Conference is for YOU! See pages 13-17
How We Read the Friend
We read the Friend every night before we sleep.
Princess and Prince B., ages 3 and 6, Tarlac, Philippines

Still Loving the Friend
I am grateful for the Friend. I'm almost 12, and I still enjoy the Friend. I love it and have fun reading it. I love every last bit of it and especially enjoy Funstuff and Matt & Mandy.
Aaron R., age 11, California, USA

Studying the Friend
I am homeschooled, and we use the Friend as part of our religion studies. My favorite part is doing the activities, such as “One Scoop at a Time” (July 2013) and our family “Blessing Banner” (“Bringing Primary Home,” July 2013).
Jillian P., age 6, Texas, USA

Celebrating Gratitude
My family and I made the “Gratitude Tree” from the November 2013 Friend. My dad got brown bags for the trunk and the branches. My brother Mickey and I made the leaves while Dad made the trunk and branches. I liked writing down what I’m thankful for on the leaves.
Esther, with Mickey, Benjamin, and Gabriel F., ages 7, 5, 3, and 1, Washington, USA

Dear Friends,
One of our favorite things is reading letters from you! Every month we receive letters telling us how our readers are trying to follow Jesus by helping others and being brave in living the gospel.

On page 11 you can read about a girl who answered someone else’s prayer just by being a friend.

If you’d like to write to us, just turn to page 48 to find out how.

Love,
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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I Can Play It!

Learn to play the Primary song
“ I Hope They Call Me on a Mission” on page 31.

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Gifts from Heaven

When I became a deacon at the age of 12, I lived in New Jersey, USA, 50 miles (80 km) from New York City. I dreamed of being a great baseball player. My father took me to see a game in Yankee Stadium, in New York City. I can still see the swing of the bat as a famous player named Joe DiMaggio hit a home run into the center field stands with my father sitting beside me.

But another day I spent with my father shaped my life forever. He took me to the home of an ordained patriarch. The patriarch led me to a chair, placed his hands on my head, and gave me a patriarchal blessing as a gift from God. He said I was one of those of whom it had been said, “Blessed are the peacemakers” (Matthew 5:9).

Because the Lord revealed this gift to me in my patriarchal blessing, I have been able to recognize it and look for opportunities to use it to bless others.

God knows our gifts. My challenge to you is to pray to know the gifts you have been given, to develop them, and to use your gifts to serve others.◆

MAKING PEACE

President Eyring learned from his patriarchal blessing that he had a gift as a peacemaker. Find five differences between these two pictures of a child being a peacemaker. For each difference you find, name one gift or talent Heavenly Father has given you.

GIFT SCRAMBLE

There are many spiritual gifts! Unscramble these gifts listed below. (Hint: They are all found in D&C 46:17–24.) Check your answers on page 48.

somwdi ___________________________
seoutng ___________________________
hiaft ___________________________
oecryhpp ___________________________
owgndkle ___________________________
ilsmcear ___________________________

READY, SET, SERVE!

Heavenly Father gives us gifts and talents so that we can serve others. Try using your special talents to do these three kinds of service:

1. Planned service: plan a time to take cookies to someone, visit a nursing home, or clean up a park.
2. Quick service: cheer up a sad sibling, help put the groceries away, or call a grandparent.
3. Secret service: clean a sibling’s room, write a note telling someone you love them, or pray for someone who needs help.

SERVE!

READY, SET,

1. Planned service:
   - plan a time to take cookies to someone, visit a nursing home, or clean up a park.

2. Quick service:
   - cheer up a sad sibling, help put the groceries away, or call a grandparent.

3. Secret service:
   - clean a sibling’s room, write a note telling someone you love them, or pray for someone who needs help.
“Ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another” (John 13:35).

Dani craned her neck back all the way, but she still couldn’t see the top of the beautiful building. Her dad said it was called a cathedral. People who belonged to a different church came here. Dani didn’t understand why she and her family were visiting this church on a Friday, but Dad said they were going to something called Evensong.

“What’s that?” Dani asked.

“It’s a meeting where people sing songs, read scriptures, and pray together,” Dad said. “Like a big family before going home for the night.”

Dani liked how that sounded. She and her family were visiting England. Last Sunday they went to a ward in a city called York. In Primary all the kids knew the same scriptures and songs Dani
about Jesus healing the ten lepers.

"Dad," Dani whispered, "I love this story."

Dad smiled. "Me too."

Then the man in robes said a prayer. He asked God to bless those who were sick and in need. Just like Dani did! He also asked a special blessing on leaders of his church. Dani remembered how her family always asked Heavenly Father to bless President Thomas S. Monson and his counselors.

A warm feeling came into Dani's heart. She knew Heavenly Father was telling her He loved all His children and heard all their prayers, even if they went to a different church and didn't have the fulness of the gospel.

As they got up to leave, Dad checked his phone. He looked sad as he read his messages. "Sister Monson passed away," he said quietly.

"Oh no!" Dani said a quick prayer in her heart that President Monson would feel comfort and be OK.

"Are you all right?" someone asked. It was the same boy from before. He had heard Dani, and he seemed worried.

"Sister Monson passed away," Dani told him. "She was the wife of our prophet, President Monson."

"I'm sorry," he said kindly. "I'll light a candle for him."

Dani smiled and thanked him. She thought it was nice of the boy to say a special prayer for President Monson. She knew Heavenly Father would hear the silent prayer she said in her heart and the prayer the boy said too. ◆

The author lives in Utah, USA.
TRY THIS!

Make a new friend in your class or neighborhood. Instead of looking at how different you are, look at what you have in common. Maybe you like to play the same sports or both like to read. If you don’t have much in common, there are lots of new things you can learn from each other!

Latkes

These potato pancakes (pronounced lot-kuez) are made to celebrate the Jewish holiday Hanukkah. Serve them plain or with sour cream and applesauce. Be sure to get an adult’s help. (Makes about 12 small latkes.)

- 1 large baking potato, peeled
- 1 small onion, peeled
- 1/4 cup flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1 large egg
- oil, for frying

1. Shred the potato and onion in a food processor or with a hand grater. Wrap the shredded potato and onion in a clean cloth and squeeze dry.
2. Mix the flour, salt, pepper, and egg in a large bowl. Stir in the potato and onion.
3. Heat 2 tablespoons of oil in a frying pan on medium. Drop spoonfuls of batter into the pan and flatten them with a spatula.
4. Cook until the edges are golden brown, then flip and cook until the bottom is brown. Drain on paper towels. Cook the rest of the batter, adding oil as needed.

Let’s go on a field trip for family home evening!
We can have latkes for our treat.
—Makayla R., age 11, Utah, USA

—Kody W., age 10, Massachusetts, USA
In the summertime, our granny’s garden is full of big, juicy strawberries, and she lets us eat as many as we want.

Hello, friends!

I’m Saul from England

From an interview by Amie Jane Leavitt

I live in England, but my family comes from several places. My dad is British. My mum grew up in Hawaii, USA. She has both Maori (from New Zealand) and British ancestors. Both my grandpas are British, my granny is British, and my nana is Maori. My mum gave me a Maori middle name, Tamaiti O Iharaera. This name means “Child of Israel.” I love my family and am proud of my heritage.

In the summer of 2012, the Olympics came to my country. We rode the train to London to watch the events inside the stadium. I got to see many athletes receive medals. One of them even gave me a high five! We were so tired afterwards we fell asleep on the train.

This is a “Christmas cracker.” It’s a party favor that’s kind of like a firecracker! Two people pull it apart and out burst all sorts of fun things like candy, party hats, and stickers.

Learn how to make a Christmas cracker on page 20!
My brother and I are the only members of the Church at our school, so I have plenty of chances to be an example to others. One of my best friends comes to Church activities with us a lot.

I LOVE TO SEE THE TEMPLE
There are two temples in England. The London England Temple was the first one built in the United Kingdom. It was dedicated in 1958. Fifty years later, in 2008, an eight-foot statue of the angel Moroni was added by helicopter to the spire. The Preston England Temple was dedicated in 1992.

READY TO GO!
Saul’s bag is packed with some of his favorite things. Which of these things would you pack in your bag?
Being Thankful

Searching for Food
Do you like olives too? There are lots of foods to be thankful for! Look for the foods below in the word search. Then see if you can find three extra foods that don’t have pictures. (Find the answers on page 48.)

What are you thankful for on this bounteous Thanksgiving?

Olives!
One day my best friend and I were walking around at recess. We saw a girl from our ward sitting up against the fence with a frown on her face. My friend said we should go talk to her. So we walked over and asked why she was so sad. She said her friends told her that she couldn’t play with them. We asked if she wanted to play with us, and she said that she did. A smile was on her face.

We had a lot of fun that recess and played with her every day. Before we played with her, we hadn’t known that she was so fun. I felt good inside to play with someone who had looked sad.

A few days later, my mom and I rode our bikes to the park. We saw my new friend there too. She and I played on the playground while our moms talked.

After we left, my mom told me what her mom had said. The girl’s friends had been mean to her over the last few days. She and her mom had been praying that she would find some friends, and my friend and I were the answer to her prayers. I felt warm inside and was happy that I had played with her.
Lucy from England

Lucy is dressed in her church clothes, but you can also dress her in her school uniform or her Victorian-era dress. Glue this page onto heavy paper before you color and cut out the pieces.

Print more copies at FriendsaroundtheWorld.lds.org.
May we have the courage of a Daniel, that we might remain true and faithful despite the sin and temptation which surround us.

4 Challenges

- Be wise in how much time you spend on the Internet (Elder Quentin L. Cook).
- Remind your parents to pray (Sister Neill F. Marriott).
- Be respectful and kind to people of other religions, races, and cultures. Never bully or insult others (Elder Dallin H. Oaks).
- Make your home a place where the Spirit is welcome (Sister Linda K. Burton).

Conference Quotes

“The Creator of seas, sands, and endless stars is reaching out to you this very day!”
—President Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Second Counselor in the First Presidency

“Following the prophet is always right.”
—Sister Carol F. McConkie, first counselor in the Young Women general presidency

“Make the decision today to act and say, ‘Yes, Lord, I will follow Thee!’”
—Elder Eduardo Gavaret of the Seventy

A Conference First!

Match each speaker with the language he spoke in conference. Check answers on page 48.

Cantonese (Chinese)  Elder Hugo E. Martinez
Spanish               Elder Carlos A. Godoy
Portuguese            Elder Chi Hong (Sam) Wong
                        Elder Eduardo Gavaret

Girls from South Korea sang “I Love to See the Temple” for the general women’s meeting.

Near and Far

People heard conference
- in 198 countries
- in 94 languages
- on TV, radio, computer, tablet, and phone

November 2014
Follow Jesus

President Thomas S. Monson encouraged us to follow the example of Jesus Christ. We follow in His footsteps when we resist temptation, obey, serve others, and pray. We can find comfort by remembering that Jesus knows how it feels to be disappointed or in pain. When we follow the example of Jesus Christ, we can return safely to our Heavenly Father to live with Him forever.

Share Gospel Goodness

Elder David A. Bednar told a story about two of his sons. Once, when the younger brother got a little hurt playing outside, the older brother took care of him. He washed the scrape, put on medical ointment, and bandaged his brother's whole arm. The younger brother was so happy to feel better that he went outside and started putting ointment and bandages on his friends, so they could be happy too! Elder Bednar explained that this is like missionary work. Because the gospel has blessed our lives in many ways, we want to share that blessing with others.
Love the Sacrament

A group of young women once asked Sister Cheryl A. Esplin what she wished she had known when she was young. Sister Esplin said that part of her answer would be that she wished she had understood the sacrament better. She said that when she takes the sacrament now, she sometimes thinks about a picture of the Savior with His arms outstretched, as if He wants to give us a hug. When we listen to the sacrament prayers and promise to follow Jesus, the sacrament can be a sacred and special time for us.

Grow Your Testimony

Some of the tallest trees in the world are in the Redwood National Park in the western United States. Elder Craig C. Christensen pointed out that even these huge trees began as tiny seeds. This is like our testimonies. Although our testimonies may start with one simple experience, they can grow big and strong over time as we nourish our spirits. We can help our testimonies grow by praying, studying the scriptures, and paying attention to the promptings of the Holy Ghost.

What this teaches me:
My favorite part was when President Monson said that it’s less important that you walk where Jesus walked, but it’s very important that you walk as He walked. I loved when he said that. It means to follow Jesus’s example. I want to walk like Jesus.

Alise N., age 9, Sweden

I liked Elder Kacher’s talk. He talked about how there are many currents in this world and not all of them are good. Bad currents pull us away from our loving Heavenly Father. Elder Kacher told how he was converted and followed a new current. If you understand the gospel, you will know which currents to follow.

Charlie T., age 10, Maryland, USA

It is neat that we got to listen to the prophet from our home in Guyana. We especially liked hearing the General Authorities speak in their native languages. It’s really good that the gospel is spreading around the world! Did you know that the church has been in Guyana for about 25 years?

Rose and Simon T., ages 6 and 5, Guyana

When President Monson spoke, I told my mom that I felt the Spirit.

Adriana H., age 4, North Carolina, USA

My favorite talk at conference was by Elder Scott. He talked about the tools Heavenly Father has given us to help us exercise faith, like prayer, scripture study, family home evening, and going to the temple. I like when my family has family home evening because we get to spend time together and learn about Jesus. I know my family loves me when they make time for family home evening.

Haley H., age 8, Idaho, USA

My favorite thing about conference is building a tent and watching in our family room. I love conference because it makes me a better boy.

Owen W. with his brother, Isaac, both age 4, Republic of Ireland

Brynn and Ellie T., ages 5 and 3, Arizona, USA, liked watching conference while they colored in their tent by the TV. Listening to conference made them happy!
My favorite conference talk was by Sister McConkie. She told the story of when Elijah went to the widow’s home and asked for bread. The widow gave Elijah her last bread, and afterwards found that she was blessed with food and drink for many days. This has taught me to trust the Lord and His prophets.

Isobel P., age 8, England

Nathan, Bowman, Andrew, Audrey, and Claire F., ages 4, 12, 10, 2, and 6, Texas, USA, love watching general conference. At the beginning of each talk, they paste a picture on their “conference wall” of the Church leader who is speaking. At the end of the talk, they write a sentence about the message that was shared. By the end of conference, they have a whole wall to remind them of the wonderful things they learned!

Our hope and joy is to follow the covenant.

Katelyn B., age 9, Utah, USA, drew this picture of Sister Stevens while watching the general women’s meeting.
Thankful for a Stepdad

By Kasey Tross
(Based on a true story)

“Thank our Heavenly Father for the blessings we all share” (Children’s Songbook, 189).

Family prayer!” Max called. He jumped over a box and landed on the couch. It was his family’s first night in their new house, and there were boxes everywhere.

“Take it easy, kiddo,” Mom said as she sat down on the couch. Soon Max’s older sister, Hannah, came in. Max saw his new stepdad, Tom, standing in the doorway. Max’s mom and Tom had gotten married the
Max prayed that he could be a good example to Tom.

week before, and they had all moved in to the new house together. Max was still trying to get used to having a stepdad.

“OK,” Mom said. “Whose turn is it to say family prayer?”

“Mom, why doesn’t Tom say it?” Max asked.

Mom looked to where Tom stood in the doorway. “Oh, sweetie, I don’t think Tom is going to join us. He’s never done family prayer before.”

“I don’t mind,” Tom said, walking into the room. He sat down next to Max. “I’ll just sit and listen.”

As Max got used to having Tom around, he noticed his stepdad didn’t do a lot of the same things Max and his mom and sister did. On Sunday mornings when Max, Hannah, and Mom got dressed for church, Tom would put on a pair of old jeans and grab his toolbox. He said he had too much to do around the house to go to church, but when they got home he always asked them what they learned.

Even though Tom didn’t go to church, he was a really nice guy. Tom always encouraged Max to choose the right and listen to his mom and his Primary teachers. As months passed, Max prayed he could be a good example so that maybe one day Tom would want to learn more about the Church.

When Thanksgiving came around, Max and Tom spent the afternoon raking leaves in the yard. The air was chilly. As they finished up, Mom called from the front door, “Boys! Dinner’s ready!”

“Race you!” Tom said to Max. Max grinned as they ran into the house, where the smell of turkey, stuffing, and pumpkin pie greeted them. They washed up and sat down at the table with the rest of the family.

“Happy Thanksgiving, everyone!” Tom said. He looked around the table. “I was thinking that maybe I could say the blessing on the food this time, if that’s all right with you.”

Mom’s eyes widened with surprise. “Of course,” she said, smiling. “I think we would all like that very much.”

Tom looked at Max and winked. Max grinned and folded his arms.

As Tom prayed, Max silently thanked Heavenly Father for blessing their family with such a great stepdad. He had a feeling that this Thanksgiving was just the start of lots of good things to come.

The author lives in Virginia, USA.
Fun Facts about **England**

Have you met Saul from England on page 8? Here are some fun facts about this British nation.

- England is one of four countries in the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland).
- Brigham Young, John Taylor, and Wilford Woodruff served missions in England together in 1840.
- London, the capital of England, is one of the largest cities in Europe.

---

**Christmas Cracker**

These crackers aren’t the kind you eat—but you can eat what’s inside! They’re tube-shaped party favors filled with goodies and are a fun part of British celebrations. Be sure to get an adult’s help.

**You will need:**
- 1 empty cardboard roll, about 5 inches (13 cm) long
- a 10x6-inch (25x15-cm) sheet of wrapping paper
- ribbon or string
- tape
- goodies to put in your cracker (paper crown, candy, small toys, etc.)

1. Place the cardboard roll lengthwise on the paper. Make sure there’s an equal amount of paper on both ends of the roll.
2. Tape one edge of the wrapping paper to the cardboard. Roll it and tape the other side to make a tube.
3. Tie a ribbon around the wrapping paper at one end of the cardboard.
4. Fill the cardboard tube with goodies, and then tie the other end of the tube shut.
5. To open the cracker, have two people each take an end and pull until it cracks in two!

---

Can you match the names of these English landmarks with the pictures? Buckingham Palace, Stonehenge, the London Eye, and Big Ben. (Answers on page 48.)
**TOAD IN THE HOLE**

Everyone will hop to the table when you cook this British dish! Remember to get an adult’s help.

(Makes 4–6 servings.)

- 1 1/2 cup flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 1 1/2 cup milk
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 pound (454 g) pork or beef sausage links

1. In a large bowl, mix together the flour, salt, and pepper. Make a well in the center of the mixture and pour in the eggs, milk, and melted butter. Whisk until smooth. Let stand for 30 minutes.

2. Grease a 9x13-inch (23x33-cm) baking dish and put it in a cool oven. Preheat the oven and the pan to 425°F (220°C).

3. Meanwhile, brown the sausages in a frying pan. When the sausages are brown and the oven is hot, carefully pull out the oven rack. Put the sausages in the pan and pour the batter over them.

4. Cook for 20–30 minutes or until the batter is golden.

---

**FAMILY HISTORY: I Am Doing It!**

Many people think about gratitude during November. We can be grateful for our ancestors because we wouldn’t be alive today without them! One way to show that we are grateful is by learning stories about them and doing their temple work. Visit FamilySearch.org/myfamily and download the “My Family” booklet. Ask your parents to help you fill out as much of the information as you can and write down some family stories. Then go to Family Tree on FamilySearch and see what others have shared!
joined the Church since Father had received his mission call last April.

The night before the king's arrival, Allie stood back with Father and admired all of their hard work on the mission house. Braided ferns covered the railings. Exotic flowers added bright splashes of color. The Hawaiian flag floated grandly in the breeze.

"I'm sure the king will love it," Allie said. "I can't wait to hear all about his visit."

October 6, 1883, dawned bright and clear. Allie watched as Mother dressed in her best dress and left with Father to welcome the king at the mission house. Hours later, they returned with quite a story to tell.

"Hundreds of Saints lined the road and cheered as the king arrived," Father said. "After the king ate breakfast with us, your mother and I took him to the chapel. It was so full that five hundred people had to stand outside the building!"

"Three choirs from different islands sang, and the king himself spoke to the crowd," Mother added. "He thanked the Church for honoring the laws of the land and told us to continue our good works. Then we had a feast for more than..."
a thousand people! There was beef, pork, chicken, watermelon, and corn."

“But we had no plates, knives, forks, or spoons,” Father said. “We had to eat with just our fingers!"

“Even Mother?” Allie gasped. 
“Even me,” Mother said with a laugh. “And I rather enjoyed it!”

“His majesty enjoyed it too,” Father said. “It was a very important day for the Church here.”

And our family got to be part of it, Allie thought as she watched the sun set over the purple and gold horizon. The day was ending, but things were just beginning for the Church on the Hawaiian Islands.

To be continued ...
Heavenly Father wants us to learn and to develop our skills and talents. This is one way we can become more like Him. There are lots of ways to learn, and lots of ways to go to school!

If you live in Cuba, you might get to school on a horse-drawn school bus.

Many students around the world learn with computers.

Some children have school in their own home.

Uros children in Peru take a boat to their school on a nearby island.

Some children go to boarding school and live in dormitories with the other students.

Listen to Giordayne from Jamaica talk about her school at friend.lds.org.
Some schools are built for children with disabilities. One school in Scotland is made with cork, stone, and wood so blind students can feel their way around easily.

Some children in India ride the train to school.

In Kenya, some children do their homework by firelight in their family’s manyatta, a traditional home plastered with mud.

In part of Russia, children go to school in a portable tent while their families herd reindeer.

In some countries, moving libraries travel to bring books to thousands of children in different schools.

In countries in the southern hemisphere, like Australia and Brazil, summer vacation is from December to February.

Even kids living in temporary shelters can find places to learn and read together.

In countries around the world, it’s fun to go to school by boat! I love learning.
**What Jesus Taught**

When Jesus taught the Sermon on the Mount, He said that we should be generous with others, just like Heavenly Father is generous with us (see Matthew 5:40–45). He said if someone takes away our coat, we should also give him our cloak. If someone asks us to go with him for a mile, we should go with him for two miles. If someone asks to borrow something, we should give it willingly. This is part of loving others.

**Be Generous**

**This Month’s Challenges**

- Do an extra chore without being asked.
- Share a treat with a friend.
- If a sibling asks to borrow something, say yes willingly.
- I challenge myself to . . .

**Following Jesus Today**

In school I had to think of something good to say about someone I had bad feelings toward. This person had ripped off my flag in Capture the Flag, and I felt defeated. After I thought about it, I was able to write that she was good at Capture the Flag. Then I felt better. And, hey—she was good at Capture the Flag!

*Trent L., age 10, Utah, USA*

Some of my classmates didn’t like a boy in my class because he had problems they didn’t understand. On Valentine’s Day, I received two suckers and he had nothing, so I gave my suckers to him. At Christmastime, my family helped me do Secret Santa for his family. I felt very happy inside.

*Emily J., age 12, Idaho, USA*
Hidden Picture
By David Helton

These neighbors are celebrating Thanksgiving together! Can you find these hidden things?
Cooper started saving his money to get a new gaming system.
By Kimberly Reid
(Based on a true story)

“That every man may improve upon his talent, that every man may gain other talents” (D&C 82:18).

Cooper’s video game system was getting old. Whenever he raced cars, the screen froze and he had to restart the game.

“Can I get a new game system for my birthday?” Cooper asked Dad.

Dad shook his head. “I don’t think it fits into our budget. Remember how we spent quite a bit of money last year to buy your guitar and pay for music lessons?”

Cooper frowned. He wasn’t taking music lessons anymore.

“What if I earn the money?” Cooper asked. “Then maybe you could help me order one online.”

“That sounds like a good idea,” Dad said.

Cooper went to work doing extra chores and mowing lawns for neighbors. He saved all summer.

Finally he had enough money, and Dad sent it to an online seller advertising the best price for the gaming system Cooper wanted.

Cooper couldn’t wait. Whenever the mailman came, Cooper checked the mailbox. When a delivery truck came down his street, Cooper hoped it was bringing a package for him. But none of the trucks stopped at his house. Weeks went by.

“When is it going to get here?” Cooper asked.

Dad looked worried. “I’m not sure. The seller never sent me the tracking number.”

A few days later, Dad told Cooper some bad news.

“I think the seller we chose is dishonest. I can’t contact him on the phone or through email.”

Cooper couldn’t believe it. “You mean he stole my money?”

“It looks that way.”

Cooper hoped it wasn’t true. At night he prayed for a way to still get the gaming system he’d earned. The next day he asked Dad if he could have one for Christmas, but Dad just said, “I’m sorry this happened. Next time we’ll both know to be more careful.”

It seemed there was only one thing left to do: start saving money again. But school had started and Cooper didn’t have as much time for extra chores. “It isn’t fair,” he complained to himself as he sat moping in his room one afternoon. Then he noticed something he hadn’t paid much attention to for a while—his guitar.

Cooper picked it up and tuned it. He strummed a few chords and played through the songs he’d learned. It didn’t take long because he hadn’t had many lessons. He sat with the guitar on his lap, his fingers itching to play something new. He wondered if he could make up a song of his own.

A few hours later, Cooper played his brand new song all the way through. It felt so great that he couldn’t wait to write another one.

Cooper practiced his guitar all winter. He read books about playing the guitar. And when he had time, he earned a little extra money.

When spring came, Dad said, “How are the savings coming? Are you ready to pick out a new gaming system?”

Cooper thought about it. “I don’t know if I want one anymore.”

Sometimes he played video games at his friends’ houses, but he hadn’t really missed playing them at home. Playing guitar was fun, and he felt like he’d accomplished something great every time he wrote or learned a new song.

“I think I’ll leave the money in savings until I know what I want to use it for,” Cooper said.

“Sounds smart.”

Cooper was surprised at how much fun he was having playing his guitar. All year long, his plan had been to play video games. Now he didn’t even miss them. Heavenly Father hadn’t helped him get the video game system, but He had blessed Cooper with something better—the ability to be happy without it.

The author lives in Utah, USA.

“I hope none of us spend money for that which is of no worth nor labor for that which does not satisfy.”

Elder Michael John U. Teh of the Seventy

I Want to Be an Author

My name is Jessica Day George, and I’m an author.

From an interview by Linda Davies

What do you do in your job?
I have the best job in the world! Every day I get to make up stories. When you’re an author, you can write about whatever you want. Some of my books are for kids, and some are for teenagers, and all of them are fun for the right sort of grown up. The important thing is to write a book that you would want to read.

What do you like best about your job?
One of the things I love is that writing tells you why. Why did the 12 princesses dance until their shoes wore out? Why are dragons so cool? It’s like telling a friend about an amazing dream you had, only instead of just one friend, you get to share that dream with friends all over the world!

What did you have to learn to do this job?
The most important thing a writer needs to know is how to write, and you learn to write by reading. You soak in ideas, you see how characters talk to each other, and you understand how to tell a story. Then you have to write every day to keep those writing muscles strong. When you read and read and write and write, you become a stronger writer.

How does your job serve others?
I love the characters in my books. When I think about them, I give them noble, inspiring qualities. That makes the story uplifting to my readers. And because the gospel is part of my life, I could never write any other way.

I used to think that if I sat in my room, writing, I couldn’t share the gospel through my work. But as an author, I travel all over to talk about my books. When my readers find out I live in Utah, they always ask, “Are you a Mormon?” I always say an enthusiastic “YES!” As an author, I have a great opportunity to be a member missionary!
I Hope They Call Me on a Mission

Words and music by
Newel Kay Brown

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This song may be copied for incidental, noncommercial church or home use.
This notice must be included on each copy made.

Watch a video, print out, or listen to this song at friend.lds.org.
Rachel was playing with her friends in the nursery when she heard the children next door in Primary singing. She dropped her toy and ran to the wall to hear better.

Rachel clapped her hands. “I know that song,” she said. She started singing “I Am a Child of God.” Then another song started. She listened carefully to learn the words.
When Rachel got home, she started singing the new song. “I know He lives! I will follow faithfully. My heart I give to Him. I know that my Savior loves me!”

“How did you learn that song?” Mommy asked.

“I listened to the Primary,” Rachel said.
“Remember how you are going to the Sunbeam class in Primary soon?” Mommy asked.

Rachel nodded.

“You are going to be so ready!” Mommy said.

Rachel smiled. She was excited to go to Sunbeams.
Primary
By Christy Jepson

My teacher's there to welcome me
When I go to Primary.
My leaders always share a smile.
Friends wave "Hello" across the aisle.
Music fills the room with joy
As songs are sung by girls and boys.
When we sing a reverent song,
I feel the Spirit very strong.
My heart feels happy when I go.
My Savior loves me. This I know.
Better Than Words

By Susan Denney
(Based on a true story)

“I help you, and you help me, and that’s the way that it’s supposed to be” (Children’s Songbook, 263).

Martin was born in the United States. But then his family moved to a country in Europe called the Czech Republic. The people there spoke Czech. Martin knew some of the Czech words his Primary teacher used. He could say ahoj, which meant “hi.” But he mostly spoke English.

Martin loved his school. He had an English teacher and a Czech teacher. There was a big playroom with fun wooden toys.

One day Martin was playing with puppets when a new boy came into the classroom. The English teacher said, “This is Josef. It’s his first day of school. He doesn’t know much English yet.”

Josef had a worried look on his face. Martin thought he must be scared on his first day of school. Maybe Josef couldn’t understand the English teacher.

The teacher led Josef to a table with wooden puzzles on it. Without meaning to, Josef knocked over the whole
stack of puzzles. Crash! The puzzle pieces flew everywhere! Josef looked like he might cry.

Martin wanted to tell Josef not to feel bad. It was just an accident. But Martin didn’t know how to tell him in Czech. He stopped playing with his puppets and walked over to the puzzle table. He smiled and started stacking one of the puzzles. He showed Josef how to put it back together. Soon he and Josef finished all the puzzles. They put them back on the table.

For the first time that day, Josef smiled. Martin felt very happy. He had made a new friend without saying a word.

The author lives in Pennsylvania, USA.
I've got a great adventure book.
It makes me cry and cheer.
So come with me and take a look—
I always keep it near.
With travels through the wilderness
And battles fought with might,
A compass guiding through the mist,
And stones that shine with light.
While robbers freely roam the land,
Great wonders save the day.
And heroes bravely make a stand
With people who obey.
Now each adventure helps me see
We have a home above.
So come and read my book with me—
It's filled with Jesus's love.
Glue these thank-you cards to heavy paper and cut them out. Write a message or draw a picture to thank your family or friends for something they’ve done. Print more copies at friend.lds.org.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY KATIE MCDEE
Do you want to hang out at my house after school?

Yeah. What do you wanna do?

Just hang out, I guess. Why? What do you wanna do?

Well, don’t you think doing stuff is a lot more fun than not doing stuff?

Like what?

Well, after school I like to have a snack.

Then I like to shoot hoops for a while.

Or work on my rock collection.

Then I try to get my homework done before dinner so I don’t have it on my back all night. My dad calls it the homework monkey.

Hey, we could work on that assignment together, if you want.

Cool. How about we go to your house?

Or ride my bike.

Or read for fun.
Searching the scriptures, for in them . . . ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me” (John 5:39).

One day I asked my granddaughter Raquel what she thought about setting a goal to read the Book of Mormon. Raquel had recently learned how to read.

“But, Grandpa,” she said, “it’s so hard. It’s a big book.”

Then I asked her to read me a page. I took out a stopwatch and timed her. It took her only three minutes to read the page.

We read the Book of Mormon in Spanish, and the Spanish version of the Book of Mormon has 642 pages. I told her it would take her 1,926 minutes to read the whole book.

This might have scared her even more, so I divided that number by 60 minutes. I told her she would need only 32 hours to read the book. That would be less than a day and a half!

Then she said to me, “That’s so easy, Grandpa!”

It took Raquel, her brother, Esteban, and our other grandchildren a little more time to read the Book of Mormon. That is because when we read it, we need to take time to pray and to think about what we have read.

Just like Raquel and Esteban, we can all learn to love the scriptures. Then each of us can exclaim: “How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!” (Psalm 119:103).

Adapted from “The Home: The School of Life,” Ensign, May 2013, 102–104.
Living the Teachings of JESUS CHRIST
Strengthens Me and My Family

By Erin Sanderson

When Jesus Christ was on the earth, He taught many wonderful things. He taught about being kind when He healed people who were sick. He taught about forgiving when He ate dinner at a Pharisee’s house. He taught about faith when He walked on water. He taught about love when He gathered children around Him. He taught about service when He washed His disciples’ feet.

You can be like Jesus by doing the things He taught. You can be kind and look for the good in others. You can be polite. You can say, “I’m sorry.” In these small ways you can make a difference in your family. Living the teachings of Jesus can help make you and others happy. By following His example, you can help strengthen your family.

Jesus said that we should never be tired of doing good because great things grow from small things. Strengthening your family is a great thing!

The author lives in Utah, USA.

THE ROAD TO A STRONG FAMILY
Cut out the game board and puzzle. Glue onto heavy paper. Mix up the puzzle pieces and place them upside down near the game board. You will need a different-colored button for each player, and a die or number cube.

To play: Each player chooses a button and places it on START. Take turns rolling the die and moving your game piece forward that many spaces. When you land on a space that tells something that will strengthen your family, choose a puzzle piece and place it in the center of the game board or move a misplaced puzzle piece. If you land on a STOP space or on a space that tells something that will not strengthen your family, the next player takes a turn. Keep playing until the puzzle is finished.

SONG AND SCRIPTURE
• “I’m Trying to Be Like Jesus” (Children’s Songbook, 78–79)
• John 13:15

IDEAS FOR FAMILY TALK
Share your favorite stories about Jesus. What example did He set for us in these stories? How can following His example strengthen your family?
The Road to a STRONG FAMILY

List the things you're grateful for.

Help with dinner.

Argue with your mom.

Set a good example.

Go to bed on time.

Take care of the pet.

Talk back to your dad.

Tell your family you love them.

Share your toys.

Say "please" and "thank you."

Leave love notes for your family.

Try to choose the right all day.

Be kind to your family.

Read the Book of Mormon.

Don't do your chores.

Write in your journal.

Dishonesty cheats to win a game.

Be reverent in sacrament meeting.

Be grumpy.

Don't come home when your dad calls.

Apologize when you do something wrong.

Let someone else be first.

Do a chore without being asked.

Don't attend scripture study.

Tell the truth.

Cheer to win a game.

Help someone with a task.

Listen to the family home evening lesson.

STOP

STOP

STOP

STOP

STOP

STOP

STOP

STOP

STOP
By Vicki H. Budge  
(Based on a true story)  

“Listen to the still small voice! He will guide you always”  
(Children’s Songbook, 107).

Emma looked at the bright yellow rubber raft on top of the van and felt a little shiver run down her back. She’d never been rafting before, and she didn’t know what to expect.

“You’ll like the Big Eddy,” Dad was saying. He pulled their lifejackets out of the van and handed one to Emma. “It’s beautiful and exciting. Someone takes your picture right when your raft crashes through the Big Eddy.”

Emma didn’t like that word—crash.

“Let’s hurry, Dad,” her little brother Zachary said. He didn’t look nervous at all, but Emma’s stomach churned.

A raft passed them going down the river, and Emma could hear one of the men yelling over the rushing water. “The guide in the back tells them when to paddle forward or backward, and when to stop so they won’t tip over,” Dad said.

Dad was going to be the guide in their family’s raft. She hoped he knew the right directions to tell them.

Mom and Dad put the raft into a calm place in the river and they all jumped in. The water was moving slowly for now, and Emma started to relax.

The raft bobbed around and up and down through the current. Everyone paddled when Dad said to paddle. A little water splashed up on them. Emma and Zachary laughed. Maybe this would be fun after all.

Suddenly the raft started going faster, and the sound of the water got louder. They were getting close to the Big Eddy!

Dad shouted instructions for them to go through the next rapid sideways. They paddled on the right side of the raft, but something went wrong. When the river curved, the current washed them to the other side. They tried to go back, but instead, the raft banged into a log on the riverbank.

Emma, Zachary, and Mom yelled as the water pushed...
against the raft. At first the water pushed them back into the river, but then another wave crashed them back against the log.

Dad tried so hard to get them out of the whirlpool that he fell overboard and the river swept him downstream toward the Big Eddy. The next surge of water tossed Mom out. Emma was terrified, but she felt prompted to grab Zachary and point to the log. Somehow they both scrambled onto it just before the raft flipped upside down and slipped out into the rapids again.

Another raft came down the river, and the guide had the people in the raft steer over until they were next to the log. “Get in!” yelled the guide.

Zachary held back, his eyes wide. Emma was frozen in place. They both clung to the log, unable to move.

Then she remembered President Packer’s words from a conference talk she had taped to her closet door at home. He said that the Spirit will show us what to do so we don’t have to be afraid.

As she thought about those words, Emma felt less afraid. She thought that she should hold Zachary’s hand and they would make it to the raft safely. She gripped Zachary’s hand, and with the help of the guide, they scrambled into the bouncing raft. They huddled together until the guide got the raft to a calm pool of water where Mom and Dad were anxiously waiting. Dad’s arm had a cut on it, and both of Mom’s knees were scraped up, but they were OK.

They all hugged. “I’m so glad you’re safe,” Dad said. “I was really scared, but the Spirit helped me feel brave,” Emma said. “He told me what to do.”

The author lives in Utah, USA.

When has the Holy Ghost helped you? Write and tell us!
Prayer is the source of our personal guidance from a loving Heavenly Father. We pray to our Heavenly Father in the name of Jesus Christ, and He answers us through His Holy Spirit.

Heavenly Father also guides us through the teachings and counsel of living prophets and apostles.

When we do what is right and partake of the sacrament, we are promised that we will always have His Spirit to guide us.

**QUESTION CORNER**

I keep trying to read the scriptures, but they don’t sound anything like the books I like to read. How can I understand the scriptures better?

When I find a word I don’t know, I translate it to a word I do know. Then I remember that word for the next time I read the Book of Mormon.

Eden W., age 8, Tennessee, USA

When I read the scriptures, I like to pretend that I’m a character in the story. I imagine that I’m there with Nephi going to get the brass plates, or Captain Moroni writing the title of liberty. I have grown to love the scriptures because these guys have become my friends.

Heath G., age 7, Washington, USA

You can put together a family home evening lesson about scripture language. For your lesson you can put a bunch of “scripture” words on a poster and take turns telling each other what the words mean.

Adam L., age 7, Tennessee, USA

I understand the scriptures better when I talk about what I read with my parents. Each night my parents ask me what I learned and how it applies to me. We discuss as a family, and then we write notes in a scripture journal.

Austin K., age 6, Utah, USA

You should pray to Heavenly Father before you read the scriptures everyday and ask Him to help you understand. That’s what I do, and it helps a lot!

Audrey B., age 10, Metro Manila, Philippines

I try to picture scriptures in present-day life. I imagine how I would feel in that situation and how I would try to handle it.

Hannah E., age 11, Massachusetts, USA

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Watch illustrated scripture stories at friend.lds.org.

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

**NEXT QUESTION**

I know we’re supposed to love our enemies, but a girl at school is always mean to me. How can I think nice thoughts about her and be kind?

Do you have some advice about this? Send us your answer and photo by November 30, 2014. Find our address on page 48 or submit your answer at friend.lds.org. (Put “Question Corner” in the subject line.) Remember to include a parent’s permission!
This picture reminds me of God’s creations and how He gave us the lovely seasons.

Monica A., age 10, Wisconsin, USA

P.S. . . .

How to Write to the Friend

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

1. Fill out the form below and include it with your submission.

2. Include a school photo or high-quality snapshot.

3. We might edit your submission for length or clarity, and we can’t return it to you.

4. You must be at least three years old to send us a submission.

Please send your submission to: Friend Magazine
50 E. North Temple St., Rm. 2432
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-0024
Or email: friend@ldschurch.org

The following information and permission must be included:

First and last name

Age                          State/Province, Country

I agree to the terms of the Friend Submission Agreement (lds.org/friend/parentalconsent) and grant permission for the Friend to publish my child’s submission and photo in print or online.

Signature of parent or legal guardian

Email of parent or legal guardian

VISIT friend.lds.org!

• Play games and watch videos.
• Read the Friend online.

Funstuff Answers

Page 3: wisdom, tongues, faith, prophecy, knowledge, miracles
Page 10: chocolate, bananas, spaghetti
Page 13: Cantonese: Elder Wong; Spanish: Elders Gavarret and Martinez; Portuguese: Elder Godoy
Page 20: A, Stonehenge; B, Big Ben; C, Buckingham Palace; D, the London Eye

Hidden CTR Ring

Did you find the ring?
Look on page 36!
Daniel
Daniel 1, 5–6

Glue this page to heavy paper or cardboard. Then cut out the figures and attach them to craft sticks or paper bags. You can use them to help act out your favorite Old Testament stories. Use the king figure from the October 2014 scripture figures.
Dear Parents and Teachers,

In last month’s general conference, Elder Oaks taught, “We should love all people, be good listeners, and show concern for their sincere beliefs.”* We can help children look for the good in other people and respect religions and cultures that are different from their own. Start by reading “Prayers and Cathedrals” on page 4 and trying the fun ideas and recipe on page 6.

Respectfully yours,

The Friend


Family Home Evening Ideas

**BRINGING PRIMARY HOME:** You can learn about this month’s Primary sharing time theme on page 42. You’ll find a short lesson and ideas for talking with your children, along with a fun activity.

**THE BOOK OF MORMON:** Read “That’s So Easy, Grandpa!” (page 40). Talk about the importance of taking time to read the scriptures, and then read the poem “My Book Report” (page 38).

**GIVING THANKS:** Read “Following Jesus: Be Generous” (page 26) and talk about how we can be generous with expressions of gratitude. Use the “Thank-You Cards” (page 39) and have children write thank-you notes to their family and friends.

**Patriarchal Blessings:** Is someone in your family or ward preparing to receive a patriarchal blessing? Use “Gifts from Heaven” (page 2) to help children understand more about what a patriarchal blessing is. Find other child-friendly resources about this topic at lessonhelps.lds.org.

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Visit “Resources for Teaching Children” at lessonhelps.lds.org for stories, activities, and media to use at home and in Primary.

Find videos and games for kids at friend.lds.org.

Order the Friend at store.lds.org!