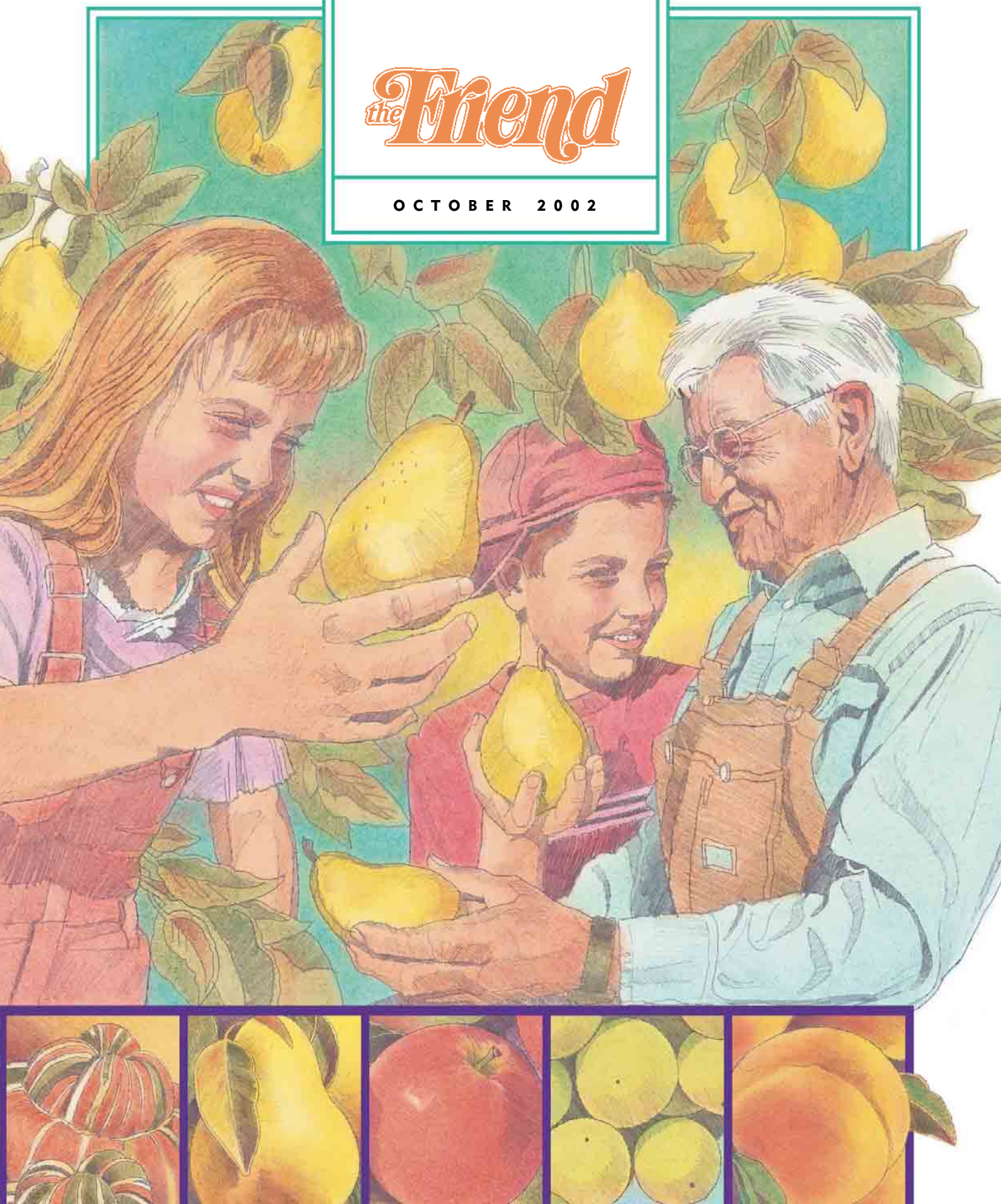
The Friend

OCTOBER 2002



The Still, Small Voice

Jalen Brown and Jordan Jones

Mama! Mama! I'm sorry I got all wet, but Jalen was blowing bubbles in the pool!" Jordan shouted.

Jordan's mother raced outside to find his baby cousin, Jalen, lying purple and lifeless on the deck of the pool near the stairs. She gathered up his body and began to pat his back. Jalen began to cough up lots of water.

Jalen's parents had been upstairs. They rushed downstairs and took him to the doctor. Jalen's PaPa and Grandma went with them. Then everyone began to notice that Jordan was soaking wet from head to toe—clothes, shoes, and all.

"Jordan, you are so brave! You pulled Jalen out of the pool without even taking time to take off even your shoes," his mother said. "What happened?"

"When I went outside, I saw Jalen in the middle of the pool, and he was blowing bubbles. He was so scary looking that I didn't want to touch him. But I got in the water and pulled him to the stairs. I didn't know what to do next, so I went to get you."

Jordan's Aunt Amberly went to help him find some dry clothes. She asked, "If Jalen was so scary that you didn't want to touch him, how did you know what to do?"

"Something told me what to do," he told his aunt.

"Do you know that the feeling you had was like a still, small voice telling you what to do? Do you remember from Primary who the still small voice is?"

"I know—it was the Holy Ghost," Jordan said. "I'm glad I listened to Him."

Jordan Jones, age 6 (as told by his Aunt Dawn)
Tupelo, Mississippi

Fishing Trip

Two of my brothers, their friend Kent, and I decided to go on a fishing trip. We were just going to canoe to the beach, eat, fish, and go back home. At first, things went smoothly. We went to the beach and ate. But on our way back home, the wind kept pushing us away from home. I prayed hard, and finally we got home. I'm glad Heavenly Father helped us. I know that we couldn't have done it without Him.

Natasha Watts, age 9
Coon Rapids, Minnesota

Reading the *Friend*

Hi! We're writing to tell you that we read the *Friend*. Our favorite things have always been Kitchen Krafts and Funstuf!

Callie and Haley Harshman, ages 11 and 9
Lake Havasu City, Arizona

The *Friend* welcomes your letters sharing a spiritual experience, your testimony, or your feelings about the *Friend* magazine. Send them to Childviews, *Friend*, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150–3226. Please include a picture of yourself and your name, age, and address. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity.

Volume 32 Number 10
October 2002

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the Friend

A children's magazine published by
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Cover by Dick Brown

Hidden Word

Covenants: A covenant is an agreement, or promise, between Heavenly Father and His children. For example, when you partake of the sacrament, you promise, or covenant, that you are willing to take upon you the name of Jesus Christ, to keep His commandments, and to always remember Him. He in turn promises to give you His Spirit. This term is found in "Heavenly Father's Plan for Me," Sharing Time, and Special Witness in this issue. See if you can find it.

Come Listen to a Prophet's Voice

We each face worries, sorrows, and hard choices. But we do not face them alone. The wisest and strongest Being in the universe has offered to counsel and comfort us at any hour of the day or night. Members of the First Presidency join all the prophets who ever lived in inviting us to pray.

President Gordon B. Hinckley

"There is a power greater than you who can help you. You never need be ashamed of praying. Get on your knees as the day starts. Get on your knees as the day closes and offer prayer unto the Lord, and ask Him to bless you in dealing with your problems, to bless you in your schooling, bless you in all you do, and remember before Him those who are less fortunate than you, others who are in trouble and need and desire His blessings. Be prayerful! There is something wonderful, there is something noble, there is something upstanding and good about an individual who prays. Don't forget to pray." (*Ensign,* June 2000, page 19.)

President Thomas S. Monson
First Counselor in the First Presidency

"When our oldest son was about three, he would kneel with his mother and me in our evening prayer. I was serving as the bishop of the ward at the time, and a lovely lady in the ward, Margaret Lister, lay perilously ill with cancer. Each night we would pray for Sister Lister. One evening our tiny son offered the prayer and confused the words of the prayer with a story from a nursery book. He began: 'Heavenly Father, please bless Sister Lister, Henny Penny, Chicken Licken, Turkey Lurkey, and all the little folks.' We held back the smiles that evening. Later we were humbled as Margaret Lister sustained a complete recovery. We

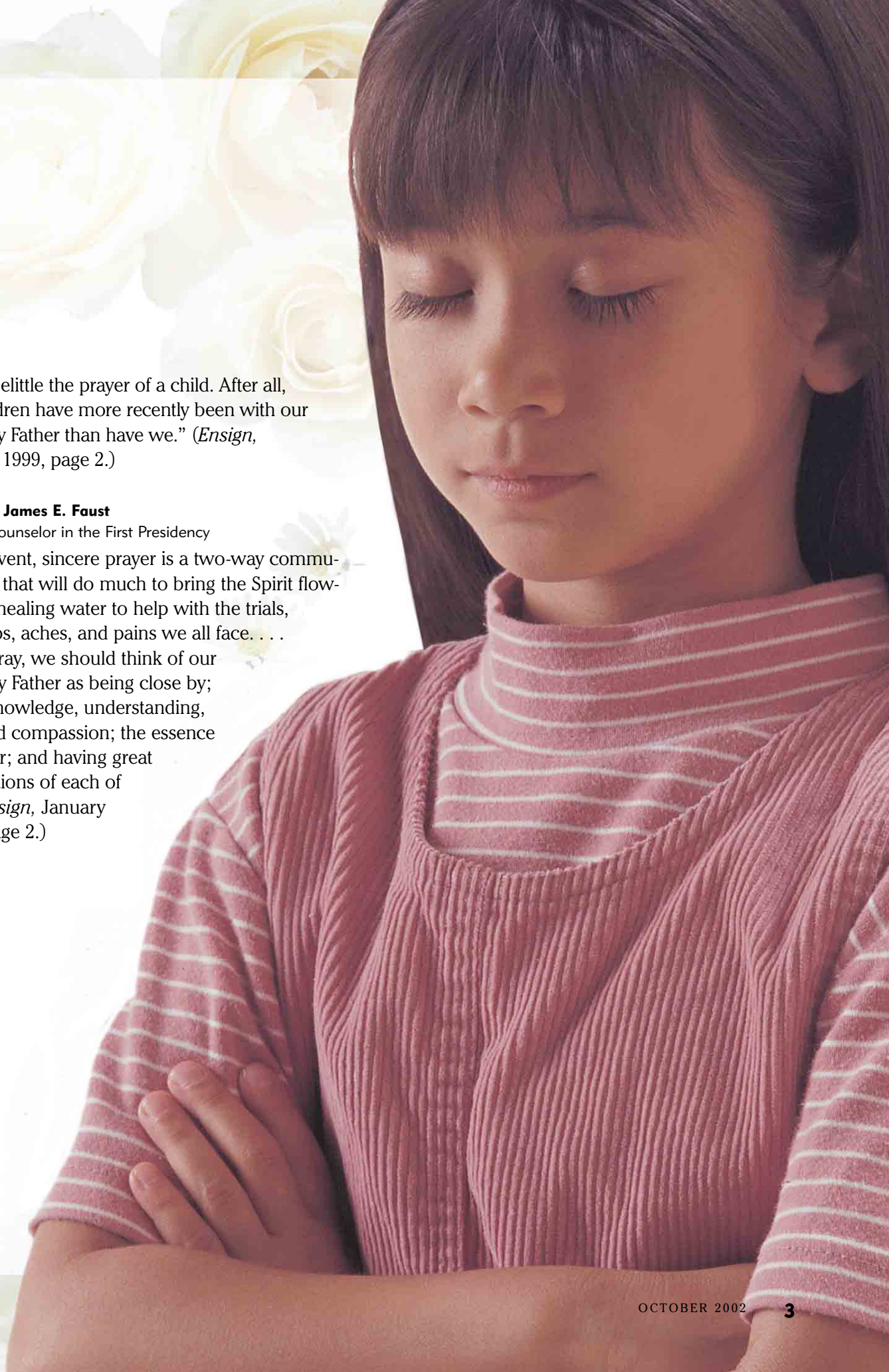
Prayer

ABOVE: PHOTOGRAPH BY CRAIG DIMOND; RIGHT: PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DEREK ISRAELSEN

do not belittle the prayer of a child. After all, our children have more recently been with our Heavenly Father than have we." (*Ensign,* October 1999, page 2.)

President James E. Faust
Second Counselor in the First Presidency

"A fervent, sincere prayer is a two-way communication that will do much to bring the Spirit flowing like healing water to help with the trials, hardships, aches, and pains we all face. . . . As we pray, we should think of our Heavenly Father as being close by; full of knowledge, understanding, love, and compassion; the essence of power; and having great expectations of each of us." (*Ensign,* January 1999, page 2.)



Call unto me, and I will answer thee (Jeremiah 33:3).

Micah's MIRACLE

By Christine Mehring
(A true story)

Micah's very first word was "Why?" From that day on, he asked questions. He asked about clouds, rainbows, rivers, and trees. He asked about books, trains, kings, and skyscrapers.

He liked to think about new things. His mom and dad couldn't keep up with all the answers he needed. They even bought encyclopedias so that they could look up answers they weren't sure about. And then one day, when Micah was seven, he asked a very important question: "Mom, how do I know for sure that Heavenly Father is real?"

Mom put down the jar of baby food she'd just taken from the fridge and turned to smile at him. "I'm glad you're thinking about that, Micah. It's only a few months until you'll be old enough to be baptized, and it's important to know about the promises you'll be making. Knowing about Heavenly Father is the first step."

"Oh, I know *about* Him, Mom. I've had lots of Primary lessons, and we've read about Him in the scriptures. But how do I find out if it's really true?"

Mom sat down at the kitchen table and looked Micah right in the eye. "If you want a testimony of your own, you'll have to do some hard work. You've seen lots of people stand up on fast Sunday and bear their testimonies. They tell what they believe."

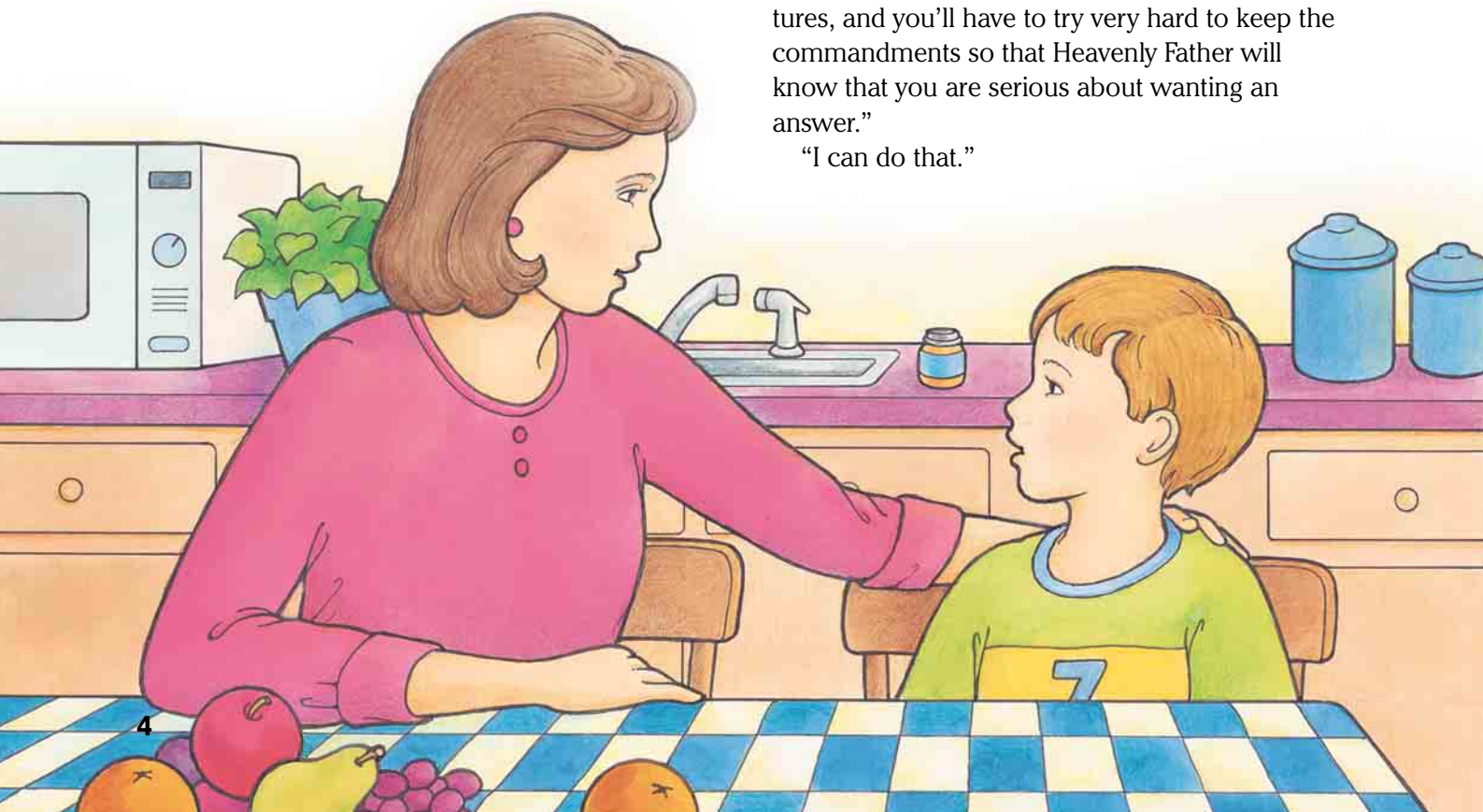
"Oh, yeah, like how Sister Thomas always talks about how she loves the temple, and Brother Matsom always cries when he gets to the part about Jesus."

"Right. And have you noticed how you feel when people are bearing their testimonies?"

"Sometimes I feel warm and happy inside."

"That's the Holy Ghost telling you that you are hearing something true. If you want to find your own testimony, you'll have to pray and ask for help, you'll have to remember to study your scriptures, and you'll have to try very hard to keep the commandments so that Heavenly Father will know that you are serious about wanting an answer."

"I can do that."



For the next two weeks, Micah's mom and dad were amazed at how hard Micah worked. He played happily with his brother, Sam, and didn't get angry. He watched his baby sister while Mom talked with her visiting teachers. He even picked up his toys the first time he was asked. When Dad sat down in the evening before bed to read the Book of Mormon with him, Micah tried very hard to listen and even sounded out a lot of the words himself. But one night Micah didn't seem happy.

"Is something bothering you, Son?"

"Dad, I've been trying for two weeks now. I've been really, really good. I've read. I've prayed. And I've been nice! But I still don't know if Heavenly Father is real or not."

Dad nodded. "I can understand why you're frustrated. Sometimes Heavenly Father makes us wait a little while for our answers so that when they do come, they mean more to us."

"Why would He make me wait? I want to know if He's real. If I don't get an answer, then He must not be real."

Dad put his arm around Micah. "Why don't we see if there's an answer in the scriptures?" He opened the Book of Mormon to Ether 12:6 and read, " 'faith is things which are hoped for and not seen; wherefore, dispute not because ye see not, for ye receive no witness until after the trial of your faith.' "

"What's a trial?" Micah asked. "Mom got a squishy little packet of shampoo in the mail last week that said 'trial' on it, but I don't see how washing my hair is going to help."

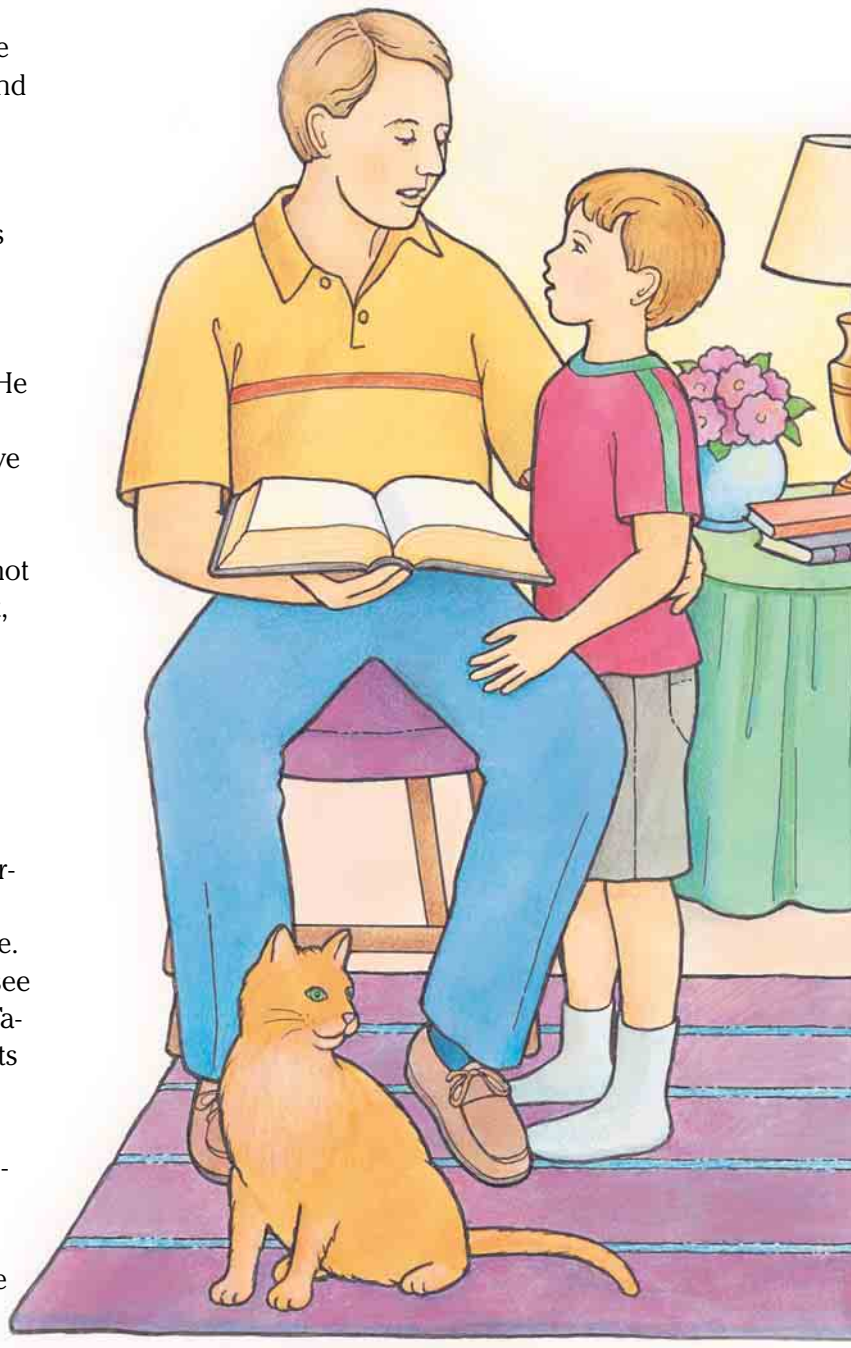
"Well," Dad said, "That little packet is so a person like your mom can try out a new shampoo and see if she likes it before she buys a big bottle. Mom gives the shampoo a trial so that she can see if it does what she wants it to. When Heavenly Father gives us a trial, it's kind of like that. He wants to see if we do what He wants us to, even if it's hard."

"So Heavenly Father is waiting to see if I'm going to give up or not?"

"A testimony is one of the most important things He can give you. If you were going to give someone a very special present, wouldn't you want to make sure that person really wanted it and would take care of it?"

"Yes, I guess so."

"There are all kinds of miracles, Micah. Some of them are big and flashy, like Moses parting the Red Sea, but most of them are quiet, and the quietest of all is when the Holy Ghost talks to us about Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. Be patient, Son, and listen carefully."



ILLUSTRATED BY BETH M. WHITTAKER

That night, long after everyone had gone to bed, Micah had a nightmare. It was terrible, and Micah woke up afraid to move. He was too scared to go into Mom and Dad's room, too scared even to cry out for them to come to him. As he huddled under his blanket, he wondered what he could do to feel better. Last Sunday, his Primary teacher had told his class that when you are very afraid, you should pray for comfort.

"Dear Heavenly Father," he whispered, "I really need help. I've tried very hard to find out if You're there, and I know I'm supposed to be patient, but I can't wait any longer. I'm scared."

As soon as Micah finished his prayer, he heard a noise in the hall. Suddenly the bathroom light switched on, and Dad peeked around the edge of Micah's bedroom door.

"Are you all right?" Dad said softly. "All of a sudden I woke up, and I'm sure I heard a voice say, 'Micah needs you.' What happened?"

"I had a really bad dream, Dad."

"Oh? Why the big smile then?"

"When I was scared, Heavenly Father heard my prayer and woke you up. He has to be real because He helped me when I asked. You know, it doesn't matter if it's not a big, flashy miracle as long as it's just what you need."

Dad sat on the edge of Micah's bed and hugged him tightly. "That's right, Micah," he said. "That's right."

"Our testimony is a knowledge of who we are—a child of God. . . .

"We can each gain a testimony of the truth through the Holy Ghost. . . .

"People often ask me, 'How do you know?' 'How can you know that God lives and that Jesus is the Christ?' While there seems to be no exact formula by which each of us receives a testimony, there does seem to be a . . . pattern. Though prayer is important in gaining a testimony, we cannot merely ask in prayer for a testimony and expect it to be given immediately to us. . . .

"Testimonies come . . . from prayer and from studying the scriptures and applying them in our lives. . . . There seem to be moments in each of our lives when we can be given the knowledge that God lives and that Jesus is the Christ. . . .

"I wish to [bear] my own testimony . . . that God lives."

Elder Robert D. Hales
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles
(*Ensign*, November 1994, pages 20–22.)

OF HIS KINGDOM

By Elder Robert D. Hales
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

Did you know that when he was young, Elder Hales worked for two summers on his uncle's ranch in Skull Valley, Utah? He helped round up wild horses, bale hay, and care for the animals. Now, as an Apostle, he has spoken to us often about the importance of baptism:

When we are baptized by immersion by one with the proper priesthood authority and choose to follow our Savior, we then are in His kingdom and of His kingdom.

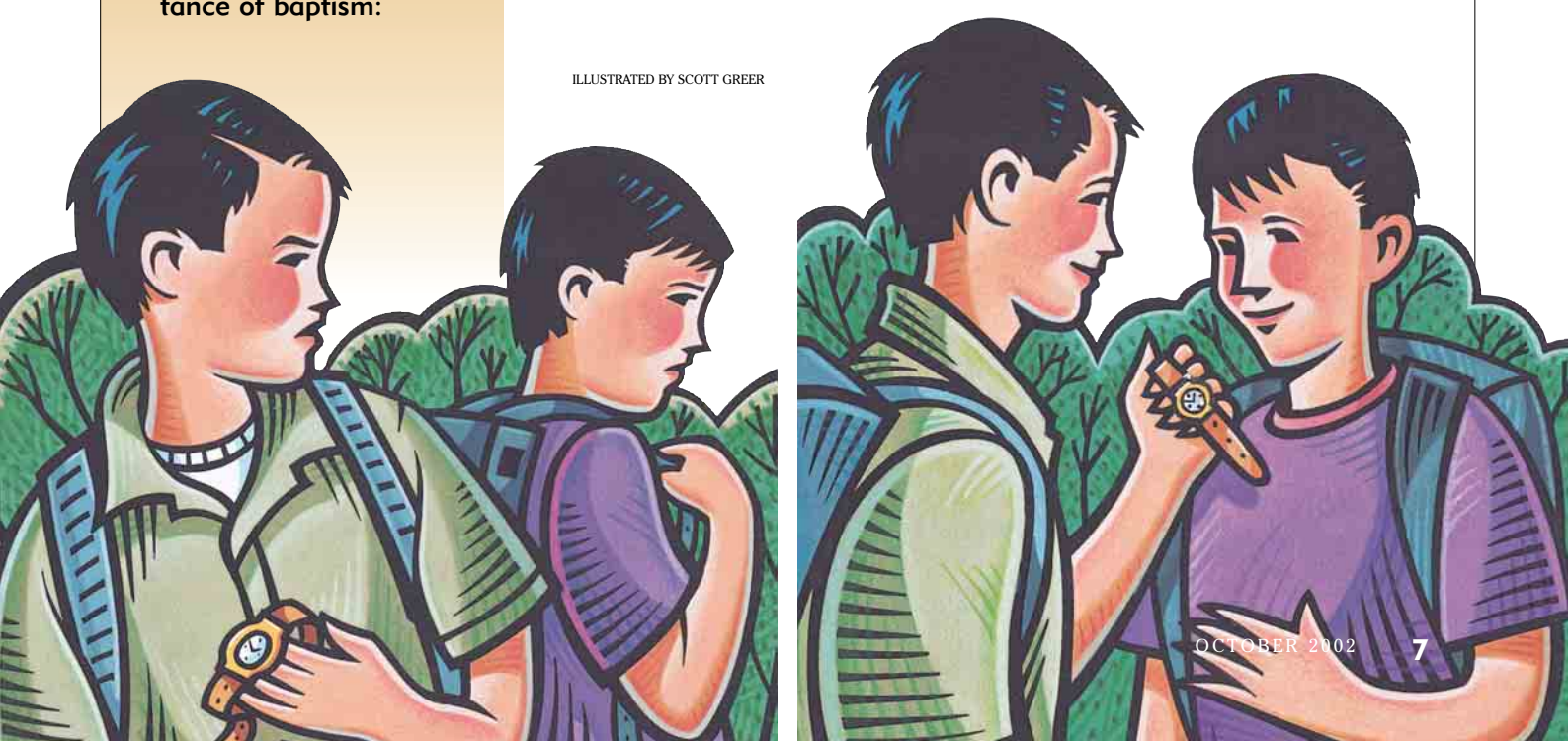
Being of the kingdom of God requires that we heed the Savior's admonition "Follow thou me" (2 Nephi 31:10). Nephi taught that we follow Jesus by keeping Heavenly Father's commandments: "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, can we follow Jesus save we shall be willing to keep the commandments of the Father?" (2 Nephi 31:10).

At baptism we make a covenant with our Heavenly Father that we are willing to come into His kingdom and keep His commandments from that time forward, even though we still live in the world. We are reminded from the Book of Mormon that our baptism is a covenant to "stand as witnesses of God [and His kingdom] *at all times and in all things, and in all places* that ye may be in, even until death, that ye may be redeemed of God, and be numbered with those of the first resurrection, that ye may have eternal life" (Mosiah 18:9; emphasis added).

When we understand our baptismal covenant and the gift of the Holy Ghost, it will change our lives and will establish our total allegiance to the kingdom of God. When temptations come our way, if we will listen, the Holy Ghost will remind us that we have promised to remember our Savior and obey the commandments of God.

(*Ensign*, November 2000, page 7.)

ILLUSTRATED BY SCOTT GREER



Friend to Friend

He that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise (Proverbs 12:15).

Golden Nuggets

From an interview with Elder Ronald A. Rasband of the Seventy, currently serving in the Europe Central Area Presidency; by Melvin Leavitt

As a toddler

Throughout my life, I have received "golden nuggets" of counsel and inspiration from the people around me. Some of those nuggets came from Primary teachers. I was a rambunctious (lively and somewhat mischievous) child who spent many hours sitting outside the classroom door in the time-out spot. More than a few times, my teachers went to my mother, the stake Primary president, and said, "That Ronnie Rasband is a tough little kid." But they never gave up on me. They showed me great love and always invited me back into class.

When I was called to the Quorum of the Seventy, Sister Afton Pedigrew, one of my faithful Primary teachers, was at a meeting at which I spoke. She told me, "If someone had told me thirty years ago that Ronnie Rasband would someday be a General Authority, I wouldn't have believed it." But tears were flowing from her eyes, and I could hear a quiver in her voice as she complimented me in her sweet way and said as my Primary teacher that she was proud of me. There were tears in my eyes, too.

Those teachers helped me to recognize some of the talents Heavenly Father has blessed me with. For example, they told me that I had a good reading voice. They often chose me to read a scripture or to be a narrator in Primary presentations in sacrament meeting. It was through Primary that I developed my love for the scriptures.

The scripture I best remember reading in a Primary program was 1 Kings 19:10–13, especially verses eleven and twelve: "And, behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the Lord; but the Lord was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the Lord was not in the earthquake:

"And after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice."

That was where I learned how we should expect to be prompted by Heavenly Father. We may not see a vision as Joseph Smith did. We may not see angels. We may not hear a rushing of great winds or feel an earthquake or see fire. We will hear the still, small voice of the Spirit. From then on, I knew that I would have to listen carefully for the voice of the Spirit and that it would be small and precious. What a wonderful nugget that was.

I grew up in a strong Latter-day Saint home. In my patriarchal blessing, I was counseled to pay particular heed to the advice of my parents and was promised that if I did, I would never be led

Elder Rasband with his family

As a 9-month old, with his mother

Riding his tricycle at age 5

At 19 years of age

astray. That promise—another golden nugget—has been fulfilled.

My father drove a bread delivery truck. All during my growing-up years, he got up at three or four o'clock in the morning and came home late at night and collapsed because he was so tired. By example, he taught me the principle of work.

My mother taught me the same principle by insisting that I work hard. She got me out the door, mowing grass, trimming the hedge, and doing other chores around the house. I would gladly have played basketball or football or played army or ridden bikes all day long, but my mother believed that work came first. I didn't appreciate that at the time. I thought that I was being driven pretty hard. It wasn't until I reached the mission field that I was grateful to know how to work. I had been given a priceless nugget.

My call to the Eastern States Mission was another golden nugget. My family had little money, and I was never quite part of the "in-crowd" at school. But in the mission field, I realized that it didn't matter what side of town I came from or what my father's income was. We were all servants of the Lord and equal. I learned that through the principles of hard work, prayer, and seeking to follow the Spirit of the Lord, everyone could succeed.

I have a golden nugget for you children: Follow the living prophet. Our current prophet loves children. He loves his own grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and he loves you. He cares about the direction of your journey through life. He cares about your family. The Proclamation on the Family was given to your parents to help them be better parents to you. At general conference time, listen to what our dear prophet is saying. And when that small whispering of the Holy Ghost tells you that he is speaking the truth, pay special attention. Follow the promptings that come through listening to the prophet of God. You are not too young to hear the promptings of the Holy Ghost or to follow the living prophet.

Elder Rasband and his wife, Melanie

Worship God, in whatsoever place ye may be in (Alma 34:38).

Different Walls, Same Foundation

By Sheila Kindred
(A true story)

"This will be the last time we meet here until next spring," Betsy's father said as they entered the meetinghouse. "For the next six months, until our building is finished, we'll meet across town."

Betsy knew all this. Work had already started on getting the meetinghouse in better condition. The grassy area out back where Betsy's Achievement Days class used to go for activities had become a parking lot. Trailers and big trucks were parked there now.

The whole ward had been getting ready for this change. On Saturday, Betsy and other Primary children helped pack up everything in the Primary closets. Her father was moving desks and chairs from the family history center into storage units in the parking lot, and her mother was packing books and videos from the meetinghouse library.

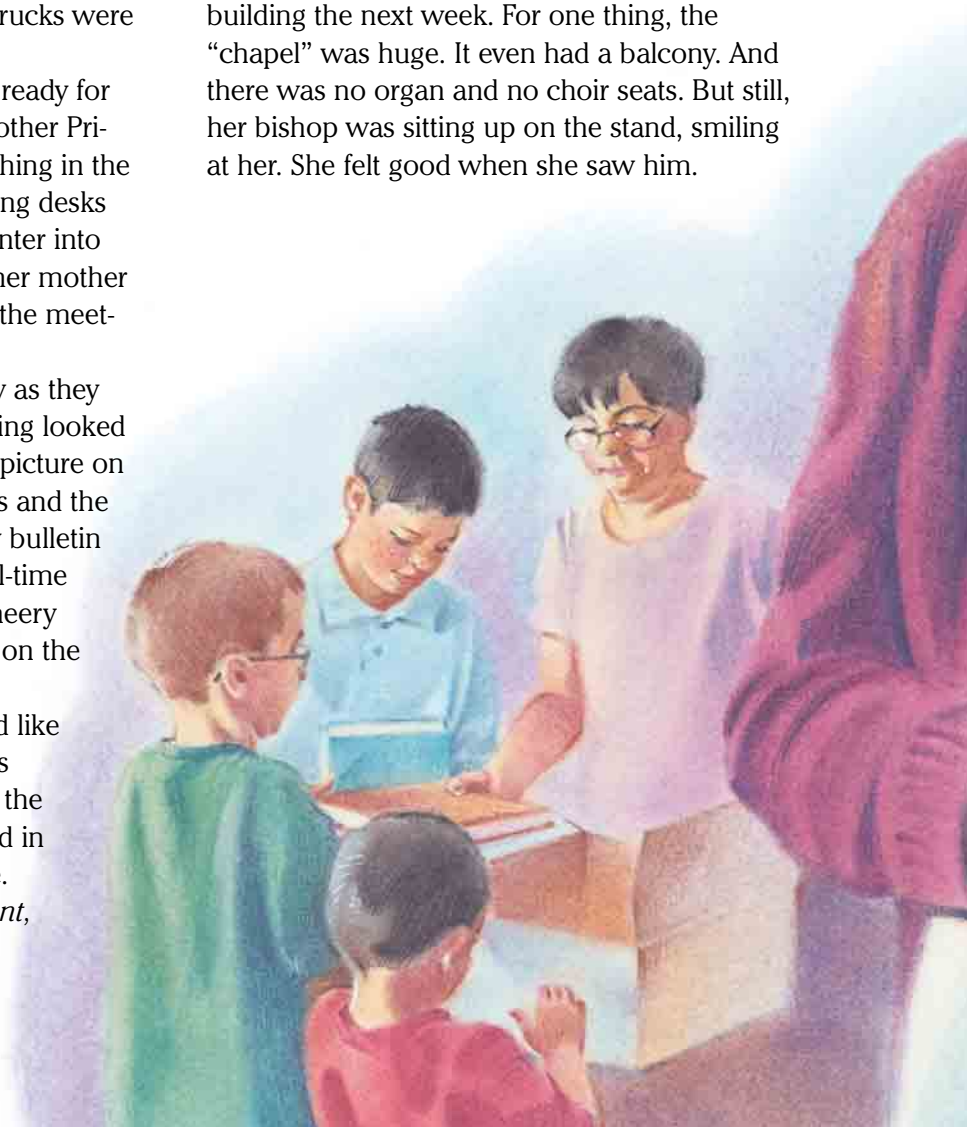
Everyone else seemed to be happy as they worked, but Betsy felt sad. The building looked so empty! She missed looking at the picture on the wall in the Primary room of Jesus and the children, and she missed the hallway bulletin board with its photographs of the full-time missionaries. She even missed the cheery flower arrangement that was always on the table in the lobby.

Now the building no longer looked like the church Betsy remembered. It was plain and bare. Starting the next day, the ward members would not be allowed in the building until the work was done. *After today everything will be different,* Betsy thought.

"Will I still have Achievement Days?" she asked on the way home from church. She didn't think she could stand going for six months without that. "And what about Primary activity days? Where will we have them?"

"These things have all been figured out," her mother assured her. "Don't worry. You won't have to give up anything important. Things won't be that different. You'll see."

Betsy wasn't sure about that. Things looked very different when she walked into the rented building the next week. For one thing, the "chapel" was huge. It even had a balcony. And there was no organ and no choir seats. But still, her bishop was sitting up on the stand, smiling at her. She felt good when she saw him.



She felt even better when he announced that it was time to bless and pass the sacrament. She had been afraid that they wouldn't be able to have the sacrament there. The priests had to sit behind a folding table, and the deacons had to go single file up some stairs to get the trays, but it didn't matter. The prayer had been exactly the same. She knew that the same priesthood was here, just as it had been in the other building, even though the walls were different.

After sacrament meeting, Betsy followed her friend Chelsea down two flights of stairs, through a long narrow hallway, and down three more stairs to get to the temporary Primary classroom. There was no carpet in the room, and sounds echoed. Sister Roberts, her teacher, asked them to be as quiet as possible as they sat in their chairs.

Through the thin walls, Betsy could hear the younger Primary children singing one of her favorite songs, "The Wise Man and the Foolish Man."* The music made Betsy feel more comfortable in the tiny room. Primary hadn't changed, either, even if the walls were different. They still sang the same songs.

Betsy looked around the room. There was a picture of the prophet and the Apostles on the chalkboard, and a picture of Jesus Christ. It reminded Betsy of the picture that had hung in the Primary room of their meetinghouse.

ILLUSTRATED BY DILLEEN MARSH

When the music stopped, Sister Roberts asked someone to give the opening prayer. Then she said, "Open your New Testament to Ephesians 2:19–20. Here Paul describes how the gospel is like a building."

Betsy listened carefully. She wanted to hear if anything was said about their building.

But Sister Roberts didn't mention walls. "Do you know what we call the thing that holds the whole building up?"

Brian raised his hand high. "I know," he said with a smile. "My dad's a builder. It's called the foundation."

"That's right," Sister Roberts said. "And what does this scripture say the foundation is?"

"Apostles and prophets," Chelsea said.

Betsy looked at the picture of the Apostles and prophet on the chalkboard.

"And do you know what a cornerstone is, Brian?"

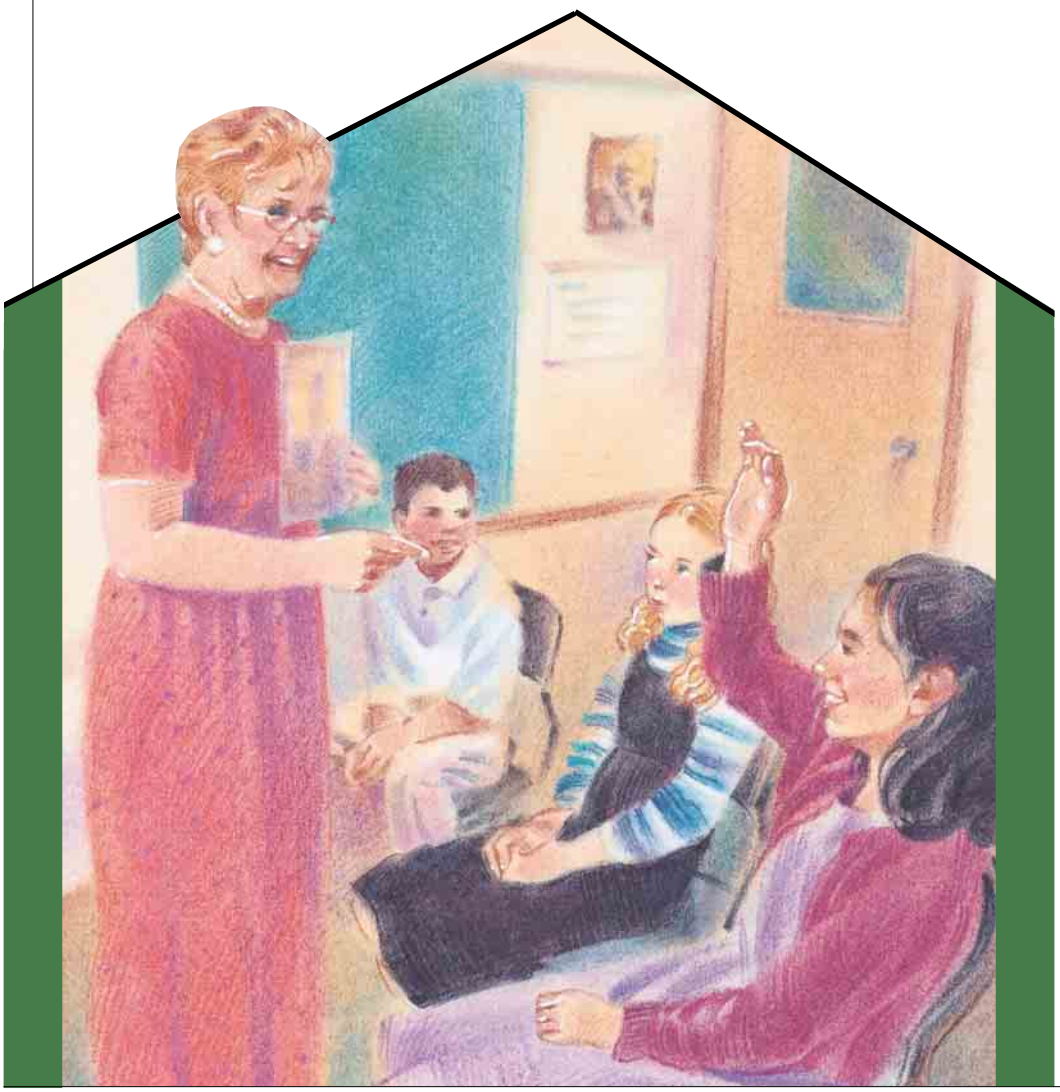
Brian shook his head.

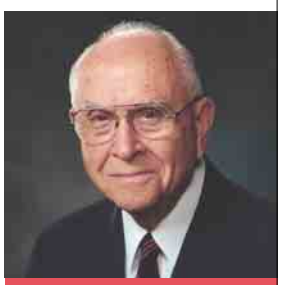
"A cornerstone is a stone that connects the foundation with the rest of the building. They are the most important stones in the building. Who does the scripture say is the chief cornerstone?"

"It's Jesus!" Betsy burst out, excited. She had just realized something important. "Sister Roberts, now I know why this building feels almost like our meetinghouse. Even though these walls are different, it doesn't matter as long as the Church still has the same foundation and the same cornerstone."

Sister Roberts smiled at Betsy. "You're absolutely right!"

* *Children's Songbook*, page 281.





Elder David B. Haight

"The Church today is built on a foundation of prophets and Apostles, with Jesus Christ as its chief cornerstone. . . . It is the Church of Jesus Christ restored in these latter days."

Elder David B. Haight
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles
(*Ensign*, May 1996, page 7.)

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.

FHE

How I can Be More Like Jesus Christ

October Journal 2002

At Home

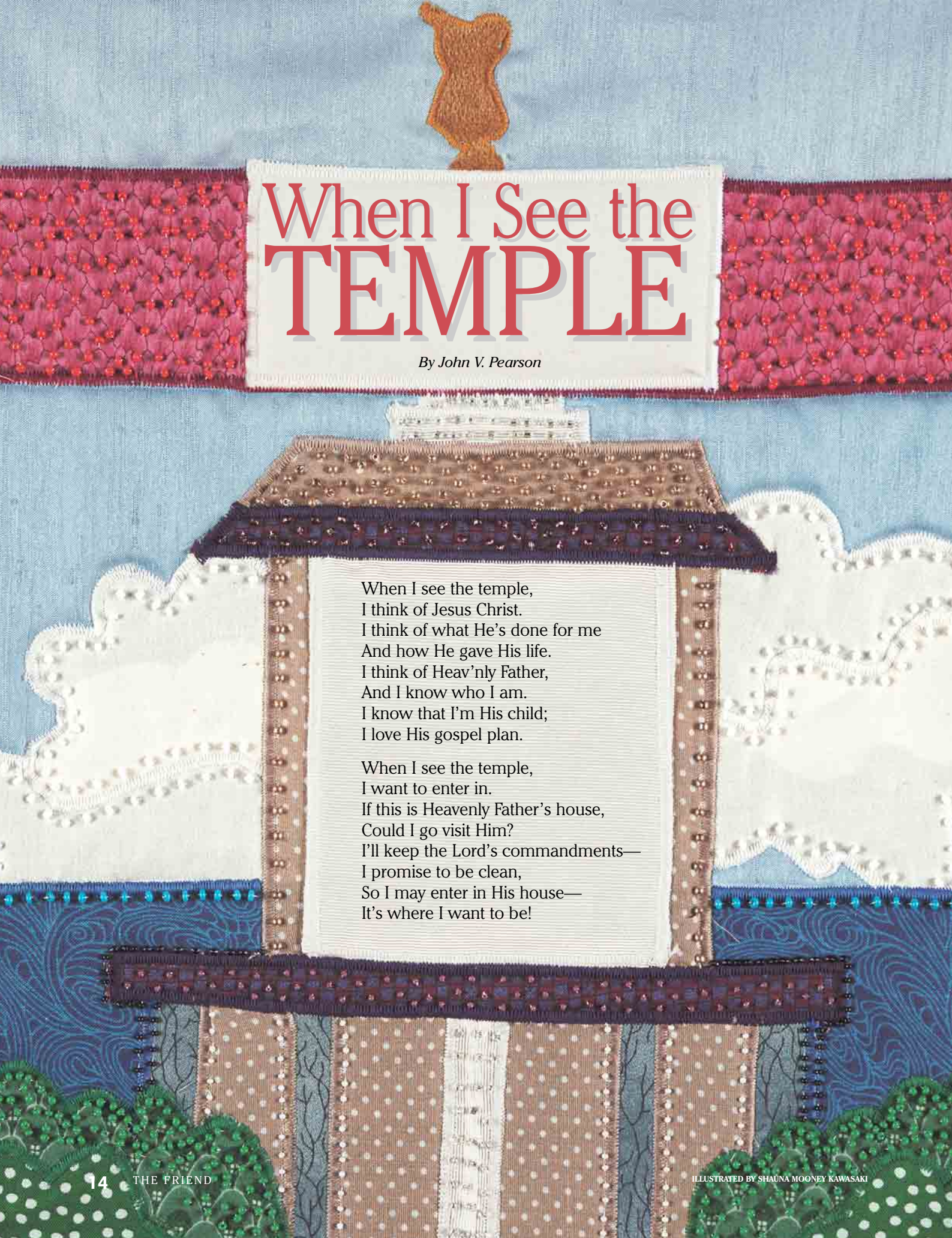
At School

At Play

At Church

I will try to be more like Jesus Christ every day by following His example.

DETAIL FROM *THE PRE-MORTAL CHRIST* BY ROBERT T. BARRETT



When I See the TEMPLE

By John V. Pearson

When I see the temple,
I think of Jesus Christ.
I think of what He's done for me
And how He gave His life.
I think of Heav'nly Father,
And I know who I am.
I know that I'm His child;
I love His gospel plan.

When I see the temple,
I want to enter in.
If this is Heavenly Father's house,
Could I go visit Him?
I'll keep the Lord's commandments—
I promise to be clean,
So I may enter in His house—
It's where I want to be!

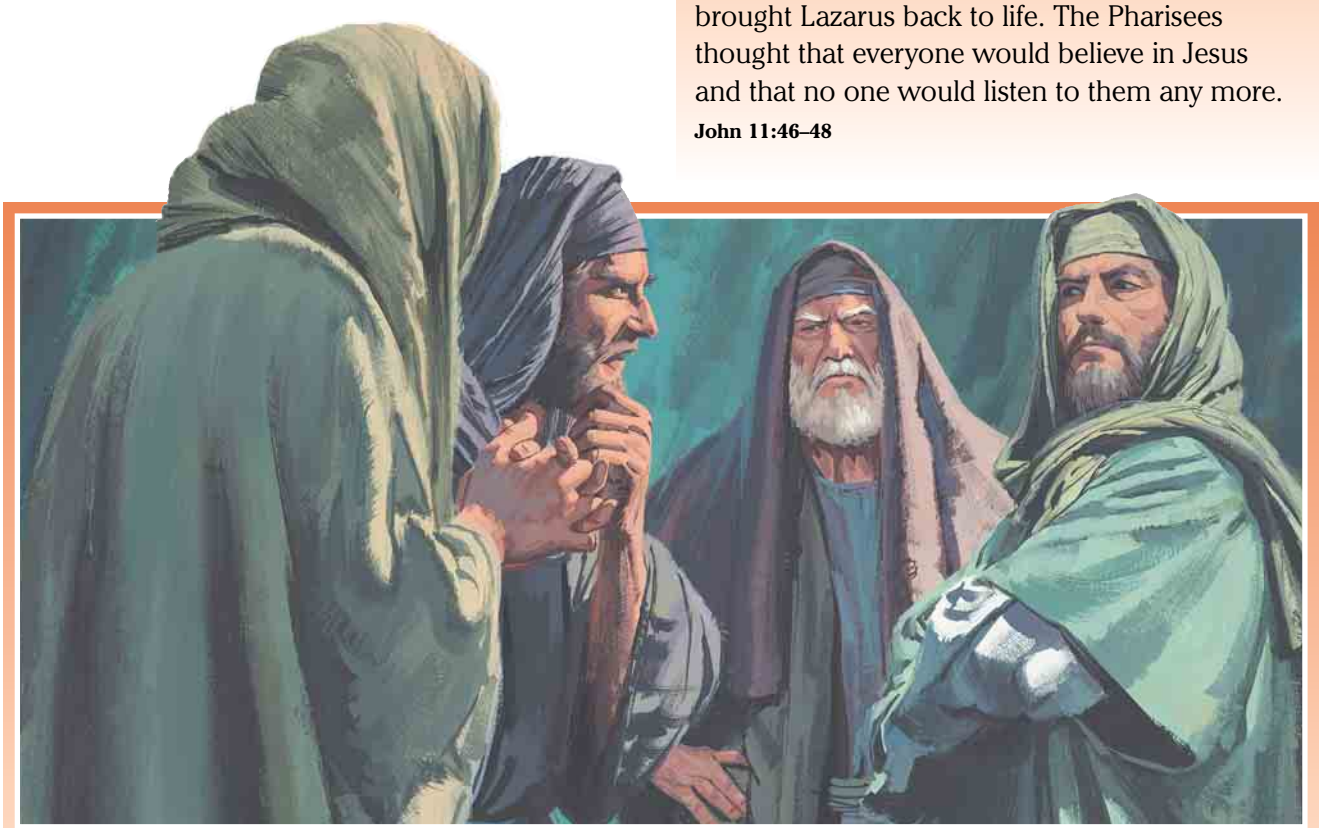
ILLUSTRATED BY SHAUNA MOONEY KAWASAKI

THE SAVIOR GOES TO JERUSALEM

Chapter 44

Some people told the Pharisees that Jesus had brought Lazarus back to life. The Pharisees thought that everyone would believe in Jesus and that no one would listen to them any more.

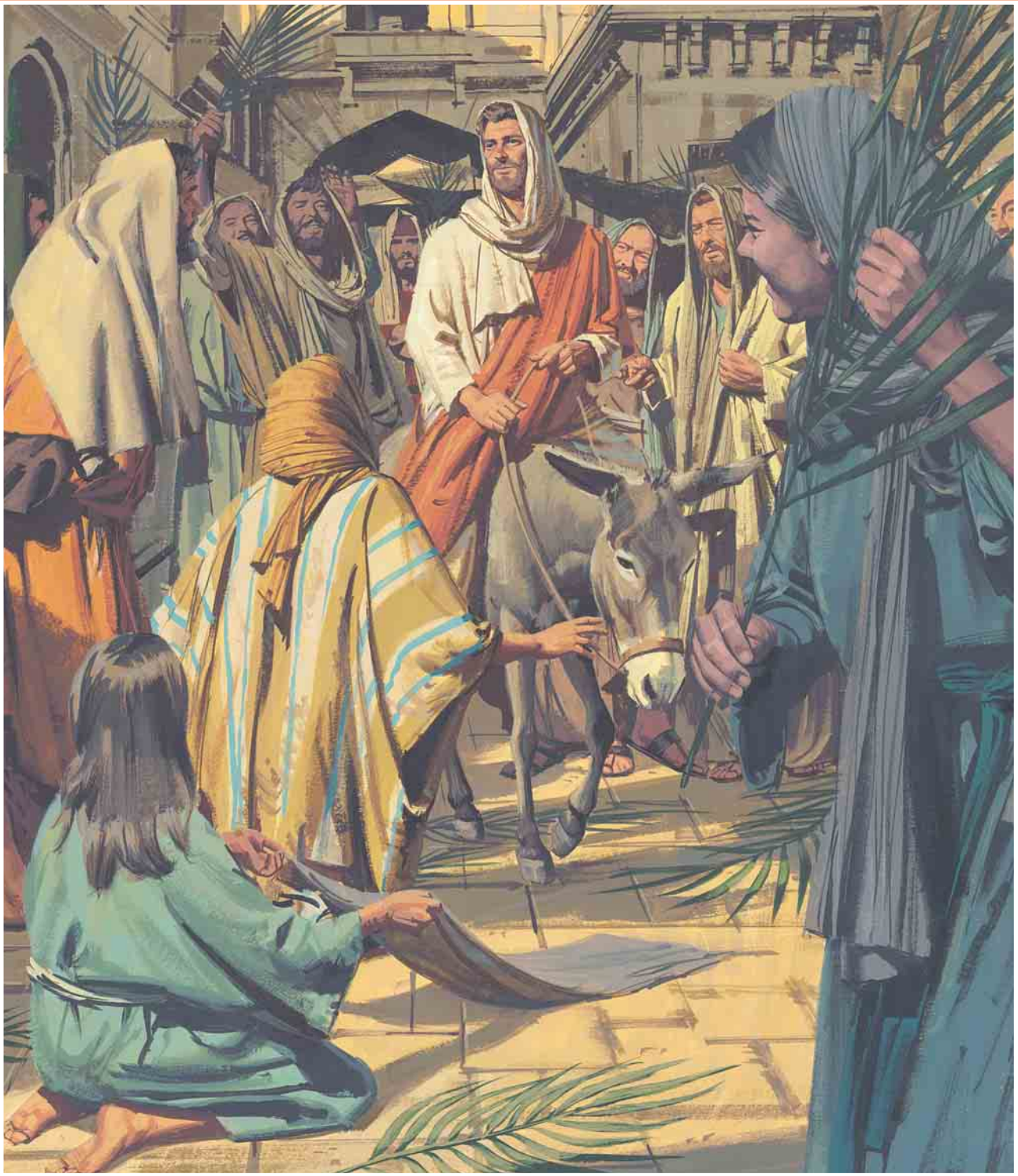
John 11:46–48



They planned a way to kill Jesus. They waited for Him to go to Jerusalem for the Passover meal.

John 11:50–51, 56–57

ILLUSTRATED BY PAUL MANN

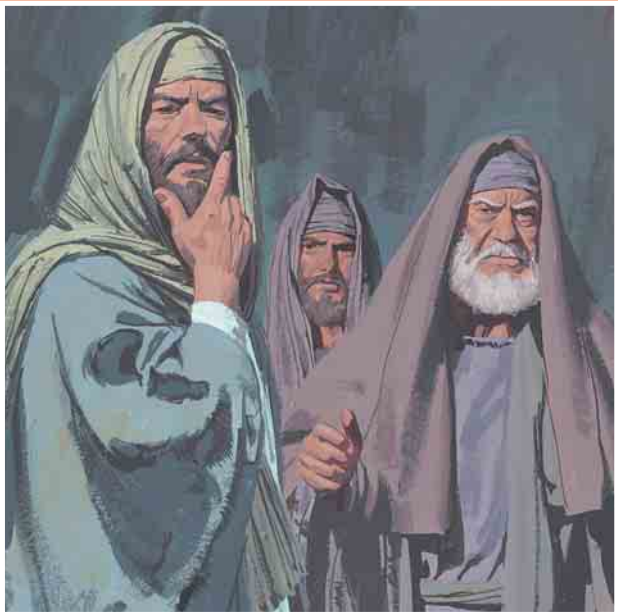


Jesus went from Bethany to Jerusalem. Many people heard that He was coming and went to meet Him. Jesus was riding a young donkey. A prophet had written that the Son of God would ride a young donkey into Jerusalem. Many people had seen His miracles and believed that Jesus was the Son of God. Now they put their clothes on the ground for the donkey to walk on. They waved palm leaves in the air and said that Jesus was the Savior.

John 12:1, 12–15; Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:4–9

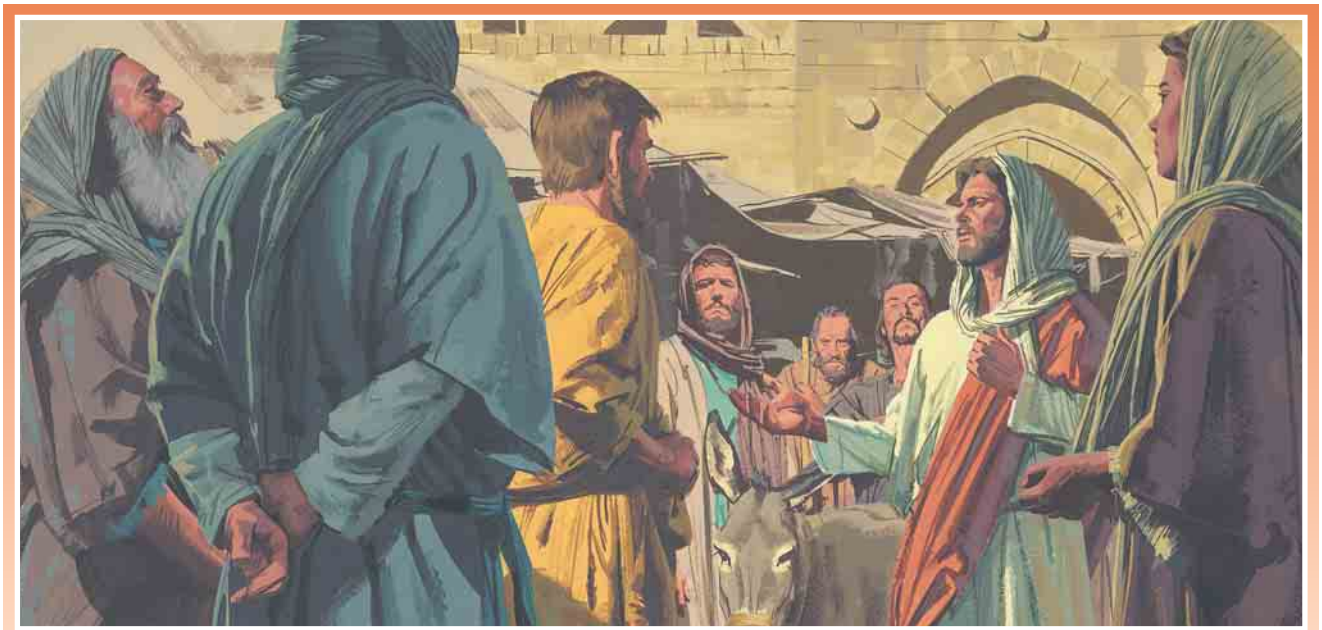
All the people in Jerusalem came to see what was happening. They asked who Jesus was. The disciples said that He was a prophet from Nazareth.

Matthew 21:10–11



The Pharisees were angry because many people believed in the Savior. Jesus knew that the Pharisees wanted to kill Him.

John 12:19, 23; 11:53



Jesus told His disciples that He would soon die. He would suffer for the sins of all people, and He would die on the cross. He would be the Savior of the world. This was why He had come to earth.

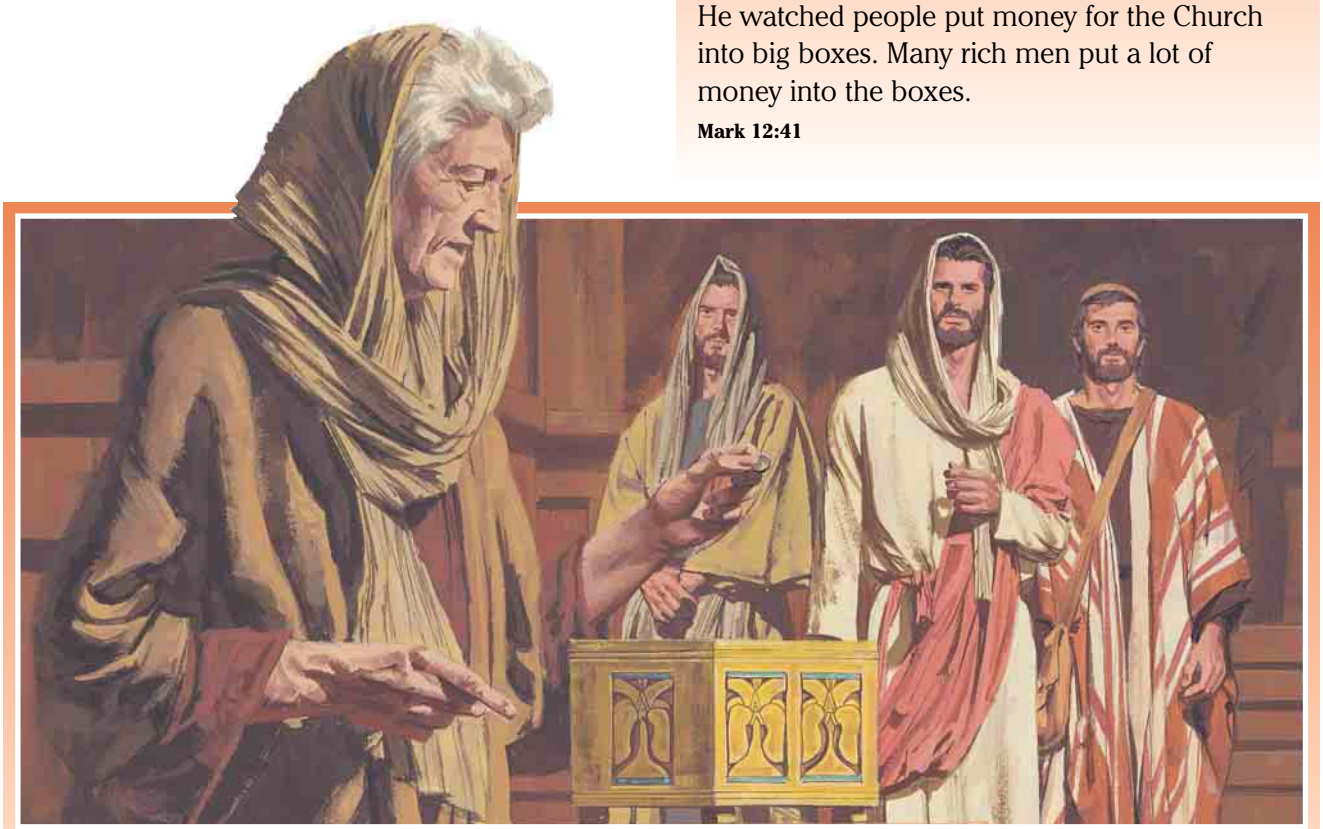
John 12:23–25, 27, 32–33, 47

THE WIDOW'S MITES

Chapter 45

While Jesus was near the temple in Jerusalem, He watched people put money for the Church into big boxes. Many rich men put a lot of money into the boxes.

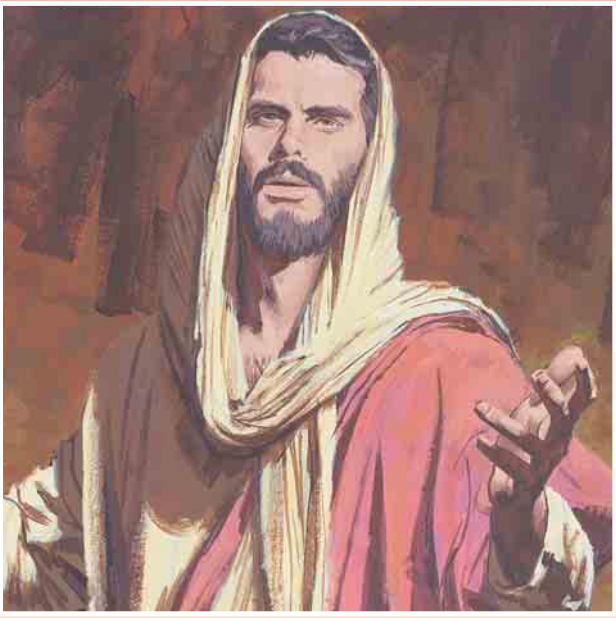
Mark 12:41



A poor widow, a woman whose husband had died, went to the boxes and put in two pieces of money called mites. Two mites were not very much money, but they were all the money she had.

Mark 12:42, 44

ILLUSTRATED BY PAUL MANN

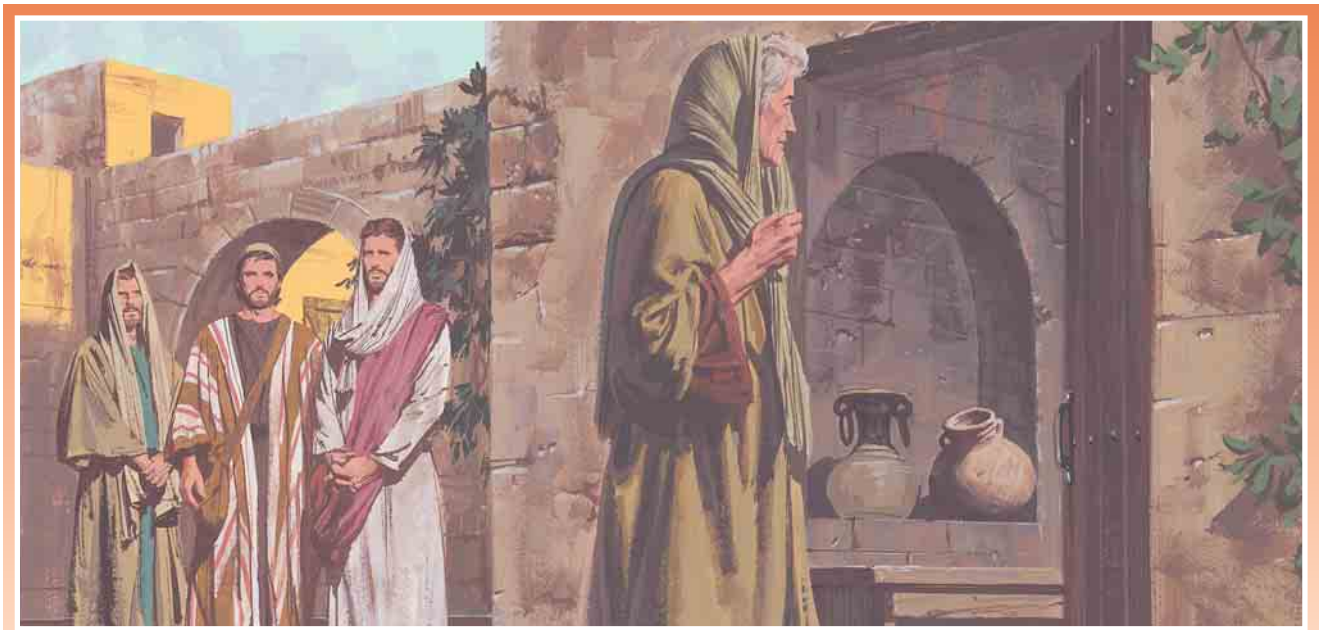


Jesus saw her. Wanting to teach His disciples a lesson, He told them about her.

Mark 12:43

He also told them about the rich men who had given lots of money. The rich men had more money at home.

Mark 12:43–44



The widow had no money at home. In a way, she had given more to the Church than all the rich men, because she had given all that she had.

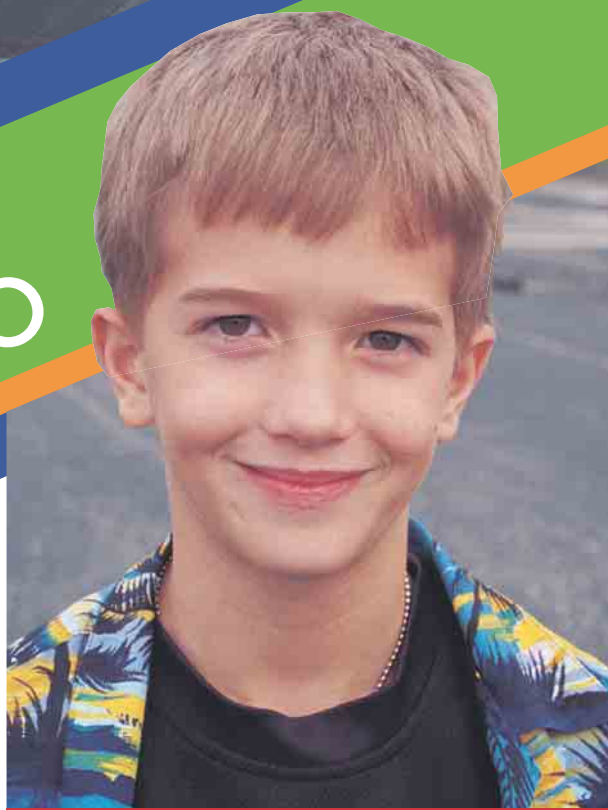
Mark 12:44

DREW NEEL OF DAYTON, OHIO

Written and photographed by Richard M. Romney

Eleven-year-old Drew Neel knows a lot about flying. That's mostly because he lives in Dayton, Ohio, a city known as the birthplace of aviation. Dayton is the hometown of two brothers, Wilbur and Orville Wright, who had much to do with the invention of the airplane. Dayton is the home of a huge flight museum, which Drew enjoys visiting. And Dayton is the home of Wright State University, which has a full-size replica of the Wright Brothers' first aircraft hanging in its library. That model of the 1903 Wright Flyer was built with the help of Howard R. DuFour, a member of Drew's ward.

Drew also knows a lot about flying right. That means doing what you're supposed to do, heading in the right direction, and keeping out of trouble. He has learned about that mostly from his father, Trent; his mother, Valene; his sister Marie (16); and his brother, Kurtis (13). They love him, and they help him live the gospel. Drew also knows a lot about flying right because of good leaders, teachers, and friends. He listens to them and learns from them. He says that what he's learned about flying



1. Next to a plane at the Flight Museum

2. Drew and Kurtis holding the hot-air balloon from Drew's class project at the museum

and what he's learned about life have a lot in common.

"Life is kind of like a test flight," Drew explains. "We're trying to get back to heaven, and Heavenly Father has sent us here to see if we will do the right things so that we can return to live with Him. He wants to see if we're trustworthy."

And just as there are many things to help a pilot fly a plane, Drew says, there are lots of things to help you through life. "You have a flight plan," he says. "It's the scriptures. And prayer is like calling the control tower, asking for directions."

He tells how he once built a hot-air balloon during a class visit to the flight museum. "We made it out of paper, then filled it with hot air, and it flew!" he says. Through that activity, he learned about obedience. "The balloon works because hot air rises," he says. "It's a natural law." And when laws are obeyed, whether they are laws of flight or laws of life, the obedience brings blessings.

Besides going to the flight museum, one of Drew's favorite trips is to travel with his dad to visit Brother DuFour. He lives in a little town outside Dayton called New Carlisle, and his home is full of tools and working mechanical models. One of the main rooms of the house is not a bedroom or a kitchen, but a workshop. It's right next to the living room as you come in the front door.

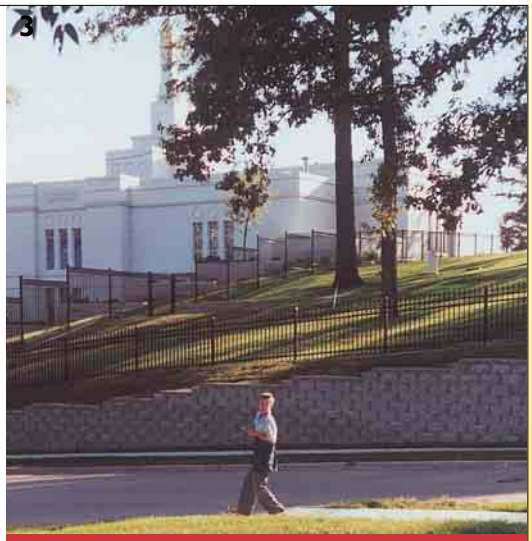
Brother DuFour has been working with machines since he was a boy. He enjoys showing Drew his models and talking to him about Charlie Taylor. Charlie was the chief mechanic for the Wright Brothers, and Brother DuFour did the research for a book about him.

"One of the reasons the Wright Brothers succeeded was that they had a good mechanic," Brother DuFour says. "In the Church, when we talk to someone and get his or her advice, we call it counsel. The Wright Brothers would counsel with Charlie Taylor. They talked about their designs, and Charlie helped them figure out how to make things work."

Brother DuFour also talks with Drew about finding his way in life. "The Holy Ghost will tell you whether you are right or not. If something is wrong, you won't feel good about it. But if you do what's right, then you'll feel good." That's sort of like a flight indicator, the gauge that tells a pilot if he's flying straight and level.

Now, just in case you think that all Drew is interested in is airplanes and machines,

3



3. In front of the Columbus Ohio Temple

4. In an astronaut suit at the Flight Museum

4

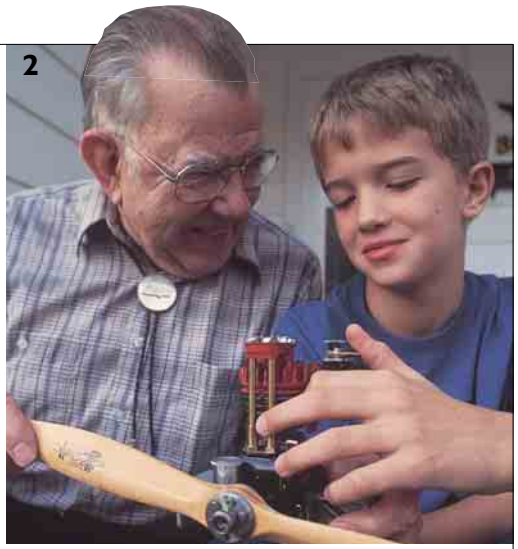
his parents are quick to point out some of his other interests. "He's the comedian of the family," his father says. "Sometimes at the dinner table, he makes me laugh so hard that I start to cry."

He also likes to work with his dad. "He's our great helper around the house. He's always there by my side if there's something that needs to be fixed," Brother Neel says.

"He especially likes Cub Scouts," his mother says, "and anything outside. He is always riding his bicycle, jumping on the trampoline, or rollerblading."

And he is eager to call the "spiritual control tower." "When we have family prayers," his mother continues, "he's always the first one there." His father adds: "He's very obedient and affectionate. He will come up to us to sit on a lap or get a hug."

The Neels have been reading the scriptures in the morning as a family and studying the plan of salvation. That helps to strengthen Drew's understanding of where he came from, why he is here, and where he is going. At one of those family discussions, his parents talked with him about a special experience that took place when he was born. "Just when you were getting here, there were problems," his father explains. "But thanks to faith and a priesthood blessing, both you and your mother pulled through."



If an airplane hits bumps or goes into a dive, the pilot must not panic. "You ask for help," Drew's father says. "Then you do what has to be done."

Drew knows it's just one more example of life and flying being alike. Yes, you can honestly say that Drew Neel knows a lot about flying. But even more important, he knows about flying right.

1. On vacation at Bryce Canyon in Utah

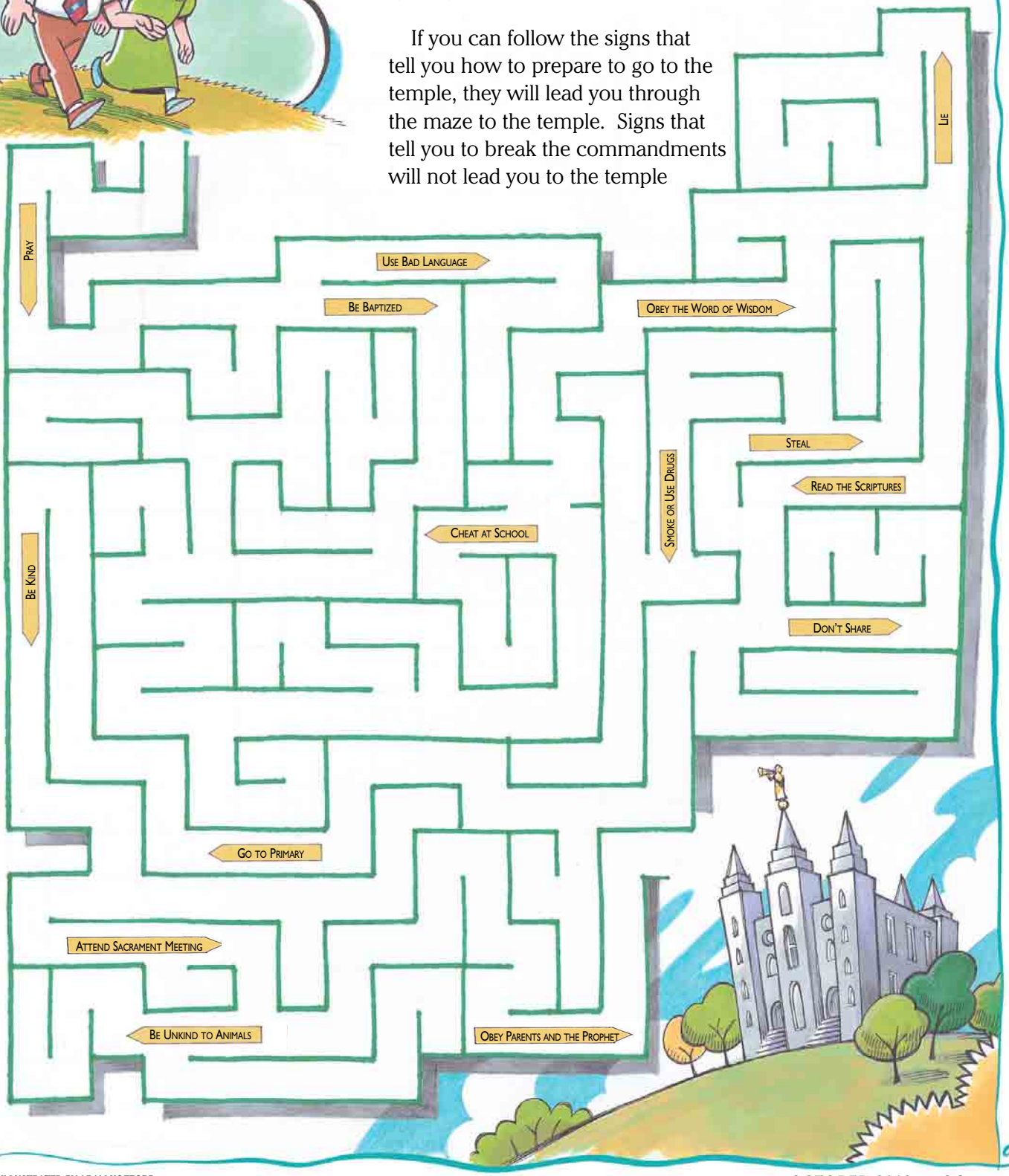
2. In Brother DuFour's workshop, admiring a working model of an engine

3. Drew, Mom, Marie, Dad, and Kurtis Neel

SIGNS FOR TEMPLE PREPARATION

By Marilyn Senterfitt

If you can follow the signs that tell you how to prepare to go to the temple, they will lead you through the maze to the temple. Signs that tell you to break the commandments will not lead you to the temple



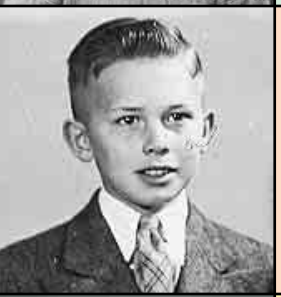
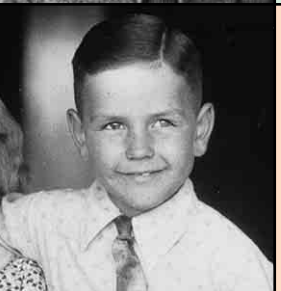
ILLUSTRATED BY ADAM KOFFORD

WHAT THE PROPHET AN

(A matching game)

Every general conference, the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles speak during at least one of the sessions. They teach us what Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ want us to do to be happy.

On page 24 are pictures of the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles as children. Next to each picture is the person's name and what he spoke on at last year's October general conference.* Match this with the picture of him now on page 25.

	Elder Neal A. Maxwell: keeping the law of chastity (pages 78–80)		Elder Henry B. Eyring: praying with faith (pages 15–17)		Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin: doing the very best we can (pages 25–27)
	Elder Dallin H. Oaks: sharing the gospel with love (pages 7–9)		Elder Jeffery R. Holland: paying tithing and other offerings (pages 33–35)		Elder M. Russell Ballard: treating people as Jesus Christ would (pages 35–38)
	President Gordon B. Hinckley: obeying the commandments for safety and peace (pages 72–74)		Elder Robert D. Hales: the Duty to God Award (pages 38–41)		President Boyd K. Packer: the Book of Mormon (pages 62–64)
	Elder David B. Haight: having the faith of our prophets and leaders (pages 22–24)		President James E. Faust: the Atonement and Resurrection of Jesus Christ (pages 18–20)		Elder L. Tom Perry: the need for returned missionaries (pages 75–77)
	Elder Russell M. Nelson: centering your family on the gospel (pages 69–71)		Elder Richard G. Scott: building a strong testimony (pages 87–89)		President Thomas S. Monson: living to have no regrets (pages 59–61)

ND APOSTLES TEACH US

FHE

Then, on the blank lines next to his recent picture, write his name and what he spoke on during this year's October general conference.

Instructions: After you have filled out the pages, carefully remove pages 24 and 25 from the magazine and glue them on heavy paper; let dry. Cut out the cards. Mix up the cards and turn them all over with the pictures facing down. With your family or friends, take turns drawing two cards to match the Prophet's or Apostle's recent picture with his younger picture.

*See *Ensign*, November 2001; pages of the talks appear in parentheses.

	Name: Topic:	Name: Topic:	Name: Topic:
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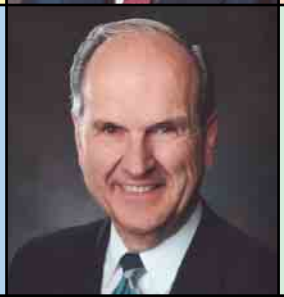
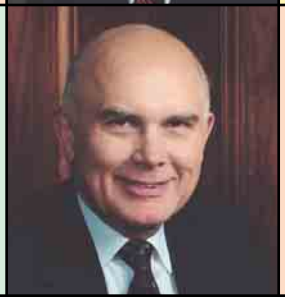
	Name: Topic:	 Name: Topic:	 Name: Topic:
	Name: Topic:	Name: Topic:	Name: Topic:
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FRIENDS IN THE NEWS

Andrea Manuela Ramirez Contreras, 11, Oaxaca, Mexico, likes to spend time with her family, play basketball, read stories, and draw, especially houses, boats, ships, animals, and rivers.

A very good boy who wants to do what is right, **Skyler Abilla,** 3, Lombard, Illinois, loves Jesus, the prophet Nephi, and his sisters. He likes to sing and to ride his bike.

Kiersten Malan, 9, Morgan, Utah, likes painting and art, like her grandma. She also likes playing the piano, sports, and cooking. Her favorite thing is "girls' night out" with her mom.

David Stoffey, 9, Colorado Springs, Colorado, earned his Bear Scout rank and Gospel in Action Award in the same week. He plays the piano and cello and enjoys board games and sports.

Mykalyn Nelson, 5, Kennewick, Washington, likes to draw, play with her big brothers, and help Mom by making her new little brother happy. She also likes to make crafts, help cook, and sing.

Hamish Martin, 8, Auckland, New Zealand, looks forward to visiting his grandparents during the school holidays. He likes to read, do maths, swim, attend Primary, and play with his friends.

Autumn Ferne Dow, 5, Dover-Foxcroft, Maine, likes to climb trees and pick acorns from them, camp, read, paint, and help care for her baby brother. She likes her bishop, and she loves Heavenly Father.

Ryan Cates, 11, Salt Lake City, Utah, likes to read his scriptures, play electronic games, and be with his family. This is a surprise from his sister Erin.

Very athletic, **Emily Anne Chalk,** 8, Vista, California, plays soccer and basketball. She likes building blocks and collects stuffed animals. She enjoys school and was voted mayor of her class.

Tanner Bonds, 7, Las Vegas, Nevada, likes the computer, making friends, adventure books, his three little sisters, and his mom and dad.

Holding her brother, **Caleb,** is **Megan Gail Olsen,** 4, Indianapolis, Indiana. She likes to help with him, and she enjoys everything out of doors. She received her first Book of Mormon and treasures it.

Chris Davis, 4, Sacramento, California, is the youngest of six children. He likes to play electronic games with his brother Ryan. He enjoys Sunbeams and always has a smile on his face.

The family comedian, **Brynne Burwell,** 11, Pen Argyl, Pennsylvania, likes softball, soccer, karate, and Achievement Days. She is quick to make friends, and she loves animals, especially her cat, Curly.

Kohler Jacob Callis, 11, Meridian, Idaho, really likes snow. A big sports person, he plays outside no matter the weather. He is a good worker and started his own lawn-mowing business with his dad.

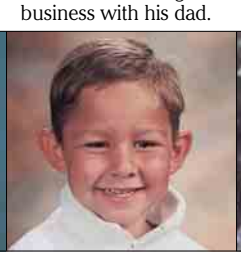
Ashley LeBaron, 5, Provo, Utah, likes to play the piano, read, jump rope, draw, clog, and write letters to her grandparents on a mission in Japan. She says that she's "really good at the monkey bars."

Kyle James, 6, St. Johns, Arizona, likes to play baseball and soccer, and he is a very good bike rider. He enjoys Primary and is looking forward to serving a mission.

Eager to be a Sunbeam, **Alexandra Hughlett,** 3, Fenton, Michigan, enjoys family home evening, reading books, riding her bike, and playing with her little sister.

Tyler Nelson, 10, Kennewick, Washington, likes football, spelling, and being in Webelos. Tyler enjoyed listening to President Hinckley when he dedicated the Columbia River Washington Temple.

Carly Ruiz, 8, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, loves President Hinckley. She especially likes the temples. She is very happy to be old enough to go to Achievement Days.



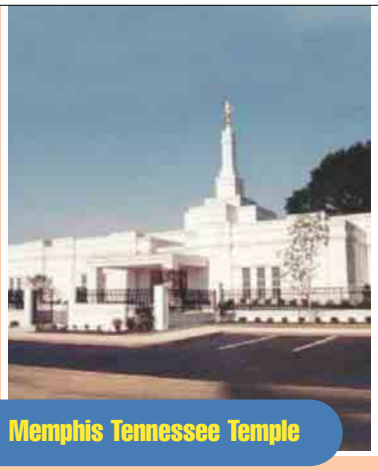
A very active boy, **Wil Woodward,** 5, Janesville, Wisconsin, likes to be outdoors, especially with his dad. He likes all sports and is an orange belt in karate.

Emily Hale, 7, Kingsburg, California, is the youngest person in her ward to have memorized all the Articles of Faith. She enjoys reading and swimming. This is a surprise from a Primary leader.

Cameron Mack Crouse, 3, Needmore, Pennsylvania, enjoys being a Sunbeam and learning songs for the Primary sacrament meeting presentation. He likes books about dinosaurs.

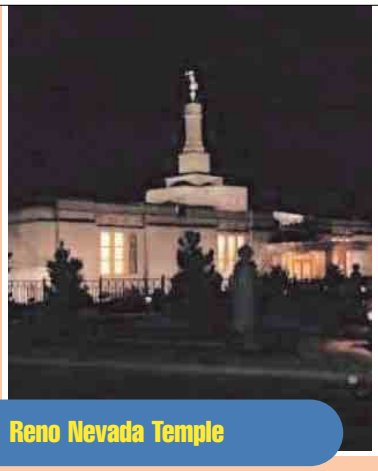
Temple Cards

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.



Memphis Tennessee Temple

Dedicated: April 23, 2000



Reno Nevada Temple

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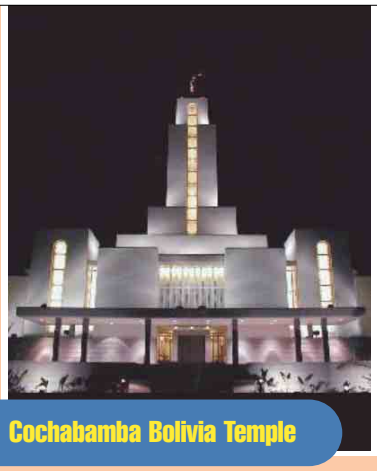
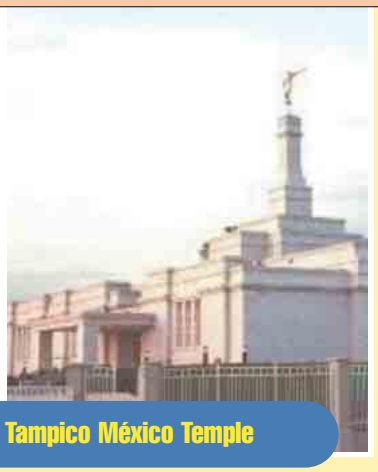


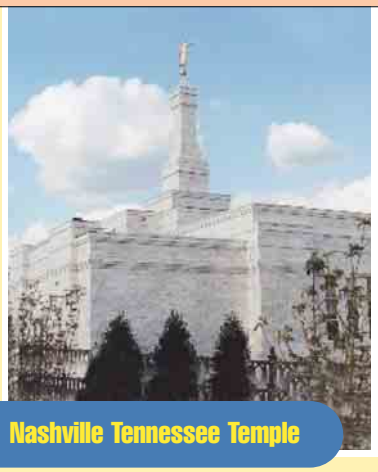
Cochabamba Bolivia Temple

Dedicated: April 30, 2000



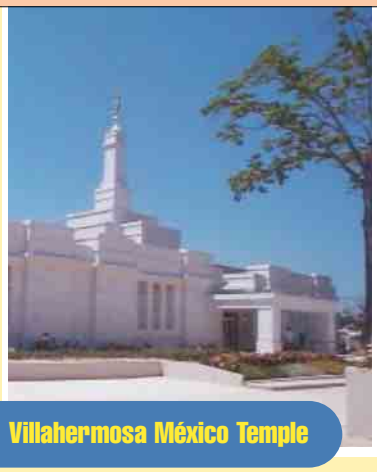
Tampico México Temple

Dedicated: May 20, 2000



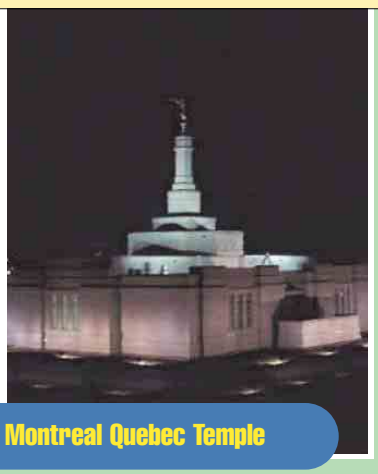
Nashville Tennessee Temple

Dedicated: May 21, 2000



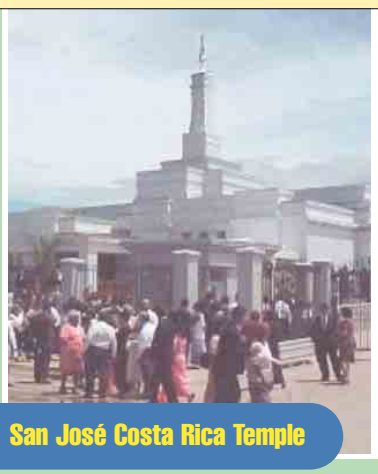
Villahermosa México Temple

Dedicated: May 21, 2000



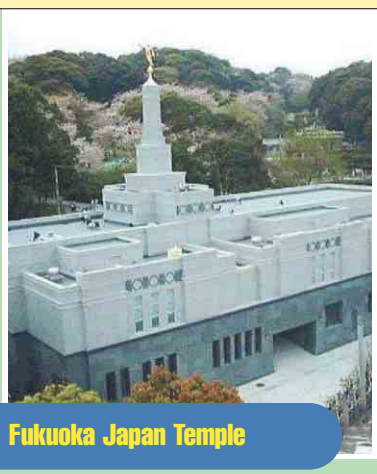
Montreal Quebec Temple

Dedicated: June 4, 2000



San José Costa Rica Temple

Dedicated: June 4, 2000



Fukuoka Japan Temple

Dedicated: June 11, 2000

OUR creative friends

Valiants
If you are a Valiant, you are trustworthy.
If you are trustworthy, you are courteous.
God made this possible.
Trinity Waddell, age 9
Livingston, Texas

Secret Place
I found a secret place today
With big green pines and a quiet, calm river
Rushing by the softest grass I have ever felt.
This place is in a long, long green valley.
The times I go to it are
When it's sunny and breezy all day long.

It smells of fresh grass and water.
There is a tree. This tree has the best fruit
That I've ever tasted.
This tree gives fruit every day.
It gives very wonderful pears.
These pears look like they're very, very ripe.
They are. These pears taste like—
I don't know. They just taste great.

I hear the wind blowing the trees and grass.
The river is rushing calmly and steadily.
My friend and I often go there
And stare up at the clouds.
Sometimes, by myself, I lie there and dream.

That is my secret place,
And I am proud of it.
Tye Nielsen, age 10
Brussels, Belgium

The Savior
The Savior is special
And as honest as can be.
He sacrificed His life for us,
For you and even me.
Kinsey Leishman, age 11
Frentown, Montana

The Kind of Mom I'd Like to Be
I'd like to be a Mary Poppins mom.
And I'd like to be a mom of animals.
To take care of them and draw them.
I'd like to be a mom who does everything with her kids—
A mom who dances,
A mom of excitement,
A mom who loves everybody,
A mom who forgives,
A mom who joins her kids in any game,
A sewing mom,
A children's mom.
Tara Van De Graaff, age 7
Salt Lake City, Utah

Autumn Day
A peaceful breeze lingers in the cool air.
And so now I become the heir to the throne of the Autumn Day Queen.
As the days pass by, the sun's rays say in a shy way:
"I love you. Enjoy your day."
Then the trees giggle as their branches sway.
The herds of clouds that move like cattle
Migrate and waggle on their endless journey across the field of blue sky.
My bare feet sleep against the cool grass blades.
Veronica Anderson, age 10
Jacksonville, Florida

I'm Watching You
Watchmen are important people.
They help in many ways.
They watch us in the night,
And they watch us in the day.

They try to keep us safe
Each and every day.
And Elder Henry B. Eyring
Reminds us to pray.

President Boyd K. Packer says to follow the Spirit.
It will keep us safe if we can hear it.
Elder Jeffrey R. Holland says, "Keep trying." That is right.
We should all keep trying, even through the night.

All of our prophets want us to choose the right,
And since our prophets are our watchmen,
They are always in our sight.
Hillary Feiner, age 9
Cochester, Vermont

Drawings

1 Madyson Gold, age 9
Brookings, Oregon
2 Hailey Hunt, age 5
Las Vegas, Nevada
3 Mattisen Nielsen, age 3
Merced, California
4 Kylie Hardin, age 7
St. George, Utah
5 Rebecca Hess, age 10
Farmington, Utah
6 Isaac Nelson, age 4
Eagle Rock, California
7 Thomas Manning, age 11
Mesa, Arizona
8 Joshua Houghton, age 9
Clinton, Utah
9 Shane Donovan, age 8
Corinne, Utah
10 Abby Blackham, age 7
Collierville, Tennessee
11 Alexis Haycock, age 5
Lima, Ohio
12 Nicole Finn, age 8
Blackhawk, South Dakota
13 Carolyn Burnett, age 10
Davie, Florida
14 Tory Hawks, age 7
Blaine, Minnesota
15 Dominique Bell, age 10
Lehigh Acres, Florida
16 Adam Montgomery, age 5
Alpharetta, Georgia
17 Melissa Fu, age 11
North Finchley, London, England
18 Mark Meyer, age 6
Stettler, Alberta, Canada
19 Chucky Cammock, age 8
Hamilton, New Zealand
20 James Gale, age 6
Birmingham, Alabama

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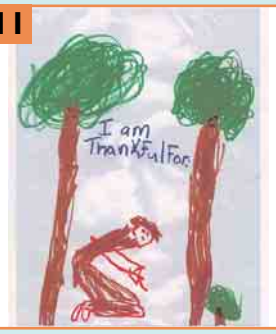

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By Shauna Gibby
(A true story)

THE TIME

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved (Mark 16:16).

In 1978, Isaac was eight years old. He lived in a small village in Cross River State, Nigeria. His house was made of bamboo poles packed with mud and had a roof made of palm leaves. Isaac loved his village and all the people who lived there.

The village was surrounded by a lush, green forest. There were palm trees, banana trees, ferns, and bamboo. To get to the next village, Isaac walked down the dirt road through the forest or rode his cousin's old bike.

His family had a small farm on which they grew their own food. They ate soup and *gari,* a dish that looks like oatmeal and is made of boiled roots. One of Isaac's chores was to walk down to the river and get water for his mother.

On Sundays, Isaac and his family went to church. Their meetinghouse was also made of bamboo and mud, and it had a neat, white sign: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. There was a big brass bell in front.

At church, Brother Ekong taught them about Jesus Christ. He read to them from the few books they had received from Salt Lake City. They sang hymns. Isaac's favorite hymn was "Come, Come, Ye Saints."

Isaac and many other people in his village had strong testimonies that the Church is true. They were waiting for missionaries to help them learn more about the restored gospel. Brother Ekong did

ILLUSTRATED BY SHAUNA MOONEY KAWASAKI

WILL COME

not have the priesthood. He could not baptize them. More than anything, Isaac wanted to be baptized and become a member of the Church. His father told him, "The time will come when we can be baptized."

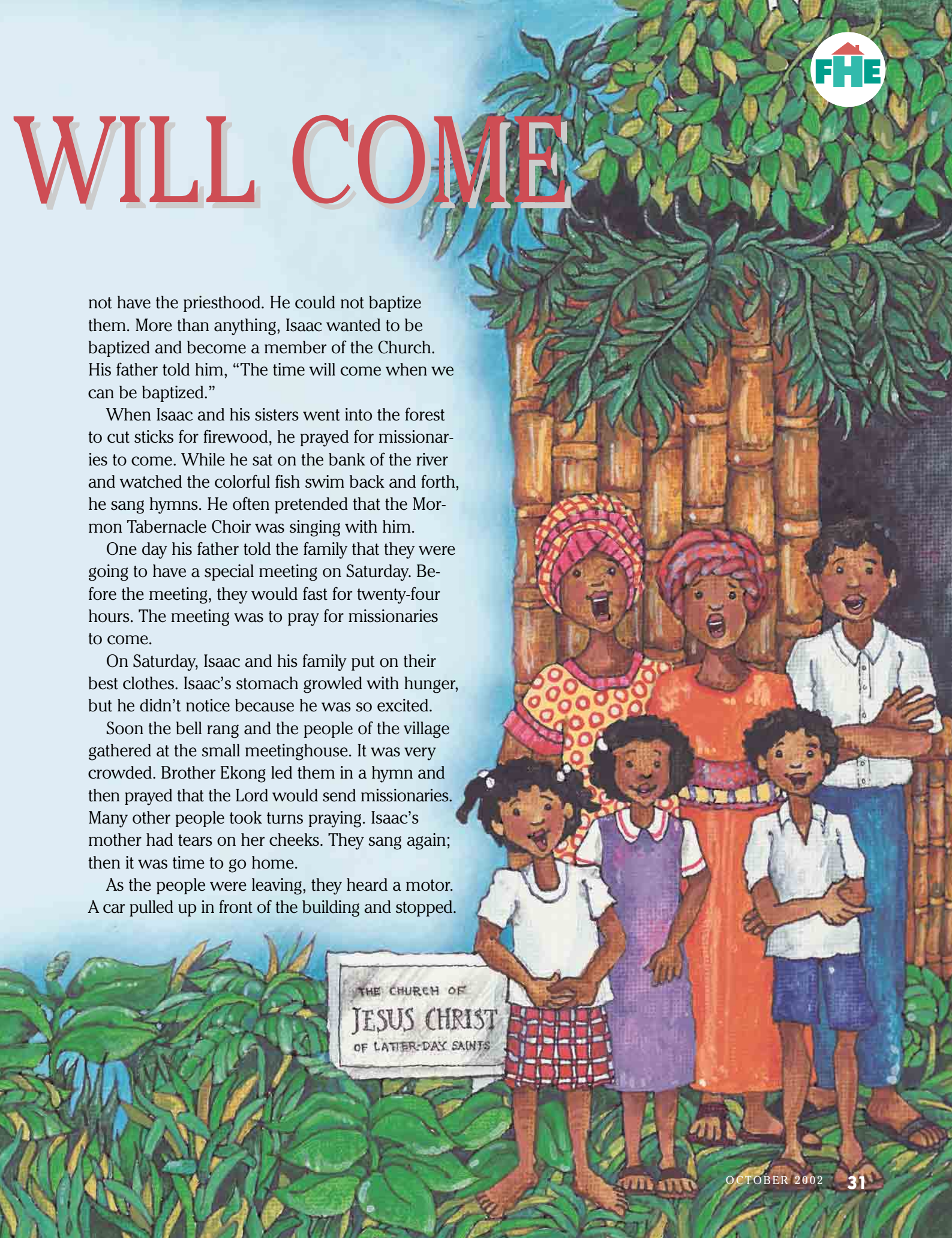
When Isaac and his sisters went into the forest to cut sticks for firewood, he prayed for missionaries to come. While he sat on the bank of the river and watched the colorful fish swim back and forth, he sang hymns. He often pretended that the Mormon Tabernacle Choir was singing with him.

One day his father told the family that they were going to have a special meeting on Saturday. Before the meeting, they would fast for twenty-four hours. The meeting was to pray for missionaries to come.

On Saturday, Isaac and his family put on their best clothes. Isaac's stomach growled with hunger, but he didn't notice because he was so excited.

Soon the bell rang and the people of the village gathered at the small meetinghouse. It was very crowded. Brother Ekong led them in a hymn and then prayed that the Lord would send missionaries. Many other people took turns praying. Isaac's mother had tears on her cheeks. They sang again; then it was time to go home.

As the people were leaving, they heard a motor. A car pulled up in front of the building and stopped.



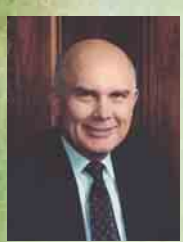
Two men and two women got out. Isaac had never seen anyone with skin so pale. Brother Ekong talked excitedly to them. Then he went to the bell and rang it loudly. Everyone quickly returned to the meetinghouse.

Brother Ekong welcomed the four strangers and sat them at the front of the building, facing the people. He told them that the village had been waiting for this glad day for many years. One of the men, Elder Rendell Mabey, stood and told them he was a missionary sent to them by the prophet, President Spencer W. Kimball.

Elder Mabey bore his testimony of the restored gospel. Then Elder Cannon bore his testimony, and their wives also bore theirs. The day was very hot, but no one wanted to leave. The people asked many questions. Elder Mabey promised to return and teach them more. He said that their time had come and that they soon could be baptized.

On the last day of December, 1978, Isaac's family and many others gathered on the riverbank. They found a spot in the river that had a deep pool. When it was Isaac's turn, he waded into the gentle river. Elder Mabey took him by the wrist, said the baptismal prayer, and lowered him into the water. The sunlight sparkled on the surface as Isaac waded back to shore. His heart felt warm and sparkly, too.

Twenty-one years later, Isaac stood in the pool of water with his eight-year-old son, Raymond. Isaac now held the priesthood and could baptize his son. His heart was filled with joy as he remembered the beautiful day when he had been baptized in that same river. He was very grateful that his time had finally come.



"Through missionaries and members, the message of the restored gospel is going to all the world. . . .

"The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints offers all the children of God the opportunity to learn the fulness of the gospel of Jesus Christ as restored in these latter days. We offer everyone the privilege of receiving all the ordinances of salvation and exaltation."

Elder Dallin H. Oaks
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles
(*Ensign*, May 1998, page 57.)

FAITH HELPS US CHOOSE THE RIGHT

By Vicki F. Matsumori

We believe that the first principles and ordinances of the Gospel are: first, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; second, Repentance; third, Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; fourth, Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost (Articles of Faith 1:4).

A six- or seven-year-old boy in the car parked ahead of you turns and sticks his tongue out at you. What should you do?

This happened to Elder Wayne S. Peterson of the Seventy while he was waiting in his car. What do you think he did? Elder Peterson remembered how important it is to choose the right. He said, "I waved at the little boy. He stuck his tongue out at me again. I smiled and waved again. This time he waved back. Soon he was joined . . . by a little brother and sister. [When their car] pulled away, my newfound friends continued to wave for as long as I could see them."*

Elder Peterson chose to show his faith in Jesus Christ by following His teachings. The Savior taught, "Therefore, all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them" (3 Nephi 14:12). Elder Peterson felt good as the car drove away, because he had chosen the right.

We are happy when we choose the right and keep the commandments. When we choose the right, we show our love for Heavenly Father and we prepare ourselves for temple ordinances.

What happens, though, if we choose to do something wrong? We feel bad, and we know that we need to repent so that we can be forgiven. A loving Heavenly Father has provided a way for us to be forgiven so that we can be worthy to be with Him.

We begin our membership in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints clean and pure. If we show our faith in Jesus Christ by choosing the right and by repenting when we do wrong, the Holy Ghost can continue to guide us. Each week as we take the sacrament, we can renew our baptismal covenants to Heavenly Father to remember the Savior and keep His commandments.

Heavenly Father's choicest blessings can be ours. Going to the temple is an important step we must take to live with Him again.

"FAITH TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT" DOOR HANGER

Mount page 35 on heavy paper or lightweight cardboard. Cut out the door hanger, fold it along the broken line, and glue the backs together. Place the hanger on a doorknob to help you remember to choose the right each day. If you have made a good choice sometime during the day, turn the hanger over to show that you have shown your faith to choose the right.

**Ensign,* November 2001, page 83.

SHARING TIME IDEAS

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

1. Teach the principles of the fourth article of faith by inviting four members of the Aaronic or Melchizedek Priesthood to give the children short talks on faith in Jesus Christ, repentance, baptism, and the gift of the Holy Ghost. Before each talk, have the children sing a song about the principle of that talk—e.g., "Faith" (pp. 96–97), "Repentance" (p. 98), "When I Am Baptized" (p. 103), and "The Holy Ghost" (p. 105).

Help the children memorize the fourth article of faith. Write it in phrases on separate slips of paper; give each class a phrase to memorize, with younger classes getting the simpler phrases. Have each teacher help her/his class learn its phrase.

Ask a member of each class to come to the front and present its phrase. While the entire Primary says the fourth article of faith, have the class representatives quickly but reverently put themselves in the correct order. Then have them repeat their phrases in order for the rest of the children. Repeat this process until all the children who wish to have participated and the article is memorized.

Review the article by singing "The Fourth Article of Faith" (p. 124), with each class standing when its phrase is sung.

2. Review the baptismal covenant and ordinance of the sacrament by playing a question-answer game. Place these GAK pictures on the chalkboard: John the Baptist Baptizing Jesus (208), Alma Baptizes in the Waters of Mormon (309), Baptism (601), The Last Supper (225), Passing the Sacrament (604). On each side of a small box—the "picture box"—write one of these descriptions: Jesus Christ's baptism, Alma baptizes, Modern-day baptism, The Last Supper, The sacrament, Choose a picture. On each side of another small box—the "word box"—write one of these words: Who, What, When, Where, Why, How.

Pick one class to be It. Have a child from that class roll the picture box; have another child from that class roll the word box. Invite the other classes to ask one question, using the rolled word, for the selected class to answer about the picture that was rolled. For example, if the Savior's baptism was the picture rolled, and the word *What* was rolled, the question might be "What method of baptism was used?" If the rolled picture was Alma baptizes, and the rolled word was *Why*, the question might be "Why was Alma baptizing in a hidden place?" A How question might be "How does this apply to your life today?"

Repeat the game until all classes have been It. Then review the ordinances of baptism and the sacrament by singing such songs as "When Jesus Christ Was Baptized" (p. 102), "When I Am Baptized" (p. 103), "The Sacrament" (p. 72).

3. To help the children understand that the first principles and ordinances of the gospel are the same today as they were in ancient days, review the story of Adam and Eve found on the back of GAK 101. Have the children recite the fourth article of faith, holding up one finger for each principle and ordinance mentioned: faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, repentance, baptism by immersion, and the gift of the Holy Ghost. Have them locate Moses 6:52 and hold up their fingers, one at a time, as they hear you read these same four principles and ordinances in that scripture.

Divide the Primary into four groups, and assign each group one of these scriptures: Moses 5:4–6 (faith), Moses 6:53 (repentance), Moses 6:64 (baptism), Moses 6:65–66 (Holy Ghost). Have each group locate its scripture and decide which principle or ordinance Adam followed. Have the children suggest case studies (see *TNGC,* pp. 161–162) that teach how each principle or ordinance can apply in their everyday lives. For example, paying tithing is a way to show faith. You have saved your allowance to buy a part to fix your skateboard. When you get to the store, the part has gone up in price. You will have enough to pay for it if you use your tithing money. What do you do?

Have each group present its principle or ordinance case study to the Primary by reading its assigned scripture out loud as a choral reading or by singing an applicable Primary song, then present its case study.

For younger children: Use GAK 101, and tell the story about Adam and Eve written on the back of the picture. Explain that when Adam and Eve left the garden, they taught their children the gospel—what parents are to teach their children today. Have the children suggest things that parents teach, and then have the children suggest a way of portraying these teachings with actions (e.g., fold arms for prayer, hold hands like a book for reading scriptures). Use the actions to sing "Do As I'm Doing" (p. 276).

4. To help the children understand the process of repentance, use a roller box (see *TNGC,* pp. 178–179) to tell the story of Alma the Younger (see Mosiah 27, Alma 36). Select passages from the story that illustrate and explain the process of repentance, and write them on separate slips of paper. Have each child choose a reference. In larger Primaries, you may have two or three children work together on one reference. Give the children papers and pencils or crayons and have them illustrate their scripture passage. The size of the roller box will dictate the size of the paper and the direction in which the illustrations should be drawn.

Collect the drawings, and while one leader connects them into a continuous story and attaches it to the roller box, have another leader use *Primary 3*, Lesson 10, to review the steps of repentance: feel sorry, ask for forgiveness, right the wrong, don't repeat the wrong. After the review, sing songs such as "Repentance" (p. 98) and "Help Me, Dear Father" (p. 99).

Use the completed roller box to tell the story of Alma the Younger. Invite the children to come to the front to describe what is happening in their own drawings. Make appropriate pauses in the story to help the children see the steps Alma and the sons of Mosiah took to repent. Express gratitude for the principle of repentance.

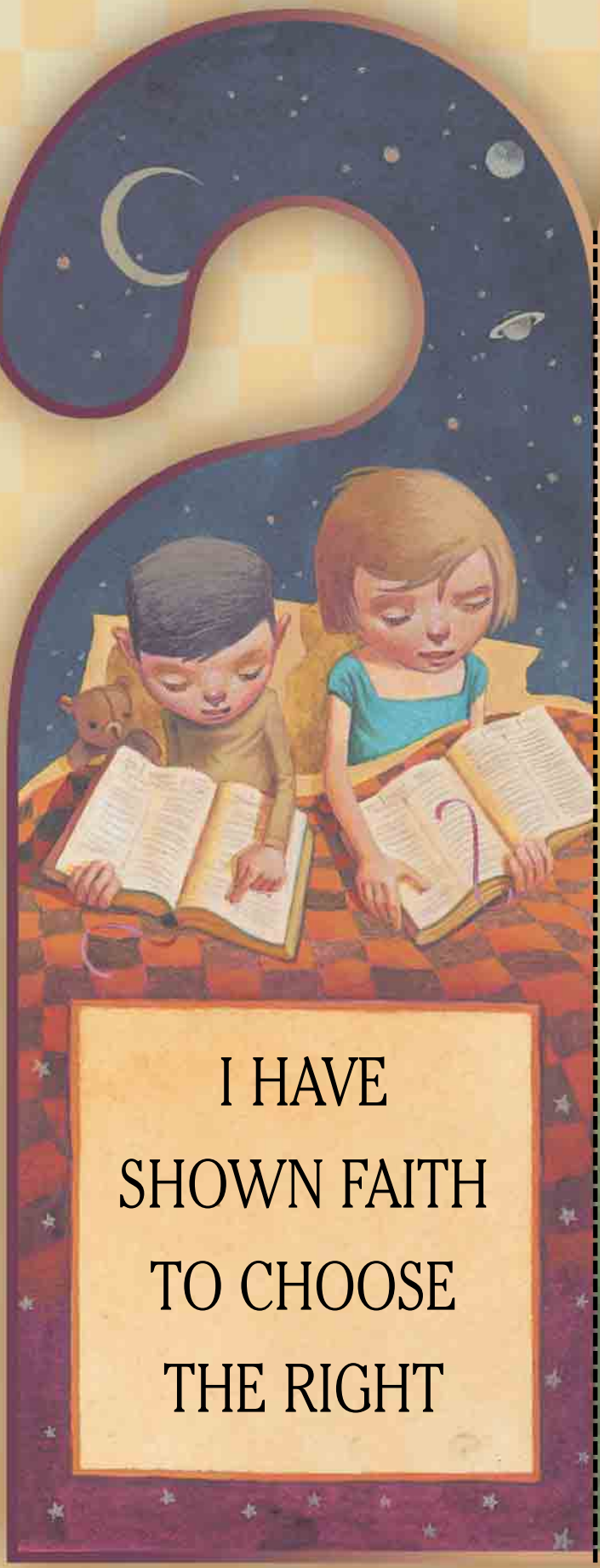
5. Help the children understand what they can do to build their faith in Jesus Christ. Have them locate Alma 32:36–39, and you read it aloud. Explain that the seed in the scripture is the word of God and that planting it in their hearts will help build their testimonies. To help the children listen, you might assign different groups to count how many times words like *see, tree, fruit,* and *nourished* are used. Discuss why it is important to "nourish" their testimonies. Help the children understand what happens to testimony "seeds" that aren't nourished.

Sing "The Church of Jesus Christ" (p. 77). Have the children list on one half of the chalkboard the things we believe or know: "who I am"; "God's plan"; "the Savior, Jesus Christ." Discuss and list other things we might know as part of our testimonies (e.g., the Book of Mormon is true, Heavenly Father answers prayers, we have a prophet today).

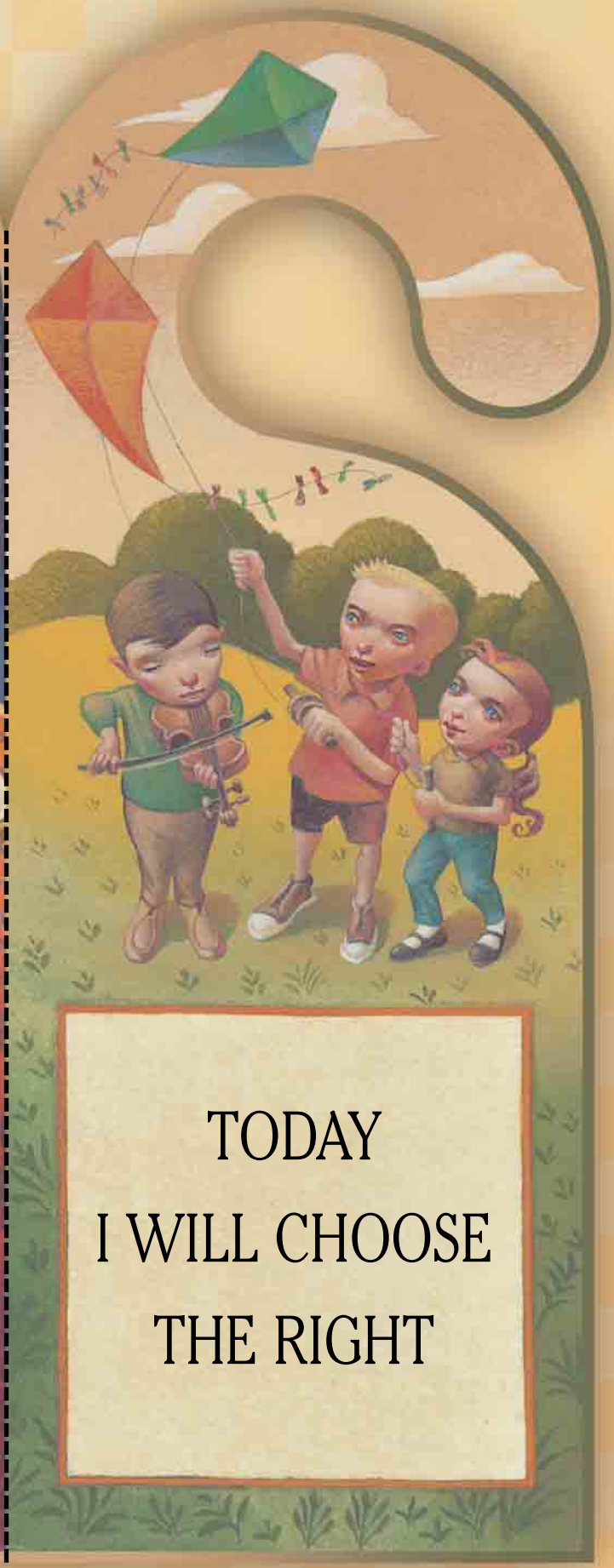
On the other half of the chalkboard, list the things we can do to develop our testimonies: "follow him in faith," "honor his name," "do what is right," "follow his light," proclaim His truth. Have the children suggest specific things we can do to follow in faith, honor His name, etc. (pay tithing, keep the Sabbath Day holy, read the scriptures, obey the Word of Wisdom). Explain that the singing of hymns can be a way to express our testimonies, and have them re-sing "The Church of Jesus Christ" as a testimony.

In their temple booklets, have the children draw a tree growing from a seed, and raindrops labeled with things they can do to help their testimonies grow. Or give each child a raindrop-shaped piece of paper. Have each child write or draw something he/she can do to help his/her testimony grow. Affix the raindrops to a chalkboard or wall where a small, seed-shaped piece of paper has also been affixed. As you see children doing acts of kindness or making right choices during the next few weeks, write them on pieces of paper that you add to the top of the seed to show it growing into a tree.

6. Additional *Friend* resources: "Baptized by the Prophet," Feb. 2001, pp. 2–5; Sharing Time Ideas, Jan. 2000, p. 46; Sharing Time Ideas, Mar. 2000, p. 14; Sharing Time, July 2000, pp. 12–14; "I Come to the Water" (song), Mar. 2000, pp. 46–47; "Covenants at the Waters of Mormon," Apr. 2000, pp. 10–11; "Testimony," Oct. 1998, IFC. See also: "The Power of a Strong Testimony," *Ensign,* Nov. 2001, pp. 87–89.



I HAVE
SHOWN FAITH
TO CHOOSE
THE RIGHT



TODAY
I WILL CHOOSE
THE RIGHT

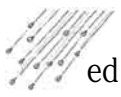
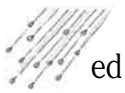
ILLUSTRATED BY RICHARD HULL

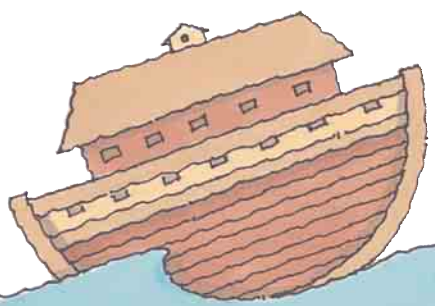
Noah was a just man, and . . . he walked with God (Moses 8:27).

NOAH AND THE FLOOD

(A rebus)

Noah

was the great-great-great-great-great-great-great-grandson of Adam. was a good man, but most people in his day were wicked. told them repent, but they . They tried kill .
Heavenly Father
told that because the people were so wicked, He would destroy all living things on the in a great flood. He commanded build an on which , his family, or more of every animal saved. built the , the animals went in. , , , , , , , , , , — or more of every animal on went in. , his wife, his sons, their wives went in, . It started . It  ed harder harder.
fountains
opened under the sea poured out water. It  ed days



ILLUSTRATED BY JULIE F. YOUNG

nights. The whole was covered with water. Everyone except the people animals on the was drowned. After days, the stopped the were closed. The water started go . Months later, the came rest on a . sent a if the water was gone. The came back. The water was gone. sent the out again a week later, it came back with a in its . The water was going . The next week, sent the out once more, it did come back. The water was gone. When the was dry, his family the animals left the . built an altar gave thanks. made the in the as a that He destroy the again by flood. Many centuries later, as the angel Gabriel, told Zacharias that John the Baptist born Elisabeth. He also told Mary that she give birth Jesus Christ . was a great prophet, we all his descendants.

(See Genesis 5–8; Moses 8:13–30; Bible Dictionary—Gabriel.)

FOR LITTLE FRIENDS

NOAH'S ARK

By Susan Fielden

cut

picture window

cut

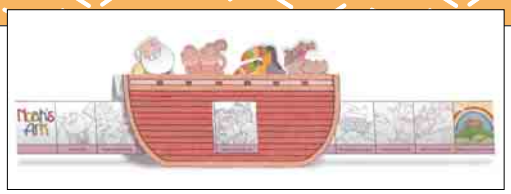
Noah preaching

People trying to kill Noah

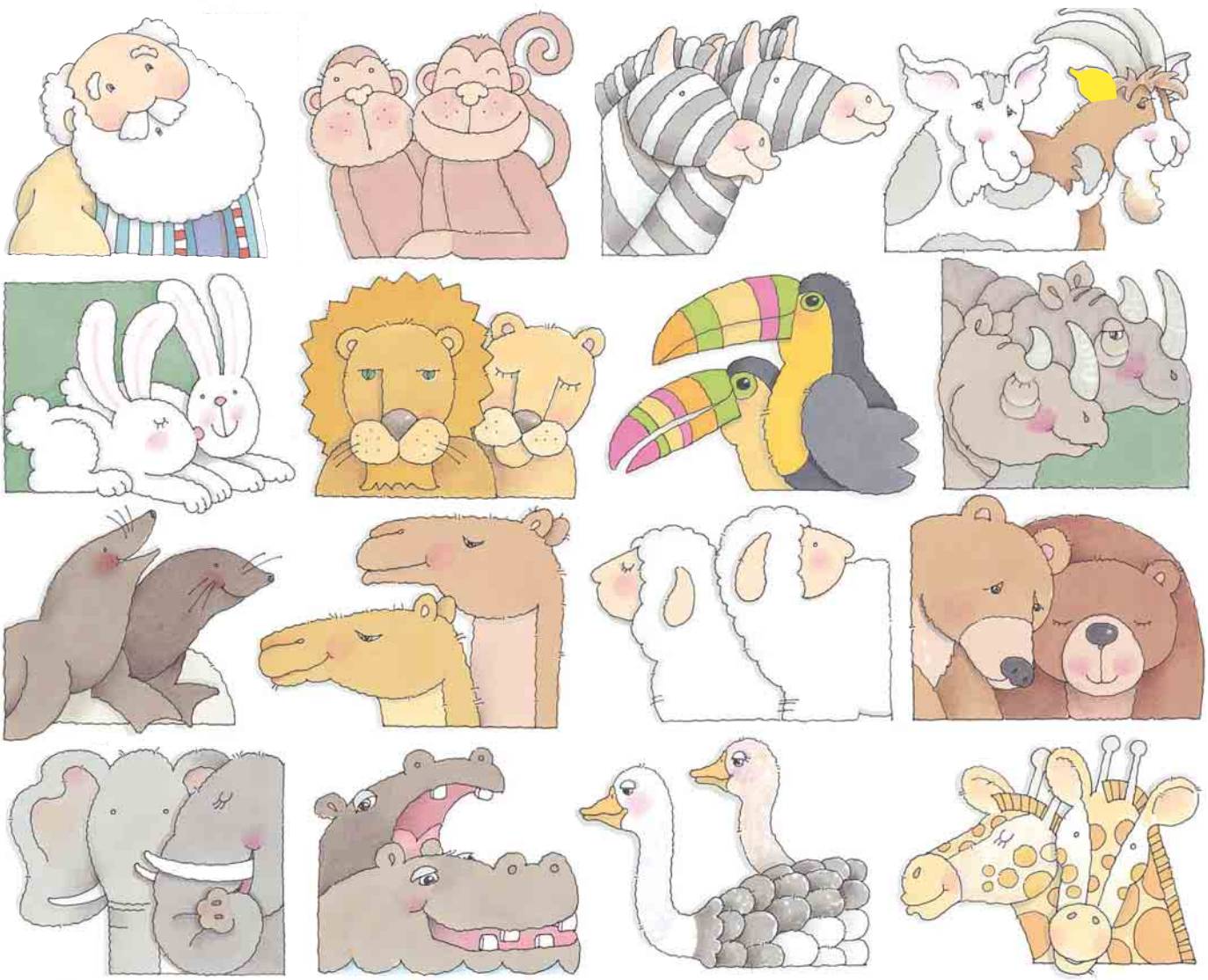
Noah receiving revelation

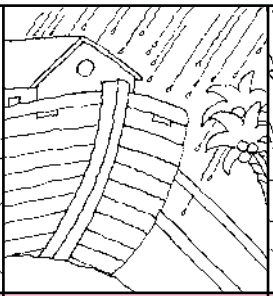
Noah and his family building ark

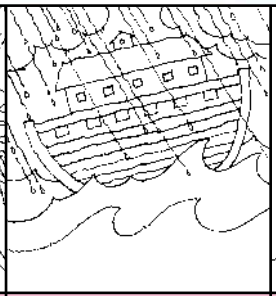
Animals entering the ark

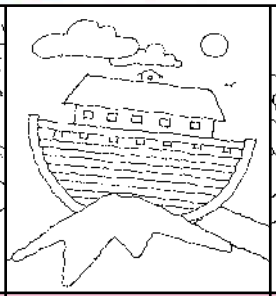


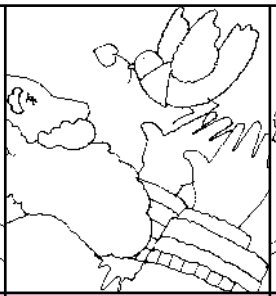
To make a Noah's ark with a story stage and story picture window, glue these pages to heavy paper. Cut out the ark, the story strip, and each of the story figures. Fold the ark on the broken lines (see diagram). Cut slits along the sides of the picture window. Thread the story strip through these slits, stopping on the first picture. The folded-back rainbow will prop the ark's story stage. As you tell the story of Noah's ark and the flood, pull the strip to the left, showing the picture of what you are talking about. At the same time, put the appropriate story figure in the folded-paper "stage" on the ark. As you finish telling the story, fold the rainbow up into the sky. You will have both a play and a picture-show of the story of Noah's ark.

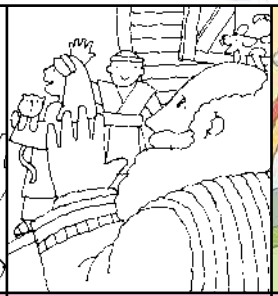


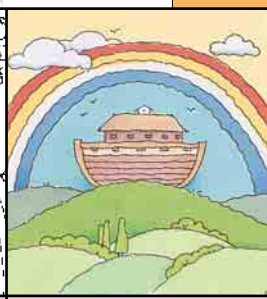

Rain falling


Ark floating

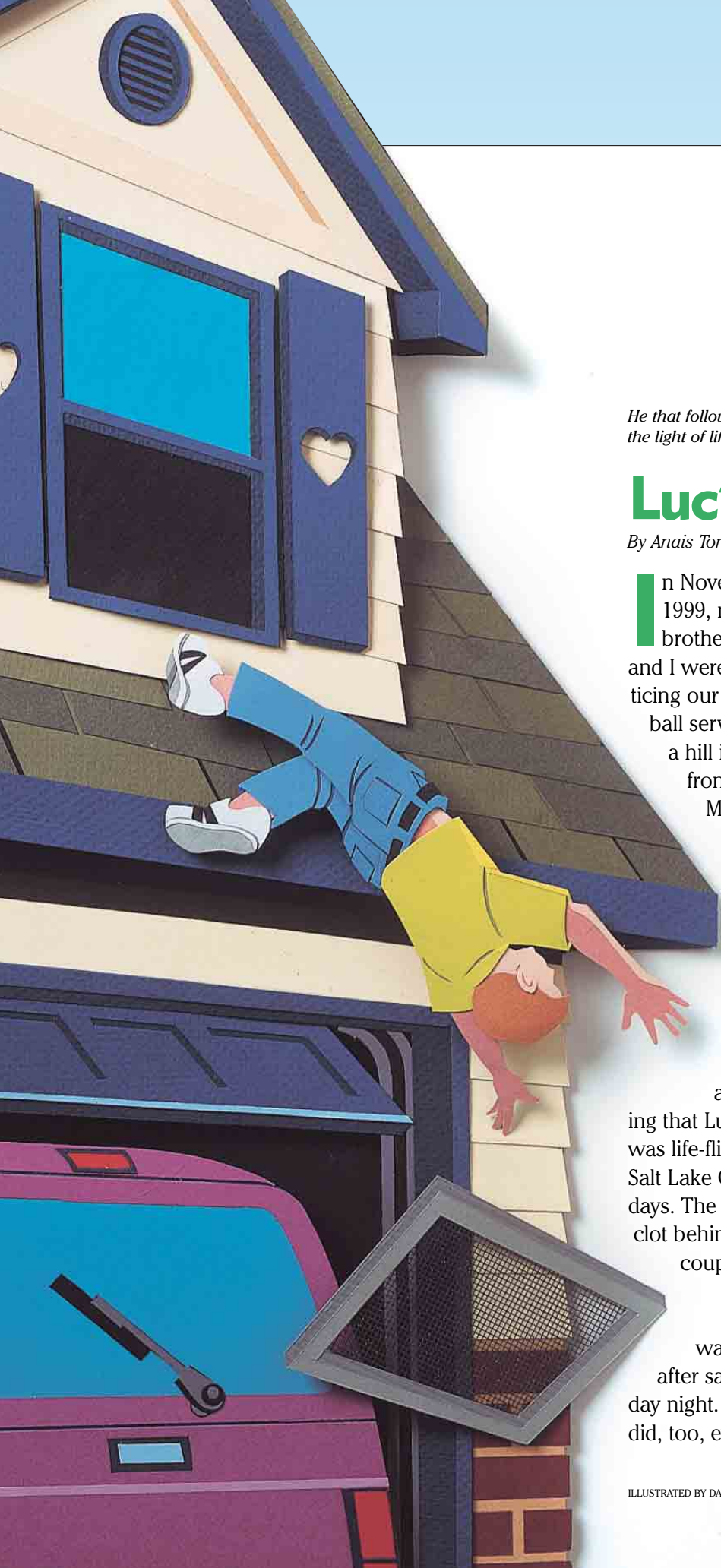

Ark landing on mountaintop


Dove returning with leaf


Noah's family leaving ark


Rainbow over ark on dry earth

ILLUSTRATED BY JULIE F. YOUNG



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

Luc's Accident

By Anais Tomlinson

Anais and Luc Tomlinson, ages 11 and 7
St. George, Utah

In November 1999, my brother David and I were practicing our volleyball serves on a hill in our front yard. My six-year-old brother, Luc (Luke), was leaning on the screen in the window above the garage. He fell through it 13' (4 m) to the driveway. I ran in and told my mom and dad, and they came out and picked him up. No one knew he had landed on his head.

My mom took him to the hospital and called my dad half an hour later, saying that Luc's skull was practically shattered. He was life-flighted to Primary Children's Hospital in Salt Lake City, Utah. He was in a coma for three days. The doctors said that he had a huge blood clot behind his right eye. He couldn't see for a couple of days. The doctors also said that he'd be in the hospital for two months.

While Luc was in the coma, our ward fasted and prayed for him. We fasted after sacrament meeting on Sunday until Monday night. People we knew in India and France did, too, even though most of them weren't

ILLUSTRATED BY DAVID R. DEITRICK

members of the Church. Luc woke up from his coma and got better and so did some other kids in the hospital. Luc was known as the "Miracle Boy." He was in the hospital for only a week!

He's OK now but has to go for a couple of checkups. I'm so glad that he survived his accident, and I know that fasting and prayer really work.

Soccer Choice

By Jacob Martindale

Jacob Martindale, age 6 Columbia, Missouri

This year I had to make a hard choice between watching general conference on Saturday morning or playing in my last soccer game. My mom told me that I could decide for myself. I chose to stay home and watch general conference and listen to the prophet because it is what Heavenly Father wants me to do. Even though I really wanted to play soccer, Heavenly Father helped me feel happy inside about my choosing the right.

Being a Good Example

By Christina Chan

Christina Chan, age 6 Friendswood, Texas

A girl in my school is in first grade like me. She wears thick glasses and sometimes has trouble doing simple things at school. She has to have someone help to get her lunch.

One day when I was walking into the girls' restroom, I heard a group of girls laughing. They were laughing at this girl and making fun of her. I turned away and didn't laugh. I hope I was being a good example to the girls who were laughing. I know we should be kind to everyone, especially to those who need special help.

Being Honest

By Denice Sheffield

Tifanny Sheffield, age 11 Cedar City, Utah

My daughter, Tifanny, and I were at a store one evening. As we left the store, I saw some unopened candy and a toy just outside the door. We couldn't find the owner, so I told her she could have the candy and toy. She looked at me and said, "I would like to be honest." She took the candy and toy into the store. She came out with the greatest feeling for being honest and choosing to do the right. She likes to choose the right.

PHOTO BY KELLY LARSEN

From the Life of President Harold B. Lee

Healing a Soldier

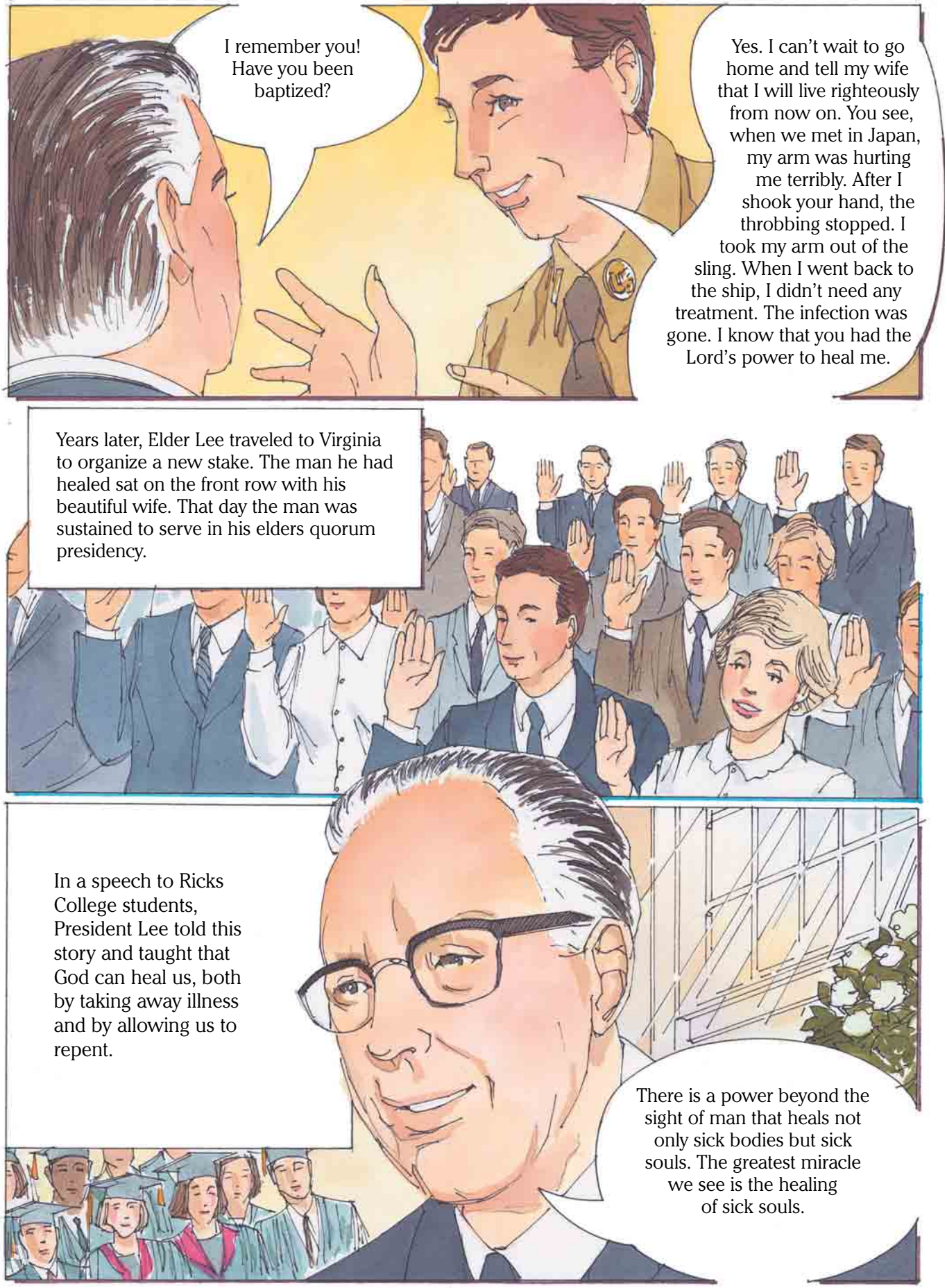
Harold B. Lee once visited Tokyo, Japan, to speak at a conference for soldiers. After the meeting, a man came up to shake his hand.

I am not a member of the Church, but I understand that you are going to be in the Philippines in a few weeks. I'll be there with the U.S. Seventh Fleet, and I hope to be able to tell you then that I have been baptized.

I hope so, too!

Weeks went by, and Elder Lee traveled to the Philippines to give another fireside. He noticed that the man he had met in Tokyo was sitting on the front row.

ILLUSTRATED BY MIKE EAGLE



(See *Best-Loved Stories of the LDS People,* Volume 2, pages 122–123.)

HEAVENLY FATHER'S PLAN FOR ME

We believe that the first principles and ordinances of the Gospel are: first, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; second, Repentance; third, Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; fourth, Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost (Articles of Faith 1:4).

Revelations given to the Prophet Joseph Smith help us understand Heavenly Father's plan. Because the gospel was restored, we know that we lived with Heavenly Father before we came to earth, that He sent us here to become like Him, and that He wants us to return to Him when our earthly life is finished.

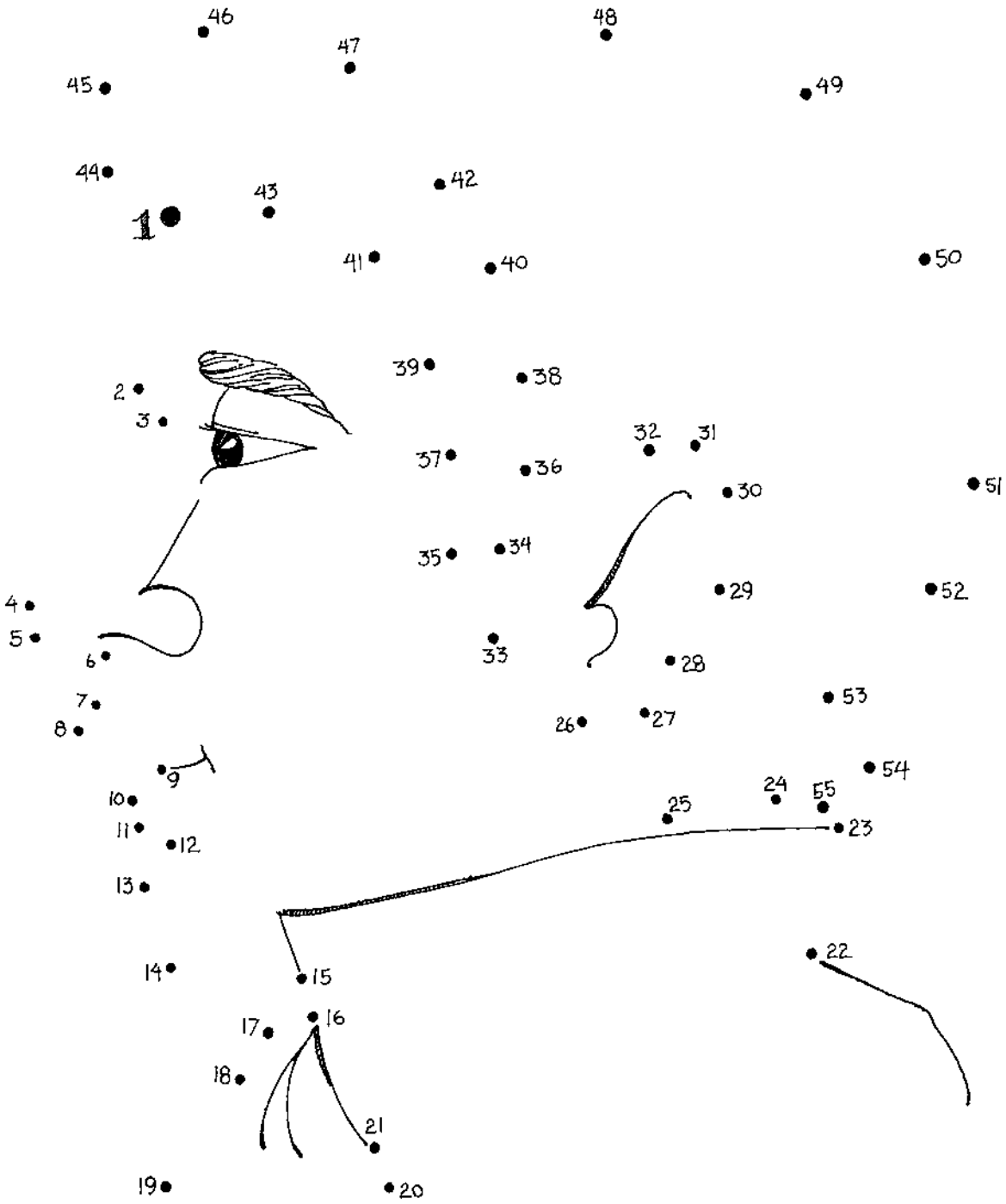
Returning to Heavenly Father is like climbing a staircase—we must take the necessary steps. Joseph Smith taught that those steps include developing faith, repenting, and making covenants. He said, "A man . . . can never see the celestial kingdom of God, without being born of water and the Spirit."* In other words, being baptized and then receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost are the first steps we take in returning to God.

The Holy Ghost helps guide us to be worthy to enter the temple. Temple ordinances were restored through the Prophet Joseph, and modern prophets also help guide us to be worthy to receive those ordinances.

We can prepare for baptism by gaining a testimony that Jesus Christ is the Savior and that Joseph Smith was a prophet. After we are baptized, we can prepare to make temple covenants by studying the scriptures and heeding the prophets' counsel. With each covenant we make, we take another step toward our Heavenly home.

**Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, page 12.

ILLUSTRATED BY SHAUNA MOONEY KAWASAKI / PHOTO BY LANA LEISHMAN



THE PROPHET JOSEPH SMITH

To remind you that you prepare to go to the temple as you follow Heavenly Father's plan, complete this dot-to-dot picture, then color it.

I Know That My

Words and music by
Tami Jeppson Creamer and Derena Bell

Reverently ♩ = 120–132

1. A long time a - go in a beau - ti - ful place, Chil - dren were gath - ered 'round Je - sus.
2. Now I am here in a beau - ti - ful place, Learn - ing the teach - ings of Je - sus.

mp

He blessed and taught as they felt of His love. Each saw the tears on His face. The love that He felt for His lit - tle ones
Par - ents and teach - ers will help guide the way, Light - ing my path ev - 'ry day. — Wrapped in the arms of my Sav - ior's love,

mf

mp

I know He feels for me. I did not touch Him or
I feel His gen - tle touch. Liv - ing each day, I will

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Savior Loves Me

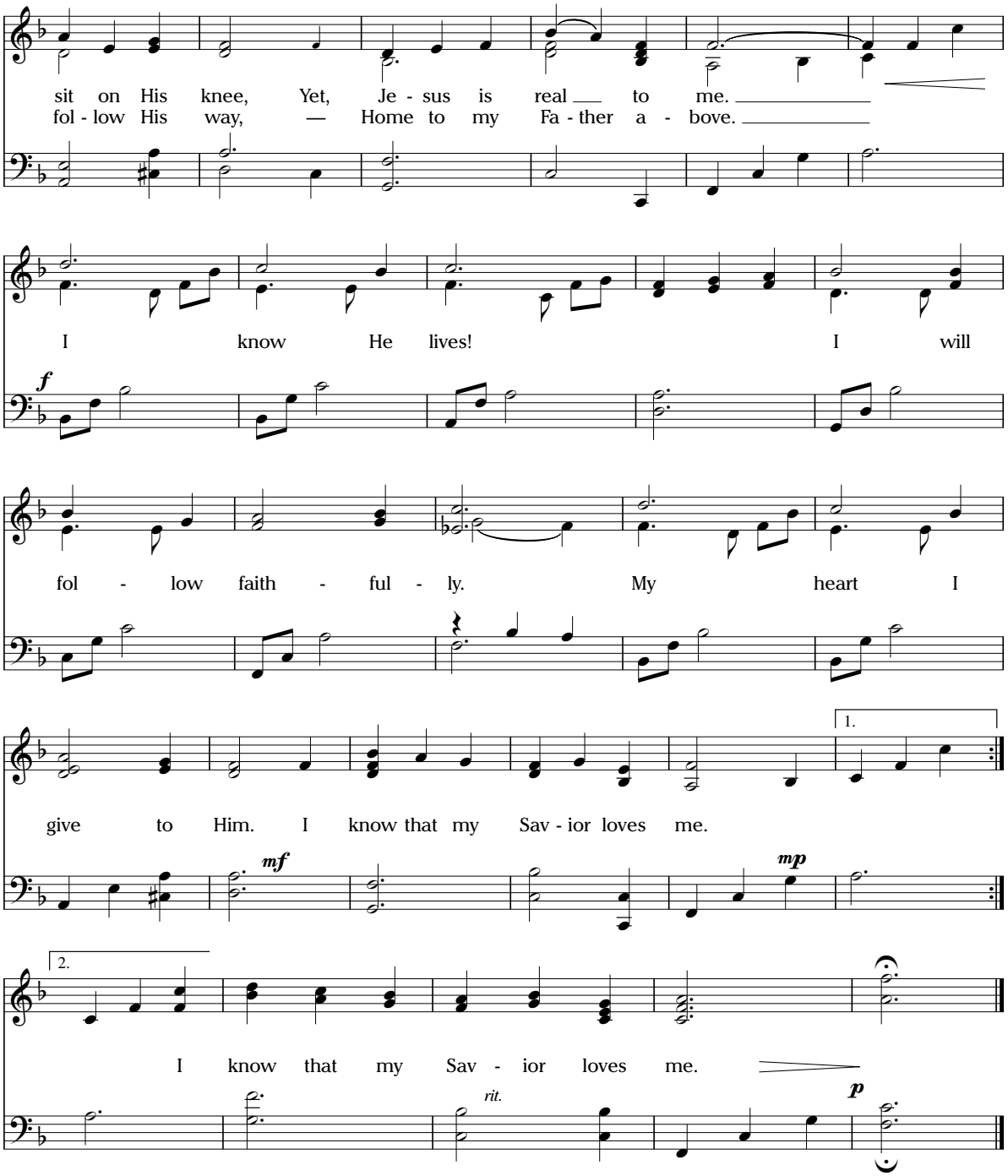

PHOTO © PHOTOSPIN / *THE SAVIOR* BY JON MCNAUGHTON

I have even sent unto you all my servants the prophets (Jeremiah 7:25).

A LIVING PROPHET

By Terri Ann Petersen
(A true story)

When I was eleven years old, my father was called to the bishopric of our ward in Idaho. Back then, the Church was small enough that members of bishoprics were invited to general conference at the Tabernacle in Salt Lake City, Utah. My parents decided that my father should go to general conference. They invited my younger brother and me to go with them.

My brother and I enjoyed the trip. We stayed at a hotel, ate at restaurants, and visited Temple Square. My father told me that if I went to the back door of the Tabernacle after conference on Sunday morning, I could see our prophet, President David O. McKay.

Sunday morning was a cool fall day. I went to the Tabernacle with my parents. I found my way to the place my father had told me to go, and as the minutes passed, I noticed other people gathering there. After conference was over, I kept on waiting and watching, hoping to see President McKay.

Suddenly he came out of the door. He smiled and waved to us. The small crowd of people began singing "We Thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet." As we stood singing the hymn, a strong, warm feeling filled my being. I knew that the Spirit was telling me that David O. McKay was God's prophet on the earth at that time.

That was not the only time I went to the back door of the Tabernacle to see the prophet. Each time, as we sang "We Thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet," that strong, warm feeling returned to me.

I am grateful that when I was a child, Heavenly Father blessed me with a testimony of the living prophets. It has helped me to have confidence in what the living prophets teach. I have been able to feel Heavenly Father's love for me as I have learned to have faith in the living prophets.

"We also have a living prophet, President Gordon B. Hinckley. He provides counsel and prophetic direction for us in our day."

Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles
(*Ensign*, November 2001, page 27.)

ILLUSTRATED BY JEWEL HODSON

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 October is "I prepare to go to the temple as I follow Heavenly Father's plan for me."

Family Home Evening Ideas

1. Follow the directions to make the cutouts for "Noah's Ark" (pages 38–39) and use them to tell the story "Noah and the Flood" (pages 36–37). Discuss the importance of following the prophet. What are some of the things President Gordon B. Hinckley has counseled us to do today? Is his counsel as important as Noah's was in his day? End by reading "Prayer" (pages 2–3).

2. On Monday before general conference, prepare the activity "What the Prophet and Apostles Teach Us" (pages 24–25). Study and discuss the counsel from last October's conference, which is printed on some of the cards, and do the matching activity. Save the cards and use them to record this October's conference messages. Share your testimonies about the callings of these special men.

3. Learn together the song "I Know That My Savior Loves Me" (pages 46–47). Share some of the experiences of the children who are "Trying to Be Like Jesus Christ" (pages 40–41). Make a copy of Journal Page (page 13) for each family member to fill out and do. Sing the song once again.

4. Read the story "Micah's Miracle" (pages 4–6), including the quote from Elder Robert D. Hales. Talk about and make a list of the things that Micah did to receive a testimony. Post the list where you will see it often during the week, and resolve to do those things that will strengthen your own testimonies.

5. Ask a family member to tell the story "The Time Will Come" (pages 30–32) and then talk about the blessings of serving as a missionary. What are some ways you can each be a missionary during the coming week?

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(FLF) = For Little Friends
(m) = music
(v) = verse

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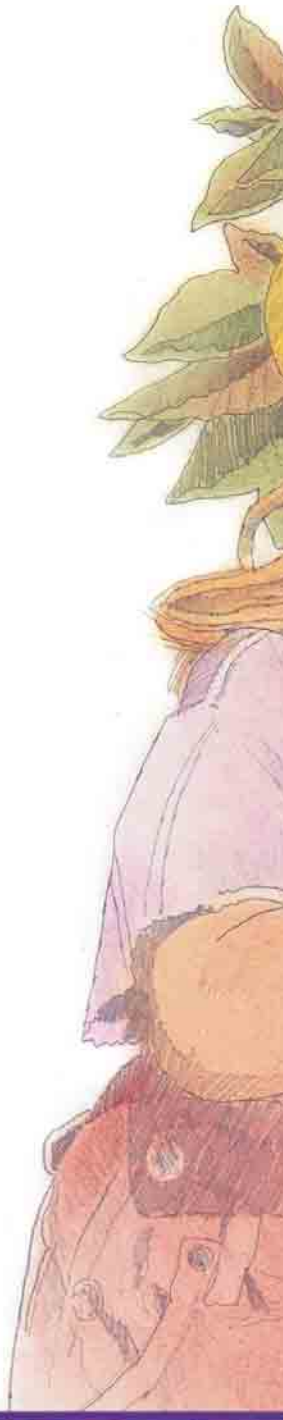
The fruit of the righteous
is a tree of life; and he
that winneth souls is wise
(Proverbs 11:30).



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