

# the Friend

JULY • 2006



# Friends by Mail



## Bedtime Stories

**T**hank you for the *Friend*. We read it from cover to cover each month.

My dad sits on the floor in our bedroom at bedtime and reads a *Friend* story to us almost

every night until we've read them all. It's great to fall asleep with good stories in my head. It helps me have good dreams. I love to read about real children my age who do what's right. Some of the stories make me think of things in a different way than I have before.

Caleb L., age 11, Utah



## The Heart of Texas

**F**or over three months we had rehearsed dances and songs for "The Heart of Texas," a jubilee celebrating the dedica-

tion of the San Antonio Texas Temple. Now the day had finally come, and we seemed to be getting worse at the polka! About five minutes before the jubilee was to start, I told my friend Emily and our partners, Jared and Preston, that I thought we should pray for help. We did, and we made only one tiny mistake in the dance. I said many prayers of gratitude during the rest of the night.

The next day at the dedication, I could not sing the first verse of "The Spirit of God" for tears of joy. I knew then and there that President Hinckley is a prophet appointed by our Heavenly Father to help and guide us. I will be better able to share the gospel with my friends because I know with all my heart that this is the true gospel of Jesus Christ.

Tasha H., age 12, Texas



## Thankful for Prayer

**I** get really scared of kidnapping when I'm going to sleep. When I say my prayers I feel much better. I know Heavenly

Father is watching over me. I'm thankful for prayer.

Samantha B., age 10, Idaho

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Versiani Nery, posed by model.

the **friend**

A children's magazine published by  
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**HIDDEN CTR RING**

As you look for the CTR ring hidden in this issue, remember to always say your prayers.



# Frame Your Life with Faith

BY PRESIDENT THOMAS S. MONSON  
First Counselor in the First Presidency

Amidst the confusion of our age, an abiding faith becomes an anchor to our lives. By seeking Heavenly Father in personal and family prayer, we will develop what the great English statesman William E. Gladstone described as the world's greatest need: "A living faith in a personal God."

Wherever we may be, our Heavenly Father can hear and answer the prayer offered in faith.

Many years ago, on my first visit to the village of Sauniatu in Samoa, my wife and I met with a large gathering of small children—nearly 200 in number. At the conclusion of our messages to these shy yet beautiful youngsters, I suggested to the native Samoan teacher that we go forward with the closing exercises.

As he announced the final hymn, I suddenly felt compelled to greet personally each of these children. My watch revealed that the time was too short for such a privilege, for we were scheduled on a flight out of the country, so I discounted the impression. Before the benediction was to be spoken, I again felt that I should



**President Monson teaches that as we live with faith, the Holy Ghost will be with us.**

shake the hand of each child. I made the desire known to the instructor, who displayed a broad and beautiful Samoan smile. In Samoa, he announced this to the children. They beamed their approval.

The instructor then revealed to me the reason for his and their joy. He said, "When we learned that a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles was to visit us here in Samoa, so far away from Church headquarters, I told the children if they would earnestly and sincerely pray and exert faith like the Bible accounts of old, that the Apostle would visit our tiny village at Sauniatu and through their faith he would be impressed to greet each child with a personal handclasp."

Tears could not be restrained as the precious boys and girls walked shyly by and whispered softly to us the sweet Samoan greeting "talofa lava." A profound expression of faith had been evidenced.

When you, my dear young friends, frame your life with faith, you will merit the companionship of the Holy Ghost. You will have "a perfect brightness of hope" (2 Nephi 31:20). ●

*From "The Lighthouse of the Lord: A Message to the Youth of the Church," Ensign, Feb. 2001, 2–7.*







# Water in the Desert

BY SHEILA KINDRED  
(Based on a true story)

*Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered (Joel 2:32).*

I'm thirsty, Father!"

Theodore Farley looked down from the wagon seat at his five-year-old son, Lesley. "We all are," he said kindly. "We're trying to find you some water."

"I'm sure there will be some at the next spring," 14-year-old Lydia added reassuringly.

"But that's what you said at the last three," 11-year-old Carl pointed out. "And they were all dried up. We've been searching for hours."

Mother and Father exchanged a worried glance.



"I haven't traveled this road in August before," Father said. "I've never seen it so dry."

Adleen looked up at the blazing sun. It was 1895, and her family was moving from Snowflake, Arizona, to Provo, Utah. Before they left home, Father had filled all their barrels with water for both people and horses. He planned to refill them at springs along the way, but now the barrels were empty, and everyone was suffering. Adleen shook her head. How would they ever find water in this barren, sandy desert?

"Theodore!" Mother clutched baby Louie to her and cried out as the horses stumbled and stopped.

Father jumped down and gently urged them forward. They refused to move. "We'll rest here," he said with a

sigh. He unhitched the horses, which huddled in the shade of a scrubby tree. Father and 15-year-old Dick set off to find the spring that lay some distance off the road.

Mother gathered her children beneath the wagon. "Let's stay in the shade," she said. "And trust in the Lord."

"They're back!" someone yelled. Adleen reluctantly shook off her dream of eating ripe, juicy watermelons and looked up. She saw Father and Dick, sweat-stained and covered with dust.





Father sat down by them, removing his hat and wiping his brow. “The spring is dried up,” he said, “and no earthly help is anywhere near.”

“Then we must rely on divine aid,” Mother said firmly, rising to her knees. Father joined her, motioning for the children to do the same. Adleen shut her eyes tight and tried hard to have faith.

“We have done all we can,” Father prayed. “If it be Thy will that we should live, please send us water.”

After the prayer, as the family sat and waited calmly, their fear changed to peace.

“What will happen now?” asked Lesley.

Mother smiled. “I don’t know. Wait and see.”

“Look!” Adleen was on her feet, pointing at the horizon and dancing with excitement.

“What is it?” Father shaded his eyes and squinted into the sun.

“There in the sky,” Mother said. “A little cloud.”

They watched as the cloud grew larger and got closer.

Soon it overshadowed them, and rain poured down.

“Quick!” Father called. “The wagon cover.” Father, Dick, Carl, and Lydia snatched up the corners of the cloth and caught the rain, which they tipped into the barrels, filling them to overflowing. Adleen laughed and twirled in the rain, her mouth open to the sky.

By the time the rain stopped, both animals and people had quenched their thirst. Father and Dick strapped the full water barrels to the wagon and hitched up the horses. They all continued on their journey.

They hadn’t gone far before desert dust was clinging to their wet clothing.

“Father, look!” Lydia said in awe. “It didn’t rain a drop out here.”

“No, it didn’t,” Father answered reverently. “It rained only where our wagon stood. We have been part of a miracle.”

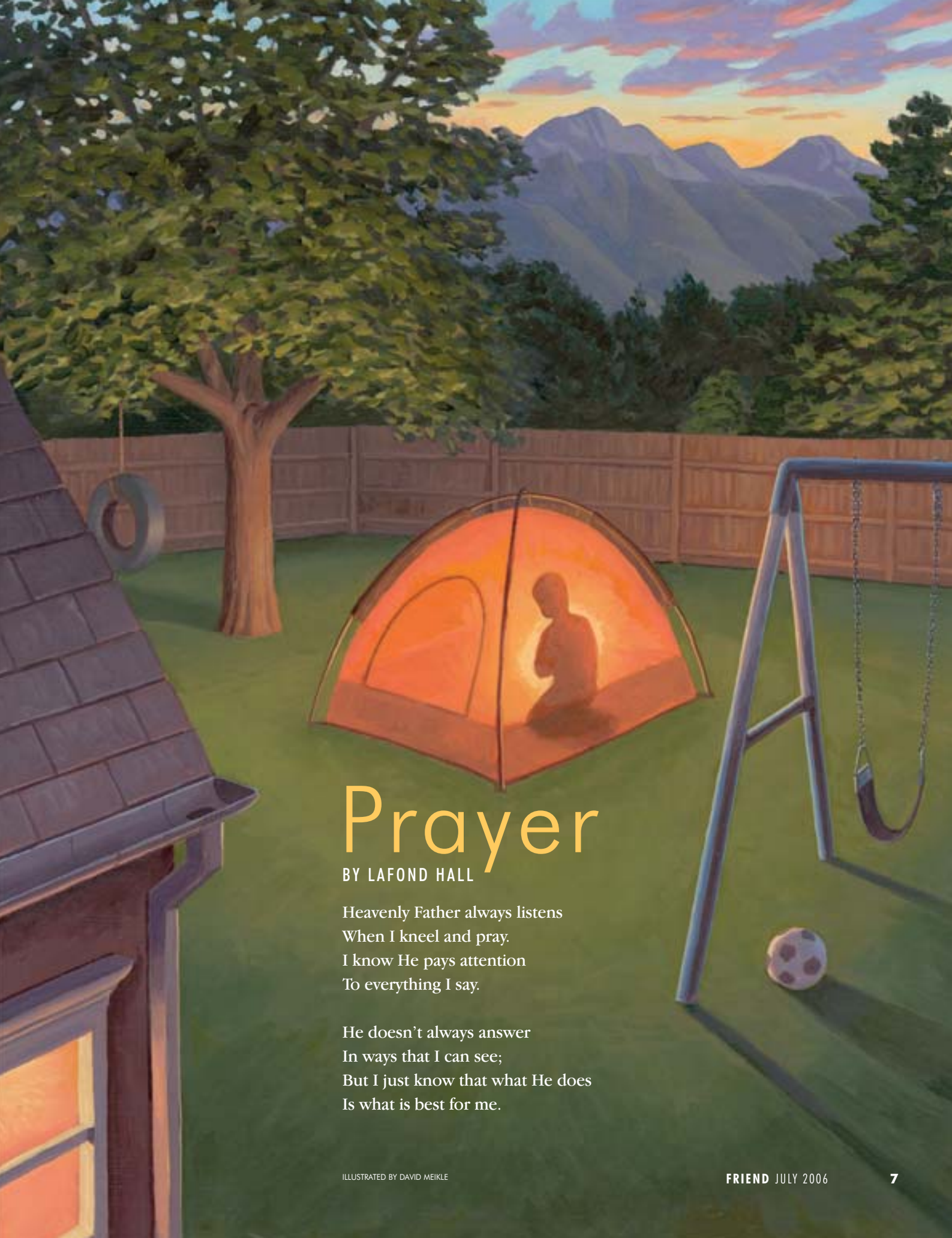
None of them ever forgot the day Heavenly Father sent water in the desert. ●



“The first, the middle, and the last thing to do is to pray.”

**Elder Henry B. Eyring of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “In the Strength of the Lord,” *Ensign*, May 2004, 17.**





# Prayer

BY LAFOND HALL

Heavenly Father always listens  
When I kneel and pray.  
I know He pays attention  
To everything I say.

He doesn't always answer  
In ways that I can see;  
But I just know that what He does  
Is what is best for me.

# Blessed by the

*He took their little children, one by one, and blessed them (3 Nephi 17:21).*



**From an interview with Elder Douglas L. Callister of the Seventy; by Marissa A. Widdison**

**W**hile my wife and I served in Eastern Europe, we lived in Russia. One day I spent about an hour in the Hermitage, a famous museum in St. Petersburg. Our guide said to us, “Be careful that you do not touch any of these important treasures, because the great wealth of Russia is found in the Hermitage.”

The next day was Sunday, and during sacrament meeting a young girl was confirmed a member of the Church. As I and other Melchizedek Priesthood holders stood next to her and placed our hands on her head, a thought came to me: “The wealth of Russia is not found in the Hermitage. The wealth of Russia is found in its children. As priesthood holders, we are allowed to stand close, lay our hands upon their heads, and bless the children.”

Years ago our youngest

child had a serious bone tumor in his lower back. When he was taken to the hospital for surgery, I overheard the doctors in the hallway talking about his condition. They said it was likely that nothing could be done to save our boy’s life.

When I went back in my son’s room, I tried to encourage him. I assured him that he was receiving the finest medical care. He said, “Daddy, I’m not counting on the doctors. I’m counting on my blessing. You laid your hands on my head, and you blessed me. And I have faith that the blessing will be fulfilled.”

My son was healed. His life is an example of the power of a priesthood blessing.

One of the lessons I’ve learned through

my Church service is that our Father in Heaven loves little children. He loves to bless them, and He often blesses them through His priesthood servants. ●





# Priesthood







# FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF **This Is the Place**



In 1847 Latter-day Saint pioneers were traveling across what is now the United States to find their promised land in the West.

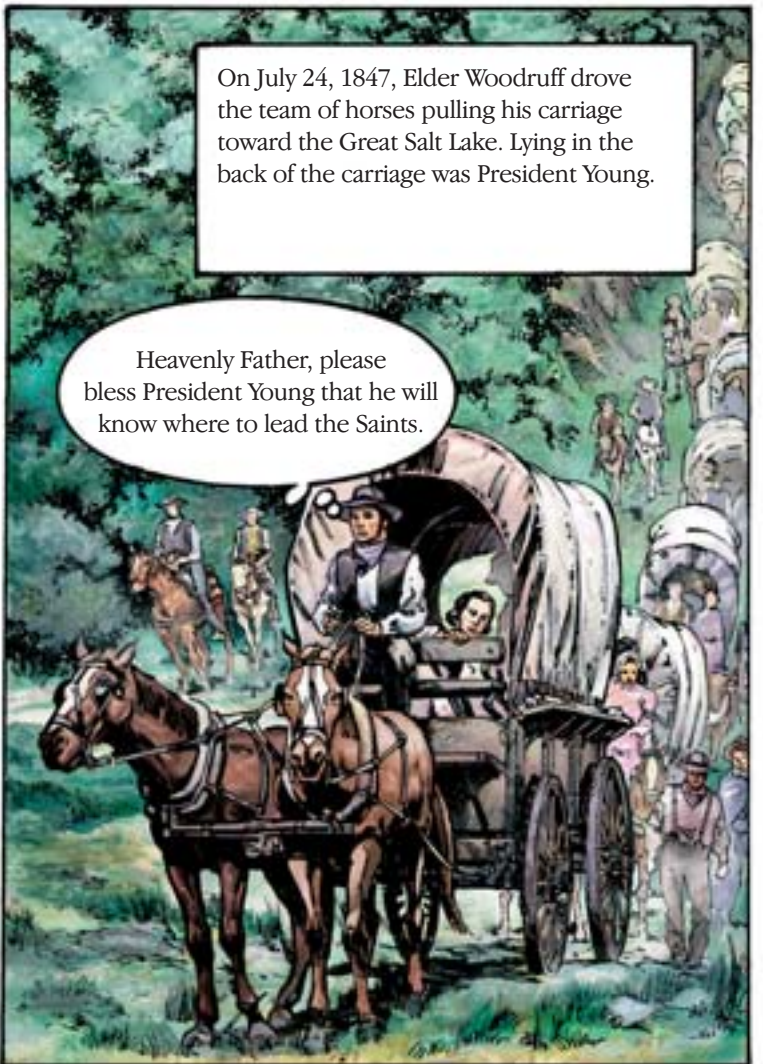


The Saints did not know exactly where they were supposed to go. Brigham Young was President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles at the time. He was the only one who knew where the Lord wanted them to establish Zion. But he was very ill.

Elder Woodruff, I need to continue traveling westward.

But you're too sick!

Nonsense. Just lay me in the back of your carriage.



On July 24, 1847, Elder Woodruff drove the team of horses pulling his carriage toward the Great Salt Lake. Lying in the back of the carriage was President Young.

Heavenly Father, please bless President Young that he will know where to lead the Saints.



As soon as President Young saw the desert valley of the Great Salt Lake, he told Elder Woodruff to stop.

This is the right place; for the Lord has shown it to me in a vision.



Twenty-two years later, Elder Woodruff remembered that event as he was writing in his journal.

Today I attended a Pioneer Day celebration. We now number more than 100,000 souls. See what God hath wrought!

*Adapted from Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Wilford Woodruff (2004), 146–48.*





BY PAMELA SAUNDERS

(Based on a true story)

*A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches*  
(Proverbs 22:1).

**F**ive-year-old Dee woke to whispers and gentle nudging from Grandpa Leonard, who was dressed in his blue Sunbeam Bakery uniform. Dee sat

straight up in bed, rubbed his eyes, and looked around. The clock on the nightstand next to him read 3:00 a.m.

An inviting aroma of bacon and toast came from the kitchen. “Grandma is finishing breakfast for us,” Grandpa whispered. “Hurry and dress, but don’t wake





your brother. Duke can come to work with me tomorrow. Today it's your turn."

Excitement swelled as Dee quickly dressed. He looked across the room at Duke, his twin brother, who was sound asleep and snoring. All year long Dee and Duke looked forward to the day school would end and they could visit Grandma and Grandpa in the country. They fed the chickens, worked in the garden, and went fishing. But Dee's favorite activity was riding in the big bread truck, helping Grandpa deliver bread to the small country grocery stores serving the Iowa townships nearby.

Dee made his way to the kitchen, his stomach growling. After prayer, he gobbled his breakfast in record time and ran out the door to the car with Grandpa. Grandma stood on the porch in her robe and waved good-bye.

When they arrived at Sunbeam Bakery, Dee was

surprised to see Grandpa's bread truck already loaded with freshly baked bread and delicious pastries. He savored the aroma. A man emerged from the idling truck's cab and waved. "Everything's ready for you this morning."

Grandpa smiled. "Thank you, Charlie. I'll just get my inventory sheet and double-check our load. Then we'll be on our way."

Grandpa quickly and carefully checked off each item and made a few notes on the inventory list. He lifted Dee onto the passenger seat and handed him a day-old Danish. "Here you go, Dee—dessert to top off Grandma's fine breakfast." Grandpa was allowed to buy the day-old breads and pastries at a reduced price after he had returned them to the bakery. Sometimes Grandpa's boss treated them, but they never took anything unless it was offered first.





“Honesty and integrity are not old-fashioned principles. . . . In our dealings with both God and our fellowmen, let us be examples of honesty and integrity.”

**Elder Sheldon F. Child of the Seventy, “As Good As Our Bond,” *Ensign*, May 1997, pp. 29–30.**

Soon they were on the road. Dee watched the sun peer over the rolling hills of corn and grain carpeting the Iowa landscape. The ride with Grandpa was fun. They sang songs together that Dee had learned in church, and Grandpa taught him to whistle a new tune. He told Dee stories about life on the farm as they passed cow pastures, sheds that held pigs, and chicken coops.

Before Dee knew it, they had arrived at the tiny town of Fairview, and Grandpa pulled the truck to the back door of the local grocery store. Grandpa hopped out of the truck and helped Dee out. Dee was happy with his small hand in Grandpa’s great big one as they approached the store. With his free hand, Grandpa reached for the ring of keys that he kept attached to his belt loop and unlocked the back door.

Grandpa spoke slowly. “These keys are a sacred trust. Do you understand what that means?” Dee wasn’t sure. He slowly shook his head.

As they walked through the door, Dee saw the many items the grocer had for sale. There were aisles and aisles of food, an aisle for cleaning supplies, and even a special aisle filled with toys and sporting goods, like fishing gear. “How nice it would be to own this store,” Dee thought, “to have all these things and never just wish for them.”

Grandpa interrupted Dee’s thoughts. “The owner of this store has given me his key to the back door because he knows that I will never harm my good name by stealing,” Grandpa said. “My father was known for his honest dealings in this town, and I am blessed to carry his name.”

Nothing more was said. Dee helped Grandpa remove the bread that would go back to the bakery to be sold as day-old goods. He helped him stack the fresh bread that was still warm. He thought about what Grandpa had said and smiled. He was happy to be a member of Grandpa’s family. He made a promise to himself that he too would someday be known for his good name.

Dee watched with pride as Grandpa reached again for the ring of keys and securely locked the door. They got into the truck again and headed for the Eddyville store, whistling as loud as they could. ●





# GUESS WHO



Can you guess who this is? Read the clues about this member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. Then find the answer on page 26.

**1** As the oldest child in his family, he set a good example for his two sisters and two brothers. He was kind, helpful, and a good student.

**2** One of his favorite scripture stories is of the birth of the Savior.

**3** He enjoyed school from kindergarten through college. He liked many different subjects, but history was his favorite.

**4** His parents taught him of the blessings that come from work. Growing up, he kept busy working in the garden and taking care of the family's rabbits, chickens, and dogs.

**5** He and his wife, Elisa, were married in the Salt Lake Temple. She said he

**The members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles are prophets, seers, and revelators and stand as special witnesses of Jesus Christ. They have the responsibility to testify of Him to the whole world.**

was “kind and gentle,” and she “liked his spirituality.”

**6** He served a mission in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.

**7** At dinner on Sunday nights he asked his children what they had learned in Sunday School. They would talk about their lessons, and he would expand on the subject using the scriptures.

**8** He and his wife have seven daughters and one son.

### Words of Wisdom

*We have scriptures that reveal the word of God to mankind through the ages. When we feast upon the word of God, we open our minds to eternal truths and our hearts to the gentle whisperings of the Holy Ghost (“One Step after Another,” Ensign, Nov. 2001, 26).*



**Heavenly  
Father Hears  
and Answers  
Prayers**

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# Heavenly Father Hears and Answers Prayers



*Be thou humble; and the Lord thy God shall lead thee by the hand, and give thee answer to thy prayers (D&C 112:10).*

BY LINDA MAGLEBY



Heavenly Father loves us and wants us to pray to Him. We can pray to Him anytime, no matter where we are. He hears and answers our prayers.

Charlotte Clark was just six years old when her family left Nauvoo, Illinois, to travel west to the Salt Lake Valley. It was a long, long way to walk. Charlotte walked so much that she wore out her only pair of shoes. Every night when Charlotte knelt to pray, she asked Heavenly Father for a pair of shoes.

One day Charlotte and her sister were picking berries when Charlotte saw a pair of shoes. She and her sister ran back to their mother and father, saying, “Heavenly Father sent me shoes, and they fit perfectly!” Charlotte’s father was concerned that the shoes belonged

to someone who had lost them. He told Charlotte that if the shoes belonged to someone in their wagon train, she should return the shoes to their owner. Charlotte’s family showed the shoes to everyone, but no one claimed them. Charlotte’s prayer was answered.

Heavenly Father answers our prayers. The answers may not always be what we expect, but He will answer in the way that is the best for us. We can pray to Him anytime, anywhere. ●

## Activity

To remind you of the parts of prayer, cut out the shapes on page 16 on the heavy dark lines. Fold on the dotted lines, and glue the larger shape to make a flattened tube. On the narrow strip, write on the lines provided some things you are thankful for and some blessings you pray for. Slide the narrow strip inside the folded piece. You could place this reminder on your pillow to remind you to pray before you go to bed. At night, place it beside your bed to remind you to pray in the morning.

## 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. Show a picture of our prophet, President Gordon B. Hinckley. Ask, "Who knows his name?" We can show our respect when we address or talk about our prophet. How should we address him? (President Hinckley.) How do we address our bishop? (Bishop \_\_\_\_.) Our teachers? (Brother or Sister \_\_\_\_.) We can show our love and respect for Heavenly Father when we speak with Him through prayer. When we pray, we can show reverence for Heavenly Father by using proper prayer language. When Jesus was visiting the Nephites, He knelt and prayed to Heavenly Father. He showed His love and respect by addressing His Father with the proper prayer words. Read together 3 Nephi 19:20–21: "Father, I thank *thee* that *thou* hast given the Holy Ghost unto these whom I have chosen" (v. 20; emphasis added). We can follow Jesus's example by using words that show Heavenly Father that we love and reverence Him. We can use the words *thee* or *thou* instead of *you*, *thy* instead of *your*, and *thine* instead of *yours* or *your*. To practice using prayer language, make simple signs with the words *thine*, *thou*, *thy*, and *thee*. Sing each line of the song "Tell Me, Dear Lord" (p. 176), and let the children echo it back. Assign each line to a group of children, and give them the corresponding sign. Then have each group stand and sing their line. Switch signs and sing again. Repeat, learn, and sing "I Thank Thee, Dear Father" (p. 7). Encourage the children to show love and respect for Heavenly Father by using prayer language.

2. Use a reader's theater (*TNGC*, p. 177) to tell the story of Daniel. Before Primary write a simple script using Daniel 6 as a guideline. Use words directly from the scriptures to tell the story. Participants include a narrator, Daniel, King Darius, assorted presidents and princes, and lions. For example, the presidents and princes would say from verse 8, "Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing." Daniel would say from verse 22, "My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths." Sing verse 8 of "Follow the Prophet" (pp. 110–11). Discuss how the scriptures record the stories of others who have had prayers answered. Divide the Primary into groups, and give each a scripture reference about people whose prayers were answered, such as Hannah (1 Samuel 1:8–20), Zacharias (Luke 1:5–13), Nephi (1 Nephi 17:8–10), Enos (Enos 1:1–6), and Alma the Elder (Mosiah 27:8–14). Have the children read the stories and then share with the group how Heavenly Father answered the prayers. Testify that Heavenly Father hears and answers prayers today.

*For younger children:* Have the adults read the scriptures aloud to the children in their group and decide how they will role-play the examples to the rest of the Primary.

3. Invite two or three people from the ward to dress as pioneers and tell true stories about how Heavenly Father answered the prayers of the pioneers. Tell the stories in first person (*TNGC*, p. 165, 179). Use personal family history stories, or choose from the following: *Friend*, July 2001, 40–42; July 2003, 4–6, 30–33. Bear testimony that Heavenly Father will answer your prayers.

4. Invite each Primary teacher to come prepared to share a simple experience of when his or her prayers were answered. You could also invite older children to be prepared to tell the suggested stories from the *Friend*. The leaders of the Church today confirm that prayers are answered. Tell, or have an older child tell, one or more of the following stories from the *Friend*: Artel Ricks's story in "You Are a Child of God," by President Gordon B. Hinckley, May 2003, 3–4; "The Lifeline of Prayer," by President James E. Faust, July 2003, 2–3; "A Growing Testimony," by President James E. Faust, Apr. 2003, 2–3. Sing "I Pray in Faith" (p. 14). Invite the children to gather in small groups around their teacher. Have the teacher share his or her experience with prayer, and invite the children to share their own experiences, if they have some. (Remind them that some experiences are too sacred to share.) Return the children to their original places, and invite each group to share experiences with the whole group. Take responses as time permits. Sing "A Child's Prayer" (pp. 12–13). Bear testimony that Heavenly Father hears and answers prayers.

5. *Song presentation:* "Tell Me, Dear Lord" (p. 176). This song is actually a prayer with a melody. When we pray to Heavenly Father we use special words, or "prayer language," to show Him honor and love. Ask the children to listen for those words as you sing the song. Write on the board as the children recall the words *thine*, *thou*, and *thy*. Refer to these words as you continue teaching the song. As you teach the first line, direct the children's thinking by asking, "In whose way are we asking that our prayers be answered?" Sing the first line. Invite the children to respond to the question ("thine own"—the Lord's). Sing the first line together. Continue teaching the song the same way with each line. Say, "We are asking for guidance in something today. What is it?" Sing the second line, have them echo and respond ("what thou would'st have me say and do"). Ask, "What do we want Him to teach us?" Sing the third line. Have them echo and respond ("to know and love thy will"). Ask, "What do we need help in understanding?" Sing the last line. Have them echo and respond ("thy loving word"). Sing the whole song, share D&C 112:10, and testify that prayers are answered.

6. *Friend* references: "I Can Pray to Heavenly Father Anytime, Anywhere," Aug. 2003, 24–26; "My Prayer Was Answered," Nov. 2004, 10–12; "Keep Praying," Feb. 2004, 32–34; "David's Prayer," Aug. 2004, 4–5; "Heavenly Father Answers Prayers," Oct. 2003, 8–9; "Prayer in the Woods," Dec. 2004, IFC.



# Friends in the News



**Banda S. I.**, 11, North Carolina, likes biking, swimming, playing the piano, and going to church and activity days.



A great brother and son, **Calvin V.**, 5, Michigan, is good at sharing and gives the best hugs. He loves his CTR teacher and classmates and has fun with friends at preschool.



**Paige E.**, 7, Colorado, is a great reader. She enjoys snow skiing and soccer and likes to help make breakfast for her family. She is a wonderful example and loves her little brother and sister.



**Dallin G.**, 4, Florida, enjoys long walks to look for snakes, lizards, and other animals. He likes cars, soccer, swimming, dancing, and riding his bike. He loves his little brother and sister.



**Bailee A.**, 9, Utah, likes art, volleyball, and playing the piano. She takes choir and is a good dancer. She always wants to follow Heavenly Father's plan.



**Seth R.**, 6, Texas, likes to color, ride his bike, and play tag with his friends. He was named the top reader in his class. He has a brother and a sister and tries to be a good example for them.



The parents of **Tatum L.**, 9, Nevada, call her their "sunshine." She likes going to school and Primary. She also enjoys singing, dancing, and visiting her grandma.



**Dallin T.**, 11, Hawaii, is usually smiling. He enjoys pizza and playing in the outfield on his baseball team. He likes to rest his head on his mother's shoulder during sacrament meeting.



**Alexis G.**, 4, Australian Capital Territory, Australia, enjoys ballet, swimming, reading, riding her bike to the park, and visiting with out-of-town relatives. Her favorite Primary song is "A Child's Prayer."



**Paul S.**, 10, South Carolina, will soon receive his Arrow of Light award. He likes soccer, Scouting, and catching frogs. His favorite food is corn on the cob.



**Samantha Jane B.**, 6, New Mexico, is a loving older sister who enjoys learning about Jesus and the Book of Mormon, attending feast days at the pueblo, tap dancing, and helping to cook.



**Kolton K.**, 8, Mexico, is a hard worker who helps with the chores. He is the youngest of four boys. Two of his brothers are serving missions.



**Valérie Sarah S.**, 10, Quebec, Canada, likes stories from the Bible and Book of Mormon. She loves Jesus Christ and is thankful for His atoning sacrifice.



**Joey M.**, 5, Georgia, is an excellent reader. He enjoys drawing pictures of animals and helping his dad. He also likes riding his bike with his brother and sister.



**Sophia Louise D.**, 3, Oregon, has memorized the first six articles of faith and the 15 presidents of the Church. She loves her big sister and enjoys singing, books, and being a Sunbeam.



**Todd C.**, 11, Washington, is a helpful and kind big brother to three brothers and one sister. He plays the violin and sings with a group. He has received the Faith in God Award.



**Morgan Ally C.**, 7, Missouri, wants to be a nurse like her mom. She likes to conduct family home evening and spend time with her four sisters. She is excited to be baptized by her dad.



**Chase M.**, 9, Idaho, is a peacemaker. He enjoys drawing and likes to play basketball, baseball, and video games with his dad. He loves Scouting and works hard at earning his badges.



**Lydia Sofia M.**, 6, Pennsylvania, likes soccer and playing tennis with her family. Her favorite Primary song is "I Will Follow God's Plan for Me."



**Scott S.**, 3, Alabama, is an enthusiastic boy who likes trains, animals, and sports of all kinds. He is a great helper to his mom and loves going to church. His favorite thing to read is the *Friend*.



**Chloe B.**, 10, Utah, is a happy girl with a wonderful sense of humor that keeps her family and friends laughing. She loves her little dog, Olive. She likes to snuggle by a warm fire and read.



**Jaden X.**, 6, California, attends the Hmong Branch. Jaden is loving and kind and tries to be the very best he can be.



A girl with a beautiful smile, **Leisha Anne M.**, 11, Montana, likes to dance and read. She enjoys the *Friend* and the activities in it. She also enjoys babysitting.



**Connor L.**, 4, Arizona, likes swimming, building robots, going to Primary, and offering prayers. He also enjoys a good sword fight. His favorite song is "Book of Mormon Stories."

# Living the Gospel

Vehina and Ranitea Teihoarii of Takarua, French Polynesia







**BY RICHARD M. ROMNEY**  
Church Magazines

**I**magine living so close to the ocean that sometimes you can see whales swimming by! For Vehina and Ranitea Teihoarii, that doesn't take any imagining at all—it just takes a little effort.

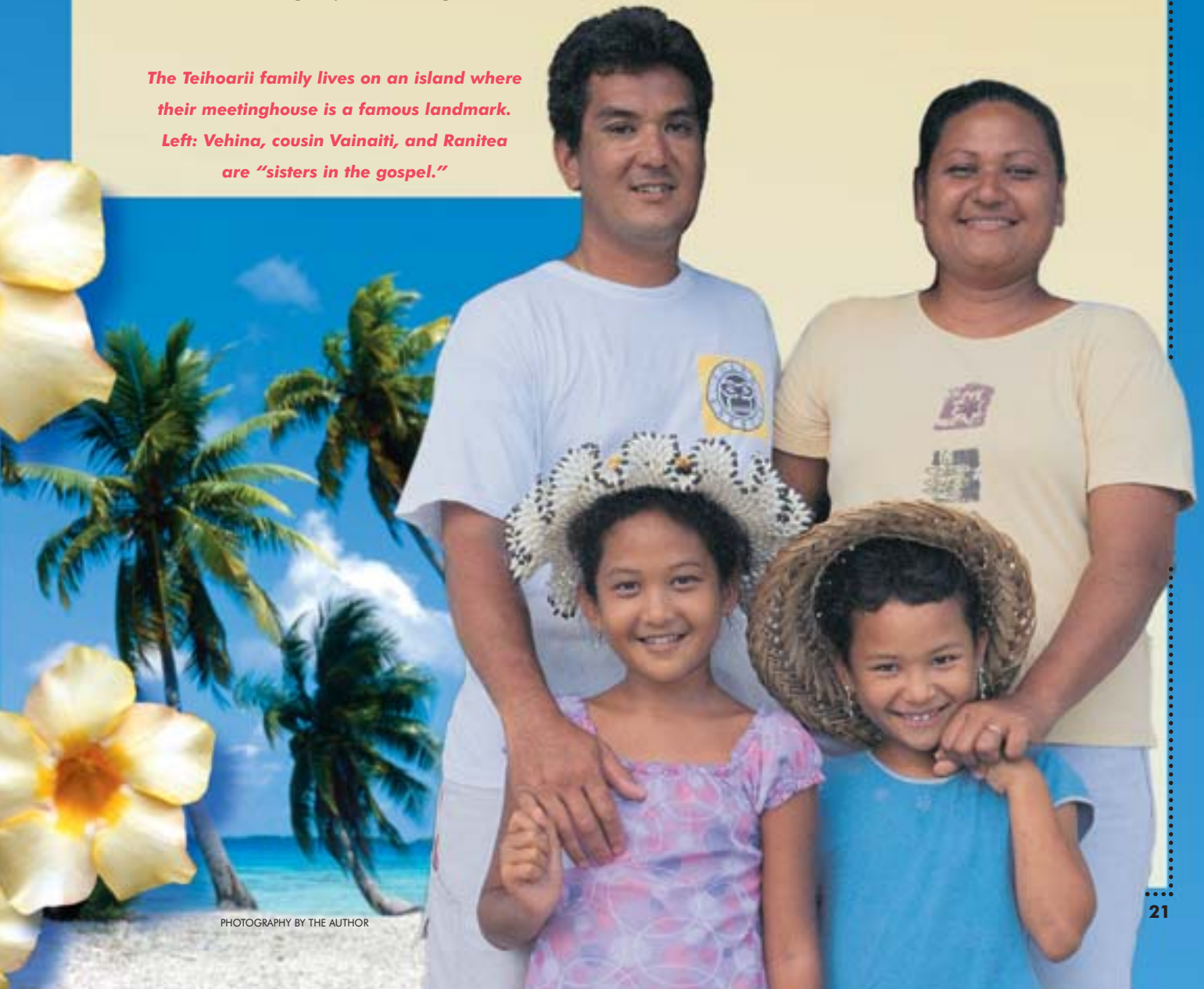
“One of the best places to watch for whales is from the tower of our church building,” says Vehina. “So we get permission, and then you have to climb up the staircase.” She explains that from the tower you can see far out to sea. “And during certain seasons of the year, there are lots of whales that go by.” Vehina, age 9, and Ranitea,

age 7, used to get permission to climb the tower, because their father, Thierry Teihoarii, was the district president. He was often in the building, and liked to whale-watch with them.

The white church with the red roof, known as the Takaroa chapel, was built in 1891 by Latter-day Saints who wanted a place to worship together. As the girls climbed the stairs with their father, they would often talk about the history of the Latter-day Saints in French Polynesia. They learned, for example, that Joseph Smith sent missionaries to the islands of the Pacific Ocean in 1844, and that there were members of the Church in

*The Teihoarii family lives on an island where their meetinghouse is a famous landmark.*

*Left: Vehina, cousin Vainaiti, and Ranitea are “sisters in the gospel.”*



PHOTOGRAPHY BY THE AUTHOR



French Polynesia before the pioneers arrived in Utah!

Marie, the girls' mother, points out that when he was district president, Brother Teihoarii traveled to four islands besides Takaroa to meet with members of the Church. Vehina and Ranitea loved to hear about what he did on his trips. "They begged to talk with me as soon as I came in the door," Brother Teihoarii says. "It seems like they got to know everyone in the islands!"

The girls also love to help their mother around the house. "They see me working and come and work with me," she says. "If they see me out planting things in the garden, they'll come and say, 'Do you need help, Mama? I want to come and work with you.'"

Besides working, the girls spend time dancing, playing handball, riding bicycles, swimming, and helping their grandparents who run a store where people on the island stop for snacks and sandwiches. If you ask, they'll show you necklaces of shells, souvenirs made with pearls, and fancy hats that people on the islands make to earn money. And they love to play with their cousins, Vainaiti and Shirley, who are also members of the Church. In fact, out of 1,000 people who live in Takaroa, 380 are Latter-day Saints.

Of course the girls go to school too. And it is at school that Vehina has learned some important things about living the gospel. "We study

the scriptures together every morning," Sister Teihoarii explains. "And that has helped Vehina to read well and to express herself. She feels at ease because she's used to reading and discussing. We know the prophet has counseled families to read the scriptures together. And we see that it will help us not only spiritually, but in our daily lives as well."

One time when Vehina was nervous about a test at school, she said to her father, "Papa, I'd like you to give me a blessing because I'm scared." He gave her a blessing, and she felt more confident. When she did well on the test, she remembered to say a prayer of thanks to Heavenly Father. Then she found her dad and thanked him too.

Every Sunday Vehina, Ranitea, Vainaiti, and Shirley go to their meetings in the white chapel. "Ranitea and I are sisters. Vainaiti and Shirley are sisters. But we are all sisters in the gospel," Vehina says. All four girls like Primary because they get to sing, learn stories from the scriptures, and hear about the temple. "I want to go to the temple someday," Ranitea says. "It's a good place to be." ●

*Takaroa is just a bit of land poking out of the sea, but it is a pretty place where Vehina and Ranitea are learning to live the gospel.*







# Kitchen Krafts



Enjoy these summer vegetable recipes.  
Then cool off with a pudding dessert.

## Broccoli Bacon Salad

- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup sugar
  - 1 tablespoon white vinegar
  - 1 large bunch of broccoli, chopped
- 1/2 pound (.23 kg) bacon, cooked until crisp, and crumbled
- 1 cup sunflower seeds
- 1 cup grated cheese

1. Mix mayonnaise, sugar, and vinegar in a large bowl.
2. Add the broccoli, bacon, seeds, and cheese. Stir to coat with the mayonnaise mixture. Chill for several hours before serving.

Serves 4–6.

## Tomato Pie

- 4 refrigerated piecrusts (9"/23 cm)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 package (16 ounces/454 g) frozen, chopped spinach, thawed
- 1 package (15 ounces/425 g) ricotta cheese
- 1/4 cup black olives, chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
  - 1 teaspoon pepper
  - 2 medium tomatoes, sliced
  - 2 cups mozzarella cheese, shredded

1. Heat oven to 450°F (232°C). Remove piecrusts from packages and set flat on greased baking sheets.
2. Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add chopped onion and cook for 2 minutes. Add spinach and cook until moisture evaporates. Set aside.
3. In a large bowl, combine the ricotta, olives, salt, and pepper. Add cooked spinach mixture.
4. Cut tomatoes into thin slices and lightly salt.
5. Spoon the spinach-and-cheese mixture evenly onto the centers of the four piecrusts. Fold piecrust edges up over the filling and pinch into place. Distribute the sliced tomatoes evenly on top of the four pies. Sprinkle each pie with mozzarella. Bake for 20 minutes.

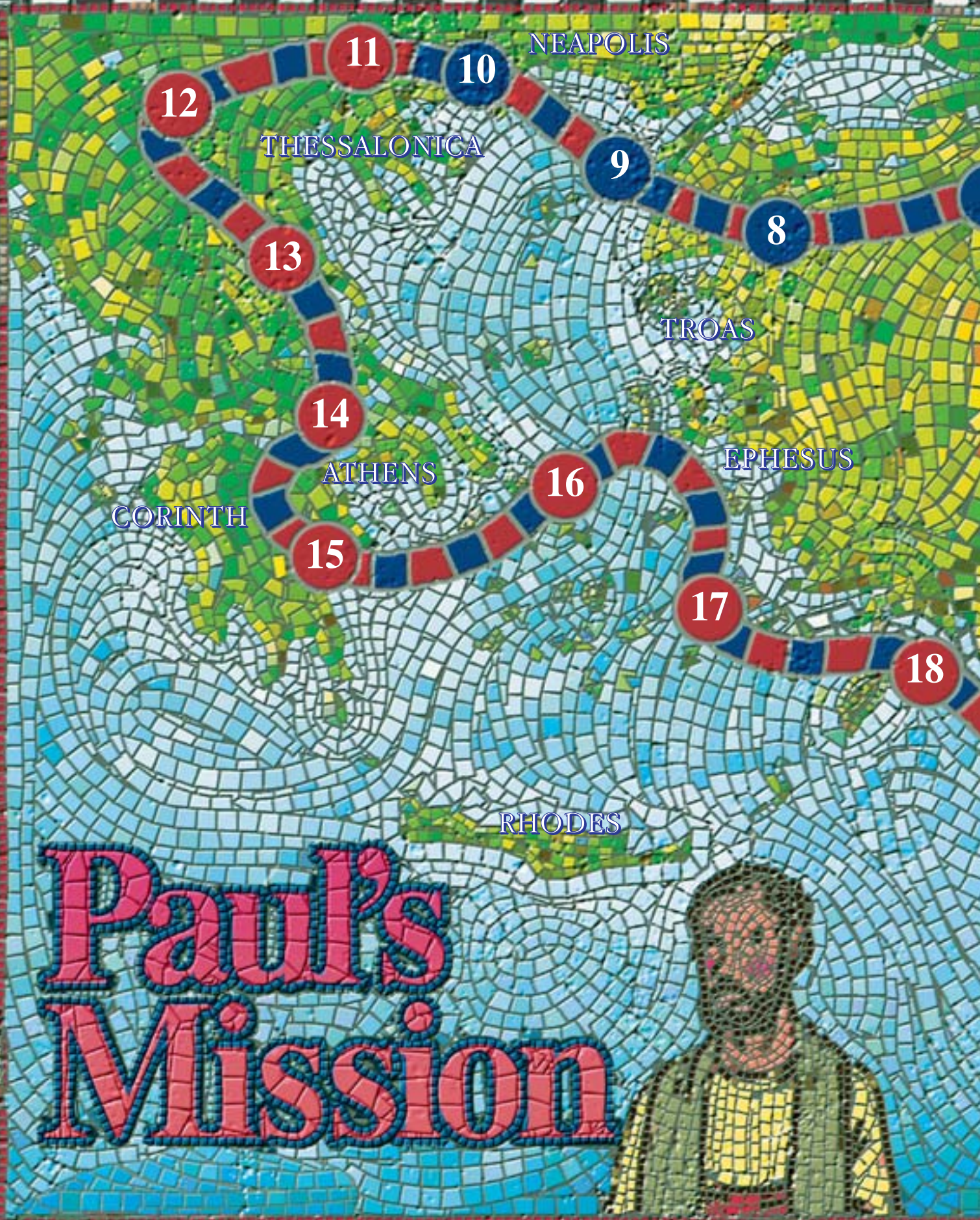
## Cherry Chocolate Parfaits

- 2 cups cold milk
- 1 package (3.9 ounces/111 g) instant chocolate pudding mix
- 1 can (21 ounces/595 g) cherry pie filling, divided
- 2 cups whipped topping, divided
- 4 cherries
- 4 teaspoons chocolate sprinkles or shavings

1. In a bowl, whisk milk and pudding mix for 2 minutes. Let stand until soft-set. Stir in 1 cup pie filling. Fold in 1 cup whipped topping.
2. Spoon half of the pudding mixture into four tall glasses. Top with remaining pie filling, pudding mixture, and whipped topping.
3. Garnish with cherries and chocolate sprinkles or shavings, if desired.







NEAPOLIS

11

10

12

THESSALONICA

9

8

TROAS

13

14

ATHENS

EPHESUS

CORINTH

16

15

17

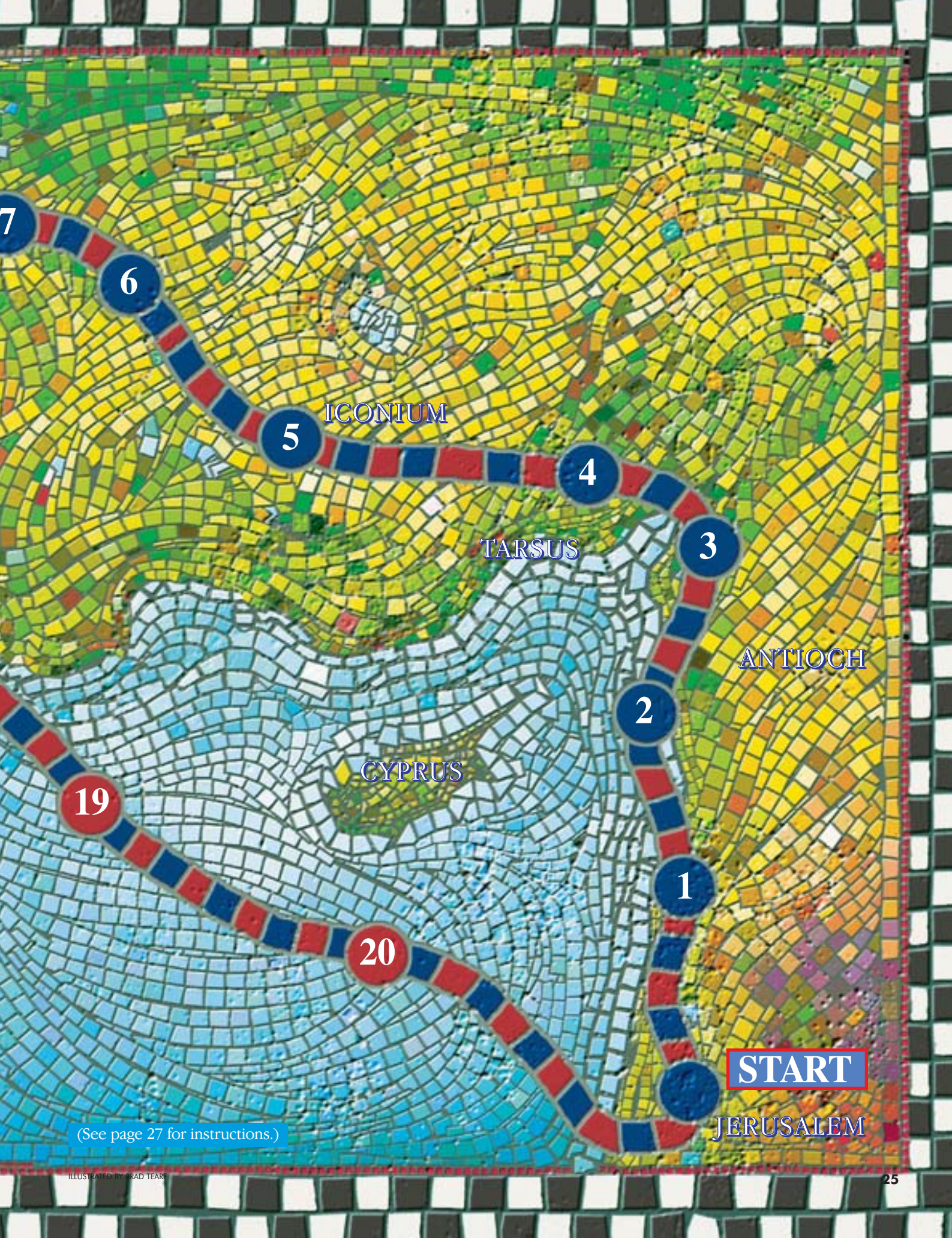
18

RHODES

# Paul's Mission







**START**

JERUSALEM

ICONIUM

TARSUS

ANTIOCH

CYPRUS

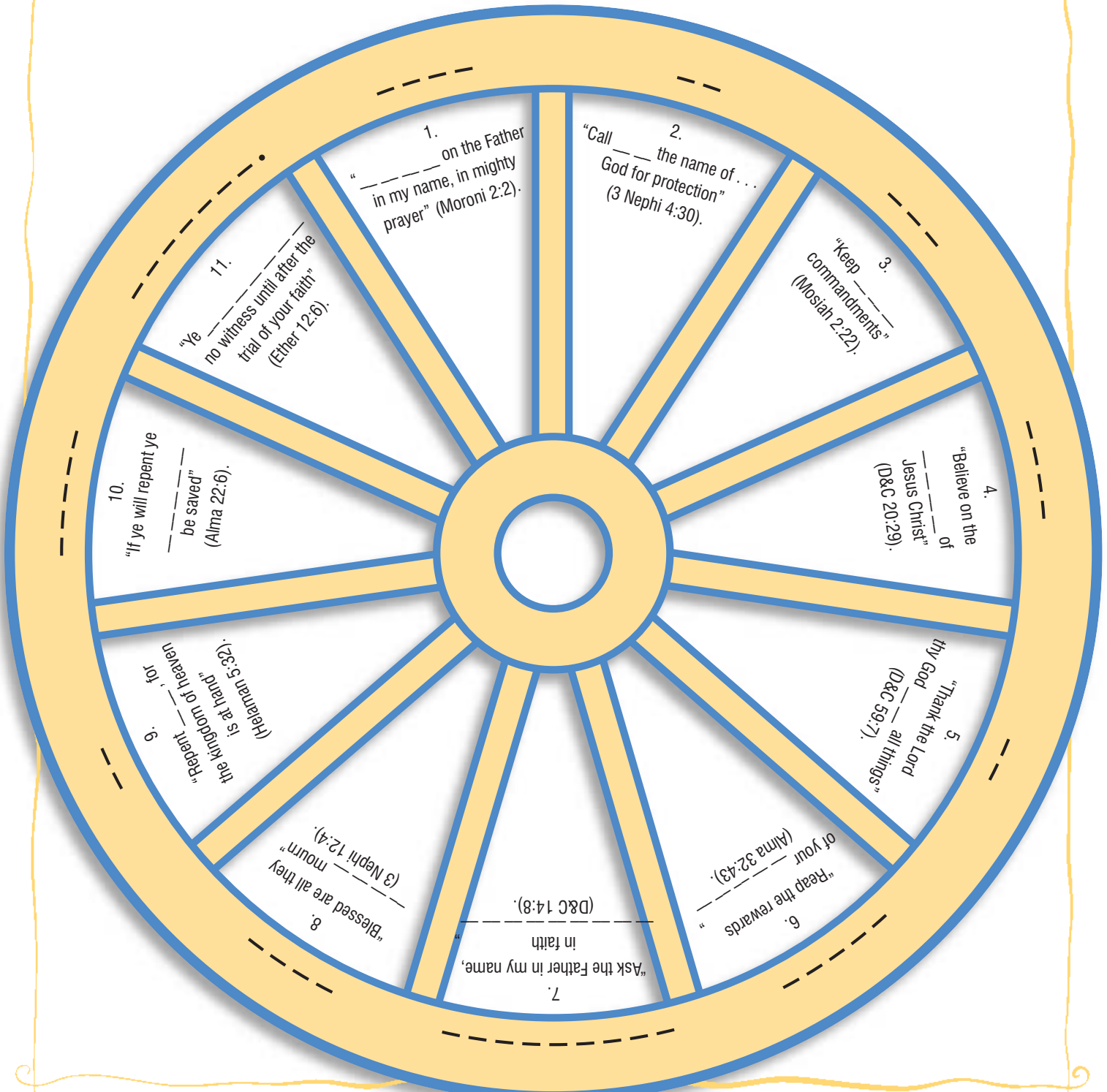
(See page 27 for instructions.)



## Wagon Wheel Scripture Puzzle

BY CALLIE BUYS

Find the missing word in each scripture and write it on the space in the wagon wheel frame. When you have finished filling in the scriptures, read the sentence on the wagon frame (starting with the first scripture). You'll find out how the pioneers received help from Heavenly Father, and how we can too. (See below for answers.)



**Funstuff Answers:** Wagon Wheel Scripture Puzzle: Call on his name in faith, believing that ye shall receive (Alma 22:16). 1. Call, 2. on, 3. his, 4. name, 5. in, 6. faith, 7. believing, 8. that, 9. ye, 10. shall, 11. receive. *Guess Who? Answer:* Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin.





# Paul's Mission

A game for two or more players



BY BRAD TEARE AND ALAN MOBERLY

*But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel* (Acts 9:15).

**T**he Apostle Paul went on many missions for the Church. This required great courage and faith. As you follow Paul's footsteps in this game, you will find two hidden scriptures and discover two traits that made Paul a great missionary.

**Directions:** Remove and mount pages 24–25 on a piece of light cardboard. Prepare a word list by numbering a piece of lined paper from 1 to 20. Each player should select a button or dried bean of a different color as a game marker.

Each player in turn rolls one die to advance his or her marker around the board. When you land on a number, look up the corresponding verse on the scripture clue list and read the verse aloud from the Bible. Then begin solving the puzzle by counting from the beginning of the verse the number of words indicated in parentheses. Write that word on the word list after the appropriate number. (For example, if you land on the number six, read Acts 1:22 aloud, then find the fifth word in the quotation and write it after number 6 on your word list.) Keep circling the map until the entire word list has been filled. Then read aloud the two hidden scriptures by reading each word list from top to bottom. Discuss what these verses can mean in your life. ●

## Scripture Clue List

First scripture (blue dots 1–10)

1. Matthew 6:21 (1st word)
2. Acts 9:16 (2nd word)
3. Romans 1:15 (9th word)
4. Acts 5:42 (12th word)
5. 2 Timothy 1:8 (5th word)
6. Acts 1:22 (5th word)
7. Acts 5:32 (13th word)
8. 1 Corinthians 9:18 (12th word)
9. Acts 2:38 (12th word)
10. Acts 18:28 (17th word)

Second scripture (red dots 11–20)

11. Romans 7:25 (1st word)
12. 1 Timothy 6:7 (13th word)
13. Acts 24:16 (3rd word)
14. Acts 15:18 (5th word)
15. Romans 8:31 (8th word)
16. Galatians 4:7 (20th word)
17. Romans 14:9 (5th word)
18. Romans 5:5 (21st word)
19. Isaiah 44:14 (15th word)
20. Galatians 1:11 (13th word)

Answer: Romans 1:16.  
ILLUSTRATED BY BRAD TEARE

Answer: Philippians 4:13.



# A *Friendly* Experiment

BY REBECCA CORNISH TALLEY  
(Based on a true story)

*A special gift is kindness. Such happiness it brings (Children's Songbook, 145).*

What are you doing, Mommy?" Madolyn asked as she sat down in the kitchen.

Mom rummaged through a box and placed a pile of books on the table. "I'm going through all of these books so we can put them on the new bookshelves."

Madolyn grabbed a book with a bright orange cover. "I remember this story," she said. She thumbed through the pages of the picture book.

"I need to organize all of these magazines

too," Mom said as she set some magazines next to the books.

"Wow, look at all of these!" Madolyn picked up a pile of some *Friend* magazines. She held up one with a picture of Jesus and some children on the cover. "Can I read this one?" she asked.

Mom looked at the magazine. "This is from before you were even born."

"Can I have it?" Madolyn asked.

"Sure!"

A few days later while Mom was making dinner, Madolyn said, "Mommy, I read a great story in this *Friend*."\* She held up the old magazine. "It's about an experiment."

"What kind of experiment?"







Madolyn opened the magazine and pointed to a picture. “This boy decided to try hard to be nice and not get angry easily. I think Logan, Savannah, and I should try something like that.” She tapped her finger on her forehead. “We’ll try hard to be like Jesus this week. We’ll try not to argue when we play together, and we’ll try to be better examples for each other. We won’t tell the older kids or Dad and see if they can guess what we’re doing.” Madolyn’s smile stretched across her face.

Mom gave Madolyn a squeeze, and said, “That’s a great idea!”

The next night at family scripture study, Clayton, the oldest brother, said, “Savannah, I noticed you’re being extra reverent tonight.” Savannah just smiled and looked over at Madolyn.

One evening after family prayer, Angela, the oldest sister, said, “You all listened to the prayer really well tonight.” Logan, Savannah, and Madolyn all grinned.

Saturday at dinner, Dad said to the

younger children, “I’m glad that you all shared your toys today, and played together nicely.” The three children giggled.

When family home evening came, their sister, Rachel, asked,

“What’s going on with the little ones?”

“What do you mean?” Mom asked.

“They’ve all been extra reverent and nice for the last few days,” Rachel said.

“I’ve noticed that too,” Dad said.

Madolyn covered her mouth but her big smile peeked out from behind her hand.

“Why don’t you tell the rest of the family, Madolyn,” Mom said.

“We decided to try to be like Jesus for a week, like a boy in a story I read in an old *Friend* magazine,” Madolyn said.

“We tried to not fight too much,” Logan said.

“And tried to be reverent during prayer and scripture study,” Savannah said.

“I think our experiment turned out very well!” declared Madolyn with a great big smile. And everyone agreed. ●

\*“Experiment,” Sept. 1995, 2–5.



“Kindness should permeate all of our words and actions at work, at school, at church, and especially in our homes.”

Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “The Virtue of Kindness,” *Ensign*, May 2005, 26.



*This is a fun game for family home evening, or you can add it to your Sunday Box (see Friend, June 2006, 18).*



# SUNDAY BOX Pencil Spin

**Tell a favorite scripture story.**

**Lead the group in singing your favorite Primary song.**

### Instructions

1. Cut out each square.
2. Place the squares in a paper bag, close the bag, and shake it to mix them up.
3. Have the players sit in a circle on the floor.
4. Place a pencil in the center of the circle, and choose a player to spin the pencil. When the pencil stops, the person it points to draws one square from the paper bag and answers the question or does what it says. Then it is his or her turn to spin the pencil.

**Tell one way you can prepare to be a full-time missionary someday.**

**Give your mom or dad a hug.**

**Show what you should do when a prayer is being said.**

**Tell about something nice someone has done for you.**

**Tell an experience you have had in trying to be like Jesus.**

**Name three things you are thankful for.**

**Why do we take the sacrament?**

**Name three things you can do on the Sabbath.**

**Explain why we celebrate Christmas.**

**What are you learning in Primary or Sunday School?**

**Tell something you like about the person sitting across from you.**

**Why do we celebrate Easter?**

**Name one thing the prophet has asked us to do.**

**What is one miracle Jesus performed?**

**Who visited Joseph Smith in the Sacred Grove?**

**What is the name of our prophet today?**

**Tell why we are baptized.**

**Tell one way you can honor your parents.**

*Note: If you do not wish to remove pages from the magazine, this activity may be copied, traced, or printed from the Internet at [www.lds.org](http://www.lds.org). Click on Gospel Library.*

## Our Creative Friends



### Cats

Cats are the best,  
Far above the rest.  
They purr when they are happy,  
Meow when they are sad,  
And hiss when they are mad.

They love to have company.  
They hate to be alone.  
And before you know it  
They are full-grown!

But cats are still loveable,  
No matter what their size,  
From their pretty, slender tails  
To their lovely amber eyes!

*Camilla L., age 10, Ohio*

### I Believe in Heavenly Father

I believe in Him.  
I believe we should not sin.  
I believe He is our Father.  
I believe He loves us.  
I believe He believes in us.  
I believe He cares.  
I believe He shares.  
I believe, I believe.  
You should believe too.  
We believe!

*Hannah Jean C., age 9  
Ontario, Canada*

### Painted Lady Butterflies

Flying, gliding,  
Soft sliding,  
Fluttering free  
Are the painted lady butterflies,  
Drinking colorful flower nectar  
With their long red tongues.  
Flying smoothly is what they do best.

Oh! I feel a painted lady butterfly's soft touch.  
It is soft and furry.  
I have no worry  
Of a painted lady butterfly.

*Chyenne B., age 7, Arizona*

### Joseph Smith the Prophet

In a grove of trees he prayed  
To see which church was true.  
The Father said, "Join none,  
For none of them are true."

Moroni appeared to Joseph  
And said, "God has work for you—  
A book on golden plates,  
The truth made known to you."

*Isabelle S., age 7, California*

### The Spirit

The Spirit can be with you  
Every hour of every day.  
The Spirit can be with you  
When you kneel to pray.  
The Spirit is always there  
To wipe away your tears.  
The Spirit is always there  
Calming your fears.

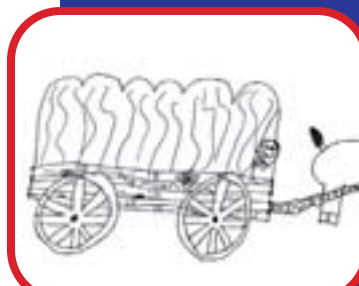
*Luke W., age 9, Utah*



*Alberto B., age 10, Bolivia*



*Braxton H., age 8, Missouri*



*Justin P., age 8, Tennessee*



*Kiana H., age 6, Wyoming*



*Alexus H., age 12, Pennsylvania*



*Rian H., age 9, Colorado*



*Sophia R., age 10, Texas*



*Noah S., age 6, Alabama*







Vicki E., age 4, Oregon



Christina A., age 10, South Korea



Allison P., age 8, Utah



Please send submissions to Our Creative Friends, Friend Magazine, Rm. 2430, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, United States of America. A written statement signed by a parent or legal guardian granting permission to publish the child's submission must be included. If an adult helps with a child's submission, credit should also be given to him or her. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least a year. Ages shown are those at the time of submission. Children whose writings and drawings are submitted should be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned.



Tanner D., age 7, Tennessee



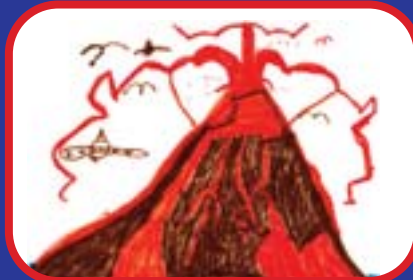
Daniel G., age 8, England



Jay L., age 5, Michigan



Stefan L., age 7, Virginia



Kray J., age 6, Florida



Elena F., age 7, Arizona



Jodee W., age 10, Idaho



Simonetta D., age 11, Nevada



Matt M., age 9, Washington



Aubry S., age 5, Kansas



Stephen H., age 6, Alberta, Canada



James S., age 6, California



Sarah C., age 9, Ohio



Amanda W., age 12, Utah





# Pictures and Prayers

BY KIMBERLY WEBB

Church Magazines  
(Based on a true story)

*Pray unto the Lord, call upon his holy name*  
(D&C 65:4).

Five-year-old Cammie liked to color. When her brother Ryan was sick in the hospital, she drew a picture of a smiling nurse for him. The doctor hung it next to Ryan's crib. "Ryan will feel better knowing you are thinking about him," Mommy said.

Sometimes Cammie's friends asked her to draw pictures for them. "Please draw a princess that looks like me," Rachel said. So Cammie did.

Cammie even liked to color rocks. Grandma often came to see rows of Cammie's colorful pebbles laid neatly on the porch. "Can I buy a few?" Grandma asked. She handed Cammie two coins, then picked up a big striped rock and a pebble with blue polka dots.

Cammie was glad that her artwork made others happy, but she wanted to make Heavenly Father happy too. One Sunday after church, she decided to draw a picture just for Him. First she drew her family. She colored green grass and flowers below their feet. Then she drew clouds and a big shining sun. Above the clouds, she drew smiling angels looking down on earth. She knew Heavenly Father was in heaven watching her too.



Sighing happily, she put away the crayons.

Now what? Whenever she drew a picture for Mommy and Daddy, they hung it on the fridge or put it in a scrapbook. Cammie wondered how she could give her special picture to Heavenly Father.

That night before bed, she placed the drawing on the middle of her tidy bedroom floor. Then she said a prayer. "Heavenly Father, I made this picture just for you."

The next morning, Cammie hopped out of bed, hoping the drawing would be gone. But there it lay, right where she had left it. She frowned, tears tickling the corners of her eyes. "Maybe Heavenly Father doesn't like my picture," she worried.

All day Cammie wondered. If Heavenly Father didn't



want a picture, how could she show Him that she was thinking about Him? Cammie thought and thought.

That night, she said her prayers again. She thanked Heavenly Father for a beautiful day and for her family and the fun things she did. She asked Him to watch over her as she slept, and she told Him

she loved Him. Then she crawled into bed.

As she lay there, her blankets seemed to grow warmer. They grew warmer and heavier until Cammie realized the feeling wasn't from her blankets at all—it was inside her heart.

"I can pray to show Heavenly Father I'm thinking of Him!" she realized.

And this warm feeling from the Holy Ghost was her answer—Heavenly Father was thinking of her too. ●

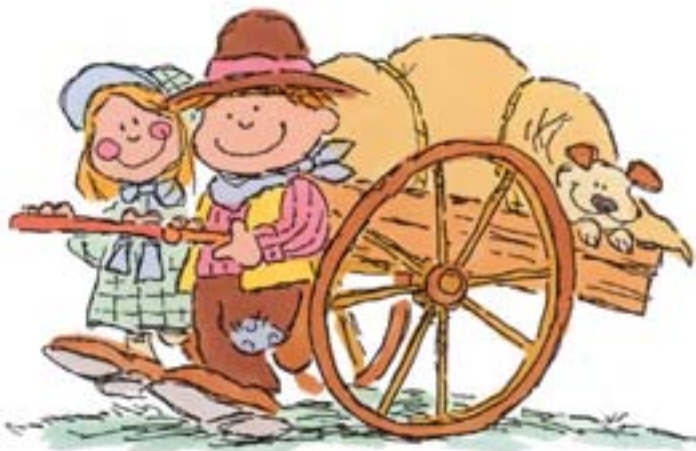
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## Handcart Pioneers

BY VAL CHADWICK BAGLEY

Many pioneers walked from Iowa and Nebraska to Utah pushing and pulling handcarts.

Look at the two handcart pictures and decide what things are different.





# My Journal Full of Pictures

BY ELIZABETH GILES

I can keep a journal,  
And I can't even write.  
But I can color pictures—  
I do it every night.

Special things that happen  
And special things we do,  
I draw them in my journal.  
And you can do it too.





# Picture Journals

BY ELIZABETH GILES

To make a picture journal, you will need: pieces of plain white paper, a pencil, crayons, markers, a hole punch, and ribbon.

1. Ask a parent or older brother or sister to help you print your name and the year on a piece of paper for the cover. Then decorate it using crayons and markers.

2. Each evening have someone older help you print

the date at the top of a piece of paper. Draw and color what happened to you that day on the paper.

If you wish, have an older person write down a brief description.

3. At the end of the year, punch holes at the top or sides of the journal cover and pages (see illustration). Make sure the pages start with the earliest date, then follow in dated order. Place the cover on top and tie the journal together with ribbon.

BY CALEB WARNOCK

(Based on a true story)

*Ask, and it shall be given you* (Matthew 7:7).

**T**en-year-old Vernon walked beside his father along the dusty road. He was helping herd the family's new milk cow to the corral behind their house. Vernon's father had been saving money to buy a cow because canned milk was too expensive and the family needed milk.

"What are we going to call her?" his father asked.

Vernon thought for a moment. "I think we should call her Daisy," he said.

Vernon soon learned that Daisy had to be milked twice a day—every morning and every night. Before long Daisy was

producing more milk than the family could drink.

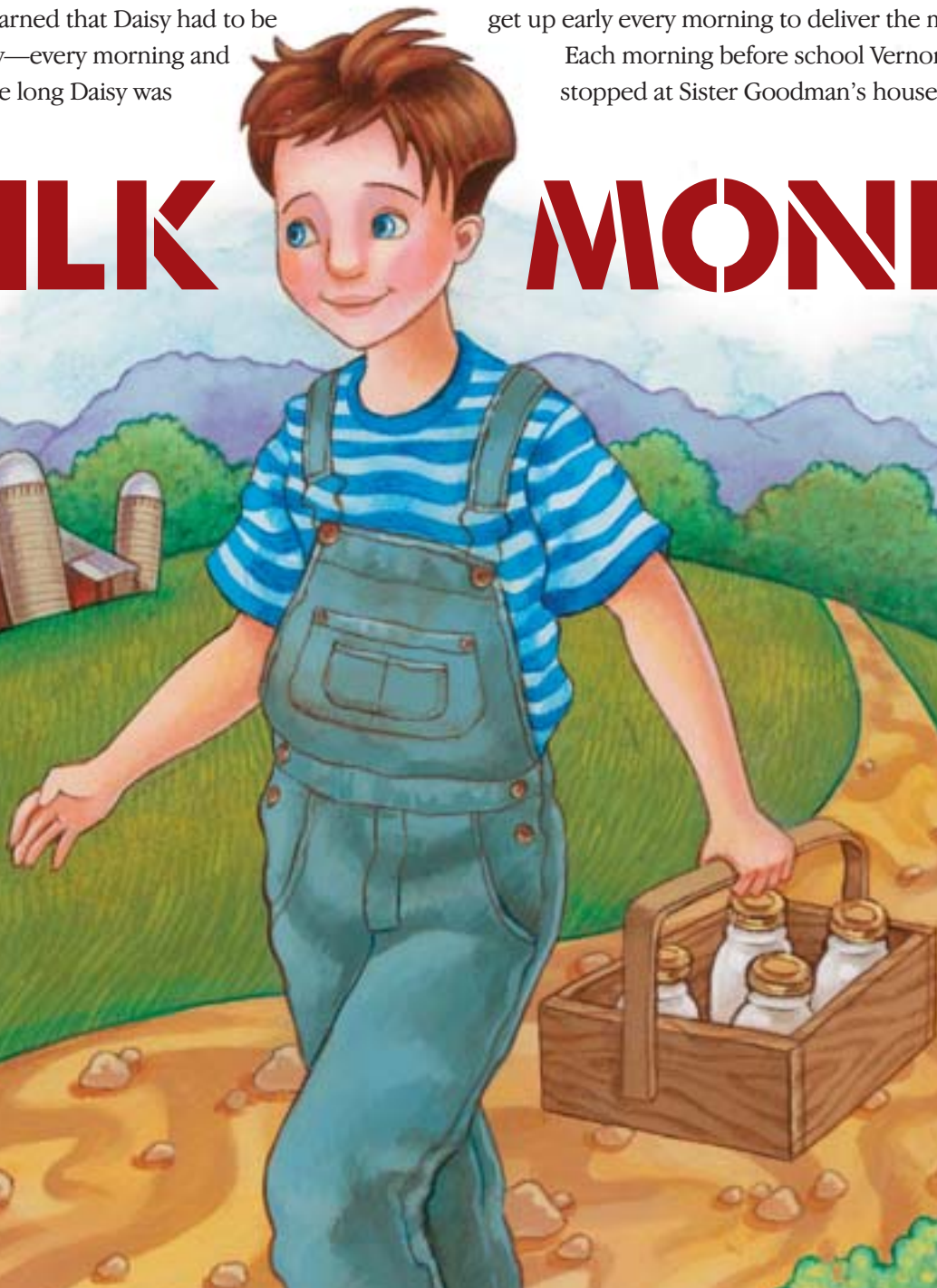
One day Vernon's mother came home from a Relief Society activity and said that one of the women in the ward had a sick baby. The doctor had said that if the baby had fresh cow's milk to drink, he might get better.

"Since we have extra milk, would you please take a quart to Sister Goodman's house every morning before school?" asked Vernon's mother.

Vernon said he would. Sister Goodman did not live by the school so Vernon knew that he would have to get up early every morning to deliver the milk.

Each morning before school Vernon stopped at Sister Goodman's house to

# MILK MONEY



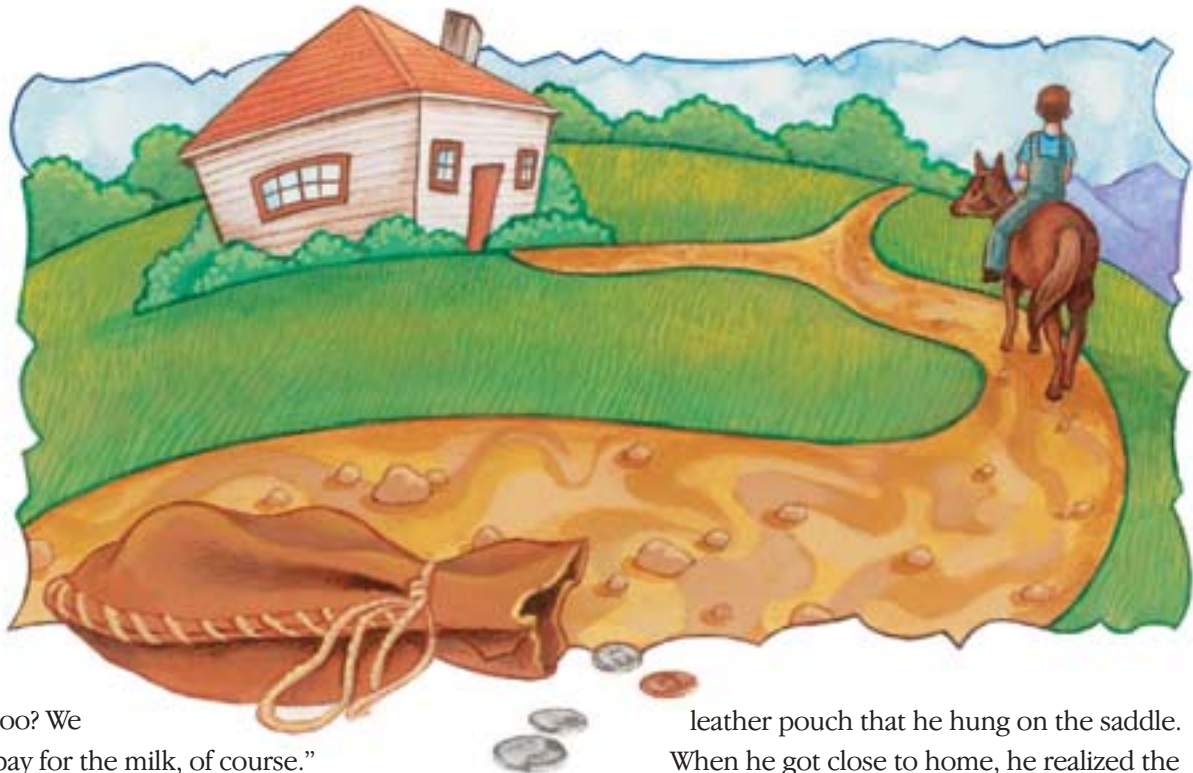


deliver the jar of fresh milk. One day, just as he was saying good-bye to Sister Goodman, a neighbor asked Vernon to wait.

“Sister Goodman says you deliver the finest fresh milk around,” the neighbor said. “Will you please ask your parents if we could have some delivered to our

wanted milk, Vernon’s father quit his job on the railroad. Now all of the money the family had came from the milk business.

One day after school, Vernon rode his horse from house to house collecting the milk money for the past two weeks. At each house he put the money into a



house too? We would pay for the milk, of course.”

That night, Vernon told his parents about what Sister Goodman’s neighbor had asked. The next morning, Vernon delivered two quarts of milk, one to Sister Goodman and one to her neighbor. Before long, more neighbors wanted milk.

Soon almost everyone in town was asking if Vernon and his brothers could deliver fresh milk and butter to their homes. So many people wanted deliveries that Vernon’s father started using the horses and wagon to take Vernon and his brothers around before school. They bought a second cow, and then a third.

Vernon and his brothers got up at 4 a.m. each morning in order to get all the milking and delivering done before school started. And every two weeks, Vernon and his brothers went around town after school to collect the money for the milk. Because so many people

leather pouch that he hung on the saddle.

When he got close to home, he realized the leather pouch was gone. He looked on the ground around his horse to see where it had fallen, but he couldn’t find it.

Vernon got on his horse again and rode back up the road. He rode all the way back to town searching for the leather pouch, but he couldn’t see it anywhere. As the sun began to set, he rode his horse up and down the dirt road two more times. Still he couldn’t find the money.

As it got dark, Vernon knew his parents would expect him home soon. He also knew that the milk money was all his family had to buy food for the next two weeks. He felt sick to his stomach as he thought about going home without the money. He just couldn’t go home until he found it.

Vernon thought he might get into trouble for losing



“Inspiration . . . comes to us as we bend our knees and seek the help of God.”

**President Thomas S. Monson, First Counselor in the First Presidency, “Pathways to Perfection,” *Ensign*, May 2002, 100.**

the money. For a moment he thought about hiding so he wouldn't get into trouble. But he knew that would only cause his parents to worry. Then he remembered that you should pray to Heavenly Father when you need help. Vernon got off his horse and knelt down at the side of the road. As he prayed, he explained that he had lost the money and couldn't find it. He asked Heavenly Father to help him find the leather pouch before it got too dark to see.

When he finished praying, Vernon felt that if he would walk instead of ride the horse, he would find the money. But the sun was going down and Vernon knew this was his last chance to look before it got dark. If he rode his horse he could go faster, he thought to himself. But once again, he felt he should walk.

Leading his horse by the reins, Vernon began walking back toward town. As he walked, Vernon looked everywhere—behind weeds and rocks and in old, dried-up mud puddles.

Then, about halfway to town, Vernon kicked a large tumbleweed. There on the road where the tumbleweed had been sitting was the leather pouch. A few of the coins were spilled on the ground. As Vernon gathered the coins, he could see that all of the money was still there.

Vernon knew that if he had ridden his horse down the road again, he would have missed the leather pouch and it would have been too dark to look again. He knelt by the side of the road and thanked Heavenly Father for helping him find the leather pouch.

When Vernon got home, he told his mom and dad about how he had lost and found the money. He told them that he had prayed and had felt that he should walk instead of ride his horse. That night, Vernon and his family knelt together in prayer and thanked Heavenly Father for helping Vernon find the milk money. ●



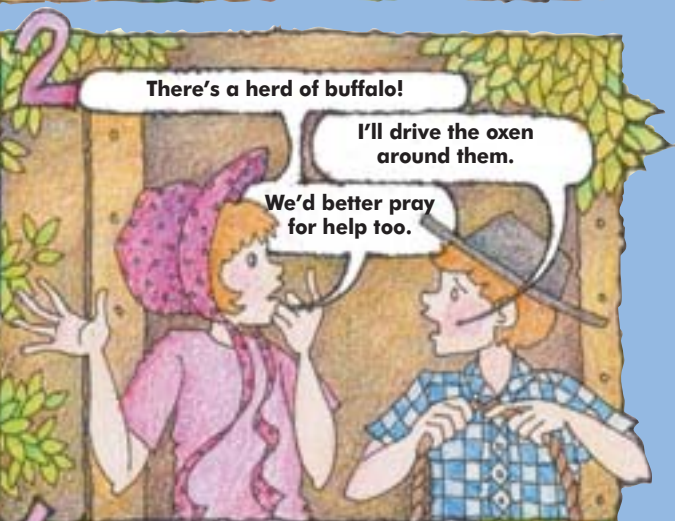
# Matt & Mandy



1

Let's play pioneers.

OK. The tree house can be our covered wagon.

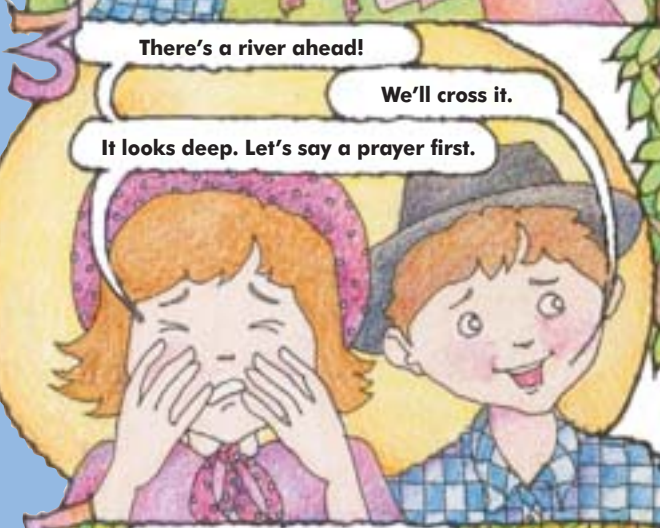


2

There's a herd of buffalo!

I'll drive the oxen around them.

We'd better pray for help too.



3

There's a river ahead!

We'll cross it.

It looks deep. Let's say a prayer first.

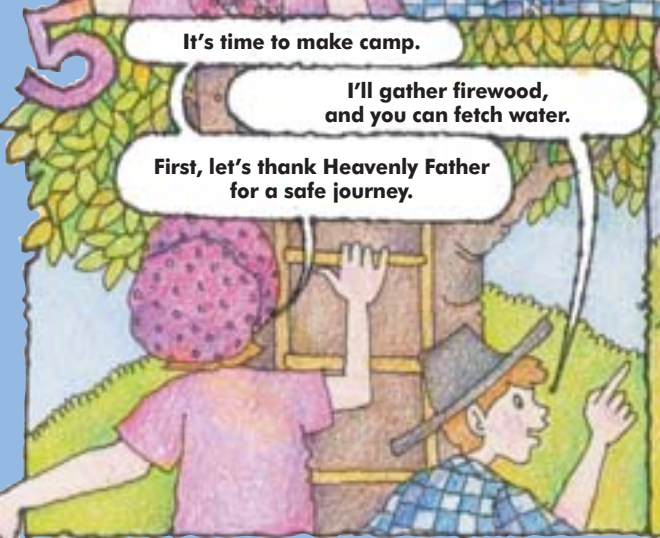


4

There's a band of Indians!

We'll make friends with them.

Let's pray that they'll trust us.



5

It's time to make camp.

I'll gather firewood, and you can fetch water.

First, let's thank Heavenly Father for a safe journey.



6

Boy, pioneers must have prayed a lot.

Pioneers were smart people.





# Trying to Be Like Jesus

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

## Baby Quilts and Teddy Bears

By Natalie Z.



I'm trying to be like Jesus by making items to send to the Humanitarian Center and other children all over the world. I've been tying baby quilts and making teddy bears. I also learned how to sew pajama pants. Lately I've been having fun memorizing the Articles of Faith while I juggle a soccer ball.



*Natalie Z., age 10, Illinois*

## I Will Use the Names of Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ Reverently\*

By Teagan Jay P.



**A** while ago one of my friends in school started saying one of Heavenly Father's names over and over in

a rude way. I asked him to stop. At first he thought it was funny, so he started laughing and said it even louder, again and again. I asked him once more to please stop because he was using Heavenly Father's name as if it were a joke. This time he could tell that I was serious, so he stopped. I am glad to know that Heavenly Father and Jesus love us so much. I hope we will always remember to say Their names with reverence and love.

*Teagan Jay P., age 9, Utah*







## Tithes and Offerings

By Alexis G.



I want to share my testimony of the importance of paying tithing. I recently earned four dollars selling

lemonade. The following Sunday I filled out my donation slip for forty cents in tithing. A warm feeling came over me. Then I wanted to pay the rest of my four dollars for other donations and I was very happy!

*Alexis G., age 10, Ohio*



## More Important than Anything

By Maya P. H.

I learned in school that some children have a disease called cancer and that the medicine they take can make them lose their hair. I was sad for them because not only are they sick, but other kids might make fun of them too. I found out that I could donate some of my own long hair to these children. My ballet school is very strict and wouldn't let me dance in their recital with short hair. I worked hard all year so I could dance in the recital, but I didn't care. I donated my hair because I knew Jesus would say that people are more important than anything else.

*Maya P. H., age 6, Pennsylvania*



## My Best Buddy

By Everet M.  
with help from his family

and mommy that I wanted to give one to my best buddy, Jarom. I knew that he didn't mean to hurt my head. I love my family.

*Everet M., age 4, Utah*

My brother Jarom dropped a glass piggy bank on my head. I had to go to the hospital and get six stitches. The doctor gave me seven suckers for being so good. I told my daddy



**The Friend would like to hear from you about an experience you have had in trying to be like Jesus. Please include a photo of yourself and your name, age, and address. A written statement signed by a parent or legal guardian granting permission to publish your photo and submission must be included. If an adult helps with your submission, credit should also be given to him or her. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity. For scheduling reasons, submissions selected may not appear in the magazine for at least a year. Ages shown are those at the time of submission.**

**Children whose writings are submitted should be at least three years old. Due to the number of submissions received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned. Send it to: Trying to Be Like Jesus, Friend Magazine, Rm. 2430, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3220, United States of America.**

*Keep all your pledges one with another (D&C 136:20).*

# My Sister, My Example

BY SHANNA BUTLER

(Based on a true story)

When I was about eight years old, I lived in Jamaica. Jamaica can be very hot. I was so excited one day when my aunt invited me to go with her and my cousin to the house of a friend who had a swimming pool. A cool pool on a sunny day sounded great.

My mother said I could go but that I couldn't swim since she didn't know who would be there to watch us. I told her I would just put my feet in the pool to get cool.

When I got to the house, my cousin immediately jumped in the pool. Some of our other friends came over and started to swim too. Everyone kept begging me to come in the pool, and finally I gave in. It was so hot outside, and I thought my mom wouldn't know because my aunt said she wouldn't tell her.

I knew my aunt was wrong to keep secrets from my mother, but I played with my friends for a while in the pool anyway. I was so scared the whole time about what would happen if my mother knew I had disobeyed her. When we got home, my hair was a little wet, even though I had tried to keep it out of the water. My mom asked me if I had gone swimming, and I lied. I told her no. I felt really bad about it for a really long time, but I didn't want to get in trouble.

A few years later, when my sister, Briélan, was seven, she was invited to go to the beach with some friends

and their parents. My mom told her the same thing she had told me: go and have fun, but don't go swimming. When my sister got to the beach, her friends' parents told her she could go ahead and swim. They wouldn't tell her mother, so it would be OK.

Even though my sister thought my mom would never know, she told her friends' parents that she would not go swimming because her mother had asked her not to, and she wanted to be obedient. The grown-ups tried to convince her it was OK, but she still said no because she knew she should do what was right, and they were trying to get her to do something wrong.

My sister's day at the beach was just as hot as mine at the pool, and she wanted to swim just as badly as I did. But my little sister became my big example when she chose to honor our parents by obeying them.

When my mom told me this story about my sister, I told her how I had lied to her. She was thankful that I finally told her the truth. She was very proud of my little sister, who had chosen to obey her, and so was I. ●







“Honesty is a very important part of character. . . .  
Honesty begins when we are young.”

**President James E. Faust, Second Counselor in the  
First Presidency, “‘We Seek After These Things,’”  
*Ensign*, May 1998, 44.**



# Welcome to Young Women

BY KIMBERLY WEBB  
Church Magazines

## A special message to 11-year-old girls.

**M***utual. Personal Progress. Theme.*  
Do these words sound familiar? If you're a girl about to turn 12, you'll soon be hearing them all the time. We asked Sister Susan W. Tanner, Young Women general president, and her second counselor, Sister Elaine S. Dalton, to tell us everything you need to know about entering Young Women.

The first thing?

"We love you!" Sister Tanner says. "You are so fresh and beautiful and enthusiastic. You desire to do good in your lives. We're excited for you to enter Young Women, and we're there with arms to wrap around you and make you feel welcome."

## Your First Sunday

Finally you've turned 12. Now instead of going to sharing time, you'll enter Young Women. Sister Tanner says, "There will be loving people there to meet you: Young Women leaders, a Beehive class presidency, and other friends."

A Beehive is a young woman age 12 or 13—in other words, you! Young women

ages 14 to 15 are called Mia Maids, and those 16 to 18 are called Laurels.

Even though Young Women is different from Primary, you have nothing to fear. "You've been lovingly prepared in Primary, and you're ready," Sister Dalton says.

## The Young Women Theme and Values

"We are daughters of our Heavenly Father, who loves us, and we love Him."

You've heard the same message in Primary, Sister Tanner explains, when you learned to sing "I Am a Child of God" (*Children's Songbook*, 2–3). But it's not a new verse—it's the first line of the Young Women theme, which you'll recite each week.





“It’s so important for that message to be instilled in your heart,” Sister Tanner says. “If you have a firm testimony that you are His beloved spiritual daughter, it affects everything you think and every way you respond to life’s challenges. It gives you courage.”

Sister Dalton adds, “If you know who you are, you will have the strength, desire, and commitment to stand as a witness of God. That’s so important in these latter days.”

Being a part of Young Women can help prepare you for the future as you learn about the seven values listed in the theme: faith, divine nature, individual worth, knowledge, choice and accountability, good works, and integrity.

### **Personal Progress**

“I love the name of Personal Progress because it’s exactly what it says it is,” Sister Tanner says. “Heavenly Father’s plan is for each of us to progress throughout our lives.”

Like Primary’s Faith in God program, Personal Progress is a way to “develop a closeness to Father in Heaven. You can practice keeping commitments and learn to keep covenants,” Sister Tanner says. Personal Progress goals are listed by seven categories—the seven values.

Sister Dalton points out, “As you work on Personal Progress you’ll use your scriptures, and they’ll help you feel the Spirit.” You’ll begin to better understand the scriptures, your own great worth, and your baptismal covenants. Then you’ll be prepared to make temple covenants.

“That’s why the Personal Progress book has a temple on the cover,” Sister Tanner says. “It reminds you that Personal Progress is a way to prepare.”

### **Activities and Firesides**

Activity night, or Mutual, is held every week. Usually you’ll meet with the young women or just your Beehive class, but once a month your activity will include the young men too. You might enjoy a cultural event, give service, learn a skill, play a sport—and always have fun!

Being a part of Young Women can also give you the chance to attend firesides, youth conferences, and other meetings. Each year you’ll enjoy a special session that is broadcast all over the world like general conference. It’s the general Young Women meeting, the Saturday before April general conference. You’ll hear counsel from our prophets and leaders just for you.

### **Camp**

“This is a time when you get to leave the rest of the world behind, go out into Heavenly Father’s beautiful world, and feel His love for you,” Sister Tanner says. You’ll not only have a great time in the outdoors,





*When you complete the Personal Progress program, you'll receive the Young Womanhood medallion. Personal Progress is one way to prepare for the temple.*

but you'll also feel "a great sense of belonging to Heavenly Father's eternal family." You might hike, sing, laugh, learn, and make crafts; but many young women agree that the testimony meeting is the best part of all.

#### **Wait, There's More!**

You will not only *receive* many gifts from being a part of Young Women; you'll be able to give of yourself too.

Sister Dalton says, "In Young Women you'll be able to develop your talents more and also use them to bless others."

You may even receive your first calling in Young Women. If it is large enough, each class has a president, two counselors, and a secretary. Sister Dalton says, "The class presidency will look out for you and make sure that you're informed about all the activities." As you watch them, pay attention because you may be called someday to be in a class presidency.

Another way to contribute is to be excited. Sister Tanner says, "Share your enthusiasm when you come into Young Women!"

Don't be afraid to give of yourself, and you'll receive even more.

#### **A Young Woman Wherever You Are**

Perhaps your ward or branch is too small for your class to have a class presidency. Maybe you live too far away to attend weekly activities. But you can still participate in Young Women! Even if you are the only young woman in your ward or branch, you can say the theme each week. You can learn to live by its values, and you can work on Personal Progress.

Sister Tanner says, "No matter where you are and no matter what your circumstances are, you are a young woman in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. You can always be personally progressing toward the temple and coming unto Christ."

That's what Young Women is all about. ●

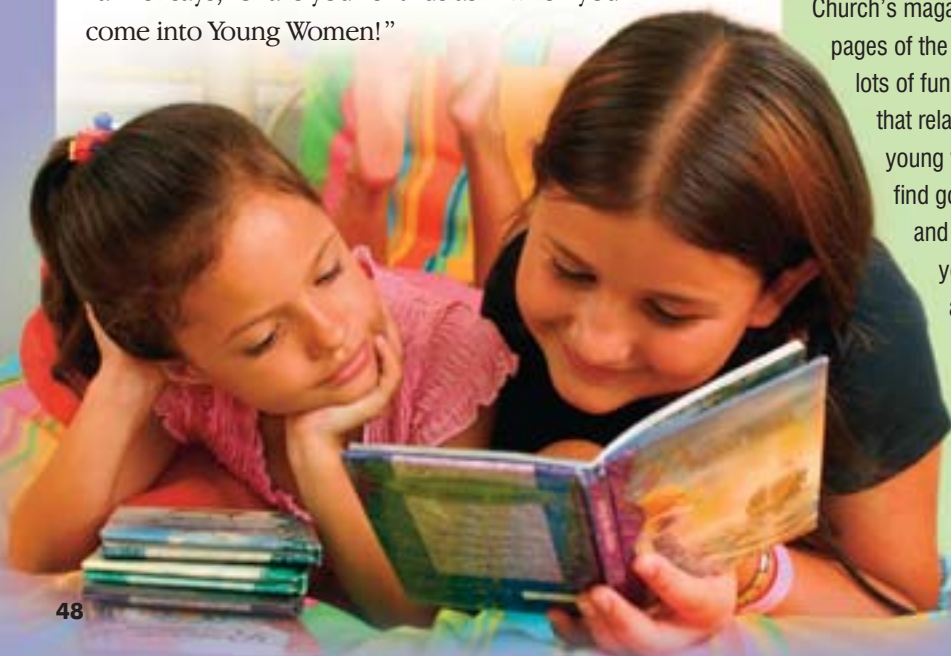
#### **Welcome to the New Era**

As you step into your new role in Young Women, we hope you will find a new friend in the *New Era*, the Church's magazine for teens. In the pages of the *New Era* you'll find lots of fun and uplifting articles that relate to your life as a young woman. You'll also find good ideas for activities

and Personal Progress, answers to questions you're facing, and stories from other youth who are just like you.

The *New Era* invites you to its pages with open arms. Come and see what's waiting for you.

Yours truly,  
The *New Era* staff





## 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 July is "Heavenly Father promises to bear my prayers and answer them."*



## Family Home Evening Ideas

Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned below.

1. Read President Thomas S. Monson's message "Frame Your Life with Faith" (pp. 2–3) and "Water in the Desert" (pp. 4–6). How do the people in each story exercise faith? What do they need? What do they hope for? Heavenly Father can fulfill both our needs and our hopes when we ask Him in faith according to His will. Make a list of blessings in your life that have helped your faith grow. Keep it in your journal to remind you to exercise faith whenever you face a challenge.

2. In your own words, tell the story from the life of President Wilford Woodruff in "This Is the Place" (pp. 10–11). How is being a Church member different today than it was back then? How is it similar? Share your favorite pioneer stories, remembering that there are many different ways to be a pioneer. Name some of them. Learn and sing "To Be a Pioneer" (*Children's Songbook*, pp. 218–19).

3. Display a key labeled "trust." Then read "The Bread Man" (pp. 12–14) and discuss why Dee's grandfather has so many keys. When we have integrity, others give us their trust. Think of ways trust opens doors. For example, it can help us build relationships with other people and allow Heavenly Father to give us opportunities. Have family members draw and display a picture of a key or, if possible, carry a real key in their

pockets throughout the week. This can remind them to take note of their words and actions and discover if they can become more trustworthy.

4. Read "Living the Gospel" (pp. 20–22). Then imagine you are writing a story like this about your own family. What is interesting about each family member? What do you like about where you live? What are your favorite things to do as a family? How do you stay strong in living the gospel? After discussing these things together, assign some family members to write down your family's story and other family members to find photographs, take digital pictures, or draw pictures to illustrate the story. You may want to save the story in your family's scrapbook or book of remembrance.

5. Play the game on pages 24–25, 27. How can you follow Paul's example and prepare to be a missionary? Enjoy Cherry Chocolate Parfaits together afterward (p. 23).



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To subscribe online, go to [www.ldscatalog.com](http://www.ldscatalog.com).



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(IFC) = inside front cover  
(v) = verse

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# What's in the *Friend* this month?



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President Monson becomes an answer to children's prayers when he listens to the Holy Ghost.

## page 12

What does Dee learn from his grandfather?



## page 46

Find out what you'll need to know about the Young Women program.

