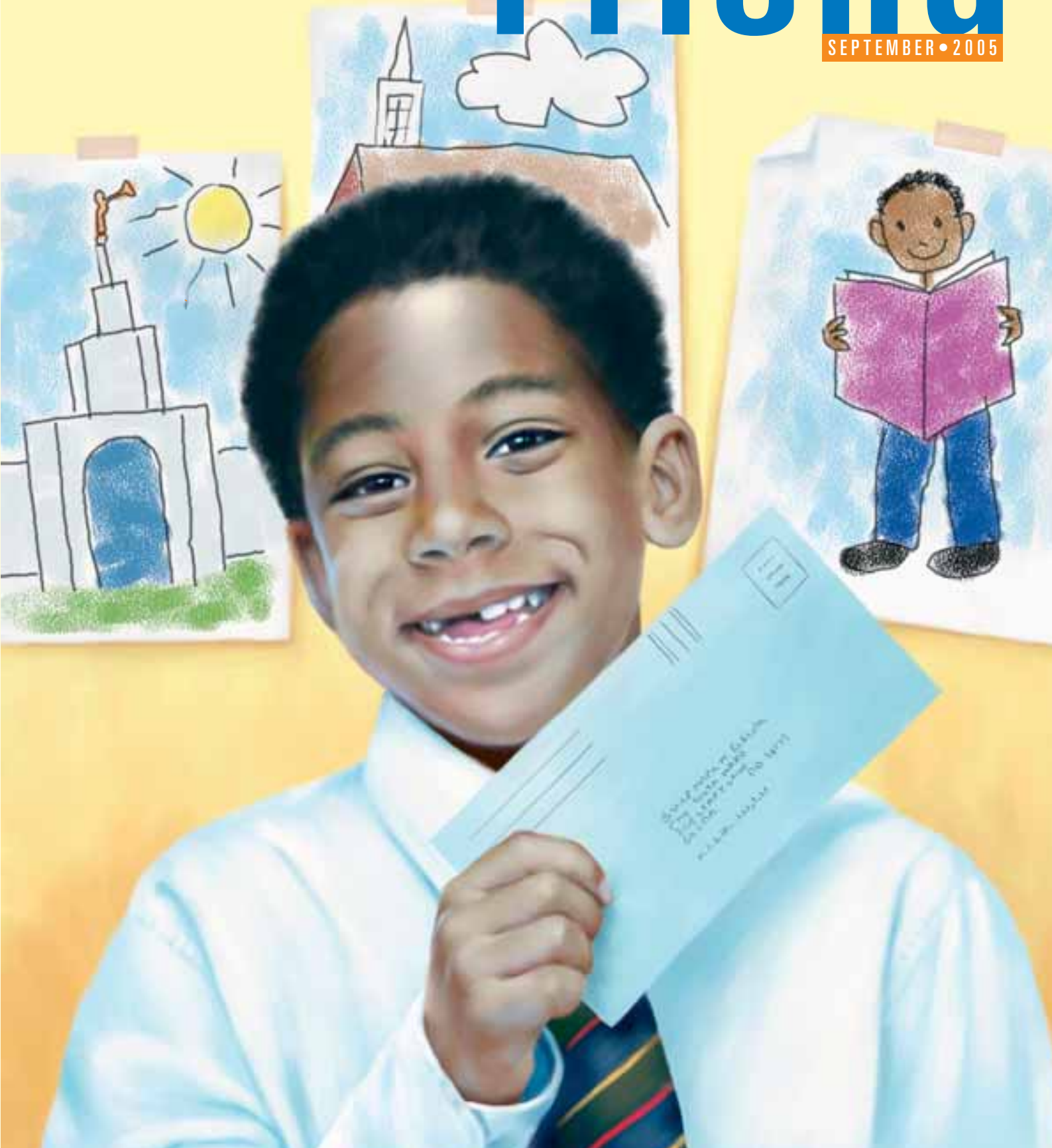


the Friend

SEPTEMBER • 2005



Friends by Mail

Lost Shoes



When I was eight, I was getting ready for school one day and I couldn't find my shoes. My mom was out of town, so my dad and I looked and looked, but we couldn't find them. My dad suggested that we say a prayer. A few minutes after our prayer, we found my shoes

behind the kitchen door. My dad and I said another prayer to thank Heavenly Father for helping us find the shoes so I could get to school on time.

Cameron Smith, age 11
Tempe, Arizona

A Blessing of Courage



My doctor told me I have diabetes and that I would need to take shots of insulin before every meal. I was really sad because the disease would be with me the rest

of my life. I asked my dad to give me a priesthood blessing. During the blessing he told me that I would have courage and be tough enough to take the injections. My mom and I went to the hospital to spend the night. I practiced using a needle to inject water into oranges because oranges are kind of like human skin. At dinner-time, the nurse asked me if I wanted to do my own injection. I said, "Yes, I will try." I did it! The nurses were amazed that I was brave enough to do my own shot the first time. I have done all my own injections and blood sugar tests since the very first day. I know that my priesthood blessing helped me to be brave. I know that Heavenly Father will always be there to help me.

Christopher Hall, age 10
Mountain Home, Idaho



Thankful for Fasting



There is a boy in my ward who has hemophilia (a disease that makes people bleed too easily). He is three years old. One day he fell

off his bike and had a terrible seizure. He was in the hospital for three days. My whole ward fasted for him, and after the fast he got well enough to go home. I am so happy that he is home. I am thankful for fasting. I know that when we fast, wonderful things can happen.

Jamie Robbins, age 10
Crestline, California

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Front Cover by Mark Robison

the **friend**

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



See the Guide to
the *Friend* (inside back
cover) for family home
evening ideas.

HIDDEN CTR RING

In Estonian,
Vali õige means
"choose the right."

As you look for the
Estonian CTR ring hidden
in this issue, think about
how you can follow the
thirteenth article of faith.





Avoiding the Devil's Throat

BY PRESIDENT JAMES E. FAUST
Second Counselor in the First Presidency



President Faust teaches us to be cautious and stay as far away from temptation as we can.

As a young man I served a mission to Brazil. It was a marvelous experience. One of the wonders of the world in that great country is Iguacu Falls. In the flood season, the volume of water spilling over the brink is the largest in the world. One part of the falls, where the deluge—the overflow of water—is the heaviest, is called the Devil's Throat.

Years ago, reckless boatmen would take passengers in canoes to stand on rocks and look down into the Devil's Throat. The water above the falls is usually calm and slow moving and the atmosphere tranquil. Only the roar of the water below forewarns of the danger lurking just a few feet away. A sudden, unexpected current could take a canoe into the rushing waters, over the cliff, and down into the Devil's Throat. Those foolish enough to leave the canoes to stand on these treacherous wet rocks could so easily lose their footing and be swept away into the swirling currents below.

Some of you think of yourselves as dare-devils, ready to take on almost any challenge. But some activities will take you down into the Devil's Throat. The only safe

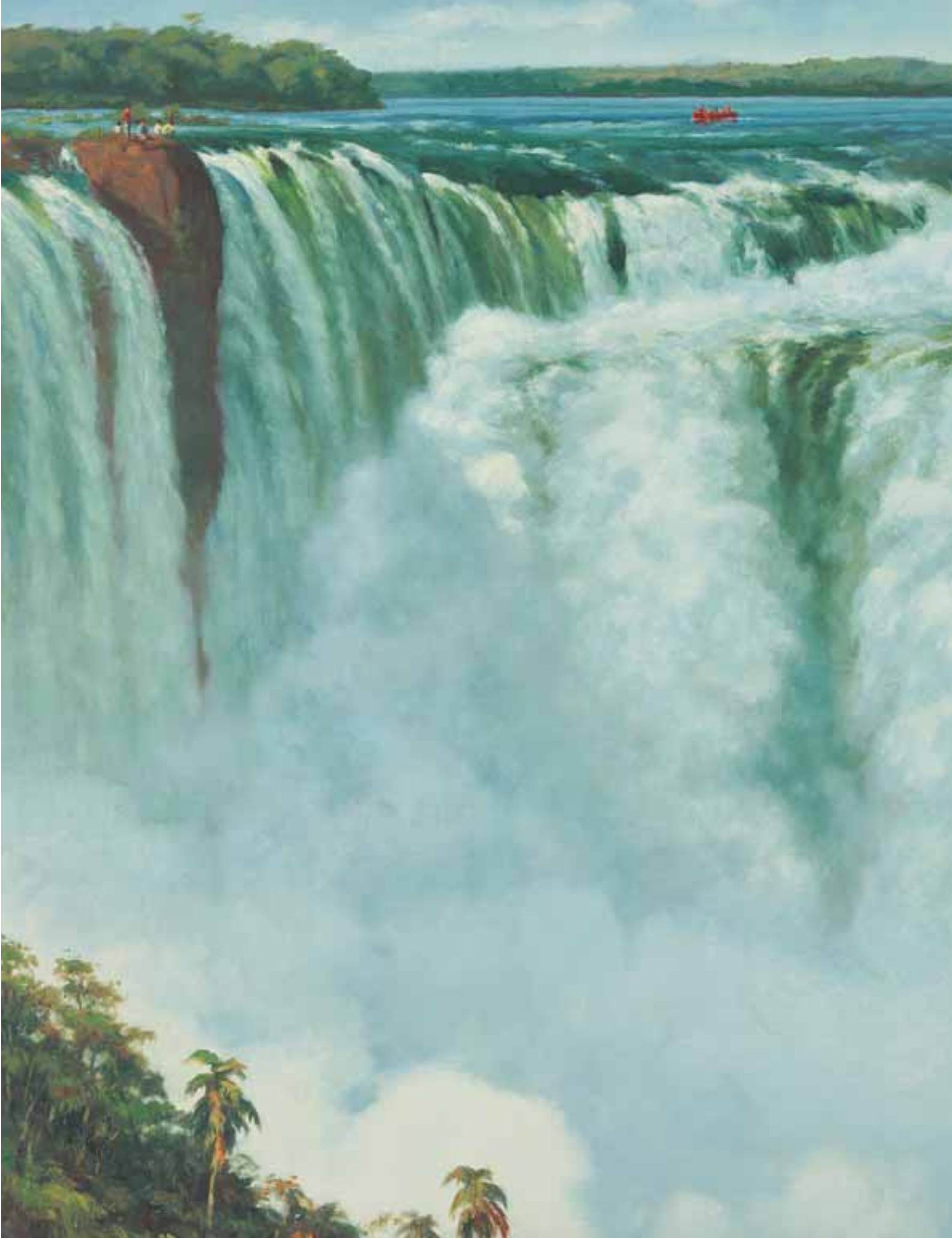
course is to stay well away from danger. President George Albert Smith (1870–1951) strongly cautioned, “If you cross to the devil's side of the line one inch, you are in the tempter's power, and if he is successful, you will not be able to think or even reason properly, because you will have lost the spirit of the Lord” (*Sharing the Gospel with Others*, sel. Preston Nibley [1948], 43).

Some of Satan's most appealing messages are: everyone does it; if it doesn't hurt anybody else, it's all right; if you feel there is no harm in it, it's OK; it's the “cool” thing to do. Satan is the master deceiver. His disguise is so perfect that it is hard to recognize him or his methods.

You young people will need to become stronger spiritually and morally in order to withstand the temptations and snares of the world. Perhaps this is why such special spirits have been reserved for this time.

We are living in a challenging time, and it is a time for us to stand firm. We should go forward in a spirit of faith and not be fearful of anything except being too close to the Devil's Throat. We will be strengthened and preserved if we follow the counsel and direction of President Gordon B. Hinckley, our prophet, seer, and revelator. ●

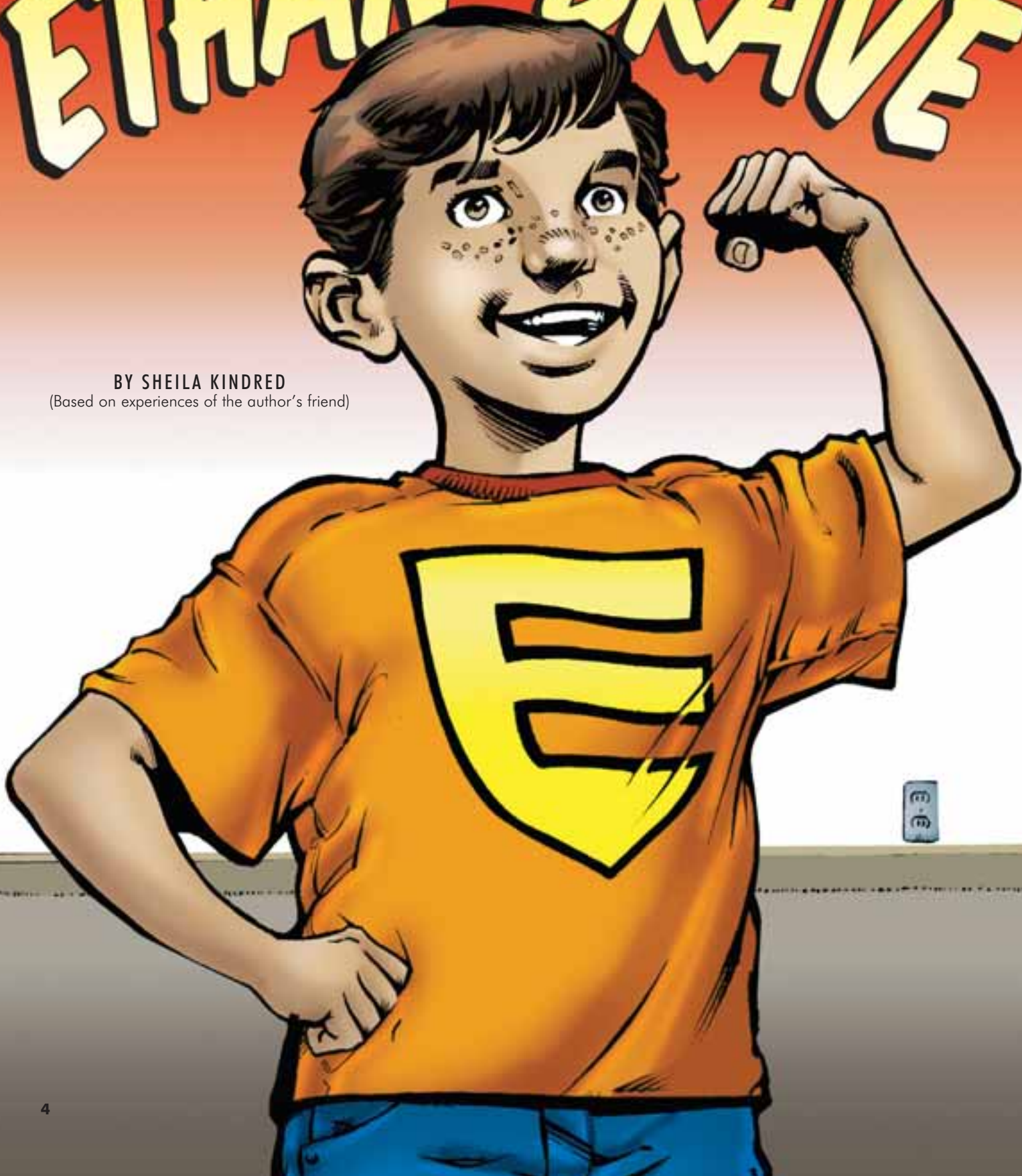
From an April 2003 general conference address.



ETHAN THE BRAVE

BY SHEILA KINDRED

(Based on experiences of the author's friend)





Keep the commandments! In this there is safety; in this there is peace (Children's Songbook, 146).

Ethan was very brave. He valiantly defended his home and family against any bad guys that threatened it. But sometimes Ethan got tired. It seemed like every day there were new bad guys to fight. Yesterday there had been a ferocious dinosaur, the day before there were growling pirates, and today he faced man-eating sharks. Ethan could imagine the sharks swimming across the carpet in his bedroom.

"Come on, Kate, grab my hand," Ethan called out to his little sister. "I will save you."

Kate giggled and put her small hand into his.

"Sharks have long, sharp teeth," Ethan said as he led her in a zigzag path across the room. "And they can bite. Look out!" He pulled Kate away from the bed, where he pretended a very large shark was hiding.

When they reached the bedroom door, Ethan peeked out and saw his mother sitting at the kitchen table folding laundry. She was listening to Primary music and softly singing along.

"Run to Mom, Kate," Ethan urged. "She'll protect you."

Laughing, Kate ran to their mother, who scooped her up in a hug.

Later that day Ethan discovered some army men lurking behind the family room couch.

"Bang!" Ethan said, pointing his finger. "Bang! I got you."

Mother frowned. "No shooting people, Ethan," she said.

"But Mom," Ethan protested, "he was a bad guy. I'm only shooting bad army men, not the good ones."

"I don't want any killing in our house," Mom said.

Ethan was puzzled. How could he protect his family without killing all the bad guys?

After dinner, Ethan's family had scripture study. Ethan liked to read the scriptures. Right now they were reading the Book of Mormon, and there were lots of bad guys and lots of good guys in it. There were good kings, good soldiers, and good missionaries.

They had finished the part in the Book of Mormon where Nephi's family had crossed the ocean in their ship. The ship went through a big storm before arriving safely in the promised land. Now they were reading the





“Our safety . . . and our peace . . . lie in striving to live as the Savior would want us to live and in knowing . . . that we are doing the best we can to try to keep His commandments.”

Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “When Shall These Things Be?” *Ensign*, Dec. 1996, 61.

part where Lehi was talking to his family about how the Lord had watched over them on their journey.

Ethan was listening very carefully as his dad read. He knew that soon Dad would stop reading and ask, “What is happening now? What does it mean?”

Ethan’s dad read, “ ‘And if it so be that they shall keep his commandments they shall be blessed upon the face of this land, and there shall be none to molest them, nor to take away the land of their inheritance; and they shall dwell safely forever’ ” (2 Nephi 1:9).

“Does that mean,” Ethan blurted out, not waiting for Dad to ask, “that if we keep the commandments we will be safe, too?”

“Yes.” Dad smiled. “It certainly does.”

“How?” Ethan asked. He wondered how keeping Heavenly Father’s commandments would keep away ferocious dinosaurs, growling pirates, and other bad guys.

“Well,” Dad said, “I think you were too young to remember, but when we first moved into this house, we had a special prayer and dedicated our home to Heavenly Father. We prayed that it would be a safe place where the Spirit can dwell. So now we try to do all the things the prophets tell us to keep a good spirit in our home.”

“Like having family home evening,” Mom said.

“And watching only good things on TV and on the computer,” Dad said.

“And reading good books and listening to good music,” Mom added.

“And being kind to each other,” Dad said. “All these things keep our home safe from evil.”

“Scripture study, too?” Ethan asked.

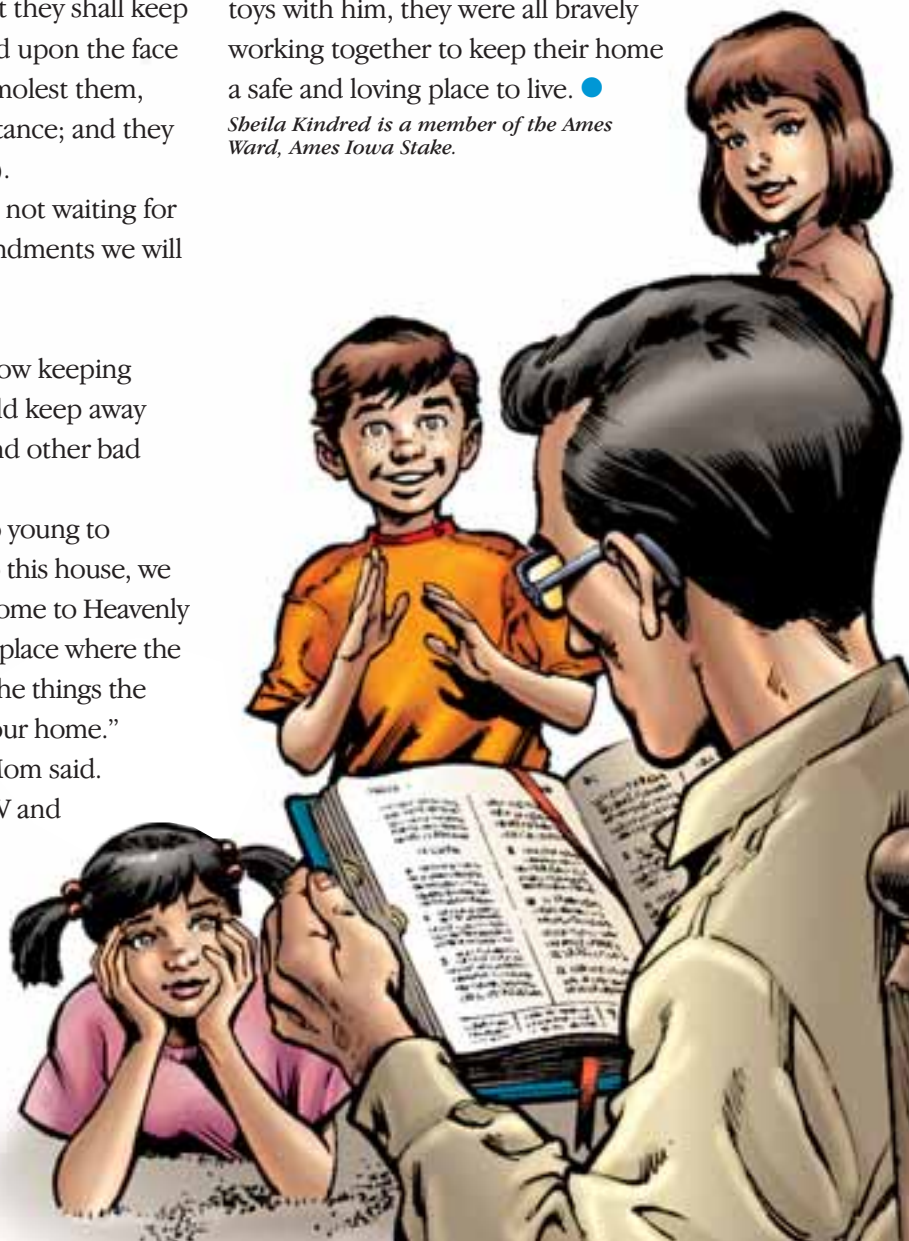
Mom nodded. “Especially scripture study.”

Ethan felt relieved. He was happy to know he wasn’t the only one working hard to keep his home safe.

The next week, Ethan was still very brave. He had to scare off a T. rex hiding behind the trees in the backyard. He pulled the plug on a giant octopus in the bathtub. He even discovered a monster troll hiding in the coat closet and had to tell it, in a very loud voice, to “leave now, and never come back.”

But now Ethan knew he wasn’t working alone. He knew that whenever Mom listened to his prayers, or Dad gave a priesthood blessing, or Kate shared her toys with him, they were all bravely working together to keep their home a safe and loving place to live. ●

Sheila Kindred is a member of the Ames Ward, Ames Iowa Stake.



Pass It Along

BY JANET COLLINS

Courtesy is catching
like a cough or cold.
Smiles are contagious,
spread by young and old.



Caring is infectious,
saving us from strife.
Manners make a difference
to our way of life.



Kindness opens doors
leading to respect.
Treating someone fairly
always is correct.



Let's create a feeling
of good will toward all.
With concern for others,
we'll be walking tall.

ILLUSTRATED BY ADAM KOFORD

The Dawning of a Testimony



By the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things (Moroni 10:5).

BY ELDER MONTE J. BROUGH
Of the Seventy

I have always been fascinated by the wild outdoors. I love the mountains. I love the ocean. I love the rivers. I love the animals. I think that God's creations are almost beyond any description in their beauty and value.

When I was 16 years old I wanted to see more of the outdoors, so my mother gave me permission to work in Alaska for the summer. I rode an old propeller plane there and found a job working in a grocery store.

I worked with a lay minister who was quite interested in converting me to his beliefs. Day after day we discussed the scriptures, but it was hard for me to defend my faith because, frankly, I didn't know it well enough. I struggled to explain the Joseph Smith story and the revelations he had received in a way the minister could accept.

I finally realized I needed some help. So I looked up the full-time missionaries in the area and asked them if they would teach me more about the gospel. That summer I often spent an hour or two with the missionaries before talking with the minister, who had become a very good friend.

One particular night I awoke from sleep. I felt concerned that I couldn't teach the gospel very well, even though I was coming to know it was true.

At age 16 (right) with Elder Stephen A. West and Elder David Loveless at the Anchorage Alaska Airport.



Outside the summer sun was shining the brightest fluorescent colors on the Alaska mountain range. The clouds hovered about two-thirds of the way up the slope, making it look like the mountain was floating in the air. It was one of the most beautiful sights I have ever seen. It is hard to describe the beauty I saw and the reverence I felt for Heavenly Father's creations.

I dropped to my knees and asked Heavenly Father to hear my prayer. I sincerely wanted to know that the Book of Mormon was true, and I sincerely wanted to know if what my mother had taught me all those years was what I should believe. I wanted to know that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was the true Church of God upon this earth.

That night—although it was still daylight in the Alaskan frontier—I came to know that the Church is true. I came to know that the Book of Mormon is the word of God. I came to know the importance of eternal relationships with my mother, deceased father, and other family members.

I stood up the next morning a different person because I knew that I could bear my testimony—that these things had been revealed to me by the Holy Spirit. The minister couldn't handle that. He could debate the doctrine, but he could not argue against my witness that I knew the Church was true.

Though I remembered the names of the missionaries who taught me, I lost track of them for many years. In 1998 one of those missionaries was called to be a General Authority. Elder Stephen A. West was one of the key figures in helping me gain a complete testimony of the gospel. As General Authorities, he and I were assigned to the North America Southeast Area Presidency and were able to talk about our experiences that had happened so many years ago. I shall forever remember that Alaskan adventure I experienced as a 16-year-old boy. ●



At work in the grocery store.



The Windows of Heaven

BY MARIANNE DAHL JOHNSON

(Based on a true story from the author's family history)

I will . . . open . . . the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it (Malachi 3:10).

Marcella frowned as she tried to wiggle her toes in her shoes. The shoes were too small and they hurt, but she knew she shouldn't complain. At six years old, she knew there was no money for new ones.

The past year had been hard for the Nelson family. In May, Marcella's tiny baby sister had died of pneumonia. And just six weeks later, her father, Eric, had been killed in an accident at work. How she missed her gentle father.

Now Marcella's mother was struggling to support her two young daughters with her sewing. Even though she was a skilled seamstress, there wasn't enough money. The kitchen cupboards in their small home were practically bare. No, bigger shoes just weren't an option right now.

"Time for breakfast," Mother called. Marcella struggled not to limp in the tight shoes as she walked to the table.

"Oh, honey." Her mother knelt at her side. "Those

shoes are too small for you, aren't they?" Marcella could hear the worry in her mother's voice.

"A little." Marcella tried to sound unconcerned. "It's all right."

"You're trying to be brave," Mother said gently. "But I can see they hurt. I will try to get you some new ones soon."

"I want new shoes too!" piped up little Arvella.

Their mother picked Arvella up in a big hug. "You know your shoes are just fine," she said. Arvella's shoes were hand-me-downs from Marcella. They were worn, but at least they fit properly.

Arvella stuck her bottom lip out. "I want new shoes, too," she repeated obstinately. Marcella and her mother smiled at each other. Arvella didn't understand their difficult position, and somehow her innocence made them feel better. They talked and laughed as they ate breakfast and cleaned up.

Suddenly Mother became serious again. "Girls," she said slowly, "we need to go to town today. I have \$2.50."

Marcella couldn't believe it! That was a lot of money in





Utah in 1905.

"That's great!" she exclaimed.

She imagined the food they could buy to stock their empty shelves. Maybe she could even get new shoes!

Marcella's smile faded when she saw the tears in her mother's eyes. "We owe \$2.50 for tithing," she said softly. Then she gathered her girls around her. "I know we are almost out of food. I know that you need new shoes so badly, Marcella. But if we want the Lord to bless us, we must keep His commandments."

Then she pulled out her worn Bible and turned to Malachi. She read to the girls the Lord's promise that if they paid tithing, the windows of heaven would open to them.

"What does it mean that the windows of heaven will open?" Arvella asked.

"It means that Heavenly Father will bless us," Mother said. "It says that we will receive such a great blessing that there won't be room enough to receive

it. I know that we need the Lord's blessing now more than ever. I believe His promise."

"I believe it, too," Marcella said.

"Me too," Arvella chimed in.

"Oh, you are good girls." Mother pulled them close. "Let's pray together, and then I am going to take this money straight to the bishop."

The girls and Mother knelt. Mother asked Heavenly Father for a way to get more food for her little family and shoes for Marcella. After the prayer, they all wiped tears from their eyes. Then, with a smile, Mother said, "Let's go pay our tithing, girls!"

They walked the short distance to the bishop's house and gave him the tithing. Although her feet hurt, Marcella enjoyed the walk and the good feeling in her heart. She knew Heavenly Father would bless them.

As they approached their home, they saw Uncle Silas and Aunt Maud pulling up. Both girls ran to Uncle Silas, and he swung them high into the air.

"Hello, Sarah," Aunt Maud said, giving Mother a quick hug. "We just came to see how you and the girls are doing."

"Well," Arvella said seriously, "Marcella's shoes are too small, but we paid our tithing and it will be fine."

"Arvella!" Her mother gave her a stern look. "We're fine, Maud. How is your family?"



"Do you want the windows of heaven opened to you? Do you wish to receive blessings so great there is not room enough to receive them? Always pay your tithing and leave the outcome in the hands of the Lord."

Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Earthly Debts, Heavenly Debts," *Ensign*, May 2004, 41.

They all went into the house and chatted pleasantly. Marcella quickly took off her tight shoes and put them away. She noticed her aunt and uncle looking around the house carefully. Aunt Maud even opened a cupboard as she visited. Too soon, their visitors had to leave.

Later that afternoon, Marcella was surprised to hear a cart outside. It stopped at their home, and a delivery boy came to the door. "A delivery for Sarah Nelson," he said.

"That's my mother," Marcella said.

"But I didn't order anything," Mother objected.

Suddenly Uncle Silas appeared in the doorway next to the boy. "It's for you, Sarah," he said gently. "You can put everything here on the table," he directed the delivery boy.

The boy brought in bags of food. The girls danced around the table in delight. They hugged Uncle Silas, who quickly excused himself to go home. There was so much food! Sugar, beans, flour and cornmeal, cured meats and dried fruit—the cupboards would be full! Last of all, the delivery boy brought a small package wrapped in brown paper to the table.

After the delivery boy left, the girls approached the small package. What could be inside? First Marcella and then Arvella shook it. Then Marcella carefully pulled back the paper. Into her lap fell not one, but two pairs of shoes! Marcella picked up the largest pair and put them on. They fit perfectly, and she happily wiggled her toes in complete comfort.

Then she saw Arvella's face. Her sister had picked up the second pair of shoes and was staring at them in delight. She looked at her mother in wonder. "I thought you said I didn't need shoes, Mama," she said questioningly.

"Your old shoes would do," her mother said through her tears. "But when Heavenly Father opens the windows of heaven, you never know what might pour down." ●

Marianne Dahl Johnson is a member of the Wells Ward, Elko Nevada East Stake.





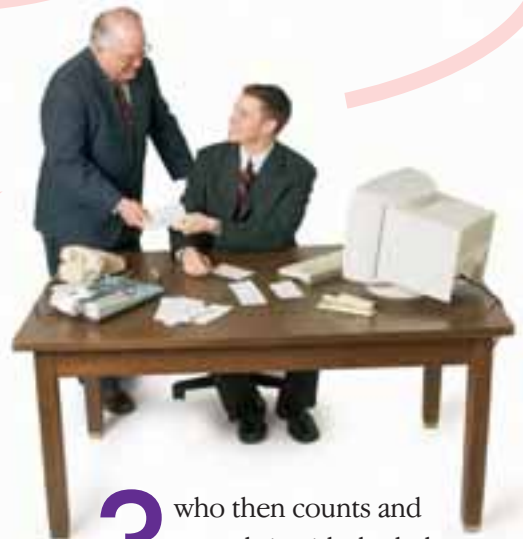
Where Does Tithing Go?



1 When we earn money, we pay 10 percent to the Lord. This is called tithing.



2 We give our tithing to the bishop or branch president or one of his counselors,



3 who then counts and records it with the help of a ward or branch clerk.



4 Then Church leaders in Salt Lake City, Utah, decide where the tithing is most needed.



7 Or maybe your tithing will help publish materials for missionary work.

5 It may be used to help build a new meetinghouse.



6 It could go toward building a new temple.



8 No matter how your tithing is spent, it helps with the Lord's work on earth.





Peach Smoothie

BY MARISSA WIDDISON

- 1 cup evaporated milk
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 cup vanilla yogurt
- 2 fresh peaches, washed, peeled, and sliced

Place all of the ingredients in a blender, cover with a lid, and blend for one minute. (If you do not have a blender, use a hand or electric beater.)

Serves 2.

Shimmering Stones

To make these “precious stones,” you will need: newspaper, a disposable foil pie tin, water, a ruler, clear nail polish, and clean, dry, smooth stones.

1. Spread the newspaper over your work area.
2. Fill the pie tin with water $\frac{3}{4}$ " (2 cm) deep.
3. Add just one drop of nail polish to the water. It will spread out over the water, forming a film.

4. Carefully hold the sides of the stone while rolling it slowly across the bottom of the pie tin.

5. Place the rock on the newspaper and let it dry completely before handling.

6. Ask a parent or another adult where to discard the leftover water. Repeat the previous steps to make another stone.





My Zoo

BY MARY RADLOFF

I'd like to have a monkey
And two white mice;
A roomful of elephants
Would be rather nice.
But while I am waiting
To capture some of these,
I have a little jar
Full of fresh green leaves.
There a cricket, a beetle,
And a small black bug
Will stay a day or two
All happy and snug!

Heavenly Father Hears Me



BY KARINE L. MAYNARD

(Based on an experience from the author's family)

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

Four-year-old Micalah had just finished scripture study with her family. They had been reading from Alma in the Book of Mormon about the Zoramites. Micalah had asked a lot of questions about how the wicked Zoramites each said the very same prayer, never really thinking about Heavenly Father or what they might want to say to Him.

After scriptures and family prayer, Micalah knelt by her mom at the side of her bed to say her own prayer to Heavenly Father. "Heavenly Father, please bless our family to be well, and please bless us to do good things. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen." It was the exact same prayer she said every night.

Mom didn't get up right away. "Micalah," she asked, "do you think that Heavenly Father listens to you when you pray?"

Micalah nodded her head earnestly.

"Do you think Heavenly Father wants to hear what you have in your heart? Or do you think He wants to hear you say the same prayer to Him every night without thinking about what you really want to tell Him?"

A small smile came over Micalah's face, and her eyebrows went up. "You mean, like the Zoramites?"

Mom smiled back. "Only a little bit like them."

Micalah thought hard, wrinkling her forehead. "I don't want to pray like the Zoramites," she said. "But how can I know what to say every time I pray?"

Mom put her arm around Micalah. "Well, before I start my prayer to Heavenly Father, I kneel down and I just think for a few minutes. I think about the things I did that day. I think about the things I'm thankful for. And I think about the problems I have that I need help



with. Then I start my prayer."

Micalah liked that idea. "I want to try again!" she announced.

Micalah and her mom knelt quietly beside each other for a few moments. Micalah thought about their trip to the park earlier that day to play and to feed the ducks. She thought of her grandma and her cousins who were visiting from out of town. She

thought of celebrating Jesus's Resurrection during Easter. She thought of many things, and then she began to pray. "Heavenly Father, thank Thee that we had fun at the park, and thank Thee for making such a beautiful earth. Thank Thee that Grandma Jolene and Julian and Lonnie are visiting. Thank Thee that Jesus died for us. Thank Thee that we were safe today, and please bless us always to be safe. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen."

When she finished her prayer, Micalah felt warm and peaceful inside. Micalah knew what that feeling was—the Holy Ghost!

She kissed her mom good-night and snuggled down under her cozy blankets. She was smiling as she closed her eyes and drifted off to sleep. She knew that Heavenly Father had heard her prayer and that He was happy she had spoken to Him from her heart. ●

Karine L. Maynard is a member of the Meridian 14th Ward, Meridian Idaho South Stake.



"We are privileged to pray daily for the small and great concerns in our lives."

President James E. Faust, Second Counselor in the First Presidency, "The Lifeline of Prayer," Ensign, May 2002, 60.



ILLUSTRATED BY BETH M. WHITTAKER

CHOOSE THE RIGHT WAY AND BE HAPPY

BY MARGARET LIFFERTH
First Counselor in the Primary General Presidency

We believe in being honest, true, chaste, benevolent, virtuous, and in doing good to all men; indeed, we may say that we follow the admonition of Paul—We believe all things, we hope all things, we have endured many things, and hope to be able to endure all things. If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy, we seek after these things (Articles of Faith 1:13).



Do you attend a CTR class in Primary? Do you have a CTR ring? Our CTR ring reminds us to choose the right. Maybe you attend a Valiant class in Primary. Do you know what it means to be valiant? To be valiant means to be strong, faithful, and brave. Have you ever had to be valiant or brave when choosing the right? As a young boy, Joseph Smith learned that choosing the right is not always easy.

When Joseph was 14, he was confused about which church to join. Joseph read that people could ask God (see James 1:5).

Joseph Smith went to a grove and knelt in prayer. Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ came to Joseph Smith and told him that he “must join none of [the churches]” (see Joseph Smith—History 1:16–19).

Joseph went home and told his mother what had happened, and she believed him. However, when Joseph related his experience to the leaders of different churches, none of them believed him.

But Joseph was valiant in telling the truth. He said, “Though I was hated and persecuted for saying that I had seen a vision, yet it was true” (Joseph Smith—History 1:25).

As we celebrate the 200th birthday of Joseph Smith this year, we can remember him and follow his example in choosing the right.

“Choose the Right” Coloring Activity

On page 20 write a sentence or draw a picture on each of the balloons that tells or shows ways you are choosing the right. Then color the picture. ●

Sharing Time Ideas

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

1. Tell the children about an important message you have received, such as the birth of a child or another happy event. How was the message sent? How would you send an important message today? Show picture 5-7 from the Primary picture packet (Statue of Angel Moroni on Temple). Who is in the picture? Why is he blowing a trumpet? What important message does he have for the world? Using material from Joseph Smith—History 1:27–67 or from the backs of GAK pictures 320 (Moroni Hides the Plates in the Hill Cumorah), 404 (Moroni Appears to Joseph Smith in His Room), 406 (Joseph Receives the Gold Plates), and 416 (Translating the Book of Mormon), tell the story of the coming forth of the Book of Mormon. (You may also use the four-minute introduction of *How Rare a Possession: The Book of Mormon* [see *A Voice from the Dust*, item no. 53144] to teach the story of Moroni hiding the plates in the Hill Cumorah.) Write questions that review the story on separate slips of paper (see TNGC, pp. 68–70) and put them in a basket or sack. Sing “The Golden Plates” (p. 86) while passing the questions up and down the row. Randomly stop the music and invite the child who is holding the bag to choose and answer a question. Continue singing and passing the questions until all have been answered.

For older children: Assign each class and its teacher a chapter from the Book of Mormon to review. With the help of the teacher, have each child identify a brief doctrine in the chapter that would be a great message to the world.

For younger children: Post several GAK or Primary packet pictures that teach gospel principles on the board. Let children give gospel messages based on one of the pictures.

2. Ahead of time, invite two or three ward members approved by the bishop to share their testimonies of the blessing of paying tithing. Teach the principle of tithing. Point out that tithing is one of the basic requirements in the Faith in God program (see *Faith in God* guidebook, p. 4). Sing verse one of “I Want to Give the Lord My Tenth” (p. 150). Ask “What are ‘all the gifts He gives to me and you?’” Arrange for a member of the bishopric to use objects and pictures to point out all the things paid for with tithing money (for example, churches, temples, hymnbooks, lesson manuals, pianos, etc.). Give each child a tithing form and teach him or her how to fill it out. Explain that we pay our tithing to a member of the bishopric and meet with one of them for tithing settlement. Sing verse two of “I Want to Give the Lord My Tenth.” Ask “How does paying our tithing ‘show [our] faith and gratitude?’” Introduce ward members who are prepared to share their testimonies of tithing and invite them to share their experiences. Sing “Choose the Right Way” (pp. 160–61).

3. Help the children sing or say the thirteenth article of faith (*Children's Songbook*, pp. 132–33). Repeat the first line: “We believe in being honest.” Joseph Smith understood that it is not always easy to tell the truth. Tell in your own words of the persecution suffered by Joseph Smith as he told the truth regarding the First Vision. Refer to Joseph Smith—History 1:21–26. Discuss what this story has to do with being “honest with Heavenly Father, others, and myself” (see My Gospel Standards, *Faith in God* guidebook, back cover). In Joseph Smith—History 1:33, Moroni told Joseph Smith that his name “should be had for good and evil among all nations.” What does that mean? How might our own names be had for good or evil because of our membership in the Church? Prepare four or five case studies (see TNGC, pp. 161–62) in which children must

choose to be “honest with Heavenly Father, others, and [themselves]” as they live the commandments. Issues appropriate for your Primary might include modesty in dress, Word of Wisdom, and honesty in school. Divide the children into four or five groups and give each group a case study. With simple puppets (see TNGC, pp. 176–77) or by role playing (see TNGC, p. 178), let each group demonstrate their case study. When they get to the point where a choice must be made, invite other children to help them choose the outcome. Discuss how their name might “be had for good and evil” because of their choice, acknowledging that being honest and choosing the right is not always easy or popular. Sing “I Believe in Being Honest” (p. 149).

4. Explain that a person's name is important, both to the person and to those who love him or her. Tell the children about your name and its significance. What does it mean? Were you named after someone? Invite two or three children to tell what they know about their names. Have the children recite Exodus 20:7 or the following from My Gospel Standards: “I will use the names of Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ reverently. I will not swear or use crude words.” To help us remember Him, Jesus Christ is known by many names. Assemble the following items on a tray: 1) rock, 2) bread, 3) vine or a picture of one, 4) drawing or picture of sun, 5) small world globe or GAK 600 (The World), 6) GAK 403 (The First Vision), 7) representation of shepherd's staff or small sheep, 8) GAK 227 (Jesus Praying in Gethsemane), and 9) crown. (Each of these items represents a name of Jesus Christ found in the following scripture references: Rock—Helaman 5:12, Bread of Life—John 6:47–48, Vine—John 15:5, Light of the World—John 8:12, Creator—Mosiah 3:8, Beloved Son—Joseph Smith—History 1:17, Good Shepherd—John 10:11, Savior—D&C 43:34, King—D&C 45:59.) Use the objects, pictures, and scriptures to explain the names of Jesus and that each name helps us understand what He has done for us. Sing “Sacred Names of Jesus” (*Friend*, Apr. 1998, 34–35). Tell the story of President Kimball respecting the Lord's name as told in “Respect His Name,” *Friend*, Jan. 2000, 48–49. Remind the children that when we are baptized and when we take the sacrament, we take the Lord's name upon us. Bear testimony that we keep our covenants as we use the names of Heavenly Father and Jesus reverently and by not swearing or using crude words. Sing “I Want to Live the Gospel” (p. 148).

5. This month is the 10th anniversary of when “The Family: A Proclamation to the World” was first given (see *Ensign*, Nov. 1995, 102). The proclamation teaches us how to be happy in our families. Read two sentences from the proclamation, beginning with “Happiness in family life” and ending with “wholesome recreational activities.” Prepare nine bags that include the following: 1) a copy of a song from the *Children's Songbook* that teaches about one of the principles from the proclamation; 2) a piece of paper for each child in the group; and 3) crayons or markers. Divide the children into nine groups and give each group a bag. Ask them to read the words to the song. Have the children each decide on one thing they can do to increase happiness in their own families and draw pictures of it.

6. *Friend* references: “Getting into the Scriptures,” Feb. 1998, 36–37; “I Know the Scriptures Are True,” Jan. 1998, 24–25, insert; “Follow Me,” July 2003, 36–37; “Tithing,” Sept. 2002, 7; “Opening the Windows of Heaven,” Oct. 2000, IFC; “You Are a Child of God,” May 2003, 2–6; “We Believe in You!” May 2004, 2–3; “From Latter-day Prophets: Lorenzo Snow,” July 2001, 17; “Honesty: A Moral Compass,” Nov. 2001, 2–3. These references and others can be found at www.lds.org. Click on Gospel Library.

Thirteenth Article of Faith Word Search

Look up the thirteenth article of faith and fill in the missing words below. Then search up, down, across, backwards, and diagonally for the words in the puzzle.

“We believe in being _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, and in doing _____ to all men; indeed, we may say that we follow the _____ of Paul—We _____ all things, we _____ all things, we have _____ many things, and hope to be able to endure all things. If there is anything virtuous, _____, or of good _____ or _____, we seek after these _____” (Articles of Faith 1:13).



| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| D | K | Y | V | K | U | O | L | O | T | G | R | S | X | G |
| A | H | O | P | E | Y | J | I | Q | N | A | N | U | M | E |
| J | C | G | M | T | E | R | J | T | I | E | L | I | B | U |
| H | C | D | V | Q | G | C | R | S | I | Y | S | Z | H | R |
| E | N | D | U | R | E | D | E | L | E | N | U | T | K | T |
| C | P | C | Z | E | C | W | O | V | J | B | O | K | I | D |
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| A | U | R | A | R | E | I | D | Z | D | V | T | G | D | U |
| S | K | S | T | L | L | T | R | O | P | E | R | N | C | A |
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Journey to the Temple

A game with 4 or more players BY BEVERLY J. AHLSTROM

1. Remove pages 24–25 from the magazine and mount on heavy paper. Write numbers 1 through 20 on slips of paper and put them in a sack.

2. Divide the players into two “families” and give each player a marker that matches his or her family. One family could use different colored scraps of paper and the other family different buttons. Choose a player to go first.

3. The first player draws a number and follows the instructions for that number on the board. That player can share moves

with other family members if he or she wishes. For example, a player awarded three spaces can move one space and let two family members move one space each. Then a player of the opposing family takes a turn and so on until every player has had a turn. If the teams are uneven, one family can take two turns in a row. If you run out of numbers, reuse them.

4. After reaching the temple, a player can still draw numbers and share the moves with the family. The first family to get all of its members to the temple wins.

1. If you said family prayers yesterday, the whole family can move ahead 2 spaces.

2. Were you on time to church? If yes, move ahead 1 space.

3. Tell one thing you learned in church this week and move ahead 1 space.

4. Explain what the Word of Wisdom is and move ahead 2 spaces.

5. Tell about your favorite Book of Mormon story and move ahead 3 spaces.

6. If you didn't fight with your family members today, move ahead 2 spaces.



7. Tell about a time when you told the truth and move ahead 2 spaces.

8. Name three cities where there are temples and move ahead 3 spaces.

9. Tell your favorite story about Jesus and move ahead 3 spaces.

10. Do you believe that President Gordon B. Hinckley is a true prophet, or are you praying to know if he is? If yes, move ahead 3 spaces.

11. If you read the scriptures yesterday, move ahead 2 spaces.

12. Did you listen during church? If so, move ahead 1 space.

13. Explain why it is important to pay tithing and move ahead 2 spaces.

14. Explain how you can choose good entertainment—books, movies, and music—that are clean. Move ahead 1 space.

15. Sing a song about families or the temple and move ahead 2 spaces.

16. If you've been trying hard to be reverent in church, move ahead 2 spaces.

17. If you have been kind to animals this week, move ahead 1 space.

18. Name one time today when you were obedient to your parents or the commandments and move ahead 3 spaces.

19. Explain how you feel when you see the temple and move ahead 1 space.

20. Tell something you like about each member of your real family, and each member of your game family can move ahead 2 spaces.

Start



Mixed-up Animals

BY CALLIE BUYS

Noah loaded animals onto the ark to save them from the flood (see Genesis 7). Look up each of the scripture references below and find the animal or animals that it mentions. Then draw a line from the animal to the correct reference. You can learn more about Noah and the animals on the ark by reading Genesis 6–8.



Genesis 1:25

Genesis 22:8

Judges 14:8

Psalms 59:6

Isaiah 11:6

Matthew 7:6

Matthew 25:32

Genesis 8:8

Exodus 19:4

Psalms 32:9

Job 38:41

Isaiah 11:7

Matthew 19:24



We Fly High!

DANIEL, STEVEN, AND ALYSA SMITH
OF JULIAN, CALIFORNIA

BY LARENE PORTER GAUNT
Church Magazines

A sign in the Smiths' front yard says "Smiths' Blissful Acres." Blissful means "happy," and the Smiths have found that working and playing together make them happy. They live in a house that was once a barn on 10 acres (4 ha) amid brush-covered hills. Here you'll find a tree house with a rope swing, a pond with canoes, a vegetable garden, a fruit orchard, steers, chickens, and a big dog named Rascal. You'll also find ten-year-old Daniel, eight-year-old Steven, and six-year-old Alysa Smith. They have four older brothers, an older sister,



Top: Daniel, Steven, and Alysa love their dog, Rascal.

Above: Steven on the rope swing at the tree house.



Alysa and Steven climb the ladder to their tree house.

and lots of cousins. They love being part of a large family.

On Saturday, October 25, 2003, a small fire started 18 miles from the Smiths' home. But in a few days the wind had turned the small fire into the largest fire in the history of California. By Tuesday, the fire was burning toward Smiths' Blissful Acres.

"The sky was orange," Alysa says, "and the sun looked dark red. We wore masks over our noses and

mouths because of the smoke and ash in the air."

Daniel, Steven, and Alysa packed their clothes and stuffed animals. Because it feared the fire, "one of our steers broke the chain on his halter and went under the fence," Daniel says. "Rascal helped us get the steer back into the corral."

When the Smiths had to evacuate, they had to leave the steers and chickens behind. "We raise the steers to sell and pay for our missions," Steven says. "We were scared that everything would burn."

Before they left, the Smiths knelt in family prayer. "We prayed for the Lord to bless us and our house and animals," says Daniel, Steven, and Alysa's dad, Jeff. "We had done all we could do and then left it in Heavenly Father's hands."

"We felt better after our prayer," Steven says. "I felt the Spirit. Mom helped us feel calm, too."

At 7:30 p.m. the Smiths got into their two cars and a truck to drive the 30 minutes to a friend's house in the desert. "Rascal wouldn't get in the car," Alysa says. "Some of us were crying, and we were scared Rascal would die in the fire."



Daniel and Steven help take care of the chickens.

The firefighters worked for four days to protect the town of Julian from the fire. One firefighter died. More than 700 houses burned in the hills around Julian, but the town was saved.

Though the roaring fire raced toward Smiths' Blissful Acres, the firefighters stopped it two miles before it got there. When the Smiths came home on Saturday, they were so happy that the animals and the house were safe. But Rascal was still missing. Five days later, a man from the animal control center called and said Rascal was there.

"When my mom brought Rascal home, we all jumped on him and hugged him," Daniel says. "We were so happy."

During the weeks after the fire, Daniel, Steven, and Alysa helped at the disaster center in Julian. As people

donated clothing and supplies, and others sorted the donations into boxes, the Smith children carried the boxes up or down the stairs to the assigned areas.

Since the fire, the Smiths are more grateful than ever for their family, home, and the Church. They express gratitude in their family prayers at the beginning and end of every day. After the prayer, the Smiths have a family tradition. They put their feet in the center of the family circle, pile their hands on top of each other's hands, and say, "We love everybody." Then they raise their arms and hands over their heads and shout, "We fly high!"—a reminder that with the gospel and each other, they can become better every day.

And Daniel, Steven, and Alysa do "fly high" because working and playing together makes them and their family strong. ●



The Smith family



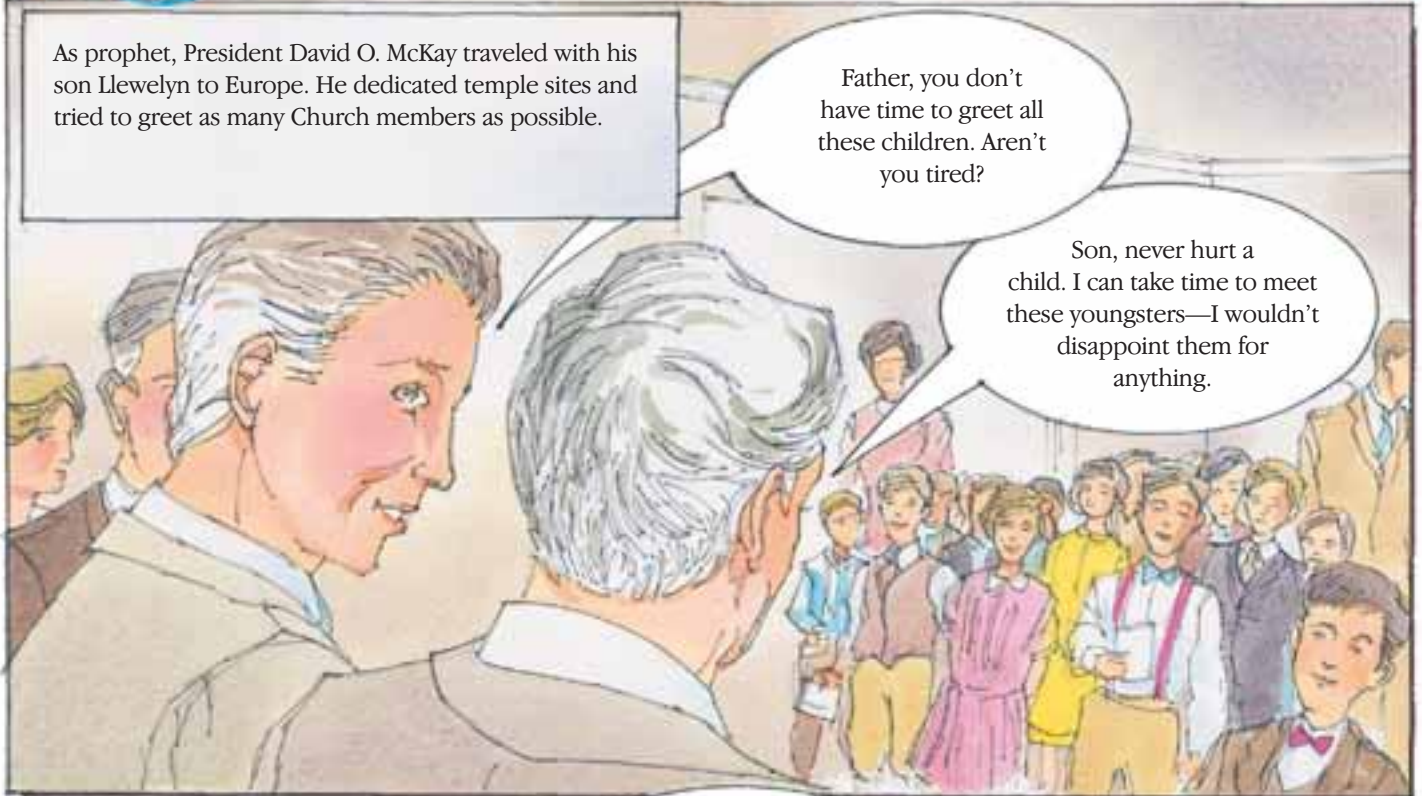
FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT DAVID O. MCKAY

The Girl in the Blue Dress

As prophet, President David O. McKay traveled with his son Llewelyn to Europe. He dedicated temple sites and tried to greet as many Church members as possible.

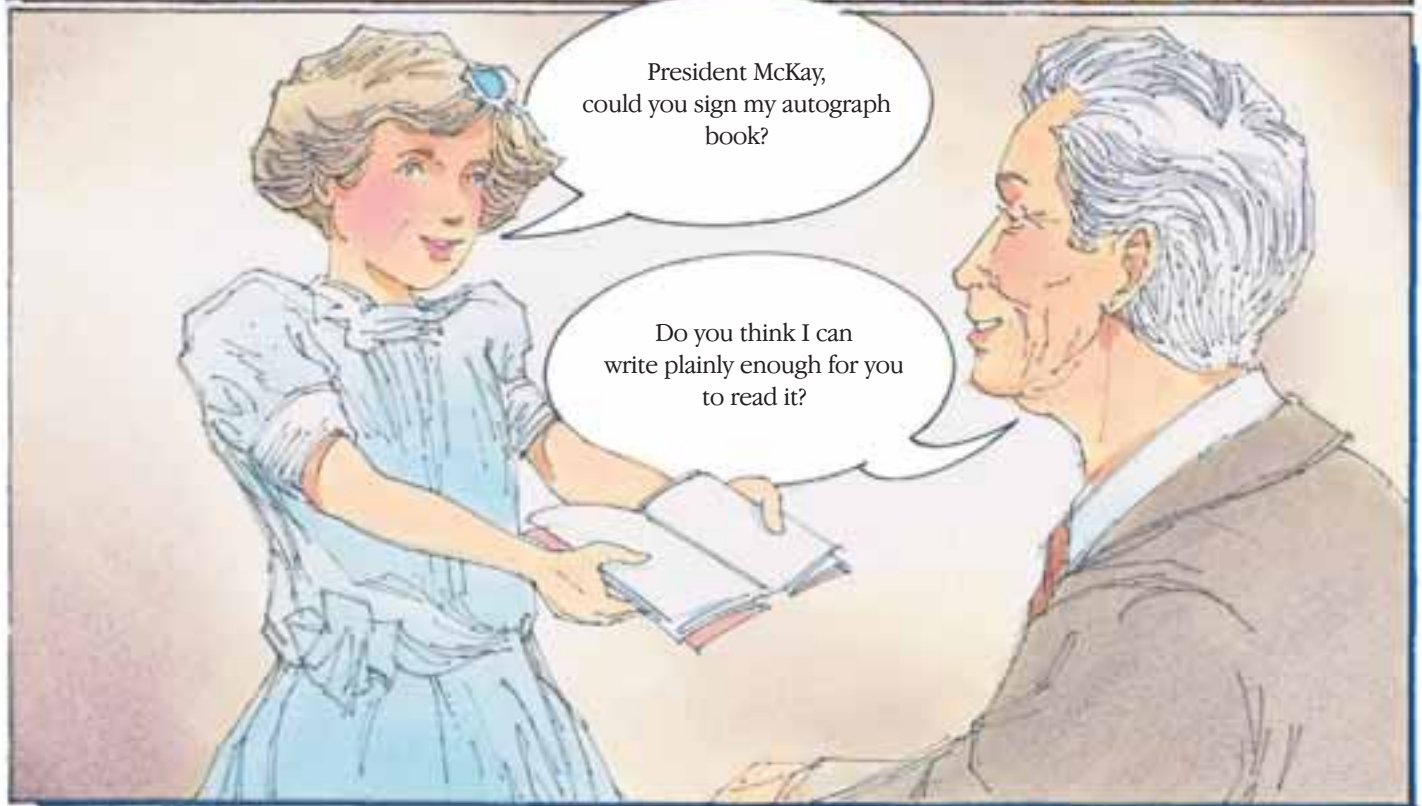
Father, you don't have time to greet all these children. Aren't you tired?

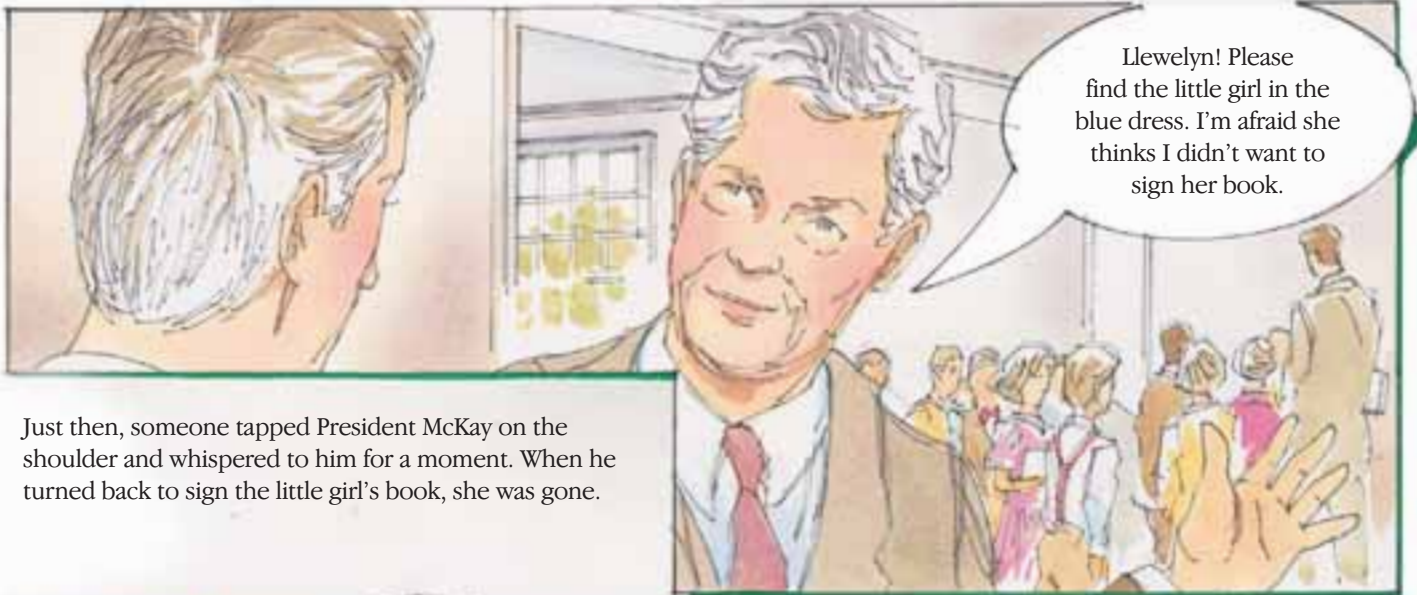
Son, never hurt a child. I can take time to meet these youngsters—I wouldn't disappoint them for anything.



President McKay, could you sign my autograph book?

Do you think I can write plainly enough for you to read it?





Just then, someone tapped President McKay on the shoulder and whispered to him for a moment. When he turned back to sign the little girl's book, she was gone.

Llewelyn! Please find the little girl in the blue dress. I'm afraid she thinks I didn't want to sign her book.

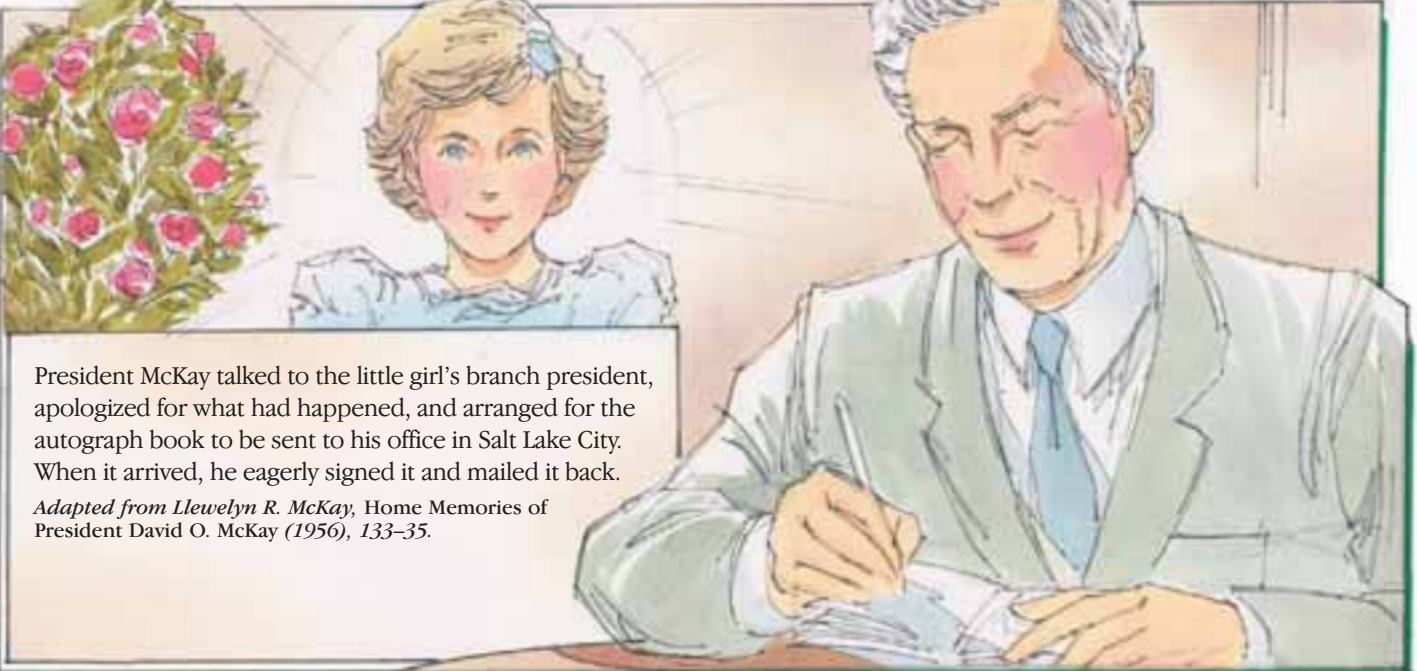


Others helped Llewelyn search, but the little girl was nowhere to be found. On their way to London, Llewelyn and President McKay traveled with a group of missionaries. President McKay told them about the little girl in the blue dress.

I wish we could have found her.

President McKay, we think we know who she is. We'll talk to her branch president, and he'll phone you this evening.

Wonderful!



President McKay talked to the little girl's branch president, apologized for what had happened, and arranged for the autograph book to be sent to his office in Salt Lake City. When it arrived, he eagerly signed it and mailed it back.

Adapted from Llewelyn R. McKay, Home Memories of President David O. McKay (1956), 133-35.

Seth's Family Scripture Study





BY ANA NELSON SHAW

(Based on experiences from the author's family)

For I did liken all scriptures unto us, that it might be for our profit and learning (1 Nephi 19:23).

Seth was confused when Mom and Dad announced that they were going to read the Book of Mormon as a family. He was only four, and his brother Caleb was two. They were too little to read. So how could they read as a family?

After Seth and Caleb climbed into bed that night in early autumn, Mom and Dad sat by the bedroom door with their scriptures open.

“This is just how my mom read the Book of Mormon to me when I was little,” Mom said. “There are no pictures for you to look at in this book. But you can imagine the pictures in your minds.”

Seth's parents took turns reading. Sometimes they stopped to explain things. They read from the Book of Mormon every night. Some nights, Seth fell asleep before they finished reading. Caleb almost always did.

“That's OK,” Dad said. “Just listen as long as you can, and enjoy the peaceful feeling.”

Seth did feel peaceful listening to the Book of Mormon, most nights. Other times, he didn't feel like listening. Sometimes he interrupted with stories about preschool, or ideas he had for Halloween or Christmas or his birthday in February.

“Seth,” Dad said, “you can ask questions, but they have to be about the Book of Mormon.”

Seth wanted to talk. He didn't want Mom and Dad to do all the talking. So he started to listen and tried to think of questions to ask. He started to imagine the pictures in his mind—Nephi building a boat, Lehi blessing his sons. Soon, he realized there really were things he wanted to know.

“Who is Satan?” he asked one night.

Mom and Dad closed their scriptures and explained how Satan was a son of Heavenly Father who would not obey. He was so angry at Heavenly Father he couldn't live with Him anymore. Then he was so mad that he wanted everybody else to feel miserable like him.



“Satan wants us to make bad choices so that we'll feel bad inside,” Dad explained. “Sometimes he will try to tempt you to do bad things. But you can tell him no. You can choose the right.” Seth felt strong, knowing that he could tell Satan no and follow Jesus instead.

A few months later, on a rainy winter night, Seth listened to the story of the Lamanites being taught by the great missionary, Ammon. The Lamanites buried their weapons and promised Heavenly Father that they wouldn't fight anymore. Seth thought about how he sometimes argued with Caleb, who was already asleep in his bed. Suddenly, he had an idea.

“Dad,” he asked, “how can I make a promise to Heavenly Father?”

Dad stopped reading and looked up at Seth. “You can pray to Him and tell Him you want to do better,” he replied. “You can make a promise to Him anytime. And when you are eight, you'll make a really big promise. That's when you'll be baptized, and promise to try to do

what's right for the rest of your life."

"But I can still promise now?"

"Sure you can."

One night, after Seth's fifth birthday, Dad started reading the story of 2,000 young men, the stripling warriors, who decided to fight to defend their parents, the people of Ammon. As Mom began to read, her voice got quiet.

When Seth looked over at her, she was crying.

"Why are you crying, Mom?" he asked.

"I started reading about these boys and how good they are, and how Heavenly Father took care of them. And I looked at you listening to the Book of Mormon, and I thought about how much you want to be good and make promises to Heavenly Father."

"And you got sad?"

"No, I got happy! I think you are like the boys in this story. You are determined to do what is right! You will have hard battles in your life. Remember how Satan wants you to feel bad?" she asked. Seth did remember. "But you will fight against him, and Heavenly Father will take care of you, just like He took care of the boys in this story."

They read about Jesus visiting the Nephites. Seth was very quiet as Dad read about Christ taking each little child in His arms and blessing him or her. Seth had a picture in his room of Jesus surrounded by little children. He could imagine himself right there, hugging Jesus and feeling His hands on his head blessing him, just like Dad blessed him when he was sick with the flu.

Seth was so quiet that Mom thought he was asleep. "Seth, are you awake?" she whispered.



"Yes. Keep reading," Seth replied.

Near the end of the summer, Seth's family had a special family home evening to read the last chapter of the Book of Mormon.

"I first read the Book of Mormon when I was getting ready to go on a mission," Dad said. "The Holy Ghost told me it was true. But you boys are learning about the

Book of Mormon while you are young. You can learn that it is true right now."

Mom said that since they had been reading as a family, she felt happier in their home. "I've noticed Seth and Caleb are more obedient. And I don't feel like yelling or scolding. I think the Book of Mormon has helped our family."

Seth remembered the stories he had heard and the pictures he had imagined. He remembered the peace he felt as he went to sleep every night listening to Mom and Dad read. He remembered being able to imagine himself with Jesus. "I feel good about the Book of Mormon," he said. ●

Ana Nelson Shaw is a member of the Merced First Ward, Merced California Stake.



"Never let a day go by without holding family prayer and family scripture study. . . . See if it does not bless your home with greater peace, hope, love, and faith."

Elder L. Tom Perry of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Back to Gospel Basics," Ensign, May 1993, 92.



Getting to Know Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin

To learn more about Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, choose from the list of words below to complete the crossword puzzle.

- corrected eight friend operettas sports
dinner father Nelson senior typewriter

Across

5. Elder Wirthlin had a beautiful singing voice as a child, and even performed in _____ in elementary and junior high school.
8. Elder Wirthlin ran his family business with integrity. One time, a supplier accidentally charged the business too little money for their merchandise. Instead of keeping the money, Elder Wirthlin _____ the bill and paid the higher cost.
9. Elder Russell M. _____ and Elder Wirthlin served in the same stake presidency before they became General Authorities.



10. As he got older, he enjoyed playing _____. He won the Intermountain Foul-Pitching Contest in basketball, which today would be called a free throw contest, and was called "Mr. Touchdown" by his high school football team.



Down

1. Every Sunday night around the _____ table, Elder Wirthlin would ask his children what they learned from the Sunday School lesson that day.
2. The Wirthlins have _____ children.

3. Elder Wirthlin tries to be at work before 7 a.m. each day! His daughter remembers that every morning he used to wake up early and type his day's schedule on a _____.

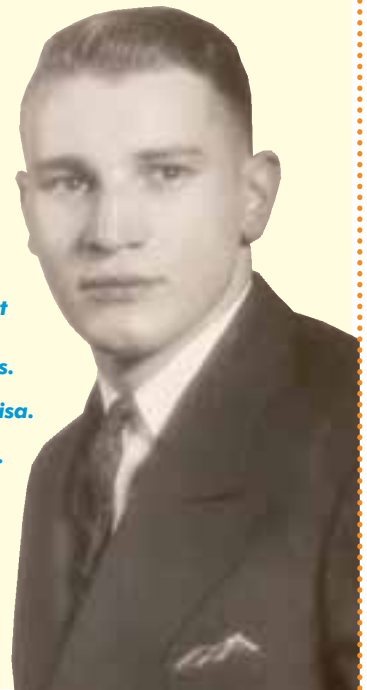
4. As a young man, Elder Wirthlin worked at Wirthlin, Inc., a wholesale food business that his _____ owned. Elder Wirthlin later ran the business, and his children worked there as well.

6. Elder Wirthlin married his younger sister's best friend, Elisa. Elder Wirthlin's younger sister married his best _____, Thomas.

7. Elder Wirthlin gave up his _____ year of football at the University of Utah to serve a mission.

(See Ensign, Nov. 1986, 95-96; Ensign, Dec. 1986, 8-13.)

1. Elder Wirthlin at age 5 with his parents and sisters.
2. With his wife, Elisa.
3. As a missionary.



Our Creative Friends

Smiles Go Round

I like to smile.
I like to grin.
I like to be happy-hearted.
For smiles and grins and happiness
Come back to where they started.

*Colette Prusse, age 7
Littleton, Colorado*

Going on a Mission

Because I like my dad a lot,
I really want to stand and talk.
The plane is waiting; I must fly.
I tell my mom that I will try.

Flying over the sea so blue,
I'm not afraid. I know what's true.
The Spirit takes me far from home,
But I will never be alone.

With my companion I walk a lot.
Sometimes it is very hot.
I meet new people on the street.
I teach the gospel, oh so sweet.

*James Walker, age 8
Kingston, New York*

Jesus Christ

J esus Christ
E very power of heaven
S unlight
U niter
S hows us the way

C hosen One
H ow we get to heaven
R ight way
I s my Redeemer.
S traight and narrow path
T he Savior

*Jack Dietze, age 7
Lowesoft, Suffolk, England*

Try, Try Again

Don't be mad.
Don't be sad.
Just try again
And then be glad.

*Keiara Matthews, age 5
Columbia, Maryland*

Heavenly Father's Colors

The tree limbs are brown, and so are the hills.
The moon is bright orange, and so are ducks' bills.
The clouds are white, as white as can be.
The sun is yellow; it helps us see.
The grass is green, the sky is blue.
Heavenly Father's colors were made for you.

*Kyle Huntsman, age 8
LaGrande, Oregon*

Ancestors

Some people have amazing ancestors who did great things, but that doesn't make their children exactly like them. Take me, for instance. My great-great-grandpa was President Wilford Woodruff, a prophet in his day. But I know I need to work hard to become more like him. I've done things that I definitely regret and need to repent of. So no matter who your ancestor is, you must still gain your own faith and trust in God and do service for friends and family. You can become great to your children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

*Emily T. G. Woodruff, age 11
Tofield, Alberta, Canada*

Those Days

Those days He created earth.
He created birds that fly, flowers, bushes, and the sky.
He created dogs, cats, hogs, and rats.
He created oxen, bears, foxes, and hares.
Those days He created giant trees,
And, last of all, He created you and me.

*James Gale, age 9
Birmingham, Alabama*



*Laura Priest, age 12
Dubuque, Iowa*



*Natasba Fenn, age 7
Rancho Cucamonga, California*



*Nathan Randall, age 6
Enterprise, Utah*



*Elisabeth Hill, age 3
Newnan, Georgia*



*Daniel Keeley, age 11
Cullingworth, West Yorkshire,
England*



*Rachel Kunde, age 11
Iona, Idaho*



*Wong Mun Keat, age 8
Malaysia*



*Samuel Norton, age 10
Sandy, Utah*



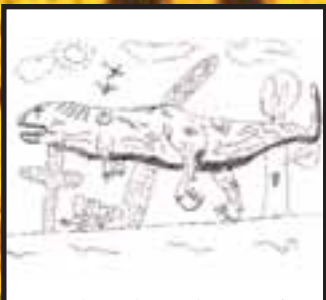
*Chrystel Bardsley, age 9
Mapleton, Utah*



*Holly Deeks, age 10
Toronto, Ontario, Canada*



*Remington Hercules, age 6
Arlington, Texas*



*Jaden Jake Poulter, age 6
Albuquerque, New Mexico*



*Sobbie Wardle, age 5
Shanghai, China*



*Jade Carver, age 5
Gulf Breeze, Florida*



*Laine Miller, age 7
Colbert, Washington*



*Dan Hainsworth, age 11
Columbia, Missouri*



*Denisha Gordon, age 8
Enoch, Utah*



*Cameron Liechty, age 8
Mesa, Arizona*



*Jayne Cramer, age 11
Castle Rock, Colorado*



*Jared Knighton, age 10
Freeport, Maine*



*Samantha Boss, age 5
Saginaw, Michigan*



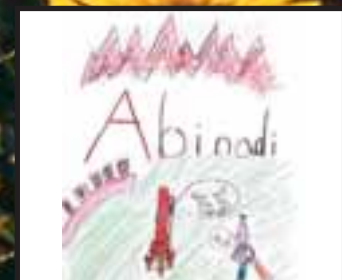
*Maren French, age 4
Cheyenne, Wyoming*



*Hunter Grant Jobnson, age 8
Hixson, Tennessee*



*Dallen Abernathy, age 11
Santee, California*



*Zac Zaccardi, age 8
Berkeley Heights, New Jersey*



Trying to Be Like Jesus

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

I Will Seek Good Friends and Treat Others Kindly*

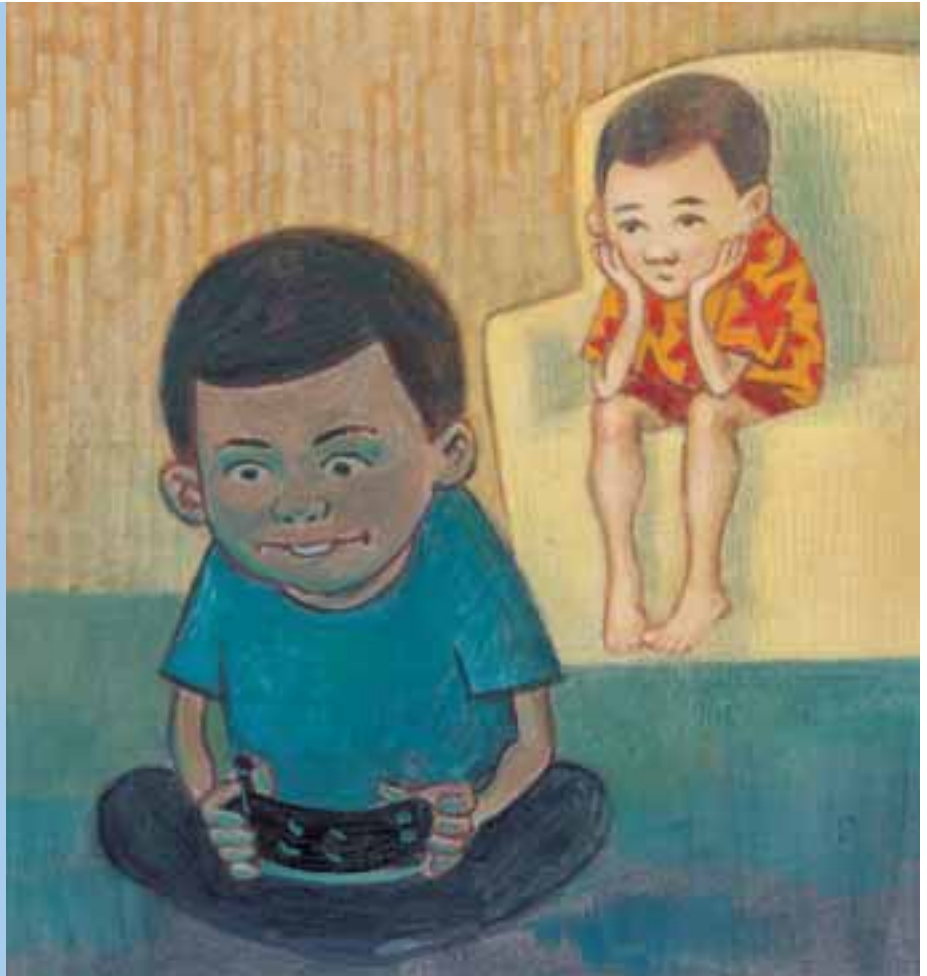
By Makai Tauilili



I can be like Jesus by being nice to my friends. One of my friends has a lot of video games. While I was at his

house one day, he kept playing games without giving me a turn. I wanted to play, too, and I felt like whining and complaining. But I remembered that my mom had told me complaining wasn't nice. So I let him play and waited my turn. I try to be like Jesus so I can live with Him and Heavenly Father again.

Makai Tauilili, age 6, is a member of the Pesega Fifth Ward, Pesega Samoa Stake.



Ten Points

By Casey A. Crowley

One night, my family was playing a game about geography. My sister and I were playing against our two brothers. There was an outline of the United States on the game board. The person whose turn it was had to name the state my dad pointed to. If that person couldn't answer the question, his or her



partner could help. There was a U.S. map on the wall, but we weren't supposed to look at it during our turn. Once while my sister was trying to remember her state, I glanced at the map and saw the name of the state next to hers. Soon Dad pointed at the state that I had seen, and I named it. I felt bad. I knew that I shouldn't have looked.



After we named all the states we could, my dad added up the points. We got eleven points, and

my dad was about to write it down, but I said, "No, ten points! I looked at the map."

My dad said, "Wow, thanks for being honest."

We still lost the game, but I was happy that I told the truth.

Casey A. Crowley, age 10, is a member of the Midvale Eighth Ward, Midvale Utah Stake.

Avoiding Evil

By Summer Rodgers with help from her mom



The other day I was playing outside with my younger brother. As I was walking on the grass outside our apartment, I spotted something pink and shiny. I picked it up and saw that it was a pen with pictures of naked women on it. I remembered the story about

pornography in the March 2004 *Friend* that my mom read to us during family home evening just two weeks ago. I immediately threw the pen over the fence and ran upstairs to tell my mom what happened. My mom asked me to show her where the pen was so that she could throw it away where no one else might find it. I felt good inside and knew that the Holy Ghost helped me to choose the right.

Summer Rodgers, age 6, is a member of the Middleburg Ward, Jacksonville Florida West Stake.



Following the Prophet

By the Dimmick family

For several months our family had been planning a vacation to a theme park. We had been doing chores and saving our allowance to have spending money. We were counting the days.



At the beginning of May, we held a family council where Mom reviewed our family budget and explained that money was tight. Dad presented a travel budget, and we realized that we couldn't go on the trip without going into debt. We had a hard decision to make. We could go to the park and add to our debt, or wait until we could pay it off and save enough for next year. We talked about the prophet's counsel to get out of debt and stay out of debt. Although it was a very difficult decision and some of us even cried, we chose to wait till next year.

We still wish we could go this year, but we are happy that we are following the prophet and know that we will be blessed for doing it.

The Dimmicks are members of the Aguadilla Ward, Mayaguez Puerto Rico Stake.





The Lord's Wind

BY ELDER JOHN H. GROBERG
OF THE SEVENTY

Men should . . . do many things of their own free will, and bring to pass much righteousness (D&C 58:27).

As a young missionary, I was assigned to a group of seventeen small islands in the South Pacific. One day a member told us that if we would be at a certain harbor on a particular island when the sun set the next day, a family would meet us there and listen to the discussions.

What joy that news brought! It was like finding a piece of gold. I quickly found four other members who were experienced sailors who agreed to take me to this island the next day.

We made good progress for a few hours, but as the sun climbed higher and the boat got farther from land, the wind began to play out and soon quit altogether, leaving us bobbing aimlessly on a smooth ocean.

Time passed. The sun got higher, the sea calmer. Nothing moved. We soon realized that unless something changed, we would not arrive by sundown. I suggested that we pray and plead with the Lord to send some wind. I offered a prayer. When I finished, things seemed calmer than ever. We continued drifting.

I thought, "There is a family at the harbor that wants to hear the gospel. We are here in the middle of the ocean and want to teach them. The Lord controls the elements [weather]. All that stands between us and the family is a little wind. Why won't He send it? It's a righteous desire."

As I was so wondering, I noticed [a] faithful older brother move to the rear of the boat. He unlashed the



tiny lifeboat and carefully lowered it over the side.

He looked at me and softly said, "Get in. I am going to row you to shore, and we need to leave now to make it by sundown."

I was dumbfounded [speechless]. It was miles to shore. The sun was hot, and this man was old.

The old man did not look up, rest, or talk, but hour after hour he rowed and rowed and rowed.

Just as the sun dipped into the ocean, the skiff [boat] touched the shore of the harbor. A family was waiting. The old man spoke for the first time in hours and said, "Go. Teach them the truth. I'll wait here."

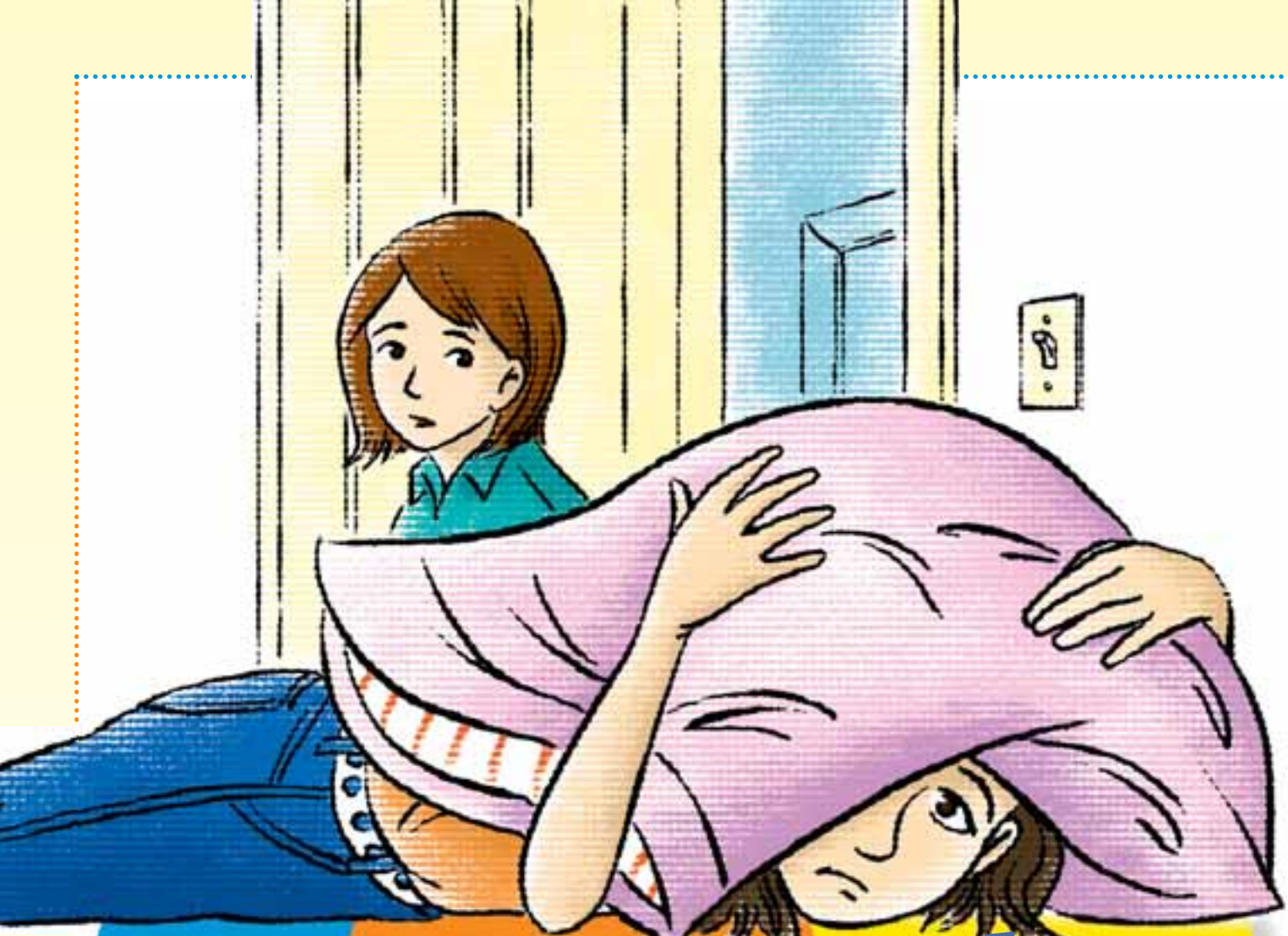
I told the family, "When we exercise faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, we can do things we could not otherwise do. When our hearts are determined to do right, the Lord gives us the power to do so."

The family believed and eventually was baptized.

How often do we not do more because we pray for wind and none comes? We pray for good things and they don't seem to happen, so we sit and wait and do no more. We should always pray for help, but we should always listen for inspiration and impressions [promptings] to proceed in ways different from those we may have thought of. On the boat, five men prayed, but only one heard and acted. God does hear our prayers. God knows more than we do. We should never stop moving because we think our way is barred [blocked] or the only door we can go through is closed.

Our responsibility is to ask, "What more can I do?" then listen for the answer, and do it! ●

(Adapted from "The Lord's Wind," Ensign, Nov. 1993, 26–28.)



No Matter What

BY HEIDI LEWIS

(Based on an experience from the author's family)

Till I die I will not remove mine integrity from me (Job 27:5).

Today is the *worst* day of my life!" Becky cried as she ran straight to her room.

A few minutes later, Mom came in. "What happened at school today, Becky? What's wrong?"

"Oh, Mom, it's just horrible," Becky said. "You know how hard I've been working on my community service project for school?"

"Yes. The children at the shelter will really appreciate the extra help with their homework and the used books you've been collecting," Mom said.

Becky nodded. "Well, a little while ago I told Elisabeth about my project. She was having a hard time

thinking of one, so I thought it would help her get her own idea. But today, when she presented her project, it was my project idea! I'm supposed to present mine tomorrow, and everyone will think I copied her!"

"I'm sorry, Becky. I bet you really feel bad." Mom hugged Becky tightly.

"I feel worse than bad, Mom. I feel so mad. I thought she was my friend! How could she do this?"

"That is a hard question. What do you think?"

Becky frowned. "Sometimes it seems like it's more important to get a good grade or have people think you are cool than to be honest. I don't think Elisabeth even feels bad at all. Maybe I should copy someone else's project, too. Or maybe I should embarrass

Elisabeth in front of the whole school!”

“You wouldn’t really want to do that, would you, Becky?” Mom asked.

Becky buried her head under her pillow and moaned. “No.”

“Why?” Mom asked.

“In Primary we learned about the six Bs that President Hinckley taught. One of them was to be true. Sister MacArthur said that meant that we should have integrity—that we should do what’s right, no matter what,” Becky said.

“That’s right,” Mom said. “Integrity means you are incorruptible—that no one can make you do the wrong thing.”

“Nobody’s incorruptible, Mom!” Becky exclaimed.

“I don’t know about that, Becky. The scriptures teach us about some people who were. One of them was Job. Even though he lost his riches, his

health, and even his family, he said, ‘Till I die I will not remove mine integrity from me.’* His example showed that no matter what happens, you still have control over the way you respond.”

“Are there any other examples?” Becky asked.

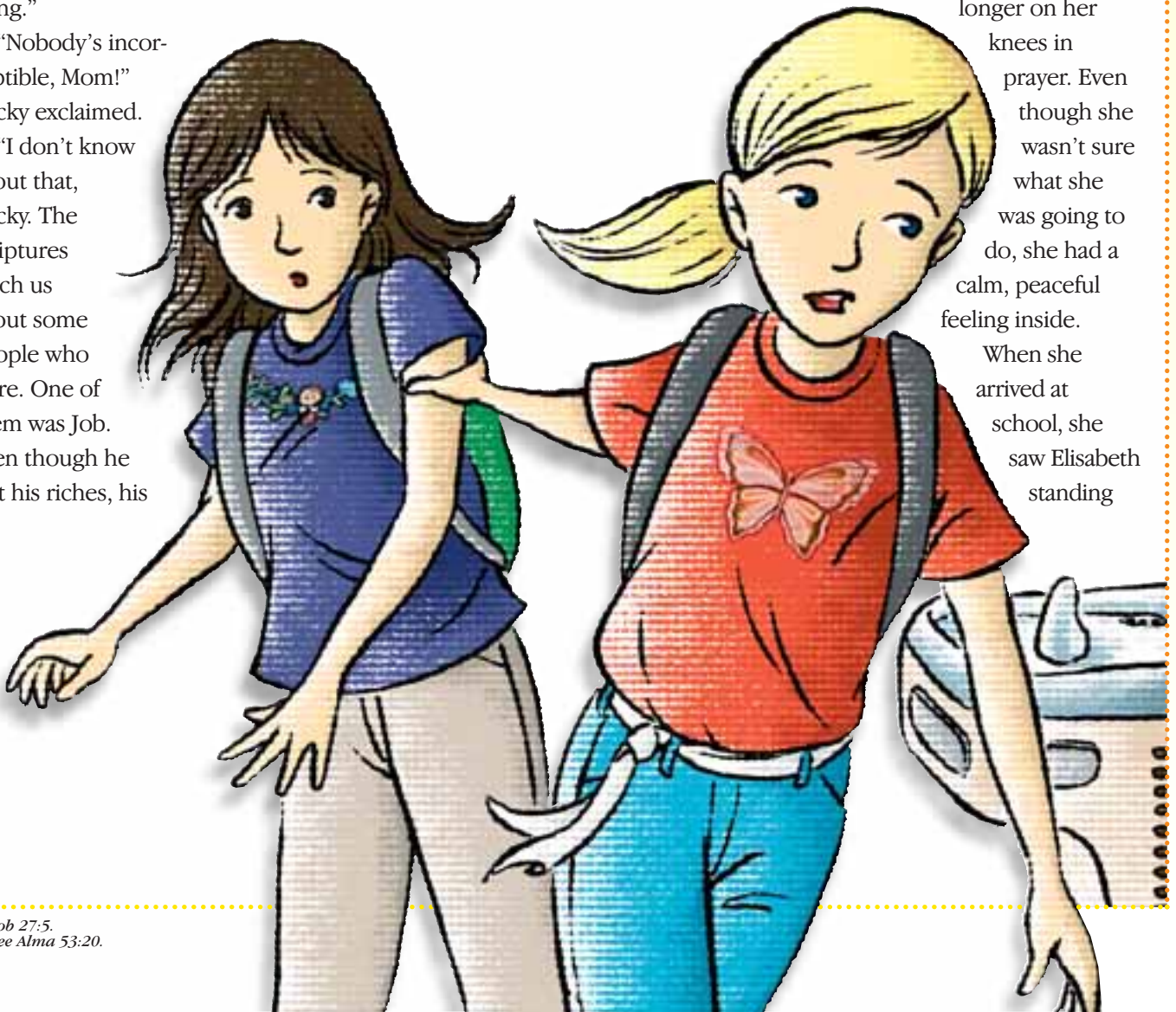
“Well, yes. Helaman’s stripling warriors are known for their courage and strength, but did you know that the scriptures also say they were true at all times?***”

Becky sighed. “I want to be like that. But I still don’t know what to do about my project!”

“The answer may not be an easy one,” Mom said, “but if you ask, Heavenly Father will help you.”

That night and the next morning, Becky stayed a little

longer on her knees in prayer. Even though she wasn’t sure what she was going to do, she had a calm, peaceful feeling inside. When she arrived at school, she saw Elisabeth standing



* Job 27:5.

** See Alma 53:20.

alone by the drinking fountain. Becky took a deep breath and walked toward her.

“Hi,” Elisabeth said uneasily.

“Hi. Can I talk to you about the service project?”

Elisabeth’s face turned red and her jaw tightened. At first she looked like she might run away, but after a minute she looked up at Becky. “Um, Becky, I’m sorry for copying your idea. My grandma is a school librarian, and she sent me a whole box of books that her school didn’t need anymore. I thought about how great the books would be for the kids at the shelter. I guess I just got carried away, and before I knew it, I turned it into my project.”

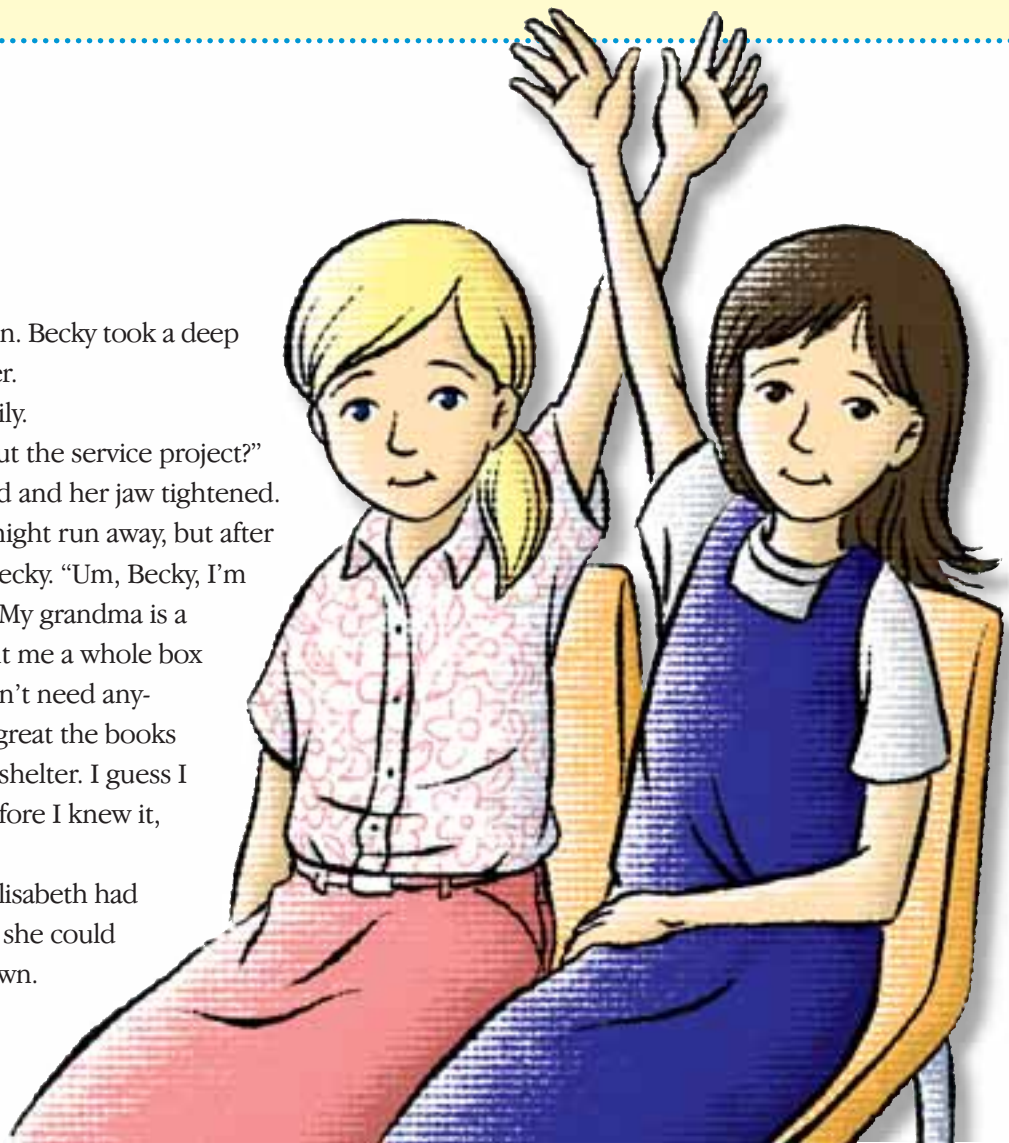
Becky had to admit that Elisabeth had brought in more books than she could ever have collected on her own.

“But now I don’t have a project,” Becky said. Just then, the bell rang.

“Maybe you still do,” Elisabeth said as she grabbed Becky’s arm and pulled her towards class.

Elisabeth started to cry a little when she told Mrs. Taramoto that she had copied Becky’s project. Becky thought it took a lot of courage to admit what she had done. Elisabeth said she had an idea how to help Becky with her presentation, so Mrs. Taramoto let them have a little extra time before lunch to make a plan.

Usually standing before a lot of people made Becky nervous, but this time she wasn’t very anxious at all.



After she explained that she and Elisabeth were going to work together on their service project to create an entire library for the shelter and a homework tutoring center, several children came up to her and asked if they could sign up to be homework helpers or donate some books to the shelter library, too.

The following Sunday in Primary, Sister MacArthur asked the class to think of songs that could represent each one of President Hinckley’s six Bs. Becky and Elisabeth raised their hands at the same time. “Army of Helaman,” they both said. As she sang, Becky thought of the stripling warriors and how they worked together. She also thought of how they were true at all times. She smiled and sang a little louder. It felt good to know she could also be true, no matter what. ●

Heidi Lewis is a member of the Cedar Hill Ward, Flagstaff Arizona Stake.



“Integrity means always doing what is right and good, regardless of the immediate consequences.”

Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “Personal Integrity,” Ensign, May 1990, 30.



Ways to Study the Scriptures

Instructions: Read the caption under each picture; then color the picture.

You could use these captions and pictures for a family home evening lesson or a Primary talk.



1 Set a goal to read one or more verses of scripture each day.



2 Read the scriptures aloud with your family.



3 Read the illustrated scripture stories in the *Friend* or in *Old Testament Stories*, *New Testament Stories*, *Book of Mormon Stories*, and *Doctrine and Covenants Stories*. Read the stories to yourself or to younger children.



4 After hearing a scripture story in church, find it in the scriptures and read it at home.

Friends in the News



▲ **Rachel Mayumi, Natalie Izumi, Spencer Maika'iokalani, and Jackson "Kam" Kamaluhia Kaiserman**, ages 3, 9, 8 months, and 6, Taylorsville, Utah, like reading the Book of Mormon every day. They enjoy playing a board game that teaches them about math and outdoor survival, building cardboard forts, and singing in public. Their favorite meal is rice and *nori* (seaweed).



▲ **Brianna Moore**, 11, Jacksonville, Florida, loves her family. She enjoys dancing, reading, and going to church. Her favorite Primary song is "A Child's Prayer."



▲ **Hayes Rollins**, 9, Glendale, Arizona, likes fishing, playing soccer, and swimming. His favorite Primary song is "Nephi's Courage."



◀ Flatirons Ward

Activity day girls from the Flatirons Ward, Boulder Colorado Stake, prayed about which of their friends and neighbors would appreciate receiving a copy of the Church's DVD *Joy to the World* for Christmas. They filled gift baskets with candy, homemade brownies, tree ornaments, and the DVD. While delivering the gifts to each family, they played "Joy to the World" on chimes.



▲ **Sean and Connor Keddington**, ages 7 and 4, Sandy, Utah, are preparing to serve missions by learning about missionary work. They like to draw pictures for and send letters to their Uncle Josh, who is serving in Hamburg, Germany. They are best friends and enjoy riding bikes and playing video games together.



▶ **Jake Smith**, 5, Hopewell Junction, New York, liked going to the Manhattan New York Temple open house. He likes to ride his bike, draw, eat snacks, and dig for sand crabs at the beach.



▶ **Madysen Sisson**, 9, Arco, Idaho, likes to go to church, help her mom cook, and play the piano.



◀ **Natalie and Tanner Reese**, ages 4 and 4, Voorhout, Netherlands, like helping with the music, lesson, and treats for family home evening. Tanner likes to visit cathedrals to hear organ music playing, and Natalie enjoys visiting castles.

▲ **Arthur and Johnny Santore-Tovar**, ages 11 and 8, Wildomar, California, were sealed to their family in the San Diego California Temple. Arthur is a good example of doing kind deeds for others and using clean language. He enjoys basketball and playing with his younger sister. Johnny is good at standing up for children at school. He loves animals and likes to climb.



◀ **Taylor Martin**, 6, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, likes seeing the pigs, sheep, chickens, dogs, and cats at her grandparents' farm. Her favorite animal is a horse. She also likes playing with her brother Ethyn and sister Haili. Her favorite scripture story is about Jesus's birth.





▲ **Christiansborg Ward**

Excited to have a temple in their country, Primary children of the Christiansborg Ward, Accra Ghana Christiansborg Stake, sang for President and Sister Hinkley in a special program celebrating the temple dedication. Later they drew pictures and wrote about their experiences of attending the temple open house and dedication.



◀ **Bartlett First Ward**

Primary children in the Bartlett First Ward, Memphis Tennessee North Stake, want to be good missionaries. They enjoyed presentations by full-time missionaries who explained how they had prepared for their missions. They also sampled native foods prepared by returned missionaries who had served in foreign countries and wrote letters to the eight missionaries serving from their ward.

▶ **Lyman First Ward**

Primary children of the Lyman First Ward, Lyman Wyoming Stake, made "loving hands" quilts for their friends Sophie Davis and Ashton Parker, both fighting leukemia. They hoped the children would be comforted by warmth and love while receiving difficult medical treatments.



▼ **Gehret, Austin, and Spencer**

Ginther, ages 5, 5, and 2, live in Westerville, Ohio. Gehret and Austin like singing time in Primary. They enjoy reading in the *Friend* about other children attending Primary all over the world.



◀ **Inner Harbor Branch**

Even though they live in the middle of a large city, children of the Inner Harbor Branch, Baltimore Maryland Stake, learned to fish. They traveled to a reservoir where the branch president taught them how to hold a fishing rod, bait the hook, cast a line, and reel in fish. The children "fished" for friends, too—by inviting friends of other faiths to the activity and to church the next day.



Fair Play

BY ROBERT PETERSON

We can make the world a happier place to live if we follow the advice of our prophets by playing honestly and fairly. See if you can find the following 12 items hidden in the picture: a baseball bat, a cowboy boot, a comb, a crayon, a cup, an oar, a pear, a pencil, a rabbit, a saltshaker, a sugar bowl, and a woman's shoe. Then color the picture.

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. The Primary theme for September is "I follow Heavenly Father's plan when I choose the right."



Family Home Evening Ideas

Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned below.

1. Read President James E. Faust's message "Avoiding the Devil's Throat" (pp. 2–3). What things could be "devil's throats" in your life? Read "Ethan the Brave" (pp. 4–6). How was Ethan's family protecting their home? How can you protect your home, body, and mind from evil and temptation?

2. The scriptures teach us about Jesus Christ and how to obey His commandments. Read "Seth's Family Scripture Study" (pp. 32–34). Set a goal to hold family scripture study every day. Read and discuss the ideas in "Ways to Study the Scriptures" (p. 45). How can your personal scripture study be more meaningful?

3. As a family, play "Journey to the Temple" (pp. 24–25). How has your family helped you learn the gospel and choose the right? Make the recipe "Peach Smoothie" (p. 16) together. As you drink your smoothies, share some of your favorite family memories.

4. Read "The Windows of Heaven" (pp. 10–13). Discuss what you would do if you were put in the place of Marcella's family. How has the Lord kept His promises when you have obeyed? Read "Where Does Tithing Go?" (pp. 14–15) to find out more about what happens to tithing after you pay it.

5. Read "The Lord's Wind" (pp. 40–41) and "We Fly High!" (pp. 27–29). How have Elder Groberg and the Smith family used prayer to ask for protection and help? How has prayer helped you? How can your prayers for your family members and friends help them this week?



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Key 040204

What's in the *Friend* this month?

page 2

President Faust warns us to stay away from the dangers of temptation.



page 14

Find out what happens to your tithing.



page 24

Play “Journey to the Temple” with your family.

