

the Friend

AUGUST 2002



Tornado!



I had a feeling. I asked my father to say a prayer that a tornado would not hit our house. He said, “Don’t worry—tornados never come to this area.”

I kept asking him, and finally, with my mother, we prayed and asked Heavenly Father to make sure that a tornado would not hit our house.

Two days later, while we were at church, a tornado touched down very close to our house. After church, we drove by my school and saw trees had been torn down. Heavenly Father heard our prayer. I am grateful for prayer.

*Caitlin Kingi, age 5
Berkeley Heights, New Jersey*

Friend Fan



I really like the *Friend*. I especially like the activities and all the different stories. I look forward to getting it every month. My favorite article I have read is “Pray Always,” in the July 2001 issue. My favorite activity is hidden pictures. They are challenging, and my sisters bug me if I get to it before they do, so they like it, too. Thanks so much for making the *Friend* enjoyable.

*Dane Layton, age 11
Centerville, Utah*

Violets and an Apology



Last summer, I was playing on the sidewalk when a neighbor boy was teasing a good friend of mine. At first, I didn’t say anything. After a while, I started to tease my friend, too, and I hurt her feelings. I knew what I had done was very wrong.

I went home and talked to my mom. She helped me clean up and fix my hair. Then I got dressed in my Sunday clothes and picked some violets from our flower garden. We went to my friend’s house, and I gave her the flowers and told her I was very sorry.

I felt much better after I apologized, and I smiled all the way home.

*Austin Hamon-Poulsen, age 6
Hillspring, Alberta, Canada*

**Volume 32 Number 8
August 2002**

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the *Friend*

A children's magazine published by
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Stories and Features

- IFC Childviews
- 2 Come Listen to a Prophet's Voice; "As a Little Child" / President Thomas S. Monson
 - 4 Grandma's Doll
 - 7 Special Witness: To Save Our Ancestors / Elder David B. Haight
 - 8 Friend to Friend: The Witness of the Holy Ghost / Elder Robert S. Wood
 - 10 New Testament Stories: The Pharisee and the Publican; Jesus Blesses the Children
 - 14 Fully-Charged Flashlight
 - 18 Our Creative Friends
 - 20 Making Friends: Cameron Blackwell of Jeffersonville, Indiana
 - 32 Sharing the Harvest
 - 35 Friends in the News
 - 36 Sharing Time: "The Heart of the Children"
 - 40 Trying to Be Like Jesus Christ
 - 42 From the Life of President Harold B. Lee: His Eternal Family
 - 44 Service through Temple Work (poster article)
 - 46 Finding Grandpa Oskar
- IBC Guide to the *Friend*

For Little Friends

- 28 Stacy's Prayer
- 29 Smiley O'Reilly
- 30 The Lord's Temple
- 31 Boat Salad

Verse

- 26 Slugger

Things to Make and Do

- 17 Temple Cards
- 23 Funstuf
- 24 Temple Time
- 39 Journal Page
- 48 Funstuf

Cover by Paul Mann

Hidden Word

Family history: This work involves finding the stories and records of our ancestors so that we may get to know them and perform for them the saving ordinances of baptism, confirmation, the temple endowment, and being sealed as a family. This term is found in "Finding Grandpa Oskar," Funstuf, Special Witness, "Grandma's Doll," "Service Through Temple Work," and Sharing Time in this issue. See how many times you can find it.

Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord (Psalm 127:3).

“As a Little Child”



President Thomas S. Monson loves children. He has called on grown-ups everywhere to follow the example of Jesus Christ by always treating children with love and respect.

During the Galilean ministry of our Lord and Savior, the disciples came unto Him, saying: “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”

“And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them,

“And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

“Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

“And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.” (Matthew 18:1–5.) . . .

[On another occasion,] when the disciples of Jesus attempted to [stop] the children from approaching the Lord, He declared:

“Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

“Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

“And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.” (Mark 10:14–16.)

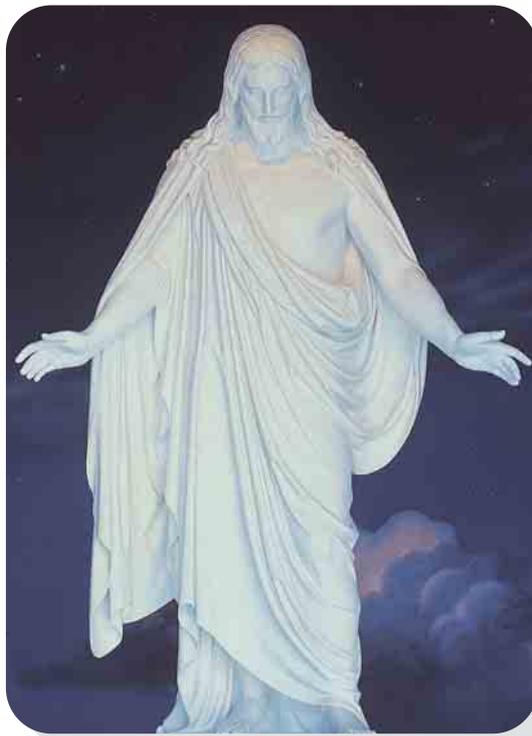
What a magnificent pattern for us to follow. . . .

Several years ago, I received a letter from a

woman who . . . was ever so anxious for her husband, who as yet was not a member of the Church, to share the joy she felt.

She wrote of a trip which she, her husband, and their three sons made from the family home to Grandmother's home in Idaho. While driving through Salt Lake City, they were attracted by the message which appeared on a billboard. The message invited them to visit Temple Square. Bob, [her] husband, made the suggestion that a visit would be pleasant. The family entered the visitors' center, and Father took two sons up a ramp that one called “the ramp to heaven.”

Mother and three-year-old Tyler were a bit behind the others, they having paused to appreciate the beautiful paintings which adorned the walls. As they walked toward the magnificent sculpture of Thorvaldsen's *Christus*, tiny Tyler bolted from his



mother and ran to the base of the Christus, while exclaiming, “It’s Jesus! It’s Jesus!” As Mother attempted to restrain her son, Tyler looked back toward her and his father and said, “Don’t worry. He likes children.” . . .

As I read this account, I thought of the statement from the book of Isaiah: “And a little child shall lead them” (Isaiah 11:6).

The words of a Primary hymn express the feelings of a child’s heart:

Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear,

Things I would

ask him to tell me if he were here.

Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,

Stories of Jesus, tell them to me.

Oh, let me hear how the children stood round his knee.

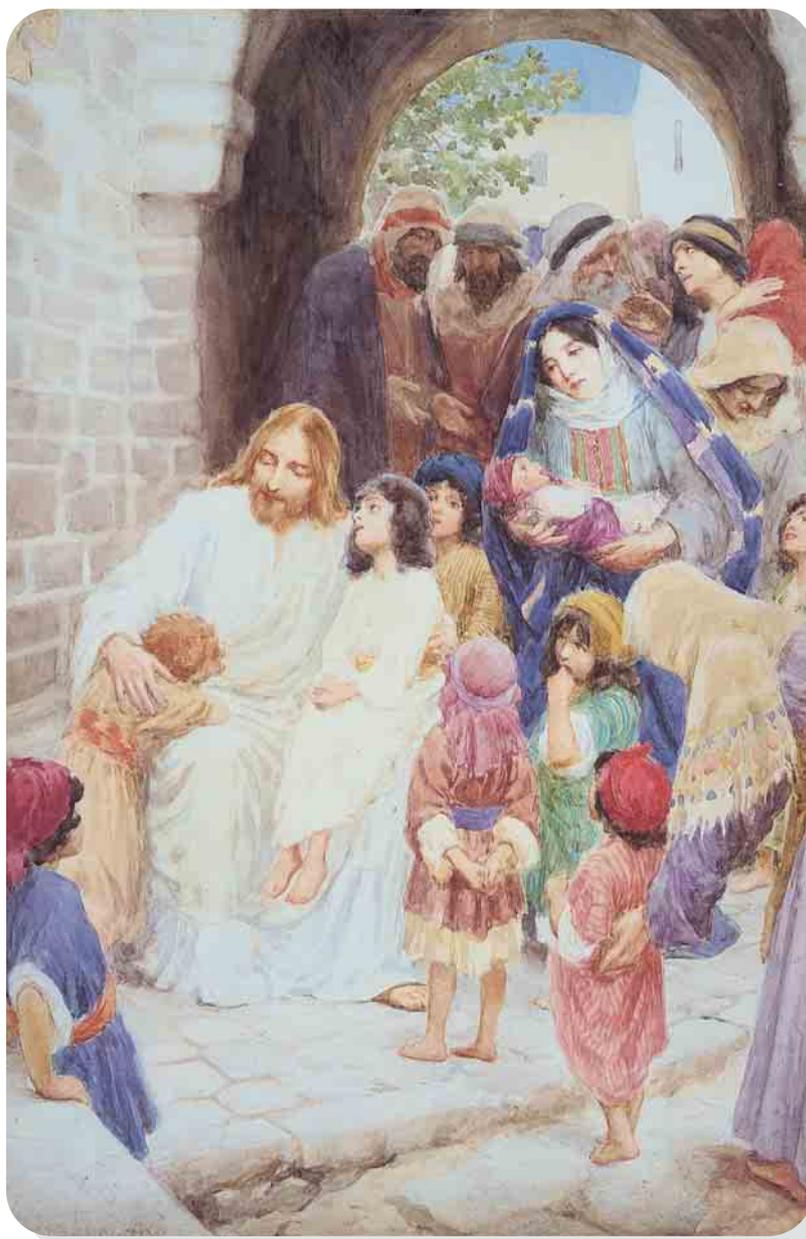
I shall imagine his blessings resting on me;

Words full of kindness, deeds full of grace,

All in the lovelight of Jesus’ face.

(Children’s Songbook, page 57.)

I know of no more touching passage in scripture than the account of the Savior blessing the children, as recorded in 3 Nephi. The Master



spoke movingly to the vast multitude of men, women, and children. Then, responding to their faith and the desire that He tarry longer, He invited them to bring to Him their lame, their blind, and their sick, that He might heal them. With joy they accepted His invitation. The record reveals that “he did heal them every one” (3 Nephi 17:9). . . .

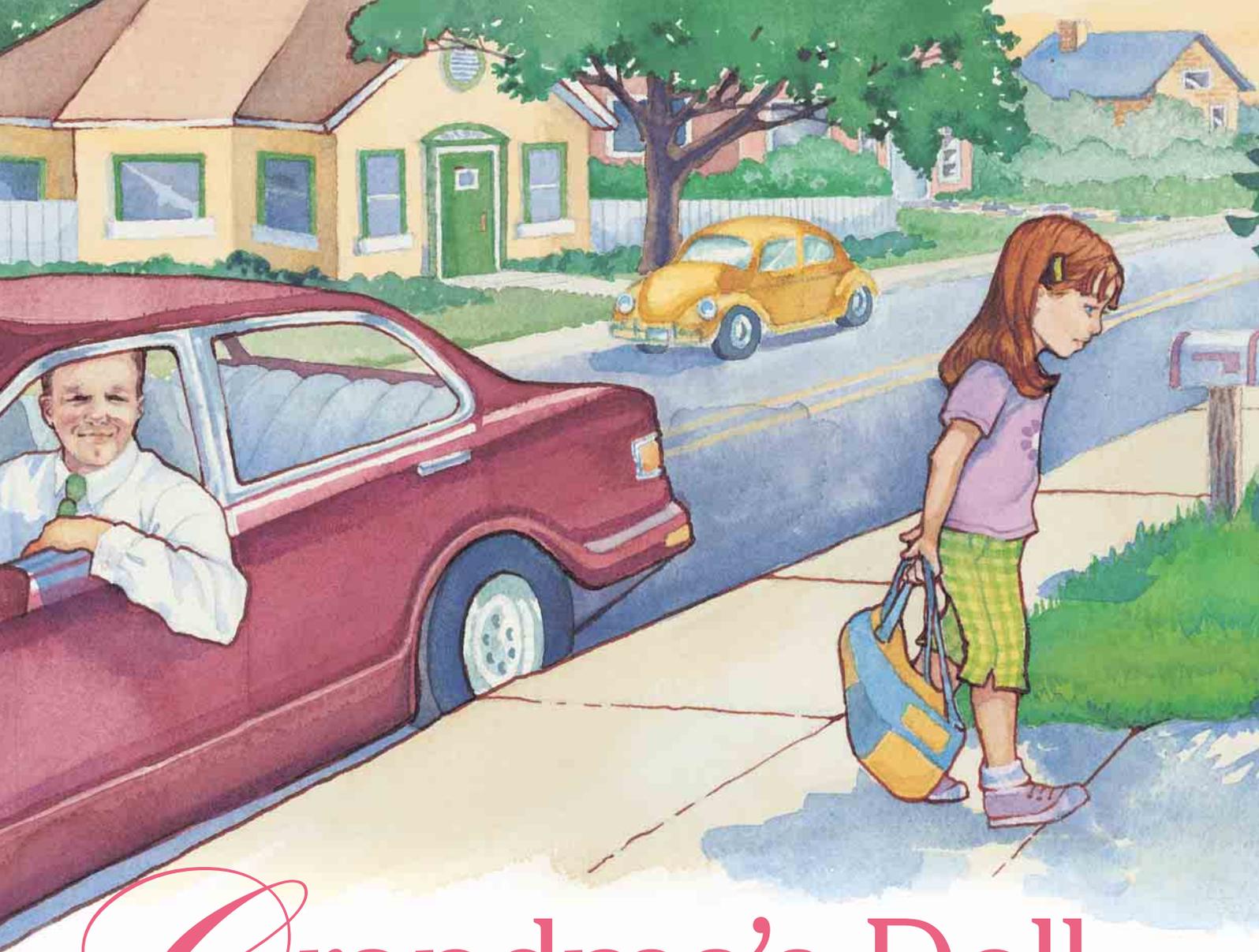
Concluding this magnificent event, Jesus “wept, . . . and he took their little children, one by one, and blessed them, and prayed unto the Father for them. . . .

“And he spake unto the multitude, and said unto them: Behold your little ones.

“And as they looked to behold they cast their eyes towards heaven, and they saw the heavens open, and they saw angels descending out of heaven . . . ; and they came down and encircled those little ones . . . ; and the angels did minister unto them” (3 Nephi 17:21, 23–24).

Over and over in my mind I pondered the phrase, “Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein” (Mark 10:15).

(See Ensign, June 2002, pages 3–6.)



Grandma's Doll

By Mary Kimball Mackey (Based on a true story)

Through the gospel of Jesus Christ the family can be sealed together . . . for time and all eternity (Bible Dictionary—Family).

Eight-year-old Maggie stretched forward to better talk to her parents in the front seat of the car. A frown tugged at the corners of her mouth. “Mom, do I have to go to Aunt Alice’s house?”

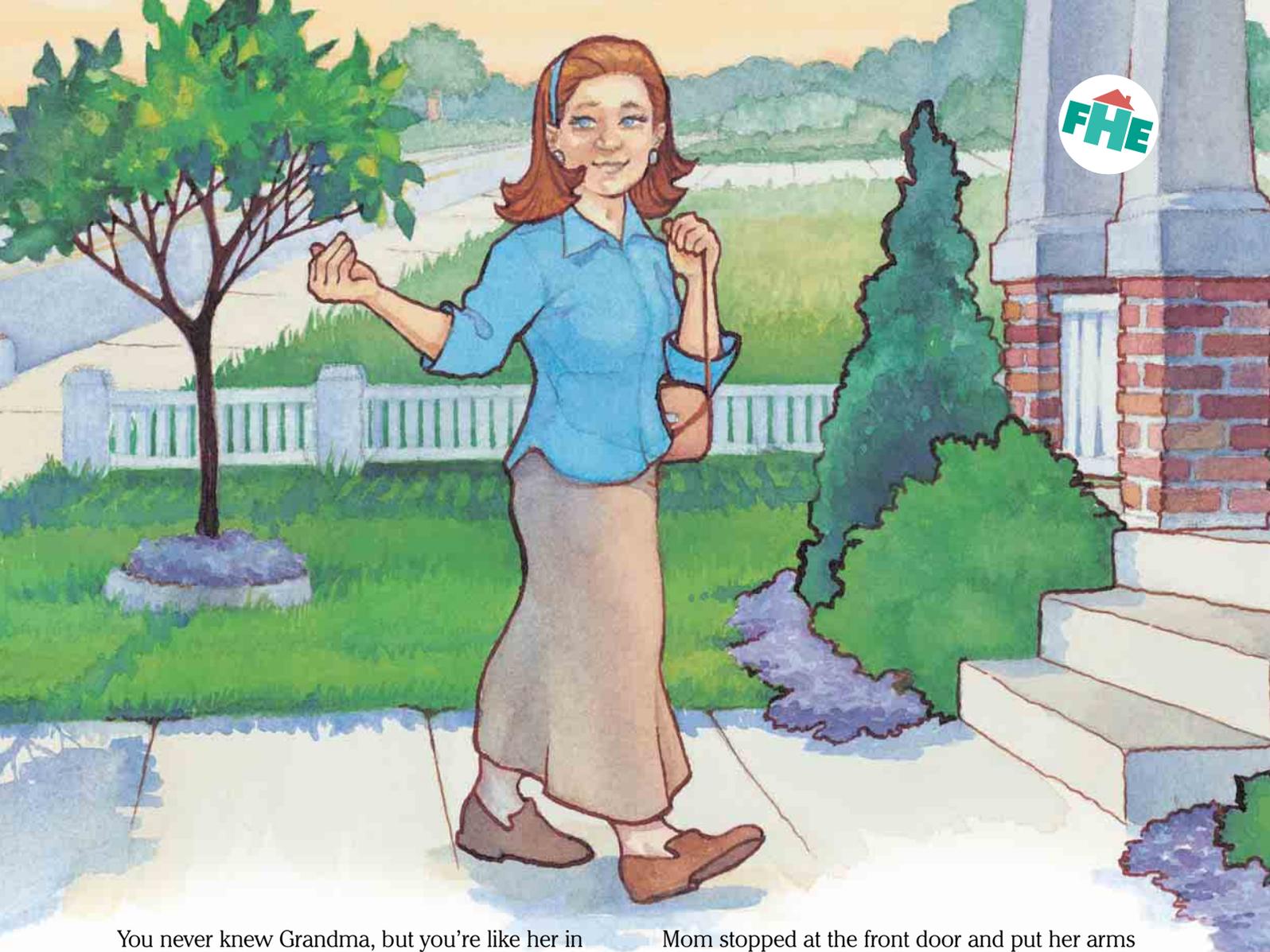
Maggie’s parents had been planning this temple trip for weeks. They had arranged for Maggie to stay with her great-aunt, who lived in the same town as the temple. Aunt Alice was quite old and lived alone.

Mom turned in her seat to ask, “Don’t you want

to go to Aunt Alice’s house? She’s very kind and will take good care of you.”

“I know. It’s just that, well, what if there’s nothing to do? Sitting around all day could get really boring. Maybe I should have stayed home and spent the night at Anna’s house.” Anna was Maggie’s best friend.

Mother looked deeply into Maggie’s worried eyes. “It’s true, we could have left you at Anna’s house, but Dad and I wanted this to be a special trip for the whole family. We have been preparing Grandma and Grandpa McCallister’s records for a long time so that we could do their temple work.



You never knew Grandma, but you're like her in many ways. We thought this trip would be a good chance for you to feel close to her."

Grandma McCallister had passed away when Maggie was only a baby, and Grandpa had died just last summer. Maggie knew that Mom was anxious to have their temple work done so that they could be a part of her family forever. Maggie slumped back in her seat. She knew that this day was important. She just wasn't sure about spending it with Aunt Alice.

When they stopped in front of a small brick home several hours later, butterflies fluttered around in Maggie's stomach.

"Grab your bag, sweetie—this is it," Mom said.

Maggie picked up her backpack and slowly climbed out of the car. Her legs were stiff from the long trip, and she dragged them reluctantly up the front walk.

"Come on, honey. Dad and I have to get going."

Mom stopped at the front door and put her arms around Maggie's drooping shoulders. "Don't worry. Everything is going to be just fine. You might even enjoy yourself." Mom smiled.

It was comforting to see the familiar twinkle in Mom's eyes. Maggie perked up and smiled back.

Just then the front door opened, and the familiar aroma of chocolate chip cookies met Maggie's nose.

"Well, look who's here!" Aunt Alice exclaimed. "Maggie Magpie! I haven't seen you since you were a baby!"

Maggie raised an eyebrow. "Maggie Magpie?"

"Oh, that's what we used to call your grandma when she was a girl. Her name is Margaret, too, you know."

Maggie barely heard her mother's good-bye as she stepped into the house with Aunt Alice.

"Come and have some cookies while we get reacquainted, Maggie Magpie."

Maggie looked around as she walked through the front room toward the kitchen. She stopped in her tracks when her eyes came to rest on a tall display cabinet full of fancy porcelain dolls. “Wow! Do you collect dolls?”

“Sure do. Do you like dolls?”

“I do! I have a collection, too. Well, it’s not as big or fancy as yours, but I really like dolls.”

“You know, your Grandma McCallister liked dolls, too. In fact, I may have something of hers that you can take home with you.”

Maggie followed Aunt Alice into the kitchen, wondering what she might have for her. Aunt Alice poured Maggie a glass of milk and set out some cookies. “Help yourself, honey. I’ll be right back.” She climbed a creaky flight of narrow wooden stairs to the attic. A few minutes later, she returned with an old shoe box.

“Just before your grandma died, she gave me this box. She asked me to keep it for you until you were old enough to take care of what’s inside.” A smile filled Aunt Alice’s face. “I think you’re old enough now. Want to see?”

Maggie nodded eagerly.

Aunt Alice took off several rubber bands, then carefully lifted the cardboard lid. Very gently she peeled back layers of faded tissue paper. Maggie leaned forward to see what lay inside. Beneath the folds of paper lay the most beautiful doll Maggie had ever seen. The eyes blinked open in the pale porcelain face as Aunt Alice lifted the doll out of the box. “Do you want to hold it?”

Maggie could barely breathe as she carefully took the doll into her arms and rocked it tenderly.



“Your grandma called her Bessie, or sometimes Miss Bess. She has the same beautiful dark red hair that you have and that your grandmother had.”

As Maggie gently smoothed the pale blue dress and white lace pinafore and patted the shining curly hair, she imagined another little redheaded girl holding this very doll a long time ago. She felt a new love for Grandma and began to believe that maybe she knew her a little bit after all.

An unexpected tear slid down Maggie’s cheek as she looked into Aunt Alice’s beaming face. “Thank you, Aunt Alice. I’ll take good care of her, I promise.”

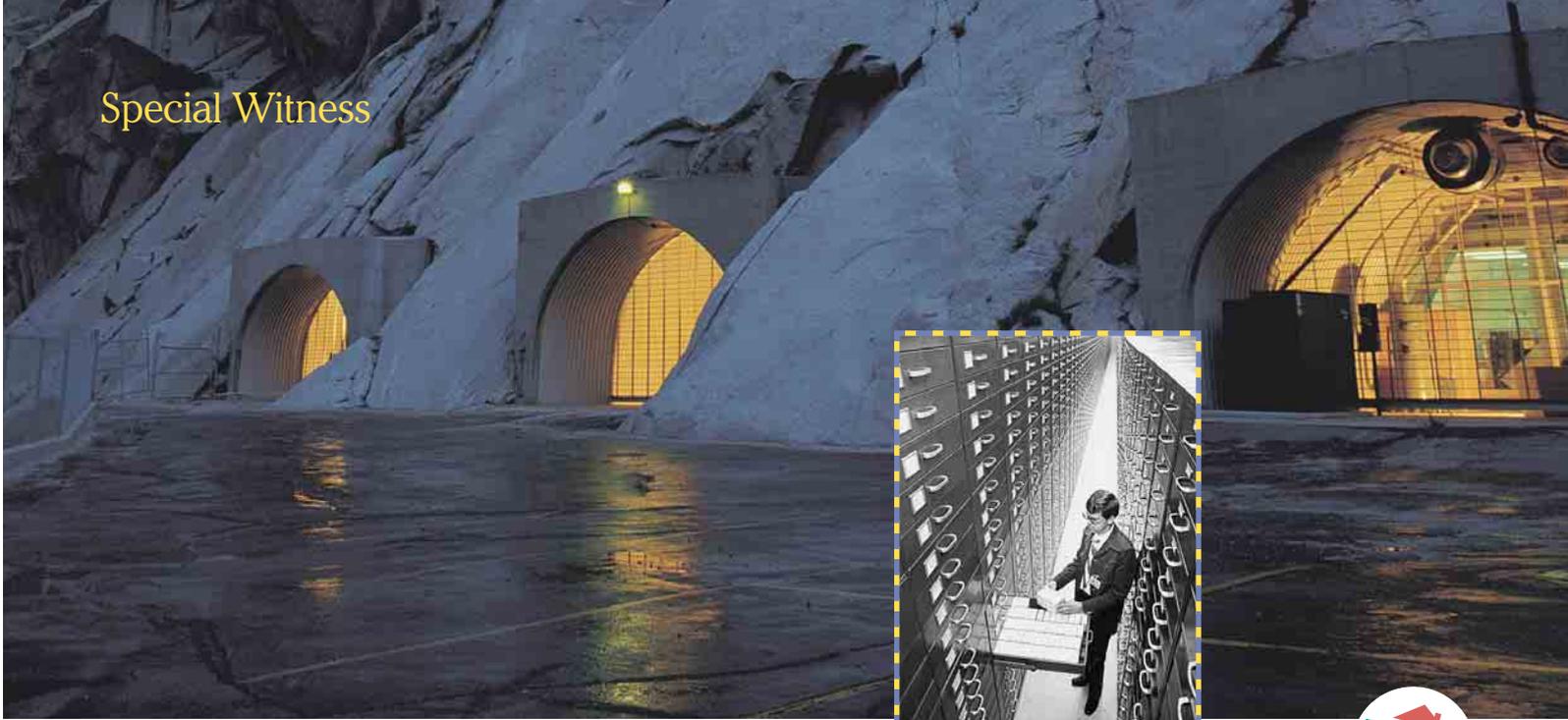
“I know you will, Maggie Maggie,” Aunt Alice said. “You’re a lot like your grandma, you know.”

Maggie smiled lovingly at Grandma’s doll. She was glad that she was a lot like Grandma. And she was grateful that her parents were at the temple doing Grandma and Grandpa’s temple work. She wanted them all to be a family forever.



“Family history and temple work . . . build bridges between the generations of our families, bridges to activity in the Church, and bridges to the temple.”

**Elder Dennis B. Neuenschwander of the Seventy
(Ensign, May 1999, page 85.)**



To Save Our Ancestors

*By Elder David B. Haight
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles*



Did you know that as a young man, Elder David B. Haight liked to hike and fish and camp? He loves his family and has spoken often about the importance of family history:

This period of time in which we live, the dispensation of the fulness of times, will see the culmination [reaching the highest point] of all of God's work on the earth. For this reason, we are anxiously engaged in the Lord's work, which includes the performance of certain ordinances for all who have lived and will live upon the earth.

Just a few minutes' drive [up] one of the many beautiful canyons that grace [the] Wasatch Mountains, stands a huge granite mountain. From the road deep in the canyon floor, most automobile passengers do not see the large, arched portals [entrances] cut high in the side of the mountain. Few would realize that behind these portals are six large storage rooms cut deep into the solid granite and that in them lie the world's largest collection of genealogy records. These are not ordinary records, but records listing the births, marriages,

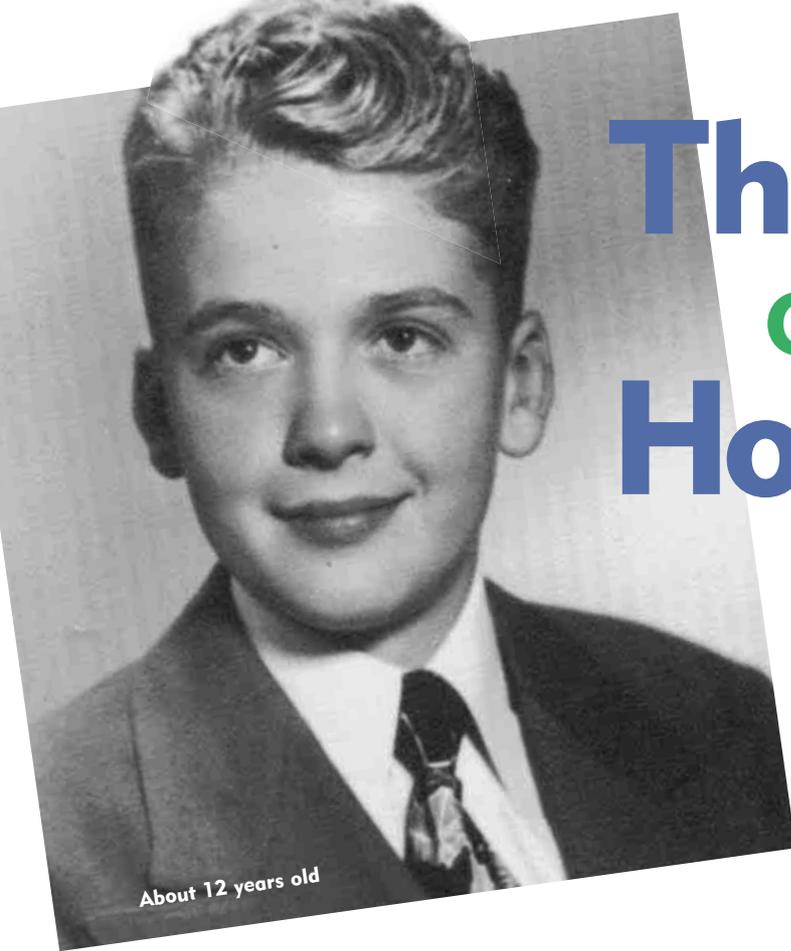
and deaths of nearly two billion people who have lived on the earth. They are the product of over fifty years of tireless effort the world over by Church representatives, by microfilm camera operators, and those who care for these records housed row upon row in microfilm cabinets deep in the mountain. . . .

"Why do you do this?" some ask. "Why does the Church [give] millions of dollars and tens of thousands of hours to this immense but unusual project? Why have such great concern for those who have died?"

Our answer is simple, yet profound: "Because we love them. Because they are entitled to the same blessings that we enjoy. Because this is a major part of the heavenly plan for this, the dispensation of the fulness of times, for the blessing of all people."

We gather these records to identify our ancestors. We identify our ancestors so that we may perform for them the saving ordinances of the gospel in holy temples dedicated to that purpose.

(Ensign, May 1991, page 75.)



About 12 years old

The Witness of the Holy Ghost

For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance (1 Thessalonians 1:5).

From an interview with Elder Robert S. Wood of the Seventy, currently serving as President of the Brazil North Area; by Kimberly Webb

When I was sixteen years old, I came home early from one of my first dates as my parents had asked me to. I saw the Book of Mormon on my bed stand, and since I was still wide awake, I decided to read it.

I had read bits of the Book of Mormon before, but I had never read it all the way through. That night I got into the book so deeply that when dawn came, I was reading the final chapters of Moroni!

When I finished the Book of Mormon, I wanted to test Moroni's promise and ask Heavenly Father if it were true. I knelt next to my bed and prayed. That day I received a powerful witness from the Holy Ghost that the Book of Mormon is true.

The following Monday at school, one of my

friends who was not a member of the Church came up to me. He gave me a piece of paper and told me that it was a list of fifty facts proving that the Book of Mormon was false. I told him, "You're too late. I can't explain the 'facts' on your list, but none of them could convince me that the Book of Mormon is not true. I have received a witness from the Holy Ghost."

I kept the list. As the years went by, modern research helped me to understand better the culture and times of the Book of Mormon. The things in the Book of Mormon that historians once thought were false have since been proven true. One by one, I was able to cross off all fifty items on the list. From this experience, I learned that a testimony can't come in the same way that you learn other things. A testimony of the Book of Mormon can come only through the Holy Ghost.

The Holy Ghost also lets us know what to do, and when He does, it is important to be obedient—even when it is hard. I was once visiting Washington, D.C., on business, and I had planned to go to the temple that evening. By the end of the day, however, I was so tired and frustrated that I decided, "No, I don't think I'll go to the temple tonight." I began to walk to my hotel.

When I reached the hotel, the Spirit came very strongly, whispering that I should go to the temple, anyway. I decided to obey. As I stepped off the curb to cross the street, I heard someone say, "Attention!" ("Look out!"). I was pulled back onto the



At 2 years old



With one of his teddy-bear collection

curb just as a car went whizzing by where I had been standing. I looked around. No one was there.

I safely crossed the street, got in my car, and started driving. The traffic was terrible, and I kept thinking, *Maybe I'll go back*. But I didn't.

Finally I reached the temple. I was given the name of the person whose temple work I would perform, and immediately I felt something special about that person. I noticed that it was a man who had been born and lived in France. I remembered the French voice that I had heard earlier, and through the entire temple session I felt as if he was right next to me. I realized that this man had been waiting for me to do his temple work on that day. I was supposed to go to the temple, and the problems at work had been designed by the adversary to keep me from doing the most important work.

Sometimes people won't understand your actions, but if you follow the Holy Ghost, you will always know that you are doing the right thing. When I received my mission call, I had finished two years of schooling at Stanford University. I announced that I was dropping out of school for two years to serve a mission, and soon afterward, my advisor asked to meet with me. When I walked into his office, the first thing he said to me was, "Robert, are you crazy?" He told me that I was making a mistake and that the university might never let me back in. He encouraged



The Woods' wedding reception



Elder Wood with his family

me to finish my schooling and then serve a mission.

Many years later, I received a call from the prophet asking me to retire and serve as a General Authority. At the time, I had a responsible position in the United States government. I accepted the call, just as I had accepted the mission call when I was nineteen years old, and I announced my retirement. Soon afterward, a senior official walked into my office. The first thing he said to me was, "Robert, are you crazy?" I said, "I think I've heard this before."

I wasn't crazy when I served a mission, and I wasn't crazy when I retired to serve as a General Authority. No matter what else is going on in your



In a pioneer parade at age 10



At age 20

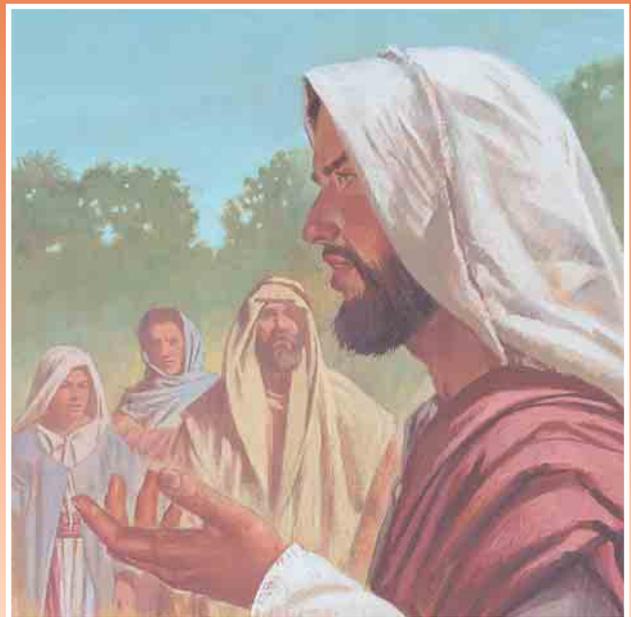
life, when the call to serve comes, that is the moment to do it.

You can never really get a firm, unshakable conviction that Jesus is the Christ without sacrifice and obedience. When you say sincerely, "I will do whatever it takes, and I will give whatever the Lord asks of me," the Holy Ghost will grant you an even

stronger witness of the truthfulness of the gospel. Learn now which things are most important in life, how to use your time, and how to give willingly. When you do, your testimony will grow.

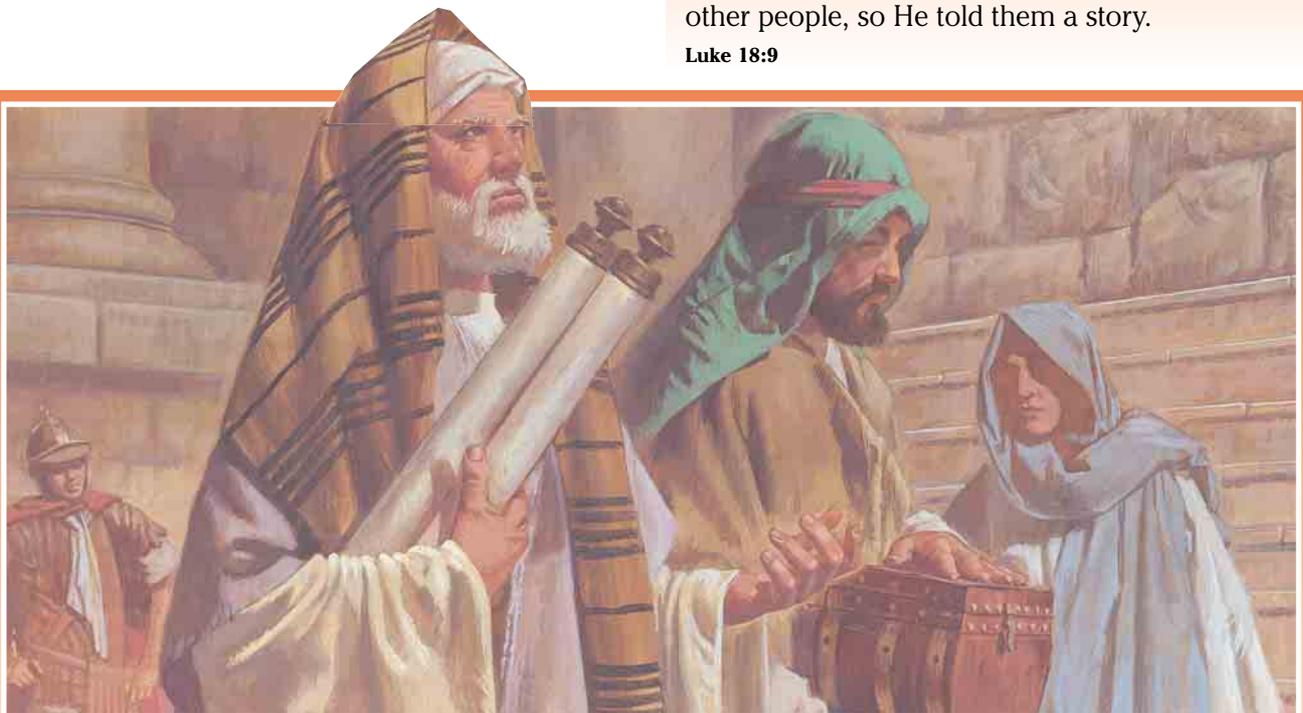
THE PHARISEE AND THE PUBLICAN

Chapter 40



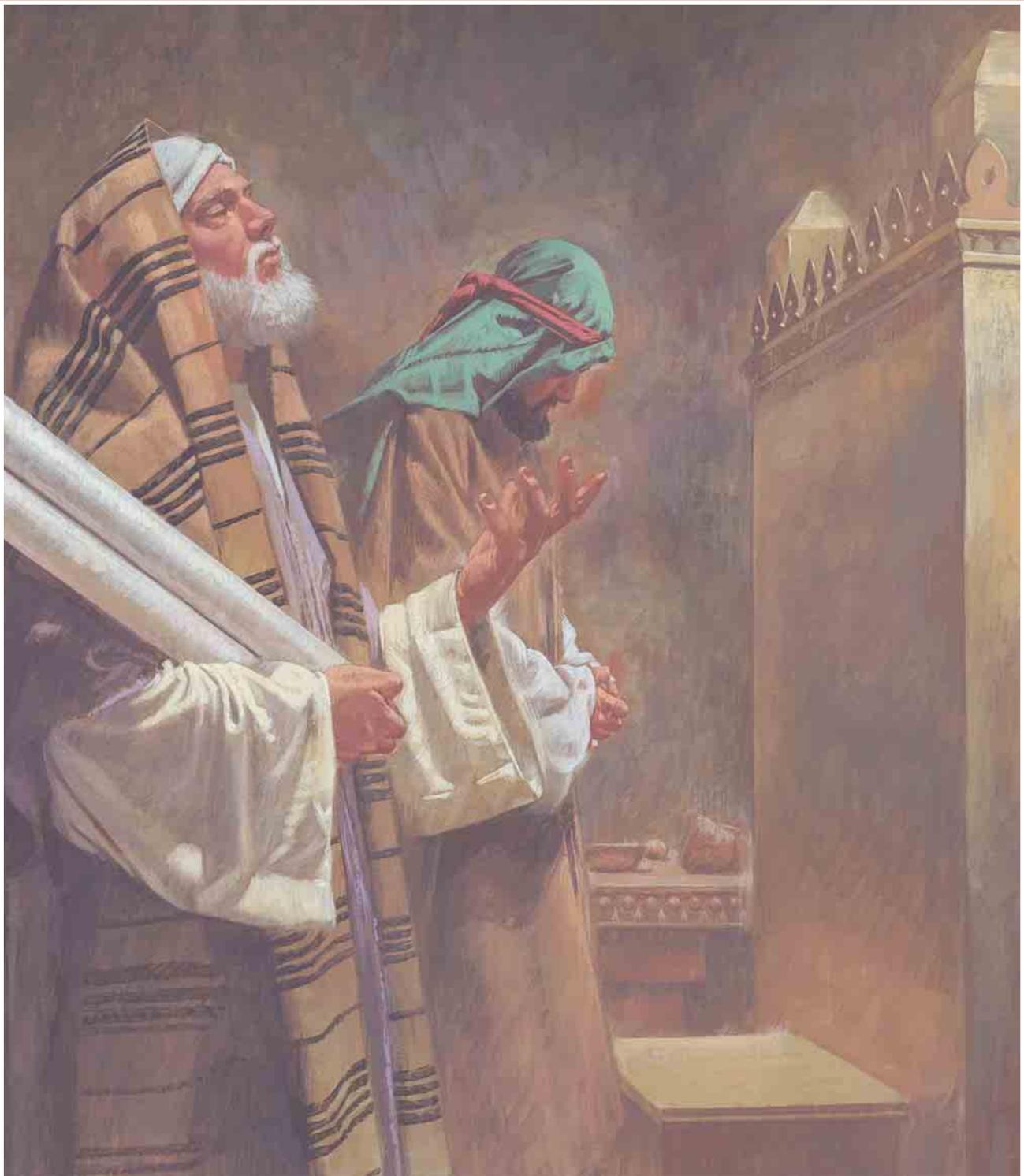
One day the Savior talked to some people who thought that they were better and more righteous than other people. Jesus did not want them to think they were better than other people, so He told them a story.

Luke 18:9



Two men went to the temple to pray. One was a Pharisee (a religious leader). The other was a publican. People had to pay tax money to the publicans, and sometimes the publicans took too much money. The people did not like them.

Luke 18:10



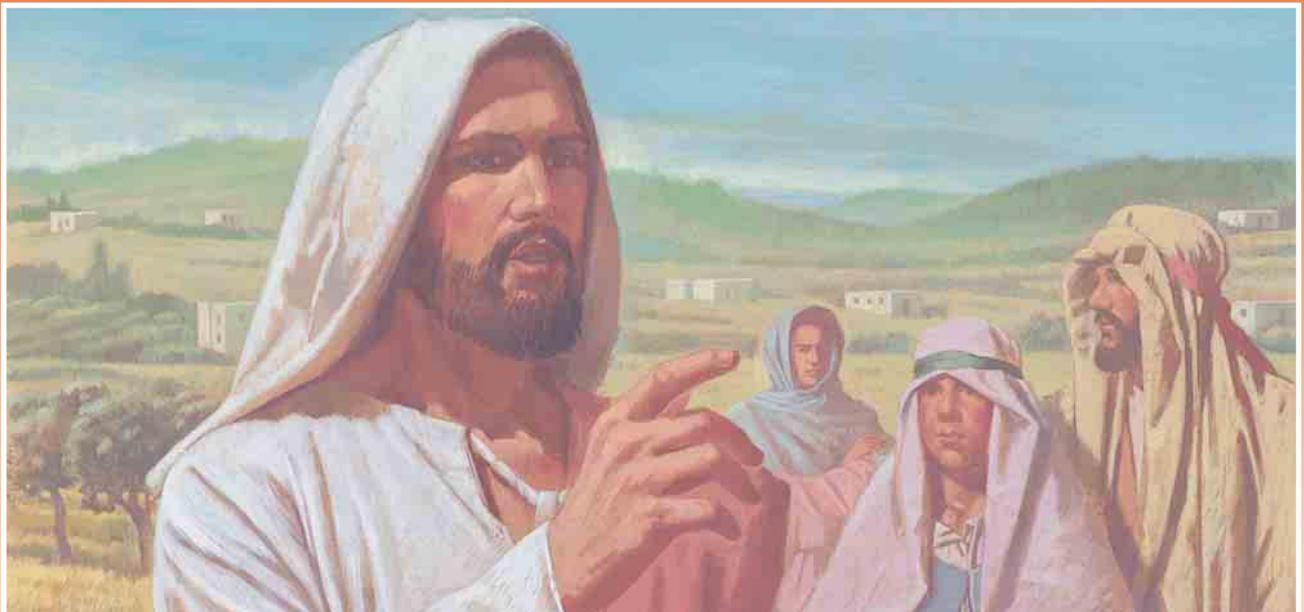
The Pharisee stood up in front of others to pray. He thanked God that he was better than other men because he fasted two times each week and paid more tithing than other people. The publican stood by himself and bowed his head and prayed, "God be merciful to me a sinner."

Luke 18:11—13



Jesus said that the Pharisee thought that he was better than other people, that he did not sin, and that he did not need help from God. Jesus said that the publican knew that he had sinned but wanted to repent. He had asked God to forgive him, and he tried to be more righteous.

Luke 18:14

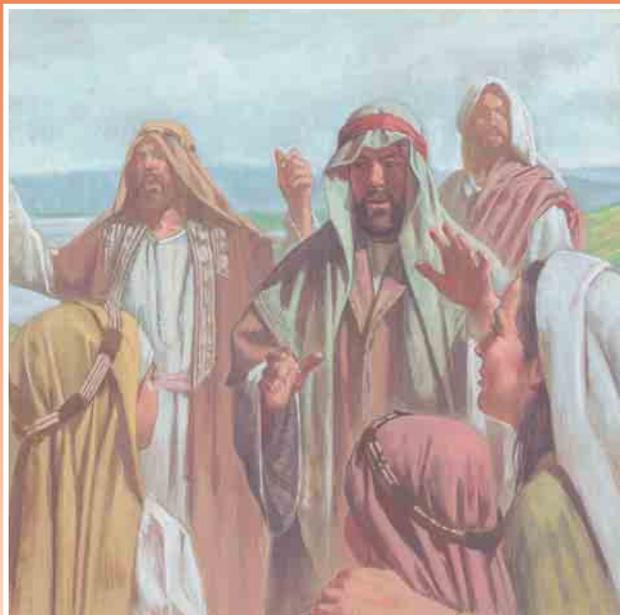


Jesus said that the publican, not the Pharisee, would be forgiven and that people should be like the publican. They should not think that they are better than other people. They should repent of their sins and ask God to forgive them. They should try to be more righteous.

Luke 18:14

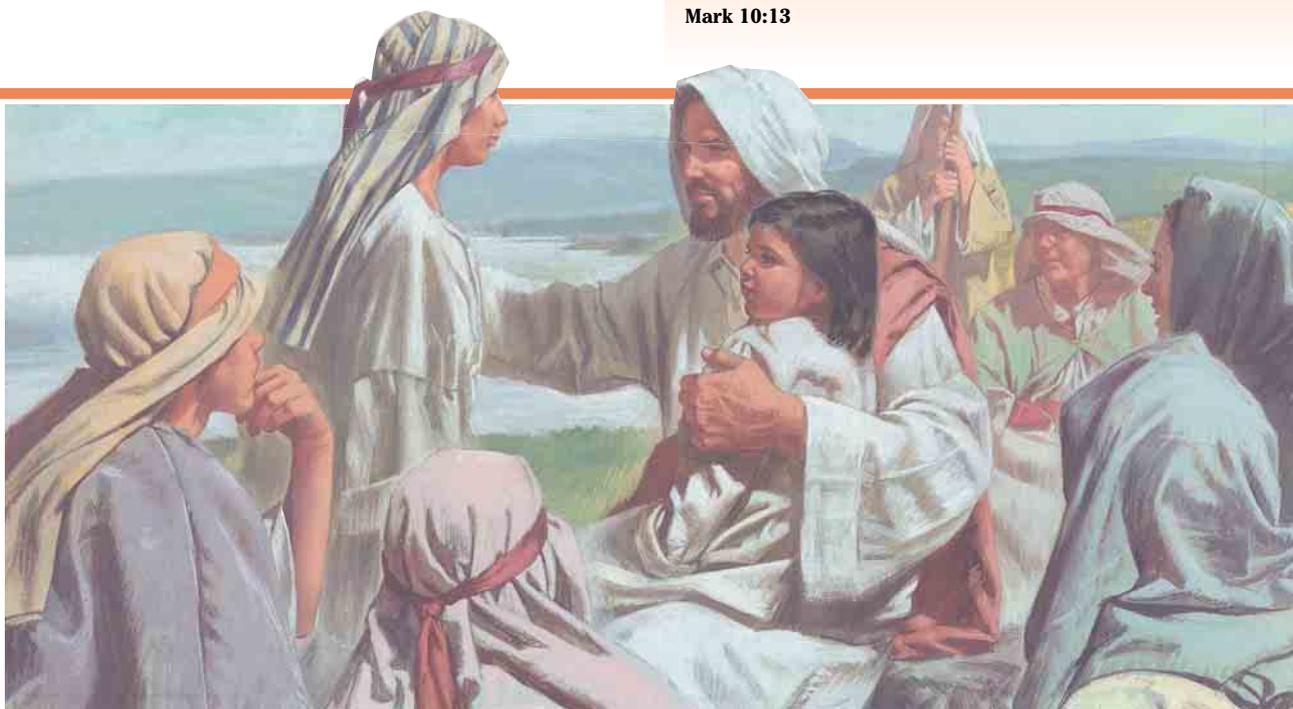
JESUS BLESSES THE CHILDREN

Chapter 41



While the Savior was with His disciples, some people wanted Him to bless their children. The disciples told the people to not bring their children to Jesus.

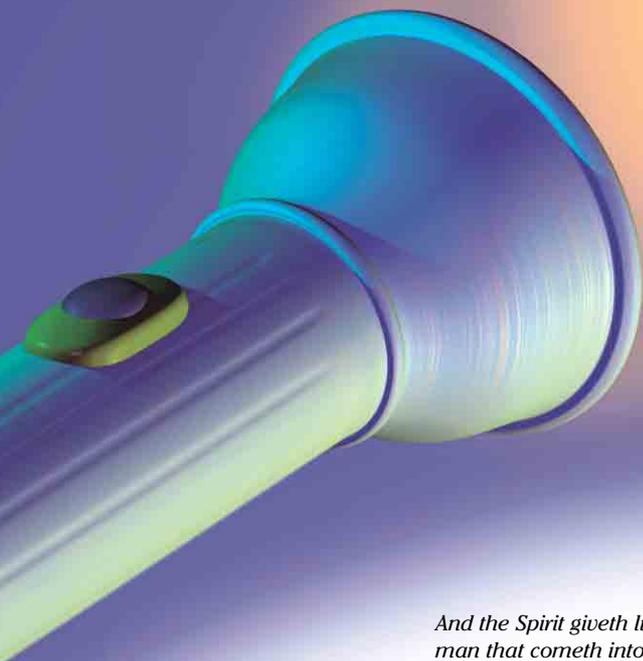
Mark 10:13



Jesus Christ loves children and scolded the disciples for trying to send them away. He told the disciples to let the children come to Him. He also told the disciples that they should be like little children. Then they could live with God in Heaven.

Mark 10:14–15

Fully-Charged



And the Spirit giveth light to every man that cometh into the world (Doctrine and Covenants 84:46).

*By Sheila Kindred
(A true story)*



Mark stood up at the podium in the Primary room and opened his scriptures. Rain was pounding the roof, and he knew he'd have to talk loudly to be heard over its noise. He cleared his throat and read:

“ ‘And the Spirit giveth light to every man that cometh into the world; and the Spirit enlighteneth every man through the world, that hearkeneth to the voice of the Spirit.

“ ‘And every one that hearkeneth to the voice of the Spirit cometh unto



God, even the Father.’ ”*

When he finished the scripture, Mark looked up at his mom, who was sitting in the back of the room. She winked at him. They both had a special feeling ever since yesterday's experience.

Yesterday had been one of those hot and humid summer afternoons so common in Iowa. A storm was brewing when Mark and his mother drove to the local department store.

“Looks like we should have brought our umbrellas,” Mom observed when they got out of the car. “I hope we don't get wet later.”

Mark looked at the gathering dark clouds and thought he heard thunder in the distance. They hurried into the store.

“This won't take long,” Mom said as she headed past displays to the middle of the large building. As she stood waiting to pick up some photographs, Mark noticed the store manager moving

Flashlight



quickly from department to department, giving a brief message to each salesclerk.

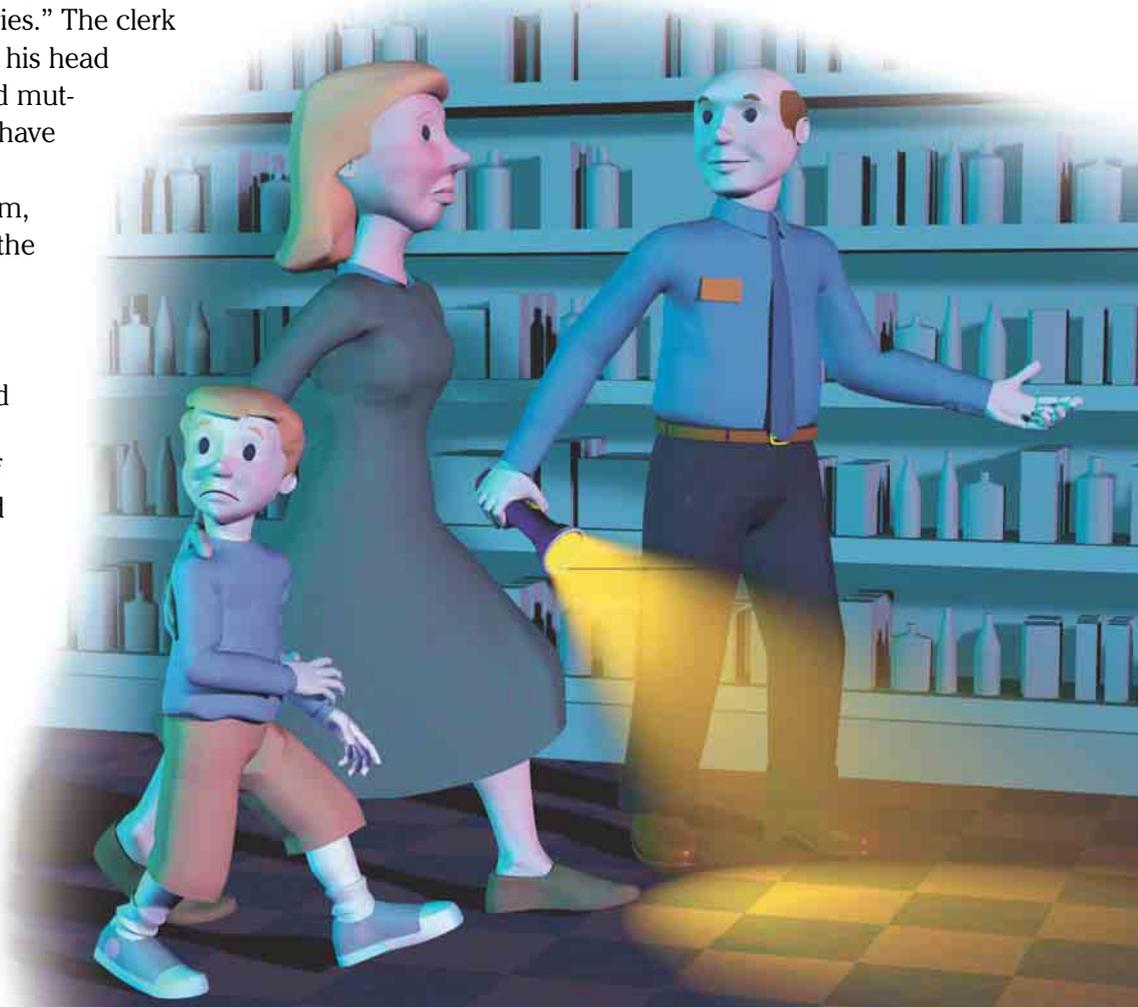
The manager spoke softly, but Mark could hear him clearly when he got to the jewelry department nearby. "Find your flashlight and make sure it has fully-charged batteries." The jewelry clerk nodded, and the manager moved on to the next department, delivering the same message: "Find your flashlight and make sure it has fully-charged batteries." The clerk in this department shook his head after the manager left and muttered to himself, "I don't have time for that nonsense."

Mark looked at his mom, who had also overheard the message. "It's OK," she assured him. "Just stick close to me."

Mark moved closer and took her hand. Just then there was a loud crack of thunder directly overhead and all the lights went out, plunging the store into darkness. Mark heard a brief startled shriek from a few shoppers, followed by some children crying for their parents. Mark was glad he had stayed close by his mother.

Mom squeezed his hand and whispered, "Stand still and wait."

When Mark's eyes got used to the dark, he could see daylight coming in from the windows of the storefront, but the light seemed faint and far away. Sounds of panic died away quickly as, throughout the store, small lights came on and started to move.



One light moved toward Mark, and a voice spoke from above it in the dark. “Follow me, please.” It was a store clerk, holding a flashlight. Together Mark and his mother joined a group of shoppers who were already behind the clerk, and they slowly made their way down the dark aisles. The group grew larger the farther they went, being joined by other shoppers and clerks, including the clerk who thought that taking time to find his flashlight was “nonsense.”

Mark felt relieved when they got to the front of the store and could see sunlight coming in the front windows and doors. They no longer needed the clerks with the flashlights, so the clerks left them and turned back into the darkness to find other shoppers and lead them to the light.

As Mark walked to the car with his mom, he jumped over puddles of water that reflected the clearing sky overhead. The storm had come and gone quickly, and now the day was full of sunshine. Evidence of the storm was still all around them, however, and on the way home, Mark saw fallen tree limbs and broken traffic lights.

When they pulled into their driveway, Mom asked him, “Did you know you have a light inside you a lot like those flashlights in the store?”

“I do?”

“Yes. It is the light of Christ. We are born with the ability to tell right from wrong because we have the light of Christ. Sometimes we call it our conscience. Then later, when we are baptized and receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, we have an even brighter light.”

Mark thought about this for a moment. “Do I have to keep my batteries fully charged?”

Mom chuckled. “Yes, indeed. And the scriptures tell you how.”

When they got in the house, Mom showed Mark the scripture in Doctrine and Covenants 84:46.

“‘Hearkeneth to the voice of the Spirit.’ What does that mean?” Mark asked.

“For now, listen to your conscience, and after you are baptized, listen to the still, small voice of the Spirit,” Mom explained. “Do what it tells you to do, and your light will always be fully charged.”

“And ready for any storm!”

“Exactly.”

The rain had stopped pounding the roof of the church, and the sun was starting to filter through the curtains into the Primary room. Mark swallowed hard.

“I know that this scripture is true,” Mark said with a catch in his voice. “And I’m grateful that God has given each of us a light inside us that can lead us safely out of the darkness of any storm.”

*Doctrine and Covenants 84:46–47.

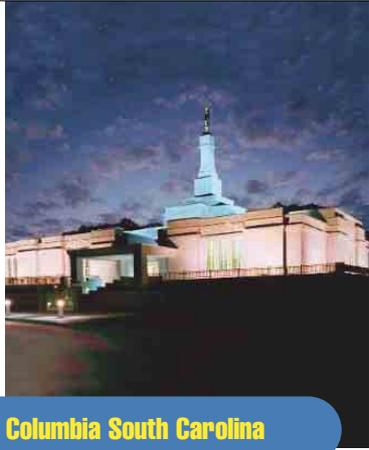


“Each of us has a thing we call conscience. We know the difference between right and wrong. We do not have to be [taught] what is good and what is evil. I think we know that. We know when we have done the wrong thing, and we suffer pangs of conscience. We know when we have done the right thing, and we experience a sense of happiness.”

President Gordon B. Hinckley
(Ensign, May 1996, page 92.)

Temple Cards

Each month in 2002, you will find a Temple Cards page in the *Friend*. Remove the page from the magazine, glue it to heavy paper, and cut out the cards. If you collect all 108 cards this year, you will have a picture-history of Latter-day Saint temples around the world.



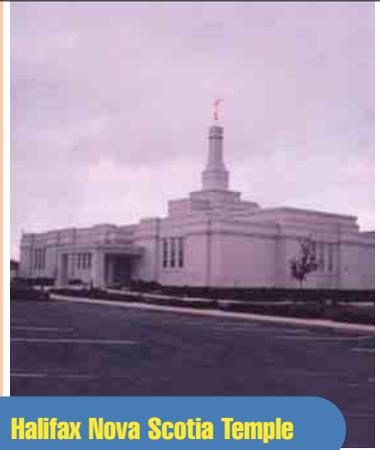
Columbia South Carolina

Dedicated: October 16, 1999



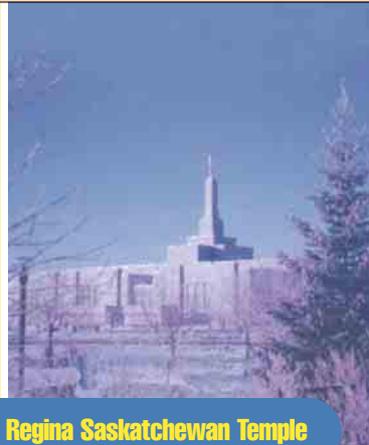
Detroit Michigan Temple

Dedicated: October 23–24, 1999



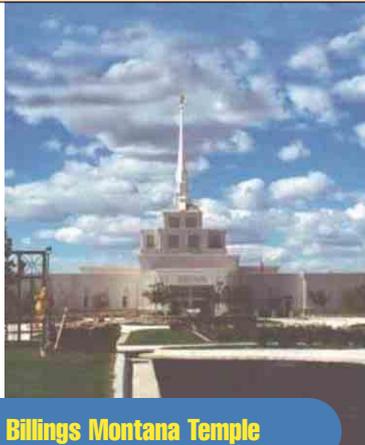
Halifax Nova Scotia Temple

Dedicated: November 14, 1999



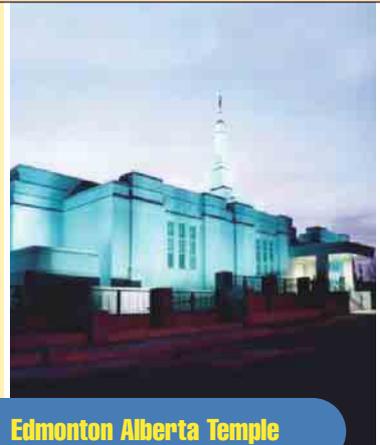
Regina Saskatchewan Temple

Dedicated: November 14, 1999



Billings Montana Temple

Dedicated: November 20–21, 1999



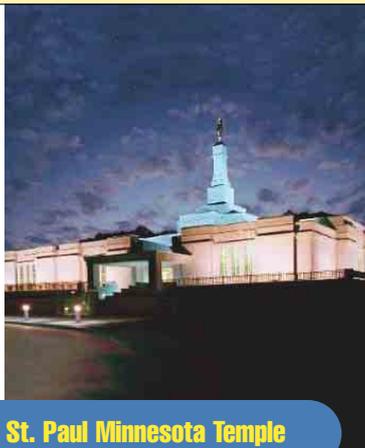
Edmonton Alberta Temple

Dedicated: December 11–12, 1999



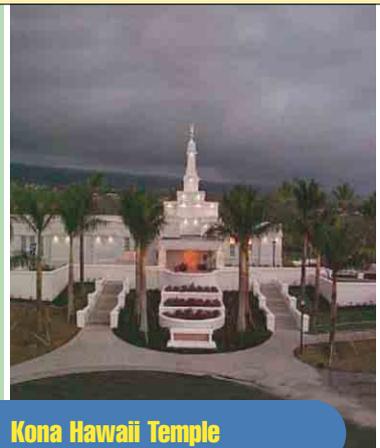
Raleigh North Carolina

Dedicated: December 18–19, 1999



St. Paul Minnesota Temple

Dedicated: January 9, 2000



Kona Hawaii Temple

Dedicated: January 23, 2000



I Love the Temple Because . . .

By Primary children of the Oaxaca Mexico Stake



In the temple there is a very special spirit of love, peace, and tranquility [calm]. It is a very pretty place where people make sacred covenants and perform sacred ordinances such as baptism for the dead, celestial marriage, and sealings. When I grow up I want to enter the temple.

Luz Araceli Quiroz Cruz, age 6



It is the house of the Lord.
Carlos Alexis Quevedo Matus, age 5



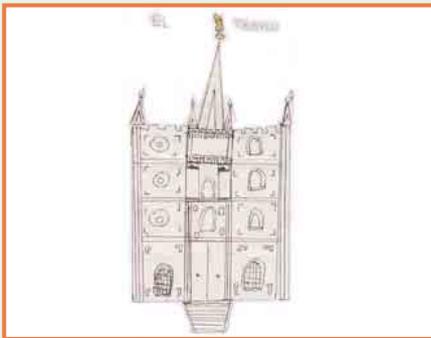
When I grow up I want to go to the temple with my grandma and my uncle.
Diana Itzel Ramirez Martinez, age 5



Work for the dead can be done in the temple. And I can be sealed there to my family.
Angeles M. Rosas, age 11

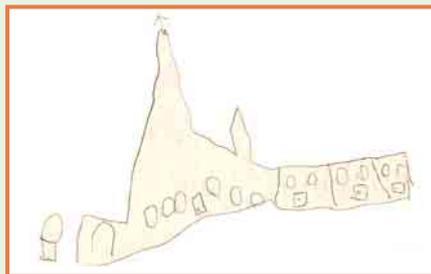


The temple is beautiful and teaches us about Heavenly Father. He has commanded us to build temples so that we can do ordinances there. He can dwell there.
Harold Quiroz Cruz, age 10

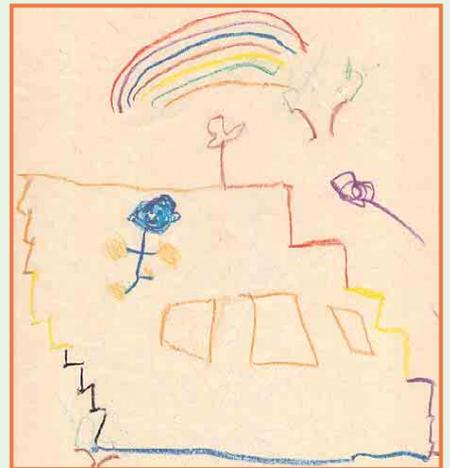


It is a house where Heavenly Father can dwell. One feels great peace there. It is the most sacred place on earth, a place where the gospel is taught and learned.

Lynette Auvette Sanchez Velasquez, age 10



When I entered the temple at the open house, I felt the Spirit of the Lord. It is a beautiful and sacred place.
Oamar Erli M., age 7



It is the house of the Lord, and it is pretty.
Dajini Pacheco Vasquez, age 4



It is beautiful, grand, and orderly.
Libni Neftali Perez Rosales, age 7



We can be sealed as eternal families there, or we can be baptized for the dead.
Horacio Pacheco V., age 9



In the temple we feel happy. When I entered the temple, I felt good.
Omar Daniel Cruz Madrid, age 7



The spirit of God is there. It is a sacred place, and no one speaks rudely there. It is pretty and special for all brothers and sisters.
Gabriela Araceli Vasquez Vega, age 9



When I was in the temple, I felt that I was with Jesus Christ. The temples are like the house of God. They are important for all who believe in Heavenly Father and in Jesus Christ.
Antonio Lopez Vasquez, age 8



It is the house of the Lord.
Jaqueline Montceffa Gutierrez Herrera, age 6



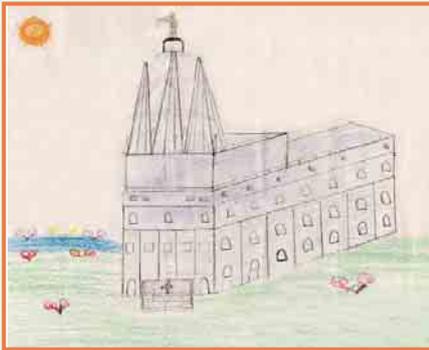
Beautiful Temple

The magic of yesterday,
Today, and tomorrow
Are nourished in you.

In you are forged
My hopes
Of not being shut out,
Of having my family together
And at Thy side.

My dead will have a chance
To know the truth,
To know that they, too,
Can be found with us.
Like a hen with her chicks,
We will be together
In a little bit of heaven.

Jair Cruz Camarillo, age 11



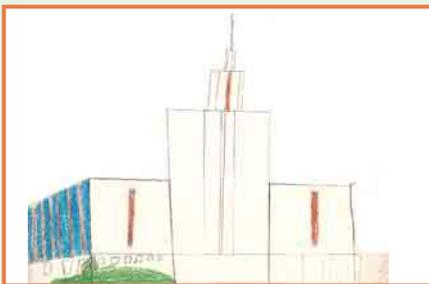
It is a sacred place where Heavenly Father can come, and it is a home away from home for all His children.
Eislis Sanchez Velasquez, age 12



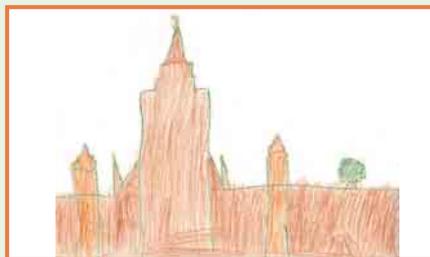
Because work for the dead is done there.
Because sealings can be done there.
Because it is very beautiful.
Because it is a sacred house.
Rebeca Perez Lopez, age 11



The temple is a very sacred place where only worthy members may enter, where all is orderly, and everyone remains quiet. The Spirit of the Lord is always there, and we should always go to the temple with respect.
Abish Ruvalcaba Briones



The temple is the house of the Lord. I like to go there because it is very pretty. When I was sealed to my parents in the temple, it was a beautiful experience. I want to go back and do work for the dead.
Emmanuel Ramirez Cruz, age 10



It is a sacred place where people make very sacred covenants. Jesus Christ can come there.
Efrain Quiroz Cruz, age 7



Cameron Blackwell of Jeffersonville, Indiana

Making Friends

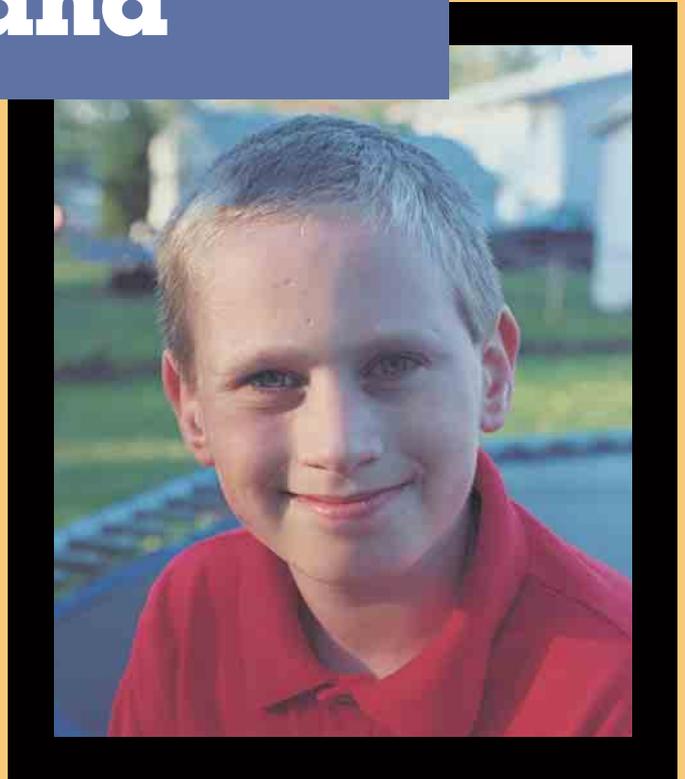
By Donna Alldaffer and Richard M. Romney
Photos by Richard M. Romney

There's a lot of talk these days about heroes, particularly about firefighters and police officers who risk their own lives to save others. So when ten-year-old Cameron Blackwell of Jeffersonville, Indiana, found out that his parents

wanted to talk about heroes during family home evenings, he was not surprised. What did surprise him was how many heroes his family came up with, and who one of those heroes was.

"We talked about the heroes who lived and died

The Louisville Kentucky Temple is not far from where the Blackwells live.



when the planes crashed into the World Trade Center in New York City," Cameron says. "We talked about other heroes in history, and we talked about who our personal heroes are. Some of my heroes are the teachers, leaders, and others who help me every day."

"Having several home evenings on heroes was a good way for us to deal with the events of September 11," Cameron's father, Eric, explains. "It was a way to be a little upbeat in the face of tragedy." The discussions often continued the next morning at breakfast, and many of them involved gospel heroes and questions like "How can I be a hero today?"



“Of course, Jesus Christ is the greatest hero of all,” Cameron says, “He taught us about baptism, and prayer. He gave us the Atonement. He did things for us that no one else could do.”

“President Gordon B. Hinckley has always been a hero for me,” Cameron continues. “I have a lot of prophet heroes from the Bible and Book of Mormon, too. I’ve learned that sometimes prophets in the scriptures had struggles, and it amazes me what they were able to do.”

Cameron, who is blessed with a bright mind and a powerful memory, astounds many people with his knowledge of the scriptures. “It comes,” he says, “not only from reading them, but from studying them and asking questions.” His mother, Jennifer, recalls that Cameron memorized *Book of Mormon Stories* nearly word for word before he could even read.

The Blackwells decided that members of their own family are heroes, too. “My mom and dad

are, because of all the things they do for us,” Cameron explains.

Another brother, Craig (7), is known as a hero at the local elementary school because he donated half his birthday money to a fund-raising

Cameron and his brother, Craig, enjoy playing checkers. They’re both good at it.

One day for fun, the Blackwell family painted pumpkins together. Family members are (left to right) Dad, Cameron, Craig, Jamie, Jordan, and Mom.





Craig loves to tell Jamie and Cameron about his collection of shells and rocks. Each one reminds him of a special memory.

activity for victims in New York and Washington, D.C. Craig was also a hero in preschool when he had the courage to invite his teacher to the open house of the Louisville Kentucky Temple (Louisville is just across the river from Jeffersonville). Both the teacher and her husband attended. “She said it was beautiful,” Craig remembers.

Jamie (5) knows that having extra patience with Jordan (3) can make her a hero. Jordan has a happy heart, and he’s full of enthusiasm, but he doesn’t do any one thing for long. “Heavenly Father whispered to my spirit that I should be nice to him, because he is a child of God,” Jamie says. That kind of attitude may help explain the feeling of respect for one another that fills the Blackwell home.

In most ways, Cameron Blackwell is just like other ten-year-olds. He loves to read, to play soccer and gym hockey, to ride his bike, and to jump on

the trampoline. He’s good in math and spelling, and he took a Spanish class after school. He went to day camp with the Cub Scouts in July, and he loves archery and target shooting. So Cameron was a bit surprised when his family told him they think he’s a hero, too.

In part, they think he’s a hero because he’s learned to move ahead with his life, even though he has Asperger’s syndrome. (In Cameron’s case, that means it’s easy for him to get frustrated.) In part, it’s because he’s so kind to Jordan, who has an autistic spectrum disorder. (That means Jordan doesn’t get along with others easily.)

But ask Cameron about being a hero, and he’ll tell you, “You don’t have to be a firefighter or a policeman to be a hero. You just have to work hard and help other people.”

Cameron believes in doing good. He is an example of the joy that comes from living the gospel of Jesus Christ. When you look into his face, you see the promise of a marvelous future. It is refreshing to know him and to feel of his spirit. That’s what makes Cameron a hero.

Craig, Cameron, and Jamie know that laughing together is part of learning to get along as a family.

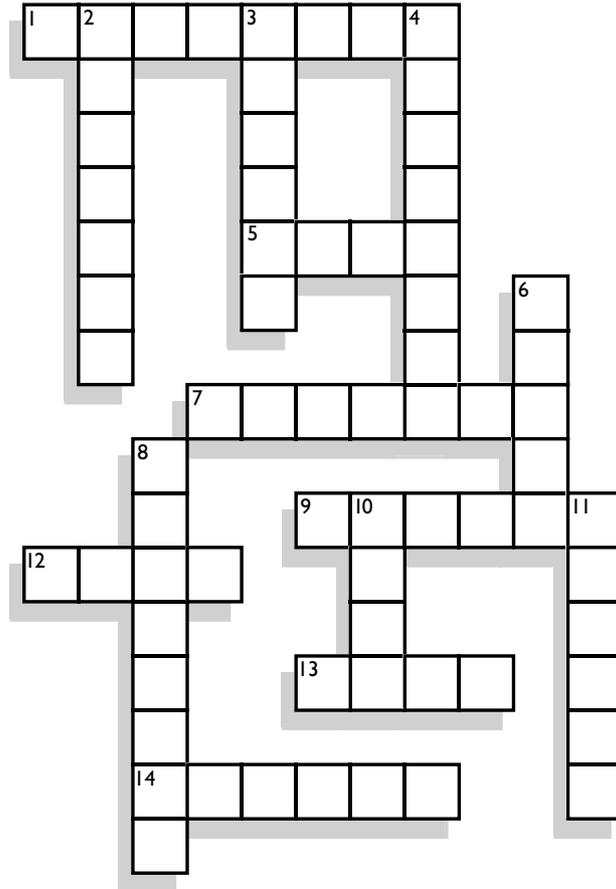


Temple Crossword

By Lois Thompson Bartholomew

You can learn about the Church's temples and temple work by doing this puzzle. Read the clues, then fill in the puzzle by choosing the correct answer from the list.

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| Alberta | love |
| dead | Naucvoo |
| eternity | Omaha |
| Elijah | oxen |
| Hawaii | Palmyra |
| Kirtland | Salt Lake |
| London | work |



ACROSS ➡

1. This temple took 40 years to build.
5. The baptismal font in a temple rests on the backs of 12 _____.
7. This temple is near the Sacred Grove, where Joseph Smith prayed and had the First Vision.
9. This ancient prophet came to the Kirtland Temple to restore the sealing power (Doctrine and Covenants 110:13–16).
12. Doing temple and family history _____ makes us happy.
13. Paul talks about baptism for the _____ in 1 Corinthians 15:29.
14. This beautiful temple has been rebuilt to match the one that burned down in 1848.

DOWN ⬇

2. The first temple built in Canada.
3. The first temple built in Great Britain.
4. People married in the temple are married for time and all _____.
6. The Winter Quarters Nebraska Temple is near the city of _____.
8. The first temple in this dispensation was built in _____, Ohio.
10. Because we _____ our families, we want to be together forever.
11. The temple in _____ was the first to be built on an island in the Pacific Ocean.

(See answers on page 48.)

With your parents' permission, and if the weather is nice, go for a walk—or sit outside and look at nature. In the temple, we are taught about the Creation. Think about all of Heavenly Father's gifts as you walk on the grass, look at the stars, or listen to the birds. You might want to take your scriptures outside and read about the Creation (see Moses 2–3:19).



Make a special effort to be like Jesus. Above all, don't fight with your brothers and sisters or disobey the baby-sitter. Fighting invites Satan's influence. Instead, be especially kind to everyone.

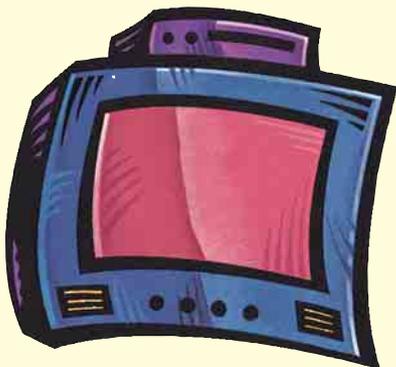


In the temple, sacred ordinances such as baptism, eternal marriage, and the sealing of children to their parents are performed for our ancestors. Remember that someday you will be someone's ancestor! Work on your scrapbook or write in your journal. Your grandchildren will want to know what you were like.



And, behold, the glory of the L

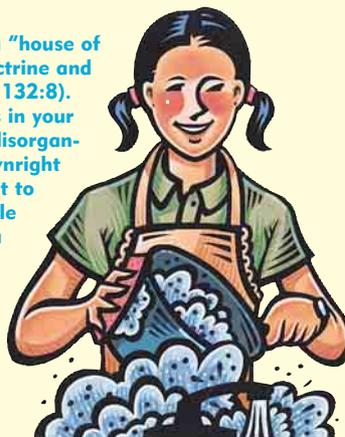
TEMP



If you have a Church video, you might watch it, then look for what it was about in the scriptures or in the *Friend*. Afterward, draw a picture of the temple your parents went to.

The temple is a "house of order" (see Doctrine and Covenants 119:120, 132:8).

If any of the rooms in your house seem a little disorganized—or are downright messy—you may want to make your house a little more orderly. Can you imagine how pleased your parents would be to find the living room dusted, the dishes washed, or your own room cleaned up?



Bear your testimony. You don't have to wait for fast Sunday to talk about Jesus. If you have no one to share your testimony with, you can write it in your journal, in a letter to your parents, or in a note to a friend.

Remember that when you are twelve, if you are worthy, you will be able to enter the temple to do baptisms for the dead. Later you will return to receive your own endowment, be sealed to your spouse, and do those ordinances for the dead. Draw a picture of your favorite temple and pin it on your wall to remind you of your goal.

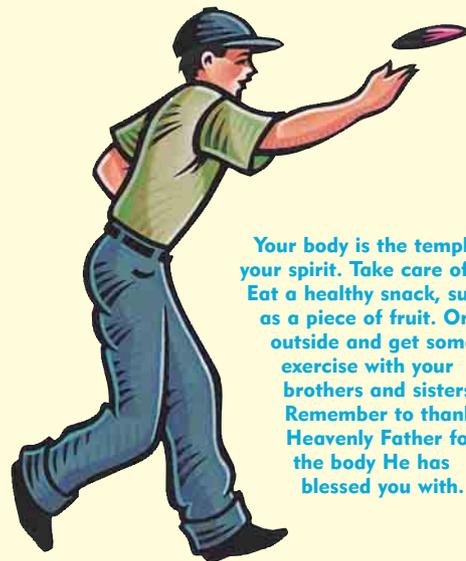


Lord filled the house (Ezekiel 43:5).

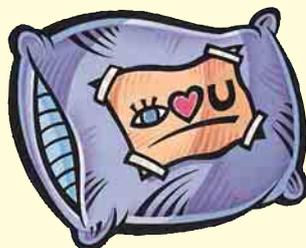
TEMPLE TIME

By Kimberly Webb

The blessings of the temple are for the whole family, even if only Mom and Dad may enter it. The temple is a reverent and holy place. When your parents come home from the temple, it would be nice if your home felt like a temple because of the peace and love inside. Here are a few things you and your parents might talk about your doing to invite the Spirit into your home while your parents are at the temple.

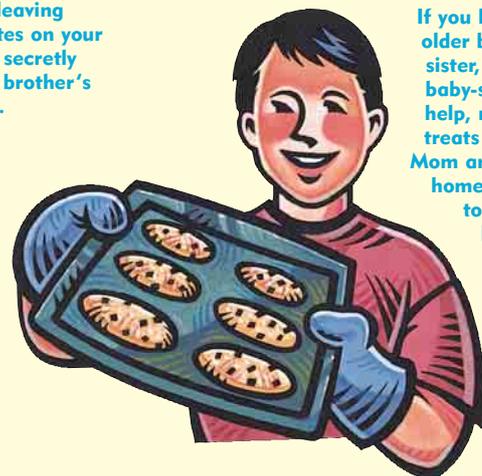


Your body is the temple of your spirit. Take care of it. Eat a healthy snack, such as a piece of fruit. Or go outside and get some exercise with your brothers and sisters. Remember to thank Heavenly Father for the body He has blessed you with.



Do fun acts of service such as leaving nice notes on your parents' pillows or secretly doing one of your brother's or sister's chores.

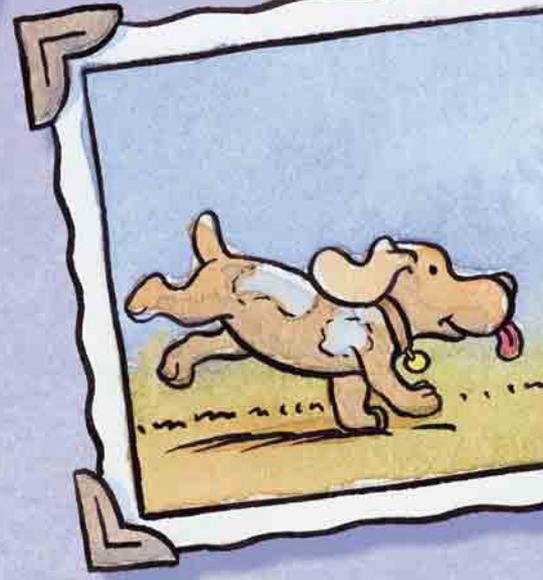
If you play a musical instrument, practice playing Church hymns or other sacred music. If you don't play an instrument, sing Church hymns or listen to uplifting music. (There are songs about the temple in *Children's Songbook* and in *Hymns*.)



If you have an older brother, sister, or willing baby-sitter to help, make treats for when Mom and Dad get home. Be sure to clean up before they come.

When your parents come home, greet them at the door with a hug and a kiss.





*It is such a happy day When the fam'ly gets
together (Children's Songbook, page 199).*

Slugger

By Bonny Dahlsurd

It was six o'clock on Friday
when she went up to bat.
Her muscles sure were mighty
as she straightened out her hat.

She dusted off home plate
and wiped a sweaty brow.
She swung a little late—
"Strike one" the call was now.

She squinted at the pitcher,
she popped her bubble gum,
she kicked dirt past the catcher,
and then she finally swung.

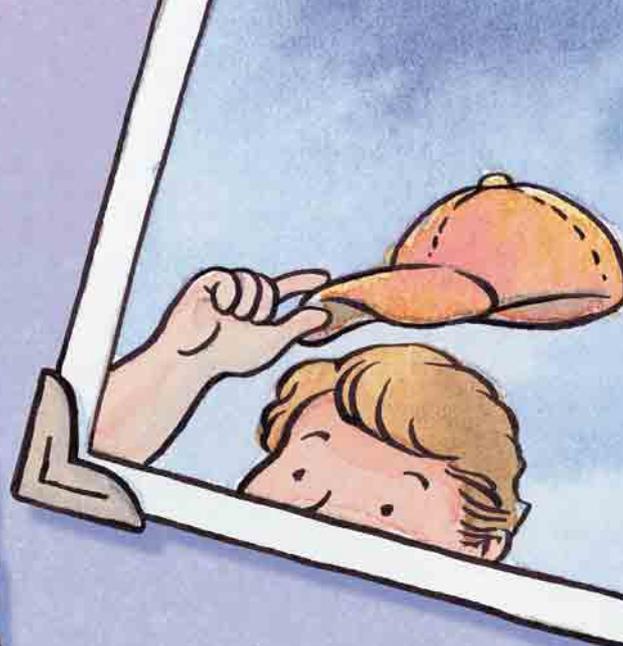
"Strike two," the umpire shouted,
though two strikes for her are rare.
But the batter only pouted,
and she gave a deadly stare.

The third ball didn't pass her
as she choked up on the bat.
Her tanned muscles made a ripple,
and then the ball went splat!

I heard the fans get louder
as the ball sailed out of sight.
I watched her round the bases
with a whoop of sheer delight.

Mom giggled; then she hugged me.
Dad ruffled up my hair.
My family sure went crazy
when that ball shot through the air.

I felt my cheeks get hot. I blushed—
I always feel like that.
I'm proud and yet embarrassed
when Grandma's up at bat.





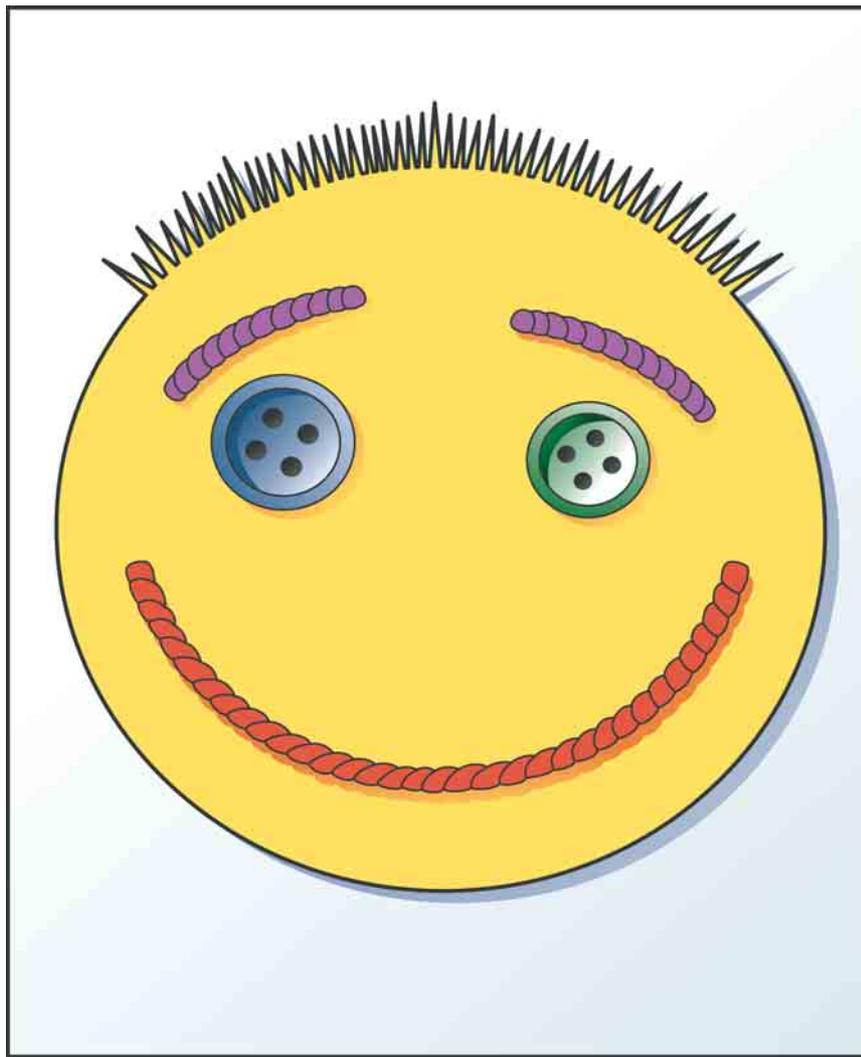
Let your requests be made known unto God (Philippians 4:6).

Stacy's Prayer

By Linda Pratt

(Based on a true story)

The day was warm and sunny with high, fluffy s and a soft, cool breeze. Stacy hurried to the small wooden shed behind her to get her bicycle. It was a perfect afternoon for riding. When Stacy opened the door, she saw her pink bicycle tangled with her brother's big blue mountain and her sister's ten-speed . Stacy pulled and tugged but could not get her free from the others. Stacy sat on the grass in front of the door, thinking. She remembered that her Primary teacher had told her to pray when she needed help. Stacy closed her eyes and asked Heavenly Father to help her get her bicycle unstuck. After praying, Stacy looked up at the tangled bicycles. " See my knot get my bicycle loose, but Dad," she said. Stacy raced in to the house and found Dad working on his computer. When she explained the problem, Dad smiled and followed her out to the backyard. In a few minutes, he separated the bicycles. Stacy thanked Dad, then rode happily away. She thanked Heavenly Father, to, for answering her prayer by helping her know what to do.



Smiley O'Reilly

By Judy Murphy

Almost every story you have ever heard is about someone being happy or sad. In some stories, people are happy, then sad, then happy. Or the story may be more complicated—like happy, sad, happy, very sad, very happy. During the story, a person may also be angry, worried, fearful, or full of laughter. Smiley O'Reilly is your story-telling pal. He can show all these feelings and more. Use him in family home evening or whenever someone is reading a scripture story to you.

You will need: scissors; ruler; wool or flannel fabric; glue; an 8 1/2" x 11" (22 cm x 28 cm) sheet of heavy paper; two buttons; and thick, soft yarn—one piece, 4 1/2" (12 cm) long and two pieces 2" (5 cm) long.

1. Cut out a circle of fabric about 8" (20 cm) across.
2. Fray the fabric at the top of the circle by carefully pulling the threads. This is Smiley's hair.
3. Glue the circle to the center of the paper.
4. Glue on the two buttons as eyes.
5. The shorter pieces of yarn are eyebrows. The longer piece is a mouth. Press them on to show the expression you want. Try making lots of different expressions to show how Smiley feels.



The Lord's Temple

(With hand actions)

By Stacey Rasmussen

1



I'll prepare myself in every way
(Point to self with finger.)

2



To go to the Lord's temple someday.
(Bring hands together, with index fingers forming a steeple.)

3



I'll go to church to learn all I can
(Point to the side of the head.)

4



And read the scriptures to know
His plan.
(Hold palms up to form an open book.)

5



I'll pray to the Lord both night and day
(Arms folded as if in prayer.)

6



And watch my tongue in all that I say.
(Point to mouth.)

7

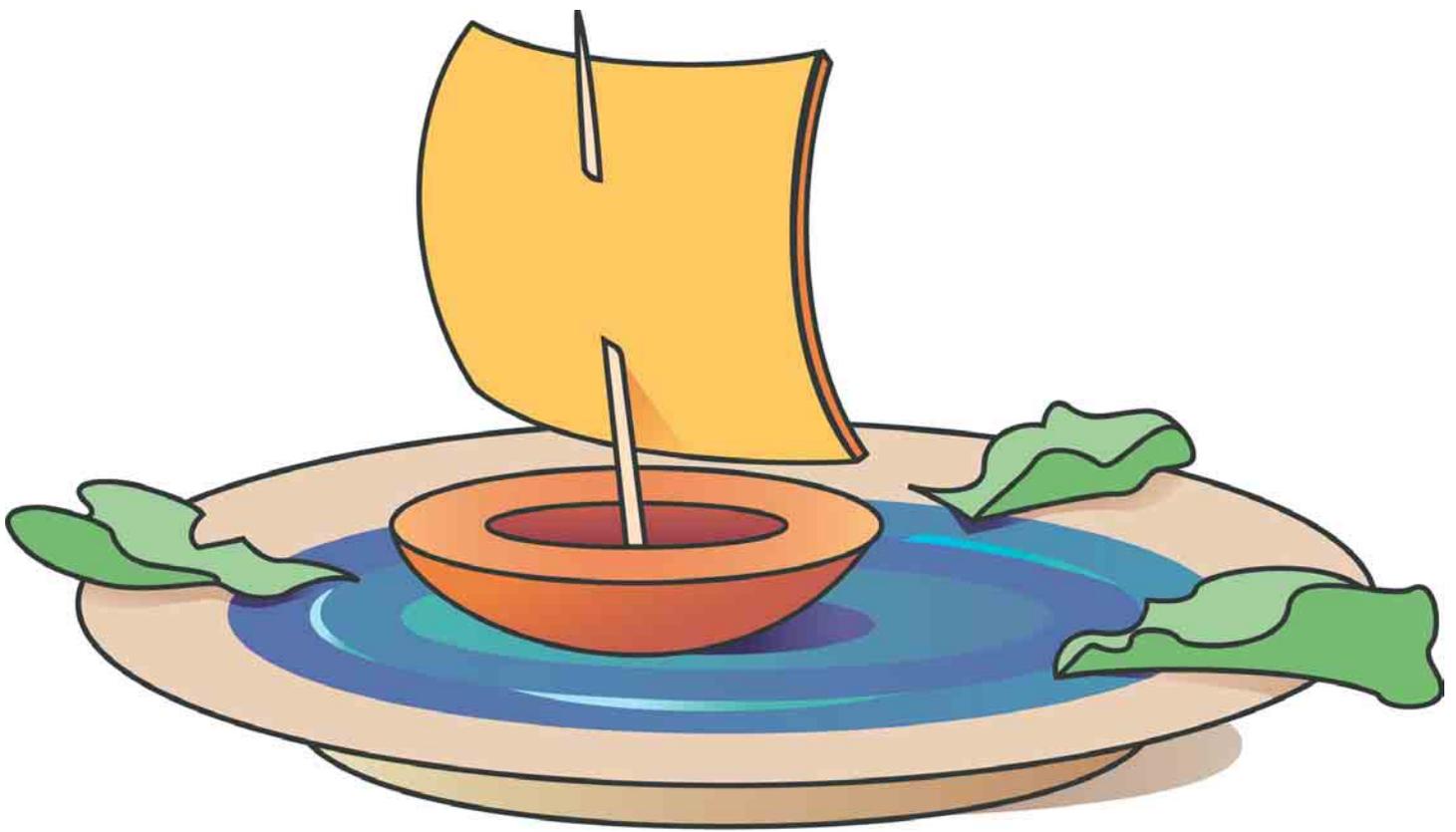


I'll hold tight to the iron rod
(Hands holding imaginary rod.)

8



So I might enter the house of God.
(Bring hands together with index fingers raised to form a steeple.)



Boat Salad

By Lee Hill-Nelson

Big boats are called ships. Ask an older person to look up "Ship" in the Topical Guide to the Bible and read or tell you one of the stories referred to while you make your Boat Salad.

To make a Boat Salad, you will need: 1 package (3 ounces/85g) blueberry gelatin, canned peach or canned apricot halves (drained), toothpicks, slices of stiff cheese, small pieces of lettuce.

1. Prepare the gelatin according to the package directions. Pour a small amount onto five salad plates and let set in the refrigerator. These are the lakes.
2. Place pieces of lettuce around each lake.
3. Set a peach or apricot half, cut-side-up, in the middle of each lake for the boat. Cut the cheese into small rectangles and thread a toothpick through each one for a sail. Place a sail in the center of each boat.

*Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother
(Deuteronomy 15:11).*

By Arthur Barrett (Based on a true story)

June pushed as Grandpa pulled the old red wagon up and down the long rows of vegetables. Grandpa stooped to inspect a knee-high, leafy green plant. “June, here are some nice big green peppers. Do you think that they are ready to pick?”

June stooped down to look. “Yup.” She carefully picked one and held it up to Grandpa for final approval.

“Yup,” Grandpa agreed. “Just right.”

June smiled and picked two more. She carefully placed them next to the corn in the

wagon. The wagon was almost full, but there were still cucumbers, green beans, and squash to harvest.

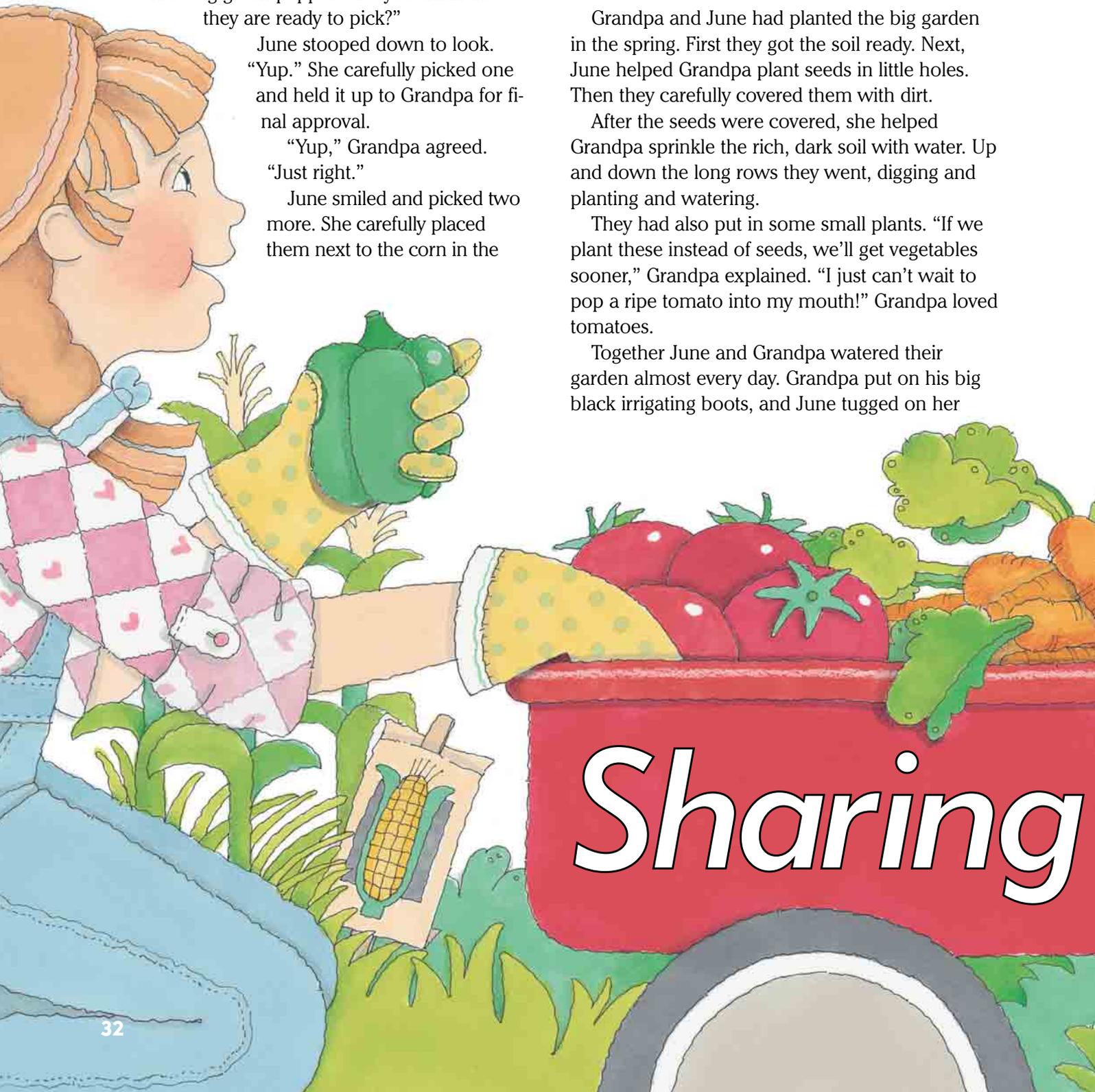
She beamed as she looked at the beautiful fresh vegetables in the wagon. There were big red tomatoes, ears of yellow corn, orange carrots, leafy green lettuce, red radishes, and now, big green peppers.

Grandpa and June had planted the big garden in the spring. First they got the soil ready. Next, June helped Grandpa plant seeds in little holes. Then they carefully covered them with dirt.

After the seeds were covered, she helped Grandpa sprinkle the rich, dark soil with water. Up and down the long rows they went, digging and planting and watering.

They had also put in some small plants. “If we plant these instead of seeds, we’ll get vegetables sooner,” Grandpa explained. “I just can’t wait to pop a ripe tomato into my mouth!” Grandpa loved tomatoes.

Together June and Grandpa watered their garden almost every day. Grandpa put on his big black irrigating boots, and June tugged on her



Sharing

little blue rubber puddle hoppers. It was fun walking up and down the long rows, getting their boots muddy while they made sure that each plant got enough to drink.

Grandpa and June spent a lot of time weeding the long rows of vegetables, too. "Weeds drink up all the water," Grandpa explained. "Now what is this I see?"

June squatted next to Grandpa to have a look. "Does it look like the plants around it?" Grandpa asked.

June compared the green plant to those near it. "Nope."

"Weed or vegetable?"

"Weed," June stated firmly and pulled it out with a hard jerk.

"Yup," Grandpa said with a big smile, "you sure are a good gardener."

June looked up at Grandpa. "Wow, Grandpa, we sure have lots of vegetables!"

"Yup, with lots more to come!" He unloaded the last acorn squash from the wagon onto the back porch. He sat down and wiped his forehead with his little red handkerchief. "Well, June, do you

think we can eat all these vegetables ourselves?"

"Nope. We couldn't eat that many in a hundred years."

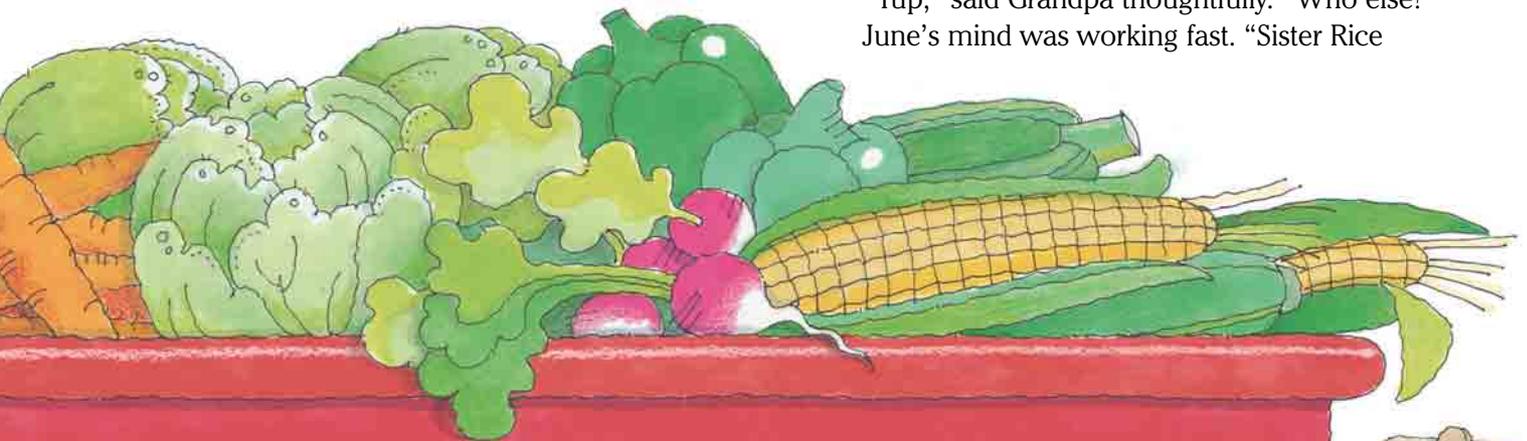
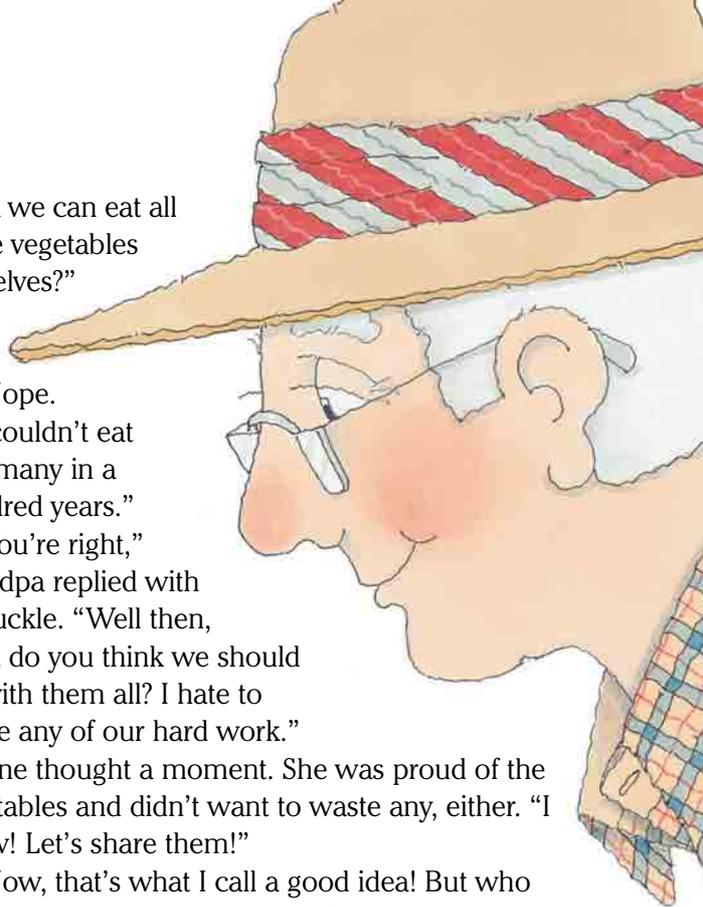
"You're right," Grandpa replied with a chuckle. "Well then, what do you think we should do with them all? I hate to waste any of our hard work."

June thought a moment. She was proud of the vegetables and didn't want to waste any, either. "I know! Let's share them!"

"Now, that's what I call a good idea! But who do you think would want some?"

June didn't have to think very hard. "Sister Rencher doesn't have a garden since she can't bend down to pull weeds anymore. I bet she would like some."

"Yup," said Grandpa thoughtfully. "Who else?" June's mind was working fast. "Sister Rice



the Harvest



works all day. She doesn't have time to plant and care for a garden."

"Good thinking, June. And the Sorensens next door don't have room in their yard for a garden. I bet they would like some."

"May we give some vegetables to my Primary teacher, Sister Johnson?" June asked. "I know she would like them."

"Yup," Grandpa said. "Now, how many people is that?"

June counted on her fingers. "Sister Rencher is one. Sister Rice is two. The Sorensens are three, and Sister Johnson makes four."

Grandpa scratched his gray head. "How can we get all these vegetables to all those people?"

"I know! I know!" She jumped up and went into the house. Soon she was back, carrying four big brown grocery sacks. "We can put vegetables in a different sack for each person!"

"That's a great idea," Grandpa said. Together June and Grandpa thoughtfully chose vegetables for each person and carefully put them into the sacks.

"How can we get the sacks of vegetables to the people?" Grandpa asked.

"Can we take them in our wagon?"

"Yup. I think that will work," Grandpa said.

"You always have such good ideas! Now, who should we visit first?"

"The Sorensens. They're the closest."

Later, June held Grandpa's hand as they pulled the empty wagon home. They had delivered all their vegetables. June's small hand felt warm and secure inside Grandpa's big one. She felt good inside.

"Grandpa, it's sure fun to plant a garden. It's even more fun to weed and water it.

But do you know what's the most fun of all?"

"What?"

"Sharing the vegetables."

"Yup," said Grandpa with a big smile.



"Relationships with neighbors [and] friends . . . will be enhanced [made better] as we approach them with 'the pure love of Christ.' . . . We will find joy in . . . doing volunteer work of worth."

**Elder Russell M. Nelson
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles
(Ensign, May 1996, page 15.)**

FRIENDS IN THE NEWS



Sarah Thornock, 6, Layton, Utah, likes to draw, especially pictures of the prophet. She also likes to dance ballet and play with her younger brother, Ben, and her friends.



KC Brough, 10, Gaithersburg, Maryland, recently earned both the Faith in God Award and Gospel in Action Award. He has also memorized all thirteen articles of faith and is doing well in school.



Ariana Milne, 3, Whyalla Norrie, South Australia, Australia, likes going to church and wants to follow the prophet. Her favourite Primary songs are "Popcorn Popping" and "Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam."



Zachary Plumley, 7, Farmington, Utah, enjoys soccer, computers, and playing with his friends. He loves his little sister and brother and helps take good care of them. He is preparing for baptism.



Anna Zimmerman, 7, Topeka, Kansas, read the Book of Mormon all by herself in sixty-eight days. She says that it "feels great" to complete her goal.



Mikhail McIntosh, 11, Casper, Wyoming, likes to read and to have family home evening. He likes to visit relatives in Brazil and to play the violin. He will miss Primary when he turns twelve.



A loyal friend and sister, **Melanie Miller, 7,** Meridian, Idaho, likes to read, attend school, and play soccer. She loves animals and is looking forward to being baptized.



Brandon Tucker, 8, Neola, Utah, looks forward to serving a mission like his Uncle Anthony. He enjoys Primary, and the happiest time of his life so far was when he was baptized. He also likes to swim.



Daviana Saiz, 6, Mesa, Arizona, enjoys being with friends both at Primary and at school. She likes to sing and go to family home evening. She is preparing to be baptized.



Spencer Calveard, 5, Pasco, Washington, likes to play on the computer and go swimming. He takes his scriptures to church every Sunday. He is excited to watch the building of the Columbia River Washington Temple.



A happy and friendly girl, **Devin Jill Carpenter, 9,** Amman, Jordan, enjoys making people laugh. She likes to help in the kitchen, tell stories, read the Book of Mormon, and teach family home evening lessons.



Erik Dickamore, 4, Logan, Utah, likes to go to Primary, play games with his dad, and play outside with his friends. He loves his little sister, Gretchen, and all his grandparents. He is a very helping and loving boy.



Rebekah Wooton, 10, Shalimar, Florida, likes to read. As part of her Gospel in Action Award, she organized a beach clean-up near her home. She was born in Hawaii and has lived in Virginia, Alabama, and Utah.



Kenner Keali'i Shumway, 5, Ewa Beach, Hawaii, enjoys Primary and recently memorized all of the articles of faith with his CTR class. He enjoys soccer, reading, and playing the piano. He is a great brother.



Alexis Boyd, 8, Chino Hills, California, likes to read, swim, play soccer, and be with her cousins. She looks forward to reading the *Friend* every month. She enjoys family home evening. This is a surprise from her mother.



Jesus Cabrera Sollo, 9, Oaxaca, Mexico, does well in school. He likes to fast each fast Sunday because it gives him strength. He tries to share the gospel with his friends. He likes sports and wants to be a soldier someday.



Alexis Haycock, 5, Lima, Ohio, likes family home evening and learning about Jesus. She thinks Elder L. Tom Perry has "the cutest smile"; that is how she recognizes him.



A good example to his family, **Judson "Carver" Blackman, 11,** Ogden, Utah, likes to give talks in Primary and share his testimony with others. He is working hard to get his First Class in Scouting and likes to play soccer.



Tawnee Bikman, 10, Barnwell, Alberta, Canada, is a very good artist. She likes to swim and read. She enjoys dancing, creating handshakes, and singing from the *Children's Songbook*.



The middle of five children, **Jordan Johnston, 8,** Glendale, Arizona, enjoys Cub Scouts, baseball, soccer, and playing the piano. He likes to learn scripture stories and is a big help with his youngest brother.



Eliza Louie Becker, 7, Kingston, Ontario, Canada, was in her first triathlon this year. She likes the piano, gymnastics, and attending Primary. She looks forward to being baptized.

Please send submissions to Friends in the News, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3226. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least six months. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published. Upon request, material not published will be returned to sender if a self-addressed, stamped envelope is enclosed.



“The Heart of the Children”

And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers (Malachi 4:6).

By Vicki F. Matsumori

wish I were older!

Have you ever thought that? You have heard the age requirements to go to the temple: you must be 12 years old to be baptized for the dead, and even older to receive your own endowments, serve a full-time mission, or be married. It seems like a long time before you are the right age to help with temple work.

But there are other things you can do right now, even if you aren't old enough to be baptized for the dead, serve a mission, or get married.

In 1978, President Spencer W. Kimball told Church members:

"All members should write a personal history. . . .

"I urge all of the people of this church to give serious attention to their family histories . . . and let no family go into eternity without having left their memoirs (an account of their family) for their children, their grandchildren, and their posterity. . . . I urge every person to start the children out writing a personal history and journal." (*Ensign*, May 1978, page 4.)

Why is it important to keep a journal and do family history work? President Gordon B. Hinckley gave the answer when he said:

"All of our vast family history endeavor (effort) is directed to temple work. There is no other purpose for it. The temple ordinances become the crowning blessings the Church has to offer." (*Ensign*, May 1998, page 88.)

When you do family history work or write in your journal, you are helping to “turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers” (Malachi 4:6). As you

learn stories about your grandparents and other progenitors (ancestors, forefathers), you see into their hearts and you develop an appreciation for them as real people—as members of your family. As you write about your own life in your journal, you will remember the Lord’s blessings to you, and you will provide an opportunity for your future children and grandchildren to see into your heart.

You can begin doing family history today by talking to, phoning, writing to, or sending e-mails to family members. You can find out about the things that are important to them. You can begin writing your personal history today by starting a journal. Write down the things that are important to you and that will help you and your posterity. (See Journal Page on page 39.)

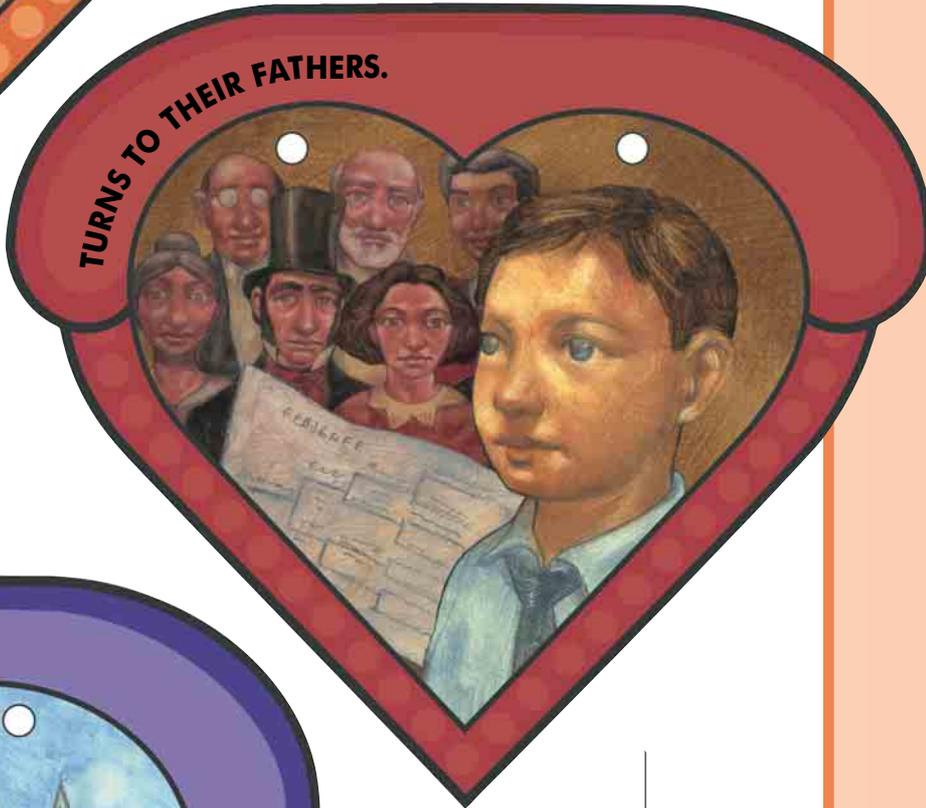
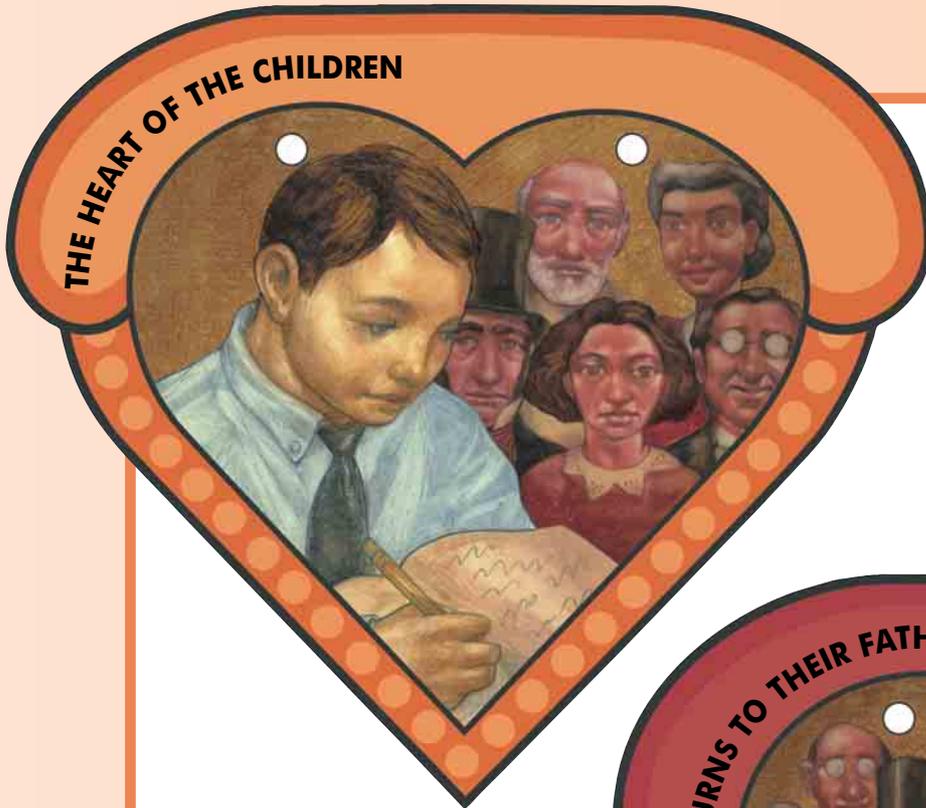
You can live the commandments and be worthy to go to the temple when you are twelve so that you can be baptized for the dead. You can choose the right each day so that when you are older, you can go to the temple to receive your own endowments. You can continue to live a righteous life and be worthy to return to the temple and do work to help your entire family, including your progenitors, receive the “crowning blessings the Church has to offer.”

HEART PENDANT

1. Mount page 37 on heavy paper or lightweight cardboard; cut out the three hearts.

2. Fold the hearts in half, and glue each half to a half of a different heart (see illustration). (Note: If you want to make more than one pendant, make a pattern from the hearts before gluing them.)

3. Punch holes where indicated. Attach a string to each hole, then tie the strings together over the center of the pendant so that it hangs evenly. Hang the heart where you can see it every day as a reminder to write in your journal.



ILLUSTRATION

SHARING TIME IDEAS

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

1. To help the children understand the part they play in helping others receive ordinances in the temple, give each child a piece of paper and a paper doll (this can be as simple as an outline of a child). Have him/her write his/her name on the piece of paper, then the name of an ancestor who has passed away (or make up a name) on the paper doll. Let them color the paper doll.

On a wall, place a picture of a child being baptized. Sing “When Jesus Christ Was Baptized” (p. 102). Invite all those who have been baptized to attach their names around the picture. Sing “I Like My Birthdays” (p. 104). Have all those who plan to be baptized add their names to the wall. Explain that people who have died cannot be baptized, so people who are living must be baptized in the temple for them. Tell the children that when they are twelve, if they have a temple recommend, they can be baptized and confirmed for their ancestors and others who have died. Place a picture of a temple baptismal font on the wall. Have the children place their paper dolls around this picture.

Place a picture of a temple on another wall. Explain that in the temple, people receive their endowments (see Sharing Time footnote, *Friend*, Jan. 2002, p. 30, and Glossary in 2002 Outline for Sharing Time and the CSMP) and also may be sealed to their families.

Sing “I Love to See the Temple” (p. 95). Have the children move their names from the baptism wall to the temple wall as a symbol of their commitment to be worthy to go to the temple when they are old enough. Sing “Truth from Elijah” (pp. 90–91). Have the children take their paper dolls and attach them around the temple picture. Explain that the dolls represent those who have died and cannot go to the temple themselves.

Express gratitude for being able to do temple work for your own ancestors and others who have died. Share with them your feelings about the blessing of having families sealed for eternity.

2. Help the children see how family records assist others in doing family history work. Using the scriptures, have the children fill in a pedigree chart for a Book of Mormon family.

On the chalkboard, draw a seven-generation family tree, following the fathers' lines. On the child line, write “4 Nephi 1:21.” On the father line, write “4 Nephi 1:19.” On the grandfather line, write “3 Nephi 1:2.” On succeeding-generation father lines, write “Helaman 3:20–21,” “Alma 63:11,” “Alma 31:1, 7,” “Mosiah 27:8.” Cover the references with pieces of paper.

On separate pieces of paper, write “Amos,” “Amos,” “Nephi,” “Helaman,” “Helaman,” “Alma,” “Alma.” Place the names in random order on the walls around the room.

Uncover the first (child) reference. Have the children find the scripture and raise their hands when they know whose name goes on that line. Ask a child to read the verse out loud, then locate one of the “Amos” names and place it on the line over the reference. Sing the first verse of “Book of Mormon Stories” (pp. 118–119). Continue uncovering the references one by one, then reading the scripture aloud and locating the correct name for the pedigree chart. Sing different verses of “Book of Mormon Stories” between each generation. Some of the verses relate directly to the people mentioned on the chart; other verses deal with the approximate time period: Amos, v. 2; Nephi, v. 8; Helaman, v. 7; Helaman, v. 6; Alma, v. 3; Alma, v. 4.

For younger children: Invite seven priesthood holders to dress in simple costumes and role-play the seven generations, starting with Alma. Have each tell a story about the man he represents, if a story is available. (See the scriptures, the backs of GAK pictures, and *Primary 4* manual for ideas.) Have the man representing the first Alma hold the Book of Mormon while he tells his story. Upon finishing, he should write his name on the great-great-great-great-grandfather line, then hand the Book of Mormon to his son (Alma) to continue. Repeat this process, with the second Amos testifying of the truthfulness of the Book of Mormon and the knowledge that was passed from father to son. Sing “Book of Mormon Stories” (p. 118).

3. To help children understand the importance of keeping records, prepare a reader's-theater script (see *TNGC*, p. 177) of Nephi returning to Jerusalem to get the brass plates from Laban (see 1 Ne. 3–4). Using the scriptures as a guide, include parts for a narrator, Lehi, Nephi, Laman, Lemuel, an angel, and Zoram. You may wish to delete some verses to help the reader's theater run smoothly. Keep these key verses: 1 Ne. 3:7, 19–20, 29; 4:6.

Use simple name tags or costumes to identify each part. Have all the children except the angel read from the script; have the angel read 1 Ne. 3:29 directly from the scripture.

Sing “Nephi's Courage” (pp. 120–121).

Prepare slips of paper with these references: 1 Nephi 19:heading, 1; Jacob 4:1–4;

Alma 37:1–3; Abraham book heading, 1:31; Jeremiah 30:1–2; Enos 1:1–2, 13, 16; 3 Nephi 5:14–15, 20. Place the slips in a container. On the chalkboard, write these headings: WHO, WHAT, and WHY. Divide the children into seven groups. Have each group choose and read one of the scriptures and report on who kept the record, what was written, and why that person wrote it. Read Omni 1:17 to explain what happens when records are not kept. Explain that one of the most important reasons for keeping records in the Book of Mormon is to testify of Jesus Christ (see 1 Ne. 13:40).

For younger children: Have children give an appropriate dramatization of Moroni's delivering the plates to Joseph Smith.

4. Invite ward/branch members to visit Primary and share an excerpt from their journals. Older members could read about their childhood; a returned missionary could share a missionary experience; a young woman could tell about a personal-progress goal; a parent could tell of his/her joy at the birth of a child. Have the guests also express their feelings about the value of keeping a journal for themselves as well as for their posterity.

Draw a time line on the chalkboard to reflect various events in your life. Draw hills and valleys to represent good times and bad times, and label them with dates and short explanations. For example, you might draw a hill for the Christmas of 1985, when your grandparents visited, or a valley for the summer of 1990 when a pet died. Bear testimony of the importance of keeping a personal history.

Work with the music leader to sing songs that help the children recall events in their lives. Have them draw a time line in their “The Temple—I'm Going There Someday” booklets, labeling dates and writing simple statements of what occurred at that time. Begin by singing “I Am a Child of God” (pp. 2–3) and have them write the date of their birth and “I am born” at the beginning of the line. Sing songs that represent different ages, such as “Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam” (pp. 60–61), “Choose the Right Way” (pp. 160–161), “I Will Be Valiant” (p. 162), and songs that represent different times of the year, such as “Oh, What Do You Do in the Summertime?” (p. 245), “Popcorn Popping” (pp. 242–243), “Once There Was a Snowman” (p. 249), a Christmas song, and a birthday song. Invite the children to help their families make time lines during their family home evenings.

5. Invite a ward family history specialist to explain the importance of doing family history work. Have the specialist demonstrate how to fill out a simple family group sheet. Review the process of filling out a pedigree chart by drawing a four-generation chart on the chalkboard. Choose a child to fill in his/her first name on the child line. Sing “I Am a Child of God” (pp. 2–3). Have the child choose two other children to represent the parents. Use simple costumes or props for the parents, and have them sign their names in the appropriate places. Sing “A Happy Family” (p. 198). Have the children representing parents each choose two children to represent the grandparents; give them simple props to hold or costumes to wear. Have them sign their names on the appropriate lines. Sing “The Hearts of the Children” (pp. 92–93) or “Truth from Elijah” (p. 90). Have each of the grandparents also choose their parents and give them simple props or costumes. Have these great-grandparents sign their names on the chart. Sing “Family History—I Am Doing It” (p. 94).

Give the children family group sheets to take home and fill out with their families. In their “The Temple—I'm Going There Someday” booklets, have the children begin a pedigree chart by writing down their own names and as much information as they know. Express gratitude for the blessings of learning about your ancestors and your desire to be with them eternally.

6. *Song presentation:* Sing “The Hearts of the Children” (pp. 92–93) or “Family History—I Am Doing It” (p. 94) line by line and have the children suggest appropriate hand actions to help them remember the lyrics, the message, and the feeling of the song. Have them sing the first line and do an action with you. Repeat, using different suggested actions until the children are satisfied that they have decided on the best action to represent the message. Move to the next line and repeat the process until you have actions for the entire song. Note: Hand actions are appropriate for Primary singing and practice but not for the sacrament meeting presentation.

Possible actions for “The Hearts of the Children” might include: place hand over the heart for “hearts of the children”; point upward for “fathers”; hold hands like a book for “prophecy”; wiggle fingers for “family”; and link arms for “sealed.”

Possible actions for “Family History—I Am Doing It” might include wiggle fingers for “family”; make writing motion for “I am doing it”; place the hand over the heart for “love”; point to self for “me”; hold hands like a book for “stories”; point upward for “progenitors”; make writing motion for “write their history”; and flip pages of a book for “keep records.”

7. Additional *Friend* resources: Journal Page, each month this year (see Contents page in each issue for page numbers); “My Book of Remembrance,” July 2000, pp. 16–17; “Family Togetherness,” Feb. 2000, p. 23; “Climbing the Family Tree,” June 1999, p. 35; Exploring: “Family Treasures,” Oct. 1999, p. 35; “The Story Quilt,” Jan. 1999, pp. 16–19; Exploring: “A Century of Genealogy,” Mar. 1994, pp. 34–35. See also: “Bridges and Eternal Keepsakes,” *Ensign*, May 1999, pp. 83–85.

Journal Page *By Emily Orgill*

We invite you to keep a journal this year. Each month in 2002, you will find a journal page in the *Friend*. Fill it out, remove it, trim around its dashed lines, and glue it to a piece of heavy paper. If desired, decorate the pages, punch holes as needed, and place in a binder or scrapbook.



Sometimes my
life is difficult.

August Journal 2002

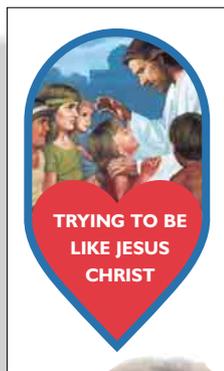


Challenges I Have Overcome This Year _____

Heavenly Father hears and answers my prayers.

When Heavenly Father Answered My Prayers _____

Counsel with the Lord in all thy doings, and he will direct thee for good (Alma 37:37).



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

Member Missionaries

By David Smith



One Sunday, my two youngest children, Johanne and Joshua, made sure that I was available to help them distribute Pass-Along Cards from the *Ensign* to the neighbors. Passing out these cards has become a missionary project for them since that day.

While visiting a neighbor another day, I noticed The Lamb of God video on his table. I asked him about it, and he told me that my children had given him a pass-along card. He is reading the Book of Mormon now.

**Joshua and Johanne Smith, ages 6 and 9
Halfway, Missouri**

Birthday Party Gossip

By Amy Millett

To celebrate my seventh birthday, I had a party at my house. While we were eating cake and ice cream, some of my friends from my school class started making fun of a boy in our class.

It made me feel sad. I told them that they should not say things like that, because it hurts people's feelings.

They said it didn't matter, because he wasn't there to hear it.

I said, "Well, I'm here, and it hurts my feelings."

After that, my friends started to talk about something else. I felt good inside and knew that I had done the right thing. I know that Jesus loves and cares about each person on earth. I am trying to be like Him by treating others with kindness and respect.

**Amy Millett, age 7
Round Rock, Texas**



Fasting for Grandma



Nathaniel Robinson, age 7
Springville, Utah

By Nathaniel Robinson

Because of the attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, my grandma was stranded in Colorado. She was visiting my Uncle Bryan, and she could not get a flight home because they were all cancelled. She needed to get home so that she could take some medicine that would cost a lot of money to get in Colorado.

I asked my mom if I could fast for my grandma, even though it wasn't fast Sunday. Mom thought that that was a good idea. My mom and dad and little sister all fasted and prayed with me, and my grandma was able to make it home safely and get back on her medicine that she needed to take.

I know that Heavenly Father answers prayers, and I know that He loves us and wants to help us.

In the Doctor's Office

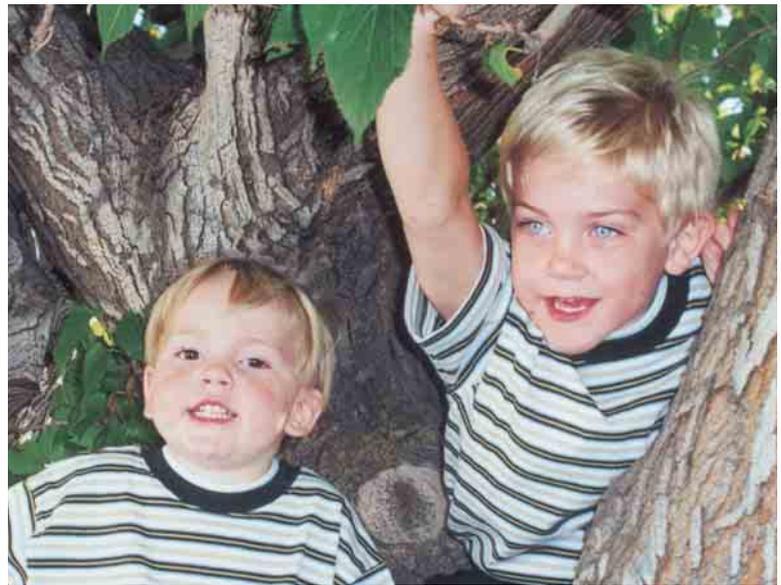
By Susanne Perkins

My husband and I have three children—Thomas (6), Tucker (4), and Madison (1). Thomas and Tucker are learning in Primary about baptism and sharing the gospel.

One day, the children and I were at the doctor's office. A woman with a very small baby came in. The boys love their younger sister, and they were interested in the woman's baby. I told the boys to sing the baby a song instead of trying to touch it. They looked at each other, then started to sing "I Am a Child of God."

Upon finishing the song, Thomas looked straight into the mother's eyes and said, "You know, we are all children of God. Me, my brother, you, your baby, my mom, my sister. Do you go to church? We should all go to church."

The mother sat there smiling. It was a very



Tucker and Thomas Perkins, ages 4 and 6
Moss Beach, California

touching moment that ended when the nurse called us in to see the doctor.

We don't know if we'll ever see the mother and her baby again. What I know is that Thomas and Tucker are practicing the lessons they are learning in Primary and at home about sharing the gospel. And that I should feel comfortable sharing the gospel whenever possible. I pray that they will continue to share the gospel as they grow and that they will always love Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ as they do now.



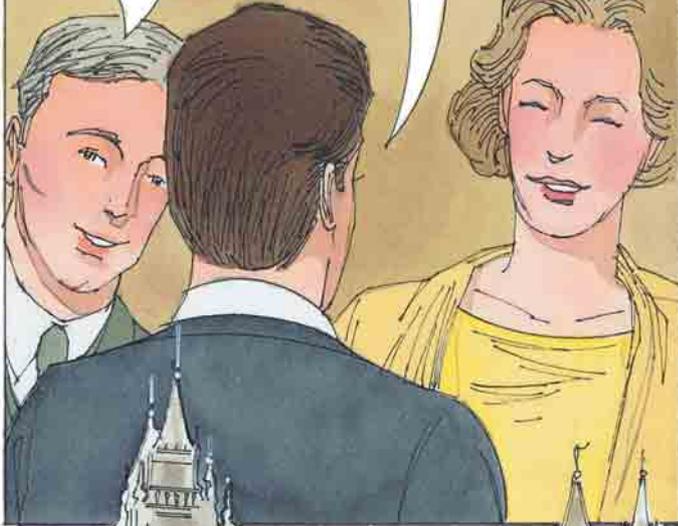
From the Life of President Harold B. Lee

His Eternal Family

Three days after Elder Harold B. Lee arrived in the mission field, he met a sister missionary, Sister Fern Tanner.

Elder Lee, this is Sister Tanner. Wish her happy birthday!

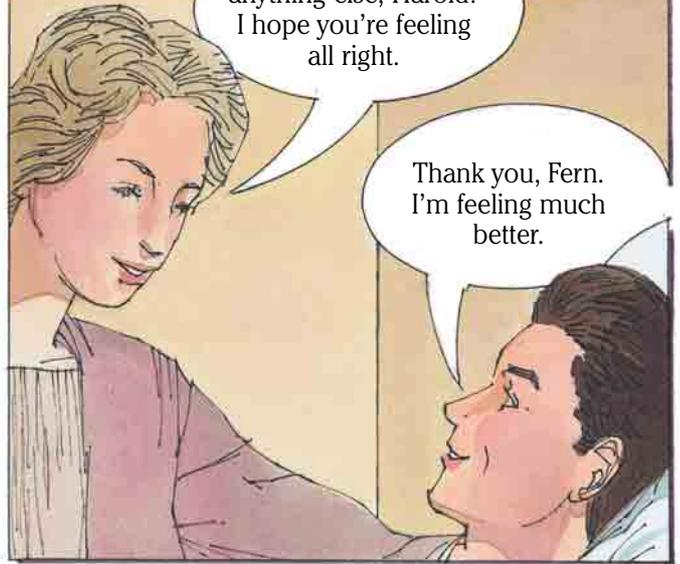
Pleased to meet you, Sister Tanner. And happy birthday to you!



Later, when he was released from his mission, he had an operation in Salt Lake City. Instead of making an uncomfortable trip back to Idaho, he stayed with Sister Tanner and her family to recover.

Can I bring you anything else, Harold? I hope you're feeling all right.

Thank you, Fern. I'm feeling much better.



They raised two daughters, Helen and Maurine.

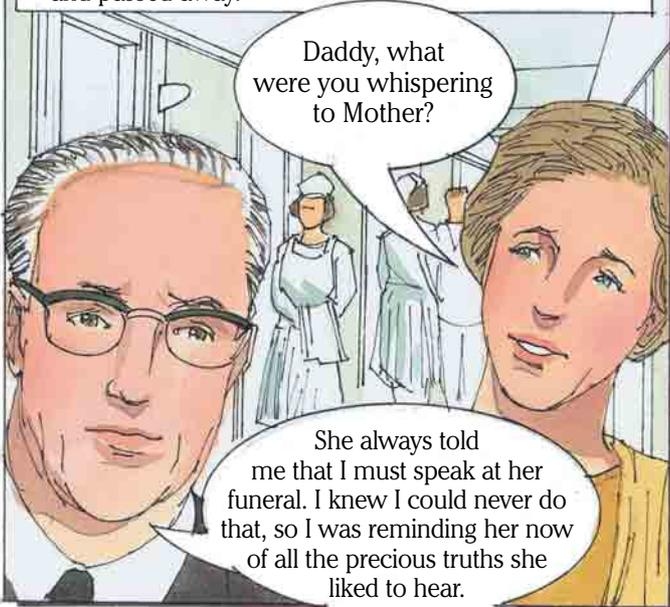
But I want to hear you two practice your beautiful music. Helen, where is your violin? Maurine, sit here at the piano. How I love to hear my daughters play!

Daddy, play one of your marches on the piano! Helen and I want to dance!



Sister Fern Tanner and Elder Harold B. Lee were married in the Salt Lake Temple on November 14, 1923. It was Fern's birthday—exactly three years from the day they met.

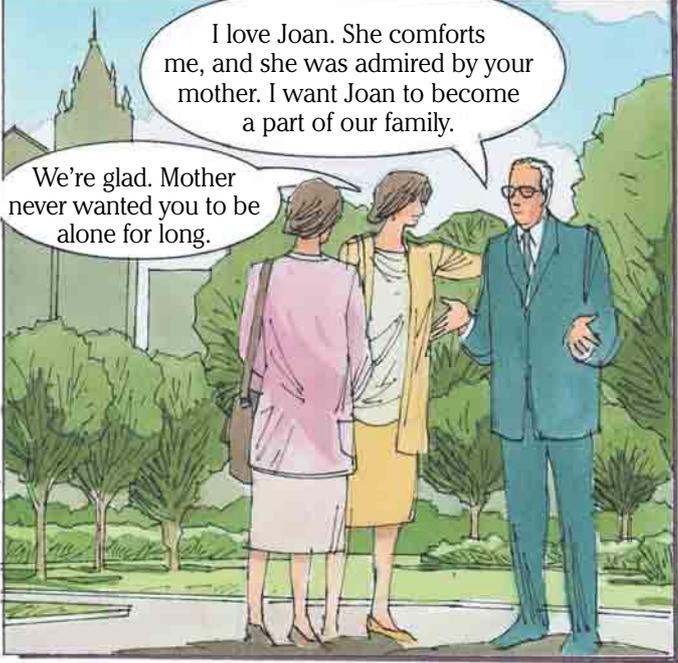
After thirty-nine years of marriage, Fern became ill and passed away.



Daddy, what were you whispering to Mother?

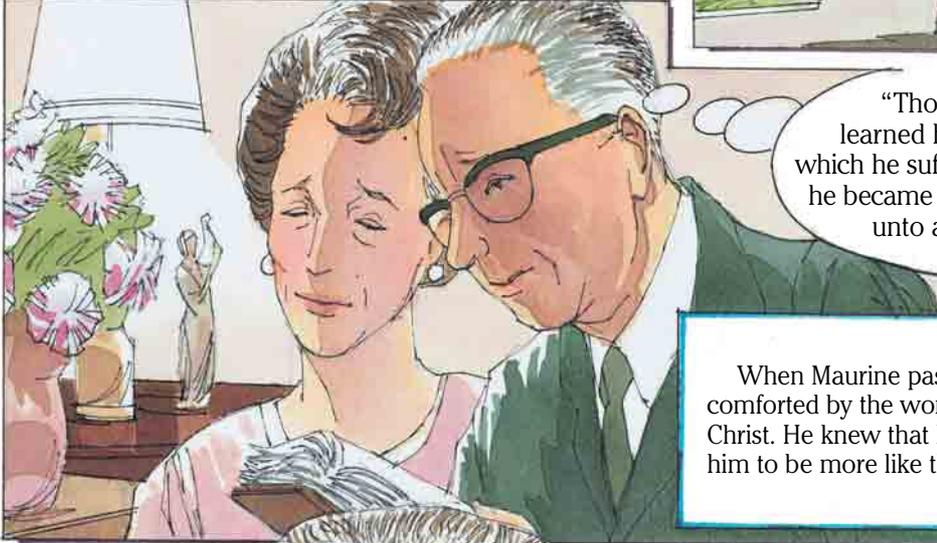
She always told me that I must speak at her funeral. I knew I could never do that, so I was reminding her now of all the precious truths she liked to hear.

A year later, he told his family he had decided to marry Freda Joan Jensen.



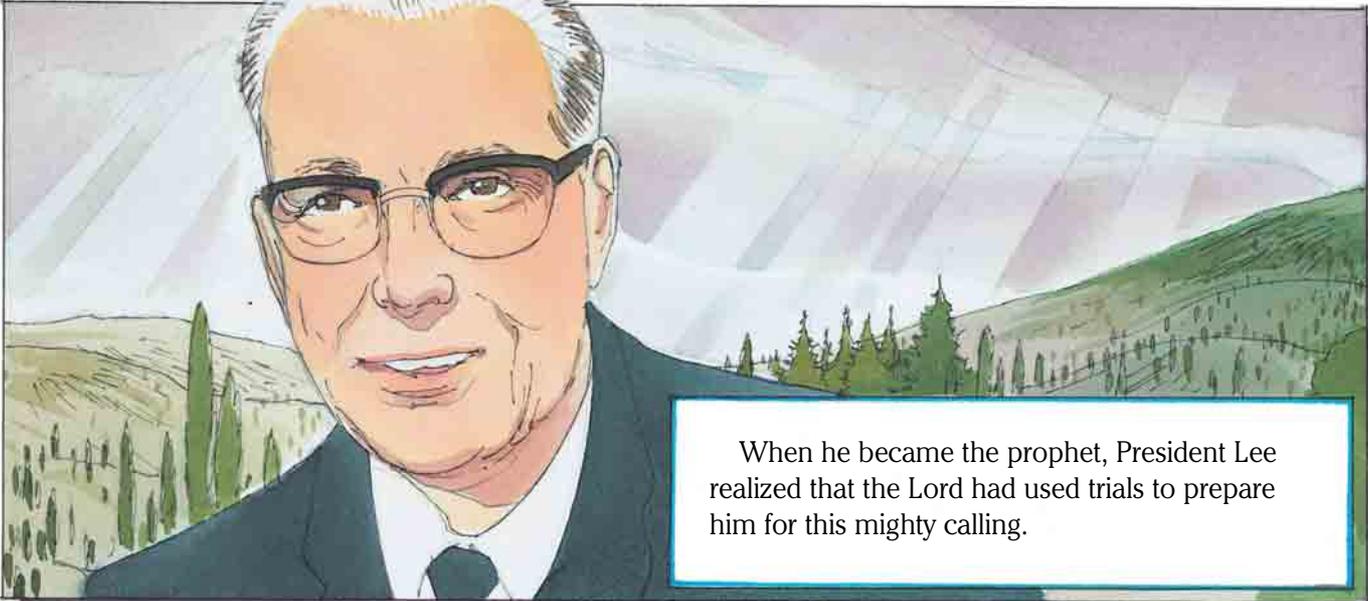
I love Joan. She comforts me, and she was admired by your mother. I want Joan to become a part of our family.

We're glad. Mother never wanted you to be alone for long.



"Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him."

When Maurine passed away two years later, he was comforted by the words in Hebrews 5:8–9 about Jesus Christ. He knew that his sad experiences were teaching him to be more like the Savior.



When he became the prophet, President Lee realized that the Lord had used trials to prepare him for this mighty calling.

Service Through Temple Work



And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers (Malachi 4:6).

Malachi taught that the heart of the children would be turned to their fathers (see Malachi 4:6). In our day, his prophecy is being fulfilled. Both Church members and nonmembers do family history research, and Church members perform temple ordinances for their ancestors.

When we look for ancestors' names and do their temple work, we serve them. Sometimes the Spirit tells us that our ancestors know what we have done for them and that they are grateful. Sometimes the Holy Ghost lets us know that we are receiving help from beyond the veil. Elder John A. Widtsoe, a former member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, said that "those who give themselves with all their might . . . to this work receive help from the other side. . . . Whoever seeks to help those on the other side receives help in return."*

Family history work is uplifting because we learn about our ancestors and come to love them. We learn that they really are a part of our eternal family, that they know us, and that they love us.

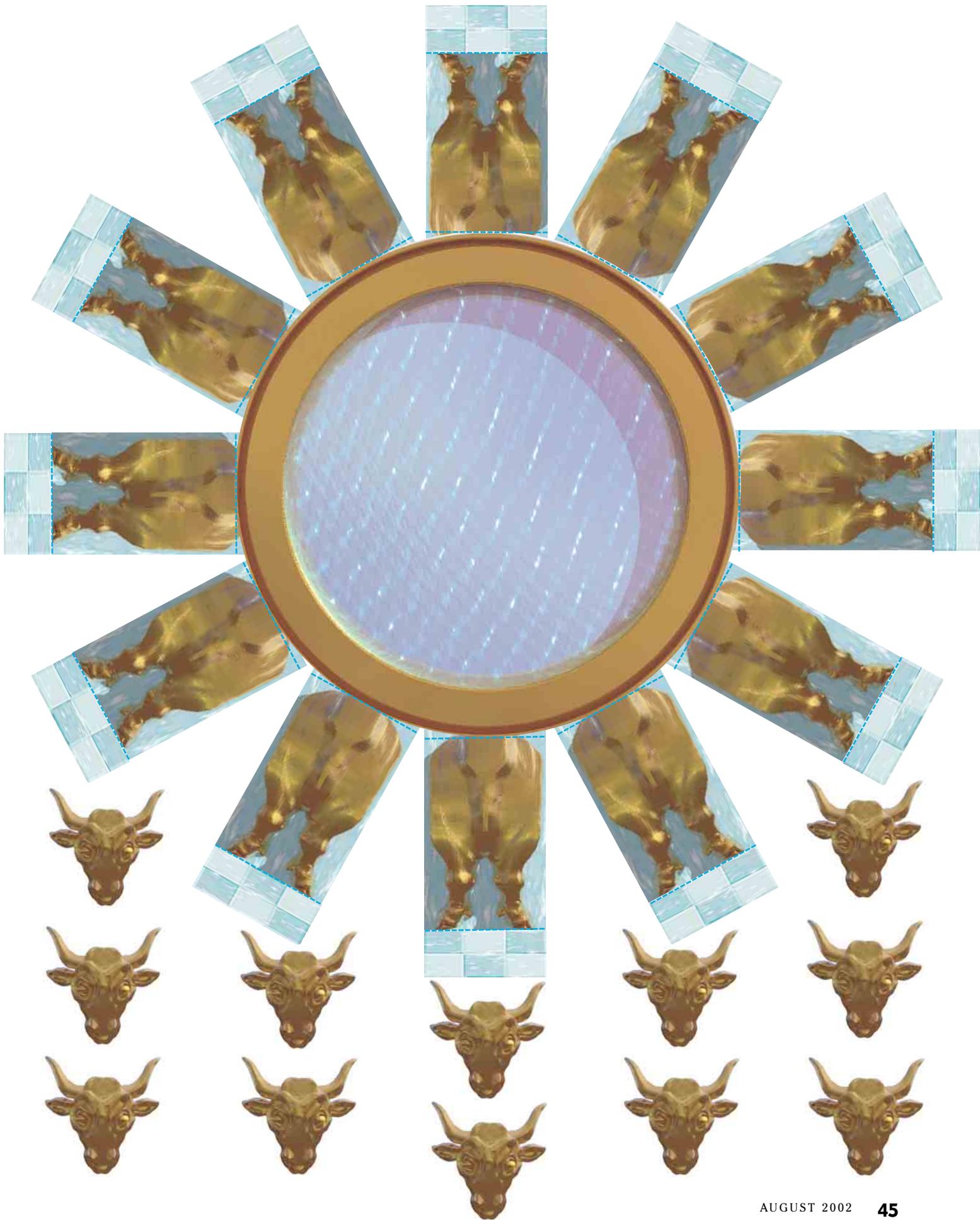
Elder J. Richard Clarke, a former member of the Seventy, said, "Through family history we discover the most beautiful tree in the forest of creation—our family tree. . . . Family history is the . . . expression of eternal love. It is born of selflessness. It provides opportunity to secure the family unit forever."†

Even if we cannot enter the temple yet, we can begin working on family history by learning about our ancestors and loving them. We can serve others by keeping our own journals and scrapbooks. Just as we enjoy finding out about our ancestors, our future families will want to learn about us, too.

Instructions

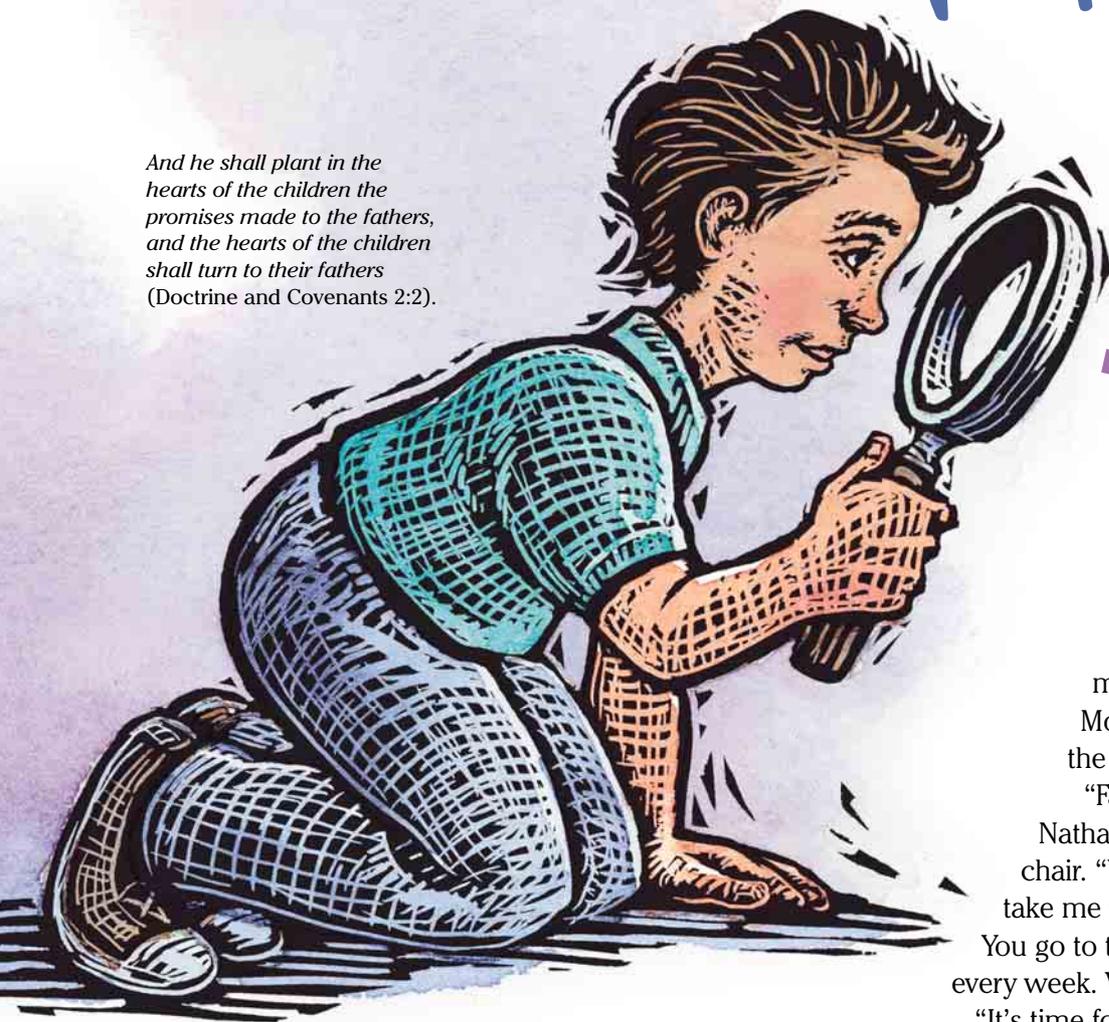
Remove page 45 from the magazine and glue it to lightweight cardboard. Cut out the baptismal font and each oxen head. To make the font stand up, fold the oxen bodies on the broken lines (see illustration above). Then glue an oxen head to each body.

* *Ensign*, May 1980, page 40.
 † *Ensign*, May 1989, page 60.



Finding

And he shall plant in the hearts of the children the promises made to the fathers, and the hearts of the children shall turn to their fathers (Doctrine and Covenants 2:2).



Shopping? To the zoo?"

"We're going someplace much more important,"

Mom said. "We're going to the family history center."

"Family history center?"

Nathan flopped down into a chair. "You said you were going to take me someplace special today.

You go to the family history center every week. What's so special about it?"

"It's time for you to find out!"

Thirty minutes later, Mom unlocked a door at the stake center, and they walked in. Nathan had never seen anything like this before. The room was just like many he'd seen in their ward building, but this one was filled with machines, cabinets, and bookcases.

"This is our stake family history center," Mom said as she started turning on computers. "I do a little of our own family history on Wednesdays, but mostly I help other people do theirs. People depend on me to have the center open so that they can find their ancestors. Then they can get the temple work done for them."

"You mean this is what happens before Tim and Sherry do baptisms for the dead at the temple?"

"That's right, Nate. Before anyone can be

By Kathy Sowa Birdsall
(A true story)

Nathan stretched, yawned, and opened his eyes. He hadn't even gotten out of bed yet. Why was he so happy? Then he remembered. Mom had told him that they were going to do something really special as soon as his older brother and sister had left for school. Nathan got dressed as fast as he could so that he wouldn't miss a minute.

He ran out to the kitchen. Mom smiled at him. "You're all ready to go! Great!"

"Where are we going?" Nathan was so excited that he could hardly stand it. "Ice skating?"

Grandpa Oskar

baptized for a person, someone has to find out who that person is.”

“How do they do that?”

“If you have a little patience, it’s not hard,” Mom said. “Would you like to find someone who needs to be baptized?”

“I guess so.”

“I was hoping that you’d say that,” Mom said. “I’m on the trail of finding your great-great-grandpa Oskar Pederson. He came to America from Sweden.” Mom took out a microfilm and threaded it in the reader. After a few turns of the handle, a chart appeared with old-fashioned writing on it.

“Do I have to read this?” Nathan frowned.

“You don’t have to read all the words. See this number here? That’s the birth year. Grandpa Pederson was born in 1885. Now, just look down this column until you see 1885. Whenever you do, look over here and see if the name is Oskar.”

Nathan nodded. “I think I can do that. Can I try to find him all by myself?”

“OK, Nate. Good luck.”

Nathan started slowly turning the microfilm wheel, looking at one page after another. Some other people came and started working on the computers. Mom went from one to the other and helped them. Every so often she came back to Nathan. “How are you doing? Are you tired yet?”

“No, I’m still looking.”

About an hour later, Nathan shouted, “Mom, I found him!”

Mom hurried over and looked at the bright page

on the reader. “You’re right,” she said softly. “There he is. And look, Nathan, you not only found him, you found his mom and dad. They’re your great-great-great-grandparents!”

“Wow!” Nathan touched the names on the



reader with his finger. “Does this mean that you and Dad and Tim and Sherry can be baptized for these people?”

“That’s right, Nate,” Mom said. “You’ve just pushed our family tree back another generation. These people were lost until you found them! I’m sure that they’re really happy right now.”

“This is neat, Mom! Can I come with you the next time I don’t have school?”

“Nathan!” Mom pretended to be shocked. “You mean this is better than skating?”

“Much better than skating,” Nathan said. And he meant it.



Eli Teaches Samuel

By Robert A. Peterson

Samuel was born in answer to his mother's prayers. True to her promise to the Lord, Hannah brought Samuel to Eli the priest to raise (see 1 Samuel 1, 3). Find the following items

hidden in this picture of Eli teaching young Samuel: a banana, boot, carrot, comb, crayon, fish, frog, paintbrush, rolling pin, sailboat, pancake turner, and watch. Then color the picture.

Temple Crossword: Across—(1) Salt Lake, (5) oxen, (7) Palmyra, (9) Elijah, (12) work, (13) dead, (14) Nauvoo. Down—(2) Alberta, (3) London, (4) eternity, (6) Omaha, (8) Kirtland, (10) love, (11) Hawaii.

Funstuf Answers

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. Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned in the Family Home Evening Ideas. The Primary theme for August is: “We serve others through temple work.”



FAMILY HOME EVENING IDEAS

If your parents ask you to help plan a family home evening, you may want to use an idea from the *Friend*. Here are some ideas in this issue that you may like (look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned):

1. Tell the story “Grandma’s Doll” (pages 4–6). Talk about some of the things you know about your ancestors, including ways you may be like them and ways you may be different. Discuss the ideas in “Temple Time” (pages 24–25) so that you will know some things you can do while your parents are at the temple.
2. Make a copy of the “Temple Crossword” (page 23) for each family member, then do it together. Read “To Save Our Ancestors” (page 7) by Elder David B. Haight. Ask a parent to explain what the granite storage vaults east of Salt Lake City have to do with the building of temples. Resolve to live worthy to go to the temple one

day. End with the poem “The Lord’s Temple” (page 30).

3. Ask a family member to tell the story “Fully-Charged Flashlight” (pages 14–16). Share times when you have been prompted by the Spirit. Share the experiences of Elder Robert S. Wood as told in “The Witness of the Holy Ghost” (pages 8–9). Each of you decide on one thing that you can do better this week to be more worthy of the Spirit’s guidance.

4. Ask a brother or sister to memorize and present “Slugger” (pages 26–27). Then tell the story “Finding Grandpa Oskar” (pages 46–47). Plan a family visit to the nearest family history center and learn how to locate your ancestors. Sing “Families Can Be Together Forever” (*Children’s Songbook*, page 188).

5. Read “Making Friends: Cameron Blackwell of Jeffersonville, Indiana” (pages 20–22). Were you surprised to learn that Cameron has to overcome a difficult problem to accomplish so much? Make a copy of Journal Page (page 39), and have each family member fill it out and save it. Who are your family heroes?

TOPICAL INDEX TO THIS ISSUE OF THE *FRIEND*

- (f) = Funstuf
(FLF) = For Little Friends
(v) = verse



The Friend

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Book of Mormon 8
Conscience 14
Family 20, 26 (v), 42
Family History 4, 7, 36, 39, 44, 46
Family Home Evening 20, 24, 29 (FLF),
31 (FLF)
Fasting 40
Holy Ghost 8, 14
Jesus Christ 2, 10, 14, 20, 40
Love and Kindness 2, 12, 40
Missionary Work 40
New Testament 10
Old Testament 31 (FLF), 48 (f)
Prayer IFC, 28 (FLF), 40
Prophets 2, 16, 20, 36, 42
Quorum of the Seventy 6, 8, 44
Quorum of the Twelve Apostles 7, 34,
44
Repentance IFC, 10
Service and Sharing 8, 32, 36, 44, 46
Temples 4, 7, 17, 18, 23 (f), 24,
30 (FLF, v), 36, 42, 44
Testimony 8



The hearts of the children turn to their fathers.

Malachi prophesied the hearts shall turn.

Elijah fulfilled the prophecy.

And fam'lies can be sealed for eternity.

(Children's Songbook, pages 92–93.)