

# OUR SPACE



## WORKING THROUGH MY FAMILY TRIALS

By Silvia C., Umbria, Italy

**A**fter my parents were divorced, it was a hard time in my life. Going to church usually made me feel better, but it hurt me to hear talks on families

because I didn't believe I had one.

My mother was less active and remarried.

My father was an atheist and lived with another woman. Both of them had children with their new partners, and I felt

like a weight—an error—as if I didn't count for anything.

So I began to pray, read the scriptures, meditate, and tried to keep going to church. But I couldn't help but wonder: What would I do in the next life without my family sealed in the temple?

The answers didn't come right away, but they did come. I looked up the definition of *family* and read scripture verses on the subject, and I started seeing the brighter side of things. Instead of thinking that I didn't have a family, I learned that I could help bring God's children into

the Church as a missionary. I learned to exercise patience and to be a light. I tried to better myself. I also realized that without a family like mine, I may not have developed the faith that I have, and I wouldn't value the law of chastity and the plan of salvation as I do now.

I've come to understand that I *do* have a family, and I am thankful for my new and larger family. It has been hard, but I don't worry about what will happen to my family after death. I trust in God, and He knows why we aren't sealed. He knows how much I love them and what's best for me. We can't understand everything, so it's important to have faith in God to sustain us and help us know that everything will turn out OK. ■