

the Friend

AUGUST • 2004



Friends by Mail



One Fold

I really like the movie *The Testaments of One Fold and One Shepherd* that is shown in the Joseph Smith Memorial Building in Salt Lake City, Utah. I have seen the movie many times, and I plan to see it

again before the year is over. The parts that touch me the most are when they nail Jesus to the cross and when Helam is healed. The movie is powerful and wonderful.

Mahonri Jeffery Manu Samoa Peterson, age 9
West Jordan, Utah



Two a Month

I like reading the *Friend* so much that I wish I could get two *Friends* a month!

Janice Wright, age 7
Greenacres, Washington



I'm Going There Someday



My family lives about 20 miles north of the Washington D.C. Temple. It's close to my daddy's school and the army base where we buy

groceries, so I get to see it a lot. Whenever we drive past, I look for the angel Moroni and ask my mom if we can go to the visitors' center. I love the beautiful flowers around the temple, and I especially love to see the statue of Jesus and watch movies in the visitors' center.

I decided to build a temple out of my blocks, and I asked my mom to help me. We built it as big

as we could, using every block I have. I felt happy when we finished it. We displayed it in our house, and I showed it to all my friends who came to visit.

In Primary we learn lots of songs, and I love singing about the temple. I want to get married there someday. I told my mom I want to marry Daddy. She said he is already taken, but that I will find another great man to marry when I grow up. I know the temple is Heavenly Father's house. I can't wait until I can go to the temple.

Abigail Emma Smith, age 3,
with help from her mom
Olney, Maryland



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Cover photo by Craig Dimond

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

This CTR ring
reads PAT for
Piliin ang Tama—
Tagalog for “choose the
right.” As you look for the
Tagalog CTR ring hidden in
this issue, commit to always
pay your tithing.





Come Listen to
a Prophet's Voice

Following the Crowd

BY PRESIDENT GORDON B. HINCKLEY



President Hinckley tells of a time he learned about having the courage to make his own decisions.

The year we enrolled in junior high school, the building could not accommodate all the students, and so our class was sent back to the elementary school. We were furious. We'd spent six years in that building, and we felt we deserved something better. The boys of the class all met after school. We decided we'd go on strike.

The next day we did not show up. But we had no place to go. We couldn't stay home, because our mothers would ask questions. We didn't think of going downtown to a show. We had no money for that. We didn't think of going to the park. We were afraid we might be seen. We just wandered about and wasted the day.

The next morning, the principal, Mr. Stearns, was at the front door of the school to greet us. He told us that we could not come back to school until we brought a note from our parents. Striking, he said,

was not the way to settle a problem. If we had a complaint, we could come to the principal's office and discuss it.

I remember walking sheepishly into the house. My mother asked what was wrong. I told her. She wrote a note. It was very brief. It was the most stinging rebuke she ever gave me. It read:

"Dear Mr. Stearns,

"Please excuse Gordon's absence yesterday. His action was simply an impulse to follow the crowd."

I have never forgotten my mother's note. I resolved then and there that I would never do anything on the basis of simply following the crowd. I determined then and there that I would make my own decisions on the basis of my standards and not be pushed in one direction or another by those around me. That decision has blessed my life many times. ●

From an April 1993 general conference address.







Whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive (Matthew 21:22).

David's heart thumped loudly in his chest, and he sat straight up in bed. Faint moonlight streamed through the bedroom window, leaving gray shadows on the walls. The only sound came from his brother Thomas's heavy breathing as he lay asleep.

It had been only a dream. Two Indians had come into the yard. When David saw them, he ran to the house for

to the front gate where his horse was tied. After waving good-bye to the family, he rode off after the cattle. David felt sick inside. He tried not to worry, hoping everything would be all right like his father had said. But as evening drew near and the sun went down, his worries grew.

After supper the family prepared for bed. When they had all knelt down at their bedsides and said their prayers, they snuggled under the covers to go to sleep. But David couldn't sleep. His heart pounded, and his

David's Prayer

BY PATRICIA REECE ROPER

(A story from the life of President David O. McKay [1873–1970], Ninth President of the Church)

protection. One of them drew an arrow from his quiver and shot at David, hitting him in the back. Then they entered his home, sneering at his mother and frightening her.

Although it had been a dream, it seemed real. David rubbed his back where the arrow had hit him in the dream. He had felt the blow.

After that David became very afraid at night. Thoughts of people trying to hurt his mother and younger brothers and sisters seemed real to him.

One day David found his father packing a satchel. "Why are you packing, Papa?" David asked.

"I'll be gone with the cattle for a few days," his father answered. "Don't worry. It won't be long. I'll just be moving them to some fresh pasture."

"I don't want you to go," David said.

"Everything will be all right," his father replied. "I'll be back in a few days."

David watched sadly as his father took his satchel

mind raced. Through the open doorway of his bedroom, he could see his mother going to her bedroom.

At last his mother blew out the candle and went to sleep. But David still couldn't close his eyes. He thought he heard noises around the house. His brother Thomas slept soundly, but the fear in David's heart grew. What could he do? Tears trickled onto his pillow. The palms of his hands were sweaty, and he could still hear the noises around the house.

David decided to pray as his parents had taught him. He was sure the Lord would help him, but he had one

problem: kneeling by the side of his bed. How could he leave the safety of his bed to kneel and pray? What if someone was hiding beneath his bed?

David knew that the only way he would be able to sleep was if he prayed to the Lord for help. At last he slowly

climbed out of bed onto his knees. He asked the Lord to protect his mother and his family. All the noises died away, and a calm feeling entered David's heart. A voice



"The Lord is not just an absent, faraway source. He is a kind father, solicitous of the welfare of his children and ready and willing to hear and answer their call."

President David O. McKay (1873–1970), in Conference Report, Oct. 1952, 129.

spoke clearly to him, saying, “Don’t be afraid. Nothing will hurt you.” David felt the sweet assurance that he would be safe in bed at night.

Snuggling under his covers, David fell asleep. He didn’t worry at night anymore. Even though it had been

a difficult test for him to get out of bed and kneel to pray, he had prayed the way he knew he should. And the Lord answered his prayer. ●

Adapted from Conference Report, Oct. 1951, 182.

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



*David wondered,
“How can I leave
the safety of my
bed to kneel and
pray?”*



Friend to
Friend

Family TRADITIONS



From an interview with Elder Christoffel Golden Jr. of the Seventy, currently serving in the Africa Southeast Area Presidency; by Barbara Jean Jones

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

I grew up in South Africa. South Africa has wonderful game parks where wild animals such as lions, elephants, giraffes, and zebras roam free. When I was a boy, our family would often visit these game parks. Seeing the beauty of the animals and the wilderness was always a spiritual experience. It gave me a love for the creations of the Lord. Visiting South Africa's game parks is a tradition my wife, Diane, and I have continued with our own four children.

Other traditions I grew up with that have continued in my own family today are family prayer and scripture study. Although we were not members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints when I was a boy, my parents had strong Christian roots and taught us good values.

Our regular prayer and scripture study prepared us for when the missionaries knocked on our door. I was 20 years old at the time. We immediately recognized the truths the missionaries were teaching as we learned about modern prophets, the Book of Mormon, and the Restoration of the gospel. As I read the Book of Mormon, from the very first verse I knew it was true. Our entire family was soon baptized.

I hope you young children will look forward to being baptized and receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost. I did not receive those blessings until I was 20, so I remember well what it was like not to have the power of this gift in my life. I read the Bible every day starting when I was a young boy, but I understood the scriptures so much better after I received the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Even at a very young age, children can



School photo at age 11



With his volleyball team (standing at right)

feel the influence of the Holy Ghost. I remember a family home evening in which tears started streaming down the cheeks of our five-year-old daughter, Chanel. I thought her brother, Christopher, might have pinched her or something, so I asked, "Chanel, why are you crying?" She answered, "Daddy, I feel so happy."

I can't remember what the family home evening lesson was about, but I stopped and said, "Chanel, what you're feeling is the power and influence of the Holy Ghost." She replied, "Yes, Daddy, I know that is true." Like Chanel, you can feel the happy, peaceful feeling, which will tell you when something is right or true.

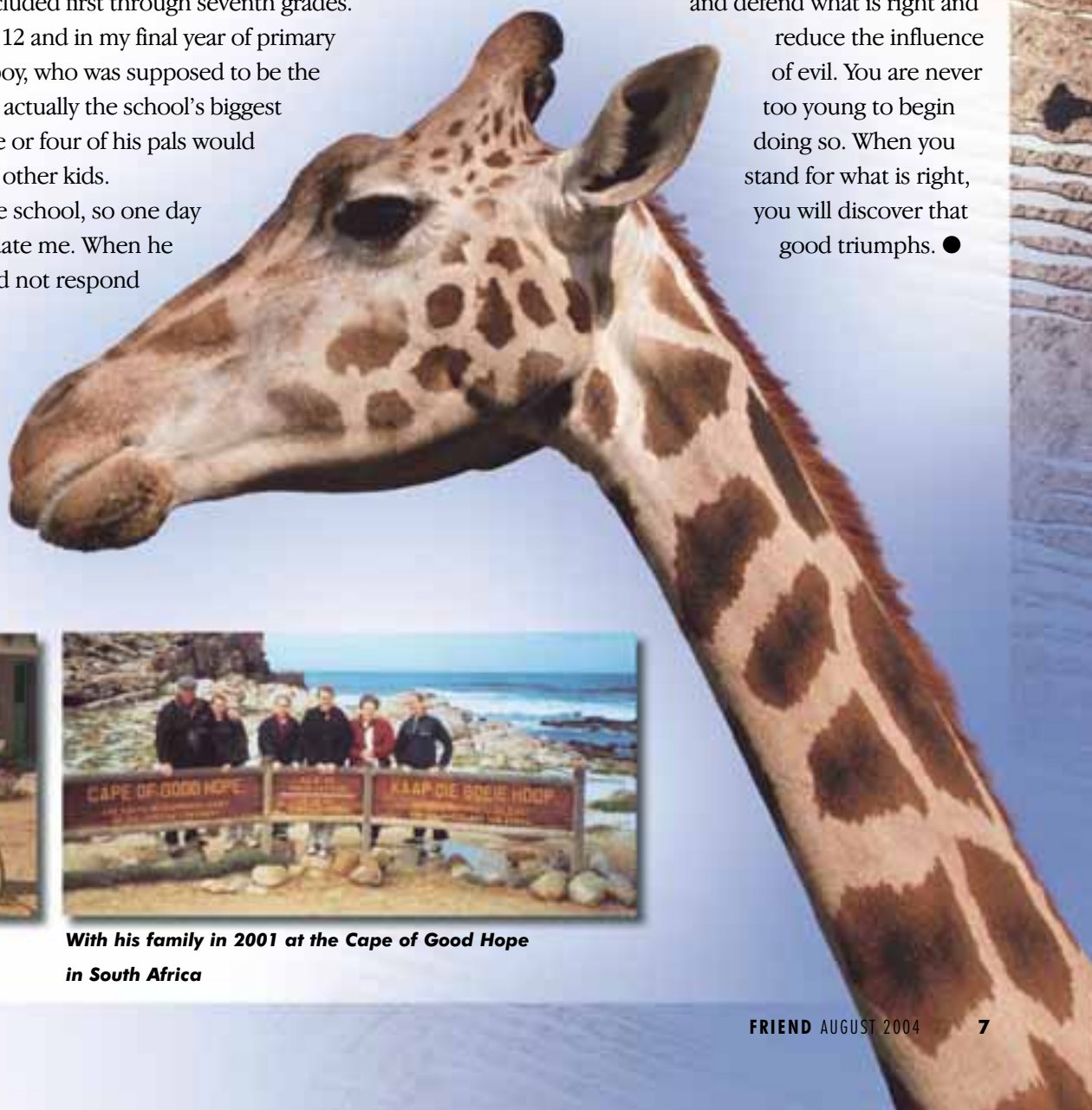
The Holy Ghost will also help you to do what is right, even when that seems very difficult. I hope you children will never be afraid to stand up for what is right. I still remember an experience I had in primary school. Our primary school included first through seventh grades. When I was about 12 and in my final year of primary school, the head boy, who was supposed to be the school leader, was actually the school's biggest bully. He and three or four of his pals would go around teasing other kids.

I was new at the school, so one day he tried to intimidate me. When he discovered I would not respond

to his intimidation, he gave up and bullied other kids, especially the weaker ones. One day when I saw this happening, I walked over and told him to stop. I said that if he did not stop I would defend the smaller boy. There stood the bully with his three or four friends, surrounding this small, timid boy and myself. It was very scary. I thought they were going to beat me up. To my surprise, the bully withered under my words. He and his friends made some smart remarks and left.

Throughout the rest of the year I continued to defend other boys from these bullies. Others started to do so, too, until the bullies gradually lost all their power and influence. Children, the lesson I learned from this experience is that when we do things for the right reason, even when it is very difficult, the Lord will bless us and help us. He needs courageous people to stand up

and defend what is right and reduce the influence of evil. You are never too young to begin doing so. When you stand for what is right, you will discover that good triumphs. ●



As a missionary in South Africa



With his family in 2001 at the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa



Trying to Be Like Jesus

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

A Brave Girl

By Marisa Johnson

Hailey is the bravest little girl I know. She is battling leukemia and cystic fibrosis. She has stayed in the hospital many times and



continues to have many doctors' appointments. Despite all she has gone through (and will go through yet), her courage

shines. She remains cheery, thoughtful, prayerful, and hopeful of a cure. She prays every day to have the help she needs for her little body to be strong. Her faith in Heavenly Father and Jesus is unwavering.

Hailey enjoys going to Primary, singing, dancing, and painting. She is loving, kind, and energetic. She is a good example of strength and following the Savior.

Hailey Johnson, age 4, is a member of the Woodland First Ward, Longview Washington Stake.

Activity-day Friend

By Kyla Mercier

I have a friend whose mom doesn't go to church anymore. I take my friend to activity days with me. The other day, on the way home from activity day, my friend said she wants to start going to church!



Kyla Mercier, age 9, is a member of the Tyler First Ward, Gilmer Texas Stake.

"Thanks, Pal"

By Hyrum Tan

I went to a birthday party for my friends Angel and Alex. After I left, I remembered that I had forgotten to thank them for inviting me and for the nice party gifts. I went back and said, "Thanks."

My friends hugged me and said, "Thanks, pal." I felt happy because I did the right thing.



Hyrum Tan, age 7, is a member of the Newbury Park First Ward, Newbury Park California Stake.



Four Dollars

By Elizabeth Kyle

One day my family and I were going to a store in Ottumwa.

I had four dollars I planned to spend.

I found a stuffed toy. When we got to the checkout, the woman told



me that it cost one dollar. I smiled. I had enough money to buy my stepbrothers, Jordan, Matteo, and Tyler, their own toys. So I bought three more and handed them out. On the way home I felt really good.

Elizabeth Kyle, age 8, is a member of the Ottumwa Ward, Iowa City Iowa Stake.



"Sammy Is My Friend"

By Gregory Madsen

A new boy in my class didn't have any friends. Kids made fun of him and called him mean names because he looked different. I felt bad for him. I talked to my mom about how sad it made me feel that he had a hard life and got teased for no reason. One day I asked my mom to put two brownies in my lunch. At lunchtime I asked Sammy if he



would like one of the brownies. He had a big smile. The other kids looked at me as if they were wondering why I gave *him* a brownie. I said, "Sammy is my friend." Sammy started asking me for help because he knew he could trust me. After I showed Sammy kindness, other kids did, too. It made me feel happy inside to know that I made a difference in Sammy's life. We've become good friends. I think Jesus wants me to treat Sammy the way I do. He loves all children.

Gregory Madsen, age 8, is a member of the Buffalo Ward, Las Vegas Nevada Redrock Stake.



Parking Lot Litter

By Makayla Tilleman

One day my mom was driving my sisters and me through the church parking lot. I noticed a lot of litter in the parking lot. I told



my mom that we needed to stop and clean it up, because the chapel is the Lord's house. We stopped, and

my mom, sisters, and I quickly cleaned up the trash. It made me feel good that I could help keep the Savior's church grounds clean.

Makayla Tilleman, age 8, is a member of the Lake Hills Ward, Billings Montana East Stake.



POISON

BY EMILY CANNON ORGILL

(Based on experiences of the author's family)

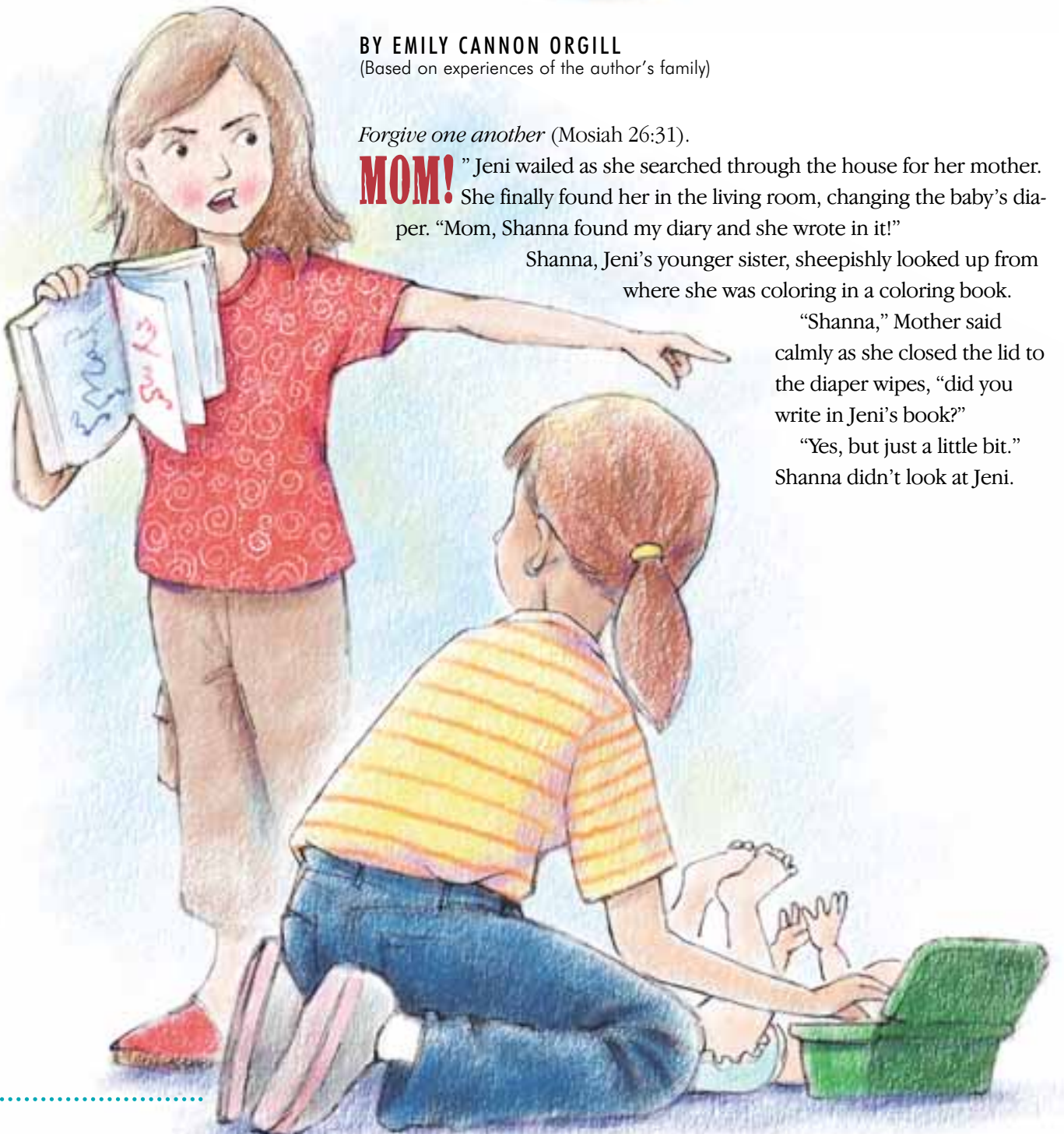
Forgive one another (Mosiah 26:31).

MOM! Jeni wailed as she searched through the house for her mother. She finally found her in the living room, changing the baby's diaper. "Mom, Shanna found my diary and she wrote in it!"

Shanna, Jeni's younger sister, sheepishly looked up from where she was coloring in a coloring book.

"Shanna," Mother said calmly as she closed the lid to the diaper wipes, "did you write in Jeni's book?"

"Yes, but just a little bit." Shanna didn't look at Jeni.



Instead she carefully put each crayon back into the box.

Mother's eyebrows pulled together and her mouth was stern. "Shanna, you know you shouldn't use Jeni's things without asking first."

"Besides, it wasn't just a little bit," Jeni told Mom. "She wrote on practically every page!"

"Let me look at it." Mother flipped through the pages one by one. "It's not too bad. I think Shanna just wants to try to be like you and do the same things you're doing."

"It's totally wrecked!" Jeni cried.

"OK. Let's try to think of something that we can do to fix the problem," Mother suggested. "Shanna didn't mean to ruin your diary."

"Nothing can fix it. I'll never forgive her!"

Shanna picked up her crayon box and coloring book and walked quietly out of the room, not looking at Jeni.

"I don't think you really meant that, Jeni," Mother said quietly. Jeni was so angry that she wouldn't listen to her mother. She threw her diary onto the floor and ran outside.

Mother put the baby down on his blanket

with a toy and was beginning to prepare dinner when she heard Jeni crying again. This time it was not an angry wail, but a hurt cry.

Mother sighed and opened the back door. Jeni was crying and rubbing her face.

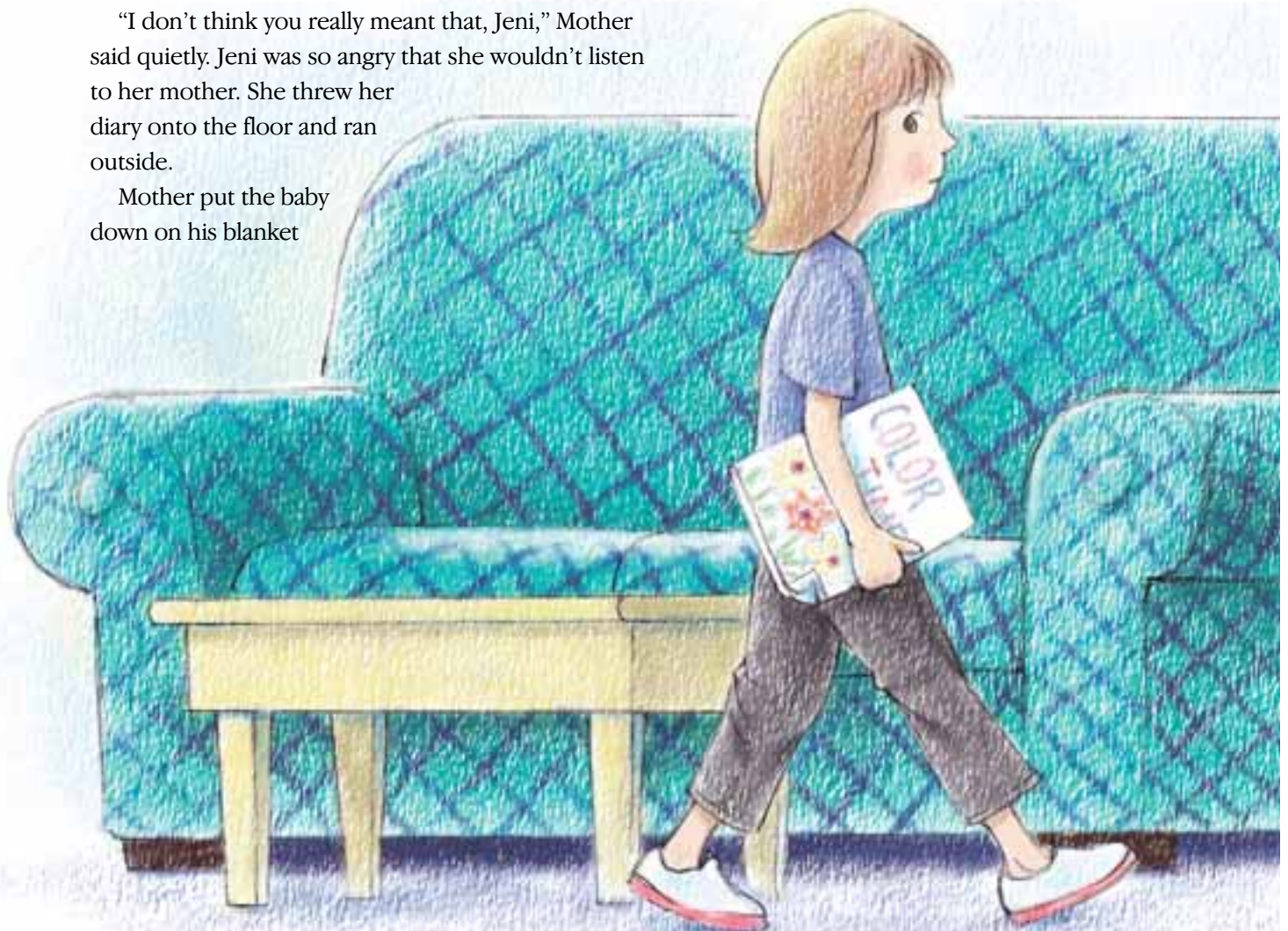
"What happened?" Mother asked.

Sobbing, Jeni pointed at a soccer ball on the lawn. "I was so mad at Shanna, I threw my ball down really hard and it bounced up and hit me in the face."

"Oh, dear." Mother sat down on the steps and pulled Jeni onto her lap. "I think there's a good lesson in this. I once heard a story about a man who was bitten by a rattlesnake. What would you do if you were bitten by a rattlesnake?"

"I don't know," Jeni replied.

"You're supposed to stay still until help comes," said



Jeni's older brother, who had just ridden up on his bike.

"Well, in this case, the man was so angry at the snake that he ran after it and chased it until he killed it. The problem," Mother continued, "was that running caused the poison from the snake to spread faster through his body, and so he died quickly. If he had remained calm, the poison would not have done as much damage, and he could have received help and lived."

Jeni rubbed her red cheek. "So are you saying that when we get mad, we only hurt ourselves?"

Mother nodded. "Why do you think Heavenly Father wants us to forgive others when they do something to hurt us or make us mad?"

"So we can show love to them?" Jeni asked.

"That's part of it. Heavenly Father wants us to do everything we can to help others grow and improve. But He also wants us to forgive others because He knows that if we don't, it hurts us the most. It hurts us deep inside, like poison, and the wound just keeps getting bigger if we don't stop it. Sometimes people get so hurt and angry inside that it makes them do bad things they wouldn't normally do."

"Like me banging the ball really hard," Jeni said.

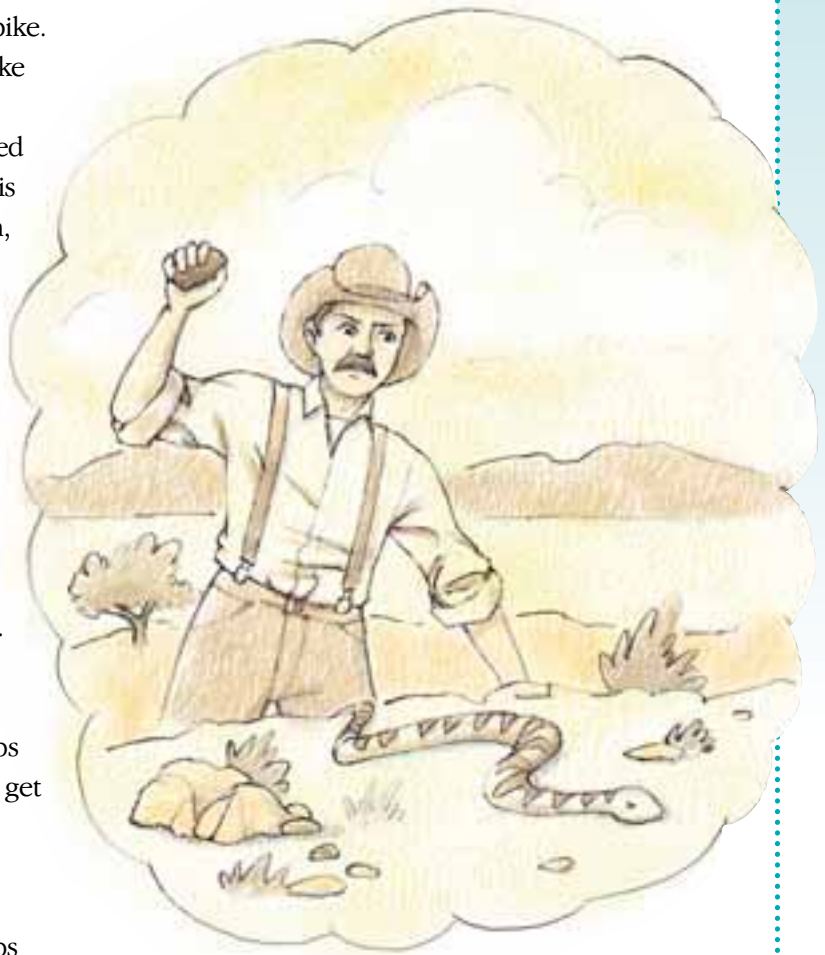
"That's right. And sometimes the hurt inside keeps people from doing good things they would normally do. It keeps them from being close to Heavenly Father," Mother said.

Jeni was thinking hard now. "Maybe I'm ready to think about a solution for the diary," she said.

"I'm glad," Mother replied. "I know Heavenly Father loves you very much. He wants you to be happy!"

Jeni's face brightened. With a big smile, she hurried off to look for her sister. ●

Emily Cannon Orgill is a member of the Jordan North Third Ward, Salt Lake Jordan North Stake.



"As individuals, we should 'follow after the things which make for peace' (Romans 14:19). We should be personal peacemakers."

Elder Russell M. Nelson of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, " 'Blessed Are the Peacemakers,' " *Ensign*, Nov. 2002, 41.



funstuff

Scripture Garden



BY CYNTHIA RAKES BOWDEN

The following scriptures are missing words that describe things you might see in a garden. Look up the scriptures and write the missing words in the blanks below. Do you “see” a bright, golden flower?

1. “It must needs be that this is a good _____, or that the word is good, for it beginneth to enlarge my soul” (Alma 32:28).

2. “And the Lord God prepared a _____, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief” (Jonah 4:6).

3. “I am the vine, ye are the _____: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing” (John 15:5).

4. “But the _____ of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith” (Galatians 5:22).

5. “Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When her

branch is yet tender, and putteth forth _____, ye know that summer is near” (Mark 13:28).

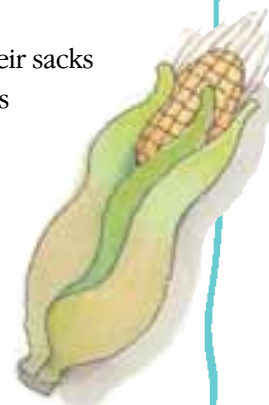
6. “They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no _____, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away” (Luke 8:13).

7. “Let virtue garnish thy thoughts unceasingly; then shall thy confidence wax strong in the presence of God; and the doctrine of the priesthood shall distil upon thy soul as the _____ from heaven” (D&C 121:45).

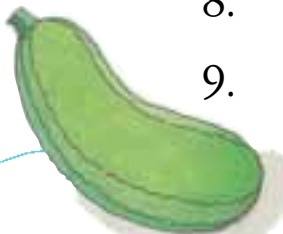
8. “And I, God, called the dry land _____” (Moses 2:10).

9. “Then Joseph commanded to fill their sacks with _____, and to restore every man’s money into his sack, and to give them provision for the way: and thus did he unto them” (Genesis 42:25).

(See answers on page 23.)



1.									
2.									
3.									
4.									
5.									
6.									
7.									
8.									
9.									





Building My House upon a Rock

***I will have faith in
Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.
I will pray to Heavenly Father.
I will repent of any wrongdoing.
I will forgive others.***

*Successful . . . families are established
and maintained on principles of faith,
prayer, repentance, [and] forgiveness
("The Family: A Proclamation to the World,"
Ensign, Nov. 1995, 102).*

Build Upon My ROCK

BY SHEILA E. WILSON

Successful . . . families are established and maintained on principles of faith, prayer, repentance, [and] forgiveness (“The Family: A Proclamation to the World,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1995, 102).



Have you ever built a house out of sand? Did you watch the waves wash it away?

If you were building a house to live in, you wouldn't build it on sand. You would want to build your house on a solid foundation—perhaps of concrete or rock. Then if the rain came down, a flood started, or the wind blew, your house would be safe.

Jesus explained: “Therefore, whoso heareth these sayings of mine and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, who built his house upon a rock—and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not, for it was founded upon a rock” (3 Nephi 14:24–25). That rock is the gospel of Jesus Christ.

When Nathan was five years old, he suffered an eye injury. During the next few years, Nathan needed several operations. Nathan and his family prayed and had faith that he wouldn't lose his sight. Heavenly Father heard their prayers and blessed Nathan so he could see.

Like Nathan, you will have challenges. These are like the floods, rain, and wind that can come down upon your house. When you say your prayers, have faith, and live the teachings of Jesus, you will help strengthen yourself and your family. You will be building your testimony upon the rock of the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Build-upon-My-Rock Door Hanger

Paste the door hanger on heavy paper, and cut it out. On the rock, write something you will do to strengthen your family. Hang it on a doorknob to remind you of what you can do to build your house upon a rock.●

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. Write *Prayer Strengthens Me and My Family* on the board. To help the children understand the word *strengthen*, display a piece of paper and a book. Explain that the book equals the challenges we are faced with in life; the paper represents us. Invite a child to stand the paper on its edge and balance the book on top of it. After a few children have tried it, explain that there is a way to make the paper strong enough to hold the book. Roll the paper into a tube and secure it with a rubber band or piece of tape. Stand the paper tube on its end on a flat surface. Carefully place the book on top (practice beforehand). Similarly, when we pray and keep the commandments, Heavenly Father will shape our character and give us strength—the kind of strength that gives us the courage to do what He asks and the faith to know He loves us and hears our prayers. The First Presidency tells us: “You are a child of God. He is your Heavenly Father. He loves you and cares about you. He wants you to have faith in Him and pray to Him often—anytime, anywhere” (*Faith in God* guidebook, 1). Before Primary invite two or three families to come and share how prayer has strengthened and blessed their families. Have each family share one of their favorite songs or hymns and sing it together or with the Primary.

2. To help the children better understand the principle of forgiveness, read and act out the parable of the unforgiving servant (see Matthew 18:23–35). (Children could read the verses and take the parts of the king, the unmerciful servant, his fellow servant, and the other servants.) Point out that the contrast between the two debts was as if the servant would not forgive a debt of \$1 after the king had forgiven him a debt of \$600,000 (see James E. Talmage, *Jesus the Christ*, 3rd ed. [1916], 396–7).

Prepare seven large question marks with the following questions on them, and place them underneath every seventh chair (suggested answers are provided): 1. Whom does the king in the parable represent? (Our Heavenly Father.) 2. Whom does the unmerciful servant represent? (Each of us. We all have sinned [except for young children] and are in debt to the Lord.) 3. Whom does the fellow servant represent? (Anyone who has offended us.) 4. What is Jesus teaching us in this parable? (That we must forgive others if we want God to forgive us.) 5. How do you feel when you forgive someone? 6. How do you feel when you do not forgive? 7. How do you feel when Heavenly Father forgives you?

Starting at the front of the room, have the children count off one by one. When they reach the number seven, ask the child to look under his or her chair for a question and read and answer it out loud. Continue around the room, counting to seven until all the questions have been found and answered. Read Matthew 18:21–22. Have the children multiply 70 times 7. Jesus was teaching us that we should always be willing to forgive someone. Encourage the children to memorize D&C 64:10. Sing a song or hymn about forgiveness.

3. To teach children how faith can strengthen us and our families, draw a large shield (see *Primary 3* manual, p. iii, for pattern) on a piece of paper. Write the word *faith* in the center of the shield. Next, make two beanbags. Then draw and cut out darts from paper. On each dart, write a case study that gives the children an opportunity to choose the right—for example, “You are with a group of friends who begin talking badly about a new boy in school. What should you do?” (See TNGC, pp. 161–62). Finally, make large strips of paper with songs written on them (for example, “Dare to Do Right,” p. 158; “Choose the Right Way,” pp. 160–61; “I’m Trying to Be like Jesus,” pp. 78–79).

Faith in Jesus Christ means that even though we cannot see Him, we believe that He lives. He loves us and wants to help us. Read D&C 27:15, 17 together. Tell the children that there are many “fiery darts” in our world

today. When we have faith in the Lord and trust and obey Him, He will help us to avoid the fiery darts and do what is right.

Place the shield, darts, and song strips (with the words face up) on the floor. Choose three helpers: one to toss a beanbag at a dart and read the case study out loud, one to hold the shield (and answer or choose someone to answer the case study by telling what he or she might do if he or she is firmly holding the shield of faith), and one to toss a beanbag at a song strip (he or she could lead the song or make up appropriate actions for the Primary to follow). After each helper has taken a turn, choose three new helpers and repeat.

President Boyd K. Packer tells us, “The ultimate purpose of all we teach is to unite parents and children in faith in the Lord Jesus Christ” (*Friend*, July 2003, 39). Bear your testimony of how faith has strengthened your family.

4. To reinforce the principles and songs taught during the year and to prepare the children for the children’s sacrament meeting presentation, place a copy of “The Family: A Proclamation to the World” in the center of the board. On the left side, write *Proclamation Principles*, and underneath place pictures from the GAK or the Primary Visual Aids Cutouts that remind us of principles found in the proclamation—for example, Family with a Baby (Primary 1-5), Heavenly Father Gave Us His Plan (Primary 3-2), The Nativity (GAK 201), The Resurrected Christ (GAK 239), Pre-earth Life (Primary 3-3), Young Boy Praying (GAK 605), Young Couple Going to the Temple (GAK 609), and Family Home Evening (Primary 1-6). On the right side, write *Primary Songs* and list the songs from the Outline for Sharing Time and the Children’s Sacrament Meeting Presentation that your Primary has been learning.

On a copy of the proclamation, underline specific principles and make a copy for each child (suggested principles: 1. “Each is a beloved spirit son or daughter of heavenly parents,” 2. “Parents have a sacred duty to rear their children in love and righteousness,” 3. “In the premortal realm, spirit sons and daughters knew and worshiped God as their Eternal Father and accepted His plan,” 4. “Happiness in family life is most likely to be achieved when founded upon the teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ,” 5. “Successful . . . families are established and maintained on principles of faith, prayer, repentance, [and] forgiveness,” 6. “The divine plan of happiness enables family relationships to be perpetuated beyond the grave.”)

Prepare a cube with one of the following pictures on each side: lion, lamb, turtle, rabbit, hummingbird, and a large question mark. Use drawings made by the children or from the Primary Visual Aids Cutouts.

Divide the children into groups, and give each child a copy of the proclamation. Assign each group a specific underlined principle. Ask them to be prepared to recite their principle to the Primary, choose a picture from the board that goes with their principle and tell why, and decide on a song to sing that reinforces the principle. Give the children an opportunity to report. (Note: The pictures and songs can support more than one of the principles in the proclamation.)

Show the cube, and tell the children that when you hold it up during the song, they are to sing either as strong as a lion, soft as a lamb, slow as a turtle, quick as a rabbit, or to hum like a hummingbird. If the question mark is showing, choose a helper to decide whether the children should sit or stand, or whether only girls or only boys should sing. Roll the cube and sing. Bear testimony of the principles taught in the songs and that our families are strengthened when we live the gospel.

5. *Friend* references: James E. Faust, “The Lifeline of Prayer,” July 2003, 2; Boyd K. Packer, “The Shield of Faith,” July 2003, 39; Gordon B. Hinckley, “Faith Lights the Way,” Aug. 2003, 2; James M. Paramore, “A Child’s Faith,” Aug. 1987, IFC; Oct. 2002 Sharing Time #1, #4, and #5, 34; “I’ll Follow Him in Faith” (song), Jan. 2003, 24. Other references: *Gospel Principles*, 41, 117, and 122; *Family Home Evening Resource Book*, 43.

Adam Packer

of Kirtland, Ohio

BY KIMBERLY WEBB
Church Magazines

Adam Packer, 9, knows about special places. He was born in Luxembourg, one of Europe's smallest and oldest countries. Now he lives in Kirtland, Ohio, one of the most important places in Church history.

Adam loves living in Kirtland because of its beauty. On summer nights, fireflies dance in his yard. On winter days, he likes exploring the ravine behind his house with his brother Joseph, 12, and their dad. (They don't hike much there in the summer because of the poison ivy.)

Adam also loves Kirtland because so many Church members travel there to see the Church historical sites. Adam looks forward to meeting and befriending these travelers at Church each Sunday.

Most of all, Adam loves the Spirit he feels in Kirtland. He knows it is a special place where important truths were restored.

"Sometimes I walk to the Kirtland Temple," he says, "or spend time in the cemetery. I like it there." The cemetery reminds the Packer children of their heritage because it's the site of many early Church members' graves.

*Tricia, Mom, Adam, and
Joseph at the Kirtland Temple*

**Gathering for family
home evening**



Spirit still testifies of the wonderful events that happened in the Kirtland Temple.

On Saturday mornings, Adam and Joseph ride their bikes to the temple alongside Dad, who jogs. Then they sit on their “special bench” outside the temple and reverently ponder, pray, and talk about the gospel.

Even though the Kirtland Temple is not owned by the Church anymore and is not used in the same way that other latter-day temples are, Adam feels the Spirit when he thinks of what happened there. His dad once explained: “Imagine that we didn’t have keys to our house and we couldn’t get back in. That’s kind of like how it was before the Restoration. We had left our heavenly home and didn’t have the priesthood ordinances to help us get back. Then Moses, Elijah, and Elias

appeared to Joseph Smith in the Kirtland Temple and restored the priesthood keys, making it possible for us to return to Heavenly Father.” The

Adam’s testimony is strengthened by the Spirit he feels when visiting the temple and other sacred sites nearby. Another favorite place is the Newel K. Whitney Store, where Joseph Smith lived for a time and received many important revelations, including the Word of Wisdom.

Adam has many unique experiences living in this special place, but he also enjoys ordinary hobbies. He likes playing outdoors and is good at soccer and croquet. He and Joseph especially like basketball. Adam set a goal to make 1,000 baskets before the end of the summer, and by mid-July he had already made more than 1,700.

Both Adam and Joseph are interested in music. Adam sings well and is following Joseph’s example in learning to play the drums. Joseph is also taking trombone lessons.

One of Adam’s favorite hobbies is Cub Scouting. When he first started attending Scouts, he called his den leader two or three times a week to find out what



**Adam and Joseph playing
at Chapin Forest. Drill marks
on the rocks indicate where
stone was cut to build the
Kirtland Temple.**



**An enthusiastic Scout,
Adam looks great
in his uniform.**



**Visiting the
Newel K. Whitney Store**

far away. Two of his older sisters are married: Rebecca, who lives in Utah, and Mysha, who is in Idaho. His grandparents live in Hawaii and Idaho.

he could do next because he completed his projects so quickly!

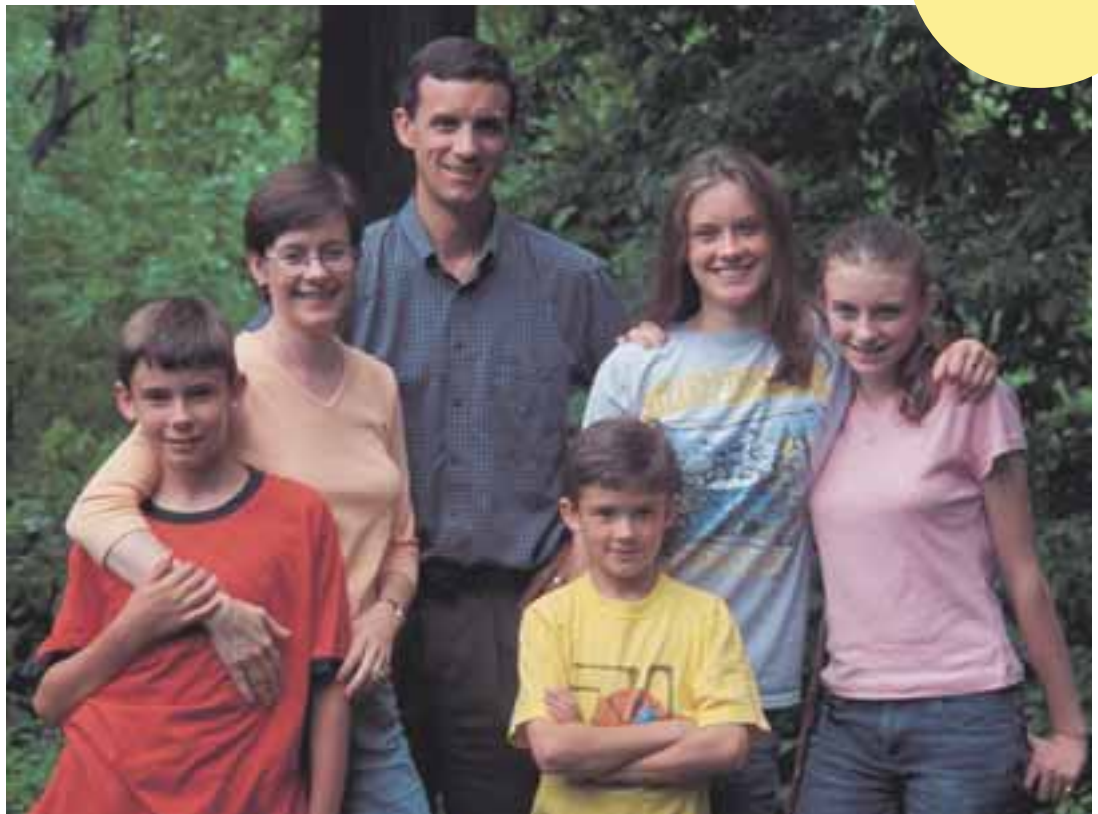
In school, Adam enjoys math and reading. He set a goal to read 100 books over the summer and to finish the Book of Mormon in one year.

“Adam is a take-charge kind of person,” his mom says, “and very organized.” He often reminds family members about their responsibilities for family home evening that week, and sometimes he sets each family member’s scriptures out for morning scripture study.

For family activities, Adam enjoys having family night, eating Mom’s popcorn and watching movies together, playing games, and visiting other family members who live

“I like visiting my family,” Adam says, “but I get homesick.” He always feels better coming home. It’s easy to see why, when home is as beautiful, special, and sacred a place as Kirtland, Ohio. ●

**Joseph, Mom, Dad, Adam, Laura,
and Tricia in their backyard**





FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

Testimony of an Apostle



When Heber J. Grant was a new Apostle, he traveled with a group of brethren to Arizona to visit the Native Americans there.

Look, the path splits in two. Is the other one safe?

A rider can travel it, but it's too muddy for wagons.

Why don't the rest of you drive on while I take this path? I'll meet up with you soon.



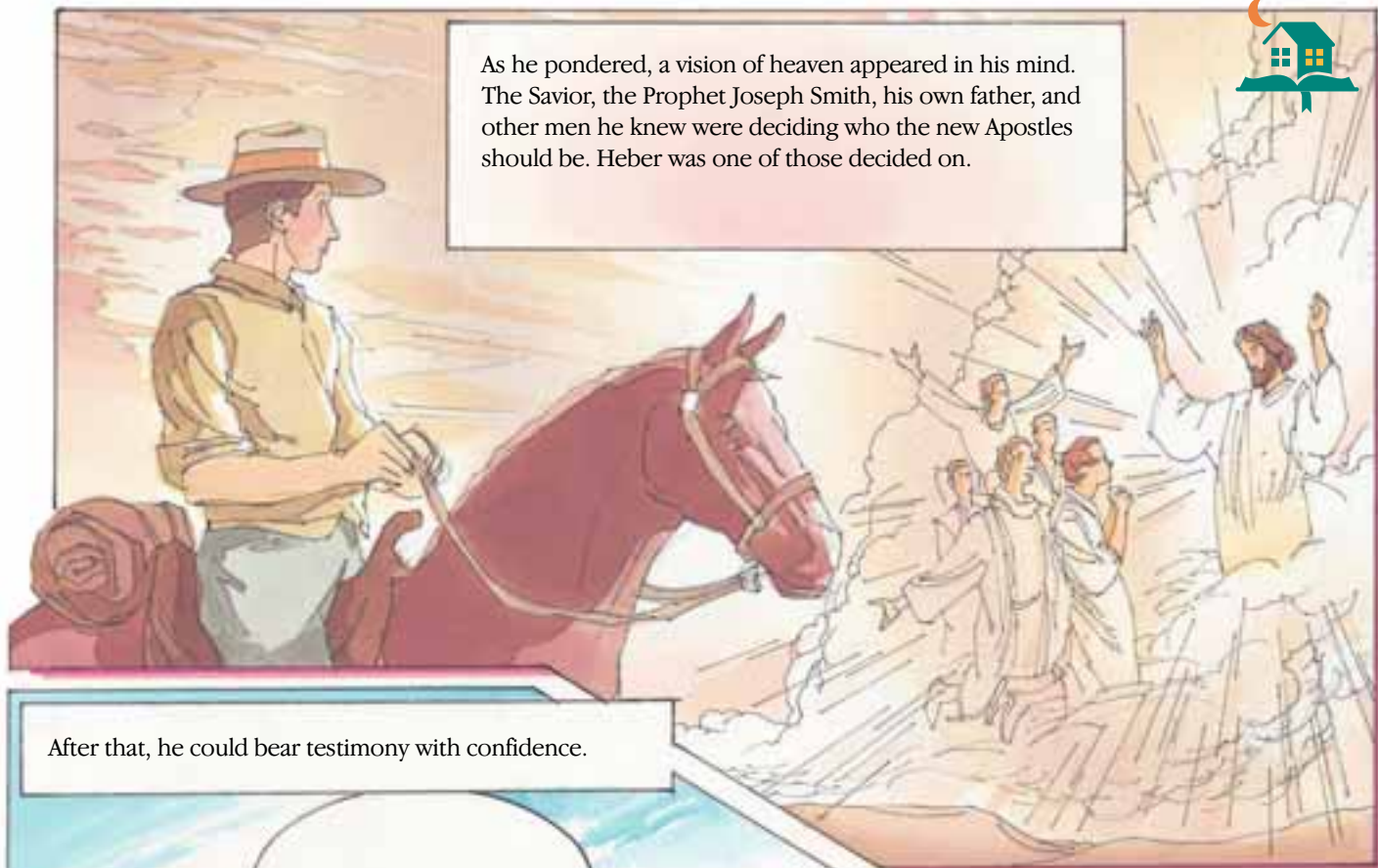
Heber wanted to be alone. He felt discouraged and unworthy.

I shouldn't testify of the Savior. I'm not fit to be an Apostle.



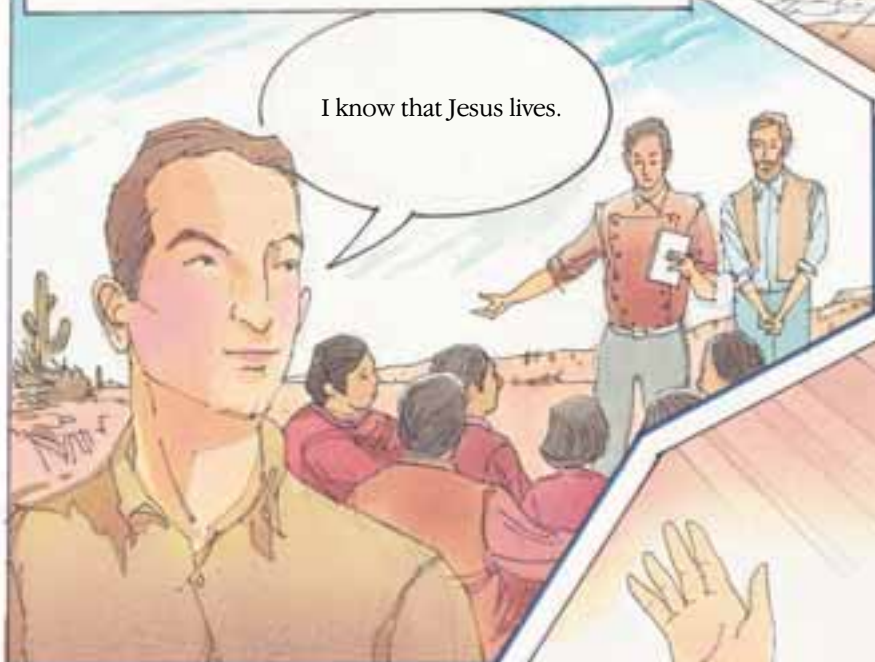


As he pondered, a vision of heaven appeared in his mind. The Savior, the Prophet Joseph Smith, his own father, and other men he knew were deciding who the new Apostles should be. Heber was one of those decided on.

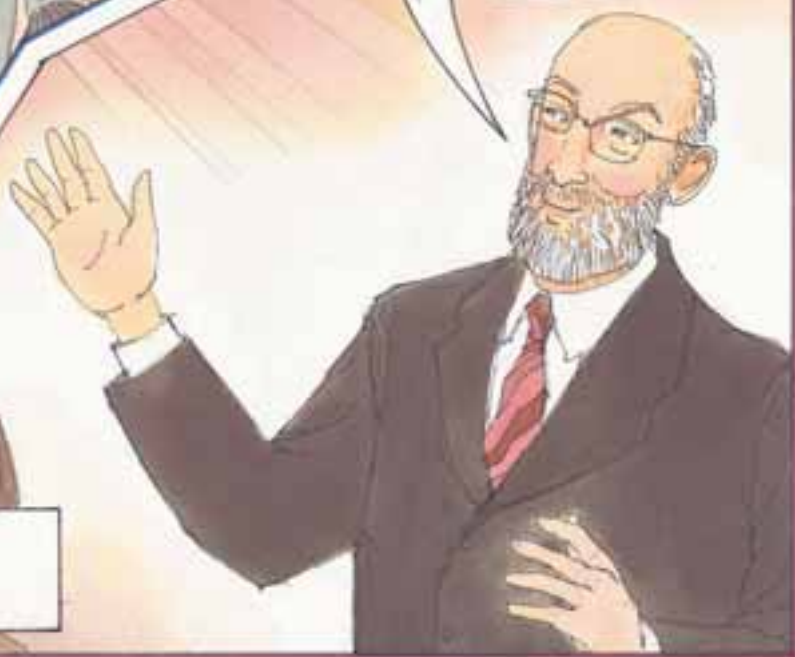


After that, he could bear testimony with confidence.

I know that Jesus lives.



I have never doubted my testimony since. I have had only joy in bearing it. I know that God lives, that Jesus is the Christ, and that Joseph Smith is a prophet of the living God.



President Grant spoke of this experience years later.
Adapted from Conference Report, Oct. 1942, 24-26.





With an older person's help, you can prepare these refreshing recipes for your family or friends. Either of these recipes would make a delicious family home evening treat.

Cherry Chocolate Pie

BY RONDA GIBB HINRICHSSEN

Crust:

- 1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 3 tablespoons melted butter or margarine
- 1 tablespoon water

Filling:

- 1 1/2 cups milk chocolate chips, melted
- 2 cups cherry yogurt
- 1/2 package (3 ounces/85 g) cherry gelatin

1. Place the graham cracker crumbs in a 9" (23 cm) pie pan. Add the melted butter and water to the crumbs and mix together. Spread the mixture evenly in the pan and press in place. Chill for one hour.

2. In a medium bowl, combine the melted chocolate chips, yogurt, and gelatin. Pour the filling over the crust.

3. Cover the pie and freeze for two hours or until firm. Makes 6–8 servings.



Banana Crumb Pops

BY RONDA GIBB HINRICHSSEN

- 9 bananas
- 18 wooden craft sticks
- 1 cup graham cracker crumbs
- 1/2 cup small chocolate chips
- 1 cup light corn syrup
- 4 tablespoons gelatin

1. Peel the bananas, then slice them in half horizontally. Insert a stick into the cut end of each banana.

2. Mix the graham cracker crumbs and chocolate chips together and spread them evenly on a plate.

3. In a small saucepan, mix the corn syrup and gelatin together. Stirring constantly, cook over medium heat until the mixture comes to a rolling boil. Remove from heat.

4. Dip a banana into the syrup and coat well. Then roll it in the crumb mixture and place on a cookie sheet covered with waxed paper. Repeat this procedure with each banana.

5. Cover the bananas and place in the freezer for several hours or overnight.

Makes 18 servings.

Welcome to Primary

BY ROBERT PETERSON

These children are learning about My Gospel Standards in Primary. See if you can find a comb, a crayon, a cupcake, a hairbrush, an ice-cream cone, a pear, a rabbit, a screwdriver, a seal, a snail, a sock, and a spoon. Then color the picture.



Funstuf Answers

Scripture Garden: (1) seed, (2) gourd, (3) branches, (4) fruit, (5) leaves, (6) root, (7) dew, (8) Earth, (9) corn. Hidden word: sunflower.
Fourth Article of Faith: (1) baptism, (2) faith, (3) Holy Ghost, (4) immersion, (5) ordinances, (6) principles, (7) remission, (8) repentance.



NEIGHBORHOOD



PLAYTIME

ALWAYS CHOOSE THE

BY VIVIAN PAULSE



Choose ye this day, whom ye love

You have become an expert at finding the hidden rings. For this activity, *you* will hide the rings.

1. Carefully cut out the pictures and the five rings.
2. Hide one ring in each of the five pictures of your life: home, church, school, neighborhood, and playground.
3. After you have hidden the rings, invite your friends to a family activity, to find the rings.
4. The first person to find a ring must explain where they found it in that place or situation.
5. Hang the pictures in your home where they belong.



CHURCH

AYS

THE RIGHT

EN, Church Magazines



ye will serve (Alma 30:8).

hidden CTR ring in each issue of the *Friend*.

e CTR rings.

s. The pictures represent different parts of

d, and playtime.

our family, as part of a family home evening or

in at least one way he or she could choose

they can remind you to always choose the right.



SCHOOL



HOME



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

Friends in the News



Accra Ghana Lartebikorshie Stake

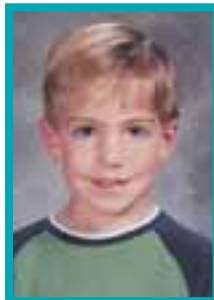
More than 170 children from wards and branches in the Accra Ghana Lartebikorshie Stake participated in a special family history activity. The children gathered names of their family members to make their own four-generation family trees. They like learning about family history as they anticipate visiting the new Accra Ghana Temple.



Rachel Kathleen Hudson, 6, Spruce Grove, Alberta, Canada, plays soccer and takes piano lessons. She likes horses, cats, and dogs, and her favorite food is pizza. She tries to follow the prophet.



Christopher Hoskins, 10, Beavercreek, Ohio, has memorized all the Articles of Faith. He enjoys playing soccer, softball, and chess, going to Webelos, and playing the piano. He is a caring older brother to his sister and brother.



Cameron Milne, 5, Uintah, Utah, likes going to Primary. He is kind and thoughtful, and is good at helping around the house. He likes drawing and building things and playing with his little sister, Brianna.



Erek Nelson, McKenzie Jensen, Matt Nelson, and Logan Jensen, ages 5, 3, 3, and 6, Marshfield, Wisconsin, celebrated their pioneer heritage by hiking on a trail near their home. After taking turns pulling their wagon, they shared pioneer treats and played stick-pull.



Canyon View 10th Ward

Primary children in the Canyon View 10th Ward, Orem Utah Canyon View Stake, memorized My Gospel Standards for their sacrament meeting program. It took nine months to learn every standard, but they know it was worth the hard work.



DeLand Second Ward

Primary children in the DeLand Second Ward, DeLand Florida Stake, took a trip back in time to the Holy Land. They learned how people lived when Jesus lived on earth 2,000 years ago. They dressed in clothes from biblical times and learned how to write Hebrew phrases on scrolls. They also made a clay village to represent Jerusalem.



North Shore First Ward

During reconstruction of the Nauvoo Illinois Temple, Primary children in the North Shore First Ward, Wilmette Illinois Stake, built their own replica of the temple. The children added white building blocks to their temple when they recited a scripture or an article of faith. They also learned about the sacrifices early Church members made to build the first Nauvoo temple.



Logan and Dakota Workman, ages 7 and 6, Livingston, Texas, like singing in Primary. Their brother **Gavin**, 4, is very happy to be a Sunbeam in Primary. They love their baby brother, **Ryker**.



Idaho Falls 31st Ward

After presenting a sacrament meeting program about temples, the children of the Idaho Falls 31st Ward, Idaho Falls Idaho Central Stake, visited the Idaho Falls Idaho Temple. At the visitors' center, the children learned about the temple. Then they took a tour of the temple grounds.

Hannah Olson, 3, Suwanee, Georgia, likes to dance, color, and help her mom in the kitchen. She is very good at giving hugs, and her favorite food is tortellini (a kind of pasta).



Evan Gunderson, 3, Burns, Oregon, loves his baby brother, **Harlen**. Evan enjoys working with his dad on the ranch. He also likes football. Brigham Young University's football team is his favorite team because his uncle plays on it.



Emily Stokes, 9, Eagle, Idaho, knows all 13 Articles of Faith. She likes to ride her bike and play the piano and violin. She remembers to pray and to read the scriptures every day.



Campbell and Hope Stoecker, ages 5 and 8, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire, England, like reading the scriptures and acting out plays from scripture stories. Hope also likes dancing, swimming, and riding horses. Campbell likes trains, going to school, drawing, swimming, and jumping on the trampoline.

Woodland Second Ward

About 50 children from the Woodland Second Ward, Longview Washington Stake, helped warm the heads and hearts of children and adults in their community. Each child made two fleece hats—one to keep and one to give to a local service organization. The children felt happy to serve others.



Kawika and Kaleo Dipko, ages 5 and 7, Ripon, California, are best friends. They like to play soccer, baseball, and basketball together. They are both good readers and have finished reading the Book of Mormon with their family. They are also good older brothers.





Blessing the Brick Kiln



BY SUSAN ARRINGTON MADSEN

(Based on experiences of the Nielsen family,
from *Voices from the Past: Diaries, Journals,
and Autobiographies*)

*Ask me in faith, believing that ye shall
receive* (1 Nephi 15:11).

Making adobe bricks was hard work for young James Nielsen and his family. They lived on a large farm in Fairview, Utah, and some of their ground had perfect clay for making bricks. During the summer of 1912, James, his father, brothers, and other relatives worked long hours mixing mud, molding bricks, and hauling them to the large kiln where they would later be baked.

Now, at summer's end,

75,000 bricks were placed carefully inside the kiln. James's eyes gleamed at the sight of so many! They represented the Nielsens' hard work all summer long. Happily, James's father started the fire in the kiln, which needed to burn for three weeks straight in order to properly bake the bricks. The temperature had to be kept just right. Cedar wood had been hauled and stacked nearby to fuel the large oven, and James's brother-in-law, "Uncle George," watched the fire night and day. James and his brothers took turns cutting wood to keep the fire burning. Everything was going just fine.

But then it started to rain. It poured nonstop for more than a week. The Nielsens soon ran out of



the wood they had gathered, and they couldn't take their horses and wagons into the hills to find more because the ground was too muddy. They burned everything they could spare on the farm—fence posts, corral rails, even the outhouse.

James would never forget how discouraged Uncle George looked as he put the last stick of wood in the oven. "The bricks will be nothing but a pile of smoked mud." He frowned.

James's father folded his arms. "I don't know much about making bricks. I've never done it before. But I know Heavenly Father can help us." He told Uncle George to seal up the kiln as if the process were finished, and suggested that everyone go home and get some rest.

The next morning, James and Uncle George sat together moping. Surely the bricks were ruined. "We all worked so hard," James said. George nodded. "And for so long."

James noticed that his father was missing, so he went to look for him. As he rounded the kiln, he found his father kneeling on the soggy ground. James stopped in his tracks. His father was praying aloud, asking the Lord to bless the brick kiln. James heard his father tell the Lord how

hard they had all worked and how they had done everything possible to make sure the bricks turned out all right. With great faith and humility, James's father asked the Lord to help, then ended his prayer. James quickly backed away without his father seeing him.

When it was finally time to open the kiln, most of the family didn't dare even look at the bricks. But James's father was calm and confident as he opened up the top of the kiln. James held his breath as his father lifted out two bricks. They were beautiful! They rang like a bell

when clicked together, and their color was just right. People came from all over Sanpete County to buy them.

People even bought the broken pieces. Not one brick was left.

Remembering this miracle, James later wrote, "We children know that it was done by the priesthood Father held and the power of prayer." ●

Susan Arrington Madsen is a member of the Hyde Park Fourth Ward, Hyde Park Utah Stake.



"Miracles are obviously worked through the power of the priesthood, but the prayer of faith is also at work."

Elder Dallin H. Oaks of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Spiritual Gifts," Ensign, Sep. 1986, 70.



Finding Joy

BY ELDER RICHARD G. SCOTT

Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

Do you take time to discover each day how beautiful your life can be? How long has it been since you watched the sun set? What of the wonder of a cloudless night when the Lord unveils the marvels of His heavens—the twinkling stars, the moonlight rays? When last did you observe a tiny rosebud form? You are one of the noblest of God’s creations. His intent is that your life be gloriously beautiful regardless of your circumstances. As you are grateful and obedient, you can become all that God intends you to be.

Sadness, disappointment, severe

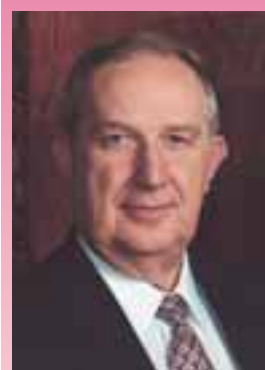
challenge are *events* in life, not life itself.

Your joy in life depends upon your trust in Heavenly Father and His holy Son, your conviction that their plan of happiness truly can bring you joy.

Some people are like rocks thrown into a sea of problems. They are drowned by them. Be a cork. When submerged in [faced with] a problem, fight to be free to bob up to serve again with happiness.

When you trust in the Lord, when you are willing to let your heart and your mind be centered in His will, when you ask to be led by the Spirit to do His will, you are assured of the greatest happiness along the way. ●

From an April 1996 general conference address.



Did you know that Elder Richard G. Scott played the saxophone and the clarinet in a college jazz band? He teaches about being grateful for life and the world around us.

Cousins' Camp

BY JANE McBRIDE CHOATE

(Based on an experience of the author's friend)

We are a happy family (Children's Songbook, 198).

Four-year-old Chad could hardly wait until Monday, when he would go to Cousins' Camp for the first time. His grandparents held a special camp each year for all their grandchildren.

His older brothers and sister talked about it all year, saying it was even better than going to the Grand Canyon, where their family had visited last year.

The night before camp, Chad and his brothers and sister packed their clothes, scriptures, and journals. Chad couldn't read yet, but he had his own set of scriptures. When Grandpa had told him he should bring a journal, too, Chad was worried.

"Grandpa," Chad had whispered, "I don't know how to write."

Grandpa had smiled and placed a gentle hand on Chad's shoulder. "That's all right. You can draw pictures of what we do at camp. Grandma and I want you to have a record of the week."

Chad's mother took him and his brothers and sister to his grandparents' home in the country the following morning. A banner hung between two poles with the words "Cousins' Camp" printed in big black letters.

Grandma and Grandpa greeted each child with a hug and a name tag. Grandpa asked Chad's older brother, Tayson, to give a prayer.

The children rotated between a story station, a cooking station, and a craft station. Grandpa told





stories about their pioneer ancestors at the story station. At the cooking station, they made pizzas from Grandma's homemade dough for their lunch.

At the craft station, Chad made a birdhouse. He couldn't decide what colors to paint it. All the colors were so pretty. Then he remembered a song he learned in Primary. He chose red, yellow, and blue.

Grandma sat on the bench beside him. "You have chosen beautiful colors for your birdhouse," she said.

Chad smiled and said, "Thanks, Grandma. They're the Primary colors."

Later, Grandma helped everyone make Peanut Butter Balls for an afternoon snack. Chad ate three.

When Chad started to yawn, Grandma suggested a nap.

For dinner, Grandpa showed everyone how to make tinfoil meals with hamburger, potatoes, and carrots. Then they cooked them in the campfire coals.

Chad usually didn't like his food mixed together, but the tinfoil meals tasted great. He asked for seconds.

Peanut Butter Balls

BY JANE McBRIDE CHOATE

1/2 cup honey
1 1/2 cups powdered milk
1/2 cup peanut butter
choice of topping: shredded coconut,
shelled sunflower seeds, or chopped nuts

1. Combine the first three ingredients and form into small balls.
2. Roll the balls in your choice of topping.

At the end of the day, everyone roasted marshmallows over the campfire. Grandpa and Grandma told stories from their childhood. After Chad said his prayers, he settled inside his sleeping bag, tired but happy. "This is the best camp ever!" he thought. "There are already a lot of pictures I can draw in my journal. I can't wait to see what we do tomorrow." ●

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



Who Am I?

BY COLLEEN FAHY

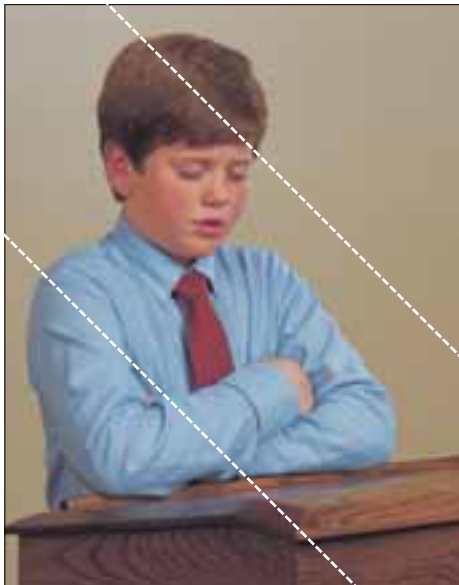
1. I make my home near a pond.
On a lily pad I might sleep.
The sound I make is a croak.
To move I hop and I leap.
I am a _____.

2. I slither along on the ground.
I don't have legs—they are missing.
I have a body that's slender.
The sound I make is called hissing.
I am a _____.

3. I make my home in the swamp.
I have a big, sharp-toothed grin.
I love to bask in the sun.
I have brown, leathery skin.
I am an _____.

4. I have a shell on my back
To hide my legs, tail, and face.
I am a very slow mover.
A crawl is my normal pace.
I am a _____.

Who Am I?: (1) frog, (2) snake,
(3) alligator, (4) turtle.

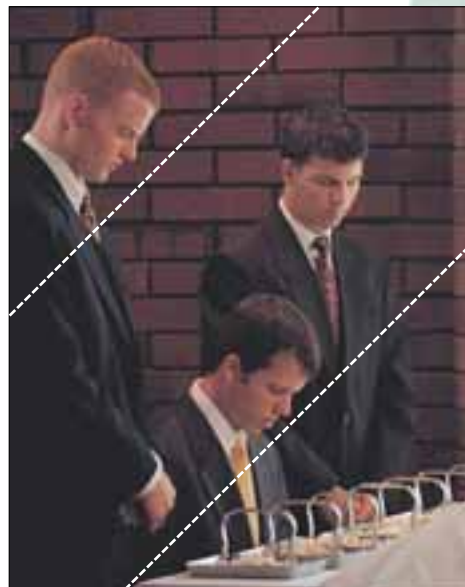
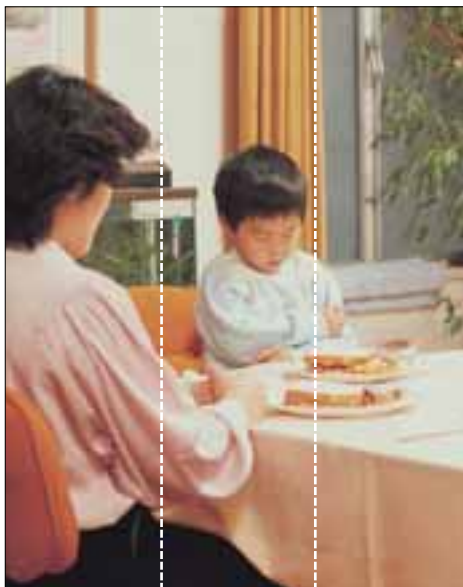


Praying to Heavenly Father

BY JULIE WARDELL, Church Magazines

Instructions: Remove this page from the magazine, glue it to heavy paper, then cut out the pictures. Cut the pictures into strips along the broken lines, then mix up the pieces.

As you put each picture back together, tell what kind of prayer the people in the picture are giving.



Our Creative Friends



1



2



3



4



5

The Temple

The temple is a sacred place.
It is beautiful and it's the Lord's place.
The temple is white and bright,
Especially when the light is shining at night.
I hope I will go there one day
As a worthy daughter of God, to keep my covenants and pray.
The temple is a place where families are sealed together
To go back to live with our Heavenly Father in
His kingdom forever.

Penina Chu-Shing, age 10
Porirua, New Zealand

Happy Birthday!

Birthdays mean lots of love,
Years from the day we were sent from above.
On birthdays we all make wishes,
So you don't have to do the dishes!

Jacob Kinne, age 10
Pittsfield, Illinois

Too Far to Dream

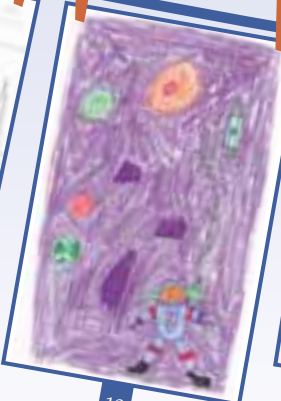
Too far to dream—
Being like a sunbeam,
Bringing flowers to life,
Having not one strife.
Being as beautiful as a swan
And never having to mow the lawn.
Giving people smiles,
Being able to run miles and miles.
Enjoying heavenly food,
Always being in a good mood.
Listening to a soft melody,
Feeling like someone will always sing to me.
Sitting in a comfortable chair,
And everyone will always care.
For everyone to share,

It would be quite a dare
Loving and caring to always be.
And for everyone to stay themselves,
And for me to always stay me,
For dragons to be tame,
For everyone to live by their name.
And to swim all day,
With friends to play,
And have tons of animals
and, of course, the mammals,
To have great sweets
And many meats.
We love this dream,
And when it comes true,
Our faces will beam.

Megan Maine, age 9
Buckley, Washington



11



12



13



14



15



6

Our Family Picture

Birds fly high
while we stand
together.
We all smile
and say something
silly while *snap*
goes the camera.
We all go home
with a picture.

Megan Elwood, age 6
Logan, Utah

Mole at Work

There was a mole that I once knew—
An underground construction crew.
Digging tunnels here and there,
Never coming up for air.
And though he worked both night and day,
The pay was dirt, I heard him say.

Devonee Perrin, age 8
Orofino, Idaho



7

Kind Can Be Quiet

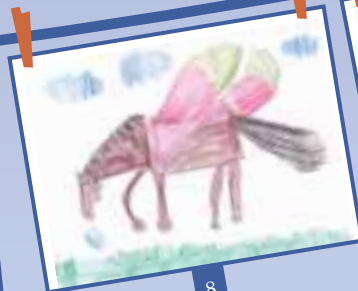
Kind can be quiet.
Nobody needs to know.
Only you need to know.
Two people happy,
a secret friend
and a smiling face.
Kind can be quiet.

Lexi Sangster, age 10
Corvallis, Montana

Families

F Families are **FOREVER**.
A Families are **ALWAYS** there.
M Families are **MERRY**.
I Families are **IMPORTANT**.
L Families are full of **LOVE**.
Y **YOU** have a family!

Nicky Bringham, age 11
Reno, Nevada



8

Drawings

- 1 **Amanda Johnson, age 12**
Layton, Utah
- 2 **Garrett Bond, age 8**
Eagle, Idaho
- 3 **Yailen Sanchez, age 7**
Yonkers, New York
- 4 **Nathaniel James, age 8**
San Jose, California
- 5 **Carrie Ingram, age 11**
Walkersville, Maryland
- 6 **Collin Clark, age 6**
Crystal, Minnesota
- 7 **Madison Connell, age 5**
Portland, Oregon
- 8 **Adam Hartsborn, age 10**
Ellensburg, Washington
- 9 **Emily Leberman, age 7**
Port Saint Lucie, Florida
- 10 **Aidan W. Lowe, age 5**
Loudon, Tennessee



9



10

- 11 **Deedra Ramachandram, age 9**
Klang Selangor, Malaysia
- 12 **Mason Welch, age 6**
Henderson, Nevada
- 13 **Rachel Leyland, age 10**
Bacup, Lancashire, England
- 14 **Nathan Lee Hein, age 7**
Goodwell, Oklahoma
- 15 **Mikaela Weeder, age 5**
Sheridan, Wyoming
- 16 **Cori Klundt, age 10**
Mesa, Arizona
- 17 **Hanna Smith, age 8**
Kennewick, Washington
- 18 **Taylor Doman, age 6**
Reichenbach, Germany
- 19 **Rochelle Rudd, age 11**
Springville, Utah
- 20 **Mike Champion, age 9**
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada



16



17



18



19



20

A Shield of Faith

Successful . . . families are established and maintained on principles of faith, prayer, repentance, [and] forgiveness (“The Family: A Proclamation to the World,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1995, 102).

In Primary we learn about faith, prayer, repentance, and forgiveness. Our families can help us follow these principles. Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles teaches, “The best place for individuals to build faith and strong testimonies is in righteous homes filled with love” (*Ensign*, May 1996, 81).

Our families can help us build shields of faith to protect us from “the fiery darts of the wicked” (Ephesians 6:16). Elder L. Tom Perry of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles learned this as a child: “We were dressed in our home each morning, not only with hats and raincoats and boots to protect us from physical storm, but even more carefully our parents dressed us each day in the armor of God. As we would kneel in family prayer and listen to our father, . . . one more layer was added to our shield of faith” (*Ensign*, May 1974, 98).

Like Elder Perry, we can learn principles at home that can protect us from sin. We can do our part to strengthen our families by having faith in Jesus Christ, praying together, repenting, and forgiving family members who hurt us. When we do these things, the Holy Ghost will fill our homes with warmth and peace. ●



Activities and Ideas

1. Cut out or copy the shield on page 39 and mount it on heavy paper. Color the pictures on the shield. Tell your family what each picture means, and hang the shield where it will remind you to work on these principles.
2. For a family home evening activity, cooperate in teams to color the four areas of the shield.
3. In a family home evening lesson or Primary talk, discuss the statement by Elder L. Tom Perry. What does your family do to help you build a shield of faith? How can you work on these four principles to make your family better?

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



Spiderweb



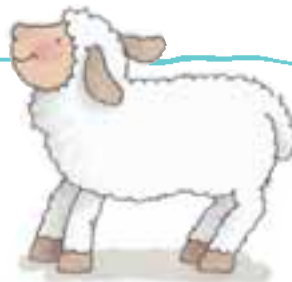
BY LOLA SNEYD

*An engineering masterpiece,
Delicately refined,
Artistry so astonishing,
Intricately designed.*

*Rock to grass blade, stem to twig,
Is strung with avenues
Of silk crisscrossing finer silk,
Attached with spider glues.*

*To think I almost blundered past,
Too quick to be aware
Of a spider's web with the morning dew,
Like diamonds, shimmering there.*

*How much in life we're missing
With racing here and there,
How much we take for granted
Our God, who's always there.*



Find My Sheep

BY REGINA THOMPSON

Can you help the shepherd find his lost sheep?

“Remember the worth of souls is great in the sight of God” (D&C 18:10).



Fourth Article of Faith

BY C. G. LINDSTROM

Each of the words from the fourth article of faith listed below is missing vowels. Replace the missing vowels from the letters below. The listed letters will be used only once, so cross each one off as you use it. (See answers on page 23.)

a a a e e e e e e e i i i i i i i i o o o o o y

1. b _ pt _ sm

2. f _ _ th

3. H _ l _ Gh _ st

4. _ mm _ rs _ _ n

5. _ rd _ n _ nc _ s

6. pr _ nc _ pl _ s

7. r _ m _ ss _ _ n

8. r _ p _ nt _ nc _

A Place to Sing and Pray: A STORY OF

BY SHAUNA GIBBY

(Based on a true story; taken from historical sources)

In 1862, six-year-old Clara Leonard lived in the town of Farmington, Utah, where more than 150 pioneer families had settled.

There were log homes, rock homes, and adobe homes. They had a schoolhouse, a courthouse, and a mill for grinding wheat. But they did not have a church house. They needed a place to sing and pray.

Sometimes they held church meetings in one of the homes, but there wasn't enough room for everyone.

Sometimes they held church meetings in the schoolhouse, but it wasn't big enough, either.

Sometimes they held church meetings in the upper room of the adobe courthouse, but the county officials decided it could no longer be used for religious meetings.

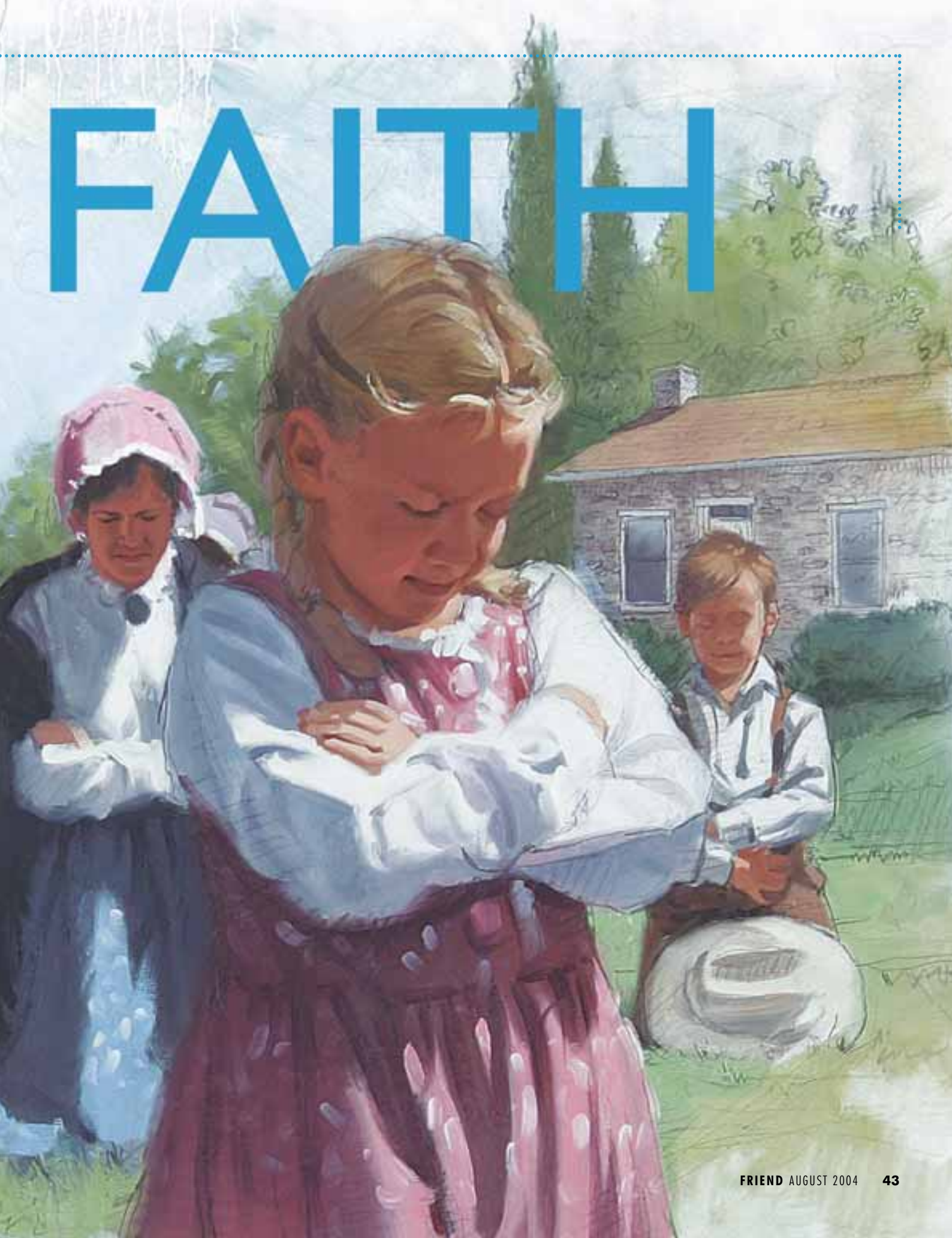
They needed a place to sing and pray.

A lovely place, right on Main Street, was chosen as the site to build their chapel. It was next to Brother Haight's house and hotel and across the street from Brother Penrose's house. It would be a wonderful place for a chapel. But the church members had no money to buy building materials.

Everyone in town donated all they could to the building fund. Clara and her family worked hard to earn some extra money to give to Bishop Hess. But after all the money was counted, the building fund had only twelve dollars. They needed much more to build a beautiful place to sing and pray.



FAITH



The people held a prayer meeting. They knelt and asked the Lord what to do. They had done all they could, and now they needed His help. They had faith that the Lord would know what was best.

A few days later there was a huge storm. It rained and rained. There was mud everywhere. The wind blew very hard, and some trees fell down. Clara had to stay inside all day long.

The next morning, when the storm was over, the men from the town found a rockslide about three blocks from the church lot. Tons of large rocks had slid



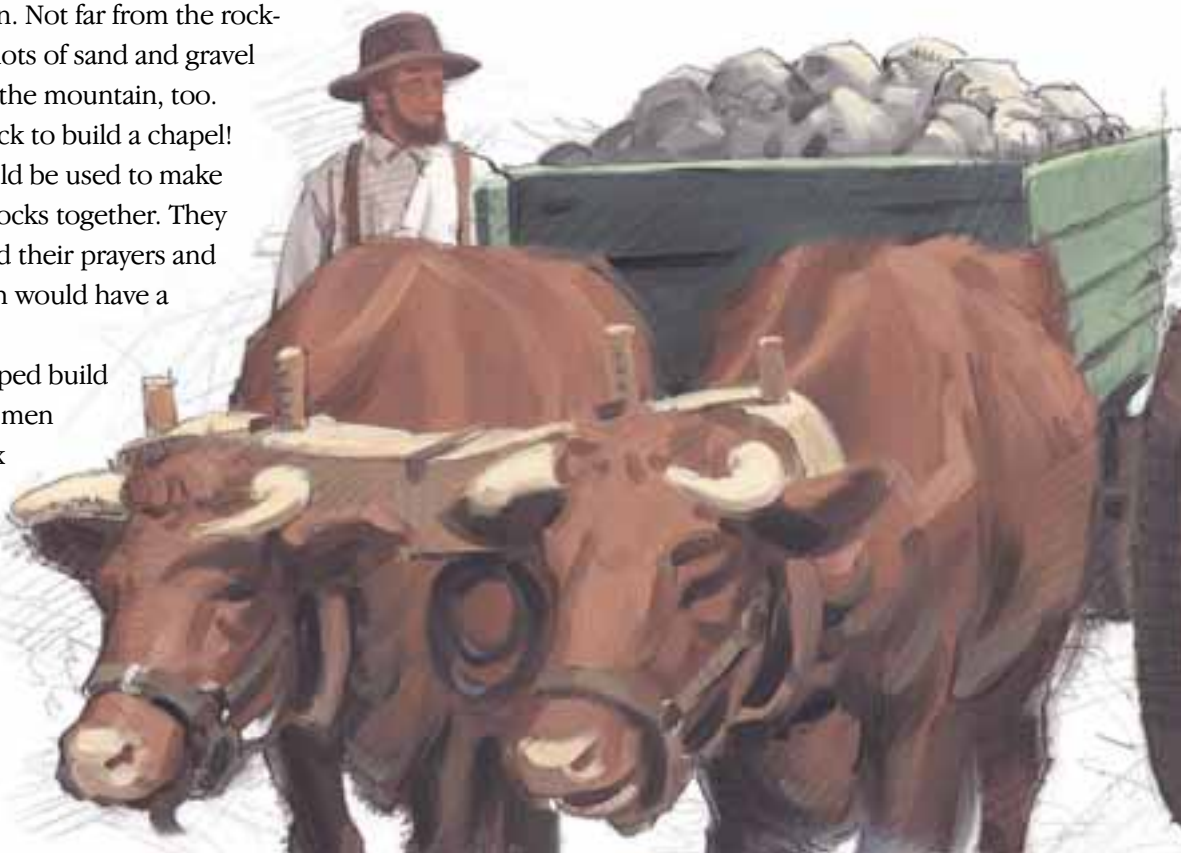
down from the mountain. Not far from the rockslide was a place where lots of sand and gravel had washed down from the mountain, too.

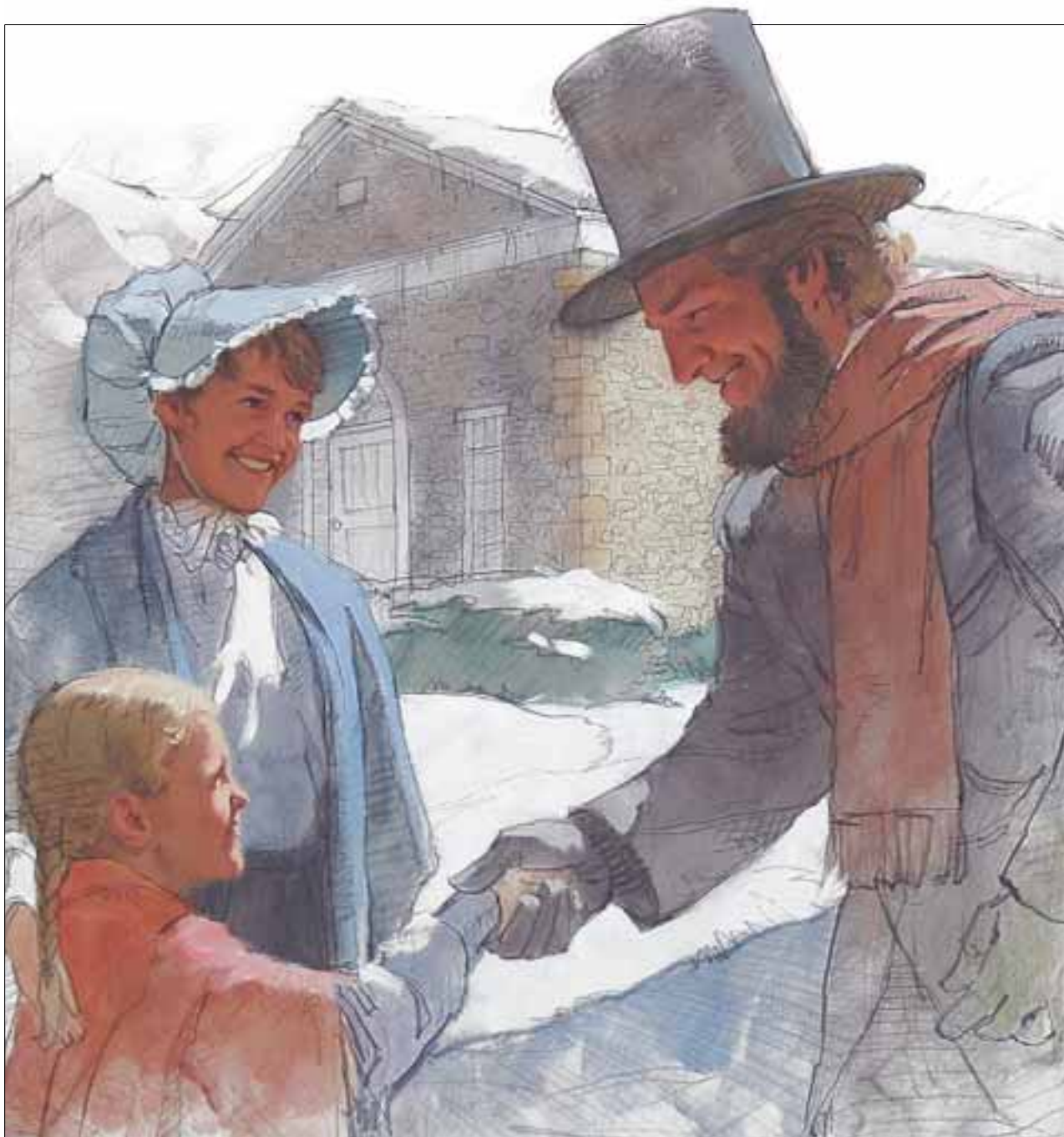
There was enough rock to build a chapel! The sand and gravel could be used to make the mortar to hold the rocks together. They knew the Lord had heard their prayers and blessed them. They soon would have a place to sing and pray!

Everyone in town helped build the chapel. Some of the men hauled the rocks with ox teams. Some of the men laid the rocks to make the walls. Others worked as carpenters on the inside of the chapel, while still others

made benches and tables. Even the children helped by carrying drinking water or serving food prepared by the Relief Society sisters. The chapel was 40 feet wide and 60 feet long. The stone walls were three feet thick.

As they worked, they were able to raise the rest of the money needed to complete their chapel. After two years of construction, the building was finally finished. On 9 January 1864, President Brigham Young and Elder Wilford Woodruff of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles came to Farmington to dedicate the building. Even though there was a thick blanket of snow on the ground, it was a day of jubilee and rejoicing. After the





dedication, the town's brass band played, and everyone celebrated.

At last they had a place to meet. Clara loved to go to church. She felt a sweet spirit of reverence there and found joy in hearing her leaders teach the gospel of Jesus Christ. The sacrament was passed—the bread on silver trays and the water in a tall silver cup with handles on both sides. A piano was donated, and later they got an organ. It was a wonderful place to sing and pray!

Twelve years later, after Clara was grown, this beautiful rock chapel was the place where Sister Aurelia Rogers began the very first Primary. Clara was there to play the organ and was also appointed the treasurer of this new organization.

Now, more than 130 years later, the building is still a beautiful place to sing and pray. ●

Sbauna Gibby is a member of the Country Oaks Ward, Layton Utah Kays Creek Stake.



Watching Over WASEL

BY JULIA OLDROYD

(Based on a true story)

Call on the name of . . . God for protection

(3 Nephi 4:30).

The sun hung low after a warm summer day in Pacheco, in the Latter-day Saint colonies in Mexico. As five-year-old Mae and two-year-old Wasel played outside, they could smell smoke wafting from adobe chimneys and open fires. Supper would be ready soon. Sure enough, Mama called, “Mae! Wasel! Go wash up.” The girls quickly obeyed and went inside to eat.

After supper, Mama said, “Come, little Wasel.” Every night Wasel went with Mama and Papa to herd the cows. Mae and baby David stayed home with Aunt Hattie. Wasel loved this time alone with her parents. She was so excited that she ran outside still clutching her dinner spoon.

“I don’t think Wasel should come with us tonight. We have to care for some horses, and it may be too far for her to walk,” Papa said.

Mama nodded. “Wasel, Mama and Papa are going on a long walk tonight. Take that spoon back to the house and give it to Aunt Hattie. Then you can play with the other children, and tomorrow you can come with us to get the cows.”

Wasel just stood there, holding her spoon. She didn’t want to go back to the house.

“Run along now,” Mama said. Wasel turned and ran

toward the house, but when her parents were out of sight, she put her spoon near the door and decided to go get the cows after all. She knew the way to the pasture. But she didn’t know that her parents hadn’t gone straight there.

The shadows grew long as the sun sank lower. Wasel walked and walked, through fields and corn patches. Wolves howled in the distance. Wasel came to a marshy area and walked there for a long time. She liked to feel the mud squishing between her bare toes.

When Mama and Papa returned from the cow pasture, Mama went inside to put the children to bed, and Papa went to the barn to take care of the animals.

“Hattie, where is Wasel?” Mama asked.

Aunt Hattie froze. “Wasn’t she with you?”

“Yes, but we sent her back here.”

“Well, I haven’t seen her!” Aunt Hattie exclaimed.

Mama and Aunt Hattie called for Wasel and searched in all the rooms and in the yard. Then Mama ran to the barn.

“Wasel isn’t here. I’m going to look for her,” she told Papa.

“She’s probably asleep somewhere,” Papa said. “I’ll look in the house.”

Mama knew that Wasel wasn’t in the house. She ran to the river and the cornfield calling, “Wasel! Wasel! Can you hear me, Wasel?” There was no answer, so she returned to the house.

“I think we need help,” Papa said.





Just then, Aunt Hattie pointed out the window.
“Look! It’s Brother Carroll.”

Papa ran outside and stopped him. “Wasel is lost,” he explained.

“I’m on my way to the church for a meeting,” Brother Carroll said. “I’ll tell everyone that you need help looking for her.”

When Brother Carroll told Bishop Hardy that Wasel was lost, Bishop Hardy dismissed the meeting and asked the brethren to go search for her.

As everyone searched under the beds, in the out-buildings, and through the house, Mama began to fear for Wasel’s life. “We are wasting time looking for her here. We have already done that, and I know she’s not here!” she cried.

Wasel’s grandpa gathered the men together. “Let’s divide into small groups and circle the area,” he said. “Whoever finds her will return here and fire a gun five

times to signal the rest of us.”

One group went with the bishop. They followed the road toward the cow pasture.

“Look, Bishop!” someone shouted. “Little footprints.”

The men held their lanterns high and carefully followed the footprints until they reached the marsh. The ground was too moist there to hold any tracks.

Bishop Hardy instructed the men to kneel on the soggy ground. Then he prayed for Wasel’s safety and for guidance to find her.

With teary eyes, Bishop Hardy rose. He thought he heard something and paused to listen. There, very faintly—yes! He could hear her! The others strained but heard nothing. “She’s calling for her mama!” he exclaimed.

Bishop Hardy ran toward the sound he heard so clearly. He stopped occasionally to listen—“Mama!”—and hurried on. He ran through fields and over hills for nearly two miles (3 km). He found himself in a rugged canyon, the moonlight falling softly around him. Then, suddenly, he saw Wasel walking wearily along the mountainside. Bishop Hardy ran to her and gathered her into his arms. “Mama,” Wasel whispered as she fell asleep.

The bishop carried Wasel back to the house as quickly as he could go. Mama took Wasel in her arms, and tears of joy flowed freely from her eyes. She offered a silent prayer of thanks to Heavenly Father for bringing little Wasel home safely.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bishop Hardy fired the gun with joy. When Papa arrived, he hugged his wife and daughter, weeping with gratitude. Then everyone knelt in a circle, and Bishop Hardy thanked the Lord for protecting Wasel. He knew that he couldn’t have heard her soft cries on his own. But the Lord was watching over Wasel and had helped him to find her. ●

Julia Oldroyd is a member of the Rose Canyon Second Ward, Herriman Utah West Stake.



“God is mindful of us and ready to respond when we place our trust in Him. . . . [Seek] divine guidance through prayer.”

Elder L. Tom Perry of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “Back to Gospel Basics,” *Ensign*, May 1993, 91.

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 August is "Faith, prayer, repentance, and forgiveness can strengthen my family."

Family Home Evening Ideas

Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned below.



1. Tell the story given by President Gordon B. Hinckley in "Following the Crowd" (pages 2–3). Will you make the decision

to do what's right no matter what others are doing? Role-play different situations where you might need to choose the right. End by sharing the experiences of Elder Christoffel Golden Jr. in "Family Traditions" (pages 6–7).

2. Use the pictures to tell the story "Testimony of an Apostle" (pages 20–21). Share your testimonies. Talk about how you can strengthen them by what you do each day.

3. Follow the instructions to prepare the activity "Always Choose the Right" (pages 24–25). After you have done the activity with your family, read some of the examples of others who have chosen the right in "Trying to Be Like Jesus" (pages 8–9).

4. When David O. McKay was frightened as a young boy, what did he do? Read "David's Prayer" (pages 4–5). Discuss what frightens you and how your family and Heavenly Father can help.

5. Together read the story "Watching Over Wasel" (pages 46–48), then do the activity "Praying to Heavenly Father" (page 35) and discuss the different kinds of prayers that bless our lives. Resolve to continue to pray together morning and night.

6. For refreshments, make "Cherry Chocolate Pie" or "Banana Crumb Pops" (page 22).

7. For more ideas, see page 38.



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

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The Friend

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.....

*I have a fam'ly tree
with branches by the dozens.
I have grandpas. I have grandmas.
I have uncles, aunts, and cousins
(Children's Songbook, 199).*