blessings,

The Friend

Was there a letter or a story in this month's issue that helped you?

Tell us about it. Turn to page 48 to find out how.

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Learn to play the Primary song "I Want to Be a Missionary Now" on page 7.



Some of our readers are excellent artists.

From the First Presidency



Wake-Up Calls

By President Henry B. EyringFirst Counselor in the First Presidency

ur Heavenly Father hears the prayers of His children across the earth. He has invited us to participate in His work to lift up those in need.

There is a hymn about the Lord's invitation to do this work that I have sung since I was a little boy:

Have I done any good in the world today?

Have I helped anyone in need?

Have I cheered up the sad and made someone feel glad?

If not, I have failed indeed.

Has anyone's burden been lighter today

Because I was willing to share?

Have the sick and the weary been helped on their way?

When they needed my help was I there?

Then wake up and do something more

Than dream of your mansion above.

Doing good is a pleasure, a joy beyond measure,

A blessing of duty and love (Hymns, no. 223).

The Lord regularly sends wake-up calls to all of us. Sometimes it may be a sudden feeling of sympathy for someone in need. You may have felt sympathy for someone who seemed sad or afraid at school.

One Sunday a small child handed the bishop his family's donation envelope as he entered the chapel before the sacrament meeting. The family had

just learned of someone in the ward in need. The boy's father had said something like this to the child as he placed a generous fast offering in the envelope: "We fasted today and prayed for those in need. Please give this envelope to the bishop for us. I know that he will give it to help those with greater needs than ours."

I could tell from the boy's smile and the way he held the envelope so tightly that he felt the great trust of his father to carry the family offering for the poor.

You parcho dily's e as appel ent by had neone in the ward in need. The boy's mething like this to the child as he fast offering in the envelope: "We rayed for those in need. Please give

The Savior Noticed

Jesus Christ noticed people in need, and He reached out to help them. Read the story of a man Jesus noticed and helped. This story is in John 5:2–17. You

can find other stories of Jesus noticing and helping people in Matthew

4:23; Matthew

8:2–4; and Luke 9:12–17.



1. In Jerusalem there was a pool called Bethesda.



2. Sick people came there because they thought there were certain times when the waters of the pool would heal them if they could get into the pool first.

Answering the Call

President Eyring said that Heavenly Father wants us to wake up and do something to help those in need. Search for words that tell some ways you can answer His wake-up call.

R G F R K N U S Z V N J Z R V N E M K T I S I V K M D Z E D B F K Z Q E Z C Q C R L K E O B F I A N M Y P I U V O Q T O C G M D M A L J I K V N W N F S G N I R E F F O T S A F U M M I E S H S C K Q J R C X L U K V W J H G D A X R O X S O F S F G A C Q I H E G L B B V Y T E R H D W N R O P M V E B G V E R R N F V C N Y D W Q S T T J X V L W I I N C L U D E N Z V C Y I M T C J D C V M A E B A C A K C E O Z Z S D Y K U X T Z L E W E I P L W U A D C

Fast offerings Food

Help

Include Invite Kindness Peacemaker Service

Share

Visit Volunteer Work

Keep Your Eyes Open!

When you keep your eyes open, you will notice many people who need help. Color one of the eyes below each time you help one of these people.



A classmate who feels left out



A brother or sister who needs help



A parent who is tired



A Primary teacher who needs help



A missionary who needs a letter



A grandparent who needs a letter or a telephone call



A friend who is sick





3. A man was lying by the pool who had been sick for 38 years.



4. He couldn't walk very fast, and other people kept crowding him out so he couldn't be the first one to get into the pool.



5. Jesus noticed him. He said, "Rise, take up thy bed, and walk."



6. The man did just as Jesus commanded him. He was completely healed.

By Jennifer Porter

(Based on a true story)

Oh, come with me to Primary (Children's Songbook, 255).

mma goes to our church?" I asked Sister Taylor. I was surprised that she had called Emma's name while taking roll.

"Do you know Emma?" Sister Taylor asked me.

"She's in my class at school, but I've never seen her at church," I said.

"Maybe you should invite her to come with you sometime, Maddie," Sister Taylor said with an encouraging smile.

I nodded my head slowly. I didn't know Emma very well. We played with different friends at recess. I was afraid to invite Emma to church. What if she said no? But as I thought about it, the Holy Ghost helped me feel calm inside. I knew I needed to try.

The next day at recess I saw Emma jumping rope. I grabbed a jump rope and joined her. We jumped faster and faster, laughing when our feet got tangled in the rope.

"Emma," I said, untangling my feet, "I didn't know we were members of the same church."

"Mormon?" Emma asked.

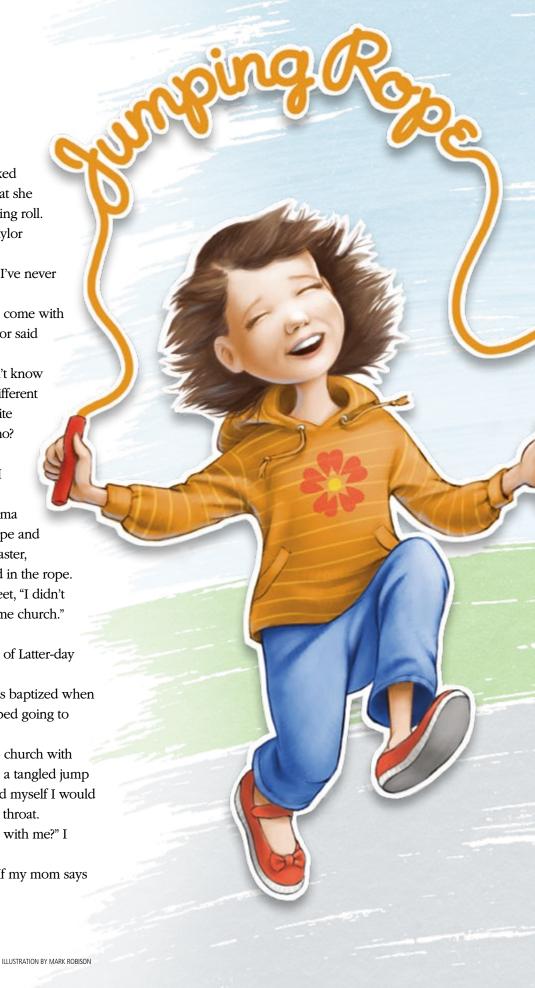
"Yes. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints," I said.

She started jumping again. "I was baptized when I was younger, but my family stopped going to church."

I knew I should ask her to go to church with me, but my stomach felt like it was a tangled jump rope. I remembered I had promised myself I would try, so I swallowed the lump in my throat.

"Would you like to go to church with me?" I asked.

Emma stopped jumping. "Sure. If my mom says it's OK."





After school I told my mom what had happened

"Let's call her mom and ask," Mom said, picking up the phone. She talked to Emma's mom for a few minutes and then hung up. "She said that would be fine," Mom said. "We can pick up Emma before church and take her home when we're done."

I was excited when Sunday came. We drove up to Emma's apartment. She looked nervous in her pink dress. In sacrament meeting she whispered to me, "I don't remember what to do."

I whispered back to Emma reminding her what to do with the sacrament bread and water. During Primary I sat next to Emma, and when we got to class I introduced her to the rest of the children.

"We are so happy to have you here," Sister

By the time class was over, Emma wasn't nervous anymore. She had a big smile on her face.

I invited Emma to church and Primary activities whenever I could. She came more and more often. The children in our Primary got to know her, and soon Emma had many new friends.

One Sunday, Emma stopped me after sacrament meeting. She was with a woman who had brown hair that matched hers.

"Maddie, I want you to meet someone," Emma said. "This is my mom."

"Thank you for being a good friend to my daughter," Emma's mom said to me with a

I smiled back. I was glad Emma was my

My family prays for missionary opportunities. My parents teach us to share the gospel with our friends, so I like to ask my friends if they go to any church. Then I invite them to go to church with me. Even if they don't go, I'm happy that I share the gospel with them. I asked one friend if he had the Book of Mormon, and he said no. I got a copy



of the Book of Mormon from the missionaries and wrote my testimony in it. Then I gave it to my friend. When I gave him the book, he was so happy!



By Elder Jeffrey R. Holland of the Ouorum of the Twelve Apostles

The members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles are special witnesses of Jesus Christ.

With so many bad things around, how can I keep good thoughts in my mind?

If a TV show is bad, turn it off. If a movie is crude, walk out.



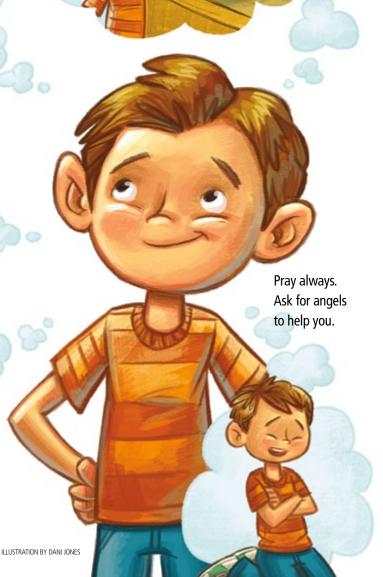
Above all, start by staying away from people, things, and places that will harm you.



Replace bad thoughts with happy memories; picture the faces of those who love you.



Be where the Spirit of the Lord is. Make sure that includes your own home or room. Carefully choose the kind of art, music, and books you keep there.



I Can PLAY

I Want to Be a Missionary Now



Practice tip: Before you play, sing all the verses of the song and follow along in the music. Notice how the end of the third verse is different.

This notice must be included on each copy made.

You can print out or listen to this song at lds.org/friend.

PAUL'S SURGERY

What could help Paul feel less nervous?

By Britney Rule

(Based on a true story)

Faith is knowing the Lord will hear my prayers each time I pray (Children's Songbook, 96–97).

fter Paul got ready for bed, he sat on Mommy's lap in the rocking chair in his room. Mommy held Paul close as she told him the news. "The doctor says you need to have another surgery on your ears," she said. "He thinks your ears will be all better after that."

Paul fiddled with the buttons on his pajamas. He had had surgery before. The medicine made him feel sick, and he had to wear a big, white bandage around his ears until they healed. With his head bandaged, he couldn't ride his bike or play on the swings. Paul started to worry, but then he had an idea.

"Mommy, can we ask Heavenly Father to bless me?" Paul asked.

"That's a good idea," Mommy said.

They knelt on the floor and Mommy prayed,

"Heavenly Father, please bless Paul that he will be comforted during his surgery. Please guide the doctor's hands so he can help heal Paul. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen."

A warm, peaceful feeling filled Paul up inside. He was still a little nervous, but he knew that he would be safe.

A few days later, Paul went to the hospital for his surgery. He put on a hospital gown and talked to the doctor. Paul liked the way the doctor told him what was going to happen so he wouldn't be as scared. He liked to think of Heavenly Father guiding the doctor's hands to make his ears better. Paul and Mommy said another prayer, and Paul felt the same warm feeling inside. Mommy still looked a little worried.

"It's OK," Paul told her. He gave Mommy a hug. "Remember, we said a prayer."

Mommy smiled at Paul. "You are right. Heavenly Father will bless you."

When Paul woke up from his surgery, Mommy was sitting beside his bed.

"Hello, Mommy," he said sleepily.

Mommy smiled. "Hello, Paul! How do you feel?"

"Pretty good," Paul said. "Are my ears OK?"

"Yes," Mommy said. "Our prayers were answered. The doctor said that everything went well, and your ears will get better."

Paul smiled. "I knew it, Mommy," he said. "Heavenly Father answered our prayers."

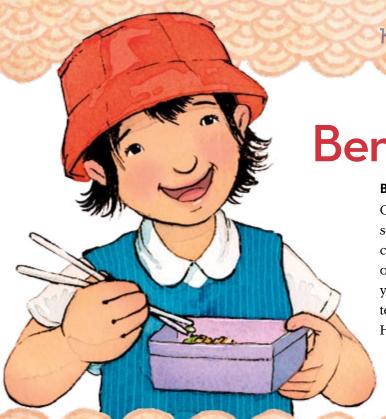




One time I was playing with a metal pipe and I stuck it in my toe. My mom took me to the emergency room. As she went to get the papers she needed to fill out, I started praying that I wouldn't be too scared and that I would be OK. Everything turned out OK even though I needed stitches. I know that Heavenly Father answered

my prayers. My mom was happy that I chose to go to Heavenly Father for help when I was scared.

Tanner G., age 5, Arizona



Bento-Box Lunches

By Apryl Stott

Children in Japan often bring bento boxes for their school lunches. Bento boxes are a whole meal in one container. Traditionally they're made with rice, meat or fish, and vegetables, but you can make yours out of your favorite healthy lunch foods. *Kyaraben*, or character bento, turns your favorite lunch foods into a picture. Here are a few suggestions to help you get started.

Remember to ask an adult for help when you make a Kitchen Crafts recipe.

Bunny bento is made from rice, grapes (for the background and one sliced in half lengthwise for the nose), cheese slices (for the inner ears and cheeks), raisins (for the eyes), and baby carrots (for the background).





Star bento is made from a peanut butter and jelly sandwich cut into a star shape, raisins (for the eyes, nose, and background), cheese slices (for the cheeks), and apple slices (for the mouth and background).

Puppy bento is made from a slice of **lunch meat**, **pickles** (cut lengthwise for the ears and sliced for the spot around the eye), **olives** (cut lengthwise for the eyes and nose, and chopped into bits for the whisker dots), **cheese** (for the muzzle), and **celery sticks** (for the background).

ILLUSTRATION BY APRYL STOTT



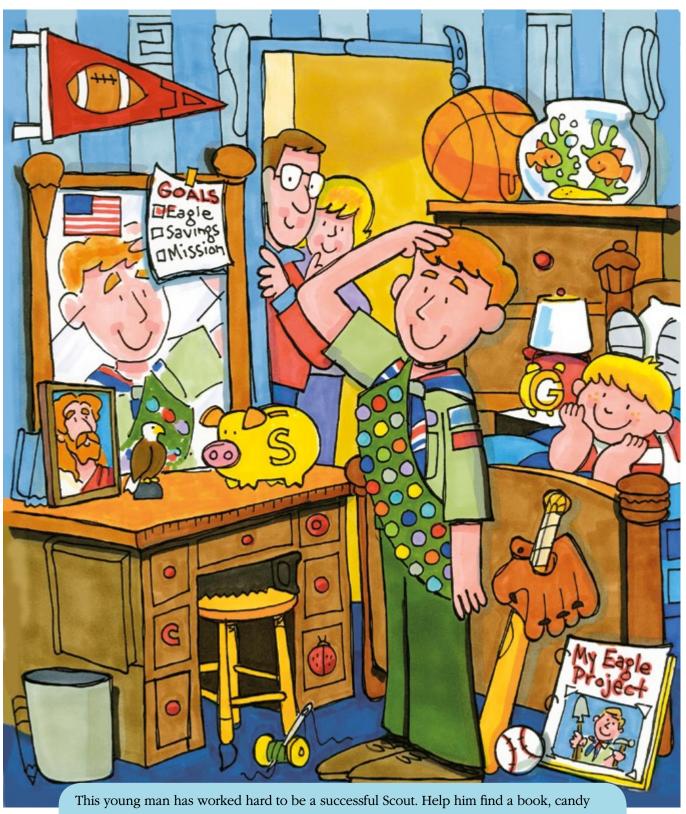


Lion bento is made from macaroni and cheese (for the lion mane), a tortilla (cut into a circle for the head and triangles for the ears), lunch meat (cut into triangles for the nose and inner ears), raisins (for the eyes and mouth), and soybeans (for the background).

funstuf

A Young Man Prepared

By Val Chadwick Bagley



cane, hairbrush, hamburger, hammer, hot dog, ice-cream cone, ladybug, cupcake, paint-brush, pencil, piece of pie, saw, and yardstick. Find and circle the letters in "EAGLE SCOUT."



Bulletin Board

Each month this year you can write a little bit of your own history in your journal. This month write about what you look like. What color are your hair and eyes? How tall are you? Do you have freckles? Do you wear glasses? If you want, tape or glue a photo of you to your journal page, or draw a picture of yourself.



gospel around the world

missionaries who go

through the missionary training center in Provo, Utah, in a year

people who leave on their missions every week

missionary raining centers

This month's good word is symbol. A symbol is something that stands for or reminds us of something else. Look on page 15 to find out what symbol Jesus used when He taught about the **Good Shepherd.**

FRUIT S'MORES

Break a whole GRAHAM CRACKER in half so you have two squares. Spread CREAM CHEESE on one square and place slices or small pieces of fruit on the cream chees Try blueberries, bananas, strawberries, or another favorite fruit. Put the second cracker square on top o the fruit and press gently. Enjoy your fruit smore!

MISSIONARY MOMENTS

VEN THOUGH YOU WON'T SERVE A FULL-TIME MISSION UNTIL YOU ARE OLDER, YOU CAN DO THINGS NOW TO BE A MISSIONARY. HERE ARE SOME THINGS CHILDREN LIKE YOU HAVE DONE TO SHARE THE GOSPEL.

I invited my teacher from school to my Primary program, and she said she wouldn't be able to go because she would be traveling. But she wanted to hear what I had been working on in church all year. She asked me if I would stand in front of the class to give my speaking part and sing some

of my Primary songs. I was very nervous, but I didn't want to let my teacher down. I sang a verse of "Follow the Prophet." One of my friends in my class from another ward joined me, and we sang a second verse together. Then another friend got brave and joined us for a third verse. The class clapped, and my teacher was proud of us. I was glad I had the courage to do it!

Sophia L., age 6, Massachusetts

In the April 2011 general conference,
President Monson asked the members
of the Church to make a contribution
to the Church's General Missionary
Fund if they could. We collected
aluminum cans for many months and
then turned in the cans for recycling. We
gave the money we received from recycling the cans
to the General Missionary Fund. We each look forward to serving a mission one day. Our family loves
to follow the prophet.

Rebecca, Wyatt, and Sarah W., ages 11, 8, and 9, Idaho

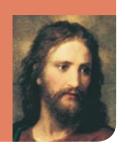
Gratitude Bookmark

Cut out this bookmark and glue it onto heavy paper. Put it in your scriptures. When you read your scriptures, you can write something on the bookmark that you are grateful for.

THIVE IN THANKSCLVING DATIAY

(ALMA 34:38).





Jesus Blesses the Nephite Children

From 3 Nephi 17



By Diane L. Mangum

fter Jesus Christ died on the cross and was resurrected, He visited the Nephite people in the Americas. He taught a multitude in the city of Bountiful, near the Nephite temple. Jesus taught the Nephites the gospel, just as He had taught the Jews in Palestine.

The Nephites loved Jesus, and He was filled with love toward them. He told them to bring anyone who was sick to Him, and He would show them what He had done for the people in Jerusalem. The Nephites brought all those who were sick or afflicted, and Jesus healed every one.

Then Jesus told the Nephites to bring their little children to Him. The children were led to the Savior, and they sat on the ground all around Him. Jesus told everyone to kneel down, and then He knelt and prayed to Heavenly Father.

The prayer Jesus gave was so

powerful that "the eye hath never seen, neither hath the ear heard, before, so great and marvelous things as [they] saw and heard Jesus speak unto the Father."

Jesus finished praying. The multitude around Him was so joyful that they were overcome. Jesus told them, "Blessed are ye because of your faith. And now behold, my joy is full."

Jesus looked at the children around Him, and one by one each child came to Him. He blessed each child and prayed to Heavenly Father for them. Jesus then told the people, "Behold your little ones."

The people looked up to heaven and saw angels coming down. It looked like they were in the middle of a fire. The angels made a circle around the children and spoke to them. The brightness of the angels circled around the children too.

Other Sheep

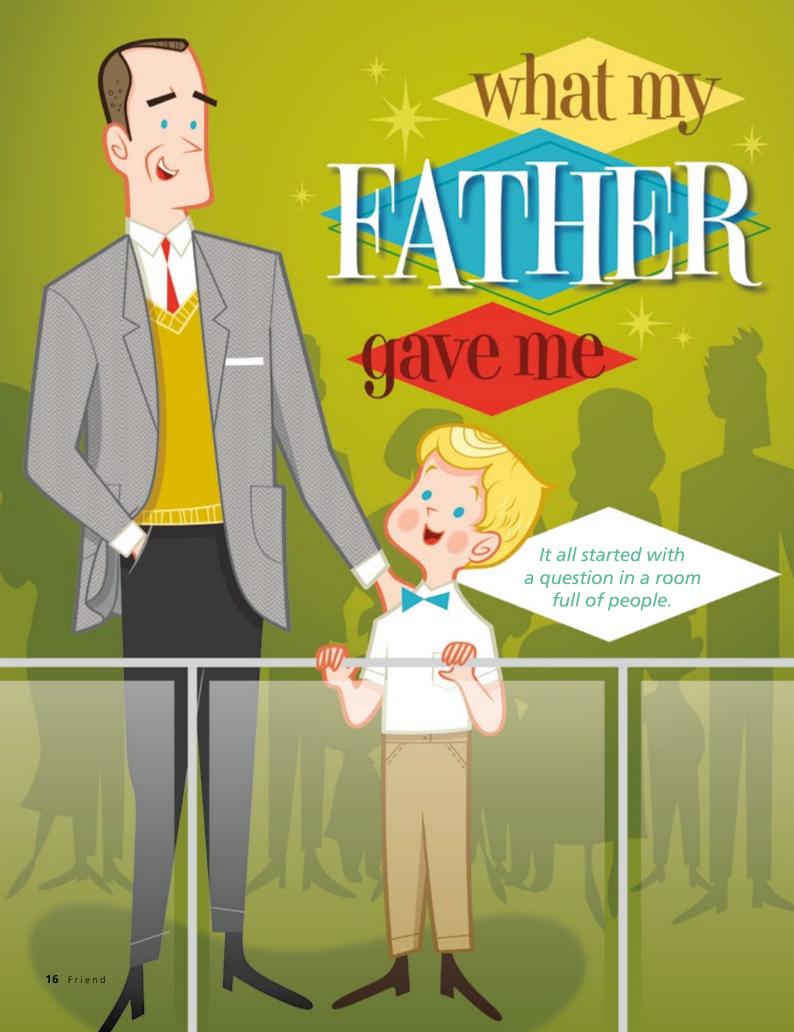
When Jesus taught,
He sometimes used
sheep as a symbol for
people. In Jerusalem,
Jesus taught the Jews
that He was the Good
Shepherd and that He
knew each sheep and
took care of them.
Jesus also said He had
other sheep that He
needed to teach. The
Nephites were some of
those other sheep that
He taught.





Multitude

Multitude means a large number of people. The scriptures say that 2,500 Nephite men, women, and children saw Jesus in Bountiful.



"I will honor my parents and do my part to strengthen my family."

My Gospel Standards



By Marissa Widdison

(Based on a true story)

To be baptized . . . by one who holds the priesthood true . . . is just the thing I want to do (Children's Songbook, 104).

T've gotten lots of great birthday presents in my life, but what I got from my dad on my eighth birthday takes the cake. And it all started when he asked me a single question in a room full of people.

That room was in our church building, and the people filling it were my family members. I had never seen so many of them in church at one time! We were all there to see my cousin Bre get baptized.

As I watched Bre's parents take pictures of her in her white dress, I started feeling really excited about my own baptism.

I went over to look at the font, thinking about what my special day would be like. Would the water be warm? Would all my family be there? I hoped I would feel the peaceful, clean feeling that I had heard other people tell about. All of these thoughts were tumbling around in my mind when Dad walked over and asked the question that changed everything.

"Chris, who do you want to baptize you?"

Here's the thing: my dad couldn't baptize me because he wasn't a member of the Church.

My mom is a convert, which means she got baptized later in life. But my dad never seemed to want to be baptized, and that made me sad sometimes. I didn't talk about it very much because I didn't want to make him feel bad. But this time, I decided to tell him.

"I want you to baptize me. You're my dad!"

I still remember the look on his face. First

he was surprised. Then he looked kind of sad. Then his expression turned thoughtful, as if he were thinking about something important.

"C'mon, buddy. We'll talk about it later," he said, wrapping his arm around me as we headed to our seats.

The next day, I stood with my dad again—this time in front of the bishop's office. It was time for me to meet with the bishop for my baptismal interview. I was pretty nervous, and it seemed like Dad was too. He kept pacing back and forth in front of the office door. After I had my interview, Dad walked right up to the bishop.

"What do I have to do to be able to baptize my son?" he asked.

The bishop froze, right in the middle of his handshake. You should've seen the smile that came across his face! He told my dad that he needed to be baptized

and receive the Aaronic Priesthood. My dad said that he was finally ready to make

these special promises with Heavenly Father.

You can probably guess how this story ends. A month later, I stood in the baptismal font dressed in white.

The water was warm. My family was there. Best of all, my dad was standing next to me, ready to baptize

me.

I know that lots of kids are still waiting and praying for a family member to get baptized. It's hard to wait, but we can keep being good examples and never give up hope. Knowing this makes me feel even more grateful for the decision my dad finally made—the decision that gave me the best birthday of my life.





Prince Edward Island is famous because an author named Lucy Maud Montgomery lived here. She wrote lots of books about fictional children on the island. Her most popular book is Anne of Green Gables. Here I am with my sister, Allison, at the Green Gables historic farmhouse. We walked along some of the same trails that Lucy wrote about in her books.





One thing that happens in Anne of Green Gables is that the main character has to cut off her hair after trying to dye it. I recently cut my hair short too, but for a different reason. My mom and I read in the newspaper that you can donate hair for wigs for people who are sick or don't have hair. A couple of women in our branch had cancer and lost their hair, and I have an uncle and a cousin with a medical condition

that makes their hair fall out. Thinking of them made me want to help. So I grew my hair out for more than a year and cut off nine inches to donate. Now some of my friends are donating their hair too!



Besides living on the same island as Lucy Maud Montgomery, I have something else in common with her: I like to write too! Some of the stories I have written are "The Scavenger Hunt" and "Adventures in Ice-Cream Land." I also like playing soccer and taking care of my grandmother's ponies.

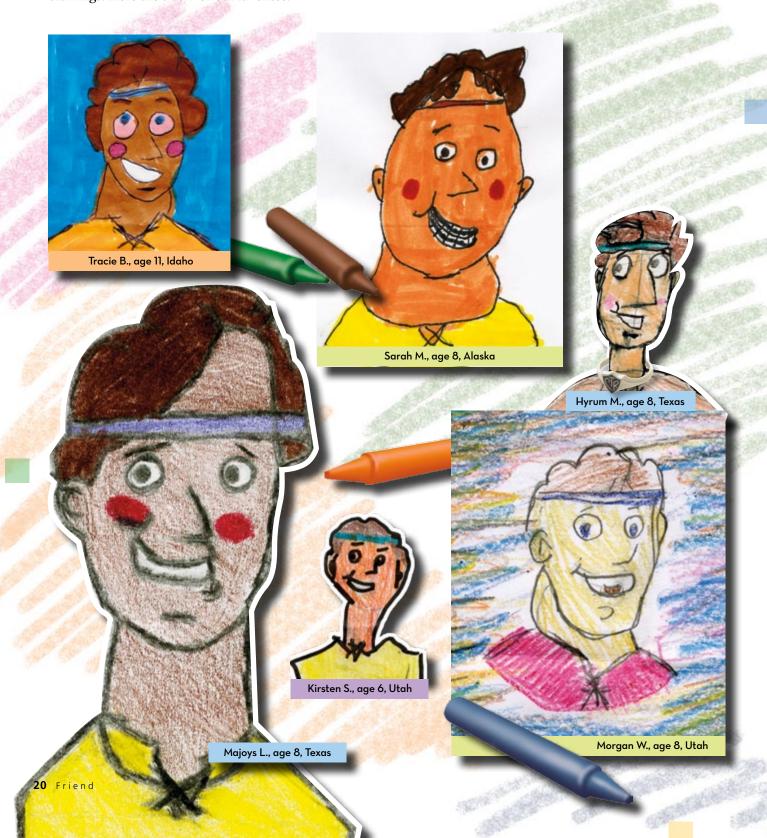






You Drew It

In the November 2011 issue, one of our *Friend* artists taught you how to draw Nephi. Several of you sent us your drawings. Here are a few of our favorites.



A Positive Attitude

From an interview with Elder Bruce A. Carlson of the Seventy; by Hilary Watkins Lemon



A merry heart doeth good like a medicine (Proverbs 17:22).

our daughter Jani was an active four-year-old. Every morning she would jump out of bed and get ready for preschool. One Friday my

wife and I noticed that she seemed to be limping, but she assured us that she was OK.

But by Monday morning, Jani couldn't get out of bed. Something was wrong with her legs. We took her to the hospital and were blessed to meet a doctor who recognized right away that Jani had Legg Calves Perthes, a disease that affected her hip bones. Because of his unique and specialized training, the doctor immediately knew how to help Jani.

For one year, Jani would have to wear a cast that would keep her legs widely separated so her hip bones could recover. She would not be able to walk or bathe. Then, for one more year, she would have to wear a brace that would continue to keep her legs widely separated but connected by a flexible bar so she could move her legs a little bit. We were very worried. How would she play? Would she be teased? She would have to be carried everywhere.

To our surprise, Jani never complained. She couldn't walk or run, but she put roller skates on her feet and hands and learned to get around that way. She also scooted herself up and down stairs without our help. Her brace made a clicking noise, and sometimes other children would tease her. But she didn't

worry about what anyone else said. In fact, she learned how to ride a bike with her brace! She always woke up with a smile. How could we be sad for her when she was so happy? Jani taught me that a positive attitude can help us rise above our trials.



Thanksgiving BREAD

By Florence Chen

(Based on a true story)

You're the only person who ever can be you (Children's Songbook, 142–43).

hen Miss Nonchello asked the class to bring a treat to share in honor of Thanksgiving, Ying was excited to ask her mother to bake bread.

"I will make a special bread for your class," Mom said

before Ying went to bed that night.

Ying spent the night wondering what kind of bread Mom would make. She pictured herself taking cinnamon bread to class. Everyone would like cinnamon bread. Or what if Mom made honey bread, like Emily's mother made? Her classmates would like that too. Thinking about it made Ying's tummy rumble.

The next morning, Ying imagined she could smell the aroma of baking bread. Then her eyes popped open. She really *was* smelling something!

Ying jumped out of bed and got ready for school. Hurrying to the kitchen, Ying saw Mom wrapping something in foil. 22 Friend

Mom says different can be good, but Ying isn't so sure.

"What did you make, Mom?" Ying asked eagerly.

"Bread," Mom replied as Ying peeked under the foil.

Ying jumped back, staring at the flat pieces of bread she saw. It wasn't honey bread or cinnamon bread. She didn't think it was bread at all!

"That isn't bread," Ying said, disappointed. "It's like pancakes."

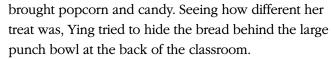
"Well, in the Chinese culture, we consider it like bread," Mom said.

"My classmates won't want to eat it," Ying said with a frown. She was worried about seeming different.

"You never know," Mom said, smiling. "Different can be good, and this bread is part of our family's heritage."

With a grumble, Ying took the Chinese bread to school. She knew Mom wanted her to be proud of her family, but she could only imagine her classmates laughing when they saw her treat.

A few of the students brought pumpkin pie. Others



"What's that?" Steve asked.

"Bread," Ying murmured.

Before Ying could stop him, Steve opened the foil and took a sniff.

"Ooohh!" Steve said loudly.

A crowd of classmates gathered around to stare at the flat pieces of bread. A few tears formed in Ying's eyes as she braced herself for laughter.

"That looks wonderful!" Miss Nonchello said. "Who made this?"

"My mom did," Ying said, blushing.

"It smells delicious," Miss Nonchello said. "Ying, why don't you tell us about it?"

"My mom said it was Chinese bread," Ying said quietly. "But it doesn't look like bread to me."

"I think everyone is excited to try some," Miss Nonchello said.

And with that, the feast began. Ying's classmates all took a piece of the bread. Afraid to try it herself, Ying nibbled on popcorn and pumpkin pie.

"This is good!" Steve called out.

"Yeah!" Emily said as she took another piece of bread. "It's even better than my mom's honey bread!"

"Really? You think so?" Ying asked.

"We all think it's great," Miss Nonchello said with a smile. "Come have some, Ying."

Ying nervously lifted one piece of the flat bread from the pile and took a bite. It was delicious!

"I guess Mom was right," Ying thought. "Different can be good." She smiled as she took another bite, proud of her family and their delicious heritage.

"Our culture and its related traditions help establish our sense of identity and fill the vital human need to belong."

Elder Donald L. Hallstrom of the Seventy





Janadian

They Care about Scriptures

The children of the Charlottetown Branch on Prince Edward Island add links to a paper chain when they read their scriptures. In the picture below, they are spelling out "P.E.I." for Prince Edward Island, surrounded by their giant chain.

"It helps us learn good things," said Nikalaus N., age 4. To earn his links on the chain, Nikalaus and his parents started reading and repeating an article of faith before bedtime each night. He has memorized the first nine articles of faith, and now his family has started reading Book of Mormon Stories together too.





They Care about Getting Involved

Fireworks, parades, races, and huge birthday cakes are all part of a holiday celebrating the founding of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. Every year many Primary children from the area get actively involved by running in the two-mile (3.2 km) or six-mile (9.7 km) races. It's a fun time to share with family and friends from church—and to make new friends from the community.



Kids Care!

They Care about Standing Tall

The children of the **Greenwood Branch** stand tall by showing love to others and setting good examples.

"I told my friend she should stop 'dating.' She did, and now she comes to activity day." **Anna W., age 10**

"People were walking away from a girl at school. I saw she was sad, so I talked to her." **Kaylee C., age 10**

"When I take a ball to school to play four square, I look for people who aren't playing and invite them to play." **Kimball W., age 9**

They Care about Serving



After Jeongmin K., age 11, started taking piano lessons, she wanted to learn "I Am a Child of God" along with her regular pieces. She kept adding Primary songs one by one. Then one day in Primary there was no pianist, and Jeongmin was ready to serve. She also played "If I Listen with My Heart" in the Primary sacrament meeting presentation. "When I'm playing in front of people, I imagine

I'm at home and my family is there," she says. Someday Jeongmin wants to be an organist and a piano teacher—as well as a chef, a designer, and a photographer.



When the children's branch president had a serious accident, they prayed for him and made him a big "I love you" banner. Their faith and love helped him as he recovered.

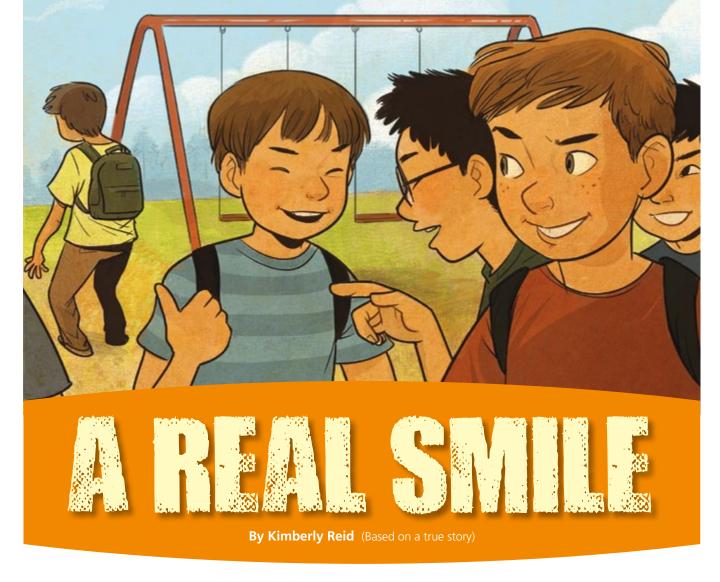


A Closer Look

Finding Canada on a map is easy because it's the second-largest country in the world. Canada has two official languages, so many Canadians speak both English and French. Here are a few other fun facts:

- In Canada, Thanksgiving is celebrated on the second Monday of October.
- There is an image of a maple leaf in the middle of the Canadian flag.
- Once the temples in Calgary and Winnipeg are complete, there will be nine temples in Canada.





If you don't talk as most people do, some people talk and laugh at you, but I won't! I won't! (Children's Songbook, 140–41).

than saw a boy on the playground who walked differently than anyone else he'd seen. The boy shuffled his feet and twisted his hands together as he walked. Ethan thought the boy looked funny.

"Hey, guys, look at this!" One of
Ethan's friends ran up behind the boy
and began following him, copying
everything the boy did. Ethan snickered
and did the same. Soon a line of boys
were shuffling their feet and twisting their
hands. When the boy mumbled to himself, Ethan and his
friends mumbled too.

The boy stopped and turned to look at them. Did he know what they'd been doing? Ethan couldn't tell by

the boy's blank expression. But then the boy turned and hobbled faster, like he wanted to get away from them.

As Ethan thought about what he had just done, he

felt sick inside. He realized that every day the boy faced challenges that Ethan didn't have—and he

had laughed at the boy like he was a cartoon character on TV instead of a person with feelings.

"I should've helped the boy, not made fun of him," Ethan thought to himself. He knew he should apologize, but what would he say?

"I'll just forget the whole thing ever happened," Ethan decided. "Except I'll

try not to laugh at people anymore."

As days went by, Ethan had a hard time forgetting. Sometimes when Ethan saw the boy and remembered what happened, he got the same uncomfortable feeling inside. He knew the Holy Ghost was telling him he



26 Friend ILLUSTRATIONS BY MATT SMITH

needed to do something more to set things right. Finally, Ethan gathered his courage and walked up to the boy.

"My friends and I weren't very nice to you," he said, "I'm sorry. I wish I hadn't done that."

The boy didn't say anything at first. Then he smiled a little. "It's OK."

Ethan couldn't tell if the smile was real or if the boy's feelings were still hurt. But he didn't know what else to say.

One Sunday, Ethan's ward boundaries changed. He was surprised when the boy from the playground walked through the church doors, and he was thankful that he'd already apologized. Otherwise, he would have felt embarrassed when the boy saw him sitting in church, learning to be like Jesus.

"Hi," Ethan said. "What's your name?" "Matt," the boy said.

"Are you going to Scouts this Wednesday?" Ethan asked.

Matt said he was.

At Scouts that week, the boys were learning to fish. Ethan watched as Matt struggled with the fishing pole. He could hold the rod, but he had a hard time casting the line.

"Would you like me to cast it for you?" Ethan asked.

"OK," Matt said.

Ethan cast Matt's fishing line into the pond. He handed Matt the pole and reached for his own. "Can I fish here too?" Ethan asked.

"Sure," Matt said.

Ethan was surprised how easy it was to talk to Matt as they fished.

"See you Sunday," Ethan said when Scouts was over.

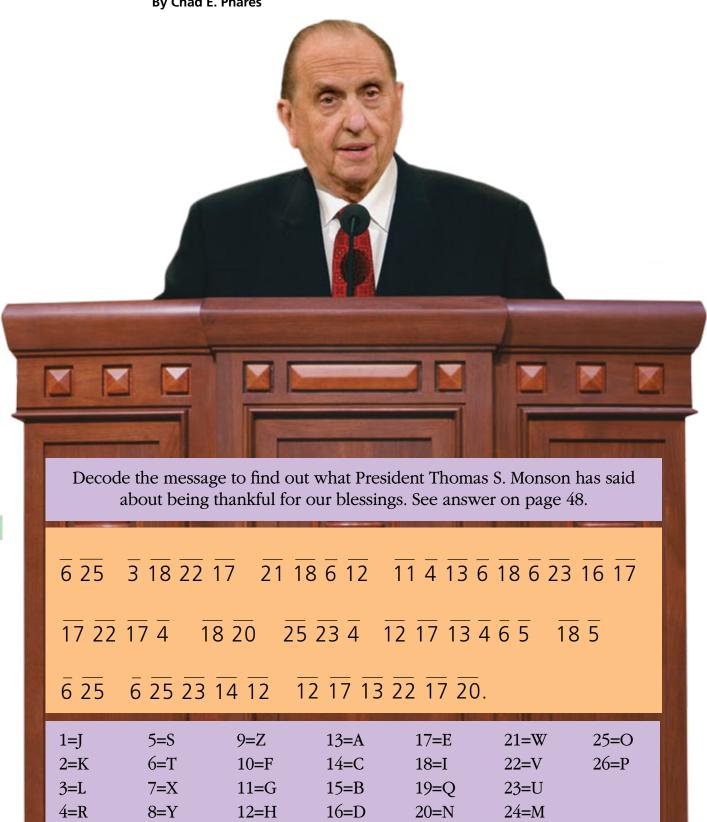
"Yeah, see you." This time Matt grinned so big that Ethan didn't have to wonder. He could tell that his new friend's smile was real.



u h

A Prophet's Counsel

By Chad E. Phares



I feel like everyone in my family is good at something except me.

How can I find something I'm good at?





I can't do my times tables very fast or run as fast as some of the other kids at school, but I keep trying, and I get faster every day. Keep trying new things until you find what you enjoy. Then keep doing it, and you will

become good at it. I found out that I am good at biking with my dad.

Michael S., age 10, Queensland, Australia



Everybody is good at something. To find out what you are good at, try a bunch of different activities and see what you do the best. I like to run, sing, ride my bike, cook, and help people—especially my dad. Heavenly

Father knows what you are good at because He is your Father, and you lived with Him before you came to earth. Connor B., age 11, Texas



My younger sister is an amazing gymnast! For a long time I was jealous. Now I know that it's OK. She may be better than I am in gymnastics, but I know I have been blessed with talents where I can shine too. It

doesn't mean I should give up practicing at the level I am at. We shine more when we practice things that we are good at.

Breely B., age 11, Utah



Have you tried asking your dad or mom to look in the newspaper or online for classes you could take? It definitely worked for me. Now I can tap dance!

Sam J., age 7, Utah



Using the *Faith in God* book will help us learn our talents. Go to the section "Developing Talents": "For all have not every gift given unto them; for there are many gifts, and to every man is given a gift by the Spirit of

God" (Doctrine and Covenants 46:11).

Yasmin P., age 11, Tennessee



When I was in about fifth grade, I stopped playing the piano because I thought it was too hard. Now I see you have to put work in to become good at something. I am now working at basketball, and I'm trying the

piano again. You'll find out what you're good at if you put forth the effort.

Hannah G., age 12, Utah



Not all talents have to be in music, arts, or sports. If you cannot find something that you are good at, you may need to broaden your horizons. Remember, by small and simple things great things come to pass. You

could have a great talent right now and not know about it. You just need to look.

Luke J., age 12, Ohio

Share Your Thoughts!

Next question: Sometimes I get mad when my soccer team loses. How can I be a good sport?

Do you have some advice about this? Send us your answer and photo by November 30, 2012. Find our address on page 48 or e-mail us at friend@ldschurch.org. (Put "Question Corner" in the subject line.) Remember to include a parent's permission!







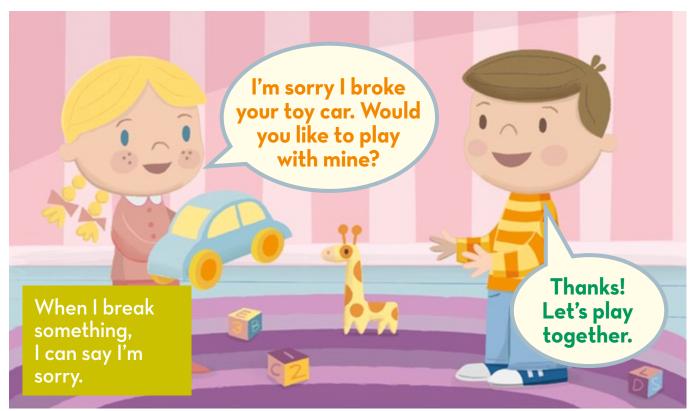


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For Little Friends

Can Say I'm Sorry By Hilary Watkins Lemon





32 Friend ILLUSTRATIONS BY ERIC BARCLAY









Find the Differences

These children are being helpful. Find the differences between the two pictures.





A Beautiful World

Heavenly Father has created a beautiful world for you. Look at the pictures, and then find them in the scene.





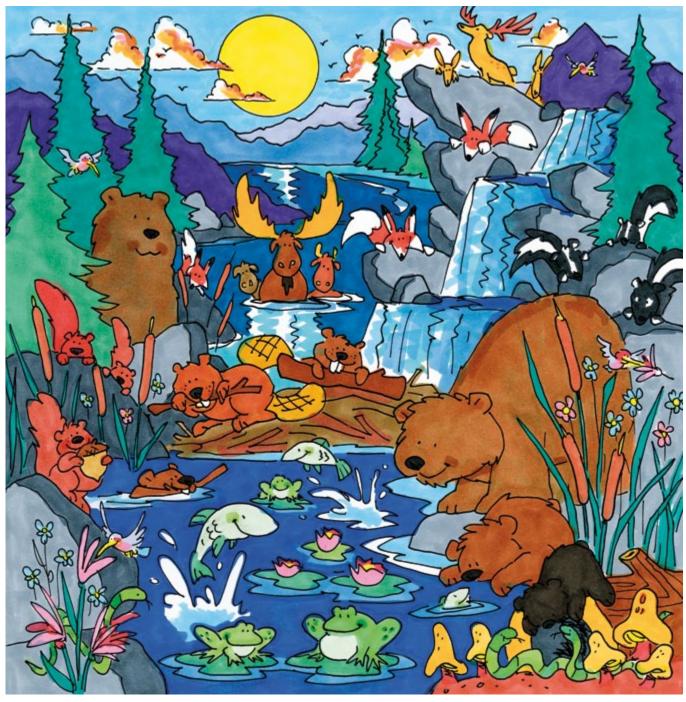








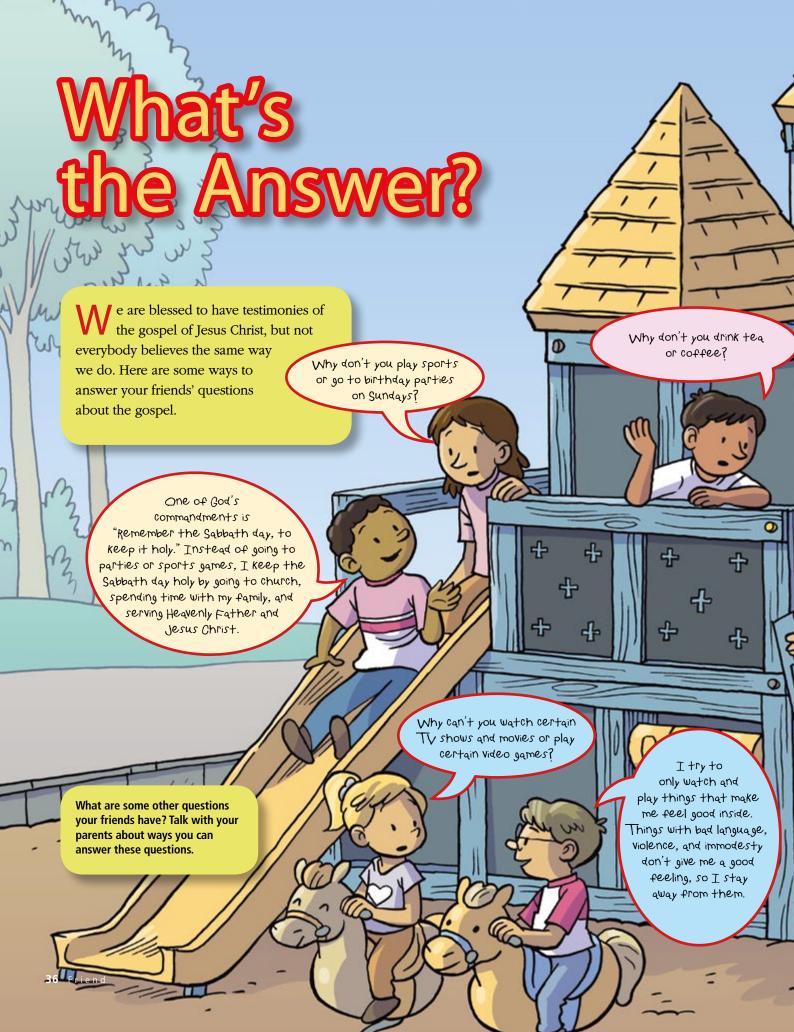




ILLUSTRATIONS BY VAL CHADWICK BAGLEY

November 2012

3!





Show and Tell

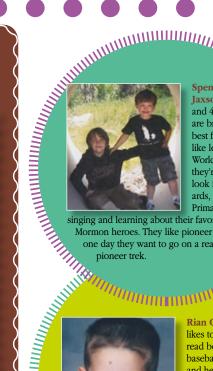




Megan B., age 10, Oregon



Oscar P., age 8, Guam



and 4, California, are brothers and best friends. They like learning about World War II. When they're outside they look for snakes, lizards, and frogs. In Primary they enjoy

singing and learning about their favorite Book of Mormon heroes. They like pioneer stories, and one day they want to go on a real



Rian C., age 5, Utah, likes to go camping, read books, play baseball, ride his bike, and help others. He enjoys scripture study with his family. Rian's favorite scripture stories are about Jonah and the whale and the brother of Jared.



Eliza T., age 8, Arizona

When Jesus Returns

When Jesus returns, For 1,000 years He'll be our King. Angels shall sing; There will be peace. Your loved ones you'll see. The sick will heal, And the children will Gather round His knee. The blind will see, The deaf will hear, The mute will talk, When Jesus returns.

Maren V., age 9, Massachusetts



How do you forgive someone who has been unkind to you? See page 48 to find out how to send us your answer.



ne afternoon when I was playing with my friends, I saw a boy sitting alone

in the building's shadow. I went and asked him if he wanted to play with me, and he smiled. He said that he was very happy.

Bradley J., age 8, Florida



nce my brothers and I were sledding down the hill in our backyard. My older brother

said it was time to go inside, but I said, "Once more, please!" Both my brother and I had a bad feeling about it, but he pushed me down the hill anyway. I ran into a tree and had to get seven stiches in my chin. I know that bad feeling was the Holy Ghost warning me. I should have listened!

Madelyn G., age 8, Idaho



s I was walking out of the doctor's office with my family, I saw an elderly woman

drop her things on the sidewalk. I went over to her and helped her pick up her things. She said, "Thank you, young man." I felt good because I helped her.

Jacob S., age 8, Wisconsin



ne day we were looking at the movies in our house. I told my mom that we should

get rid of one of them because it was not a good movie. My mom agreed. I felt good about making that choice.

Wade C., age 7, California

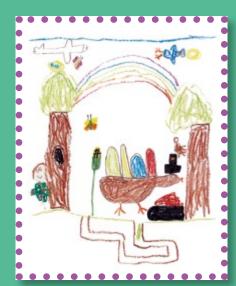


Amanda W., age 9, Utah



couple of years ago, my bishop asked our ward to read the Book of Mormon. I did

not want to do it because I thought it would be too hard. The next year I decided to try to read it before my birthday to prepare for my baptism. I bore my testimony in sacrament meeting about this goal, and my bishop asked the ward to do my goal with me. I'm already beginning to see a change in my life from reading the Book of Mormon.



Easton S., age 6, Tennessee

I Can Choose to Be a Missionary **NOW**

Scripture and Song

- Mark 16:15
- "I Want to Be a Missionary Now" (Children's Songbook, 168)

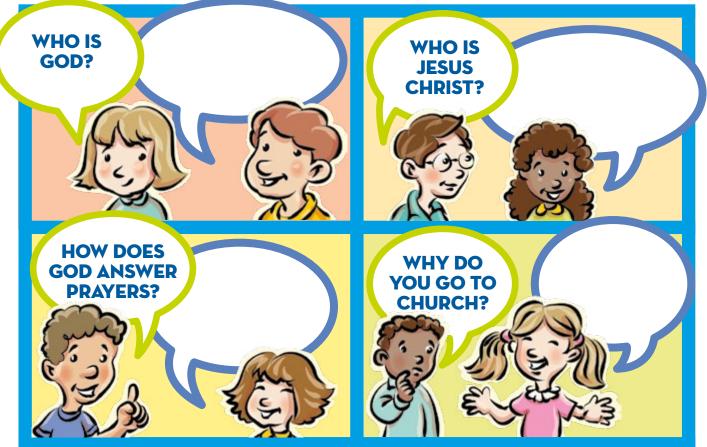
he children were excited for sharing time. A returned missionary was visiting to tell about his mission in Japan. When he had arrived in Japan, everything seemed so different. The Japanese people used chopsticks instead of forks, wrote sentences using characters instead of letters, and spoke a language that was hard for him to understand. Children took their lunches to school in "bento boxes" and read books from back to front. The missionary quickly learned to love the Japanese people and the way they lived.

The Lord wants all of us to be missionaries. One way you can do that is by being a friend to those who have moved into your neighborhood or come from

another country and to those who look, speak, or dress differently. As you learn to love those who are different from you, you are preparing for the day when you are called to serve a mission. It could be anywhere in the world!

CTR Activity

When people are learning about the gospel of Jesus Christ, they often have a lot of guestions. Talk with your family about how you would answer the questions in the situations on these pages. Maybe you'll have a chance to answer one of them soon!







ILLUSTRATIONS BY BRAD TEARE November 2012 **41**

By Heidi Poelman

(Based on a true story)

If you want a friend, you must show that you care (Children's Songbook, 262).

ome on, Sarah!" Kim called as she ran up the stairs. "I want to show you the new books I got for my birthday!"

"I can't wait!" Sarah said, following close behind.

The girls sat on the bed in Kim's room and pulled out the books. "You'll love this one," Kim said, passing Sarah a book with a dragon and a beautiful princess on the cover.

The girls read stories together until Kim's mom said it was homework time. The girls agreed that the fun always seemed to end too soon.

The next day at school,

"I didn't really think it was funny," Kim said. "I just laughed because everyone else was laughing."

The girls finished their walk home in silence. Kim didn't understand why Sarah was so upset.

Later that night, Kim thought of Sarah. She tried to imagine the kids at school laughing at her the way they had laughed at Sarah. Maybe they would laugh at her hair one day, or maybe they would laugh at the shirt she was wearing. Having Sarah laugh with them wouldn't feel so good.

true friends

Sarah and Kim sat down in the cafeteria for lunch. They were talking about Kim's new books when three boys from the next grade walked by. One of them said something about Sarah's glasses and laughed. Everyone around them laughed too. Sarah's cheeks flushed pink. She looked over and saw Kim laughing too. "Why are you laughing?" Sarah whispered, looking at Kim in surprise. "Oh, they're just teasing," Kim said. "Don't worry about it." On the way home from school, Sarah and Kim walked together as usual. But Sarah kept her head down. "What's the matter?" Kim asked. "Well," Sarah said, hesitating, "I don't understand why, when it's just us, you're such a good friend. But at school, when that boy said those mean things, you laughed." 42 Friend

The next morning, Kim waited outside for Sarah. When Sarah came out of her house, Kim waved. "Hey, Sarah!" she said. "I'm sorry I laughed yesterday. I should have been a better friend. I won't do that again, I promise."

Sarah smiled. "Thanks," she said.

At lunch, the girls were sitting together again when the boy who had teased Sarah walked over. He said the same thing and laughed again. This time, instead of laughing, Kim looked at him and said, "I think Sarah



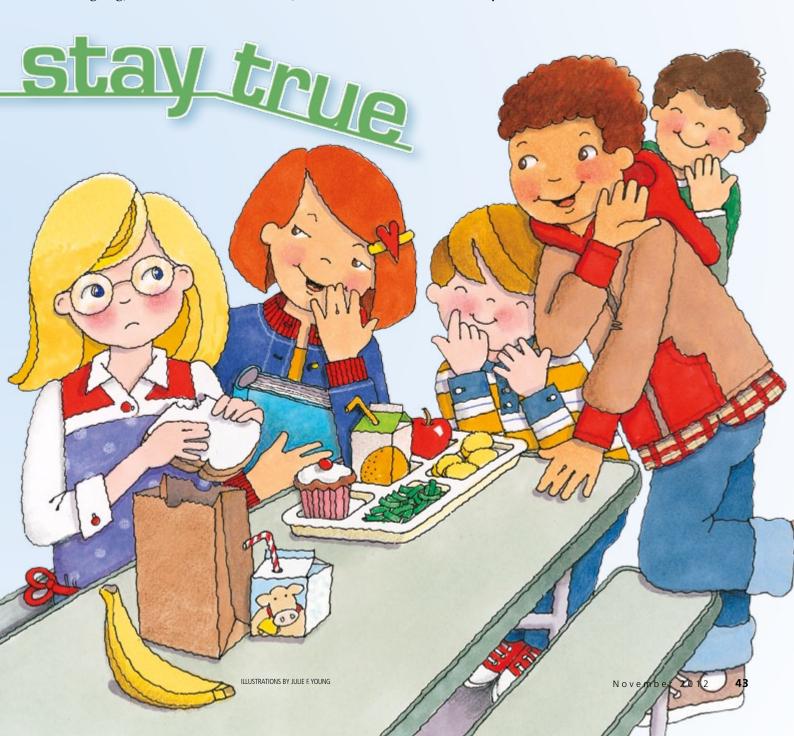
One day a girl in my class started teasing my friend. I was scared to tell the girl to stop teasing, so I prayed that she would stop. The next day I told my friend that I would ask the girl to stop teasing her. My friend said that the girl had stopped and now wanted to be friends with us. I'm glad I can help my friends.

Carly H., age 7, Colorado

looks great in her glasses. I might even get a pair myself."

The boy looked around. No one else was laughing with him this time, so he walked away.

Sarah smiled at Kim. "Thanks for doing that," she said. "You really are a true friend."



By Angela M. Smith

(Based on a true story)

Show forth good examples (Alma 17:11).

ory stared at the clock in the Primary room. "When will this be over?" he wondered.

Now that Cory was in middle school, Primary didn't seem as fun anymore. He knew all the scripture stories and the answers to all the questions. He thought the games and songs were for little kids.

Cory slumped in his chair. Then he remembered something he wanted to ask Austin about his new computer game. "I need your help on this one level," he whispered.

Sister Evans tapped Cory on his shoulder. "Please sing," she said. Cory waited for Sister Evans to look away and then finished talking to Austin.

shouldn't talk during Primary," he thought.

That afternoon, Cory was playing his new game when the doorbell rang. He looked up to see Mom inviting Sister Evans in.

"Hi, Cory," Sister Evans said. She sat down and got right to the point. "How can I help make Primary a place you want to be?"

Cory started to say he liked Primary fine, but it seemed like Sister Evans wanted to hear what he really thought. So he told her everything-how he knew all the stories and how the games and songs were for younger kids.

"I think I understand," Sister Evans said.

RIGH

On the drive home from church, Mom asked, "How was Primary?"

"Fine," Cory said. He didn't remember much about it.

"Sister Evans asked me if she could come over for a visit tomorrow after school," Mom said.

Cory swallowed hard. "Um, OK."

The next day at school, Cory worried about what Sister Evans would say. "She probably wants to remind me that I

MAN

"You've been in Primary a long time. Sometimes when we do the same things over again, it can seem boring."

Cory nodded.

"Well," Sister Evans said, "I don't want Primary to be boring. I brought a scripture to share with you. I think it might help."

Sister Evans opened her scriptures. "This was written by the Apostle Paul," she said. "See if you can tell what he's talking about." Then she read, "'But now are they many

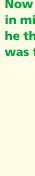
members, yet but one body.

Now that Cory was in middle school, he thought Primary was for little kids.

"'And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you....

"'Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular'" (1 Corinthians 12:20-21, 27). Cory asked, "When it says 'members,' is that like members of the Church?"











"Exactly," Sister Evans said. "Just like every part of the body is important, every person is needed at church. In Primary, you can be like one of those hands that Paul wrote about—a helping hand."

"But I don't teach the lesson or lead the songs," Cory said.

"But when you answer questions, it helps others learn," Sister Evans said. "And when you sing your best, the younger children feel more confident."

"I'll try," Cory said. "Maybe you can call me your 'right-hand man,'" he said, smiling.

On Sunday, Cory felt more excited to go to Primary than he had for a long time. He answered questions, and he tried to sing well so that the younger kids could hear the words.

Later, Sister Evans pointed to a boy in the Sunbeam class who was crying. "Would you mind sitting by Steven today?" Sister Evans asked Cory.

Cory sat next to Steven and helped him sing the songs. When Cory folded his arms for the prayer, Steven did too.

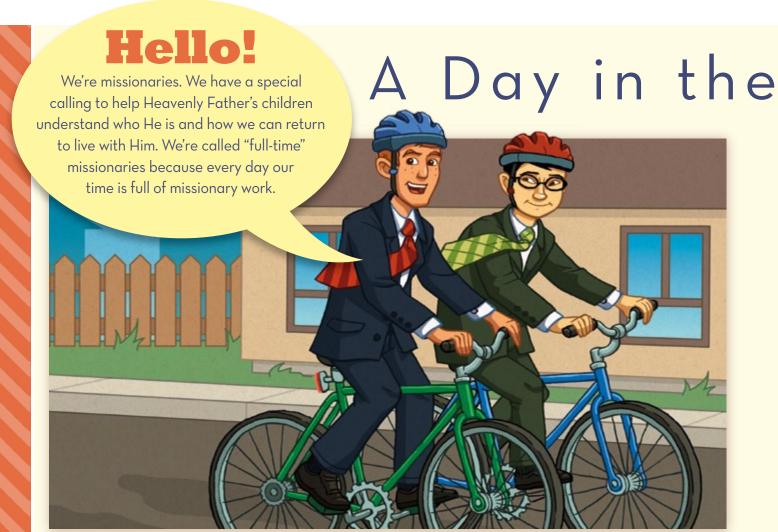
On the way home, Cory felt a little more grown-up. He had always known he was important to Heavenly Father. But now that he was a "right-hand man" in Primary, he knew he was also an important part of Heavenly Father's Church.

"With baptism we become part of the body of Christ; each of us has a role to play, each of us is important."

Elder L. Tom Perry of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles



ILLUSTRATIONS BY STEVE KEELE November 2012 **45**



When the alarm goes off at 6:30 a.m., we kneel next to our beds and pray to Heavenly Father.



Then we exercise!
Sometimes we stretch or jump rope.



Then it's time to clean up, get dressed, and eat breakfast.



At 8:00 we're ready to study. We study the scriptures, *Preach My Gospel*, and sometimes another language. It's like going to school, but the Holy Ghost is our teacher.

There are a lot of things we need to do today. Do the schedule activity on the next page and you'll discover what Heavenly Father gives us for protection.



46 Friend ILLUSTRATIONS BY LANCE FRY

Life of a Missionary

Help us put our schedule in order by finding the activity that should happen at each of the times below. Write the name of each activity in the blanks. Then, to find out what protects us, write the boxed letters in order in the blanks at the bottom of the page.

MEETING WITH WARD LEADERS: This meeting is at the church at 7:30 p.m.

DINNER: We usually eat at 5 p.m.

VISIT OLIVIA: She lives by the Fredrick family, so we can stop by right before their appointment.

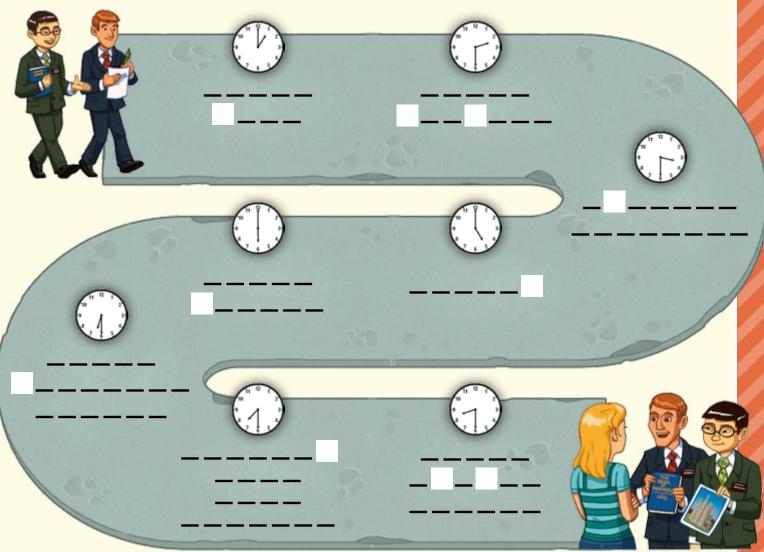
TEACH LOSDEN FAMILY: They live on the same street as the church, so we can go by right after our meeting.

VISIT RAYMOND: He is in the hospital, and visiting hours start at 2:30 p.m.

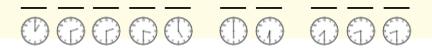
TEACH FREDRICK FAMILY: They are all home at 6:30 p.m.

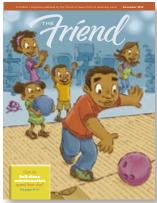
TEACH ALEX: He has a break from his college classes at 1 p.m.

CONTACT REFERRAL: A member wants us to meet his friend. They live near the hospital, so we can go after visiting Raymond.



What protects missionaries?







Look on page 20!



Possible Ideas for Family Home Evening

1. Use the Bringing Primary Home lesson and activity to learn more about this month's Primary theme (pages 40-41).

2. Read "Wake-Up Calls" (pages 2–3). Talk about times when you have been given a "wake-up call" to help others. Brainstorm ways you can help others, starting with your own family.

3. Pair off as partners and practice your own answers to the questions in "What's the Answer?" (pages 36–37). Think of more questions that

people might ask about the Church.

4. Read "Jesus Blesses the Nephite Children" (pages 14-15). Discuss these questions with your family: Why was it important for Jesus to visit the Nephites? How does Heavenly Father give people opportunities to learn about Jesus Christ today?

5. Read "Thanksgiving Bread" (pages 22–23). Make a special dish together that helps you remember your family heritage.



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Age

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Key 040204

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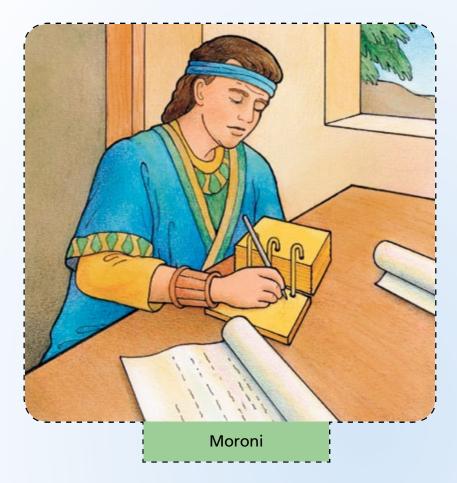
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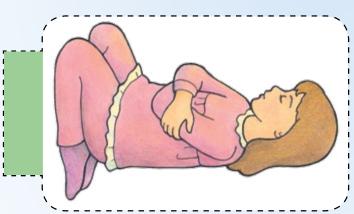
Sidebar References

1. "Cultivate Righteous Traditions," Ensign, Nov. 2000. 27. 2. "Be Thou an Example of the Believers," Ensian, Nov. 2010, 48. 3. "The Gospel of Jesus Christ," Ensign, May 2008, 46.

Funstuf Answers

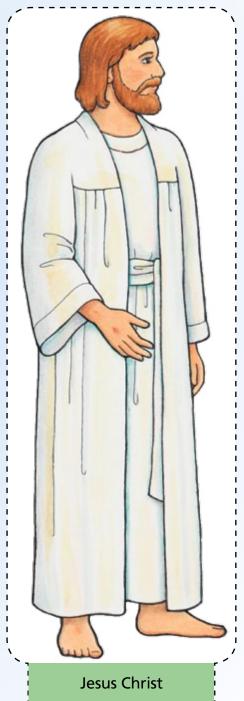
Page 28: to live with gratitude ever in our hearts is to touch heaven Page 47: armor of God



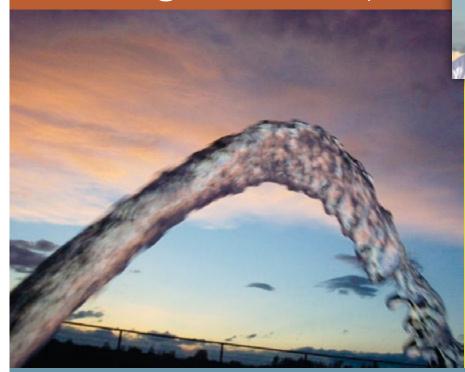


This year 10 issues of the *Friend* have contained Book of Mormon scripture figures. To use, cut them out and glue or tape them to cardboard, heavy paper, small paper sacks, or craft sticks. Store each set in an envelope or bag, along with the label that tells where to find the story in the scriptures.

Moroni and the Book of Mormon Promise Moroni 10



Through Your Eyes



I took this
picture near
my home. God
loves us, and so
he gave us food
and water.
Sarah B.,
age 10, Idaho

Do you like taking photos? We'd like to see your best shots about how Heavenly Father blesses your life. E-mail them to friend@ ldschurch.org and include your name, age, and where you're from. Please also include a sentence explaining how your picture shows Heavenly Father's blessings



in your life. Remember, we can't publish your submission without a parent's permission in the e-mail. If there are people in the photo, we also need to know that they gave their permission to be photographed. We're looking forward to seeing Heavenly Father's blessings through your eyes!



What's online?



We met Erin from Canada in "Helping with a Haircut" in this month's *Friend*. Visit **Ids** .org/friend and click on "One in a Million" to meet Josie and Grace who live in Canada too! You can also watch 8 brand-new "One in a Million" videos available online. What is your favorite scripture story? Visit mormonchannel. org/scripture-stories to listen to your favorite story and hear about what other kids have learned from their favorite scripture stories.

