

Picturing Myself IN THE TEMPLE

A good-looking guy from work asked me out, but he was not a member of the Church, and I had a goal to marry in the temple.

By Adriane Franca Leao

As a young girl, I dreamed of being part of a forever family. I was 12 years old when my family was sealed in the São Paulo Brazil Temple. I perfectly remember kneeling with my family at the temple altar and being sealed with my siblings to our parents for time and for all eternity. I knew then that this was the type of family I wanted. I placed a picture of the São Paulo Temple beside my bed, and I looked at it every night, renewing my commitment to have nothing less than an eternal family.

Several years later I was working in the commercial department of a large company. One day our manager introduced me to a new employee. He was a tall young man with gorgeous blue eyes, an easy smile, and a great sense of fashion.

I could hardly believe it when he later began to flirt with me. I felt on top of the world! On our first date, I was excited to find out that he was a drummer in a band that was experiencing some success. I also discovered that he smoked and drank, but



I reasoned that, since he was not a member of the Church, it was not wrong for him.

That night when I arrived home, my thoughts were full of that beautiful young man. But as I knelt to pray, I saw my picture of the temple, and a strange feeling came over me. I ignored it and went to sleep.

The next day, when we went out together, the fact that he drank and smoked gave me a bad feeling. I was ashamed to be seated at a table with drinks, even though I hadn't touched any of them. I felt first excited and then frustrated when he tried to kiss

me. When I smelled the cigarettes and alcohol on his breath, that kiss didn't make it past an attempt!

I knelt beside my bed to pray that night, looking at the picture of the temple. I reflected that this young man was not the type of person who could take me to the temple for an eternal marriage.

I lay down and slept, but not before happily thinking about my goal of marrying a worthy young man with whom I could establish an eternal family.

Even though the drummer was still attractive, his romantic look no longer impressed me. I knew the type of marriage I wanted.

A year later I was married in the São Paulo Temple to a worthy priesthood holder whom I love. It was worth waiting for a faithful young man who could receive with me that wonderful blessing from the Lord. **NE**

To buy your own picture of the temple, visit store.lds.org. Click the "Music, Media, and Art" tab and then click "Temple Pictures."