

the Friend

MARCH • 2004





A Prayer for Breath

One night after I went to bed, my baby brother was having trouble breathing. He had to go to the hospital. I got really nervous and decided to say a prayer. My younger sister and I prayed that Heavenly Father



would help my brother breathe better, and that he would come home safely from the hospital. Our prayer was answered in the way we hoped. I know that Heavenly Father loves us.

Sara Bailey, age 8
Columbia, Maryland

Grandma's Earrings

In church I learned that President Hinckley said that girls and women should wear only one earring in each ear. One day I noticed that Grandma was wearing two earrings in each ear! I told her what I had learned in Primary, and she said, "Then I had better take one earring out of each ear." It makes me feel good to know that Grandma follows the prophet.

Malone Jacoway, age 7
Sandy, Utah



My Trip to the Temple

One Friday morning I put on my pink flowered dress, made my lunch, and went to activity day. We were going to the Idaho Falls Idaho Temple.

At the visitors' center at the temple we watched a movie about baptism. After that we heard a talk about how we can live with Heavenly Father someday and be together forever as a family. Later we walked around the temple grounds. I thought they were beautiful.



After that, we had a picture taken while standing in front of the temple. Then we had lunch and fed the ducks and squirrels. Soon we had to leave. I want to live worthily so I can go to the temple someday.

Charlotte Widdison, age 9
Pocatello, Idaho

I Wanted to Know

When I was about six or seven, I wanted to know if the scriptures were true. My mom said I needed to pray and find out for myself. I did, and I felt really warm inside. I know that the scriptures are true. I have a testimony that Jesus Christ suffered for our sins and that He helped many people. I also have a testimony of Joseph Smith. I know that the Church is true. I will always be a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

I think the *Friend* magazine helps children to learn about the Church, and it always has something to catch our attention. It also helps us to see that we can pray to Heavenly Father for help and He will help us.

Rachel Haws, age 10
Sierra Vista, Arizona



Please send us a letter sharing your feelings about the *Friend* magazine, a spiritual experience, your testimony, or whatever else is on your mind. If an adult helps with a child's submission, credit should also be given to him or her. Send it to Friends by Mail, *Friend*, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220. Please include a photo of yourself and your name, age, and address. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity.

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March 2004

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Cover by Jewel Hodson



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the **friend**

A children's magazine published by
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

HIDDEN CTR RING

In Chinese, "choose the
right" is written like
this: 選正義

As you look for the
Chinese CTR ring hidden
in this issue, commit to
obey the Word of Wisdom.



Come Listen to
a Prophet's Voice

Spring Cleaning

BY PRESIDENT GORDON B. HINCKLEY



**President Hinckley
invites us to know
the joy of being
clean.**

When I was a boy living in Salt Lake City, most homes were heated with coal stoves. Black smoke belched forth from almost every chimney. As winter came to a close, black soot and grime were everywhere, both inside and outside of the house.

There was a ritual through which we passed each year—not a very pleasant one, as we viewed it. It involved every member of the family. It was known as spring cleaning. When the weather warmed after the long winter, a week or so was [declared to be] cleanup time. It was usually when there was a holiday and included two Saturdays.

My mother ran the show. All of the curtains were taken down and laundered. Then they were carefully ironed. The windows were washed inside and out, and oh, what a job that was in that big two-story house.

Wallpaper was on all of the walls, and Father would bring home numerous cans of wallpaper cleaner. It was like bread dough, but it was a





pretty pink in color when the container was opened. It had an interesting smell, a pleasant, refreshing kind of smell. We all pitched in. We would knead some of the cleaning dough in our hands, climb a ladder, and begin on the high ceiling, and then work down the walls. The dough was soon black from the dirt it lifted from the paper. It was a terrible task, very tiring, but the results were like magic. We would stand back and compare the dirty surface with the clean surface. It was amazing to us how much better the clean walls looked.

All of the carpets were taken up and dragged out to the backyard, where they were hung over the clothesline, one by one. Each of us boys would have what we called a carpet beater, a device made of light steel rods with a wooden handle. As we beat the carpet, the dust would fly, and we would have to keep going until there was no dust left.

We detested that work. But when all of it was done, and everything was back in place, the result was wonderful. The house was clean, our spirits renewed. The whole world looked better.

This is what some of us need to do with our lives. Isaiah said: "Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes" (Isaiah 1:16).

Our bodies are sacred. They were created in the image of God. They are marvelous, the crowning creation of Deity. I cannot understand why anyone would knowingly wish to injure his body. And yet it happens around us every day as [people] drink alcoholic beverages and use illegal drugs. What a scourge these are.

Stay away from alcohol. Do not get entrapped with illegal drugs. They could destroy you.

Be clean in mind, and then you will have greater control over your bodies. Unclean thoughts lead to unclean acts.

The Lord has said, "Let virtue garnish thy thoughts unceasingly." And with this He has given a promise: "Then shall thy confidence wax strong in the presence of God" (D&C 121:45).

You cannot, you must not, be led into the vicious trap of immoral behavior.

Be clean in language. There is so much of filthy, sleazy talk these days.

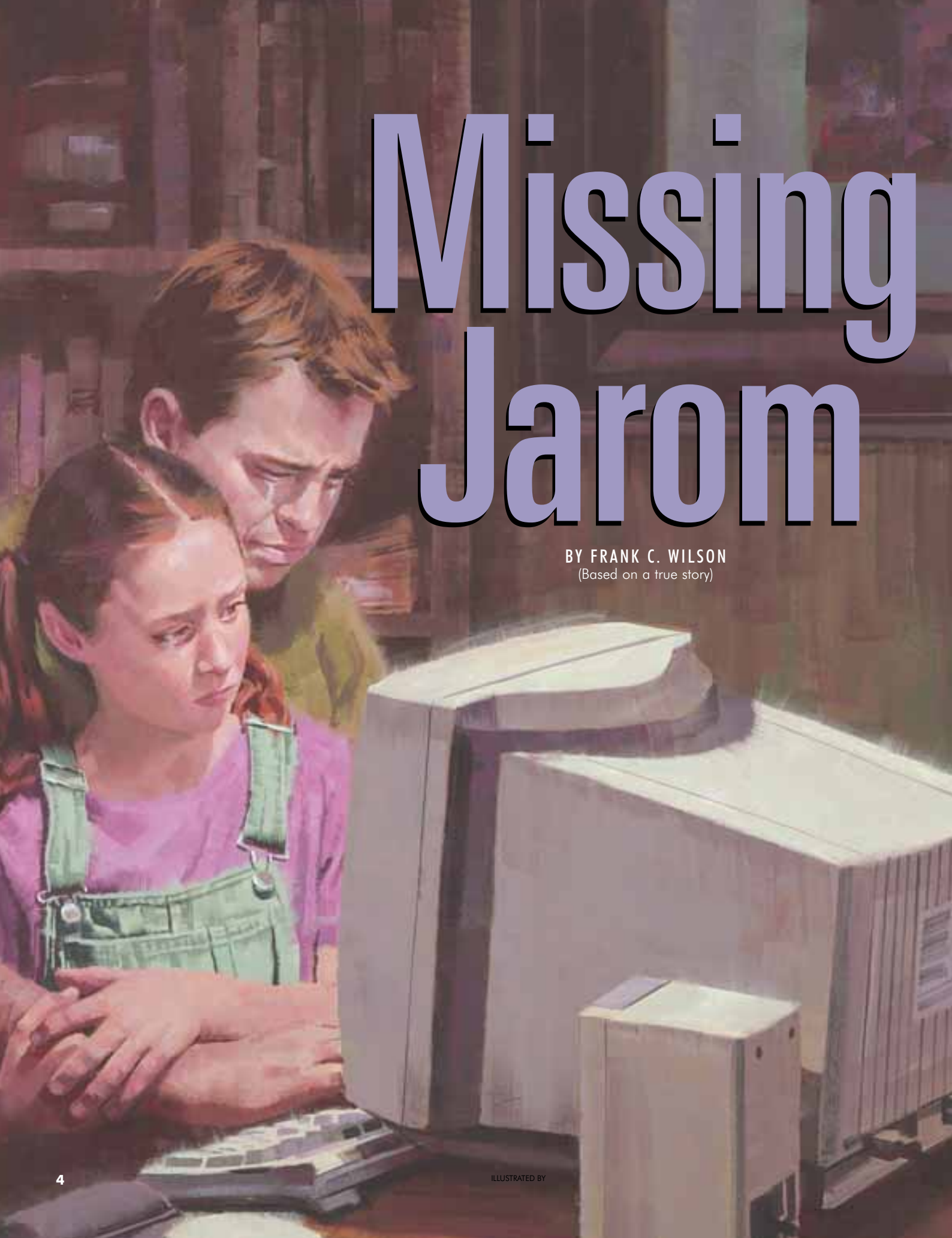
Be clean in dress and manner.

I urge you to be courteous, to be respectful, to be honest, to be young [people] of integrity.

God bless us to walk with clean hands and pure hearts and be worthy of His smile. ●

From an April 1996 general conference address.





Missing Jarom

BY FRANK C. WILSON
(Based on a true story)

Behold, I give unto you power, that whatsoever ye shall seal on earth shall be sealed in heaven (Helaman 10:7).

The ambulance crew had gone, leaving the house quiet and still. Kierra's mom and dad sat next to each other on the couch, crying. Six-year-old Kierra didn't feel like playing, so she sat down next to her parents and cried with them.

"Where's Baby?" Kierra's two-year-old sister, Kaleah, asked. "Where's Baby?"

"Jarom went back to live with Heavenly Father," Mom replied.

"Where's Baby?" Kaleah asked again.

"Jarom died, Kaleah," Kierra said. "He's not coming home."

Kaleah didn't seem to understand. She wandered from room to room, looking for her brother.



Later that evening, Dad sat at the computer typing as tears ran down his face.

"Dad, what are you doing?" Kierra asked as she hugged him.

"I'm writing down my feelings," he replied. "I hurt so badly it is all I can do."

"Will you write down my feelings?" Kierra asked.

"Sure," he said.

Kierra thought for a moment and then spoke the words from her heart. "I love you, Jarom. I wish you were back on earth because I miss you. Sometimes I wish you were bigger—strong and healthy. You were a sweetheart. I loved to kiss and hug you. When I was at school I would always think of you. Sometimes I made Mommy happy by taking care of you. I love how you laughed. I liked your smiles. I want you to be alive again."

Dad wiped his tears away with his sleeve as he typed Kierra's words. After she had finished speaking, he continued to stare at the computer screen.

"Kierra," he said, "Jarom will live again."



"But he's dead," Kierra replied. "How can he live again?"

"Jesus Christ came to the earth, lived a perfect life, and then was killed by people who hated him," Dad said. "Do you remember what happened three days after He died?"

"He was resurrected," Kierra answered.

"That's right," Dad said. "And because He was resurrected, all of us will live again after we die."

"But will Jarom be part of our family? I want him to still be my brother."

"Kierra, because Mommy and Daddy were married for time and all eternity in the temple, our family can be together forever. If we are righteous, someday we will be reunited as a family."

Kierra missed Jarom so much right now, but she smiled as she thought about being with her brother again.

"I can't wait to be with him again," she said.

"Me too," Dad said. "Me too."



A few days later, the family gathered at the cemetery as Jarom's casket was placed in the ground.

"Good-bye, Jarom," Kierra said. "I can't wait to see you again." The sun broke through the clouds, and Kierra smiled. "I thank Thee, Heavenly Father, that families can be forever." ●

Frank C. Wilson is a member of the Buckley Second Ward, Maple Valley Washington Stake.

"God's plan is to unite His eternal family together through a sacred union of husband and wife which can endure beyond the grave."

Elder L. Tom Perry of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Proclaim My Gospel from Land to Land," Ensign, May 1989, 14.





The Beginning of a Testimony



From an interview
with Elder Steven E.
Snow of the Seventy,
currently serving in
the Africa Southeast
Area Presidency; by
Hilary M. Hendricks

No man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost (1 Corinthians 12:3).

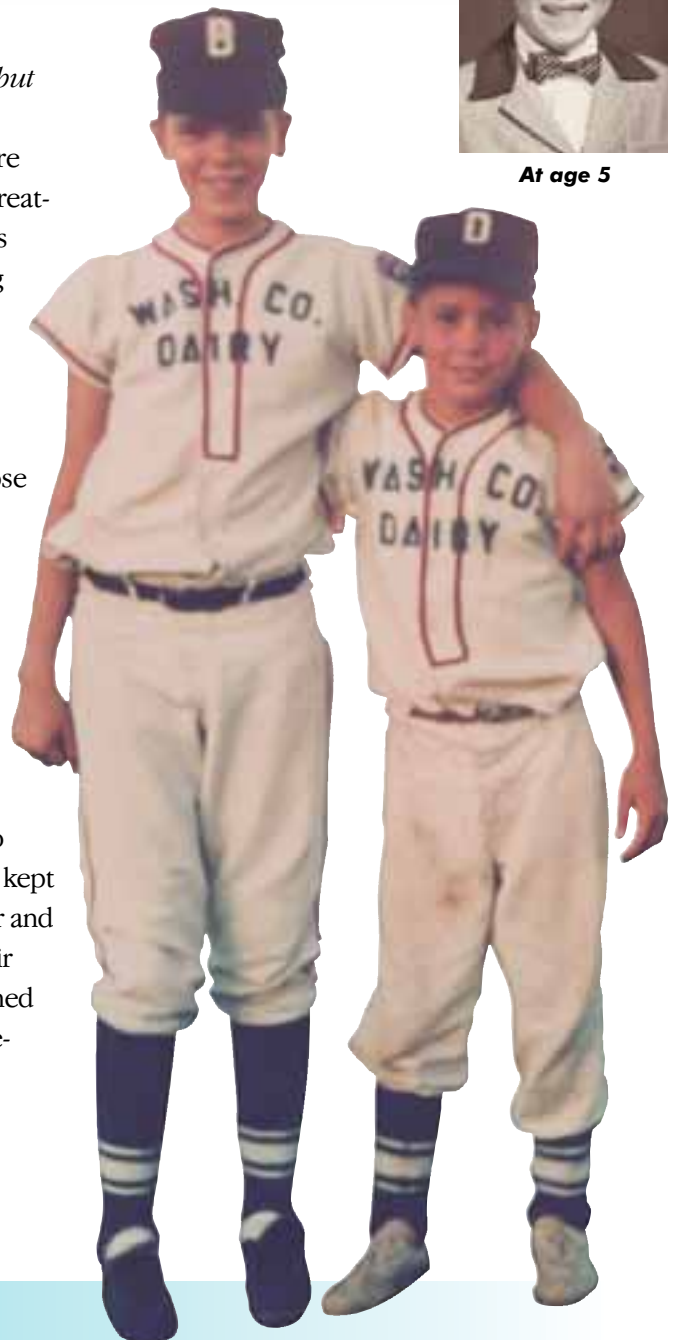
I was born in St. George, Utah, where my ancestors settled in 1861. My great-great-great-grandfather was Erastus Snow, an Apostle when Brigham Young was President of the Church. My parents and grandparents spoke often of the pioneers and their sacrifices. They encouraged me to honor the family name, to know who I was, and to choose the right.

My father owned a dry-cleaning business, and I started helping him when I was about five years old. I swept the floor and prepared clothes hangers for hanging pants. Summer temperatures in St. George often rise well above 100° F (38° C). Standing over a steam press in August was my motivation to go to law school. Remembering those days kept me at my studies. My brothers and sister and I also helped our grandparents with their cows, horses, and furniture store. I learned to work hard, and I played sports—especially baseball and football.

Right: As a 12-year-old (on the left) Little League baseball player



At age 5





Top: As a missionary in the North German Mission

Above: Elder Snow with his wife, Phyllis, and their family on the day of their son Garrett's wedding

The day after my baptism, I was confirmed a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It was during a fast and testimony meeting, and I decided, for the first time ever, to bear my testimony. As I spoke, a wonderful, warm feeling filled my heart. It was a confirmation of the Spirit that joining the Church was the right thing to do. That warm feeling was the beginning of my small testimony, which grew as I grew older. I know that children can gain testimonies of their own and that even small testimonies are enough to help us choose the right.

Now I serve in southeastern Africa. Many Church members in Africa have been recently baptized. They are pioneers. A testimony burns brightly in their hearts. It is common for families to walk to church, up to an hour and a half each way. Families who live farther away save money all week to pay taxi fares.

African children are very reverent in sacrament meeting and Primary. They like to listen to lessons given by their teachers, and they like to sing songs. A favorite hymn is "We Thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet"

(*Hymns*, no. 19). Saints in Africa love President Gordon B. Hinckley very much. They bear fervent testimony that he is a prophet and that Joseph Smith restored the gospel to the earth.

Most wards and branches meet in buildings you would immediately recognize as Latter-day Saint meetinghouses. But Saints in Rustenburg, South Africa, met in a warehouse while they waited for their new chapel to be completed. When I visited their sacrament meeting, I noticed that the warehouse had spaces between the roof and the walls to let air come in from outside. As we began to sing the opening hymn, birds flew in and perched on the rafters. They sang right along with us. During the sacrament hymn, the birds sang again.

In every country, you children of the Church are blessed to have Primary. Attending Primary each week helps you learn about the gospel so you can gain a testimony of your own. By coming to church, listening to your parents, praying, reading the scriptures, and keeping Heavenly Father's commandments, you will be worthy to feel the Holy Ghost. He will testify to you, as He testified to me and to the Saints in Africa, that President Hinckley is a prophet of God and that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is true. ●

Primary children in Africa love President Hinckley and bear fervent testimony of him.



We Have to Try!



BY PATRICIA REECE ROPER

(From the life of President Howard W. Hunter, 14th President of the Church, as told in *Howard W. Hunter* by Eleanor Knowles)

A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast
(Proverbs 12:10).

Not again!" Howard gasped, sick at heart, as he peeked from behind the bushes in his neighbor's yard. But no one heard his quiet plea, and the neighborhood boys again stuffed the soaked, terrified kitten back into the sack. One boy gave the sack a hefty toss, and again it flew into the canal.

This time, however, the kitten could barely struggle

free. As the sack and kitten floated down the canal, the boys finally lost interest.

As soon as the boys turned their backs, Howard dashed from behind the bushes, jumped the neighbor's fence, and raced to the kitten's aid. The poor animal could barely meow, and Howard had no trouble fishing it out of the canal and wrapping it gently in his shirttail. As Howard hurried home, tears filled his eyes. He prayed that the kitten would somehow survive.





"[Animals] are a great blessing to us, and we should treat them gently and with consideration. . . . Ill-treatment either of children or animals is all wrong. Kindness, gentleness and mercy are better every way."

President Wilford Woodruff (1807–98), Fourth President of the Church, *Collected Discourses*, vol. 1, 261.

"Howard William Hunter, what have you got there?" Dorothy, Howard's younger sister, asked him. She stood on the front porch, hands on hips, trying to look as stern as she thought her mother would.

"Howard William Hunter," his mother echoed, coming up behind Dorothy. "What have you got there?" She placed her hands on her hips as the screen door banged shut behind her. Both mother and daughter looked at him expectantly.

Howard was still too upset to speak. Instead, he carefully unwrapped the kitten.

"Oh my goodness!" Mother exclaimed, covering her mouth in surprise. Shaking her head, she gently placed a hand on Howard's shoulder. Tears rolled down her cheeks as she explained to her tenderhearted son, "I know how much you love animals, Howard, but I'm afraid we can't save this poor kitten."

"Mother, we have to try!" Howard wailed. "We have to!"

Mother thought for a moment. "Come on, Howard. I think I know what to do." She turned and hurried into the house.

Inside the hall closet, Mother found an old quilt and a small wooden box and placed them on the kitchen table. Howard and Dorothy watched as their mother lined the box with the quilt. "Now, give me the kitten," she told Howard. He quietly placed the animal in her gentle hands, and she wrapped it in the quilt. "We'll put the box where it's warm," she said, sliding it carefully under the stove.

"Now what should we do?" Dorothy asked.

"Be very quiet," Mother said, putting her finger to her lips. "Play outside, and don't be noisy in the house. We'll let the kitten rest and see if it's better in the morning."

"How will we know if it's all right?" Howard wondered.

"Don't worry." Mother smiled and patted him on the back. "We'll know."

Howard didn't sleep well that night. He dreamed that the neighborhood boys had found the kitten under the stove and were trying to steal it.

Before the sun came up the next morning, Howard heard meowing. He sat straight up in bed and rubbed his eyes. When the kitten meowed again, he raced to the kitchen.

The kitten had climbed out of the box and was meowing for its mother as it wandered around the kitchen. Howard dropped onto the floor beside the kitten, who looked up hopefully into Howard's eyes. He gently patted the kitten's soft, warm fur. "I'll get you some milk," Howard said, taking a saucer from the cupboard. He poured some milk from the tin can in his mother's cool pantry, and set the saucer in front of the hungry kitten.

"It's going to be just fine now," Mother said as she came into the kitchen and saw the kitten hungrily lapping up the milk. "That was a wonderful thing you did, Howard."

Howard smiled up at his mother. He felt warm inside as he watched the kitten drink. ●

Patricia Reece Roper is a member of the Leamington Ward, Delta Utah Stake.





Read the Book of Mormon

BY TERRI CLARK



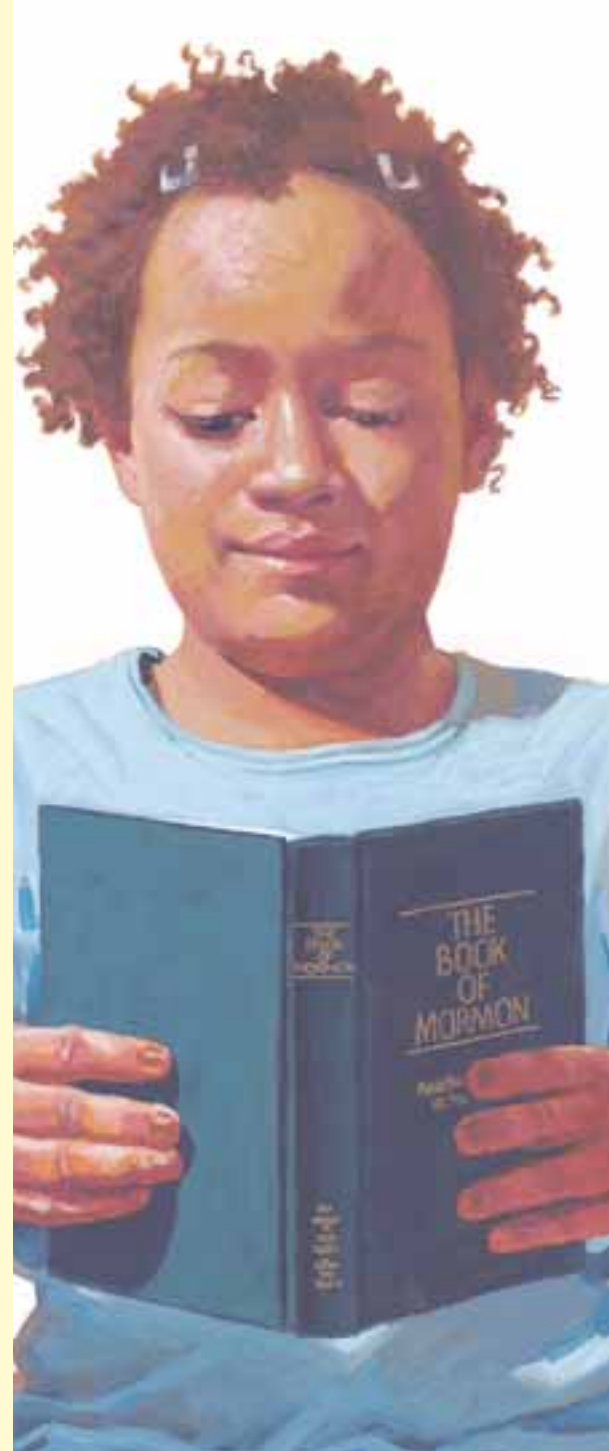
Read the Book of Mormon.
Read it every day.
Before you start to study,
Don't forget to pray.

Read the Book of Mormon.
Study and obey.
Learn to live its teachings.
Then you'll know His way.

Read the Book of Mormon.
Try being kind and true.
Learn to live like Jesus.
Do what He would do.

Read the Book of Mormon.
Its worth is beyond measure.
It can bring you spiritual gifts.
It is a golden treasure.

Read the Book of Mormon.
Read it every day.
When you're finished studying,
Don't forget to pray.





FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

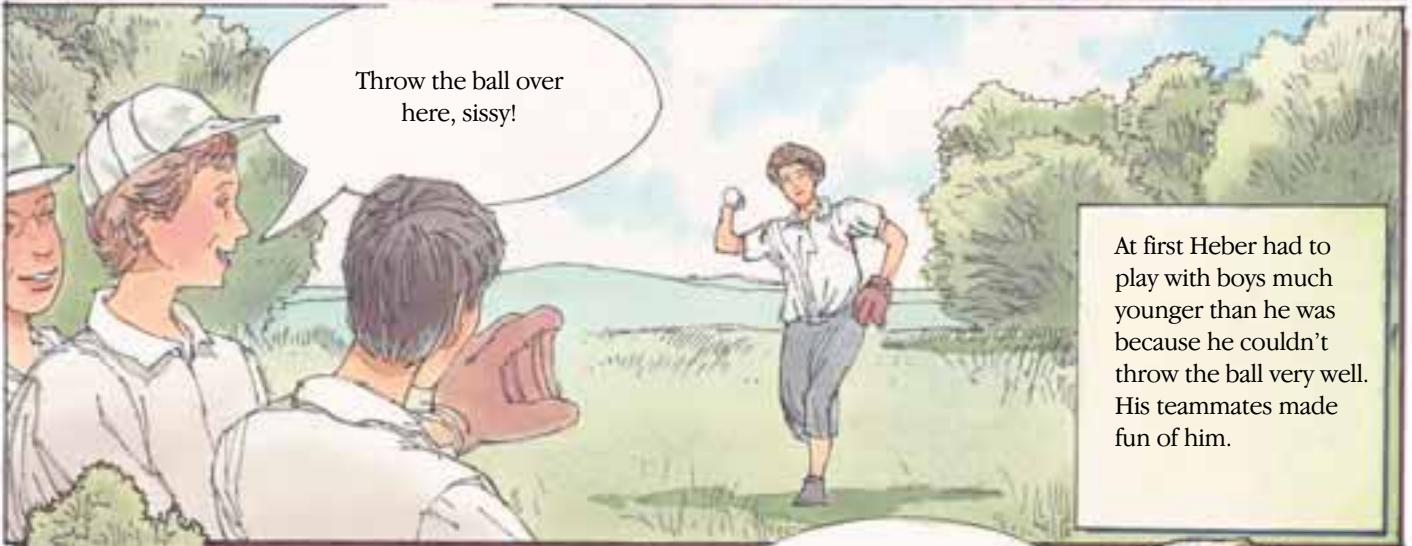
Achieving a Goal



As a boy, Heber J. Grant helped his mother sweep, wash dishes, and keep house. He had never played sports like other boys his age.



Mother, I want to join a baseball team.



Throw the ball over here, sissy!

At first Heber had to play with boys much younger than he was because he couldn't throw the ball very well. His teammates made fun of him.

Instead of getting upset, Heber set a goal.

Someday I will play on a championship team!

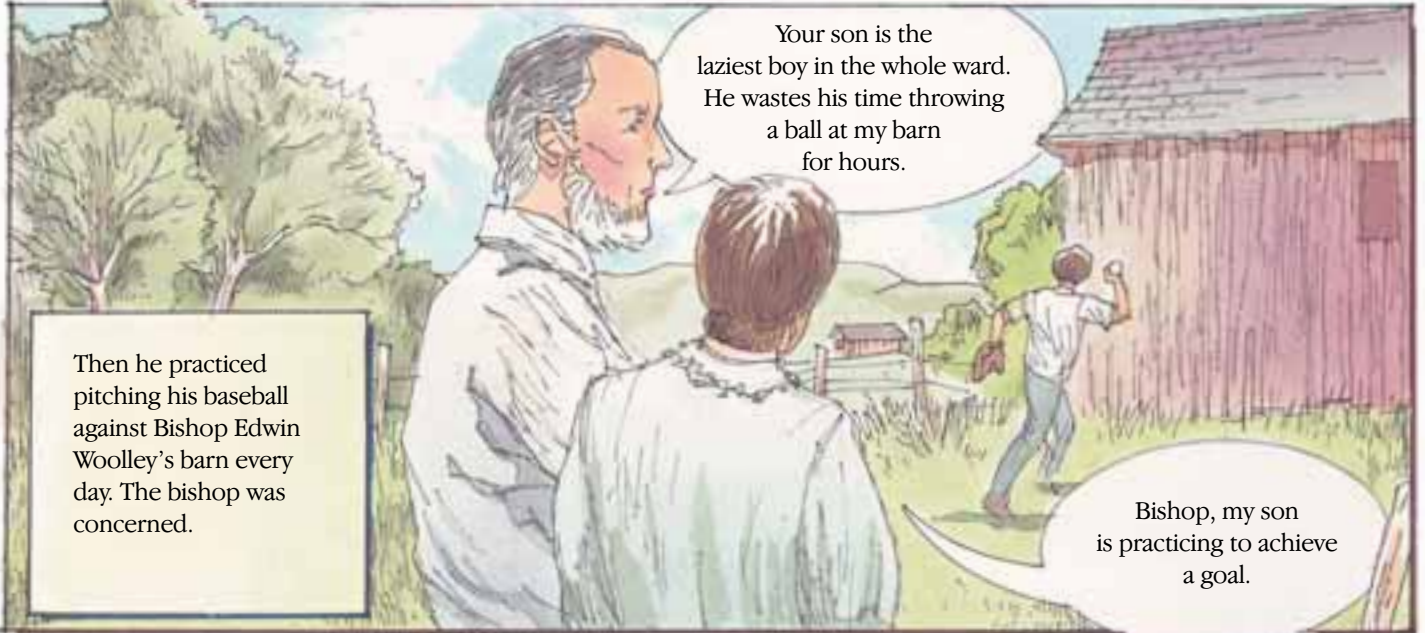


Heber shined men's boots to earn money until he had saved up enough to buy his own baseball.



Your son is the laziest boy in the whole ward. He wastes his time throwing a ball at my barn for hours.

Then he practiced pitching his baseball against Bishop Edwin Woolley's barn every day. The bishop was concerned.



Bishop, my son is practicing to achieve a goal.

Heber's hard work finally paid off. He joined a team that went on to win the regional championship.

Adapted from Bryant S. Hinckley, Heber J. Grant: Highlights in the Life of a Great Leader (1951), 37-38.





CLEAN AGAIN

BY SHEILA E. WILSON

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me (John 14:6).



One day Lincoln's friends told him that they had pretended to put money into the school's pencil machine. They told the

secretary that they didn't get a pencil, and she gave them one. Lincoln decided to give it a try.

At recess Lincoln sat on a bench and looked at his free pencil. He felt very sad inside. He wanted to do what was right. He told the secretary what he had done and gave her the pencil. Lincoln felt better.

Have you ever done something wrong and wished you could make it right? Heavenly Father wants us to return to live with Him, but no unclean person can live with Him (see Moses 6:57). Heavenly Father knows that everyone will make mistakes, so He has given us a way to become clean again. We must repent.

Jesus Christ suffered in the Garden of Gethsemane and on the cross to pay the price for our sins. He suffered so we would not have to suffer if we repent (see D&C 19:16). Because Jesus Christ paid for our sins with His suffering, when we do our part by repenting and not making the same mistake again, we can be clean again. ●

Mobile Activity

1. Mount page 15 on heavy paper; then carefully cut out the pieces of the mobile.
2. Draw or glue a picture of yourself on the back of the square piece.
3. Fold along the dotted lines, glue the backs of the two oval pieces together, and punch holes where indicated.
4. Use string to connect each piece (see illustration). Tie a loop at the top; then tie a knot at the bottom.
5. Once a day, read a scripture listed under a picture of the Savior.



**I CAN
REPENT AND
LIVE WITH
HEAVENLY
FATHER**



**“I am the way”
(John 14:6).**



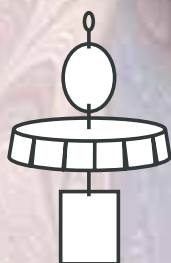
**“I am the way”
(John 14:6).**



*Jesus Christ
is my Savior.
He atoned for
my sins.*



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. Prepare four large question marks with questions attached to the back (see below). Draw a larger question mark on the board and write the following question above it: *Why did Heavenly Father send His Beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to the world?* Show the children the four large question marks and tell them that when we discover the answers to these questions, we will know the answer to the big question.

Choose a child to leave the room. Place a “helper” sign on another child and ask him to hide question #1. Have the first child return to the room. Tell him he is to find the question. He can ask yes or no questions of the Primary children, who represent the world and can choose to tell the truth or not, or ask the “helper,” who knows where it is and will always tell him the truth. Once the question is found, have the child read and answer it. Sing the corresponding song and have the children listen for the answer in the song. (If the child needs help answering, sing the song first and let him listen for the answer.)

Questions, Answers, and Corresponding Songs: (1) Who volunteered and was chosen in the premortal life to help with Heavenly Father’s plan? (Jesus Christ), “I Lived in Heaven” (p. 4); (2) What does our Heavenly Father want for us as His children? (To be happy and choose the right), “I Need My Heavenly Father” (p. 18); (3) What did Jesus Christ do for us? (Suffered and died for us), “To Think about Jesus” (p. 71); (4) How will we be saved from our sins? (Through the Atonement of Christ), “The Third Article of Faith” (p. 123).

As the children sing “He Sent His Son” (pp. 34–35), ask them to stand when they sing the answer to the big question. Answer: “To die for us and rise with living breath” (that we might live again).

Review with the children the analogy of the Primary children (representing the world) and the helper (representing our parents, prophets, and teachers). Bear testimony that the Savior makes it possible and helps us return to our Father in Heaven.

2. Wrap five boxes with the following scriptures inside: (1) Mosiah 3:16, (2) Matthew 9:35, (3) John 13:15, (4) 2 Nephi 9:21, (5) Jacob 4:11. Write the word *love* on a paper heart and hide it in a sixth wrapped box.

Tell the children: Pretend you accidentally broke a very valuable object. How would you feel? What would you say to the owner? What could you do to replace the broken item? What if you couldn’t afford to pay for it?

Explain: Your earthly father will help you because he loves you. He tells you that if you are sorry, are obedient, and pay what you can, he will help you by paying the difference. The Atonement is a gift for us from our loving Heavenly Father and His Son. Jesus Christ paid for our sins and made it possible for us to repent and return to Heavenly Father.

Write on the board “What Jesus Did for Us and Why.” Talk about and list the following (use pictures for younger children): (1) He atoned for Adam’s sin so little children can be saved (manual pictures 1-5 and 2-52); (2) He gave us the gospel so we can live with Him (GAK 212 and manual picture 1-6); (3) He showed us how to live so we can be happy (GAK 226 and manual picture 1-46); (4) He suffered for our sins so we can be forgiven (GAK 227); (5) He died and was resurrected so we can be resurrected (GAK 230 and 239).

Divide the children into groups. Let each group unwrap one of the first five gifts, read the scripture out loud, and match it with one of the five listed items on the board. Sing “Help Us, O God, to Understand” (p. 73). Ask: Which one of these is a free gift to us that we receive no matter what we do? (The Resurrection.) Which of these must we do something about before we can have the gift? (His paying for our sins—we must repent in order to be forgiven and live a happy life.) Show the picture of Jesus in Gethsemane (GAK 227) and explain that He suffered for the sins of the world (D&C 19:18–19). We have one more gift that we are blessed with. Open gift #6 and bear testimony of Heavenly Father’s and Jesus’ love for us.

3. To teach about Christ’s Resurrection, set up the room to look like a

courtroom. Make signs for the witnesses to wear. Choose a child to be the judge. Prepare children in advance to be witnesses. Let them read through their parts ahead of time so they will feel comfortable participating. Similar to a reader’s theater, interview each of the witnesses who can testify of the death and Resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ. (Witnesses: Joseph of Arimathea [Matthew 27:59–60]; Nicodemus [John 19:39, 40, 42]; Mary Magdalene [John 20:11–18]; the eleven Apostles [John 20:19–21]; Thomas [John 20:24, 26–28]; Paul [1 Cor. 15:3–8]; two angels and the Apostles [Acts 1:3–11]; Joseph Smith [Joseph Smith—History 1:14–20]; Sidney Rigdon [D&C 76:22]; President Gordon B. Hinckley [“He lives, the Son of God, He who was the great Jehovah . . . He who gave His life on Calvary’s cross in the great atoning sacrifice; He who rose from the dead the third day. . . . He is . . . our Redeemer . . . through whose atonement there has been opened the gate of immortality and eternal life” (*Ensign*, Dec. 1994, 2).])

As a lawyer for the defense, make a closing statement for the case proving that you have heard all these testimonies that Jesus was resurrected. Bear testimony that we will be resurrected also and may live again with Heavenly Father if we choose the right and follow Jesus Christ.

4. To memorize Article of Faith 1:3, write each word on an individual piece of paper. Post the wordstrips in the wrong order on a board, leaving out the “Atonement” wordstrip. Sing “The Third Article of Faith” (p. 123). Display the wordstrips and look and act dismayed that something is wrong. Tell them you are going to need their help to make it right. While the pianist plays “The Third Article of Faith,” let each child come up one at a time and exchange two wordstrips to “fix” the article so the words will all be in the correct order. The children could race against the pianist and see if they can put the words in order before she plays the song a certain number of times. When the article is complete (except for the “Atonement” wordstrip), tell them something is still wrong. There is one more wordstrip needed to make it right. Add the “Atonement” wordstrip. Repeat the Article of Faith together.

Liken this experience to our experiences in life and how we can repent to correct something we have done wrong, but that we need the Atonement of our Savior Jesus Christ. Testify that His Atonement cleanses us of our wrongdoings or sins if we repent.

5. Help the children understand that at age eight they are accountable for their actions and have their agency to choose the right. Choosing the right will help them return to Heavenly Father. Make small signs that say “STOP” on one side and “CTR” on the other. Prepare some case studies (see TNGC, 161–62). Sing “Dare to Do Right” (p. 158), “Choose the Right Way” (p. 160–61), and “Stand for the Right” (p. 159) while passing the signs. Ask whoever is holding a sign to raise it when they sing the word *right*. Stop singing and give the children a case study to answer. If they know the right thing to do, they hold up the CTR side of their signs. If not, choose someone else to respond to the case study. Repeat. (Note: Remember that children younger than eight years old are not yet accountable and do not need to repent of sin. Encourage them to do what is right.)

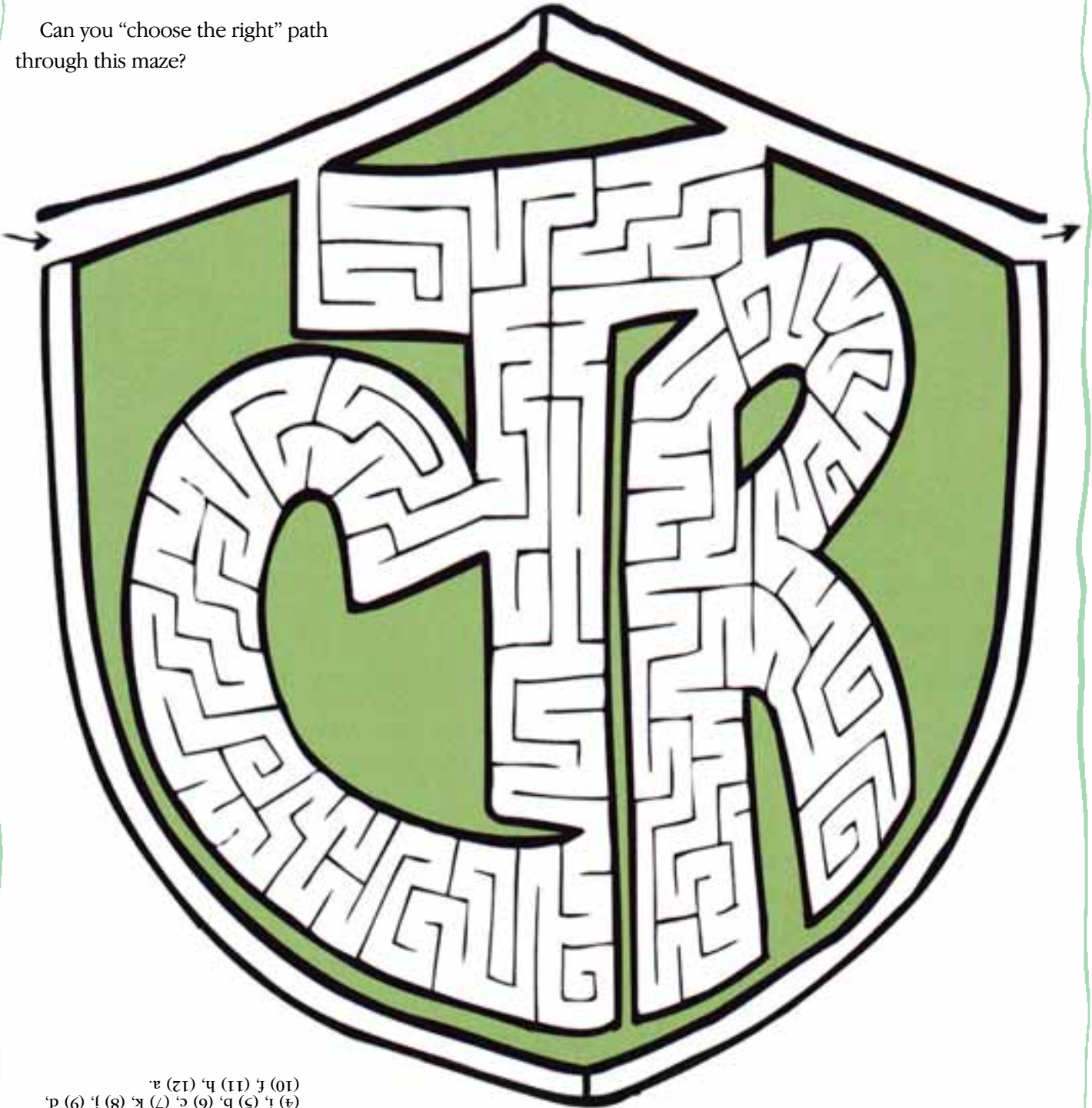
6. *Song Presentation*: Prepare wordstrips using the five questions in the song “He Sent His Son” (pp. 34–35) (*How could the Father tell the world of love and tenderness? How could the Father show the world the pathway we should go? How could the Father tell the world of sacrifice, of death? What does the Father ask of us? What do the scriptures say?*) and attach to five large question marks. Have helpers hold the questions in the order they are sung. Have five other helpers hold the following pictures out of order (The Birth of Jesus—GAK 200, Christ and the Children—GAK 216, The Crucifixion—GAK 230, The Resurrected Jesus Christ—GAK 239, Boy Being Baptized—manual picture 1-11). Sing the song, having the children listen closely to see which pictures they should change the order of. Allow the children to make some changes. Sing again.

7. Additional *Friend* resources: “Before the New Testament,” Apr. 2000, 15; Sharing Time ideas #1, 2, and 3, Apr. 1999, 13; Sharing Time idea #1, Feb. 1999; “The Savior’s Atonement,” Mar. 2002, 2; “‘He Is Not Here, But Is Risen,’” Apr. 2000, inside front cover.

Choose the Right

BY REGINA THOMPSON

Can you "choose the right" path through this maze?



Funstuf Answers
Family Reunion: (1) e, (2) l, (3) g,
(4) i, (5) b, (6) c, (7) k, (8) j, (9) d,
(10) f, (11) h, (12) a.

Mary Jane Listens

BY MARY ANN SNOWBALL

(Based on a true story)

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me (John 10:27).

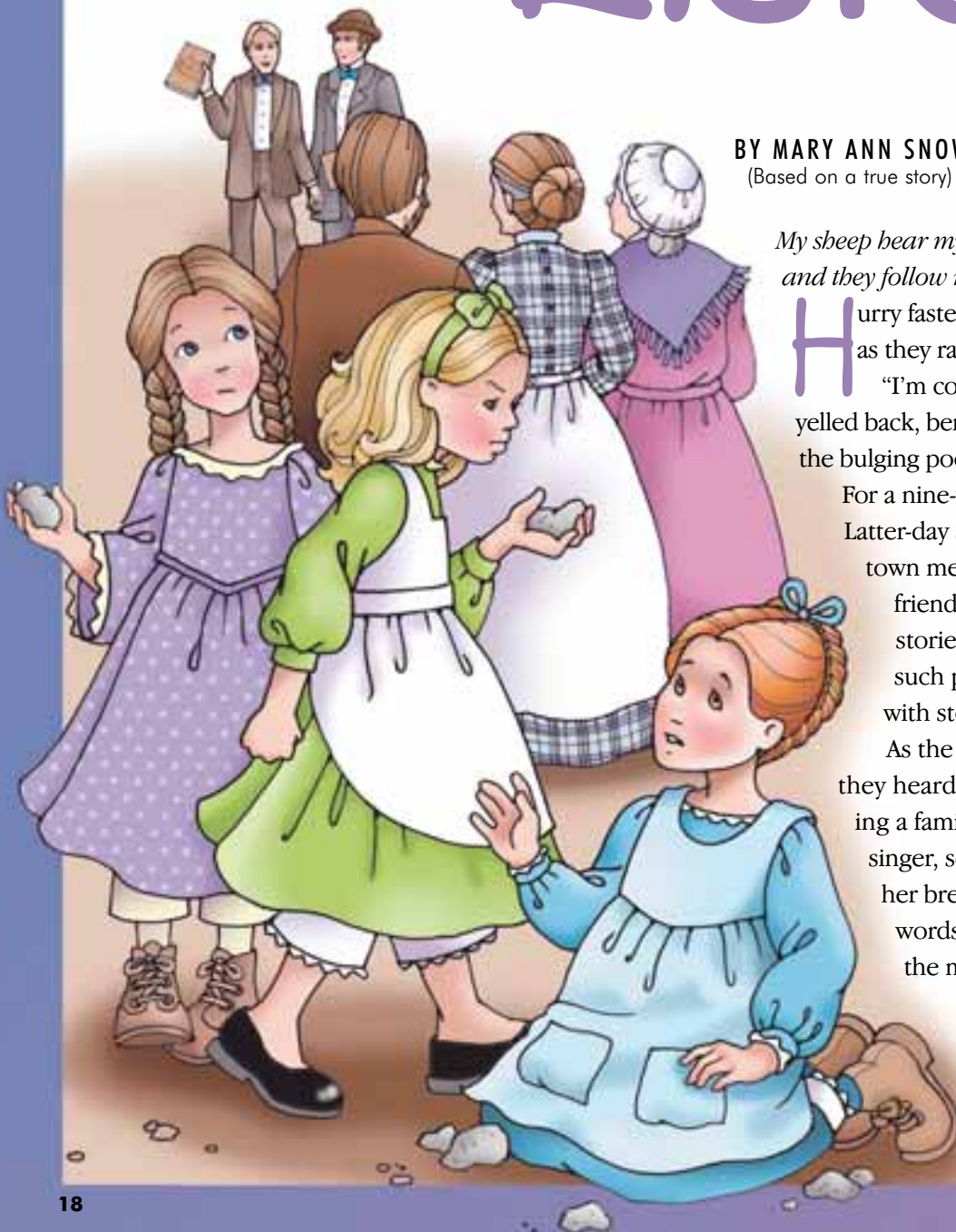
Hurry faster!” Mary Jane’s friends cried as they ran down the street.

“I’m coming. I’m coming,” Mary Jane yelled back, bending to put one more rock into the bulging pockets of her light blue apron.

For a nine-year-old girl in Wales in 1846, Latter-day Saint missionaries coming to town meant excitement. She and her friends had heard many terrible stories about the “Mormons.” Surely such people deserved to be pelted with stones.

As the three girls rounded a corner, they heard music. A small crowd was singing a familiar hymn. Mary Jane was a good singer, so she joined in after she caught her breath. She didn’t know all the words, but she enjoyed humming the melodies.

As the singing ended, Mary Jane followed the elders’ example and knelt to pray. One by one, the rocks fell from the pockets of her apron. When





the prayer ended, Mary Jane's friend picked up the rocks. "Let's get them!" she said.

"No," Mary Jane said quietly. "I want to listen to what they're saying."

She turned her eyes toward the missionaries and listened carefully. One of the elders said that a prophet named Joseph Smith had seen Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, in a grove of trees. Another explained why we are born on this earth. As Mary Jane listened, her friends slipped through the crowd and ran off to play. When the elders finished preaching, Mary Jane walked slowly home, thinking about all she had heard.

As the days passed, Mary Jane kept listening to the elders. She loved what she was learning about Heavenly Father. Her mother did not. She was so opposed to what the missionaries taught that she sometimes hid Mary Jane's clothes or denied her food so she would stop going to church.

But Mary Jane loved the gospel more than ever. She had learned to pray, and her prayers for a testimony were answered. She wanted to be baptized. Finally on a cold December night, she was baptized in a frozen river. The elders had to use an ax to cut a hole in the ice. Even though Mary Jane's body was very cold that



knelt to pray. “Heavenly Father, I am so glad to be a member of the Church, but I want my mother to be baptized, too,” she said. “Please help her to understand the message. Please let something happen to help her accept the gospel.” For three years Mary Jane prayed for her mother. She never gave up hope.

When Mary Jane was 13 years old, her mother became seriously ill with a disease that settled in her foot. It was very painful.

One day Mary Jane said to her mother, “Why don’t I ask the elders to come and give you a priesthood blessing?” Because her foot was hurting so much, Mary Jane’s mother finally agreed. The elders gave Mary Jane’s mother a blessing, and to her amazement, her foot immediately stopped hurting. Mary

Jane knew her prayers had been answered.

Soon afterward her mother started going to Church meetings. It wasn’t long before she also joined the Church. Mary Jane was happier than she had ever been.

When Mary Jane was 17 years old, she and her mother sailed to America on the ship *Jersey* and then traveled on to Utah. For the rest of her life, Mary Jane followed the Savior as she had been taught on a street corner in Wales. She was always grateful that she had listened to the elders that day. She was especially glad that when she was nine years old she had decided not to throw the rocks that had fallen from the pockets of her light blue apron. ●

Mary Ann Snowball is a member of the Little Valley First Ward, St. George Utah Washington Fields Stake.

night, her heart was warm. She knew that she had made the right decision.

But she was sad because her mother could not understand the true gospel. Every day, Mary Jane



“The Lord trusts His true disciples. He sends prepared people to His prepared servants. You have had the experience, as have I, of meeting people where you were sure the meeting could not have been by chance.”

Elder Henry B. Eyring of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “A Child and a Disciple,” *Ensign*, May 2003, 31.

Sam Stewart of Henderson, Nevada

Sam Stewart builds temples. Their spires do not rise majestically above busy freeways or green hilltops, but above the floor of the Stewart family room in Henderson, Nevada. Their walls are not hewn from fine granite but cut from plain brown cardboard boxes. Yet these knee-high models somehow capture the majesty of real temples.

Sam (11) hopes to design real temples someday. Architects (people who design buildings) must have an artistic flair, and Sam does. His mom first discovered his talent when he was just three years old. She walked into his

BY MELVIN LEAVITT
Church Magazines

Sam poses with models of temples he has built using cardboard, scissors, a hot-glue gun, a ruler, and a deep love for the house of the Lord.



room and was astonished to see pictures of dinosaurs all over the walls. On the one hand, she didn't feel that bedroom walls were quite the right place for drawing dinosaurs. On the other hand, they were drawn so well! She suggested that Sam use paper next time, but the already-hatched reptiles were left to roam the walls.

Cardboard replaced paper as the young artist's favorite surface when he was nine years old. The family was reading about putting on the whole armor of God (see Ephesians 6:13–17). There were cardboard boxes lying around because the Stewarts were sending packages to Sam's brothers who were on missions. The boxes and the armor collided in Sam's mind, and he began constructing a cardboard "shield of faith." After he finished it, he shaped a "sword of the Spirit" out of wood.

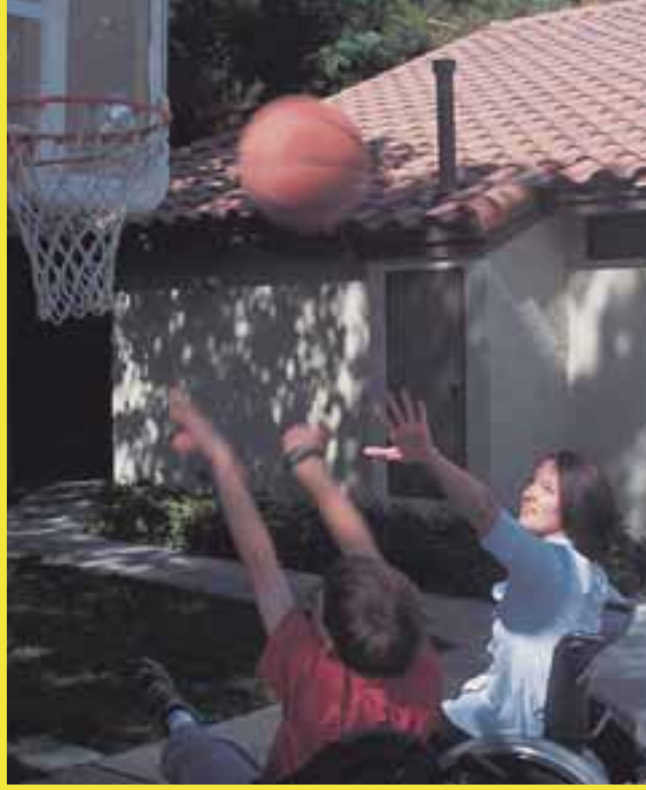
About this time, Sam began to feel a strong attachment to the nearby Las Vegas Nevada Temple. At first he appreciated it simply because it was beautiful. But as he learned more about the purpose of temples, he came to love it for the blessings it brings to people's lives. This interest soon grew to include all the temples of the Church. Sam began filling a binder with pictures of the world's temples and a file with diagrams and information about their design, history, and construction. By the time he had filled the binder, he knew that he

wanted to build temples of stone someday. In the meantime, he would build temples of cardboard.

With boxes, a pair of scissors, a hot-glue gun, and a ruler, he created a faithful scale model of the Las Vegas Temple. It was astonishingly good. No one taught him how to build cardboard temples. He invented the craft as he went along.

Sam, his parents, and his sister, Lea, display a drawing of the original Nauvoo temple. Sam has studied the architecture of the temple and made a faithful cardboard model of it. Both his parents had ancestors who lived in Nauvoo, and the family attended the temple open house.





Sam enjoys playing wheelchair basketball with Lea (left) and discussing the architecture of the Las Vegas Nevada Temple with George T. Tate, the architect who designed the building (below).

Next came his version of the historic Nauvoo Illinois Temple, which was then being rebuilt. The family read all they could find about the project as Sam raised his cardboard walls. He drew the sunstones and other carvings onto the surface with a pen. The Manti Temple and the Preston England Temple followed. Then Sam started working on his masterpiece—the Salt Lake Temple, crafted in far greater detail than the others. This project has taken a year so far and is not yet finished. Once it's completed, he plans to build models of the Montevideo Uruguay Temple and the Portland Oregon Temple.

Sam doesn't just build temples; he studies them, too. He learned so much about the stone carvings on the Nauvoo Temple that his dad invited him to explain their meaning to the temple preparation class he teaches. Sam has also given family home evening lessons on temple architecture to several families in the ward.

He is not shy about sharing his love of temples with his friends from other religions. They like to watch him build, and as he works he quizzes them about temple facts. By now they know all the answers.

Working on temples doesn't fill all of Sam's time. He is an excellent student who studies hard because he knows that to be an architect he must be good at math and get good grades. He enjoys sports, including skiing, baseball, and soccer. He especially loves the outdoors and the beauties of nature. He is always eager to visit

his family's cabin in the mountains of Utah.

Families and temples just seem to go together, and Sam loves his family even more than he loves temples. His brothers, Willie and John, who are twins serving missions in Uruguay and England respectively, are role models for him. He is especially close to his sister, Lea, a student at BYU. Five years ago Lea suffered a spinal cord injury in a car accident, and she now uses a wheelchair. Sam often paints with her and plays wheelchair basketball with her when she is home on vacation. "Sam's very sensitive to the feelings of others," Lea says. "Since I've been in the wheelchair, he's always there to help."

"Sam wants to understand things spiritually," his dad comments. "He prays. He reads the scriptures. He asks a lot of difficult questions—the kind that parents don't always know how to answer. He's made me a better person just being around him."

His mom adds, "He has a clear vision of what's right and wrong, and he's strong in doing what's right. He wants to make people happy. If I'm down, he knows it, and he'll cheer me up."

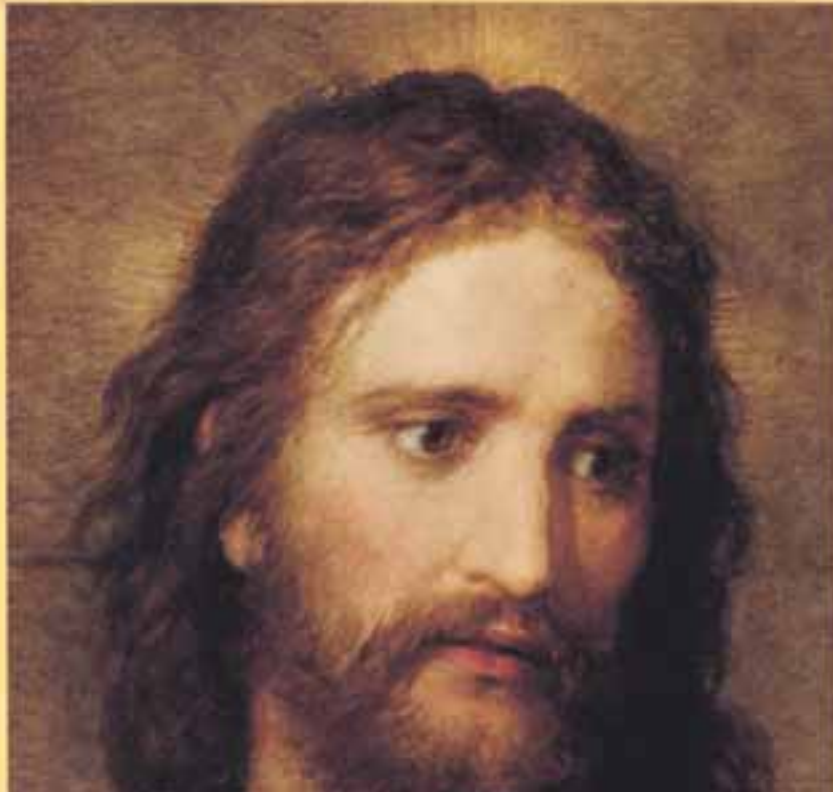
This builder of temples is also helping to build a happy family. ●

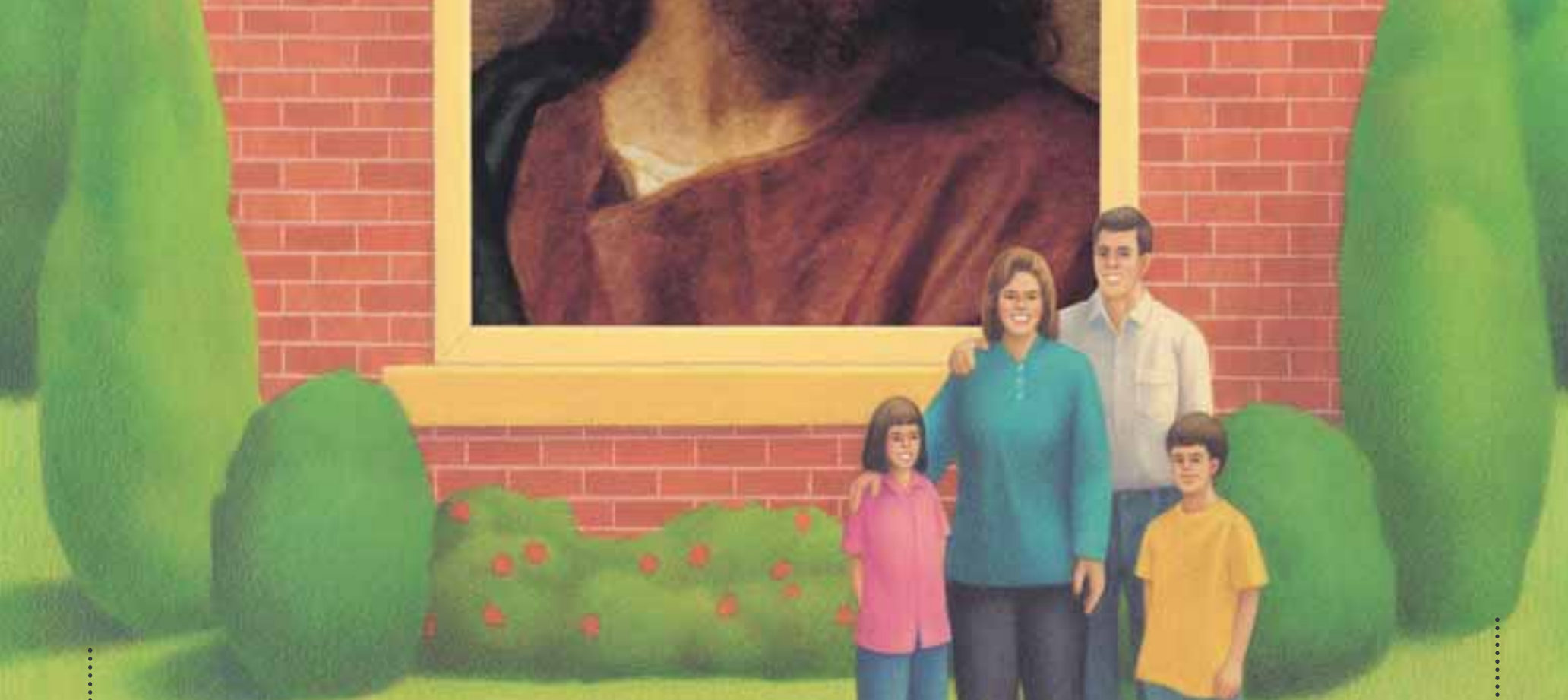




Honor, power and glory be rendered to his holy name, both now and ever (D&C 20:36).

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain (Exodus 20:7).





**In this home,
we honor
His name.**

Behold, Jesus Christ is the name which is given of the Father, and there is none other name given whereby man can be saved (D&C 18:23).

Friends in the News



Alexandra Allred, 10, West Valley City, Utah, likes to sing and play the piano and flute. She also likes to dance, draw, read, and baby-sit her nephew.



David Rowland, 6, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, recited a scripture in sacrament meeting when he was only four years old. He likes video games, swimming, and adventures.



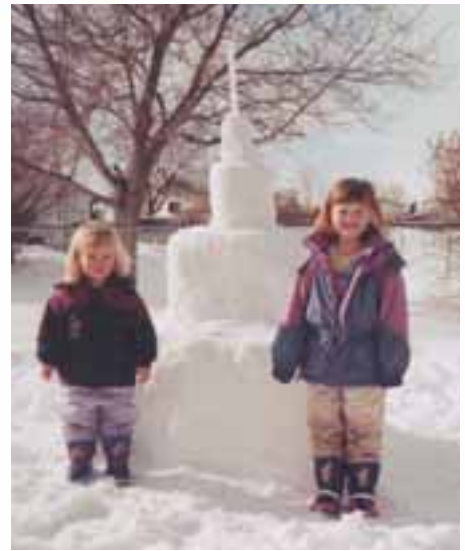
Chelsea Chandler, 3, Mission, Texas, likes to jump on the trampoline and swim. She enjoys family home evening and likes to sing "Popcorn Popping."

Emiko, Adam, and Jared Mason, ages 10, 8, and 6, Tokyo, Japan, enjoy being on the swim team, reading, and playing together. They received an aquarium and have enjoyed caring for their fish. They love to visit their cousins in Utah, and they read the *Friend* from cover to cover as soon as it arrives.



Encanto First (Spanish) Ward

After participating in the annual children's sacrament meeting presentation while wearing white shirts and blouses, the children of the Encanto First (Spanish) Ward, Phoenix Arizona Stake, also wore white clothing on a trip to the Mesa Arizona Temple. They learned about the principles and ordinances they will need to learn and perform so they can enter the temple when they are older. The children noticed that when they were dressed in their Sunday best, they were more reverent and respectful to everyone.



Jennifer and Clarissa Bott, ages 6 and 3, Dubois, Idaho, enjoy going to Primary and singing "I Love to See the Temple." When it snowed this winter, they decided to build a snow sculpture of the Idaho Falls Idaho Temple. Whenever their family goes to Idaho Falls, they always try to see who can spot the temple first.



New Delhi Second Branch

The Primary children of the New Delhi Second Branch, New Delhi India District, have strong testimonies of the gospel of Jesus Christ. They look forward to Primary every Sunday, where they read scriptures together and learn songs from the *Children's Songbook*. They set excellent examples for their friends and families by trying hard to keep Heavenly Father's commandments.



Dalton Peacock, 4, Ellisville, Mississippi, loves President Hinckley and the temple. He likes to participate in Primary and is always willing to give a talk, say the prayer, or read the scripture. His brother **DaKoda, 2**, likes to follow Dalton and do everything he does.



Kanab Seventh Ward, Madadeni Branches

Primary children in the Kanab Utah Seventh Ward, Kanab Utah Kaibab Stake, had an opportunity to correspond with children from the Madadeni First and Second Branches, South Africa Durban Mission. The children in Kanab sang Primary songs and recorded them on a cassette tape to send to the children in Madadeni. They also wrote letters to the children. The children in Madadeni responded with their own letters and music. They were all excited to discover that children everywhere learn the same things in Primary and to feel a connection with Heavenly Father's children in distant lands.



Pearland Ward

When Primary children and leaders in the Pearland Ward, Friendswood Texas Stake, learned that their ward would soon be moving into a new building, they decided to record their testimonies on a Primary quilt. The children used crayons to draw pictures representing their testimonies on quilt squares. The squares were then sewn together and made into a quilt. The quilt is currently on display in the Primary room of their new ward building.



For Little
Friends

Sleepover at Grandma's House

BY JANE McBRIDE CHOATE

(Based on a true story)

Fear thou not; for I am with thee (Isaiah 41:10).

Four-year-old Tammy had never spent a night away from home. Her parents were going to a wedding and wouldn't be home until very late, so she was going to spend the night at Grandma's house. Tammy loved her grandma very much, but she liked being close to her mommy and daddy.

Mommy helped Tammy pack her pajamas and stuffed rhinoceros and clean clothes for the next day in the special suitcase Grandma had given her.





After they arrived at Grandma's house, Tammy hugged Mommy and Daddy good-bye. Grandma showed Tammy where to put her suitcase.

Tammy saw that Grandma had the same picture of Jesus hanging in her bedroom that Tammy had in her own bedroom at home. It made her feel better.

Grandma fixed spaghetti for dinner. Tammy ate all of her spaghetti. They had vanilla ice cream with chocolate sauce for dessert.

After dinner, Grandma pulled out a thick book. "This is my photo album," she said. She opened it and pointed to a picture. "This is your mommy when she was a little girl."

Tammy liked looking at pictures of her mommy when she was little. Together, she and Grandma looked at the pictures until Tammy started to feel sleepy.

Grandma helped Tammy brush her teeth and put on her pajamas. Then Grandma listened as Tammy said her prayers.

"I have a special sleeping bag for you to use when you're here," Grandma said. She unrolled a sleeping bag with pink flowers on it.

"Pink is my favorite color," Tammy said.

Grandma smiled. "I know."

Tammy gave Grandma a big kiss before sliding into the sleeping bag. Grandma put Tammy's rhinoceros next to her and zipped up the sleeping bag. "Good night, Tammy. Sweet dreams."

"Good night, Grandma." Tammy felt very cozy in the pink sleeping bag.

The next morning, Grandma made French toast for breakfast. Tammy ate two pieces and drank all her milk. Then she helped Grandma do the dishes.

"I was a little scared when I came," Tammy said to Grandma as she dried a plate. "Then I saw the picture of Jesus and I wasn't scared anymore."

Grandma hugged Tammy. "I keep a picture of Jesus in my bedroom to remind me that He loves me. I'm glad you aren't scared anymore."

Tammy hugged Grandma back. "I am too." She could hardly wait until Mommy and Daddy came to pick her up. She had a lot to tell them. ●

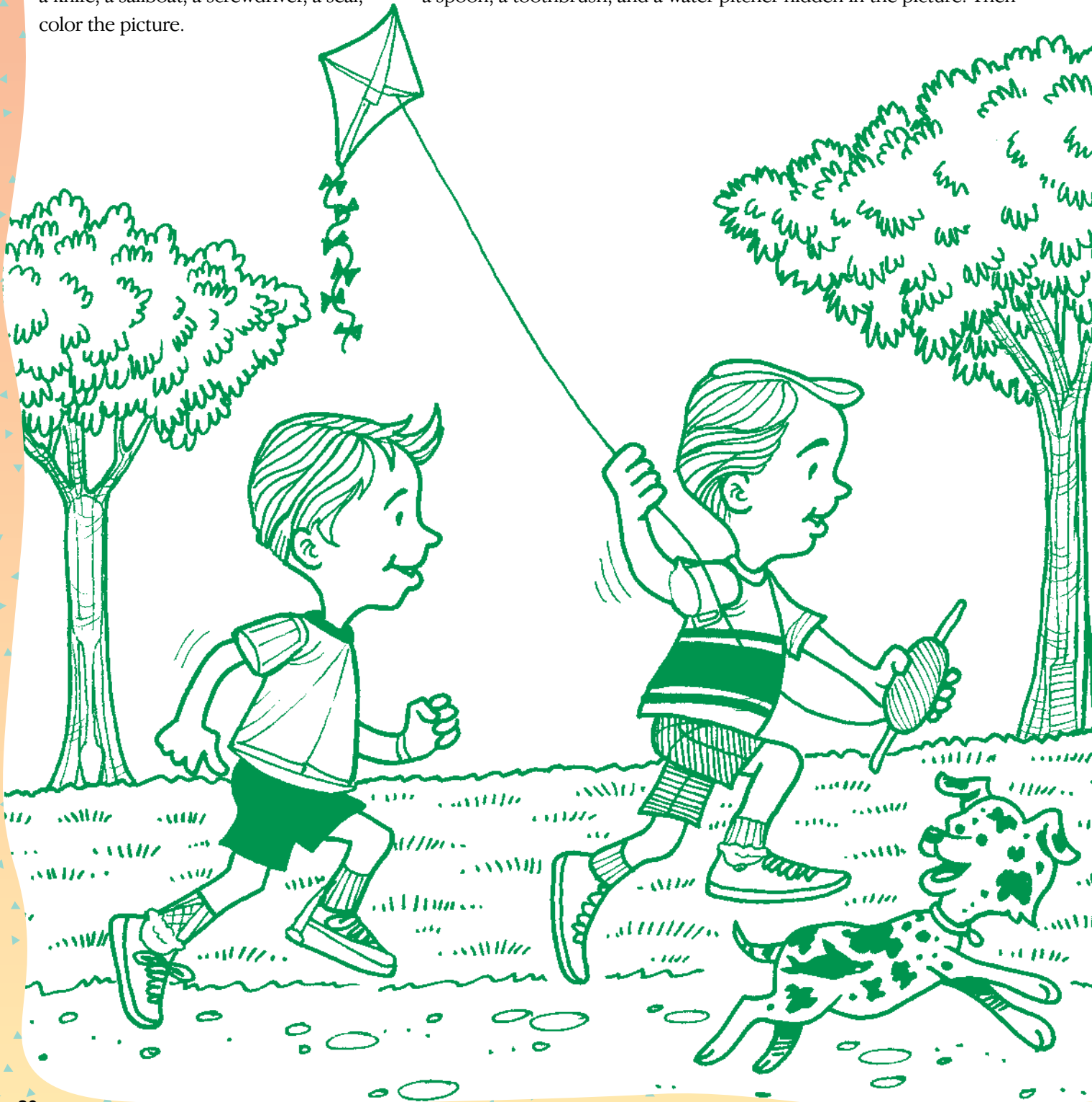


Jane McBride Choate is a member of the Big Thompson Ward, Loveland Colorado Stake.

Springtime Fun

BY ROBERT PETERSON

While these children have fun flying a kite, see if you can find a cupcake, a fork, a glass, a hammer, an ice-cream cone, a knife, a sailboat, a screwdriver, a seal, a spoon, a toothbrush, and a water pitcher hidden in the picture. Then color the picture.



Windy Day

BY ELIZABETH GILES

(Each time a number is mentioned, hold up that many fingers.)



**One gust of wind—
a playful breeze.**

(Wave hands in front of your face.)



**Two gusts of wind
blow through the trees.**

(Hold arms out like tree branches and sway back and forth.)



**Three gusts of wind
fly high my kite.**

(Pretend to fly a kite.)



**Four gusts of wind—
hold on really tight!**

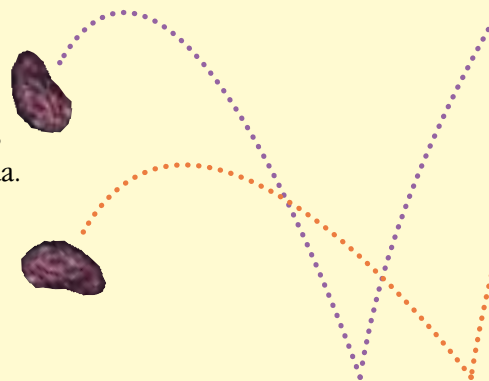
(Pretend to hang on to a pole.)

Bouncing Raisins

You will need: a pint glass jar, water, 1 tablespoon (15 ml) raisins, 4 tablespoons (60 ml) vinegar, and 1 tablespoon (15 ml) baking soda.

1. **With an adult's help, fill the glass jar 3/4 full with water.**
2. **Stir in the vinegar.**
3. **Drop in the raisins.**
4. **Add the baking soda, but do not stir.**
5. **Now watch the raisins bounce!**

What makes this happen? When you mix the baking soda with the vinegar, bubbles of carbon dioxide form. The bubbles fasten onto the raisins, making them rise to the surface. Then the bubbles pop, and the raisins sink to the bottom again.





BY ALMA J. YATES

(Based on a true story)

Whosoever shall put their trust in God shall be supported in their trials, and their troubles (Alma 36:3).

Halver," Mother called as I sat on our adobe steps pulling cockleburs from my pants. "Run to the corral and open the gate for your father. He's coming with the horses."

Glancing toward the field, I saw our two workhorses, Button and Clipper, coming through the tall grass, their harnesses jangling as they walked. Father trudged behind them, holding the reins. He had left the plow in the field. I raced to the



"Does this mean we'll get a new team of horses?" I asked excitedly.

Father pulled Button's harness off and hung it on the fence next to Clipper's. "We can hardly put food on the table to feed ourselves," he mumbled. "We can't afford to buy another team. We'll just have to make do with Clipper and Button."

My shoulders sagged. Ever since we had moved back to Pacheco, Mexico, life had been tough. Pacheco was in the Sierra Madre Mountains and had been settled by members of the Church 30 years

SILENT WARNING

corral, jerked back on the wooden latch, and yanked the gate open.

Button and Clipper looked ragged and tired as they clomped slowly into the corral, their heads drooping, their sweating sides heaving, and their hooves knocking up puffs of dust as they walked. I felt sorry for them. They had been working hard all week, pulling the metal plow through the dark, damp dirt.

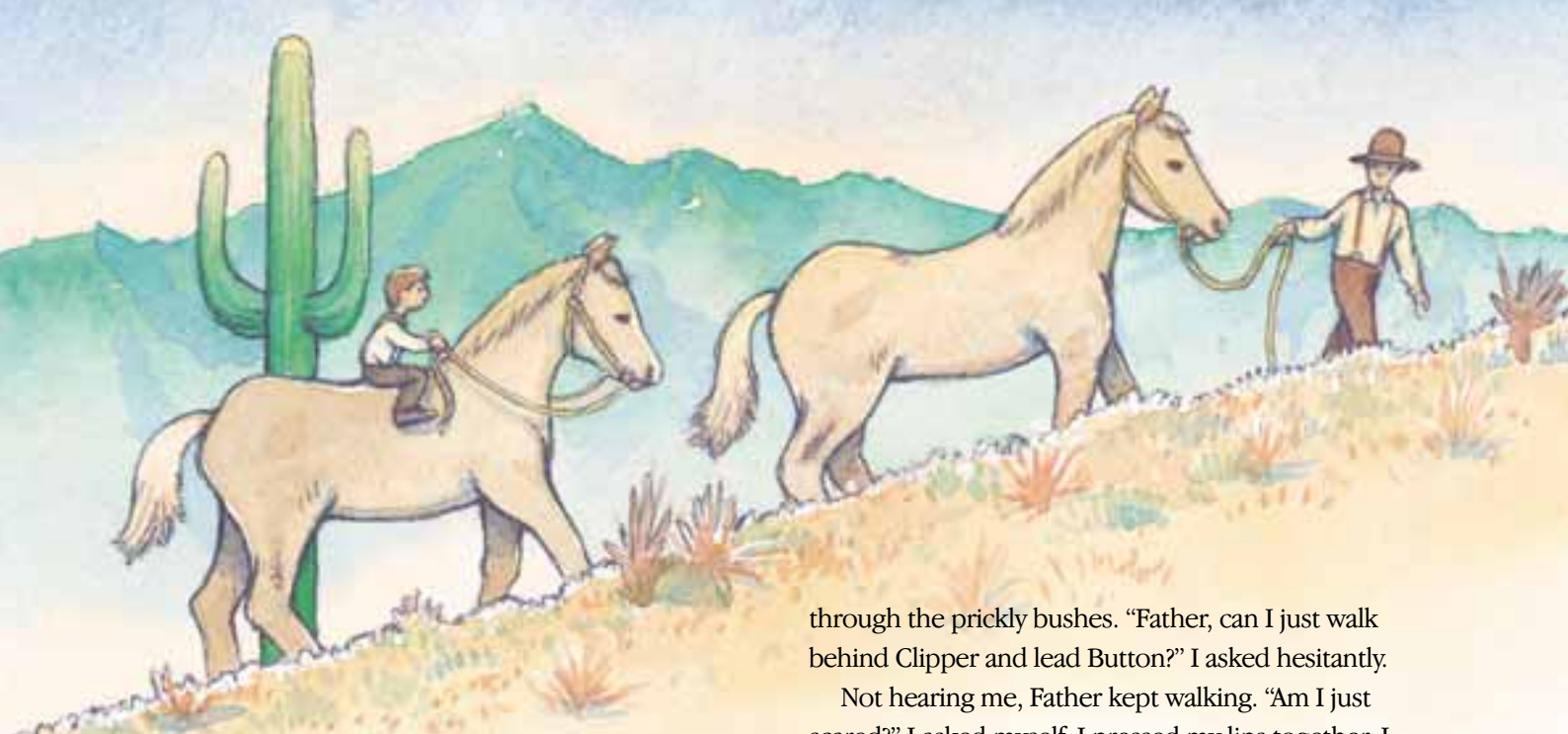
"It sure looks like they're tired," I said as I closed the gate.

"They're worn out," Father agreed. He pulled the harness off Clipper and slapped her on the rump, sending her toward the manger where some hay remained from the morning feeding. "At one time these two could have plowed that section of the field before noon. Now it takes all day. They're getting too old for this kind of work."

earlier. When the Mexican Revolution started in 1912, we Latter-day Saints had abandoned our ranches, farms, and homes to escape bandits and fighting armies. After the Revolution ended, some were able to return to their old houses, but most of us had to start all over again.

Father sighed as he studied Button and Clipper standing in the corral. "They need a good rest, Halver. How would you like to ride up to Strawberry Canyon with me tomorrow? There's some good grazing there. Button and Clipper need to take it easy for a week or so, fatten up on that mountain grass, and catch their breath before we do the planting."

Even though I was only seven, I was the oldest boy in the family and mighty proud that Father had invited me to help. We got up early the next day, put halters and lead ropes on Button and Clipper, and started through the trees.



A trail wound up to the mouth of the canyon, but Father didn't want to take it. "I'm afraid if we take the horses up the trail, they'll just wander back to the barn before nightfall," he explained. "We'll have to trick them."

"How do you figure you'll trick old Button and Clipper?" I asked.

"Strawberry is a long canyon, and the walls are pretty high and rugged. We'll take Button and Clipper up along the top of the canyon to the far end; then we'll climb down into the canyon from above. If we take them down that way, they won't want to climb back out, and they won't realize that they can just follow the canyon down to our place."

Father's plan sounded good, so we turned off the regular trail and rode along the mountain ridge running parallel to Strawberry Canyon. At first it wasn't too hard, but then it got rocky and steep. The brush was thicker, and there wasn't a regular trail to follow. Father walked ahead leading Clipper, while I followed riding Button bareback.

I started feeling nervous as Clipper and Button struggled to keep climbing. They were breathing hard, and sometimes Button stumbled over a rock or a root.

"We're coming to some Johnny-jump-up," Father called over his shoulder, "so keep your legs as high as you can." Johnny-jump-up was a thorny bush that grew all along the mountain. It was mean and prickly.

Suddenly I got a dark, frightened feeling inside. I knew I should climb off Button and walk, even if I had to tromp

through the prickly bushes. "Father, can I just walk behind Clipper and lead Button?" I asked hesitantly.

Not hearing me, Father kept walking. "Am I just scared?" I asked myself. I pressed my lips together. I wanted to be brave. I looked away from the canyon below and kept my eyes on Button's long, pointed ears. But the feeling came again, this time even stronger. I didn't hear a voice, but something told me to get off my horse and walk.

"Father, I want to get off Button and walk," I called out. My voice sounded strange.

He stopped and looked back at me. "I was just thinking the same thing, Son." He looked puzzled. "Slide off, but be careful."

Slowly I slid off Button's back, keeping him between me and the edge of the canyon. Once my feet reached the ground, I crept in front of the horse, took hold of the lead rope, and followed Clipper and Father. The thick Johnny-jump-up scratched my skin, but the bad feeling inside me went away.

We hadn't walked more than a few feet when we came to another really steep spot. Just as we were starting to cross it, Button stumbled to the side. He scrambled to keep his balance, but the soft ground gave way. I tugged on the lead rope, trying to help him, but he was already sliding down the steep slope.

"Halver, let go of the rope!" Father called out.

I held on for a moment longer before letting go. As I did, Button's back legs slipped out from under him and he fell on his hindquarters; then he tumbled and slid toward the canyon's rocky ledge.

My eyes widened as I stared at poor Button slipping away from me. I hoped he would get his feet under him

and steady himself so he could lunge to where Father, Clipper, and I waited. But it didn't happen. He slid down further and rolled over the ledge, disappearing from sight.

I looked at Father, who still clutched Clipper's lead rope. His face was white as he stared at the dreadful spot where we had last seen Button.

"I couldn't hold him," I rasped, trying desperately to explain.

"I didn't expect you to hold him," Father said gently. "That's why I told you to let go of the rope."

"Do you think he's dead?" I croaked.

Father nodded slowly. He came back to where I stood and put his arm around my shoulders.

"How will we do the planting?" I worried out loud.

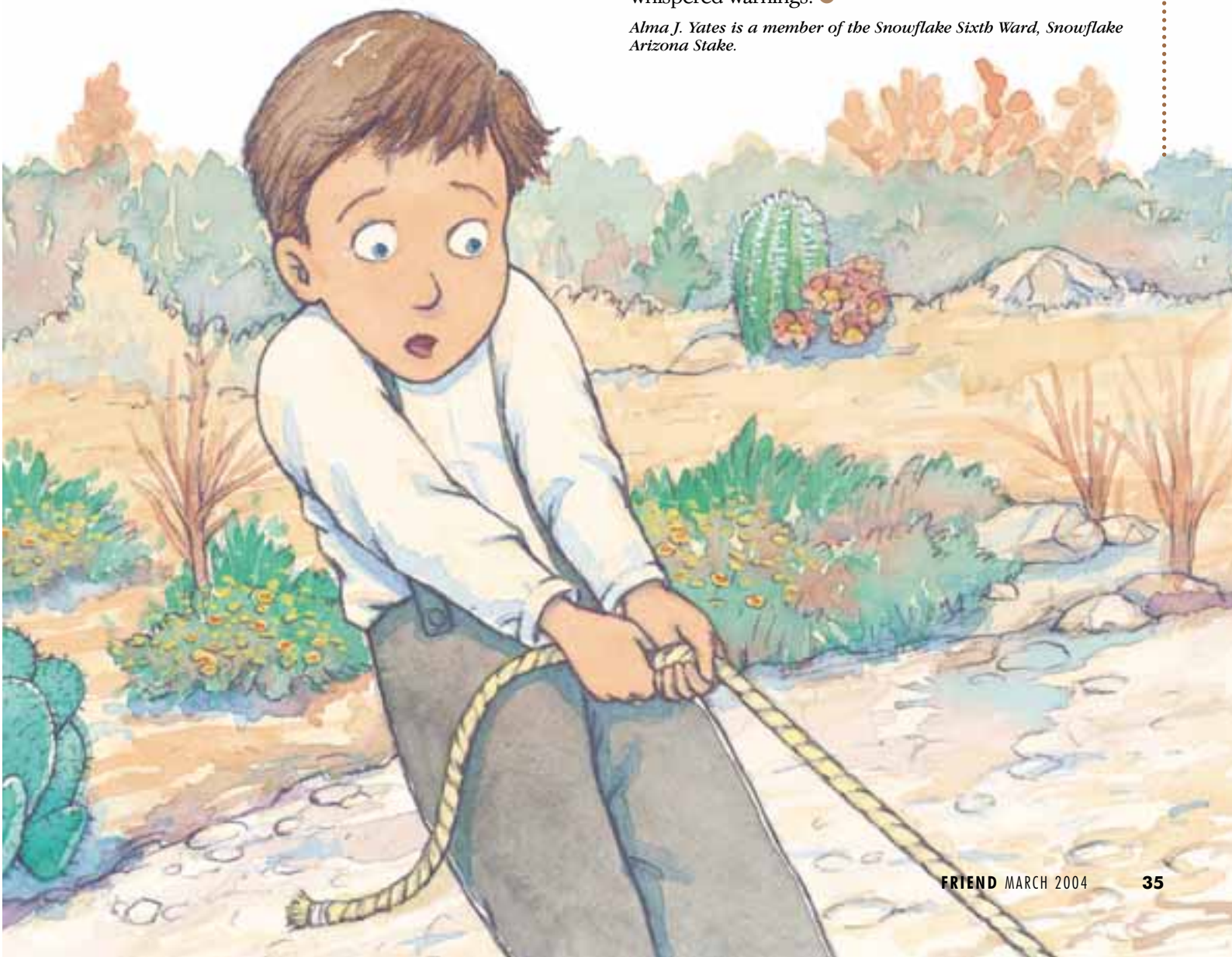
"We'll figure that out later. But right now you're safe—that's what's important. If you had stayed on him, you would have gone over the ledge, too."

"I just knew I had to get off." I pressed my hand to my chest. "I didn't hear anything, but I knew in here that I had to get off."

Father nodded. "I felt it, too. Someone was watching over us today, Halver. The Spirit whispered a warning, and I am thankful we listened."

Father and I were sad about Button, but as we returned home, I felt warm inside. I knew that Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ watched over me and that the Spirit would protect and guide me if I listened to His whispered warnings. ●

Alma J. Yates is a member of the Snowflake Sixth Ward, Snowflake Arizona Stake.



Repentance and the Atonement

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me (John 14:6).

Heavenly Father knew that we could not be perfect as mortals, so He chose Jesus Christ, who is perfect, to be our Savior.

To help explain what the Savior has done for us, President Boyd K. Packer, Acting President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, told the story of a man who borrowed a great deal of money. He bought something he had always wanted. But when the bill came due, he could not afford to pay it. He knew that his creditor would take away his possessions as payment and throw him in jail.

Then the man's friend came to rescue him. The friend

asked, "If I pay your debt, will you accept me as your creditor?" The man gratefully agreed, and his friend told him, "You will pay the debt to me and I will set the terms. It will not be easy, but it will be possible."

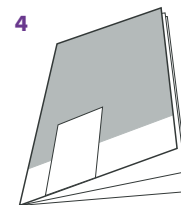
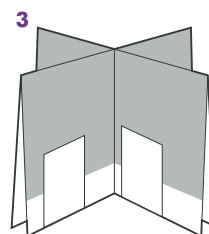
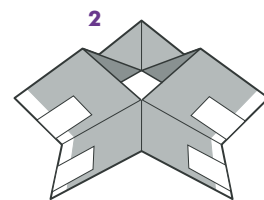
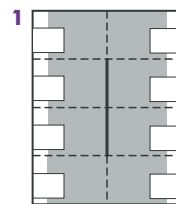
Because the friend was willing and able to pay, the creditor received the money that was fairly owed him. At the same time, the man was able to keep his possessions and not go to jail. (See *Ensign*, May 1977, 54–55.)

Like the friend in the story, Jesus offers to pay our "debts." He overcame death so that we can all be resurrected, and He suffered for our sins so that we don't have to suffer if we repent (see D&C 19:16). In return, He asks us to follow certain "terms," or rules—to repent and keep the commandments. As we do so, Jesus makes it possible for us to return to Heavenly Father someday. ●



Activities and Ideas

1. To remind yourself to follow Jesus' example, cut out page 37 along the solid lines. Fold on the dotted lines to form a booklet (see diagrams).
2. In family home evening or when you give a talk in Primary, use the pictures of Jesus to tell about His life. Use the pictures of modern children to describe ways we can follow the Savior's example.
3. For a family home evening activity, discuss each of the pictures in the booklet you made. Then have each family member cut and fold a blank piece of paper to form their own booklets. Have each family member write or draw pictures on each page of ways he or she can follow the Savior (for example, studying the scriptures, attending church, or helping someone).



*Emphasizes the Primary monthly theme. (See "My Family Can Be Forever," poster, *Friend*, Jan. 2004, insert.)





Trying to Be Like Jesus

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

There Will Be Peace

By Macy Hansen

At school one day my teacher gave us a homework assignment. She asked us to write a paragraph on the subject “What People Today Think Is Impossible, But You Think Is Possible and Can Be Achieved in the Future.”

I wrote, “People today think there can never be peace



throughout the entire world. But I know there will be peace. I don’t know when it will happen, but I do know who will bring peace. Jesus Christ, our Savior, will come again and bring peace.” I read this to my mom and she said it was like bearing my testimony. So when my teacher called on me the next day, I bore my testimony to my class and my teacher.

Macy Hansen, age 11, is a member of the Montrose Branch, Scranton Pennsylvania Stake.



First-Grade Buddies

By Camile Nielson

Joshua Wright walked out onto the playground during recess on his first day of first grade. He saw his friends running toward the jungle gym and swings. Then he saw some of the new kindergarten students standing alone against the school wall. A few of the older students were teasing them.

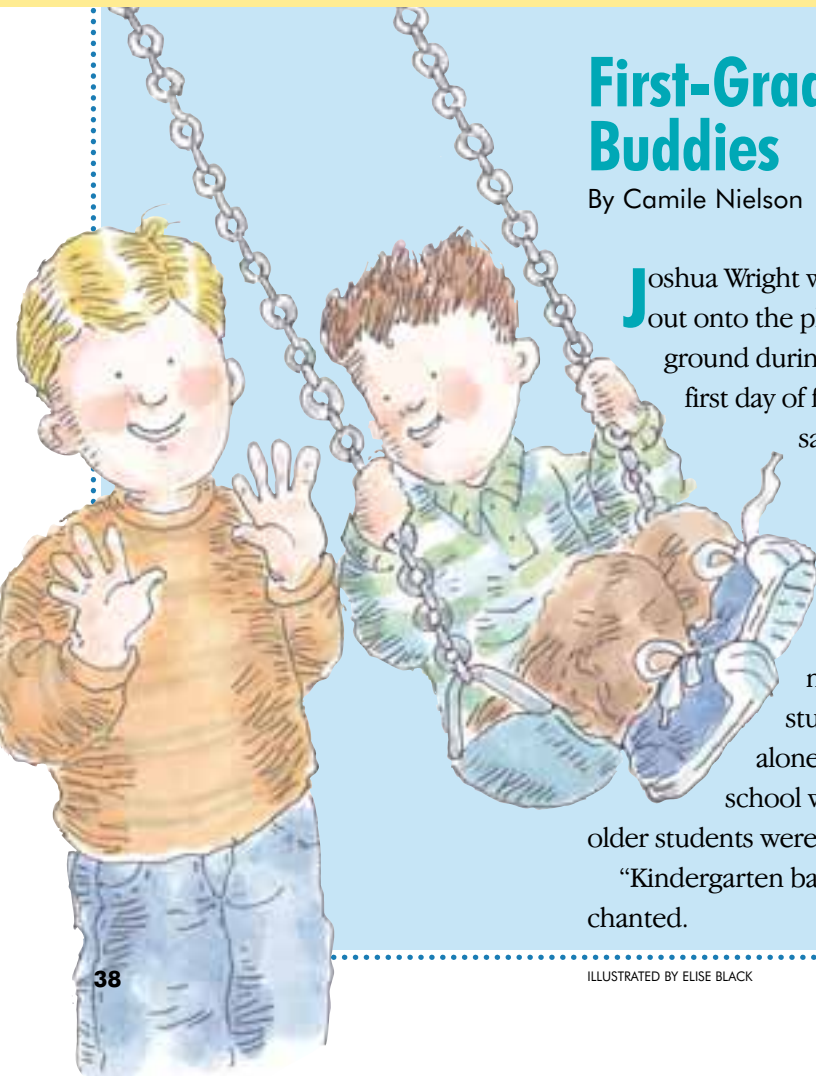
“Kindergarten babies!” someone chanted.



“You’d better watch out,” another boy said. “Stay away from the swings and the tricky bars. Only the big kids get to play on them.”

Joshua remembered how he had felt last year on his first day of kindergarten. Some of the older students had teased him, and sometimes he didn’t like going out to recess.

Joshua’s mom and dad had always taught him to look out for others who needed friends. They had taught him the story of the Good Samaritan and told him that Jesus wanted all members of His Church to be Good Samaritans. Joshua decided that he would find a way to be a Good Samaritan to the new kindergarten students.



The *Friend* would like to hear from you about an experience you, or another child you know, have had in "Trying to Be Like Jesus." The article should be about two to three paragraphs typed and double spaced; a parent or other adult may help you write it (be sure to give them credit). Please include at least one photograph or slide of whomever the article is about, if possible, and his/her and your own (if different) name, age, ward/branch and stake/district, and telephone number. Send your article to: Trying to Be Like Jesus, *Friend*, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity. Submissions will not be returned.

A few days later Joshua came up with a plan. He asked his teacher if the first-grade students could be paired with kindergarten students as special buddies. He thought that if the kindergarten children each had a special first-grade friend, the big kids would be less likely to tease them. Joshua's teacher took his plan to the first-grade students. They were eager to help. Soon each kindergarten student felt special and protected by his or her first-grade buddy.

Joshua watched as first graders offered to play with younger students and included them in their games. The new buddies even asked the other children not to tease or pick on the kindergarten students.

After a few weeks, nearly all the teasing stopped. Parents and teachers noticed that many of the older students were making extra efforts to be kind to the kindergarteners.

This year as Joshua prepares to be baptized, he feels happy that he listened to the Spirit. When the school community council met, they voted to continue Joshua's buddy program. As last year's kindergarten students returned to school as first graders, they were excited to be new first-grade buddies to a new class of kindergarten students. They learned from Joshua's program that one buddy really can make a difference.

Joshua Wright, age 7, is a member of the Valley View Eighth Ward, Salt Lake Holladay North Stake.

A Higher Level

By Karalee Calaway

A big figure skating competition was going to be held in my town. I would be skating against 10 other girls. The problem was that my event was scheduled on a Sunday. I didn't want to skate on Sunday.

My other option was to skate in a higher level. This competition would be held on Saturday, but I would be the youngest in the division and would have to compete against 18 skaters instead of 10. Three of them

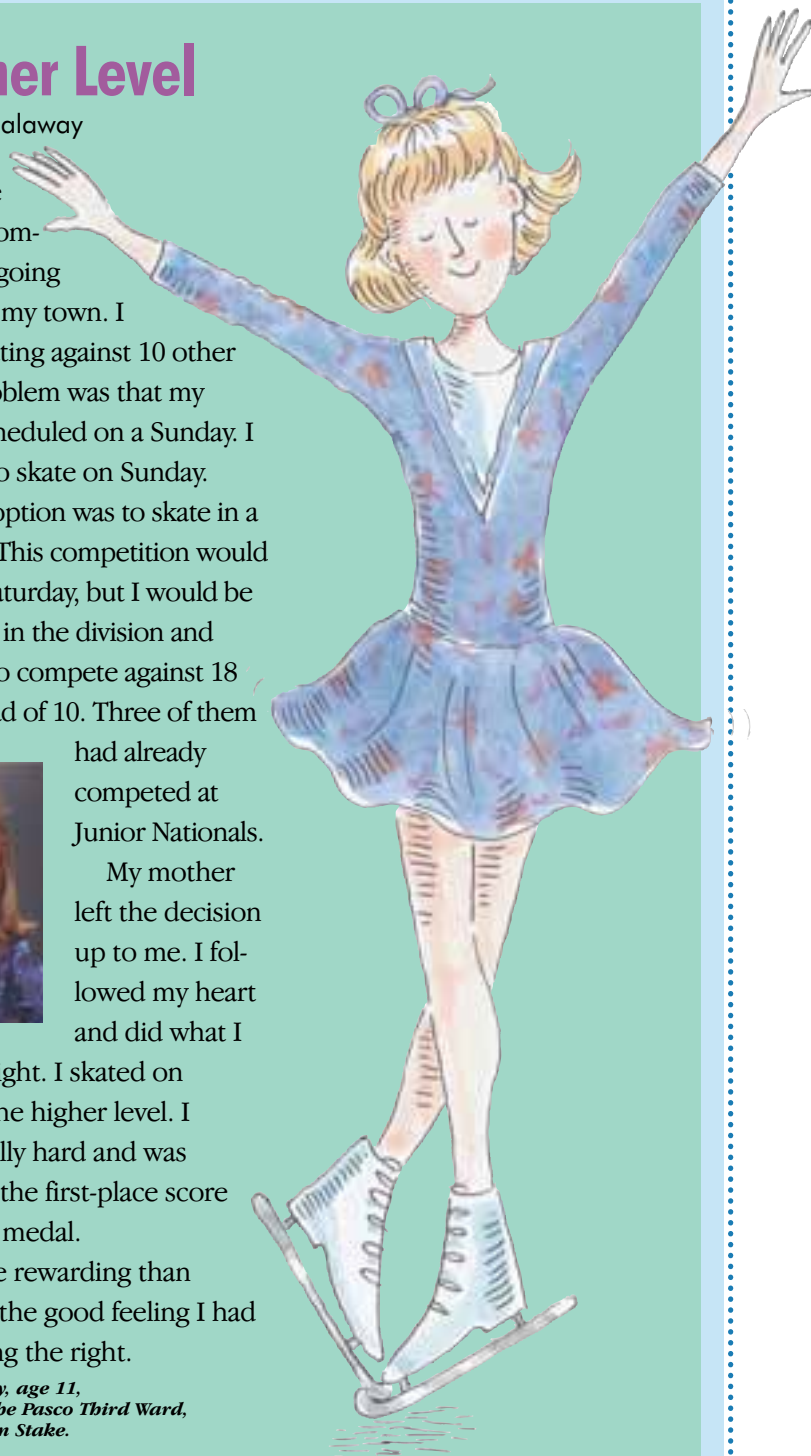
had already competed at Junior Nationals.

My mother left the decision up to me. I followed my heart and did what I

knew to be right. I skated on Saturday in the higher level. I practiced really hard and was blessed with the first-place score and the gold medal.

Even more rewarding than winning was the good feeling I had from choosing the right.

Karalee Calaway, age 11, is a member of the Pasco Third Ward, Pasco Washington Stake.

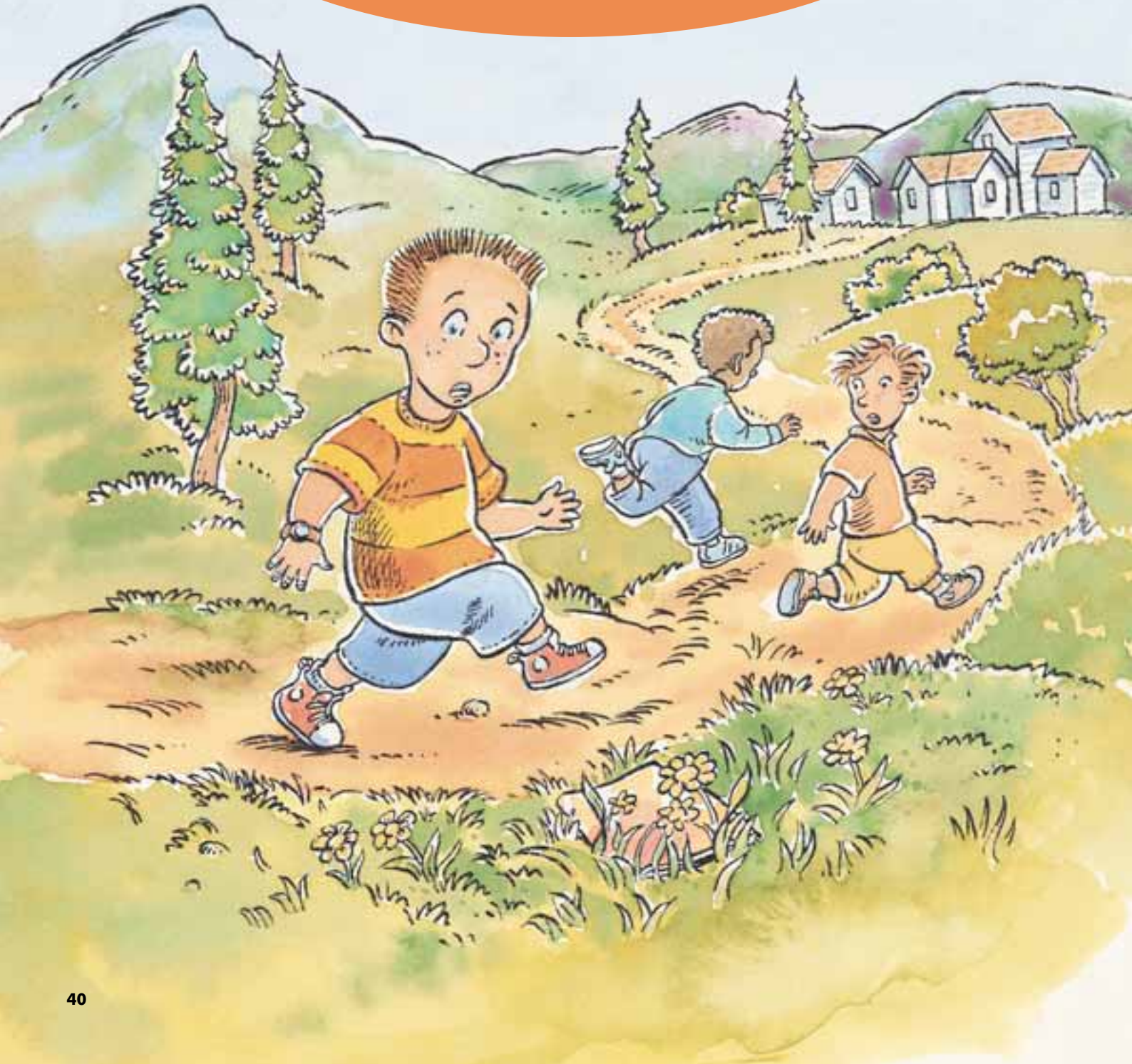




THE

Decision

BY NYCOLE S. LARSEN
(Based on a true story)



The Lord God prepareth the way that . . . men may have faith in Christ, that the Holy Ghost may have place in their hearts (Moroni 7:32).

John, David, and Keir wandered along the Fox River hiking trail one beautiful spring day. John and David were brothers, and their friend Keir lived around the corner from them.

“What do you guys want to do?” asked nine-year-old John.

“Let’s go home and get some ice cream bars. Mom just bought some,” seven-year-old David said.

“OK,” Keir said, “race you!” They took off up a dirt path that led back to the main road. Two blocks from John and David’s house, Keir stopped.

“Hey, look,” he said, pointing to something lying along the side of the path. “What’s that?”

It looked like a stack of paper. As the boys got closer, they realized it was a magazine. It was colorful and shiny with lots of glossy pictures. The pages flapped in the soft breeze.

“Cool,” John said as he picked it up.

They quickly realized that it was not at all “cool.” The magazine cover had pictures of naked women. The boys suddenly became very quiet.

“I think this is what’s called ‘porn,’ ” Keir said.

“What’s that?” David asked.

“Pornography,” John stated. He slammed the magazine closed and folded it in half so they couldn’t see the cover. “We shouldn’t look at it.”

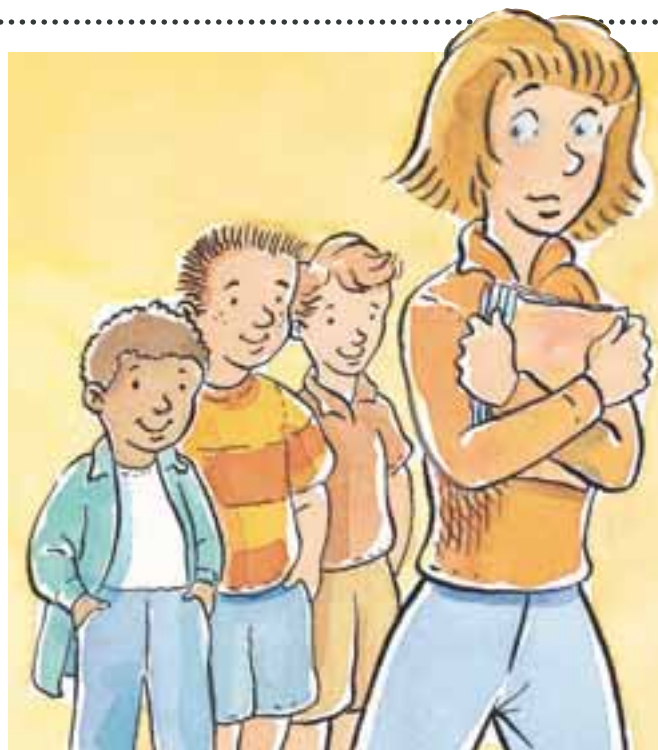
“I think we should tell our moms,” Keir said.

“Or we could just leave it here,” David said.

“No, I don’t want someone else to find it. We’ll take it to Mom. She’ll know what to do,” John said.

David and Keir nodded. The three boys continued up the path. They didn’t want to laugh and shout anymore. They all felt a dull, heavy feeling inside. They were curious about the magazine, but no one wanted to look at it again.

When they got home, John showed his mom what they had found.



“You were right not to keep looking at it. This is not good for us to see,” she said. “I’m proud of you boys for bringing it to me. I’ll get rid of it.”

Later, when Keir got home, he told his mom and dad what had happened. They had a talk about pornography.

“Heavenly Father gave us our bodies to house our spirits,” Keir’s mom said. “Our bodies are very important, and we shouldn’t misuse them.”

“That magazine was showing how some people treat their bodies badly,” his dad added. “Pornography is evil, and the prophet has told us to stay away from it. You boys made a good decision today, Keir. You’ll be blessed for it.”

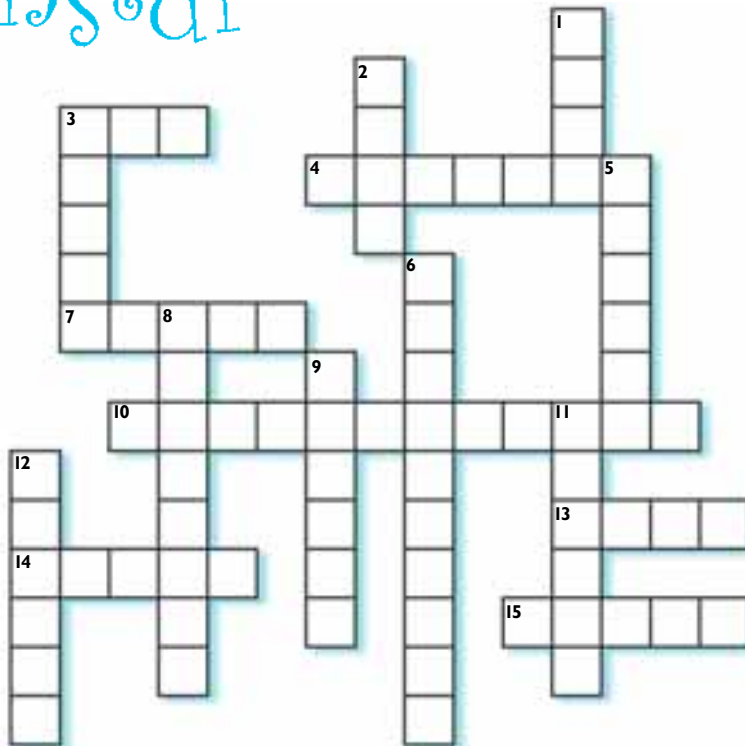
Keir had a good feeling in his heart that lasted for a long time. He knew John and David felt the same way. All three boys understood that the Holy Ghost had guided them to choose the right. ●

Nycole S. Larsen is a member of the Oak Hills Fourth Ward, Provo Utah Oak Hills Stake.



“Avoid pornography as you would a plague.”

President Gordon B. Hinckley, “Overpowering the Goliaths in Our Lives,” *Ensign*, Jan. 2002, 6.



Nephi and the Brass Plates

BY SHAUNA GIBBY

ACROSS

3. "And I also knew that the _____ was engraven upon the plates of brass" (1 Nephi 4:16).
4. "Thou and thy brothers should go unto the house of Laban, and seek the _____" (1 Nephi 3:4).
7. "And now, when I, _____, had heard these words, I remembered the words of the Lord" (1 Nephi 4:14).
10. "I know that the Lord giveth no _____ unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commandeth them" (1 Nephi 3:7).
13. "I, Nephi, returned from speaking with the Lord, to the _____ of my father" (1 Nephi 3:1).
14. "Behold, an _____ of the Lord came and stood before them" (1 Nephi 3:29).
15. "Now _____ was the name of the servant; and he promised that he would go down into the wilderness unto our father" (1 Nephi 4:35).

DOWN

1. "We would give unto him our _____, and our silver, and all our precious things" (1 Nephi 3:24).
2. "And it came to pass that we _____ into the wilderness" (1 Nephi 3:27).
3. "And he desired of _____ the records which were engraven upon the plates of brass, which contained the genealogy of my father" (1 Nephi 3:12).
5. "And I was led by the _____, not knowing beforehand the things which I should do" (1 Nephi 4:6).
6. "And departed into the _____, and journeyed unto the tent of our father" (1 Nephi 4:38).
8. "The words which have been spoken by the mouth of all the holy _____" (1 Nephi 3:20).
9. "And it came to pass that I, Nephi, said unto my _____: I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded" (1 Nephi 3:7).
11. "It is better that one man should perish than that a _____ should dwindle and perish in unbelief" (1 Nephi 4:13).
12. "They are engraven upon _____ of brass" (1 Nephi 3:3).



The Book of Mormon



BY ELDER RUSSELL M. NELSON
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

The King James Version of the Bible was produced by 50 English scholars who accomplished their work in seven years, translating at the rate of *one* page per day. Expert translators today do well if they can also translate scripture at the rate of one page per day.

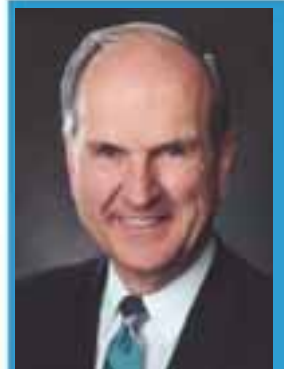
In contrast, Joseph Smith translated the Book of Mormon at the rate of about *10* pages per day, completing the task in about 85 days! (Many of us feel good if we can read the book in that time.)

Each individual who prayerfully studies the Book of Mormon can receive a testimony of its divinity. In addition, this book can help with personal problems in a very real way. Do you want to get rid of a bad habit? Do you want to improve relationships in your family? Do you want to increase your spiritual capacity? Read the

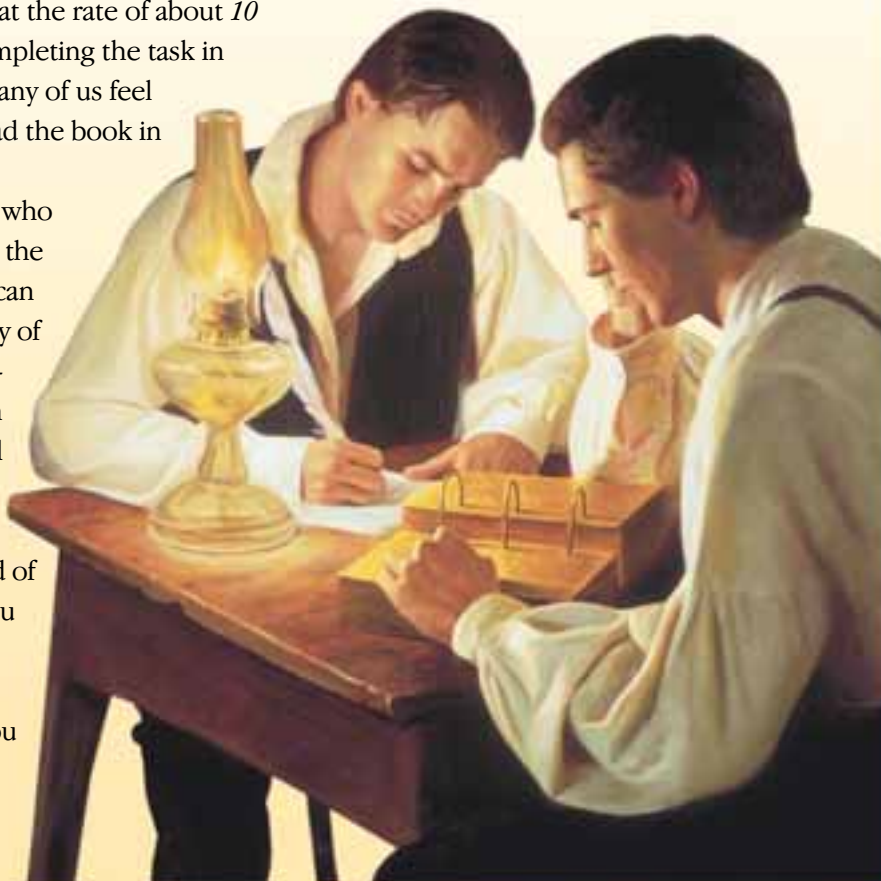
Book of Mormon! It will bring you closer to the Lord and His loving power. He who fed a multitude with five loaves and two fishes—He who helped the blind to see and the lame to walk—can also bless you! He has promised that those who live by the precepts of this book “shall receive a crown of eternal life” (D&C 20:14).

The Book of Mormon is true! ●

From an October 1999 general conference address.



Did you know that Elder Russell M. Nelson has nine daughters and a son? He bears testimony that the Book of Mormon is true.



Our Creative Friends

The Duck Pond

Playing at the duck pond is always so much fun.
As the ducklings waddle by, it makes you want to run.
If you run behind them, they will fly away.
It is so much fun, I could do it all day.
When it's time to feed them, they gather all around,
And soon the park is filled with their loud quacking sounds.
Sometimes, if you're quick, you can pet their backs.
Or sometimes they'll just look at you and give a warning quack.
One duck has a poof upon her head—
I wonder if her ducklings use it as their bed?

*Aubree Hiatt, age 10 (with Julie Tanner)
Payson, Utah*

Why Jesus Came to the Earth

One night baby Jesus was born.
He came to the earth to teach us
What is righteous and what is not.
He saved us from our sins.
He was baptized to show us what is right.
He died on the cross,
But He was resurrected after three days.
He died for us all, and He will come again,
And that is why Jesus came to the earth.

*Jordan A. Kent, age 9
Richfield, Idaho*

The Snow Has Gone

The snow has gone.
The sleighs have gone away.
It's springtime, it's springtime,
The birds are starting to say.

*Rachel Haynie, age 6
Holly, Michigan*

My Trip to Nauvoo

I had the opportunity to travel to Nauvoo
And see the Nauvoo Temple that was built for me and you.
It was neat to see a temple that was first built long ago,
But then was built again for us the world to show.
When I went inside the temple, I could feel the Spirit near,
And thought about the Saints and the things they left right here.
I got to see the blacksmith shop and the boot shop as well,
Where the pioneers worked before in Salt Lake they dwelled.
I also got to see where the Prophet Joseph died,
In the tiny room of Carthage Jail, where my mother cried.
I never will forget about my trip to Nauvoo,
Where I saw the Nauvoo Temple, built for me and you.

*Jessica Saunders, age 11
Syracuse, Utah*

The Temple

Shining like a light,
Good in God's sight.
Helping us to follow His light.
Helping us to choose the right.
Shining very bright
Like a star in the night.
Gleaming like a golden kite.
Feeling the Spirit,
So much you can almost hear it.
You can be sealed to everyone
In your family, very happily.

*Ariel Dauk, age 9
Sedgwick, Maine*

Spring

It smells so sweet,
Some baby birds tweet,
They seem to sing right to the beat
Of spring.

The flowers prance,
The tree leaves dance,
All to the song
Of spring.

There are pincushions purple,
Bleeding hearts and myrtle,
All of the flowers
Of spring.

*Faith Goimarac, age 11
Sedona, Arizona*

The Lord Is My Shepherd

The Lord is my shepherd;
The Son is my light.
He comforts my spirit
And conquers my fright.

The Spirit is my compass
And I often feel
His guidance come
Whenever I kneel.

The gospel is my armor
To protect me from harm;
To withstand Satan's power
I can depend on God's arm.

The Lord is my shepherd;
The Son is my light.
He comforts my spirit
And conquers my fright.

*Emma Franks, age 10
Columbia Station, Ohio*



*VaNeta Mae Burnett, age 6
Hato Rey, Puerto Rico*



*Daniel Birkbeck, age 7
Westfield, Indiana*



*Olivia Wetterstrand, age 4
Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada*



*Austin Taylor, age 8
St. George, Utah*



*Aurelia Wilcox, age 6
Bunnell, Florida*



*Tanner Buker, age 8
Mabnomen, Minnesota*



*Lori Hart, age 10
Lansing, Michigan*



*Isaac James, age 6
San Jose, California*



*Jeanice Cozzens, age 8
Dobson, North Carolina*



*Myles Cox, age 5
Evanston, Wyoming*



*Cassidy Platt, age 6
Sandy, Utah*



*Oliver Kinnard, age 11
Staffordshire, England*



*Sierra Norton, age 8
Robnert Park, California*



*Jared Stark, age 5
Colorado Springs, Colorado*



*Meghan Reidhead, age 6
Tucson, Arizona*



*Jacob Lewis, age 8
Lakeland, Florida*



*Deanna Hansen, age 8
Kingsley, Pennsylvania*



*Drake Hamby, age 6
Crossville, Tennessee*



*Christine Biancardi, age 7
West Linn, Oregon*



*Collin Judkins, age 11
Rexburg, Idaho*

A Wildflower and a Prayer

BY GAYLE M. CLEGG

Second Counselor in the
Primary General Presidency

Have you ever felt alone? When our daughter Tina was six years old, our family went to live in Brazil. None of our family knew how to speak Portuguese, and it was especially hard for Tina to learn. We decided to put her in preschool with four-year-olds, even though she should have been starting first grade. We hoped that being with younger children would help her feel more comfortable and make it easier to learn Portuguese.

But Tina was as foreign to the other children as they were to her. Each day was a struggle for her, and each day she returned home from school very sad.

One day some children were particularly unkind to her. At recess a few children even threw rocks at her, bullying her and laughing rudely. Tina was scared and hurt. She decided that she wouldn't go back to class.

Sitting alone while the playground emptied, she remembered what we had taught her about loneliness. She remembered that Heavenly Father is always close to His children and that she could speak to Him at any time. He would understand the language of her heart. In a corner of the playground, she

bowed her head and said a prayer. Tina didn't know exactly what to say, so she asked that her father and mother could be with her to protect her.

A Primary song came into her mind:

*I often go walking in meadows of clover,
And I gather armfuls of blossoms of blue.
I gather the blossoms the whole meadow
over;*

*Dear mother, all flowers remind me of you.
("I Often Go Walking," Children's
Songbook, 202)*

As Tina opened her eyes, she noticed one little flower growing between the cracks of the concrete. She picked it up and put it into her pocket. Her troubles with the other children did not disappear, but she walked back into the school, feeling that her parents were with her.

You may sometimes feel alone. You may have a hard time learning something. Sometimes others may be unkind to you. But Heavenly Father is always near you, even though you cannot see Him. He loves you, and He wants you to pray to Him when you feel lonely or afraid. Then He can send His Spirit to comfort you, just as He comforted Tina on that lonely day. ●

Adapted from an April 2002 general conference address.



Sister Clegg teaches that while you may sometimes feel alone, Heavenly Father is always near you, even though you cannot see Him.



Family Reunion

BY JACQUELINE SCHIFF

You're invited to an international family reunion! Match by sight or sound the names for the Czech, Danish, French, German, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Russian, Spanish, and Swedish relatives on the left with their English translations on the right. (See answers on page 17.)



1. sønn (Norwegian)

a. niece



2. kuzyn (Polish)

b. father



3. nonna (Italian)

c. sister



4. Neffe (German)

d. brother



5. padre (Spanish)

e. son



6. syestra (Russian)

f. aunt



7. onkel (Danish)

g. grandmother



8. dotter (Swedish)

h. mother



9. bratr (Czech)

i. nephew



10. tant (Swedish)

j. daughter



11. maman (French)

k. uncle



12. Nichte (German)

l. cousin



Book of Mormon Riddle

BY MONICA WEEKS

This righteous king addressed his people
From a mighty tower.
He spoke of Christ who was to come
And witnessed of His power.

Who was he? To check your answer and learn more about this person, see Mosiah 2-5.

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 March is “Jesus Christ makes it possible for me to live with Heavenly Father again.”



Family Home Evening Ideas

1. Invite a family member to study “Spring Cleaning” by President

Gordon B. Hinckley (pages 2–3) and talk about how we can clean our lives (repentance). Think of something you can ask forgiveness for, stop doing, or start doing to make your life better this week. Pray for help to live the gospel better.

2. Get to know Elder Steven E. Snow of the Seventy by reading his story “The Beginning of a Testimony” (pages 6–7). Make a list of the things he says to do to strengthen your testimonies. Check off the ones you do this week. Continue to do them.

3. As a parent teaches the principles in “Clean Again” (pages 14–15), work together to make the mobile on page 15. Talk about the wonderful gifts that are ours because of the Savior’s life and sacrifice. How can you honor Him and show Him your thanks? To remember to honor Him always, hang the mobile and the poster—“In This Home We Honor His Name” (pages 24–25)—where you will see them each day.

4. Read together the story “The Decision” (pages 40–41). Discuss



See page 11.

how important it is to follow the Spirit’s promptings and avoid evil. Do the “Choose the Right” Funstuf (page 17). In the maze, it is important to make good choices to avoid getting lost or getting stuck in a dead end. How is that like our lives?

5. Ask a family member to learn the poem “Read the Book of Mormon” (page 11) and present it to the family. Then study Elder Russell M. Nelson’s message “The Book of Mormon” (page 43). Resolve to read the Book of Mormon together each day. Begin now. Open your scriptures and read!



The *Friend* can be found on the Internet at www.lds.org. Click on Gospel Library.

To subscribe online, go to www.ldscatalog.com.



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(IFC) = inside front cover
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Manuscript Submissions

The *Friend* welcomes unsolicited manuscripts but is not responsible for them. Rejected manuscripts will not be returned unless a stamped, addressed envelope is enclosed. Send manuscripts to *Friend*, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220. Send e-mail to cur-editorial-friend@ldschurch.org.

Send children’s submissions to *Friend*, 24th Floor, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, in care of the appropriate department—Our Creative Friends, Friends in the News, Friends by Mail, Trying to Be Like Jesus. Submissions will not be returned.



.....

*Learning the gospel can be fun!
Father and mother, daughter, son,
Together on fam'ly night!
(Children's Songbook, 195.)*