Tips for getting ready to go to the temple
See page 47
Dear Friends,

Will you be turning 12 soon? On pages 24–25 you’ll see a sneak peek of what’s in store for you in Young Women and Young Men. Then turn to pages 45–47 to read about a girl’s first-ever visit to the temple and about a group of boys who know how special it is to receive the Aaronic Priesthood.

Write and share your experiences about turning 12!

Looking for your letter,

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.

A Friendly Family Garden

Our family made a family garden. We each had a flower with our picture on it, and we planted the flower in our family garden. We used old Friend magazines to cut out pictures of things that help us grow spiritually, and then we glued them to our flowers. We love reading the Friend as a family.

Phoenix, Davis, Marcus, and Taylor W., ages 3, 8, 5, and 1, Alberta, Canada

How We Read the Friend

Christopher, Alex, Emma, Jacob, and Jessa H., ages 9, 7, 11, 1, and 4, Utah.

CTR Surprise

We loved the CTR pretzels from the January 2012 Friend. We surprised our dad with breakfast in bed one day because he works so hard for us. They were delicious! Thank you!

Mayah and Asher S., ages 7 and 6, Denmark
Stories and Features

1. **Follow the Prophet**: A Lesson in Respect
2. **Things to Make and Do**: Spot the Differences
3. **Music**: I Love to See the Temple
4. **Verse**: Farm Visit
5. **For Little Friends**: Dear Amiga
6. **For Older Kids**: Nephi and Lehi in Prison
7. **Friend to Friend**: My Special Books / Elder Kent F. Richards
8. **IFC**: Abby’s Scripture Rock
9. **Bulletin Board**: Twice the Blessings
10. **Guide to the Friend**: Moving On from Primary
11. **Guide to the Temple**: I Know the Prophet’s Voice
12. **Guide to the Priesthood**: Can’t I Be Baptized Too?
13. **Guide to the Friend**: Twice the Blessings
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31. **IFC**: Abby’s Scripture Rock
32. **For Older Kids**: Nephi and Lehi in Prison
33. **For Little Friends**: Dear Amiga
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35. **For Older Kids**: Nephi and Lehi in Prison
36. **For Little Friends**: Dear Amiga
37. **IFC**: Abby’s Scripture Rock
38. **For Older Kids**: Nephi and Lehi in Prison
39. **For Little Friends**: Dear Amiga
40. **IFC**: Abby’s Scripture Rock
41. **For Older Kids**: Nephi and Lehi in Prison
42. **For Little Friends**: Dear Amiga
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44. **For Older Kids**: Nephi and Lehi in Prison
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47. **For Older Kids**: Nephi and Lehi in Prison
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49. **IFC**: Abby’s Scripture Rock
50. **For Older Kids**: Nephi and Lehi in Prison
51. **For Little Friends**: Dear Amiga
52. **IFC**: Abby’s Scripture Rock
53. **For Older Kids**: Nephi and Lehi in Prison
54. **For Little Friends**: Dear Amiga
55. **IFC**: Abby’s Scripture Rock
56. **For Older Kids**: Nephi and Lehi in Prison
57. **For Little Friends**: Dear Amiga
58. **IFC**: Abby’s Scripture Rock
59. **For Older Kids**: Nephi and Lehi in Prison
60. **For Little Friends**: Dear Amiga
When President Thomas S. Monson was young, people called him Tommy. As a deacon, Tommy watched the young men who were priests in the Aaronic Priesthood as they blessed the sacrament. One of the priests, Barry, had a very fine voice. Often, members of the ward told Barry how inspiring it was when he said the sacrament prayers.

Another young man named Jack was very hard of hearing. When he spoke, it was difficult for people to understand him, and he wasn’t given the assignment to say a sacrament prayer very often. When he did have a turn, thedeacons sometimes snickered about the way he spoke.

One Sunday, Barry and Jack sat at the sacrament table together. After the sacrament song they broke the bread, and then Barry knelt to pray. But nothing happened. Barry’s fine voice was silent. Tommy and the other deacons looked up to see what was causing the delay. Barry was frantically looking for the little white card with the sacrament prayers printed on it. He couldn’t find it, and his face flushed pink and then bright red. He couldn’t say the prayer without reading from the little card.

Jack nudged Barry back to his seat. Then he knelt and began to say the words of the sacrament prayer that he had carefully memorized. After the deacons passed the bread, Jack knelt again and offered the prayer on the water. He was prepared and willing to fulfill his calling in the priesthood.

That day Jack’s example touched the hearts of the ward members. Tommy and the other deacons gained great respect for Jack. Barry and Jack became friends. Jack didn’t have the finest voice, but he was prepared to do his duty because he had faithfully learned the sacred sacrament prayers by heart.

Adapted from an April 1999 general conference address.

A Lesson in RESPECT

By Heidi S. Swinton
Words from President Monson

“We know that some people are more talented than others. Some are more educated. Regardless of where we fit in the scheme of things, we all have the capacity to be great.”

From “In Quest of the Abundant Life,” a talk given at the Weber State University commencement, April 23, 2010.

Talk with someone in your family about why the sacrament prayers are important.

Courage to Do the Right Thing

When President Monson was growing up, he sometimes had to go to church by himself. His ward was just two blocks down the street from his house, so Tommy could walk there.

• When have you needed courage to do the right thing when you had to do it by yourself?

A Sacred Prayer

During the sacrament, the prayer on the bread is always given first. See if you can fill in the blanks. If you need help, use the word bank at the right, or check Doctrine and Covenants 20:77.

O God, the Eternal Father, we ask thee in the name of thy Son, Jesus Christ, to bless and __________ this bread to the souls of all those who __________ of it, that they may eat in remembrance of the body of thy Son, and __________ unto thee, O God, the Eternal Father, that they are willing to take upon them the name of thy Son, and always remember him and keep his __________ which he has given them; that they may always have his __________ to be with them. Amen.

Word Bank

Witness—promise
Partake—receive
Commandments—instructions
Spirit—Holy Ghost
Sanctify—make holy
How can Mike escape bad language on the bus?
By Amy Weir
(Based on a true story)

For my soul delighteth in the song of the heart; yea, the song of the righteous is a prayer unto me (D&C 25:12).

Mike winced as he heard Braden start telling a joke. Braden was saying the same bad word again and again. Mike wasn’t sure what to do. Mom had always told him that when other kids were using bad words he should either ask them to stop or just walk away. Mike asked Braden to stop, but Braden just ignored him. Because Mike’s seat on the bus was an assigned seat, he couldn’t walk away.

Mike sank down in his seat. He felt miserable. The more Braden talked, the worse Mike felt. He decided to try again. “Braden, could you stop . . .” But Braden just kept going with his joke. The bus had barely started its route, and Mike’s stop was one of the last.

Mike wondered how much trouble he would get in if he tried moving to a seat farther away from Braden. Just as he was getting ready to move, he had a thought. He knew that singing Primary songs in his mind had helped him before when he was scared. Could singing a song help now too? But even if Mike did sing a song, wouldn’t he still be able to hear Braden’s loud voice? As Braden started another joke, Mike decided it wouldn’t hurt to try.

“I am a child of God,” Mike sang in his mind, “and He has sent me here.” Braden was still talking, but Mike found that as he concentrated on the words of the song he was able to ignore Braden’s bad words. “Has given me an earthly home with parents kind and dear.”

Mike had a warm feeling in his heart. It felt like the song formed a kind of bubble around him. The bubble kept his good feelings in and bounced the bad words away. Even though Mike could still hear Braden’s voice, Braden’s words weren’t making him feel yucky anymore. The Holy Ghost was helping him feel better.

Mike finished the song and then sang it in his head a few more times before arriving at his bus stop. He ran off the bus and into his house. He was excited to tell Mom what he learned—that when you can’t get away from a bad situation, you can use good music to help your mind think of better things.
Why is it IMPORTANT that I follow JESUS CHRIST faithfully, no matter where I am?

Jesus Christ is the Only Begotten and Beloved Son of God.

He is our Creator. He is the Light of the World. He is our Savior from sin and death.

This is the most important knowledge on earth, and you can know this for yourself.

We are followers of Jesus Christ. There is no middle ground.

From “Teachings of Jesus,” Ensign, Nov. 2011, 93.
“Be of good cheer, and do not fear, for I the Lord am with you, and will stand by you.”

—Doctrine and Covenants 68:6
Abby was thrilled to help build the temple. But which scripture would she choose?
Inasmuch as my people build a house unto me in the name of the Lord . . . my glory shall rest upon it (D&C 97:15).

Abby stared at the pile of rocks on the table. Her Primary teacher, Sister Knecht, had set them down without any explanation. After the opening prayer, Sister Knecht put a beautiful illustration on the board. “Who can tell me what this is a picture of?”

“That’s what the Newport Beach California Temple is going to look like when it’s finished,” Abby said.

“That’s right, Abby. This is an artist’s drawing of the Newport Beach Temple.”

The temple had been announced last year, and Abby was excited for when it would be finished. She wasn’t old enough to participate in baptisms for the dead now, but she would be when the temple opened. She knew that having a temple so close was a special blessing. Some people had to travel days and days to get to a temple!

“Right now they’re laying the foundation for the temple,” Sister Knecht said. “The temple will be built on a strong foundation in case an earthquake happens.”

“Like it says in the song, ‘The wise man built his house upon a rock,’” Abby’s friend Hayley said.

“Exactly,” Sister Knecht said.

Sister Knecht held up one of the rocks. “This is a special rock,” she said. It was round and smooth and was about the size of Abby’s fist. Abby found rocks like this in the stream near her house. What was so special about a regular rock?

“This rock will be used in building part of the foundation for the temple. The architect has asked that each Primary child write his or her favorite scripture on one of these rocks before they are put in place.”

Abby grinned. She was thrilled to be a part of building the temple. But Abby liked lots of scriptures. She wasn’t sure which one she wanted to put on the rock.

“If you don’t know what you want to write on your rock yet, you can think about it during the week and write your scripture in class next week,” Sister Knecht said.

On her way home from church, Abby talked with her family about the temple. Her brothers and sisters were excited about the scripture rocks too.

“What scripture do you want to write on your rock, Abby?” her brother Nathan asked.

“I don’t know yet, but I want to pick a good one!” she said.

While she was reading her scriptures that night, Abby read, “I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded, for I know that the Lord giveth no commandments unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commandeth them.”

Nephi was talking about Heavenly Father’s instructions to return to Jerusalem for the brass plates. Abby knew that Heavenly Father wanted her to go to the temple. He was providing a way for her to do that by building a temple close to her home.

The next week Abby wrote 1 Nephi 3:7 on her rock and gave it back to Sister Knecht. Abby felt good inside. She knew that when the temple was finished, every time she went inside it she would think of her scripture rock. It felt good to be a part of building the temple. ✦
Spot the Differences

These children are visiting the grounds of the temple in Guayaquil, Ecuador. Even though they are not yet able to go inside the temple, they can still feel the Spirit. Can you find the 11 differences between the two pictures? Look very closely!
I Love to See the Temple

(Simplified)

Words and music by Janice Kapp Perry

Thoughtfully \( \frac{4}{4} \) = 80–88

1. I love to see the temple. I'm going there some day. To feel the Holy Spirit, To listen and to pray. For the temple is a house of God, A place of love and beauty. I'll prepare myself while I am young; This is my sacred duty.

Practice tip: Look for the markings over two Fs on the last line and practice holding those notes longer than usual.

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

This month’s good word is **gospel**. It means “good news.” It includes teachings of Jesus Christ, the Atonement, and the Resurrection. It also includes all of the other teachings (like the Word of Wisdom, repentance, and tithing) and ordinances (like baptism and confirmation, the sacrament, and temple sealing) that Heavenly Father has given us. Find the word **gospel** on page 14.

**Pasta Crafts**

In the Kitchen Crafts recipe this month you can make a yummy macaroni soup (page 28). You can also make colorful crafts with uncooked macaroni noodles.

- In a large, sealable plastic bag, put 1/4 cup of vinegar and a few drops of food coloring.
- Add half a pound of uncooked pasta noodles.
- Seal the bag and shake it until the noodles are coated.
- Wearing rubber gloves, remove the pasta from the bag and spread it out on waxed paper to dry.
- Repeat steps to make different colors of pasta.
- When the pasta is completely dry, you can use it to make colorful mosaics, decorate a picture frame, or string necklaces or bracelets. (Note: Once the pasta is colored, it is not edible, so don’t use it in your macaroni soup!)
Each month this year you can write a little bit of your own history in your journal. This month write about the first time you gave a talk in Primary.

What did you talk about?

Were you nervous or excited?

How did you feel afterward? If you don’t remember you can ask your parents.

If you haven’t given a talk in Primary yet, write down some things you could do to prepare for it.

“The words spoken at general conference should be a compass that points the way for us during the coming months. If we listen to and follow the promptings of the Spirit, they will serve as a Liahona, guiding us through the unknown, challenging valleys and mountains that are ahead.”

—President Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Second Counselor in the First Presidency

Fast Fact
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints now has more than 14 million members. So that members can have places to meet, new meetinghouses are being completed almost every day of the year!

The Nephite people gathered around the resurrected Savior and listened to His teachings. It was a wonderful blessing to have Jesus Christ visit them in the Americas after He had been crucified and then resurrected in Jerusalem. Jesus taught the Nephites about His gospel, as He had taught the Jews in the land of Palestine.

Jesus taught the Nephites about forgiveness and loving each other. He taught them about baptism. He blessed children and healed the sick. He chose twelve disciples to lead His Church. Jesus also let every person touch His hands and feet. They felt the wounds made by the soldiers when He was crucified so they would know He was truly the One who had died for them on the cross in Jerusalem.

After Jesus taught the Nephites many things, He sent His disciples to get bread and wine so He could teach the people about the sacrament. When the disciples returned, Jesus broke the bread into pieces and blessed it. The bread was first given to Jesus’s disciples and then to all the people.

Jesus explained that they should administer the sacrament like He did. The bread must be broken and blessed by someone who holds the priesthood, and then it is offered to members of His Church.

Jesus said that eating the bread of the sacrament was making a promise to Heavenly Father to always remember the body of Jesus and His sacrifice. He had suffered and died so everyone could repent and become clean again.

After the bread was offered to all of the Nephites, Jesus blessed the wine. He taught the people that they should drink the sacrament wine in remembrance of the blood He shed on the cross. They should be willing to keep His commandments and remember Him. When they did that, they would have His Spirit to be with them.

Jesus taught the Nephites that they should meet together often to pray and take the sacrament, and that they should pray together in their families. Jesus ordained His twelve disciples with priesthood authority so they could bless the sacrament for the people after He returned to heaven.
Sacrament Meeting

The Lord has directed that today we should drink water for the sacrament. Every Sunday, Church members meet in sacrament meeting to eat and drink the sacred bread and water. The sacrament is for people who believe in Jesus, have been baptized, and are living worthy lives. Children who are younger than eight and are preparing to be baptized and confirmed someday may also take the sacrament.
I’m not sure I have felt the Spirit like people talk about in church. How can I know when I am feeling the Holy Ghost?

I wasn’t sure if I had ever felt the Spirit. Then I went to the Atlanta Georgia Temple open house. When I was in the celestial room and sealing room, I had a really peaceful and happy feeling, and I knew it was the Holy Ghost.

Joseph T., age 8, Georgia

I feel the Spirit when I read my scriptures. I feel like Christ is with me. Listen closely to the testimonies in fast and testimony meeting. I always feel the Spirit when people share their belief in Christ.

Ashley W., age 10, Pennsylvania

We had just moved to a new state, and I was nervous. As I was walking into my new school, I said a prayer asking Heavenly Father to let the Holy Ghost be with me. I felt a warm feeling in my chest. If you don’t know if you are feeling the Holy Ghost, see if you feel a warm feeling inside. Everybody feels it differently. It’s easiest to feel it if you say a prayer or do something good.

Joshua S., age 8, North Dakota

The Holy Ghost gives me a special feeling when I need to bear my testimony. I sometimes feel it when people are giving talks in sacrament meeting. The Spirit fills me with love and peace, and I feel safe.

Abigail J., age 11, Idaho

I learned that when I feel joy and a desire to do good, the Holy Ghost is with me.

Debora W., age 11, Nevada

There are lots of ways to feel the Spirit. I have felt it in three ways. One way is a fuzzy feeling in my heart. A second way is feeling bad about something that is wrong. A third way is when I cry with joy. I am so grateful I have been baptized so I can feel the Spirit better. The Holy Ghost has definitely blessed my life in many, many ways.

Ella C., age 10, California

I remember asking the same question. The Holy Ghost doesn’t always come as a burning feeling in your heart. It sometimes comes as a quiet, comforting feeling.

Morgan M., age 13, Utah

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

Next Question

Heavenly Father sometimes helps me with small things, like finding something that is lost. But why does it seem like He doesn’t always help with bigger things, like healing someone who has a serious sickness?

Do you have some advice about this? Send us your answer and photo by October 31, 2012. Find our address on page 48 or e-mail us at friend@ldschurch.org. (Put “Question Corner” in the subject line.) Remember to include a parent’s permission!
Pick an apple from the tree,
One for you and one for me.

Pick a pumpkin from the ground.
It's too heavy! Put it down!

Pick some corn into a sack.
Toss it up and over your back.

Pick some eggs from under the hen.
Hold them as gently as you can.

Pick tomatoes from the bush.
If you drop them, they will mush.

Pick things high, pick things low.
Pick berries fast, pick melons slow.

Pick a pear, yellow and sweet.
I like to pick the food I eat!
Ten-year-old twin sisters Sophie and Elodie live in Madagascar. That’s a large island off the coast of Africa. Their family has a favorite true story. “The first time my father met with the missionaries, he knew the Church was true,” Elodie says. “He was an instant convert.” Their mother was baptized a few months later.

Before the girls were born, their parents fasted and prayed that they could have a girl. “And instead of one girl, Mama had two,” Sophie says.

It has been twice the blessings ever since!

Sophie and Elodie’s family saved money for three years to travel to the Johannesburg South Africa Temple to be sealed together. They had to travel more than 1,300 miles (2,100 km) and cross the Indian Ocean to get there.
Sophie and Elodie have two cats, and they love to cuddle with them.

In the Madagascar flag, white represents purity, red stands for independence, and green represents hope.

The girls’ mother has a medical clinic next to their home. They help sweep and keep it clean.

Lemurs and chameleons are two animals found in Madagascar.

The twins enjoy family home evening with their two brothers, their niece, and their father and mother.
Can’t I Be BAPTIZED Too?

Children shall be baptized for the remission of their sins when eight years old (D&C 68:27).

Nuno and Miriam, will you follow the example of Jesus Christ and be baptized next Saturday?” Sister Silva asked.

Paulo couldn’t believe his ears. The sister missionaries had just invited his 10-year-old brother and sister to be baptized!

“Yes! Yes!” the twins said happily.

Miriam couldn’t stop smiling. Nuno gave Sister Lopes a high-five. Grandmother beamed from her big red armchair in the corner.

For a few weeks the sister missionaries had been teaching Paulo and his siblings at Grandmother’s house, on the green, breezy island of São Miguel—1,000 miles (1,600 km) away from mainland Portugal. Paulo loved to open the top half of Grandmother’s front door and feel the sea breeze as he watched Sister Lopes and Sister Silva walk up the street to teach him about the gospel.

The sister missionaries said today would be a special lesson. Now Paulo knew why. Nuno and Miriam were going to be baptized, just like Jesus taught! Paulo also wanted to follow the Savior’s example.

“Sisters, can I be baptized next Saturday too?” he asked eagerly, holding his illustrated Book of Mormon closer to him.
Sister Silva smiled but shook her head. “I’m sorry, Paulo. The Lord has told us that we all need to be baptized but only after we turn eight years old. Because you are only six, you aren’t accountable for your choices yet.”

“But, sisters,” Paulo objected, “I have been praying and reading the Book of Mormon with my family, like you taught me. I go to Primary every week with Grandmother and Uncle Mário. I know the Church is true! Can’t I be baptized with Nuno and Miriam?”

“You have done such a good job living the commandments and learning about the gospel,” Sister Lopes said. “But you still need to wait two years before you can be baptized.”

Paulo’s throat started to burn, and hot tears filled his eyes. He jumped up and ran to his room in the attic, where he slept with his siblings.

After crying into his pillow for a few minutes, Paulo heard someone climbing the attic stairs. Uncle Mário sat down on Paulo’s bed.

“What happened, Paulo?” Uncle Mário asked.

“Sister Silva and Sister Lopes said I can’t get baptized, but Nuno and Miriam can,” Paulo said. “I want to be a member of the Church! I love singing the hymns in sacrament meeting and learning about the scriptures in Primary. I don’t want to be left behind.”

“Paulo, you can still be a part of the Church, even though you are not old enough to be baptized,” Uncle Mário said gently.

“How?” Paulo sniffed into his pillow.

“Well, you know that the Primary is preparing a sacrament meeting program,” Uncle Mário said. “Your Primary teacher told me she is looking for volunteers to bear their testimonies in the program. That is one way you can participate in church,” Uncle Mário explained.

“Really?” Paulo sat up and faced his uncle. He thought for a minute. “Maybe I could bear my testimony at Nuno and Miriam’s baptism too!”

“That’s a great idea!” Uncle Mário said. “Even though you are too young to be baptized, you can still have a testimony.”

Paulo hopped off his bed and hurried down the stairs.

“Where are you going, Paulo?” Uncle Mário called.

“I’m going to practice bearing my testimony to the missionaries!” Paulo called back happily. “I’m going to share it while I wait to be baptized!”
Conference Messages
By Chad E. Phares

Who speaks to us at general conference? To find the answer, follow the path of each letter to the circle at the bottom of the page. Write the letter in the circle. Find the answer on page 48.
The Spirit beareth record, and the record is true, and the truth abideth forever and ever (D&C 1:39).

The scriptures have always been very meaningful to me, and I have owned several different books of scripture throughout my life. When I turned eight, I received a new Book of Mormon from my Primary president. When I was 12, I received a triple combination from my grandfather. (A triple combination is a book that combines the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, and the Pearl of Great Price.) The book had belonged to his father, Elder George F. Richards, who had been a member of the Quorum of the Twelve. I took that book with me on my mission. It contained some of my great-grandfather’s markings, which were very special to me.

When my children were young, we read the scriptures together as a family. Recently, my wife found an old triple combination that we used for years in our family scripture study. She noticed that every page of the Book of Mormon had seven creases in it. That is because when we read together, we folded down the corner of each page as we finished it. The seven creases reminded us that we read the Book of Mormon seven times as a family. Each of our children took a turn reading a verse or two. When the youngest ones wanted to participate, they could say, “And it came to pass,” and then it was the next child’s turn.

It took us five years to read the Book of Mormon for the first time as a family, but we never quit. After we finished using the book with the creased pages, we all continued to read, study, and mark our own scriptures. When we read and study the scriptures often, we can grow closer to Heavenly Father and understand His message to us as His children. Through the scriptures, He teaches us sweet lessons that we can use as a guide for our lives.
Dear Primary young men,

When you turn 12, you will be old enough to receive the Aaronic Priesthood. This is very important. When God gives you His priesthood, He will be telling you He trusts you. It will be your sacred duty to serve others as the Savior would.

Now is the time to start preparing. Watch and listen to the priesthood holders around you as they bless and pass the sacrament, baptize, give blessings, serve missions, and lead families. Always do your best to live the gospel standards. Then you will be prepared for that great day when you will receive the Aaronic Priesthood.

Sincerely,
David L. Beck
Young Men general president
WHAT’S YOUNG WOMEN ALL ABOUT?

New Friends
Learning and having fun together
Supporting one another

Increasing Your Faith in Jesus Christ
Standing for truth and righteousness
Sharing your testimony

Personal Progress
New things to learn
Setting goals and growing in virtue

For the Strength of Youth
Standards to make you strong

Going to the Temple
Being baptized for those who have died
Feeling the Holy Ghost
Preparing to make covenants

Activities
Serving together
Mutual fun!

Preparing Yourself as a Daughter of God
To be a leader and a good example
To become a faithful wife and mother

Dear Primary young women,
We are so excited for the day when you will join Young Women! You are a precious daughter of Heavenly Father. In Young Women you will learn to stand as His witness at all times and in all things and in all places. You will receive a necklace to remind you to stand for truth and righteousness and let the Savior’s light shine to all the world. Your Personal Progress book will help you study the scriptures, set personal goals, and progress on the path to the temple. All these things will help you prepare to be a wife and mother and a great leader in the world.

Sincerely,
Elaine S. Dalton
Young Women general president
Hearken to the words of my servants the prophets, whom I sent unto you (Jeremiah 26:5).

Kinsey watched through the car window as soggy brown hills zoomed past. Patches of snow clung to the ground. Tiny green leaves dotted the barren trees, not quite ready for spring.

“Why does the drive to Grandma’s house take so long?” Kinsey complained.

“Just a few more minutes,” Dad said.

“Why don’t you play a game?” Mom suggested.

“I already played the alphabet game and the license-plate game,” Kinsey said. “I colored pictures in my notebook and made paper animals. I’m bored!”

Kinsey pressed her nose against the car window. She glanced at her little brother, Taylor, asleep in his car seat. Even though she was bored, Kinsey was too excited to sleep. She hadn’t seen Grandma in so long. Grandma would have new books for her to read. They would gather at Aunt Michelle’s house for a family dinner with all the cousins. Most of all, Kinsey looked forward to a whole weekend of spending time with Grandma.

“Oh! It’s already started,” Mom said as she turned on the radio.

A clear, calm voice came from the speakers. Kinsey sat a little taller. She closed her eyes and tried to think. Where had she heard that voice before? Suddenly, she remembered.

“I know that voice!” she said with a smile. “It’s the prophet!”

Kinsey loved the prophet’s voice. It was strong and peaceful and kind. When the prophet spoke, it felt as if he were talking right to her. She listened closely to his words.

The prophet announced new temples being built in faraway parts of the world. Kinsey thought about all the people who would now be closer to a beautiful temple.

The prophet talked about missionaries. Kinsey remembered the letters they wrote in Primary for an older couple from their ward serving a mission in Slovenia.

The prophet talked about being kind to others. Kinsey thought about how she had been trying hard to be kind to her brother, even when he grabbed her toys or scribbled with her markers.

Finally, the prophet talked about families. Kinsey thought about how much she loved visiting her family at general conference time.

“We’re here!” Dad announced.

Kinsey looked out the window. How did they get to Grandma’s so fast?

“Let’s hurry inside so we don’t miss any more of conference,” Mom said.

Kinsey ran up the steps and rang the doorbell to Grandma’s house. The drive hadn’t been boring after all!
The ride to Grandma’s seemed so long. Then Kinsey recognized the voice on the radio.

“What a comfort it is to know that the Lord keeps a channel of communication open to His children through the prophet. What a blessing it is to know we have a voice we can trust to declare the will of the Lord.”

Elder L. Tom Perry of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles
1. Bring 8 cups of water to a boil and cook the macaroni for 8–10 minutes. Drain and set aside. Make sure to save the cheese sauce packet for later.
2. In another large pot, bring the remaining water, broccoli, and onion to a boil. Cook for 2 minutes.
3. Add the soup, milk, ham, and cheese sauce packet to the water, broccoli, and onion. Heat well.
4. Stir in the drained macaroni and serve.

**Fun Fact**

Here’s how you say “macaroni and cheese” in other languages.

- **Portuguese**: macarrão com queijo
- **Swedish**: makaroner och ost
- **Croatian**: makaroni i sir
- **Danish**: makaroni og ost
- **Spanish**: macarrones con queso
- **German**: Makkaroni und Käse
- **French**: macaroni au fromage
- **Italian**: maccheroni al formaggio
- **Finnish**: makaronia ja juustoa
General Conference Word Search

| APOSTLES | O J U H A D A A U F A P O S Y K | A W G L G K G Y T H P F H C W O |
| FIRST PRESIDENCY | C O N F E R E N C E C E N T E R | R I O H C E L C A N R E B A T S |
| PROPHET | S G N I H C A E T N D W Q N X A | R B M I S M D A B I O V I T T L |
| CONFERENCE CENTER | O X T E M P L E S Q U A R E E P T | F S F S Y S C E D V T A S H Y L |
| SUSTAIN | G L S R T Y K S Y M R W W R D E | T C E S M S G G O C Z I R P A C |
| TABERNACLE CHOIR | S R R C L P O N R H Q G Q C M I | A I K T Y O I P F I I H U P Y T |
| TEACHINGS | F K O X G E A K A O X M I I F Y | Z Q D Y S Q F C K D W T R K C C |
| TEMPLE SQUARE | | |
| TESTIMONIES | | |

**RUN, JUMP, PLAY!**

**MIRROR, MIRROR**

Play this game with two people. Stand facing each other. One person pretends he or she is looking into a mirror. The other person is the mirror image and imitates all of the other person’s actions. Do different movements and make silly faces. Take turns being the mirror. How long can you play without laughing?

Illustrations by Rebecca Miller

**WAY TO BE**

How about a game of checkers?
That's right.

They said in sacrament meeting that we’ll be getting a new bishop next week.

Matt, why the big frown?

That's right.

But I want you to keep being my bishop. What if the new one isn't good enough or smart enough?

He won't be! And neither was I. No one ever is.

But . . .

Anyone who tries to do any Church calling by his own power will fail. No matter how good or clever he is.

But anyone who seeks only to do the Lord's will cannot fail.

Matt, the new bishop will be called of God, and he'll do just fine.

I'll pray for the new bishop to have the Lord's help.

So will I.
We receive the ordinances of salvation through the priesthood.

All they who receive this priesthood receive me, saith the Lord (D&C 84:35).
Dressing like a Deacon

By Hilary M. Hendricks
(Based on a true story)

1. Sunday was Eli’s birthday. He was four years old.

   In four more years, you will be baptized.

2. Later, Mom helped Eli change from his pajamas into his church clothes.

   And four years after that, you will be a deacon, and you will be able to pass the sacrament.

3. Do deacons wear superhero pants to church?

   No. Deacons wear nice pants.

4. Do deacons wear superhero shirts to church?

   No. Deacons wear white shirts and ties.
I want to wear a white shirt and nice pants. I want to dress like a deacon.

5. Mom helped Eli put on his nice pants, a white shirt, and a tie.

6. At church, Eli folded his arms as he watched the deacons pass the sacrament.

7. When a deacon brought Eli the sacrament, Eli took a piece of bread and then handed the tray to Mom.

8. Mom smiled at Eli. He was happy to help. He couldn’t wait until he could be a deacon.
Hidden Pictures

Eli wants to dress like a deacon. Help him find the things in his room that will help him dress like a deacon.
Nephi and Lehi in Prison

and were who taught the gospel to and

They did not have for many days. Some wanted to hurt and, but a circle of protected and. The began to shake. A dark came over the. The were afraid. A voice told the to repent and to not hurt and.

The faces of and shone in the darkness. They were talking to.

The prayed and repented, and the dark disappeared. The looked up and saw. These were happy.

Some went with and to help teach the gospel to other.
By Lauren Mortenson
(Based on a true story)

By love serve one another (Galatians 5:13).

Jane was happy.
Today was the big race. Jane had practiced for the race with her brother Ben every day.
“I’m so excited!” Jane said.
Ben did not look excited.
“What’s wrong? Are you nervous?” Jane asked Ben.
“Yes,” Ben said. “Can Dad run for me?”
“This race is only for children,” Mom said.
“I will cheer for you,” Dad said.
Jane put her arm around Ben.
“This will be fun,” Jane said.
“You will do great.”
Jane and Ben got in the car. Mom and Dad drove them to the race.
Jane and Ben stood at the starting line. Jane was excited. Her heart beat fast.

Thump-thump. Thump-thump.
Thump-thump.
“On your mark. Get set. Go!”
Jane started running. Many children ran. It felt good to run fast.
Jane looked for Ben. She could not see him. He was in last place.
“Come on, Ben!” Jane said. “You can do it!”
Jane ran back to Ben. Jane held Ben’s hand. Jane and Ben ran together.
Jane was slower now, but she was happy. She loved to help Ben.
Jane and Ben finished the race together.
“Thank you,” Ben said. “You ran slow for me.”
“That is OK,” Jane said. “We are still winners!”

Don’t worry. I’ll give you a hand, and we’ll be done in plenty of time.

I’ll never finish my chores in time for the soccer game.

Illustration by Elise Black

October 2012 37
**Fall**

Fall is here—a beautiful season. God surely made it for a reason. In November there’s Thanksgiving. Thank our God that we are living. Let’s be thankful on this day. “Thank Thee, God,” we should say. The reds of fall will turn to brown; All the leaves will then fall down. Then winter will come with its snow; Another season God made, you know.

*Rachel N., age 11, Virginia*

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I watched general conference in April 2011 and drew a picture of each speaker. I colored their ties.

*Katie S., age 5, Utah*

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In the April 2011 general conference Elder David A. Bednar talked about revelation. I drew this picture because he said sometimes revelation is like a sunrise.

*Regan L., age 9, Ohio*

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I drew this picture during the April 2011 general conference while listening to Elder Richard G. Scott. I liked his story about holding his little boy during the night.

*Oakley R., age 9, Idaho*

---

Daniela L. and Scarlett, Madeline, and Stella N., ages 10, 9, 8, 7, California, visited the San Diego Temple grounds and enjoyed meeting the senior missionary who showed them pictures of the inside of the temple. They also visited the Mormon Battalion Historic Site. It was a special day, and their testimonies were strengthened.

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Kaden B., age 7, Washington, memorized all thirteen Articles of Faith last year. He likes to read and play sports. His family is reading the Book of Mormon, and he enjoys family home evening. He is looking forward to being baptized.
During general conference I drew pictures of some of the different things mentioned.
Abe T., age 10, Utah

My nana is also my Primary president. She came on New Year’s Eve to celebrate with my family and help me complete my goals for Faith in God because I turn 12 soon. I am thankful for her and my parents, and for the Faith in God program. It has helped me prepare for Young Women, memorize the Articles of Faith, and perform service that makes me feel good.
Zoie J., age 11, South Carolina

Soon after we moved to India, a boy began bullying us. We were around him a lot because we lived in the same neighborhood, rode the same bus to school, and played on the same soccer team. We know that Jesus taught us to love our enemies and pray for people who are not kind to us. For many weeks we tried to be nice to the bully, and we prayed that he would be our friend. We asked him to be our friend one time, and he finally said yes. After that we had fun playing together.
Spencer and Zachary W., ages 9 and 7, India

I am going to be turning 12 soon. My parents encouraged me to not only learn about the Aaronic Priesthood, but to also read my scriptures every day so my testimony will grow. When I read the scriptures and pray I feel good inside, and I know I am making a good choice. I know that if you read the scriptures and say daily prayers, your testimony can grow too.
Brayden L., age 11, Nevada

My friend invited me to a birthday party during the Saturday morning session of general conference. It was really hard to choose whether to listen to general conference or go to the party. I had a feeling I should listen to conference, so I did. It’s a good thing I did because I had to give a talk in our Primary program on what President Monson said in conference. Since I had decided to listen to conference, I was able to hear the prophet so I could do my talk.
Katie J., age 9, Utah

Logan, Vaughn, Royce, and Sawyer P., ages 11, 9, 7, and 4, Tennessee, enjoy designing their family’s Halloween costumes. They like working together to pick a theme. The boys also enjoy Scouts, piano, band, riding bikes, and playing games.
When Joseph Smith was translating the Book of Mormon, he and his scribe Oliver Cowdery had a question. They went into the woods to pray about it. While they were praying, “a messenger from heaven descended in a cloud of light.” This messenger was John the Baptist. He laid his hands on Joseph’s and Oliver’s heads and gave them the Aaronic Priesthood. John the Baptist then commanded Joseph and Oliver to baptize each other. A short time later, the Apostles Peter, James, and John came to earth and ordained Joseph and Oliver to the Melchizedek Priesthood. God’s priesthood was on the earth again. (See Joseph Smith—History 1:68–72.)

Through the priesthood we can receive wonderful blessings and ordinances. Such blessings include those given to newborn babies, to the sick, and to children by their fathers or other worthy priesthood holders. We must also receive certain priesthood ordinances to return to Heavenly Father. Some of these ordinances include baptism by immersion, receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost, and sacred temple ordinances that can seal families together forever. Also in the temple, ordinances can be performed for people who have died without the blessings of the gospel. Blessings of the priesthood are available to all!

**Song and Scripture**

- Choose a song about the priesthood from the *Children’s Songbook*.
- Doctrine and Covenants 84:35
CTR ACTIVITY
The Priesthood Helps People
The priesthood is God’s power to serve and bless people through ordinances and blessings. In these pictures, draw yourself into the scene.

Just You
In the Pearl of Great Price, turn to Joseph Smith—History 1:68–73. Use those verses to help you fill in the blanks below. On another piece of paper, write down other things you learn from reading these verses. See answers on page 48.

1. “The Priesthood of Aaron . . . holds the keys of the ministering of __________, and of the gospel of __________.”
2. __________ was the first to be baptized.
3. Oliver Cowdery baptized __________.
4. John the Baptist acted under the direction of __________, __________, and __________.
5. Peter, James, and John later conferred the __________ Priesthood upon Joseph and Oliver.

Priesthood holders bless and pass the sacrament. Draw yourself on the bench, ready to take the sacrament.

Priesthood blessings can be administered to the sick. Draw yourself in bed, not feeling well.

Families can be sealed together through temple ordinances. Draw your family in front of the temple.

Baptism and receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost are priesthood ordinances. Draw yourself standing in front of the font.
Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord (James 5:14).

See you later!” Patrick waved to the missionaries as they left his house. He always liked the feeling he had when the missionaries came over—it was a warm, good feeling.

The missionaries had been coming to Patrick’s house a lot lately. They were teaching his family about Joseph Smith, the Book of Mormon, the priesthood, and all sorts of other things about The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Patrick and his mom had even gone to church with them. Patrick liked Primary because they sang and colored and listened to stories.
“If Mom and Dad join the Church, I can go to Primary every Sunday,” Patrick thought happily.

Mom was excited about the Church and all the things the missionaries taught. But Dad just seemed to listen because Mom wanted him to. After the missionaries taught Patrick how to pray, he knelt down every night and prayed that Dad would want to go to church.

One evening, Patrick saw Dad lying on the couch. He didn’t look so good.

“Dad, are you OK?” Patrick asked.

“Sure, buddy,” Dad said. “I just have a little stomachache. I’ll be fine.”

Patrick didn’t think Dad looked fine. He went to find Mom.

After feeling Dad’s forehead, Mom suggested they go to the emergency room.

“No, I’ll be OK. I just need to—” Dad groaned and scrunched up into a ball as a look of pain came over his face.

Patrick was worried. Then he thought of something. “Why don’t we call the missionaries?” he said. “Maybe they can give Dad a blessing.”

Patrick had learned about blessings when the missionaries had taught them about the priesthood. He knew the priesthood was the power to act in the name of God and that someone with the priesthood could heal the sick, just like Jesus did in the Bible.

Mom looked at Dad. When he nodded his head, she went to call the missionaries. A little while later there was a knock at the door. The missionaries said hello to Patrick and Mom. Then they went straight to where Dad was lying on the couch. The missionaries took out a small container of consecrated oil and placed a drop on Dad’s head. Then they placed their hands gently on his head and gave him a blessing.

After the blessing, Dad was smiling and had tears in his eyes. He didn’t look like he was in pain anymore. Dad sat up and shook the missionaries’ hands.

“Thank you,” Dad said.

Patrick smiled too. That warm, good feeling was back, and he knew Dad was going to be OK.

The next morning, Patrick was excited when he realized it was Sunday. As he and Mom got ready for church, Patrick saw Dad standing in front of a mirror, tying his tie. He was going to church with them!

“Ready for church, buddy?” Dad asked Patrick.

“You bet!”

Patrick felt happier than ever before. He silently thanked Heavenly Father for answering his prayers and for sending two missionaries with the power of the priesthood to bless his family.

One day I had been feeling very sick, and my dad offered to give me a priesthood blessing. He put the oil on my head and gave me a healing blessing. That night I slept well. The next morning I was able to eat some breakfast and read the scriptures with my family. I felt new and fresh. I said a prayer of gratitude. I know that the priesthood is powerful, and I am grateful my dad holds the priesthood.

Anna N., age 10, Kentucky

ILLUSTRATIONS BY MARK ROBISON
Dear Amiga,

Hello from Mexico! I was excited to get your letter and hear about your birthday coming up. It sounds like you’re a little nervous about leaving Primary. Can I tell you about when I went into Young Women?

I was nervous about leaving Primary too. I was worried that I might not make any friends. I was scared of being one of the youngest girls instead of one of the oldest.

But it all worked out just fine. The bishop interviewed me before my birthday and told me the change would be a good thing. On Sunday, I still felt shy and stayed in the Primary room. Luckily, one of the Young Women leaders found me there. She said, “I thought I would find you here! Come on, it's time to go to class.”

Sister Diaz welcomed me in opening exercises, and she gave me three books that I’ve come to love: For the Strength of Youth, Young Women Personal Progress, and a journal. As I looked around the room, I realized that I knew some of the girls there from Primary. Some of the girls I didn’t know said hi to me. Soon I felt peace instead of fear.

Things just kept getting better after that. Mutual activities have been special to me because they’ve taught me how to live the gospel and how to help my family and friends. And going to camp each year is so much fun! Now that I’m a Laurel, I hope to finish Personal Progress soon. I can’t wait to wear the Young Women medallion so it can remind me of how much closer I have grown to my Heavenly Father over the years.

So don’t be fearful, my friend. Spread your wings and fly to Young Women. I promise you won’t be sorry.

Love,
Maribel
Do you live in an area where the trees change color to get ready for the winter? These four friends do. Noah B., Dylan L., Patrick M., and Ben M. all live on Prince Edward Island off the east coast of Canada. Like the trees, these boys are getting ready for a new season of life. They are all turning 12 within a year of each other, and that means saying good-bye to Primary and hello to Young Men. Here’s what they had to say about growing up and moving on.

Be Yourself
When Noah moved here, his new friends helped him adjust to life on the island. Now, as the oldest in the group, he’s helping them get used to life in Young Men. “I was worried about being accepted and getting to know the others,” Noah said. “Going to the activities really helped.” Noah’s favorite Primary song is about the army of Helaman, and that’s how he sees the priesthood quorum—as being together, united.

His advice? “Be yourself.”

Respect the Priesthood
For Patrick, getting the priesthood is not about turning a certain age. It’s about being worthy and prepared. “You don’t get the priesthood just because you’re 12,” Patrick said. “You have to be prepared.”

Dylan understands how important preparation is. He tries to get to church 15 minutes early to spiritually prepare to pass the sacrament. “I’ve passed the sacrament three or four times, and each time the Spirit touches my heart. I don’t think I’ll ever get used to it,” he said.

Ben said that passing the sacrament reminds him of the Last Supper: “Jesus was standing there. We’re standing where Jesus was, and He wants us to be there.”

Look to the Temple
Ben is working on earning his Faith in God Award and is looking forward to doing baptisms for the dead for the first time. “I haven’t been inside the temple yet, but other people always give testimonies about how warm and good they feel after they go,” Ben said.

Noah went on his first visit to the temple recently. He said that the other young men he traveled with treated him like family. “You might feel nervous, but there will be people there to help you,” he said. “You will feel welcome.”
Outside it was foggy and drizzly. But Juliana J. of Hatchet Lake, Nova Scotia, Canada, didn’t mind. She was feeling very warm inside as she and her family walked around the Halifax Nova Scotia Temple. She had just finished doing baptisms for the dead for her first time.

Going to the temple was actually the main reason Juliana had been excited to turn 12. Her older sisters and brother had been telling her about it for a long time, and she couldn’t wait to feel the Spirit there for herself.

But when her 12th birthday came, Juliana and her family were on vacation. When they stopped to see the Salt Lake Temple, she didn’t have her recommend yet, so she couldn’t go inside. Big disappointment!

On her first Sunday back home, Juliana made sure she had her recommend interview with her bishop. Then she had to wait a few more weeks until it was her ward’s Mutual temple visit.

Finally, the special day came. Juliana got dressed in her Sunday clothes. Her oldest sister helped by braiding Juliana’s long hair. Juliana’s family went with her to the temple. “She was so excited, she was vibrating!” her mom said.

Afterward, Juliana and her family walked around the temple together taking pictures. That’s a family tradition, come rain or snow. It’s a tradition that Juliana looks forward to repeating many more times.

For a school assignment, she had to write about something she was excited about. She wrote about going to the temple.

Juliana has finished her first two Personal Progress goals.
Juliana’s Tips for Getting Ready for the Temple

1. Temple recommend interviews aren’t scary. After your bishop asks you about things like paying tithing and following the Word of Wisdom, it gives you a good feeling to know you’re worthy and ready to go to the temple.

2. Dress in nice clothing you would wear to church. It’s reverent.

3. Wear your hair in a nice, simple hairstyle to keep it from getting tangled.

4. Before you go, think about the importance of what you’re going to be doing. One of my sisters told me to think about the people who have been waiting to have their baptisms done.

5. If you have a special question or problem, think and pray about it before and while you’re in the temple.

6. While you’re in waiting areas of the temple, take time to look at the pictures on the walls, read the scriptures, and let the spirit of the temple sink into your heart.

7. Go often! My ward goes on the fourth Thursday of each month. Even if you can’t go that often, go as often as you can. You might find that your life goes more smoothly when you do.

8. If you have questions or are concerned about going to the temple, talk to someone who has already gone.

Her favorite Primary song is “We’ll Bring the World His Truth,” and her favorite scripture is the Lord’s Prayer.

Juliana is a horse fanatic. On a family vacation, she counted 5,004 of them!
Possible Ideas for Family Home Evening

1. Read “Jesus Administers the Sacrament” (pages 14–15). Talk about why the sacrament is important. Make lists of things to think about during the sacrament that can remind you of what Jesus Christ did for us and that will help you to stay reverent.

2. As a family, read “Abby’s Scripture Rock” (pages 8–9). Have everyone take turns reading his or her favorite scripture out loud and explaining why it is their favorite. Then use chalk or permanent marker to decorate your own scripture rocks!

3. Read “Moving On from Primary” (pages 24–25) and talk about what parts of Young Men and Young Women you are excited about. Look in Young Women Personal Progress or Fulfilling My Duty to God to find some activities you could do.

4. Use the Bringing Primary Home lesson and activity to learn more about this month’s Primary theme (pages 40–41).

5. Read “Patrick and the Priesthood” (pages 42–43). Talk about different ways the priesthood blesses your lives.

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

**Stones**

**Brother of Jared**

**Jesus Christ**

**Barges**

**THE JAREDITES ARE LED TO THE PROMISED LAND**

Ether 1–3; 6

ILLUSTRATIONS BY BETH WHITTAKER
Do you like taking photos? We’d like to see your best shots about how Heavenly Father blesses your life. E-mail them to friend@ldchurch.org and include your name, age, and where you’re from. Please also include a sentence explaining how your picture shows Heavenly Father’s blessings in your life. Remember, we can’t publish your submission without a parent’s permission in the e-mail. If there are people in the photo, we also need to know that they gave their permission to be photographed. We’re looking forward to seeing Heavenly Father’s blessings through your eyes!

What’s online?

How many of the “I Can Play It!” songs have you learned so far? Visit friend.lds.org and click “I Can Play It!” to find the sheet music and listen to every song published this year, including October’s song, “I Love to See the Temple.”

Did you know there are now 45 “One in a Million” videos available in ten languages? Visit friend.lds.org and click on “One in a Million” to get to know new friends around the world.