

the Friend

OCTOBER • 2006



Friends by Mail

A Primary Talk about Grandma



One weekend I slept over at Grandma Roberts's house with my sisters. We spent Saturday doing many fun things. We baked brownies, and went to the zoo, the pioneer museum, garage sales, the bookstore, and the bread store. We were very busy.

When I am with my grandma I always have fun. Grandma Roberts teaches me things. I've worked in the kitchen with her making rolls and bottling fruit and strawberry jam. She teaches me about sewing. We made a purse together. She thinks reading is important, and at her house there is a bookcase filled with children's books. When one of her grandchildren reads one of these books, he or she gets an Olympic pin.

I know that family is important to Grandma because she tells us about her parents and their parents. She has us write down their names. Sometimes we play games or have quizzes to help us remember the names.



She bought us each a doll with old-fashioned clothes and pretty hair in long ringlets. We had to give each doll the name of one of our ancestors. I named mine Carrie Myrtle Thompson Olson, who is my great-great-grandmother. My sister's doll is Effie May Wagstaff, another great-great-grandmother. We keep these dolls at Grandma's. When we play with them, she talks about those people and other relatives in the family.

I know that family is important to my grandma because she teaches us about them. I know that families can be together forever, so one day I will be with the people my grandma has taught me about.

I love my grandma and I am thankful for all she teaches me.

Lauren Elizabeth N., age 10, Utah

Stairs and Prayers



My dog fell down the stairs and got hurt. We prayed for her, and although she limped a little afterward, she was OK.

Cuauhti O., age 10, Alberta, Canada

I Want to Be like Nephi



I am reading the Book of Mormon each day to prepare for my baptism. I have a testimony of the Book of Mormon. So far, my favorite person is Nephi because he did what the Lord commanded. I want to be like

Nephi and do all that my Heavenly Father asks me.

Mackenzie M., age 7, Washington

Please send us a letter sharing your feelings about the *Friend* magazine, a spiritual experience, your testimony, or whatever else is on your mind. Please include a photo of yourself and your name, age, and address. **A WRITTEN STATEMENT SIGNED BY A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN GRANTING PERMISSION TO PUBLISH YOUR PHOTO AND SUBMISSION MUST BE INCLUDED.** If an adult helps with your submission, credit should also be given to him or her. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least a year. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Children whose writings are submitted should be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned. Send it to Friends by Mail, *Friend* Magazine, Rm. 2430, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, United States of America.

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the Friend

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



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

Stories and Features

- IFC Friends by Mail
- 2 Come Listen to a Prophet's Voice: Latter-day Prophets Speak
- 4 Clean Again
- 8 Friend to Friend: Standing for Righteousness / Elder Wolfgang H. Paul
- 10 Edward and the Prophet
- 13 Special Witness: Guess Who?
- 14 Sharing Time: I Will Follow the Prophet Today
- 18 Journey to Baptism
- 20 A Perfect Match
- 26 Our Creative Friends
- 28 From the Life of President Wilford Woodruff: The Light Continued with Us
- 30 Ben Obeys
- 33 Matt & Mandy
- 34 Making Friends: Tristan Desforages of Raleigh, North Carolina
- 37 Friends in the News
- 42 Family Home Evening with a Friend
- 46 Trying to Be Like Jesus
- 48 What to Do Now?
- IBC Guide to the *Friend*

For Little Friends

- 38 Canning Jars and Prophets
- 40 Follow the Prophet
- 40 Who Am I?

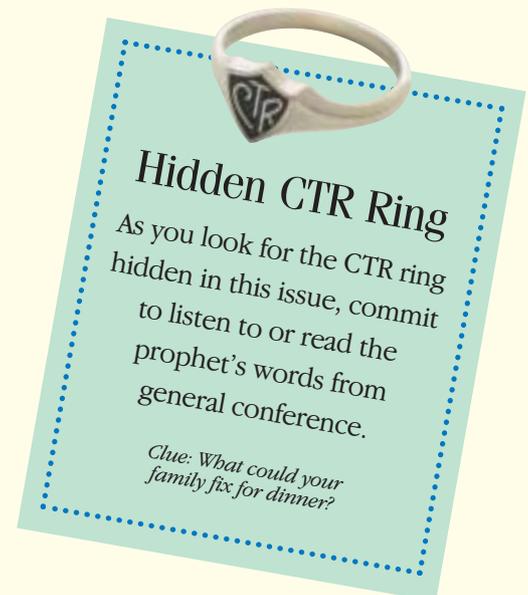
Verse

- 7 I Want to Follow the Prophet

Things to Make and Do

- 17 Kitchen Crafts
- 23 Funstuf
- 24 Keeping Our Baptismal Covenant
- 45 Funstuf

Cover photograph by Christina Smith



Hidden CTR Ring

As you look for the CTR ring hidden in this issue, commit to listen to or read the prophet's words from general conference.

Clue: What could your family fix for dinner?



Latter-day Prophets Speak

The first latter-day prophet, Joseph Smith, once said, “It is the privilege of the children of God to come to God and get revelation.”¹ One way we can receive revelation from Heavenly Father and know what He wants us to do is by listening to His prophets. Here are statements from four latter-day prophets, including our leader today—President Gordon B. Hinckley.

“I feel to exhort and counsel you, my young friends, to listen to the voice of God and obey it while young, as Samuel did, that you may be great, good, and useful, and the beloved of the Lord and your parents and by all good men. Obey your parents and honor them, for by doing this you will obtain those great blessings which God has promised you.”²

Wilford Woodruff (1807–98), Fourth President of the Church

“I raise my warning voice this day to the youth of Zion. Be not deceived when storms of persecution break over your heads. There will be unkind things said in the future as there have been in the past. See that your feet are planted upon the rock. . . . If you are pure and virtuous and upright, the evil one will have no power to destroy you.”³

George Albert Smith (1870–1951), Eighth President of the Church

“Heavenly Father . . . wants you to pray to Him every day. He wants to help you because He loves you, and He *will* help you if you pray to Him and ask Him for His help. In your prayers, also thank Him for your blessings. Thank Him for sending our oldest brother, Jesus Christ, into the world. He made it possible for us to return to

our heavenly home. Thank Him for your family. Thank Him for the Church. Thank Him for this beautiful world you live in. Ask Him to protect you. In your prayers, ask Him to help you know what to do in your life. When you make mistakes, your Heavenly Father still loves you. So pray to Him, and He will help you try again to do right.”⁴

Ezra Taft Benson (1899–1994), Thirteenth President of the Church

“I love you children. You are very much the same the world over. Regardless of the color of your skin and of the circumstances in which you live, you carry with you a beauty that comes of innocence and of the fact that it was not long ago that you lived with your Father in Heaven. How lovely you are, wherever you are, you precious children!”⁵

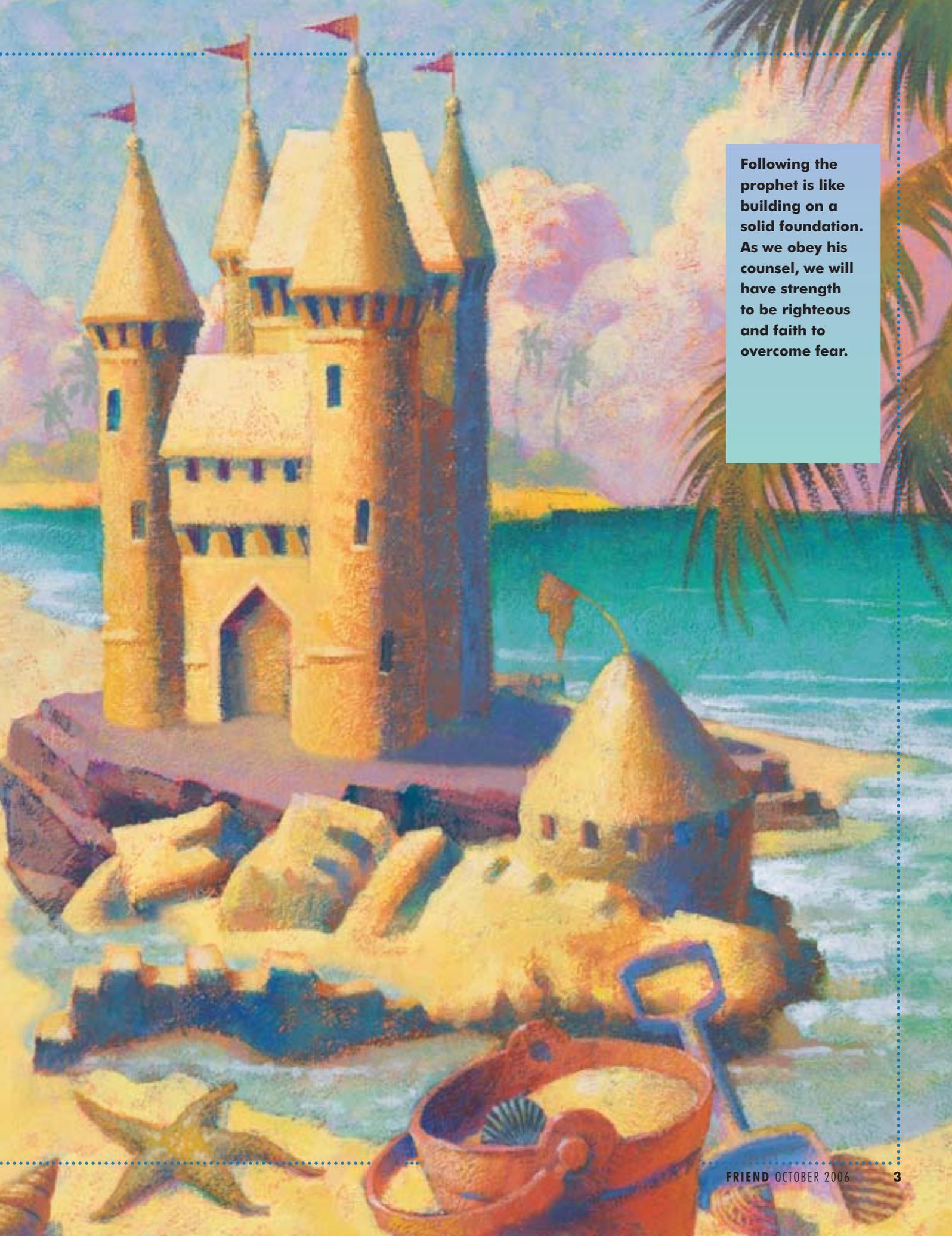
“I know this work is true. I know that God our Eternal Father lives. I am thankful for the knowledge that He loves us as His children. I am grateful that I feel in my heart a great love for Him. I know He lives, my Father in Heaven. I can scarcely comprehend the wonder of it all. He who is the Creator and Governor of the universe knows me, knows you, each of you children. . . .

He knows you, He loves you, He is concerned for you. I know that Jesus is my Redeemer, my Lord, my Savior.”⁶ ●

Gordon B. Hinckley (1910–), Fifteenth President of the Church

NOTES

1. *The Words of Joseph Smith*, ed. Andrew F. Ehat and Lyndon W. Cook (1980), 13–14.
2. *The Discourses of Wilford Woodruff*, sel. G. Homer Durham (1946), 265.
3. In Conference Report, Oct. 1906, 48.
4. “To the Children of the Church,” *Ensign*, May 1989, 82.
5. “We Have a Work to Do,” *Friend*, Aug. 1997, inside front cover.
6. “Excerpts from Recent Addresses of President Gordon B. Hinckley,” *Ensign*, Aug. 1996, 61.



Following the prophet is like building on a solid foundation. As we obey his counsel, we will have strength to be righteous and faith to overcome fear.

Your garments have been cleansed and made white through the blood of Christ (Alma 5:27).

Clean Again

BY ANNE BENTLEY WADDOUPS

(Based on a true story)

The water felt warm and smooth as I stepped into the font. Dad walked down the steps across from me, grinning. I looked around at all the people bunched up in front of the baptismal font: people who loved me and had come just for me! Dad said the baptismal prayer and lowered me into the water. I'll never forget how I felt coming up out of the water—happy and clean. As I climbed out of the font, Mom was ready with a big towel and wrapped it around me in a warm hug.

I dried off and got dressed in the new white eyelet dress we had picked out for this day. Then I went back into the room where my family and friends were waiting. My dad, both grandpas, and my uncle put their hands on my head and confirmed me a member of the Church.

Afterward, everyone came up and hugged me or shook my hand. My home teacher said, "Right now you're clean! You don't have any sins!"

I hadn't thought about that before. I realized that right then I was practically



perfect. I decided to stay that way as long as I could.

Everyone went outside and sat on the big rolling lawn, talking, eating refreshments, and enjoying the view of the Potomac River.

After a while my cousins and friends and I got up to run around a little. “Be careful,” Mom called. “Remember you have on your new dress.”

We played hide-and-seek and chased each other around the trees. I loved how my dress billowed out when I spun around.

Then the worst thing happened. I slipped and fell into a mud puddle left by the morning’s rain. I heard a lot of gasps and a few giggles as I got up. My white dress was muddy! And worse, I had already done something wrong by ignoring Mom’s instructions. I ran inside to the bathroom, my tears starting before I got there. The dress *had* to come clean. I’d scrub until it did. I pulled my dress up into the sink, running the water over the mud. The dirt faded but the stain stayed there on the front of my new white dress.

I went out to the other side of the church and sat on the curb near the parking lot, watching the air above the blacktop waving from the heat. I heard the door open and close behind me. Mom sat down and put her arm around me.

“So you fell in the mud.”

I nodded.

“I’m sure we can wash it, and it’ll come out,” she said.

I shook my head. “I already tried that in the bathroom, and it didn’t work. I’m sorry. I don’t think it will ever come out. Will I ever be able to wear it again?” As I spoke, my tears started again.



I thought Mom was going to scold me for ruining a new dress, but she said, “I think you’ll remember this day even more now.”

That was true. Who could forget ruining her own baptism!

“You know, in your life, you’re going to make some mistakes,” Mom said. “We all do. And no matter how hard you try on your own, you won’t be able to completely erase them from your life. Do you know who can?”

“Jesus Christ?”

Mom nodded. “Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ want to forgive us. If we repent and ask humbly, Jesus can make us clean again—as clean as you were when you stepped out of the baptismal font. Christ’s Atonement is Heavenly Father’s greatest gift to us. And do you know what we can do every week to help us become clean?”

I nodded slowly. “Take the sacrament.”

“That’s right. When we partake of the sacrament we renew the covenants we made when we were baptized.”



“None of us . . . is perfectly obedient, and thus we rely on our baptismal covenant to bring a remission of sins

after baptism just as . . . before baptism. We rely on repentance to . . . bring the Holy Spirit and, with it, atoning grace.”

**Elder D. Todd Christofferson
of the Presidency of the Seventy,
“Justification and Sanctification,”
Ensign, June 2001, 24.**

away all my old mistakes. It would allow me to stay clean—not by being perfect all the time, but by repenting and trying harder. ●

Mom leaned her hand on my knee and stood up. “I think a little bleach will make the dress white again. This isn’t our first mud stain, and I’m sure it won’t be our last.”

I sighed. It wouldn’t be my last mistake either. But I did understand a little bit more about what it meant to be baptized and confirmed. It wasn’t just taking





I Want to Follow the Prophet

BY CINDY FORD

I want to follow the prophet,
To do all he asks me to do—
To be humble and grateful and prayerful,
To be smart, to be clean, to be true!

I'm thankful to have him to lead me
And guide me with knowledge and truth,
To teach me the will of the Savior,
To show me the way in my youth.

In this world full of so many voices,
I am glad there is one I can trust.
I will follow the words of the prophet,
I want to, I need to, I must!



Standing for Righteousness

Thou standest by faith (Romans 11:20).



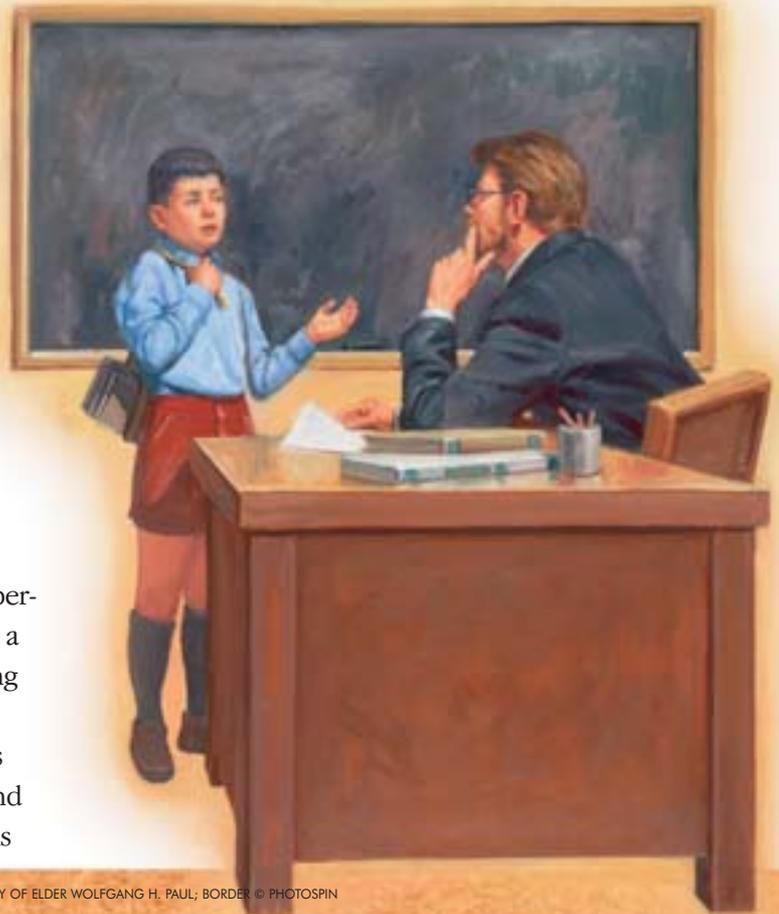
From an interview with Elder Wolfgang H. Paul of the Seventy, currently serving in the Europe Central Area; by Kimberly Webb, Church Magazines

When I was growing up in Germany, my family and I were the only members of the Church in our city of about 60,000 people. We couldn't go to sacrament meeting, Sunday School, or Primary because the nearest Church building was several hours away. With special permission, we had church at home. My father conducted the meetings, blessed the sacrament, and often taught the lessons.

I was always the only Church member at my school. Sometimes classmates made fun of me for my beliefs, and at first I was a little uncomfortable. But I knew that they didn't have the gospel knowledge I had been blessed with, and remembering that made me grateful to be a Church member instead of being embarrassed.

One time one of my teachers teased me about the Church, and I told him, "It's not funny. This is

something that I really believe." After that he didn't tease me anymore. When my classmates saw that I stood up for my principles, they respected me and even elected me as the class president. I learned that I would never regret standing up for my beliefs.



I carried that lesson with me as a young man when I joined the German military. Once again, my fellow soldiers made fun of me at first. But after they learned that I lived my beliefs, they protected me instead. They tried to make sure no one offered me alcohol. If I had ever gone against my beliefs, they would have been disappointed in me.

Children, sometimes you may be teased or misunderstood because of your beliefs. You too can stand for righteousness. Perhaps the people who make fun of you now will one day see you as an example and show their respect for you. No matter what others may think, Heavenly Father is pleased when you are true to your standards. He will help you.

Part of my testimony comes from having received so many answers to prayers. When I was five or six years old, I had a terrible pain in my ear. I received a priesthood blessing, and I was amazed when the pain disappeared. That was the first time I remember feeling the power of prayer and the priesthood in my young life.

Answers to prayers have continued to help me as an adult. One time I had to give a presentation, and I needed a very important file. I looked through all the material I had and could not find it. Time was running out. I was nervous. I locked my door, knelt down, and

prayed. When I opened the closet where I had looked many times before, I discovered that two folders in a pile were stuck together. That is why I couldn't find the one I needed at first.

I rely very much on Heavenly Father's help. My dear young friends, you too can trust in the Lord and rely on Him. Always remember the answers to prayer you have already received. If you have simple faith in Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ, you will have personal miracles that help you solve your problems and stand for righteousness. ●



Right: At age 6. Far right: At age 14.



Edward *AND* the Prophet

BY JOHN ALLEN

(Based on experiences of the author's great-grandfather Edward Stevenson)

I give unto you my servant Joseph to be a presiding elder over all my church, to be a translator, a revelator, a seer, and prophet (D&C 124:125).

Young Edward eagerly climbed up the apple tree. The higher he went the more the branches swayed. But Edward wasn't concerned about the swaying branches. He didn't notice the blue jays or the nervous twittering of the sparrows. His thoughts were centered on apples—the sweetest, juiciest apples that could be found only near the very top of the tree. And only the best apples would do for their special guest—the Prophet Joseph Smith.

The Prophet Joseph! Edward could hardly believe that right now the Prophet was sitting in their house, talking with his mother, and complimenting her on the wonderful meal she had just served.

Ever since he had heard the news that the Prophet Joseph was coming to Pontiac, Michigan, Edward had been excited. And when he later learned that the Prophet was going to have a meal in their home, his excitement was almost unbearable.

Earlier that morning Edward had helped his mother take out the rug and beat it. He cleaned out the fireplace, polished his mother's prized mirror, and dusted the bookcase. When the work was done, he began strutting about and looking very pleased with himself.

"Edward Stevenson," his mother said. "I know you're excited, but you shouldn't give in to pride."

"But, Mother, it isn't every day that we get a visit from the Prophet."

"True enough. Still, you must think of the Prophet's visit as more of a blessing than an honor."

"All right, Mother. I'll try."

Edward kept looking at the clock and wishing time would go by faster. Finally, the Prophet appeared at the door. Edward, who was small for his thirteen years, looked up in awe at their six-foot-tall guest. A local church leader who was with the Prophet introduced him to the "Widow Stevenson" and Edward. Joseph bent down, offered Edward a robust handshake and said, "Hello there, Bub."

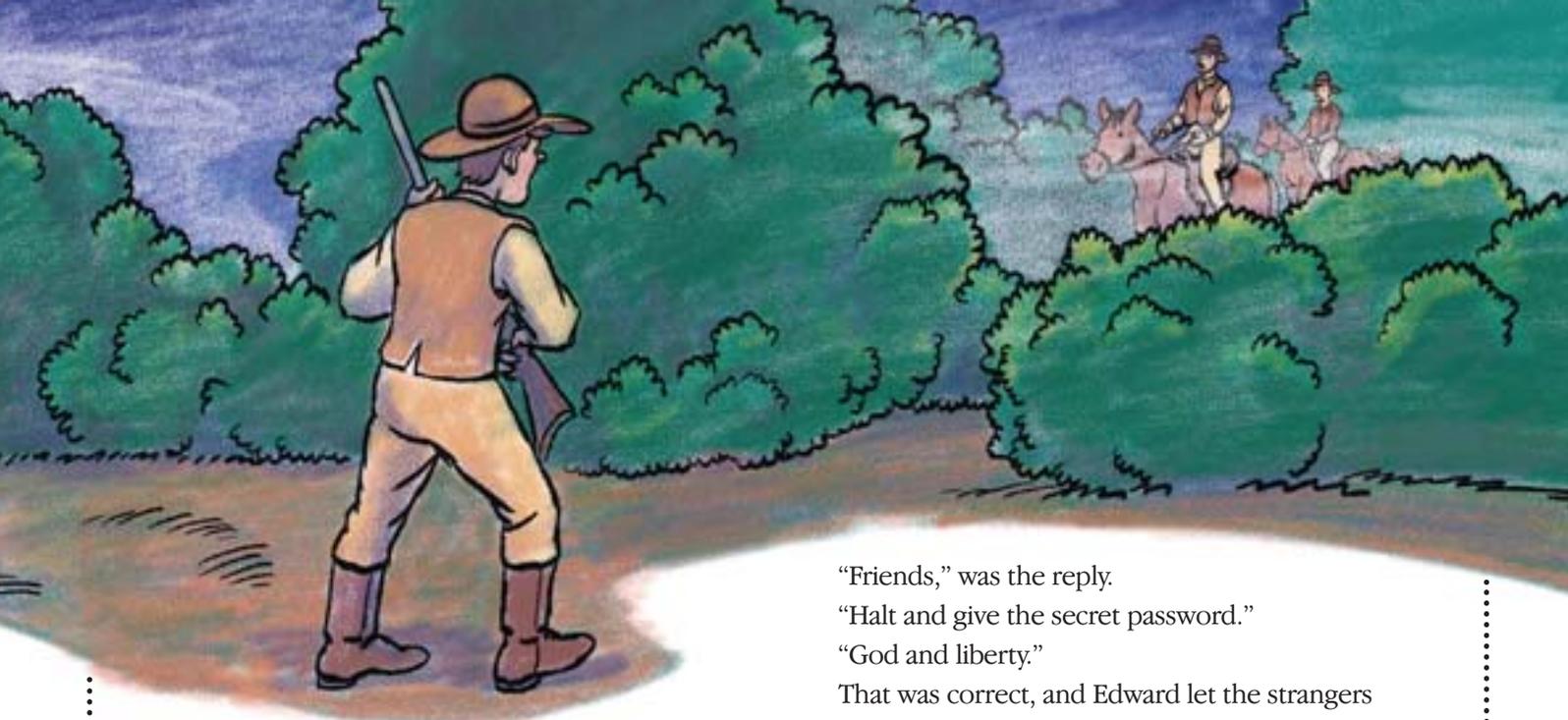
Edward had never been called anything but his given name, so the casual nickname startled him. But when he thought about who had given it to him, he cherished it.

As they enjoyed a meal of roast duck, pork, potatoes, and beans, the Prophet held everyone—especially Edward—spellbound as he told stories about the Church and the Book of Mormon. Then Edward excused himself, dashed outside, and hurried up the apple tree with a tin pail in hand. When the branches became so thin they could barely support his weight, Edward plucked large golden apples until the pail was full. Then he climbed down and ran back into the house.

"These are for you, President Smith," Edward said, presenting the pail to the Prophet.

"Thanks, Bub. I'll take a couple, then we'll pass them around for everyone."

Soon the house was filled with the happy crunching



sound of apples. “Bub, this is one of the finest apples I’ve ever had the pleasure of eating,” the Prophet said.

Later, Edward wrote in his journal, “Oh! how my heart swelled with delightful emotions of heavenly love, as I selected and presented to him [the Prophet] some of our choice apples in exchange for the golden nuggets of celestial truth.”



Five years later, Edward was still quite small, and often mistaken for a younger child. Although his body had not grown very much, his faith had grown enormously. Edward was not afraid to risk his life for the Church. And since this was a time of intense persecution, he often volunteered for dangerous assignments. One October night, he stood guard near the encampment at Far West, Missouri. His job was to watch for enemies and not allow them to enter the camp.

It was a beautiful, clear night full of stars. As dawn approached, the moon set and the sky became darker. Mist began to form. Then in the distance he heard horses slowly approaching. As the horses came closer, he heard faint, muffled voices. “Enemies trying to sneak into camp,” Edward thought. He reached for his rifle, cocked it, and held it steadily in the direction of the sound. It was so misty and dark that Edward knew the approaching strangers were not aware of him. When they were just a few feet away, Edward called out, “Who comes there?”

“Friends,” was the reply.

“Halt and give the secret password.”

“God and liberty.”

That was correct, and Edward let the strangers advance. As the first rays of sunlight appeared, Edward recognized the first rider. He was a church leader named Lyman Wight. He rode right up to Edward, the horse’s breath forming a cloud in the chilly air over Edward’s head. Brother Wight looked down from his horse at the short lad. He showed Edward that he was carrying both a gun and a sword. “So just what would *you* have done if I had been a real enemy?” he asked the youthful-looking guard.

Without flinching, Edward said that he would have defended his post.

A friendly chuckle came from behind Brother Wight. “That’s right, Bub!”

Bub! To Edward’s shock and embarrassment, the Prophet Joseph Smith was the second rider! Edward couldn’t believe that he had actually drawn a rifle upon the Prophet of God. But the Prophet’s steady gaze spoke of love, friendship, and appreciation. To Edward’s great relief he knew there were no hard feelings.

Edward later wrote about the incident in his journal and concluded that “the prophet always had a good word for all and was universally loved by the true in heart.” ●

“The Prophet Joseph Smith taught us love—by example.”

President Thomas S. Monson, First Counselor in the First Presidency, “The Prophet Joseph Smith: Teacher by Example,” *Ensign*, Nov. 2005, 69.



GUESS WHO



Can you guess who this is? Read the clues about this member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. Then find the answer on page 23.

1 He had an interest in science from the time he was young. His parents encouraged him to explore how things worked, and he and his brothers even fixed the family car.

2 When he was a teenager, he had some “adventurous” jobs: he worked on an oyster boat, cut down trees in Utah for the forest service, and repaired railroad cars.

3 He liked to spend time at his uncle’s farm in Virginia, hiking in the woods, fishing in streams, having barbecues, and swinging on a rope swing.

4 He is seventh in seniority in the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.

5 His interests range from science to music. While attending George Washington University, he studied

The members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles are prophets, seers, and revelators and stand as special witnesses of Jesus Christ. They have the responsibility to testify of Him to the whole world.

mechanical engineering, and played clarinet and saxophone in a jazz band.

6 On a top-secret military job, he worked on the first nuclear-powered submarine, the *Nautilus*.

7 “He’s my best friend,” said his wife, Jeanene, who passed away in 1995. They have five living children and two who died early in their marriage.

8 He was born in Idaho on November 7. He grew up in Washington, D.C.

Words of Wisdom

“You are a precious young man or woman. . . . God loves you. I testify that as you seek His help, He will guide you to fulfill your worthy dreams”
 (“Realize Your Full Potential,” Ensign, Nov. 2003, 43).



a. _____

b.

b.

c.

d.

e.

f.

Matching Activity

Above are pictures of the First Presidency and some members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. There are also pictures of the same men when they were children. Match the picture of the child with the picture of the man. Fill in the lettered lines with what these General Authorities speak about in general conference.

Answers: a1, b2, c4, d6, e3, f5

I Will Follow the Prophet Today



What I the Lord have spoken, I have spoken; . . . whether by mine own voice or by the voice of my servants, it is the same (D&C 1:38).

BY ELIZABETH RICKS



There are many ways that Heavenly Father can talk to you. He can speak to you through the Holy Ghost. He can speak to you through the scriptures. One very important way that Heavenly Father talks to His children is through His living prophets. When the prophet speaks, he tells us things that Heavenly Father wants us to know.

In the Book of Mormon the people of King Noah were very wicked. Heavenly Father sent His prophet Abinadi to preach to them. King Noah's wicked priests were angry and tried to kill him. But Abinadi said, "Touch me not, . . . for I have not delivered the message

which the Lord sent me to deliver" (Mosiah 13:3). Alma, one of the priests, believed Abinadi's words and learned the way to obtain God's promised blessings.

In the Bible we read of God's promises to the children of Israel. Through Moses, His prophet, the Lord delivered them from Egypt. Moses taught the children of Israel the way to obtain God's promises and blessings.

There was not a prophet on the earth when Joseph Smith prayed to find out which church to join. He became God's prophet and restored the true Church of Jesus Christ. Joseph Smith taught the people what they needed to do to obtain God's promises and blessings.

Today President Gordon B. Hinckley tells us what God wants us to know and do. When we listen to general conference, it is as if God Himself is speaking to us. We can learn the way to obtain God's promised blessings when we listen to our prophet. ●

Sharing Time Ideas

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

1. Help the children memorize D&C 1:38 by writing the following on the blackboard:

- (1) WHAT I THE LORD HAVE SPOKEN,
- (2) I HAVE SPOKEN, . . .
- (3) WHETHER BY MINE OWN VOICE OR
- (4) BY THE VOICE OF MY SERVANTS,

Circle the letters that are underlined. Divide the children into four groups, and have each group recite one line. Explain that they will have to solve a puzzle to find out the last line. The letters of the last line are in the preceding lines. The first word is in the first line, and so on. Invite the children to unscramble the words and fill in the final line: "It is the same." Have the children say the last line together. Repeat the scripture several times with each group saying their line in turn and then all of the children saying the final line together.

Ask the children to think of things that the prophet spoke about in recent general conferences. Write their ideas down the middle of the blackboard. Then write the words *Present* and *Future* on either side of the list. Tell them that we can do some of the things that the prophet asks us to do right now (pay tithing, be honest, attend church). We will need to be older to do other things the prophet counsels us to do (have a temple marriage, receive the priesthood, magnify our Church callings). Have the children point to either "Present" or "Future" when you read one of the items on the list. Following the prophet and doing what we can today will bless our lives and will prepare us for other important things that we will do in the future. Bear testimony of the blessings you have received from following the living prophet. Sing "We Thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet" (*Hymns*, no. 19).

2. Display a copy of "The Family: A Proclamation to the World" (*Ensign*, Nov. 1995, 102; or item no. 35602). Read the introduction and opening paragraph of the proclamation. Explain that our Heavenly Father wants us to live with Him again and that coming to earth as part of a family is part of His plan. Ask a child to read the following sentence from the proclamation: "Successful marriages and families are established and maintained on principles of faith, prayer, repentance, forgiveness, respect, love, compassion, work, and wholesome recreational activities." Tell the children they can strengthen their families.

Divide the children into nine "families." Remember that families are all different sizes. Write the principles (faith, prayer, and so on) on small pieces of paper, and place them in a basket. Have each family draw a word. Instruct the families to act out the principle. Give the children time to prepare. For example, to demonstrate work, the children could pantomime sweeping the floor. Post wordstrips of the principles listed. Use the index in the *Children's Songbook* to find a song that relates to the principle, and write the page number on the back of the corresponding wordstrip. (For principles not listed in the index, use a related topic; for example, use "service" in place of "compassion," "reverence" in place of "respect.") Invite the groups to act out their word for the rest of the Primary. Have the children guess what principle each family is illustrating. When the correct principle is guessed, remove the wordstrip from the board, and sing the song listed on the back.

Explain that pantomiming a principle is fun, but actually living that principle is even better. Challenge the children to think of one thing they

can do this week to strengthen their own families.

3. Tell the children that they are going to learn an important sentence. Ask them to follow the actions with you, and then you will all repeat the sentence together. "Love (raise one hand) and serve (raise the other hand) go hand in hand (clasp hands together)." You may want to wear gloves labeled "love" and "serve." Explain to the children that when we love people we want to serve them, and when we serve people we come to love them.

Before Primary prepare six handprints labeled with the following scriptures: Deuteronomy 10:12; Joshua 22:5; Galatians 5:13; Mosiah 4:15; Moroni 7:13; D&C 20:19. Place the handprints around the room. Have the children take turns choosing a handprint and looking up the scripture. Invite the children to raise one hand when they hear the word *love* and then the other hand when they hear the word *serve*. Sing "When We're Helping" (p.198) and "Love One Another" (p. 136) in a round.

Have the children help each other trace their handprints onto pieces of paper. Label the hands "love" and "serve." For *younger children*: Ask the children to draw a picture on each hand of how they can love and serve. Have the children fold the paper in half so that their hands can go "hand in hand." For *older children*: Have the children write something they can do to love and serve others on each finger. Ask them to choose one of the things they have written to do that day.

4. Ask the children, "When is the time to be a missionary?" Tell them that full-time missionaries often knock on people's doors. You are going to knock the answer to that question on the door. Have the children listen as you knock the rhythm of "I Want to Be a Missionary Now" (p. 168). Explain that they can be preparing to serve full-time missions and that they can also be missionaries right now. Divide them into four groups. Using stations (see *TNGC*, 179), have the children learn more about missionary work from an adult leader. Tell them that full-time missionaries travel from place to place. They will "travel" too. When they hear the knocking on the door, they should travel to the next station. Each time the children should move, knock the rhythm of "I Want to Be a Missionary Now."

Station 1: Display several ripe fruits and vegetables. Ask the children one way to know when food is ripe. (It changes color.) Read D&C 4:3-7 together. Help the children understand what "the field is white already to harvest" means. (See *Friend*, Sept. 2002, 4; or *Doctrine and Covenants and Church History Gospel Doctrine Teacher's Manual* [1999], lesson 11, pp. 58-62.)

Station 2: Pack a suitcase for a missionary. Have a variety of things that a missionary needs: white shirts, scriptures, watch, walking shoes, umbrella, and so on. Let the children choose items and explain why a missionary will need each of them.

Station 3: There are many ways to be missionaries. Use the review activity in the *Primary 3* manual, lesson 25, pp. 118-19. The children will listen to statements. If the statement is a good way to be a missionary, they should stand up. If it is not a good way, they should sit down.

Station 4: Use a story to show the blessings of missionary work. Invite a returned missionary approved by the bishop or branch president to share a short experience, or use the story told by President Gordon B. Hinckley in "Testimony" (*Friend*, Oct. 1998, IFC).

5. *Friend* references: "The Lord Speaks to Us through Prophets," Nov. 2004, 24; "A Living Prophet," Oct. 2004, 13; "The Family," Feb. 2004, 24-25; "Preserving Jam (and Families)," July 2004, 4-6; "Love One Another," Feb. 2003, 16-17; "Love at Home," Sept. 2004, 42; "Send a Gift on a Mission," Sept. 2004, 48; "A Jar Full of Love," Nov. 2004, 40-42; "I Can Be a Missionary Now!" Nov. 1994, 24-25.



KITCHEN KRAFTS



With an older person's help, prepare these recipes for a family dinner.

Clam Chowder

- 1 cup diced celery**
- 1 medium onion, diced**
- 1 cup diced carrots**
- 2 cans (6.5 ounces/184 g) minced clams**
(1 cup cooked, diced ham may be substituted)
- 2 cups peeled, diced potatoes**
- 3/4 cup butter**
- 1 cup flour**
- 4 cups milk**
- 1 teaspoon salt**
- 1 teaspoon pepper**
- 1/2 teaspoon sugar**

1. Place celery, onion, and carrots in a medium saucepan. Open the canned clams and drain the liquid over the vegetables, reserving the clams. Add enough water to the saucepan to cover the vegetables. Bring to a boil and cook until the carrots are almost done. Add the potatoes and cook until they are done.

2. In a large saucepan, melt the butter and stir in the flour. Slowly add the milk. Stir until the mixture thickens. Then pour in the vegetables, undrained, and stir in the clams. Season with salt, pepper, and sugar, and serve.

Corn-bread Soufflé

- 1/2 cup cheddar cheese, shredded**
- 1/2 cup cream cheese, softened**
- 3 eggs, beaten**
- 1 cup milk**
- 1 can (15 ounces/425 g) creamed corn**
- 1 can (15 ounces/425 g) kernel corn, drained**
- 1 package (8 ounces/227 g) corn muffin mix**

Mix all the ingredients until blended. Spoon into a greased 9x13-inch (23x33-cm) baking dish and bake at 375°F (191°C) for about 30 minutes until golden brown.



Journey to Baptism

When people are baptized and confirmed, they become members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. They begin a journey back to Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. There is another journey that children under age eight need to take—the journey of preparing to be baptized.



Study the scriptures by yourself and with your family.



At church you learn about Jesus Christ and His gospel. Try to be a Christlike example to those around you.



The day before my baptism I was very excited, but the closer I got to the font the scarier it became for me. But when I actually got in the water it was like there were angels singing in the sky. Afterward I was very happy. As I was getting the gift of the Holy Ghost, I was thinking, “Heavenly Father will be pleased.”

Jacqueline E., 11, Quebec, Canada



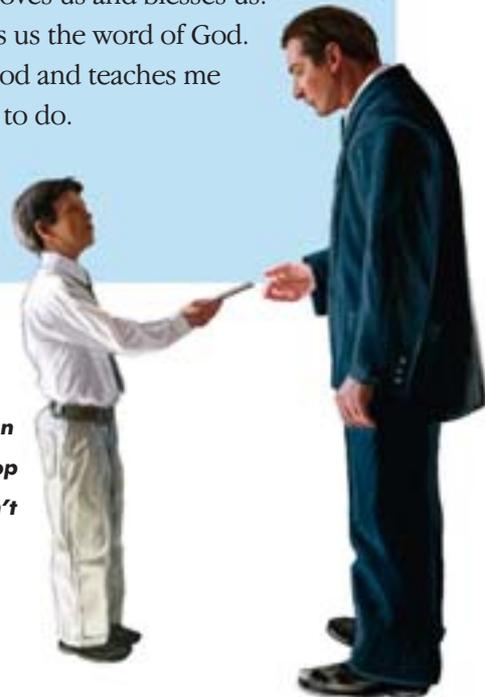
When you pray you grow closer to Heavenly Father. Ask Him to help you choose the right every day.



My life has changed because the gospel has taught me many truths I did not know before: I am a child of God, I lived in the spirit world before I came to earth, and our family can be forever! We are so blessed to have a living prophet—he loves us and blesses us. The prophet teaches us the word of God. He tells me to be good and teaches me what God wants me to do.

Michael F., 9, Tonga

Near your eighth birthday, you will have an interview with your bishop or branch president. Don't be nervous! He will help you prepare for your baptism.





Happy eighth birthday!



Before my eighth birthday I fasted and prayed to Heavenly Father to know if I should be baptized. The answer was yes! After I was baptized

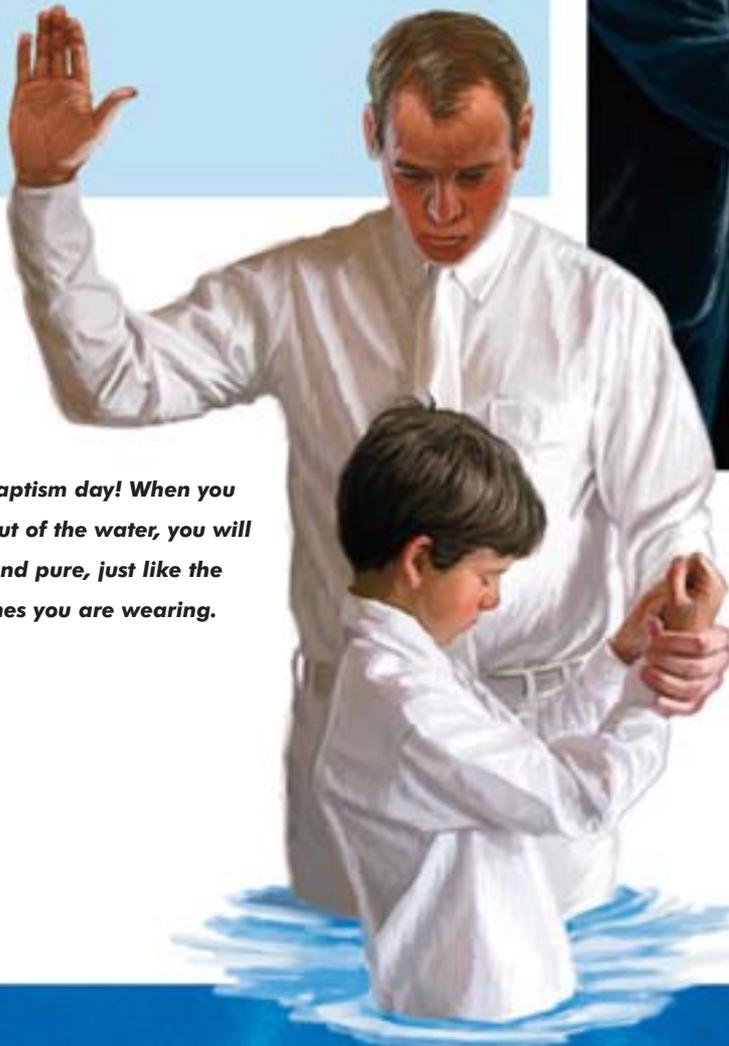
I felt a wonderful warm feeling of happiness. I was grateful to be confirmed and receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. Since my baptism I have tried to keep the commandments, be kind to my family and friends, and always set a good example.

Huia K., 8, Victoria, Australia



Now that I have been baptized and confirmed, I have received the gift of the Holy Ghost, and He can be with me all the time to help me choose right from wrong. When you pray, the Holy Ghost can help you understand the answers to your prayer.

Emily S., 8, Louisiana



It's your baptism day! When you come up out of the water, you will be clean and pure, just like the white clothes you are wearing.

After your baptism, priesthood holders will confirm you a member of the Church and give you the gift of the Holy Ghost. When you covenant, or promise, to take upon you the name of Jesus Christ and always remember Him, He promises that you will always have the Holy Ghost to guide you. You can remember this covenant each time you take the sacrament. ●



A Perfect Match

BY

KAY TIMPSON

(Based on

a true story)

God gave me a family . . . that I might live here happily, because he loves me (Children's Songbook, 234).

You don't know what you're talking about!" Larissa yelled to her classmate Eric. She jumped off her bike and raced for the door. Bursting inside, she threw her arms around Mom and blurted, "Eric says I'm not really yours. He says that all of you are white and I'm black, and that we aren't a *real* family because we don't *match*." She shoved her arm next to Mom's to compare. "See!"

Mom hugged Larissa tight. "Maybe Eric doesn't understand what makes a real family."

Just then Dad walked in. "What's wrong? Did you hurt your arm?"

Larissa sobbed. "No! I don't match you guys, so Eric says we aren't a real family."

"Hmm." Dad held his arm next to Larissa's. "I guess Eric doesn't know what makes a real family."

"That's what Mom said." Larissa jerked her arm away. "But maybe he does know. He looks like his family. He says families are supposed to match."

Allie squeezed through the door, trying to keep the wind and dry leaves outside. "What's supposed to match?" she asked.

"We are," Larissa said. "Eric says so, and he should know because his whole family matches."

"Well, he doesn't know what makes a real family then," Allie said.

The door flew open and the wind blew

leaves and the twins in together. "Why is Larissa crying?" they asked.

Larissa wailed. "See! Jeremy and Zack match. They look alike, they dress alike, and they even say the same thing at the same time. I don't match any of you!"

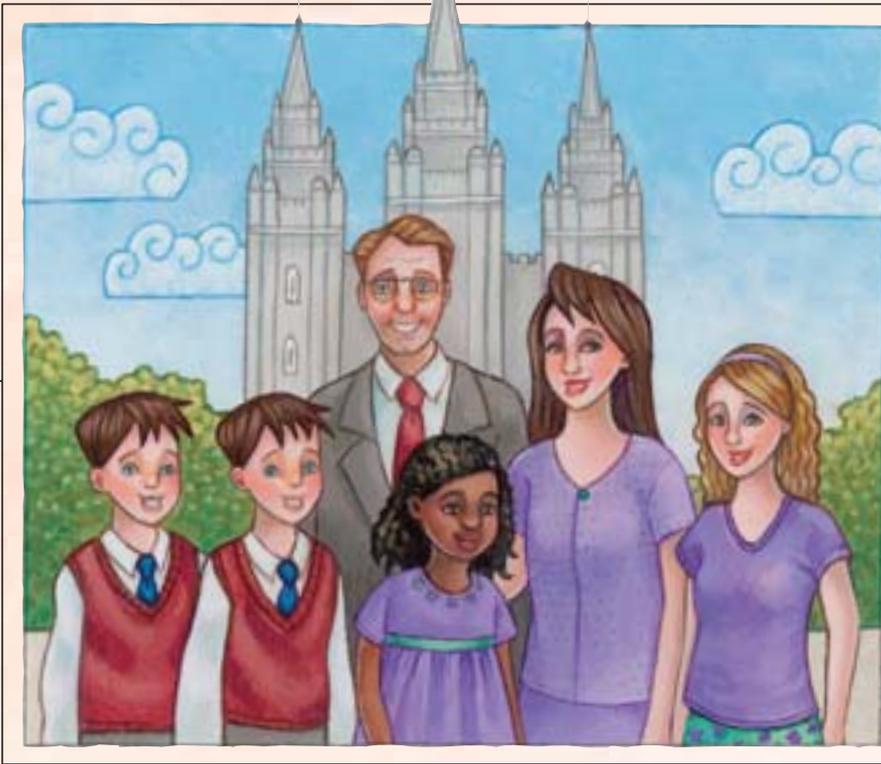
"What?" Jeremy and Zack asked.

"It seems that Eric thinks Larissa doesn't belong with us because she doesn't look like any of us," Dad said.

"Well," Zack began, "Eric must not know what makes a—"

"It's true," Allie interrupted. "We don't look alike, but there are lots more important qualities for a family to share. We love each other and we help each other. Each of us is special to the other. Isn't that more important than looking alike?"





“That gives me an idea,” Mom said. “Come to the computer.”

Opening the family history album, Mom pointed to a name on a pedigree chart. “My grandmother, Eleanor Edmonds,” she said. “Let’s see what we can find.” She quickly entered the name “Eleanor Edmonds,” the word “Ohio,” and the year “1882” into the computer.

“Larissa,” Mom said, “please click on ‘search.’”

The computer clicked and whirred and finally, after a few seconds, a box appeared on the screen that read, “NO MATCH FOUND.”

“That’s not right!” Allie said. “Eleanor is your grandmother. How can the computer say there’s no match?”

“What would the computer use to match families together?” Mom asked.

“Names!” the twins said.

“Dates and places,” Dad added.

“Then why did it say no match found?” Allie asked.

“The computer has to have all the *right* information to match her to us. I entered Ohio as Eleanor’s birthplace. Actually, she was born in Nebraska. Because the computer had the wrong information, it couldn’t make a match. But no matter what the computer says, I have all the information I need to know that Eleanor is my grandmother.”

“Oh, I get it,” Larissa said slowly. “Eric doesn’t think I belong in this family because he doesn’t have the right information.”

“That’s right,” Mom said. “He does not know that Heavenly Father wanted you to be with us and made sure we could adopt you and be sealed as a family in the temple.”

“We match because of more important things than our hair and our eyes and our skin,” Dad said. “We are a family because we followed God’s plan for us.” He held up the family

history album and pointed to a photo. “This is Eleanor Edmonds, Mom’s grandmother.”

“Wow!” the twins said.

“She doesn’t look anything like you, Mom,” Larissa said. “Your hair is straight, your skin is dark, and your eyes are brown. Her hair is curly, her skin is fair, and her eyes are light.”

“That’s right, honey. When I was growing up she lived next door. I learned that she and I are a lot alike in ways that are far more important than looking alike.”

“Poor Eric,” Larissa said. “He doesn’t know that looking alike doesn’t even matter.”

“And the best part is that we can be a family forever, no matter what we look like,” Dad said.

“Cool!” the twins shouted.

Larissa smiled. “We’re a perfect match!” ●

“Our sense of belonging to one another . . . foreshadows our belonging in the eternal family of God. . . . Belonging can be forever, because love can be forever.”

Elder Bruce C. Hafen of the Seventy,
“The Waning of Belonging,” *Ensign*, Oct. 1989, 72.



Prophets Strengthen Families

BY LOIS T. BARTHOLOMEW

Prophets through the ages have helped strengthen families. Draw lines to match the prophet with the teaching or commandment he taught from Heavenly Father about families.

1. Keep a book of remembrance
(see Moses 6:5).

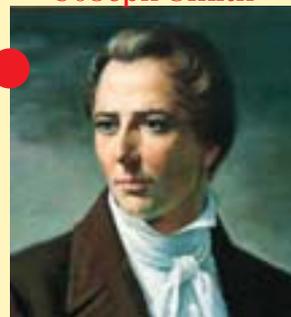
2. "Honour thy father and thy
mother" (Exodus 20:12).

3. "Teach . . . children to pray, and
to walk uprightly before the Lord"
(D&C 68:28).

4. "Parents have a sacred duty
to rear their children in love and
righteousness" ("The Family: A
Proclamation to the World").

5. Don't "fight and quarrel one
with another" (Mosiah 4:14).

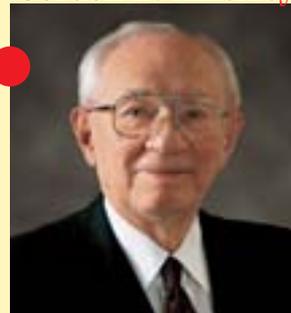
Joseph Smith



Moses



Gordon B. Hinckley



King Benjamin



Adam



Funstuf Answers

First-Place Pumpkin: Risa won.

Prophets Strengthen Families: 1) Adam, 2) Moses,
3) Joseph Smith, 4) Gordon B. Hinckley,
5) King Benjamin.

Guess Who? Answer: Elder Richard G. Scott.



BAPTISM

I read the Book of Mormon every day. Move forward 2 spaces.

After arguing with my friends, I ask for their forgiveness. Move forward 1 space.

I attend church every week, even though it's far away. Move forward 2 spaces.

My brother asks me to help him. I say no. Move back 2 spaces.

A classmate asks to copy my homework. I say no. Move ahead 2 spaces.

I break a plate and tell my dad that my little sister broke it. Move back 2 spaces.

I do kind deeds for my family. Move forward 1 space.

Keeping Our Baptismal Covenant

BY JENNIFER ROSE
Church Magazines

When we are baptized we make a covenant, or promise, with Heavenly Father. We promise to take upon ourselves the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and always remember Him and keep His commandments. When we keep our part of the covenant, we are promised that we will have the Holy Ghost in our lives to guide and comfort us.

The covenant we make at baptism is the first step on our journey to the temple. There are other steps along the way that help us keep our baptismal covenants and prepare to receive temple blessings.

To play the game you will need a small piece of colored paper for each player and a die.

To prepare: (1) Remove these pages from the magazine. (2) Cut out the puzzle pieces, glue them to heavy paper, trim, and set aside. Then glue the game board to heavy paper. (3) Divide the players into two teams, and give each player a piece of colored paper to write his or her name on. Each team should have its own color of paper. (4) Start the papers on the space marked "BAPTISM."

ILLUSTRATION BY BETH M. WHITTAKER

I don't read my scriptures. Move back 2 spaces.

Listening to general conference, I sustain the General Authorities. Move forward 2 spaces.

My friend asks me to play on Sunday. I invite him to Primary. Move ahead 2 spaces.



Instead of participating in family home evening, I watch TV. Move back 2 spaces.

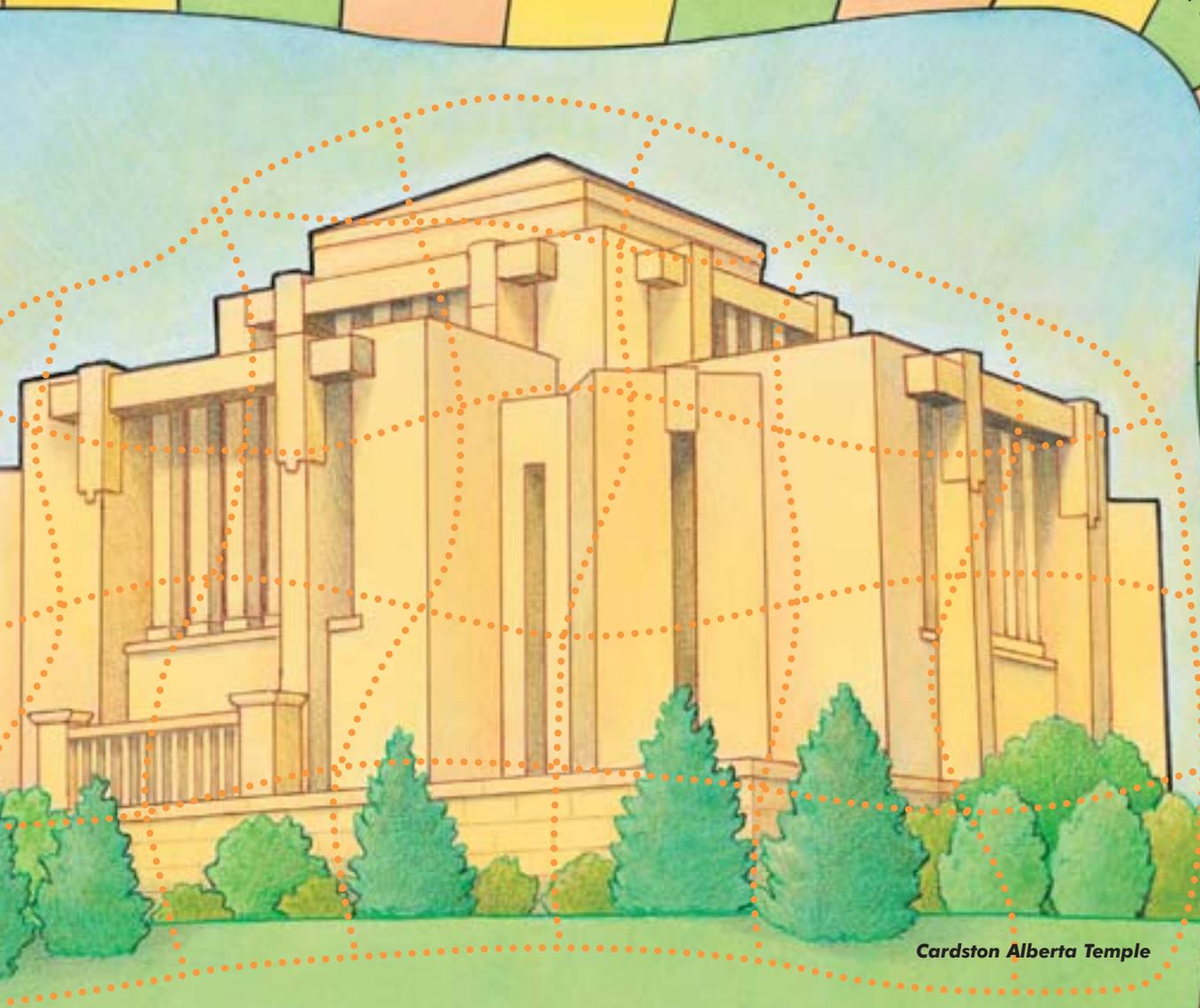
I do kind deeds for my family. Move forward 1 space.

I ignore my mom when she asks me to help make dinner. Move back 1 space.

I earn some money and pay my tithing. Move ahead 2 spaces.

I pick up the newspaper for a sick neighbor. Move forward 1 space.

I hang a picture of a temple in my room and make a goal to go there. Move ahead 1 space.



Cardston Alberta Temple

To play: One player rolls the die and moves his or her paper. If you roll a 2 or higher, you can share it with your teammates and help them move too (for example, if you get a 3, you and two teammates could each move one space). When you land on a square with words, read it aloud and follow the instructions. If the

instructions tell you to move forward, put a puzzle piece in place.

The next team takes a turn, with one player rolling the die and moving.

The teams and players take turns rolling the die and moving around the board until the puzzle is completed.

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

I say my prayers in the morning and at night. Move forward 1 space.

I take a piece of candy from the store and don't pay for it. Move back 2 spaces.

It's been a busy day, and I'm tired, so I don't pray. Move back 2 spaces.

I ask a friend to turn off bad music. Move forward 1 space.

Our Creative Friends



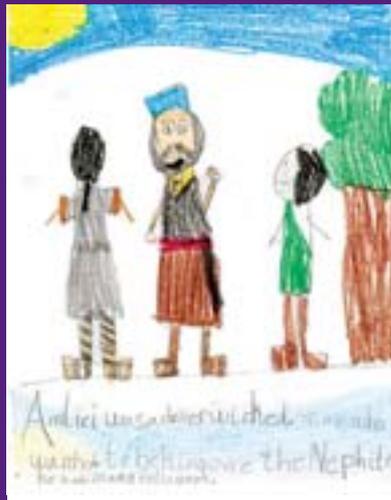
Tyler H., age 6, Arizona



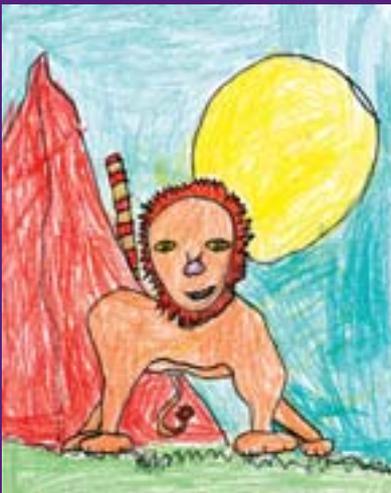
Angel H., age 9, New York



Aubree S., age 10, Utah



Taylor K., age 6, Georgia



Matthew G., age 7, North Carolina



Leah Janae N., age 4, Michigan

Searching for You

I love going to Primary
Where I learn so many things
About the gospel true.
We are searching for you,
So you can know the gospel too.

Eliza C., age 11, Iowa

Faith

Faith is to hope;
Although I can't see it
I believe it.

Faith is to guide;
When I feel it
I believe it.

Faith is a gift;
When I receive it
I believe it.

Faith is to be righteous;
When I do good
I believe it.

Faith is centered in Christ;
The plan of salvation,
I believe it.

Ky Tayson W., age 9, Idaho

All Things Show There Is a God

I look at the sun . . .
And think of the warmth of the Holy Ghost.

I look at the grass . . .
And think of the Garden of Gethsemane.

I look at the blue sky . . .
And think of eternity.

I look at the mountaintops . . .
And think of temple spires.

I look at my family . . .
And think of love.

I look in the mirror . . .
And see I am a child of God.

Lindsay Marie S., age 8, Utah

Baptism

Dad said a prayer.
A white suit I had to wear.
I heard singing.
The Spirit was bringing peace.
People were proud of me.
I was happy.

Russel R., age 8, Alaska



Elyse A., age 5, Montana



Levi C., age 9, Washington



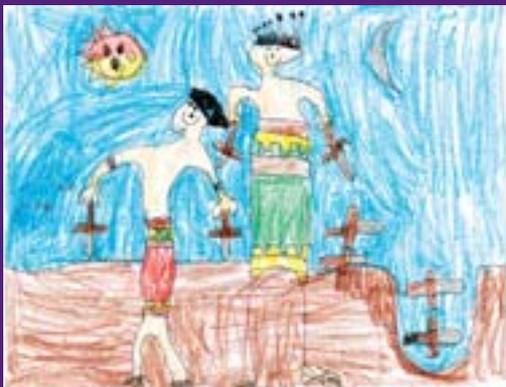
Ezra R., age 11, Texas



Madison S., age 8, Alberta, Canada



Nick T., age 8, Kansas



Luke B., age 5, California



Tyson W., age 8, Germany



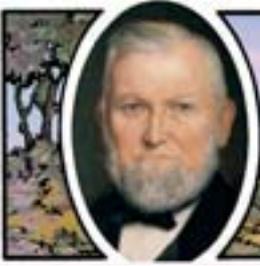
Hannah M., age 8, Korea



Avery H., age 8, Oregon

Please send submissions to Our Creative Friends, Friend Magazine, Rm. 2430, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, United States of America. A written statement signed by a parent or legal guardian granting permission to publish the child's submission must be included. If an adult helps with a child's submission, credit should also be given to him or her. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least a year. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Children whose writings and drawings are submitted should be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned.





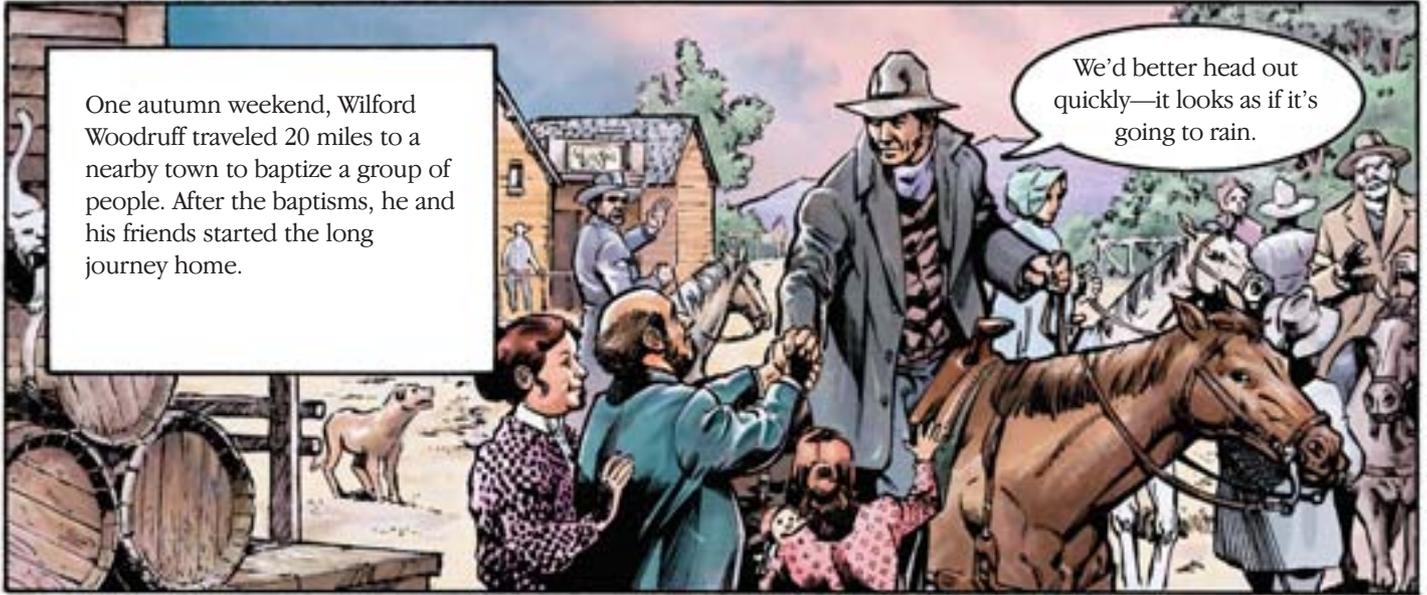
FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF

The Light Continued with Us



One autumn weekend, Wilford Woodruff traveled 20 miles to a nearby town to baptize a group of people. After the baptisms, he and his friends started the long journey home.

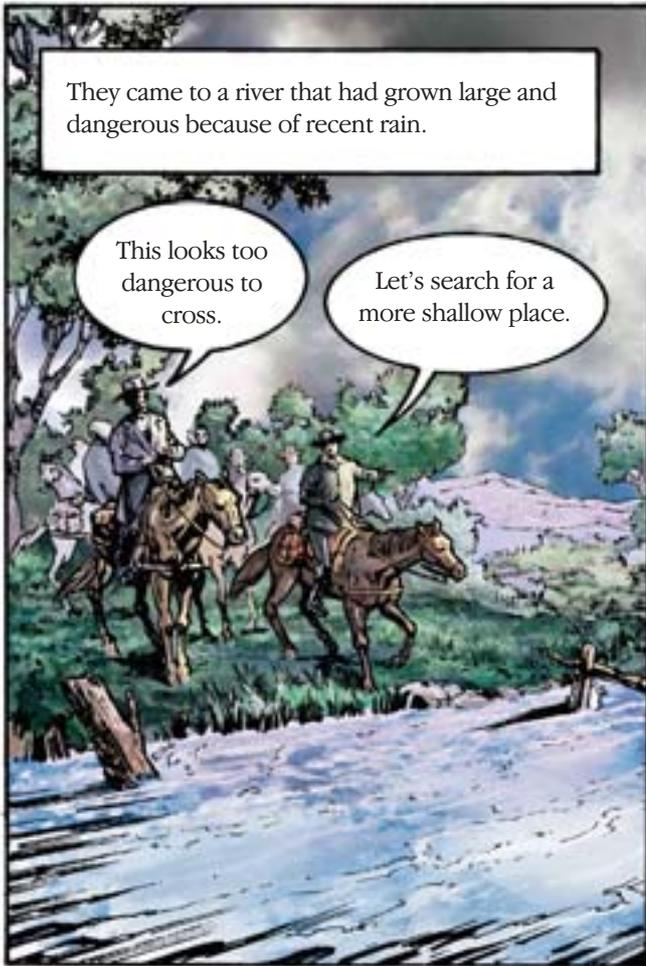
We'd better head out quickly—it looks as if it's going to rain.



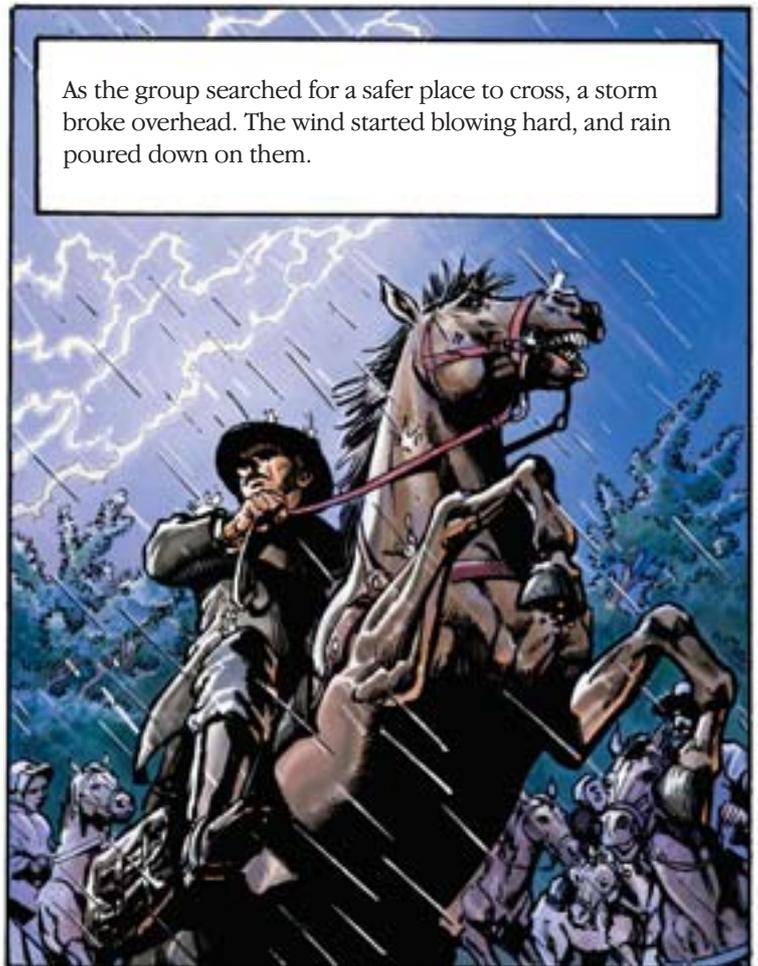
They came to a river that had grown large and dangerous because of recent rain.

This looks too dangerous to cross.

Let's search for a more shallow place.



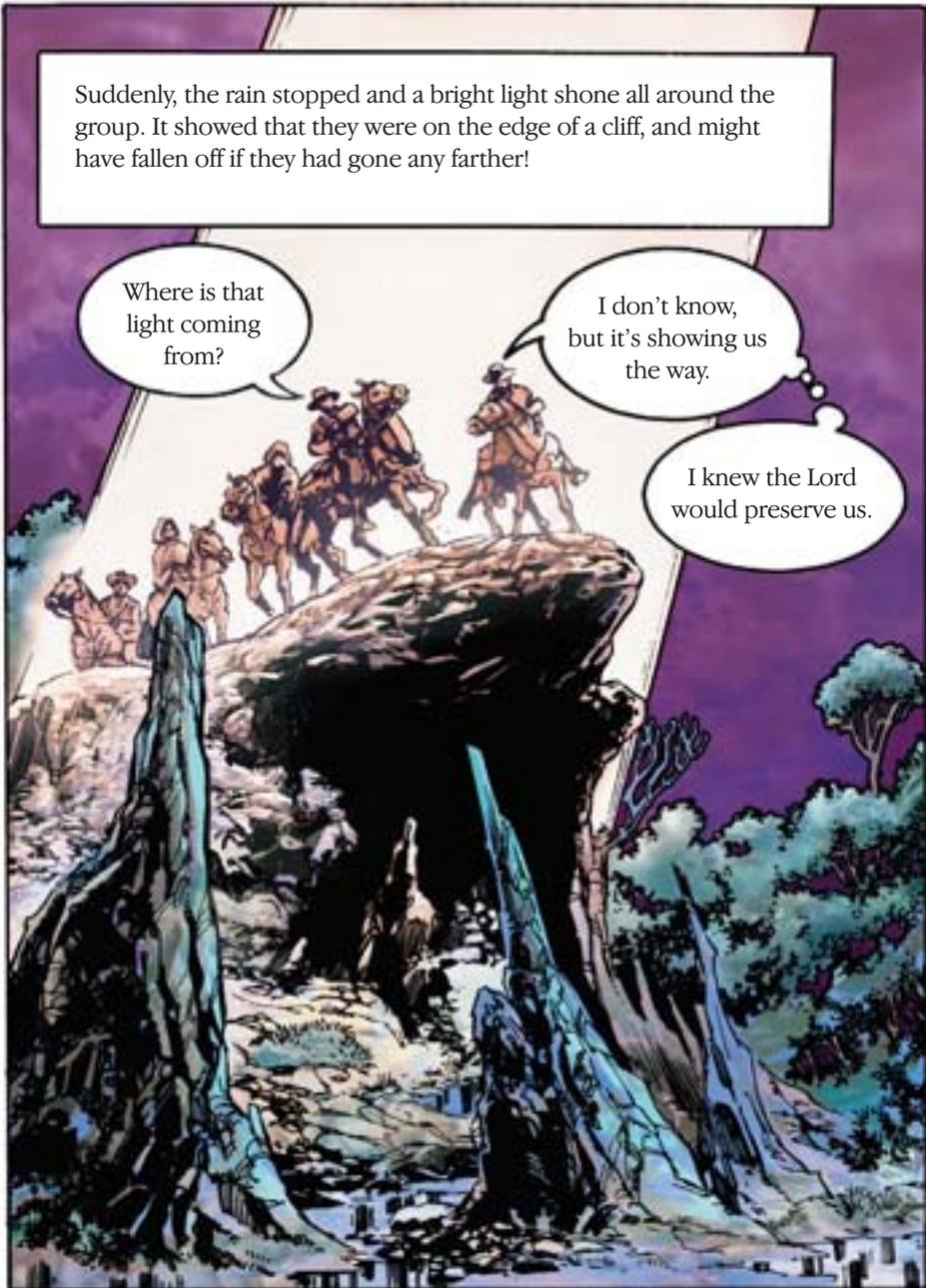
As the group searched for a safer place to cross, a storm broke overhead. The wind started blowing hard, and rain poured down on them.





The group got more and more confused in the dark storm. Soon they couldn't tell where they were going. They wandered through creeks and mud.

This is dangerous, but I know Heavenly Father will help us.

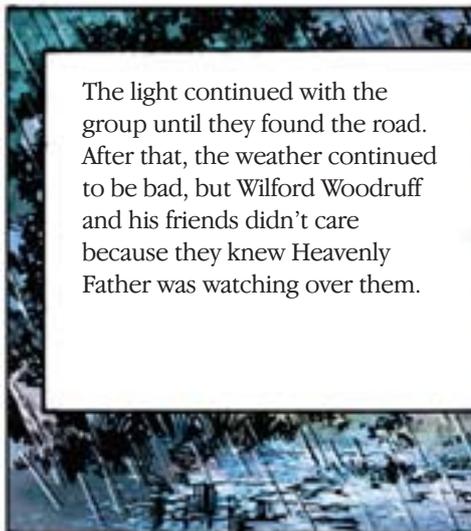


Suddenly, the rain stopped and a bright light shone all around the group. It showed that they were on the edge of a cliff, and might have fallen off if they had gone any farther!

Where is that light coming from?

I don't know, but it's showing us the way.

I knew the Lord would preserve us.



The light continued with the group until they found the road. After that, the weather continued to be bad, but Wilford Woodruff and his friends didn't care because they knew Heavenly Father was watching over them.



Now we know that the Lord does not forsake his Saints in any of their troubles.

We truly have reason to rejoice!



BEN OBEYS

BY ELIZABETH HERVEY OSBORN

(Based on a true story)

Children, obey your parents in all things

(Colossians 3:20).

Hi, Mom,” Ben called as he rolled his bike into the garage.

“Hi, Ben,” Mom answered. Closing the recycling bin, she turned to look at him, and her smile faded.

“Where’s your helmet?” she asked.

Ben slid his bike into its place. “I don’t need it anymore.”

Mom’s eyebrows went up. “Ben, what is our family rule about helmets?”

Ben took a deep breath and slowly repeated: “If you’re riding your bike, you wear a helmet.”

Mom looked steadily at Ben until he squirmed. “But, Mom!” he protested.

“Please go inside. We’ll talk about it in a minute.”

Ben went in and sat down at the table. Pretty soon Mom and Dad joined him. “So, Ben, tell me about your helmet,” Dad began.

“Dad, I don’t need it anymore. I’m a great bike rider now.”

“You are a good bike rider,” Dad said. “But helmets aren’t just for beginners. I’ve been riding a bicycle for many years. Do I wear a helmet?”

“Yes, you do,” Ben admitted. “But the kids at school think only babies wear helmets.”

“Oh,” Mom said. “So it isn’t cool to wear one?”

“No, it’s not!” Ben exclaimed.



“Ben, do you know why we have the helmet rule?” Dad asked.

“To make me look stupid?” Ben answered with a wry smile.

Dad chuckled. “No. For exactly the opposite reason. It’s to help keep that brain of yours safe.”

“As a matter of fact,” Mom added, “every rule, whether it’s a family rule or one of Heavenly Father’s commandments, is given to help us be safe and happy.”

“But having kids make fun of me for keeping the rule doesn’t make me happy,” Ben complained.

Dad thought for a moment. “Sometimes we have to be obedient even when other people make fun of us for it. I know that in the long run you’ll be happier because you obey.”

Mom looked Ben in the eyes. “Ben, this wasn’t the first time you went riding without your helmet, was it?”

Ben’s shoulders drooped. “No,” he admitted.

“Thank you for being honest,” Dad said. “Your Mom

and I both feel that it is very important that you obey our family rules. You’ve broken this one. What do you think a good consequence would be?”

Ben was quiet for several long moments. “Maybe a time-out from my bike?” he said at last.

Dad nodded. “That sounds fair. I think maybe it should be long enough to help you remember the rule. How about until the end of summer?”

Ben groaned.

“OK,” Mom said. “When school starts, you get your bike back.”

As the sunny days of August went by, Ben often looked wistfully at his bike hanging on the garage wall. “Next time I’ll obey the rule,” he told himself. He remembered what Mom had said about obedience helping people be happy. “Well,” he thought, “It’s true that I’ll be happy when I can ride my bike again, even if someone makes fun of me.”

When school began, Mom helped Ben lift the bike

down. First he checked the tires and oiled the chain. Then he picked up his helmet, adjusted the fit, and snapped it onto his head. It felt great to be riding again!

One bright sunny afternoon in December, Ben was riding home from school. When he came to an intersection he stopped and looked carefully both ways. But a young lady who had just learned to drive turned right without looking or stopping. The bumper of her car struck Ben's bike and sent him flying headfirst into the sidewalk.

A neighbor who saw the accident called Mom. As she

"Our safety lies in repentance. Our strength comes of obedience."

President Gordon B. Hinckley,
"The Times in Which We Live,"
Ensign, Nov. 2001, 74.



ran down the street, she heard a siren and saw the ambulance. "Ben!" she shouted.

"I'm here, Mom."

Two paramedics were checking Ben. "Your son is

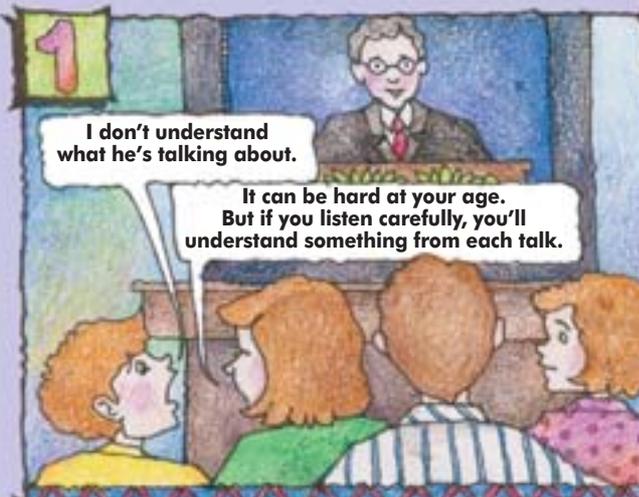
going to be just fine," one of them said. "He was wearing this, and it saved his life." He handed her Ben's helmet. There was a big dent in it.

Mom gave Ben a long hug. "I'm glad you were wearing your helmet today," she whispered.

"Me too," he said. "Obeying the rules really does help keep me safe and happy." ●



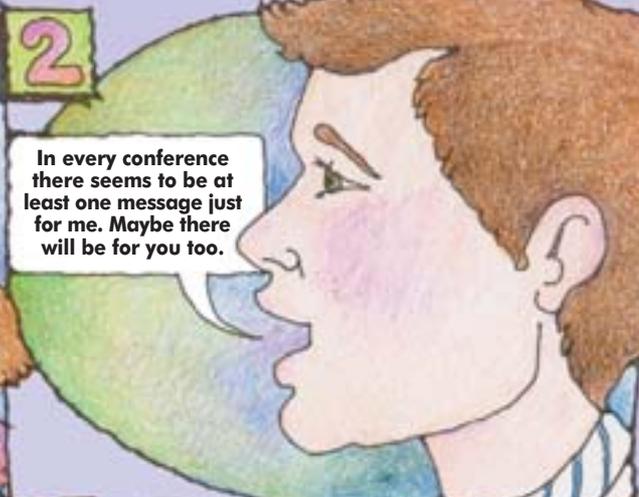
Matt & Mandy



1

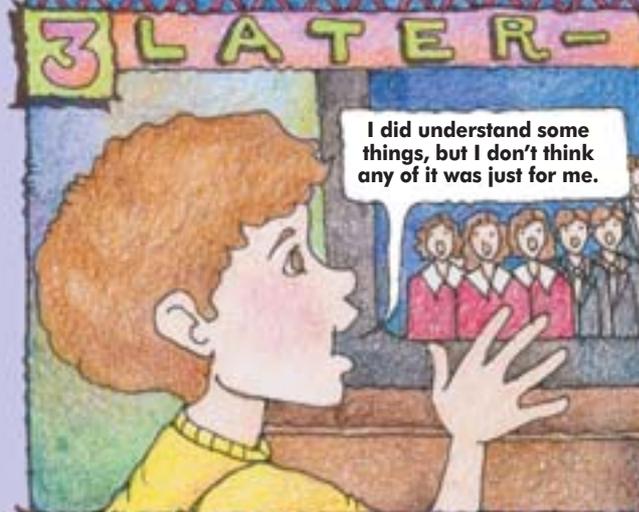
I don't understand what he's talking about.

It can be hard at your age. But if you listen carefully, you'll understand something from each talk.



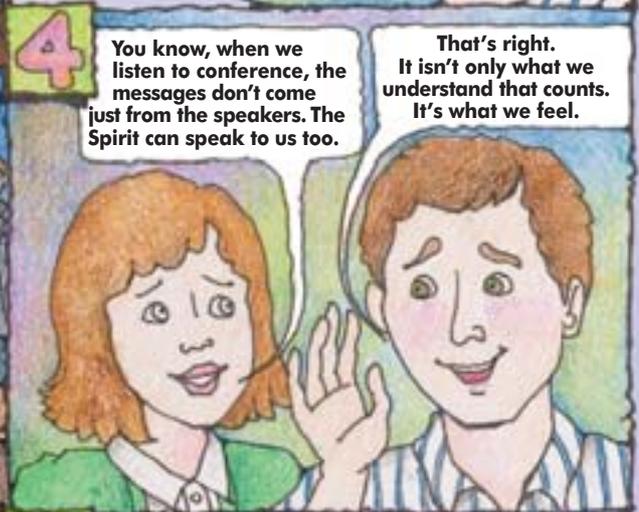
2

In every conference there seems to be at least one message just for me. Maybe there will be for you too.



3 LATER -

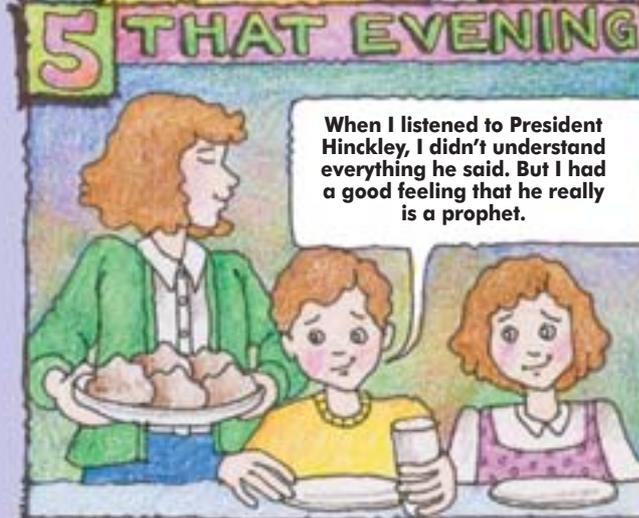
I did understand some things, but I don't think any of it was just for me.



4

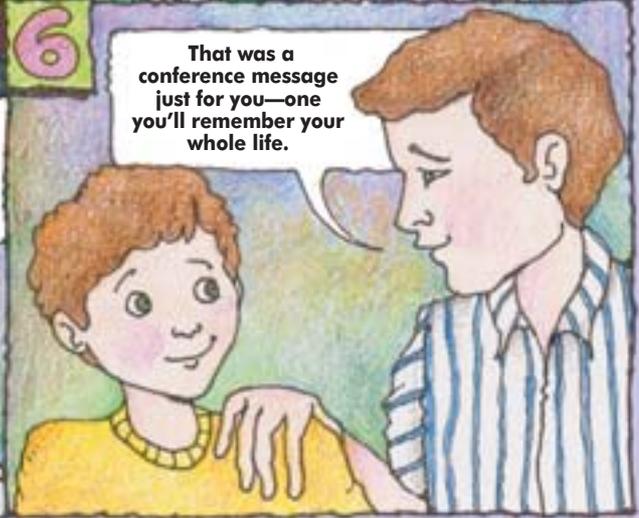
You know, when we listen to conference, the messages don't come just from the speakers. The Spirit can speak to us too.

That's right. It isn't only what we understand that counts. It's what we feel.



5 THAT EVENING

When I listened to President Hinckley, I didn't understand everything he said. But I had a good feeling that he really is a prophet.



6

That was a conference message just for you—one you'll remember your whole life.

Zest

For Life

TRISTAN DESFORGES OF
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

BY JULIE WARDELL
Church Magazines

Eight-year-old Tristan Desforges loves his family and the gospel very much. He is an active, fun-loving boy who does everything with great enthusiasm.

If you were to visit Tristan on a Sunday morning, you might find him scrambling eggs, making toast, and pouring orange juice. Tristan takes great pleasure in making breakfast for his parents, Xavier and Jeni, and sisters, Emilee (13) and Caroline (11).



He also helps the family by caring for their dog, Paco, and their two cats, Dawn and Sarah. And it is his responsibility to feed frozen mice to his pet corn snake, Simon!

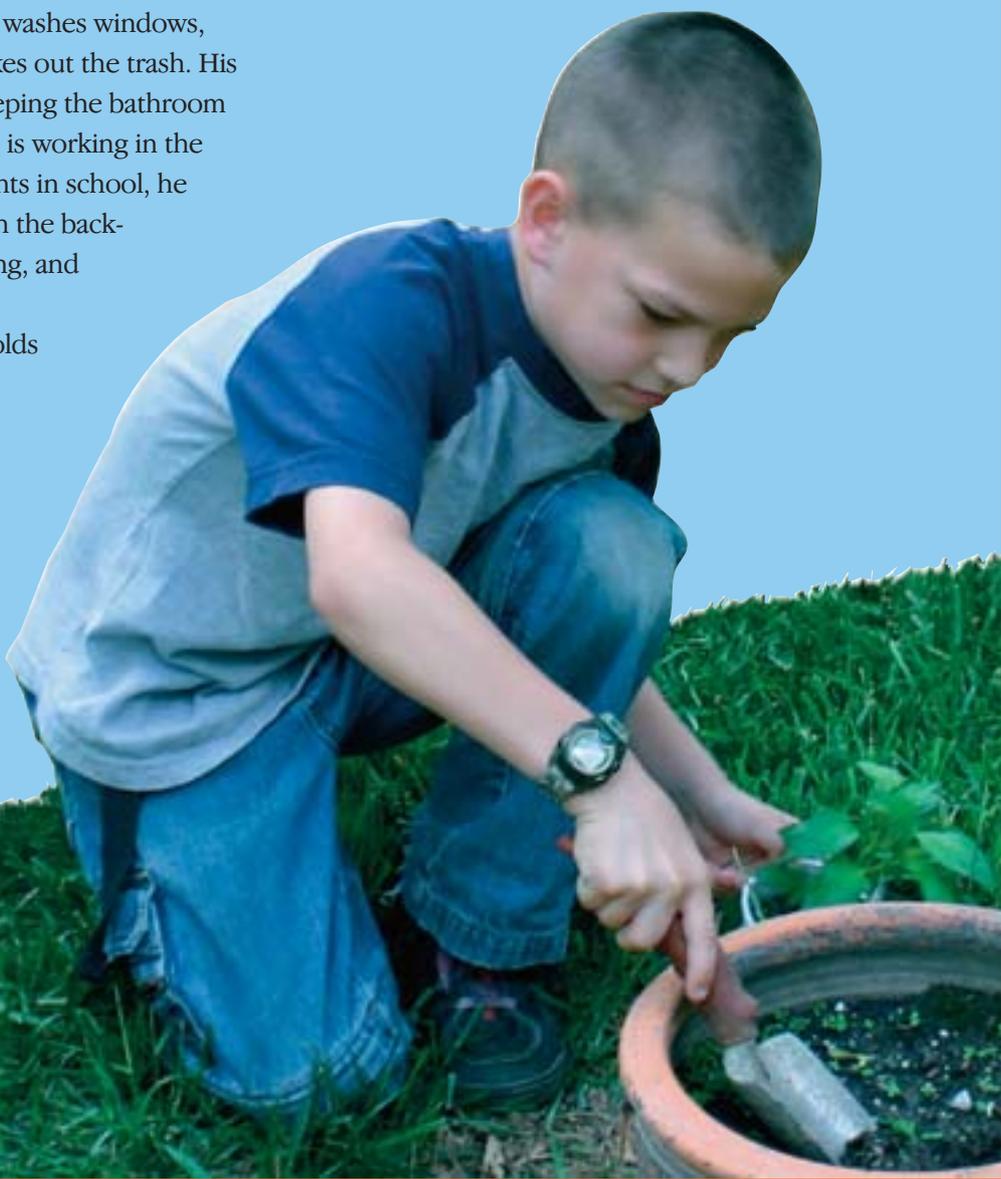
Once when Simon escaped from his cage, Tristan couldn't find him anywhere in the house. Tristan decided to pray and ask Heavenly Father for help. After his prayer, he felt impressed to look in the pipe of an old bathtub. And that's just where he found the snake. Everyone in the family was grateful to have the snake back in his cage!

Tristan also takes an active role in helping with the household chores. He vacuums, washes windows, sweeps, cleans his room, and takes out the trash. His mother says that he excels at keeping the bathroom clean. A favorite chore, however, is working in the garden. After studying about plants in school, he planted vegetables and flowers in the backyard. He enjoys weeding, watering, and watching the plants grow.

When the Desforges family holds family home evening, Tristan always enjoys the activities. One of his favorites is bicycling to the park for a picnic. At the park he also likes to play on the playground and feed the

ducks at the pond. Indoors, Tristan has fun playing board games with his sisters and eating an often-requested dessert—ice-cream sundaes covered with chocolate syrup and topped with whipped cream.

Tristan recalls a family home evening lesson that he and his mom prepared on President Kimball as being a very good lesson. "I like to learn about the prophets of the Church. After the lesson we had one of my favorite desserts—raspberry cheesecake!" he declares.



Tristan prepares breakfast for his family (left). Tristan is repotting one of the plants he grew from a seed (right).



Tristan keeps busy tending his garden and helping his sisters care for the family pets.

Even though Tristan sometimes teases his sisters too much, he is helpful, kind, and fun-loving to them. He takes delight in telling them jokes. For example: “How does a butcher introduce his wife? Meet Pattie!” He also likes to entertain the family by playing the recorder, harmonica, or pennywhistle. He wants to learn to play the guitar too.

In Primary, Tristan enthusiastically sings “Book of Mormon Stories,” and likes to participate in the activities in sharing time. He is also active in Scouting and has earned his Bobcat and Wolf badges.

Jumping on the trampoline, throwing balls at rubber turkeys, turning cartwheels, and playing on the big sponge doughnut are activities he has fun doing at school. He also enjoys playing upper defense on a soccer team. In the classroom, he finds studying science, especially plants, very interesting.

Being a member of the Church, he knows it is

important to set a good example at school. He tries to be kind, to not use bad language, and to be a missionary. He invited his friend David to church and gave him a Book of Mormon. When David came to church on Easter Sunday with his family, Tristan was excited to see them there. He also invited David and two other friends to his baptism.

Tristan is not only doing missionary work now, he is also preparing for his future mission by saving his money, paying his tithing, and keeping the commandments. He knows the importance of missionary work and shares these words: “I want to teach the world the blessings of the gospel and its commandments and share my testimony. I know this Church is true. I know Jesus is the Savior, and He loves me.”

Tristan’s zest for life helps him serve his family as well as The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints with great enthusiasm. ●

Friends in the News



Spencer B., 5, Ontario, Canada, loves his little sister. He enjoys singing in Primary, practicing karate, and going fishing with his dad. He wants to be a missionary.



Claire Marie C., 10, Washington, swims like a fish. She enjoys playing the piano, playing with Peter, Mom, and Sea Biscuit (her dog). She is a joy to her family.



Joshua N., 3, Nevada, spends a lot of time playing peek-a-boo with his little brother, Cody. He enjoys singing, reading animal books, and swimming. He is a good helper and likes going to church.



Amanda C., 8, Iowa, likes to play outside. She enjoys Girl Scouts, dance class, and activity days. She was excited to be baptized on the same day as her best friend.



Devin A., 11, Pennsylvania, likes to read. He also enjoys playing basketball and is a good swimmer. He is excited to receive the priesthood and pass the sacrament.



Kayla Jade T., 10, New Zealand, enjoys playing netball and touch rugby. She also likes activities geared to help her achieve the Faith in God Award.



Andrew C., 4, Nebraska, enjoys going camping and golfing with his dad and playing with his little brother, Ethan. He likes family home evening. His favorite hymn is "I Believe in Christ."



Makayla H., 6, Utah, likes swimming, riding her bike, and jumping on the trampoline. She enjoys visiting temple grounds so she can see the fountains, flowers, and the statue of the angel Moroni.



Brandon L., 9, New Jersey, loves his family. He likes computers, reading, playing the piano, and going to Cub Scouts. He enjoys being a big brother and helping his parents.



Mayfleur Ganlin M., 5, Quebec, Canada, likes swimming, skating, and dancing. She says, "I am in kindergarten now, and I will do my best to be a good example by standing for the right."



Jacob David W., 3, California, enjoys playing with his toys. He likes drawing pictures of his family, having "book time," praying, and going to nursery. His favorite song is "I Am a Child of God."



Camille H., 9, Colorado, enjoys tap dancing and jumping rope. Ammon is her favorite hero from the Book of Mormon. She likes to see the Denver Colorado Temple lit up at night.



Bridger J., 3, Virginia, likes to sing and is part of a local singing group. He enjoys riding his bike and playing with friends. He has an older sister and a younger brother.



Alexis M., 11, Ohio, likes singing Primary songs with her brothers, Zachary and Jacob. She plays tennis and enjoys visiting her relatives in Greece.



Boston T., 6, Utah, enjoys motocross. He likes being a big brother to twins. His favorite day is Sunday because he can go to church and spend time at home with his family.



Carolyn B., 9, Oregon, likes to play soccer and sing in her school choir. She likes drawing and jumping rope. She has one sister and two brothers, who are all in high school.



Nigel M., 7, Michigan, likes to play army, play with toy cars, and read the *Friend*. He also likes drawing and sculpting with clay. He is a good friend.



Ellie M., 5, Texas, enjoys playing with dolls and pretending to be a princess. She likes to share her testimony with others.



Cole S., 11, Arizona, is working to earn the Faith in God Award. He is a Boy Scout and is kind to people he meets. He plays the saxophone and loves animals. He wants to serve a mission when he turns 19.



Tatum S., 7, South Carolina, celebrates her birthday on Valentine's Day. She likes to sing and dance and draw pictures of her friends, flowers, and rainbows. Her favorite food is shrimp.



Andrew M., 9, Florida, likes outdoor sports. His favorite school subject is math. One of his hobbies is collecting CTR rings made in different languages.



Tai B., 8, Idaho, plays the piano and violin. She is kind to others and helped her mom bottle-feed three lambs during the winter. She has two cats, a horse, and a goat named Patrick.

Please send submissions to Friends in the News, *Friend Magazine*, Rm. 2430, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, United States of America. A written statement signed by a parent or legal guardian granting permission to publish the child's photo and submission must be included. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least a year. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Children whose photos are submitted should be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned.



Canning Jars and Prophets

BY JANE MCBRIDE CHOATE (Based on a true story)

For [the prophet's] word ye shall receive as if from mine own mouth (D&C 21:5).

 missed his older brother **&** sister. They were in .  wish  could go   , he said  . "Next year,"  told him, "when   5 years old,   go  . Until then,  get   my helper."  felt better. He liked helping . "What  we going  do?" "We  going   , she said. "First we have  wash our .  stood on a  **&** washed his  at the . "Now we wash the . After  washed the ,  dried them. He carefully placed the clean  on the counter.  placed a big  of water on the   boil.  helped  take the stems off the . Then he sat at the  **&** watched  put the  in the hot water **&** then dip



them in cold water. After she peeled the , she placed them in the . “Why do  

 each year?” he asked. “ put in our  storage,”  said. “Later on we will

doing green , , , , .”  remembered last year when his

 had not worked. The family ate  from their storage   months. 

really liked the canned . “ am glad  has a job now,”  said. “

am , but we still need  keep adding  our  storage. The  has asked

every family  have a year’s supply of ,”  said. After watching   a

while,  was sleepy. He brought his    from his bedroom  lay down

on the floor. When he woke up,  was putting the  of  on a . The

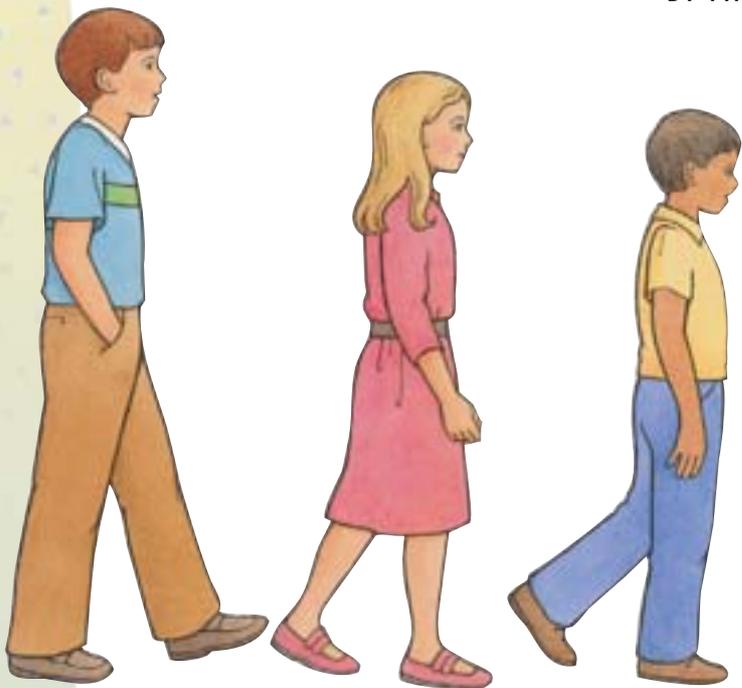
 sparkled like red . That night in family  evening, the family sang, “Follow

the .”* After they sang the song,  smiled  winked at . He knew they had

followed the  today. *Children’s Songbook, 110–11.

Follow the Prophet

BY PAT GRAHAM



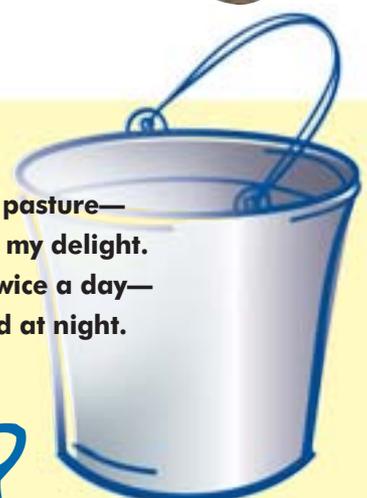
At general conference President Gordon B. Hinckley tells you how much he loves you. He encourages you to be courteous and kind to your family and neighbors. If you follow the prophet, you will stand for the right and be happy. Remember these things as you read the poem and color the picture of President Gordon B. Hinckley on the next page.



ILLUSTRATION BY BETH M. WHITTAKER



Rain is not a problem.
It rolls right off my back.
If there is something I must say,
I say it with a quack.
I am a _____.

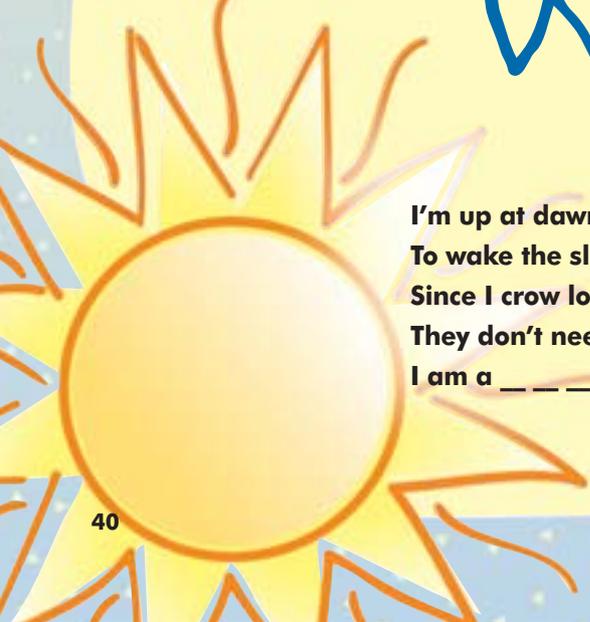


I spend the day at pasture—
Munching grass to my delight.
I must be milked twice a day—
In the morning and at night.
I am a _____.

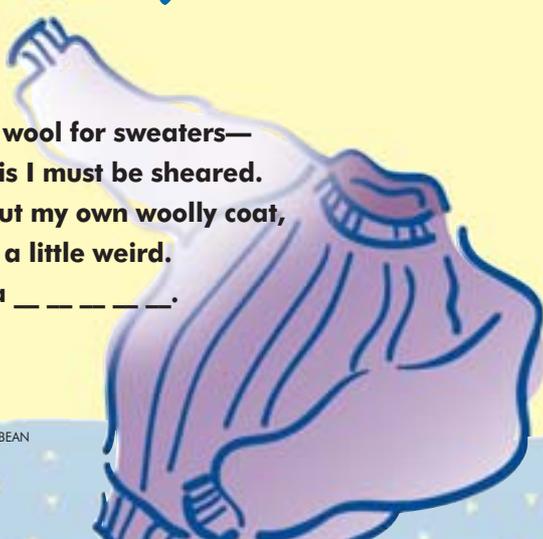
Who Am I?

BY COLLEEN FAHY

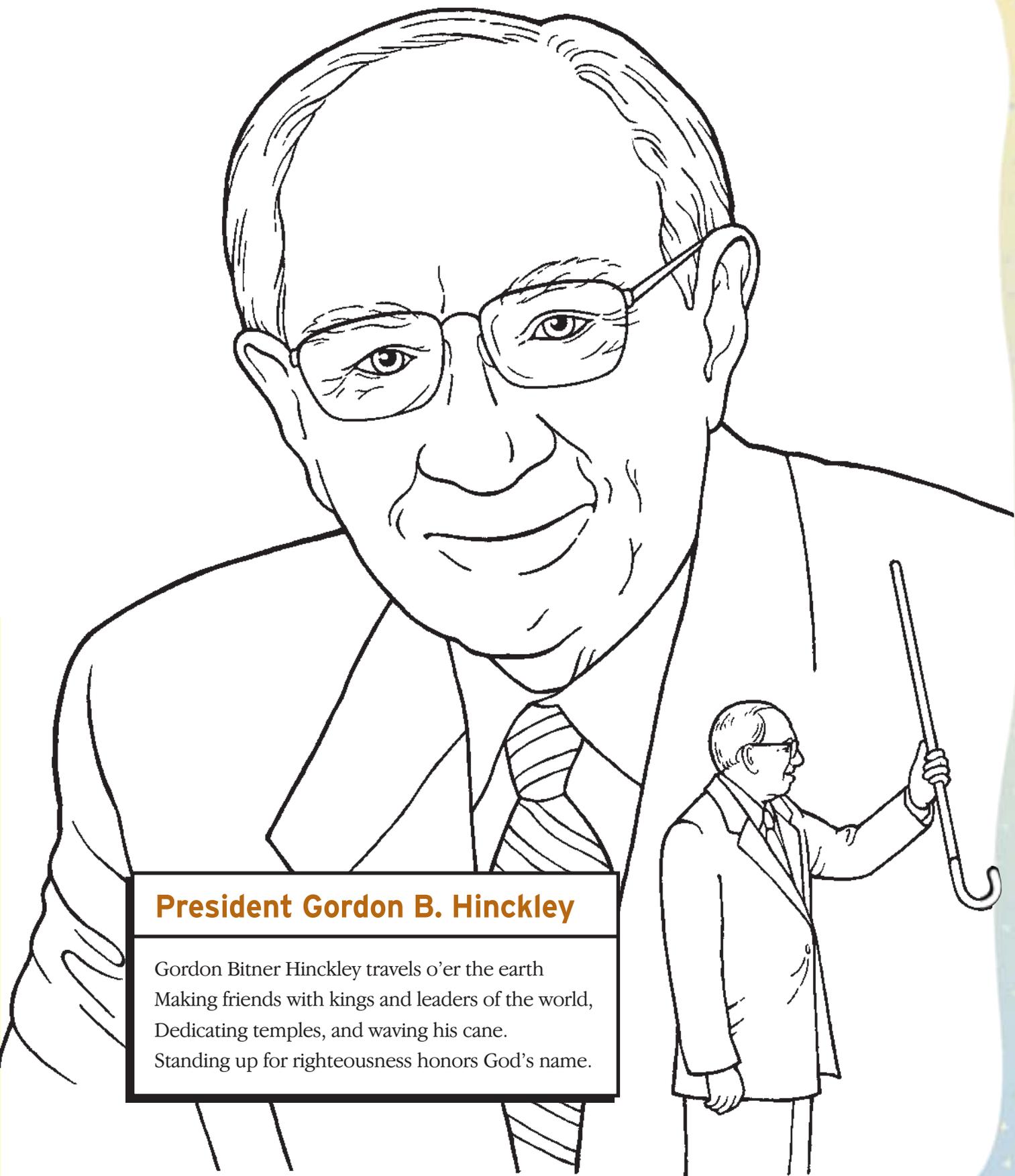
(See answers on page 41.)



I'm up at dawn each day
To wake the sleeping farm.
Since I crow loud and clear,
They don't need an alarm.
I am a _____.



I give wool for sweaters—
For this I must be sheared.
Without my own woolly coat,
I look a little weird.
I am a _____.



President Gordon B. Hinckley

Gordon Bitner Hinckley travels o'er the earth
Making friends with kings and leaders of the world,
Dedicating temples, and waving his cane.
Standing up for righteousness honors God's name.

Who Am I? Answers: duck, rooster, cow, sheep.

ILLUSTRATION BY BETH M. WHITTAKER

Family
Home
Evening
with a
Friend
♡



BY PATRICIA R. JONES

(Based on a true story)

Shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother
(Zechariah 7:9).

Tricia was bored. It seemed like her father and mother had been visiting with Sister Clark forever. Tricia looked around at her brothers and sisters, and they looked just as bored as she felt. She wondered again why they needed to have family home evening with Sister Clark.

“Don’t you think Sister Clark gets tired of us going to her house?” Tricia asked her parents after they left Sister Clark’s home.

“Not at all,” her mother replied.

“I feel that our visits are the highlight of her whole week,” her father added. “She has been lonely since Brother Clark died last year.”

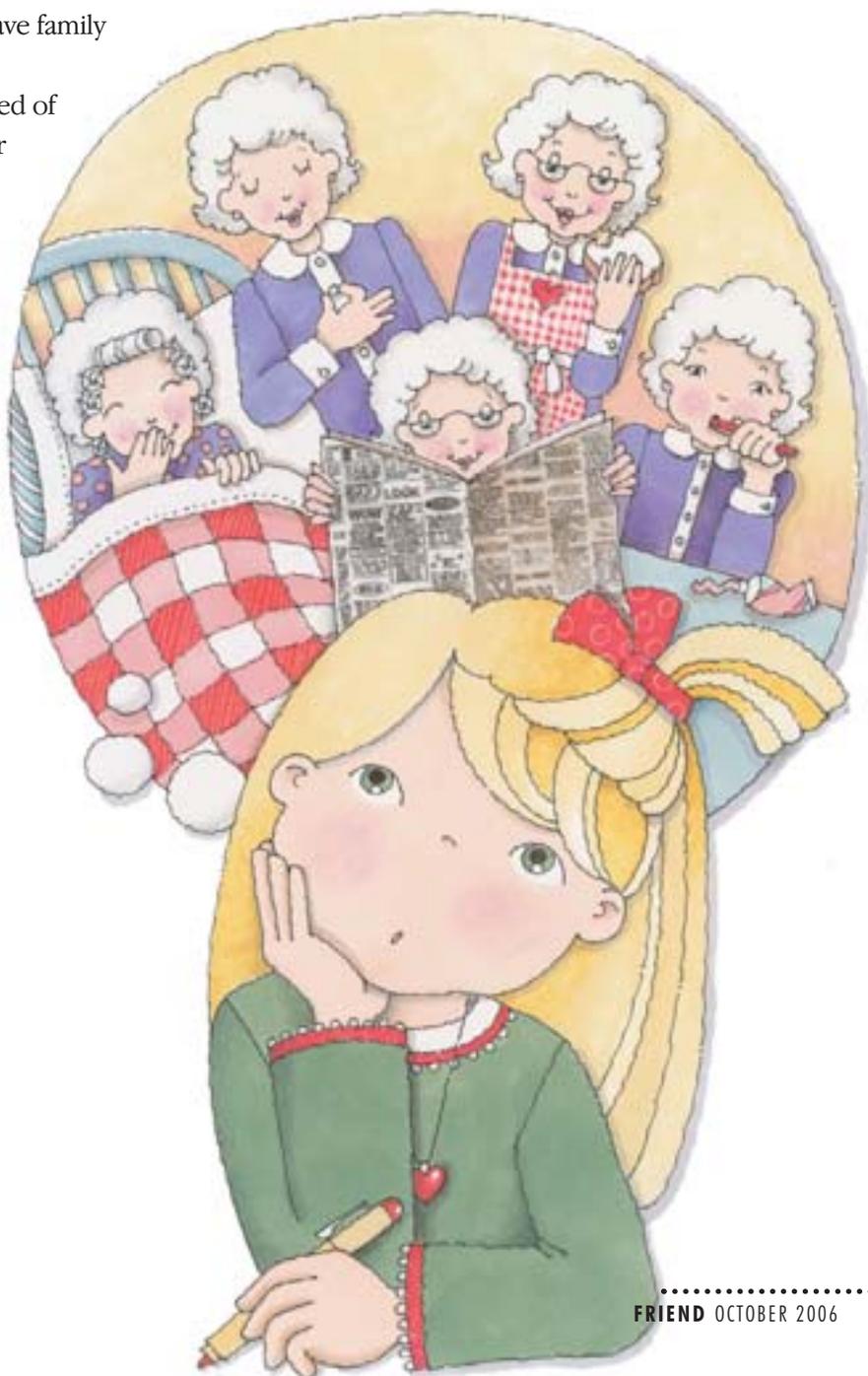
“But don’t you think she would like to have her privacy?” Tricia asked.

“Why don’t you try something,” her mother suggested. “Try imagining everything you can think of that Sister Clark does in a day. List them all on a piece of paper and we’ll see how much time that takes.”

“OK,” Tricia agreed. As soon as they got home, Tricia ran into the kitchen and got a piece of paper and a pen. She sat at the table and thought carefully. She decided to list everything Sister Clark might do in a day. First, she would wake up and get dressed. Next, she would fix breakfast, eat, and brush her teeth. Tricia smiled. She already had five things listed on

her paper. She would show her parents how busy Sister Clark really was. After that, Sister Clark would read the newspaper or write letters to her children.

“Oh, no she wouldn’t,” Tricia thought suddenly. “She only had one daughter who died in an accident when



she was 13. Sister Clark wouldn't write letters to her children or grandchildren because she doesn't have any."

Tricia tried to swallow a lump that had formed in her throat, but it stuck uncomfortably. She tried to think of what family Sister Clark had to whom she could write a letter.

"Mrs. Benton!" Tricia cried happily. She remembered Sister Clark's sister, Mrs. Benton, who had visited her last summer. But as Tricia began to write Mrs. Benton's name on her paper, she remembered that Sister Clark and her sister didn't get along very well. Sister Clark probably wouldn't write a letter to her only sister either.

Tricia drew in the corner of her paper as she tried to think of what else Sister Clark would do to occupy her day. When she couldn't think of anything, she drew some more. Finally, Tricia decided that Sister Clark would probably watch a morning news program and wash the dishes. Then there was that afghan



she was working on. She liked to make caramels and give them to people in the ward. Of course, she might do some cleaning, but her house was always so spotless.

"No wonder she always seems so happy to see us," Tricia said out loud. "We really are the highlight of her whole week."

"You're absolutely right," her father said. Tricia looked up and realized that her father had been standing behind her for a while. "Is it really so bad to visit Sister Clark every week?" he asked quietly.

The lump returned to Tricia's throat, and she could not answer. She shook her head and looked down at her paper. It had more doodles on it than items in her list. She wadded up the paper and threw it away. Her father held out his arms to her and she rushed into his waiting hug.

"It's not bad visiting Sister Clark, Daddy," she whispered. "Actually, I'm really glad that we share our family home evenings with a friend." ●

"True religion consists not only in refraining from evil . . . , but in deliberately and purposefully doing acts of kindness and service to others."

President Howard W. Hunter (1907–95),
"True Religion," *Ensign*, Nov. 1978, 12.





First-Place Pumpkin

BY KIMBERLY WEBB

José, Juliana, Marcos, Mariana, Risa, Ricardo, and Arturo had a contest to see who could grow the biggest pumpkin. To help them remember which pumpkin was theirs, they tied ribbons of their favorite colors on the vines. Today, Mamá harvested the pumpkins so they can make pumpkin pie for family home evening. Before they choose which pumpkins to eat, use the following clues to find out who won the contest:

1. Juliana's favorite color is dark pink.
2. Risa does not like purple or blue.
3. José does not like green.
4. Mariana's pumpkin is the smallest.
5. Arturo likes solid colors, not patterns.
6. Marcos likes patterns, except for polka dots.
7. Ricardo's favorite color is blue.
8. José's pumpkin is next to Juliana's.



Trying to Be Like Jesus

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

Choose the Right!

By Weston W. with help from his family

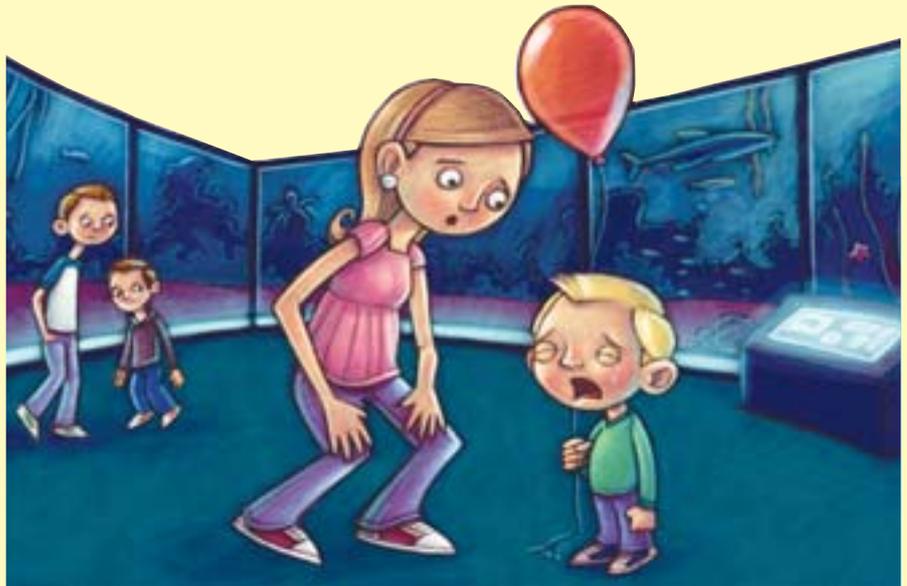


Every morning when my mom drops us off at school, she tells us she loves us and then says,

“Choose the right!” I always say, “Choose the right!” right back. It makes me feel good to know that my whole family is doing their best during the day to make Heavenly Father happy. A girl in my class is quiet and sometimes scared to talk. I always try to watch out for her at recess and make sure that nothing hurts her.

I am glad to be a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I gave a talk in Primary last month about letting my light shine, and I try to shine it wherever I go!

Weston W., age 6, Missouri



Fishing for a Mom

By Elias S.



The other day my mom and brother and I went to the aquarium. We were looking at the sea horses when my brother saw a little boy crying. My mom asked him if he was lost. He said he couldn't find his mom. My mom comforted him. Then we started looking for his mom, but couldn't find her. Finally we took him to a worker. After a while we saw the boy again. He was with his mom. The worker helped him find her. I felt a good warm feeling because we had helped the little boy. I knew it was the right thing to do.

Elias S., age 10, Utah

I Will Not Partake of Things that Are Harmful to Me*

By Madeleine D.



I went to the movies with my friend, and she bought me a cold drink. When I asked her what the drink was, she told me that it was iced tea. I told her that I didn't drink tea. She tried to convince me to take one drink, but I told her, “No, thank you.” Finally the movie started, and we enjoyed it without any more trouble. I'm glad I didn't take the tea because I know that Heavenly Father gave us the Word of Wisdom.

Madeleine D., age 8, Alberta, Canada

Be Kind to Animals

By Jenna J. with help from her mom



There are lots of stray cats and dogs where I live. They don't have a home, so my mom and I decided to do something about it. Now we work with the animal shelter. We often take care of kittens at our house until they are ready to be adopted. We live in the country, so there's plenty of room.

We're fostering a litter of kittens and their mom right now. One of the kittens needs special care because she's tiny, and the other kittens shove her out of the way. Sometimes she can get a drink of milk from her mother, but other times we have to feed her with formula. We squirt it into her mouth!

Being kind to animals is one way we can try to be like Jesus. And being kind to animals reminds us to be kind to people.

Jenna J., age 6, Idaho



A Reading Lesson

By Santiago M.



Last year I was on the school bus when some older kids asked me if I knew how to read. I told them that I did, and they said, "If you know how to read, read that word written on the bus." So I did, and to my surprise it was a bad word! I felt so bad, because I want to make Jesus happy, and I know that saying bad words makes Him sad.

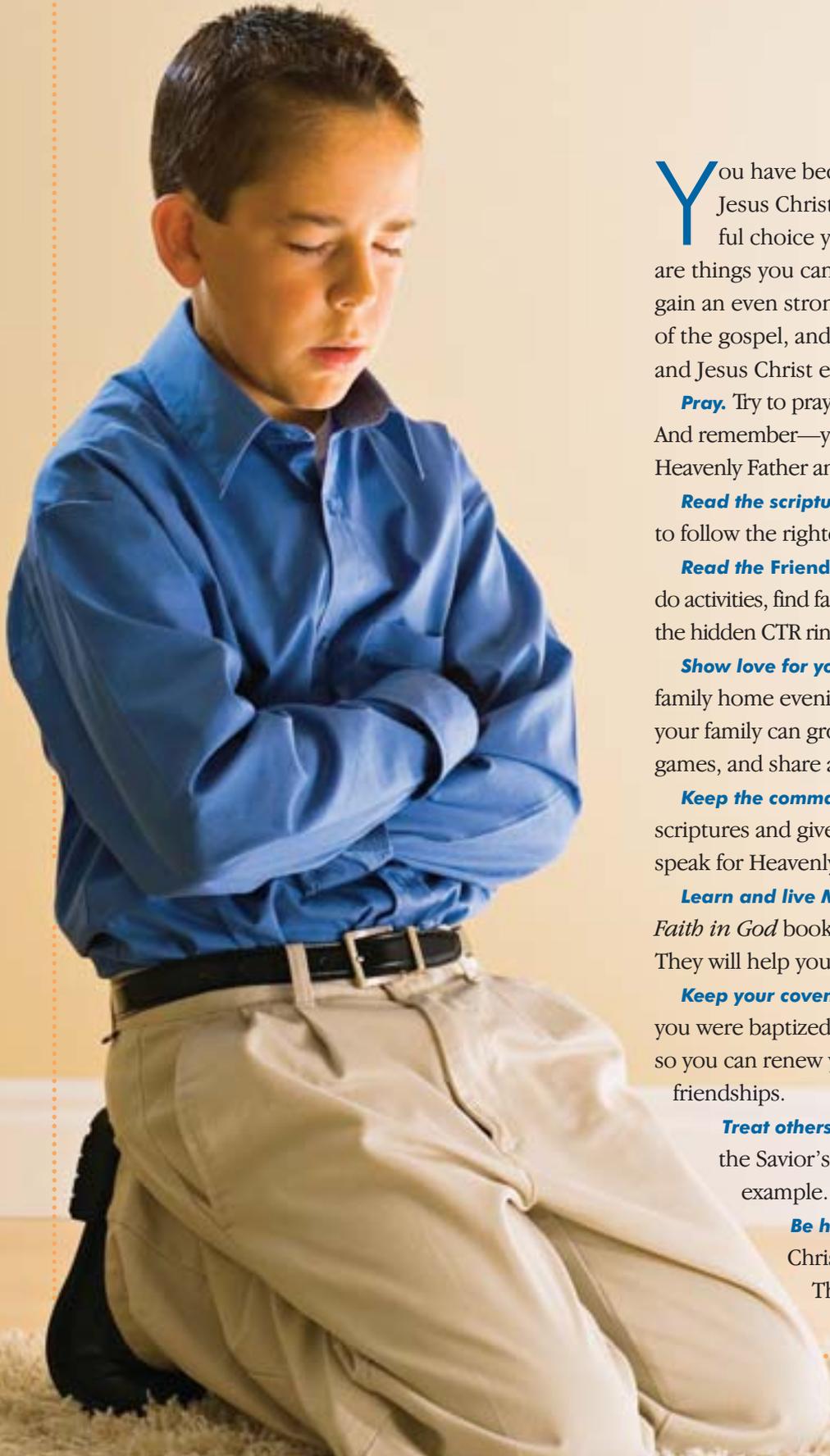
I talked to my mom, and now if someone asks me to read something, first I read it in my mind. Then if it is not a bad word, I read it out loud. I want to keep the commandments and follow Heavenly Father's plan.

Santiago M., age 7, Indiana

The *Friend* would like to hear from you about an experience you have had in trying to be like Jesus. Please include a photo of yourself and your name, age, and address. A written statement signed by a parent or legal guardian granting permission to publish your photo and submission must be included. If an adult helps with your submission, credit should also be given to him or her. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least a year. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Children whose writings are submitted should be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned. Send it to: Trying to Be Like Jesus, *Friend* Magazine, Rm. 2430, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, United States of America.



What to Do Now?



You have become a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. What a wonderful choice you have made! What's next? There are things you can do daily that will help you be happy, gain an even stronger testimony and understanding of the gospel, and come to know Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ even better.

Pray. Try to pray on your knees morning and night. And remember—you can offer a silent prayer to Heavenly Father anytime, anywhere.

Read the scriptures. Pray to understand them, and try to follow the righteous examples you find there.

Read the Friend. In this magazine you can read stories, do activities, find family home evening ideas, and look for the hidden CTR ring!

Show love for your family. And don't forget to join in family home evening each week. This is a time you and your family can grow closer, learn about the gospel, play games, and share a great treat.

Keep the commandments. They are recorded in the scriptures and given to us by modern prophets, who speak for Heavenly Father.

Learn and live My Gospel Standards (printed in the *Faith in God* booklet; see also *Friend*, June 2006, 36). They will help you choose the right.

Keep your covenants—the promises you made when you were baptized (see Mosiah 18:8–9). Attend church so you can renew your covenants, learn, and build friendships.

Treat others kindly and serve them. You will feel the Savior's Spirit with you when you follow His example.

Be happy! Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ love you and have a plan for you.

That's something to smile about! ●

Guide to the Friend



The Guide to the Friend can help you find stories or articles for preparing lessons or talks for church or for family home evening. The Primary theme for October is "Latter-day prophets teach me the way to obtain God's promises."



Family Home Evening Ideas

Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned below.

1. Look at the illustration on page 3. What is the castle built upon? Have someone read Matthew 7:24–27. Sing "The Wise Man and the Foolish Man" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 281). Now read Helaman 5:12. Discuss how following the prophets, who speak for Jesus Christ, is like building our testimonies on a sure foundation. Finish by reading "Latter-day Prophets Speak" (p. 2) and having each family member point out one teaching that applies to him or her.

2. Read "Journey to Baptism" (pp. 18–19). Is someone in your family preparing for baptism, or recently baptized? Ask him or her to talk about the importance of baptism. No matter if your baptism was recent or a long time ago, you can continue to honor the covenant you made. Read the list "What to Do Now?" (p. 48) and have each family member pick one thing to work on that week. For an activity, play the game "Keeping Our Baptismal Covenant" (pp. 24–25).

3. Read "A Perfect Match" (pp. 20–22). Together, come up with a list of what really makes a family "match." Talk about how important love and respect are. Sit in a circle and have each family member say something they love and respect about the person to the right of them.

4. In "Canning Jars and Prophets" (pp. 38–39), Taylor learns that the prophet has asked us to store food for times of emergency. Have someone inside or outside your family teach the whole family how to can. Then, for an activity, can fresh fruit or vegetables for your food storage. Finish by reading "I Want to Follow the Prophet" (p. 7).

5. As a family, read "Family Home Evening with a Friend" (pp. 42–44). Then discuss the story. Is there someone in the ward who your family could share a family home evening with? Or perhaps some friends who don't go to church that might enjoy being included? Plan your next family home evening for someone who could benefit from it. You can even make it a dinner party using the recipes in Kitchen Krafts (p. 17).



The *Friend* can be found on the Internet at www.lds.org. Click on Gospel Library.

To subscribe online, go to www.ldscatalog.com.



Topical Index to this Issue of the *Friend*

(FLF) = For Little Friends
(f) = Funstuf
(IBC) = inside back cover
(IFC) = inside front cover
(v) = verse

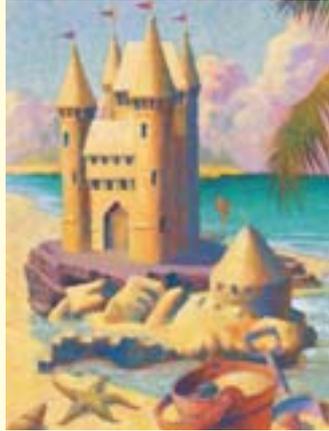
Baptism and Confirmation 4, 18, 24, 48
Book of Mormon IFC
Choose the Right 8, 24, 46, 48
Family IFC, 17, 20, 23 (f), 30, 34, 42
Family History IFC, 20, 23 (f)
Family Home Evening 38 (FLF), 42, 45 (f), IBC
Food Storage 38 (FLF)
General Conference 33, 40 (FLF)
Heavenly Father 2, 18, 24, 28, 46, 48
Holy Ghost 14, 18, 24
Jesus Christ 2, 4, 18, 24, 46, 48
Joseph Smith 10, 14, 23 (f)
Love and Kindness 20, 34, 42, 46
Missionary Work 34
My Gospel Standards IFC, 2, 4, 7 (v), 8, 14, 18, 24, 30, 40 (FLF), 42, 46, 48
Obedience 30
Prayer IFC, 8, 18, 48
Priesthood 8, 18
Profanity 46
Prophets 2, 7 (v), 10, 12, 14, 23 (f), 28, 32, 33, 38 (FLF), 40 (FLF), 44
Quorum of the Seventy 6, 8, 22
Quorum of the Twelve Apostles 13
Repentance 4, 30
Revelation 2, 14
Sacrament 4
Scriptures IFC, 14, 23 (f)
Temples 24
Testimony 2, 8, 18
Word of Wisdom 46

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What's in the *Friend* this month?



page 2

Read what latter-day prophets have said to the children of the Church.

page 18

Learn about the journey children take to prepare for baptism.



page 24

Play “Keeping Our Baptismal Covenant” with your family.

