



53

**Family Home Evening Lessons
Old Testament
Coordinates with Primary Manual 6**

Lesson Ideas from the Friend & Ensign

**Additional Lessons For Easter, Christmas,
And General Conferences**

Songs from the Children's Songbook

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Original from - <http://www.theideadoorfiles.com>

Edited and added to by Jennifer Sykes

1-Heavenly Father's Plan

(Heavenly Father's Plan for Us)

SONG: I Will Follow God's Plan, p. 164

SCRIPTURE: 2 Nephi 9:13

LESSON: Friend, April 1995 – Heavenly Father's Plan - Before you were born on earth, you lived with Heavenly Father. While you were there, an important meeting was held and Heavenly Father presented a plan that would enable you to live with him again someday. Part of the plan was that you would receive a physical body and learn to choose the right and to do good. You chose to follow Heavenly Father's plan.

Aurelia Spencer Rogers began at a very young age to follow Heavenly Father's plan for her. She was six years old when her parents joined the Church. Her family moved from Deep River, Connecticut, to Nauvoo, Illinois. When the Saints were forced to leave Nauvoo, Aurelia's mother died, leaving seven young children. They and their father crossed the Missouri River and went to Winter Quarters, Nebraska, where he built a log cabin for them to live in.

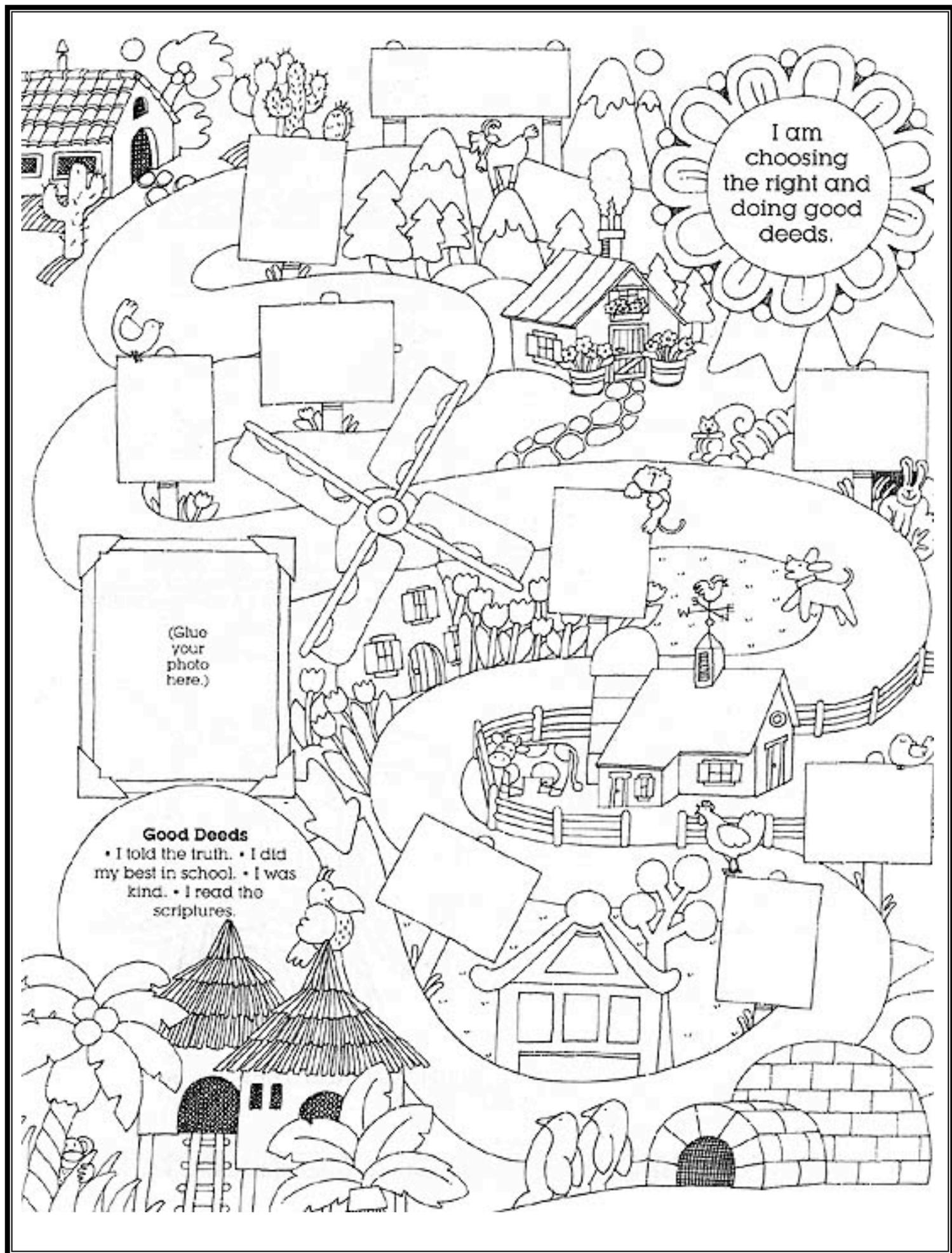
When Aurelia was twelve, her father was called to serve a mission in Great Britain. She and her fourteen-year-old sister, Ellen, said that they would care for the family while he served the Lord. How would you feel if your father went to serve a Church mission and left you in a new land to take care of little brothers and sisters?

Aurelia loved all children and was concerned about them. When she was a young married woman, she felt that parents needed help in teaching their children about the gospel and about how to treat one another with kindness.

When the Primary of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was established in 1878, Aurelia was called to be its first president. Today, all of us can enjoy Primary because Aurelia Spencer Rogers followed Heavenly Father's plan for her.

ACTIVITY: Heavenly Father's Plan - Friend, April 1995 - The principles mentioned in the thirteenth article of faith suggest some good deeds we can do to follow God's plan for us. Glue your photos where indicated, do *the good deeds listed below it*, and choose other good deeds and do them. As you follow God's plan and do a good deed, write what you did on a sign and color it. When you have filled in and colored all the signs, finish coloring the picture.

Or Hide something and tell the younger children to find it, but don't tell them what they are looking for or how to find it. As they get confused and start asking questions, talk about why they are confused and how you can help. Tell them what the object is and give them directions for finding it (e.g., take four steps forward, turn to the wall that has windows, etc.). Discuss how much easier it is to find something when we have a plan and follow it



I am
choosing
the right and
doing good
deeds.

(Glue
your
photo
here.)

Good Deeds

- I told the truth.
- I did my best in school.
- I was kind.
- I read the scriptures.

2-The Plan of Happiness

(Jesus Christ Was Chosen to Be Our Savior)

SONG: I Will Follow God's Plan, p. 164-65

SCRIPTURE: Moses 1:39

LESSON: Friend, January 2005 - Many people want to know where they came from, why they are here, and where they are going. Heavenly Father's plan of happiness answers these questions.

Before we were born, we all lived together in heaven with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. We learned and grew as much as we could. But eventually Heavenly Father gathered all His children in a council and told us that to become like Him, we must leave heaven for a time. He would create an earth for us, He would give us the freedom to choose between good and evil, and He would show us the way to know what is good. He would provide a Savior so that when we sinned, we could repent and still return to Him.

We came to earth to gain a body and walk by faith. We can't remember our home in heaven, but we can choose the right by following the example of Jesus, obeying our parents, and living My Gospel Standards.

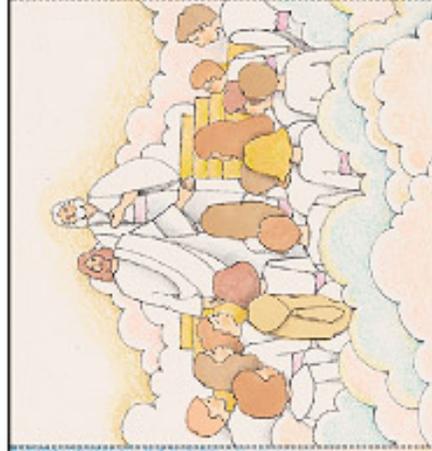
After we die, we will all live again because of the Atonement of Jesus Christ. He overcame death through the Resurrection, and everyone will be resurrected. He also overcame sin, and those who have faith, repent, are baptized, receive the Holy Ghost, and keep the commandments will return to live with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. They will have the gift of eternal life, which is what the plan of happiness is all about.

ACTIVITY: The Plan of Happiness - Friend, January 2005 - Cut along the solid lines. Glue the second strip to the tab on the first strip. Fold back and forth on the dotted lines.



Heavenly Father's Plan of Happiness for Me

(See Moses 1:39.)



We lived in heaven with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ before we were born.
(See Abraham 3:22–26.)



An earth was created.
(See Moses 2:1–3:3.)



Adam and Eve and the Fall were a part of Heavenly Father's plan.
(See Moses 4:6–5:12.)

Glue



Jesus Christ came to earth. He is our Savior; He overcame the Fall. Because of Him, we can live again.
(See Abraham 3:27–28.)



Coming to a family is part of Heavenly Father's plan. (See paragraphs 1–4 of "The Family: A Proclamation to the World," *Ensign*, Nov. 1995, 102.)



We will all die, and because of Jesus Christ, we will all be resurrected.
(See Alma 11:42–45.)



When we follow the example of Jesus Christ, we can inherit the celestial kingdom.
(See D&C 76:50–70.)

3-The Creation

(The Creation)

SONG: All Things Bright and Beautiful, p. 231

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 1

LESSON: Friend, February 2007 - When Heavenly Father presented the great plan of happiness in the Council in Heaven, we shouted for joy. Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, were giving us the opportunity to come to earth to grow and learn so that we could become like Them.

Under the direction of Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ created a wonderful world where we could live. The creation took six days.

First, Jesus divided the light from the darkness to make day and night.

On the second day, He organized the heaven and the earth.

On the third day, He divided the land from the waters and created grass, flowers, trees, fruit, and herbs.

On the fourth day, He created the sun, moon, and stars. On the fifth day, He created the fish and birds.

On the sixth day, Jesus created the animals. Then, most important of all, Heavenly Father created man "in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them" (Genesis 1:27). Adam and Eve were the first man and woman to live on the earth and care for it.

The beautiful world we live in is a gift from our loving Heavenly Father. We can thank Him in our prayers for its many blessings. We can also show our thankfulness by caring for the plants and animals on the earth. Our bodies are also a gift from Heavenly Father. We should especially take care of our bodies and always remember to show gratitude and reverence for their creation.

ACTIVITY: The Creation - Friend, November 1998 – cut, color, re-tell creation.

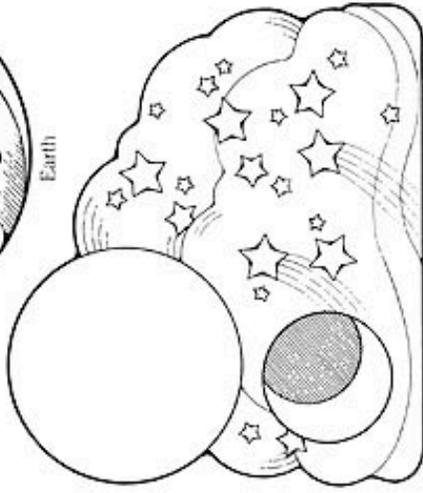
Or My Creation Book - Friend, March 2002 - Cut out each strip along the solid black horizontal lines. Accordion-fold each strip on the broken lines, with the beginning page on the top. With the title on the top, stack the strips in numbered order. Staple the pages of the book where indicated.



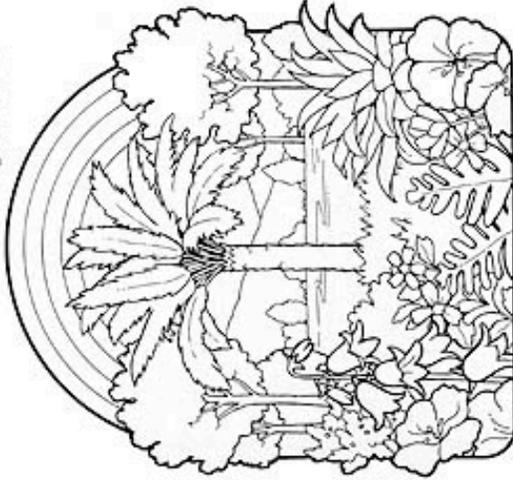
Light, darkness



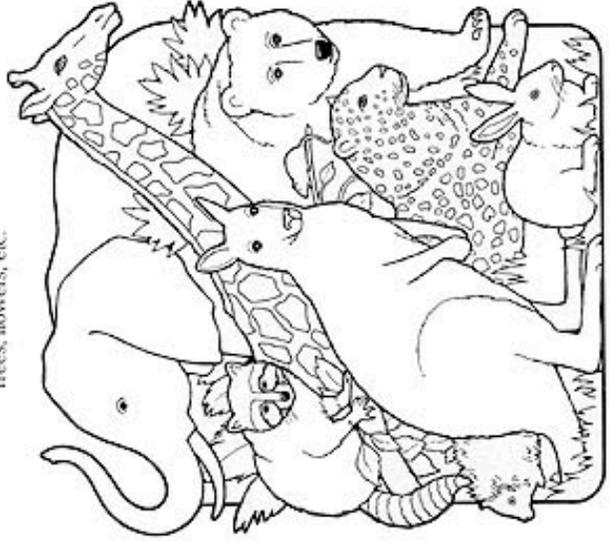
Earth



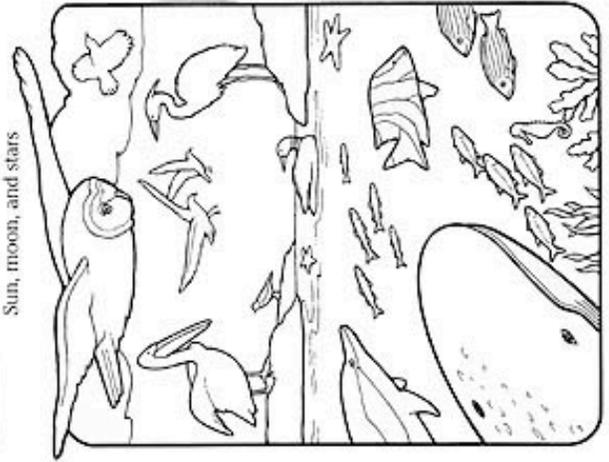
Sun, moon, and stars



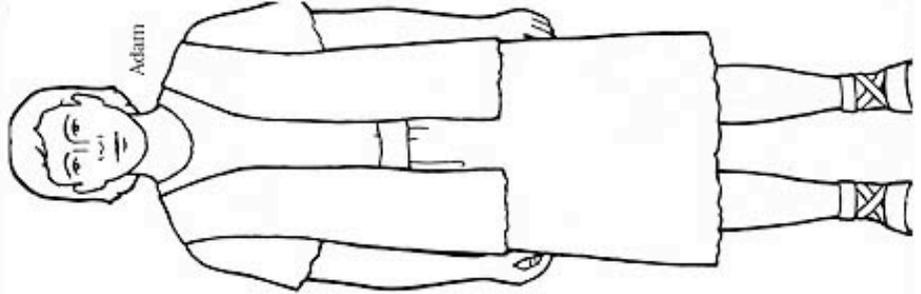
Trees, flowers, etc.



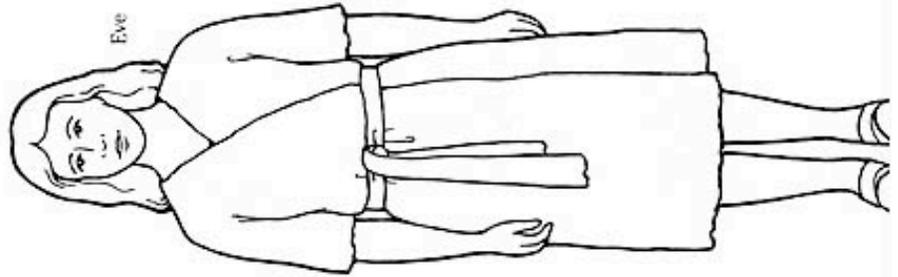
Animals



Fish and fowl



Adam



Eve

My Creation



Under Heavenly Father's direction, Jesus Christ created the heaven and the earth. On the first day, He made light. (See Genesis 1:1, 3, 5.)



On the second day, He made the sky (firmament). (See Genesis 1:6–8.)



On the third day, He made flowers, grass, and trees. (See Genesis 1:11–13.)



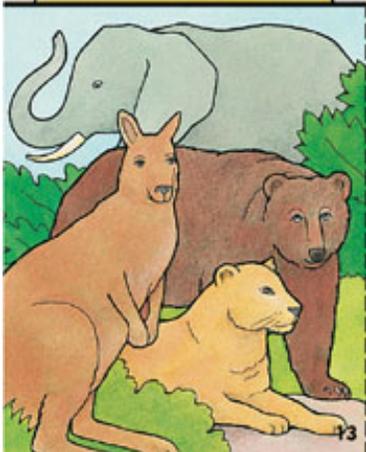
On the fourth day, He made the sun, moon, and stars. (See Genesis 1:16, 19.)



On the fifth day, He made birds, fish, and whales. (See Genesis 1:21, 23.)



On the sixth day, He made land animals . . . (See Genesis 1:25.)



. . . and man. (See Genesis 1:27, 31.)



On the seventh day, He rested. (See Genesis 2:2.)

4-Our First Parents

(The Fall of Adam and Eve)

SONG: I Lived in Heaven, p. 4

SCRIPTURE: Moses 4:26

LESSON: Friend, February 1973 - Adam and his wife, Eve, were the first people Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, placed on the newly created earth. Adam's name means *many*, for all who have ever lived upon the earth, or who will live upon the earth, are the children of this great and intelligent man. Eve was the first mother of the human family, and her name means *mother of all living*.

Adam and Eve were happy in their beautiful home in the Garden of Eden, for they had been given everything they could want for food and for pleasure. They knew nothing of evil, for their world was all good.

Often in the cool of early evening the Lord would walk and talk with them, and their happiness was complete. He told them that everything had been made for them to enjoy except one tree—the tree of knowledge of good and evil—and that they should neither touch nor eat the fruit of that tree, for if they did, they would be punished. Adam promised that they would not disobey this commandment.

But one day Satan tempted Eve and Adam, and they disobeyed the Lord and ate the fruit that had been forbidden. This act is known as “Adam’s transgression.” And when they had eaten, they were cast out of the Garden of Eden and became mortals as we are. And the Lord told them that someday they would die.

No longer did Adam and Eve have the great blessing of walking and talking with the Lord. Their life became very different in their new world outside of the Garden of Eden. They had to work hard to plow the fields and grow crops so that they could provide food for themselves and their children.

One day Adam and Eve again heard the voice of the Lord commanding them to offer sacrifices to Him. Our first earthly parents were happy to hear from the Lord again. They obeyed His commandment and built an altar and made offerings as they had been told. And together they worshiped the Lord.

After many days an angel of the Lord appeared to Adam and asked him why he offered sacrifices to the Lord.

“I don’t know,” Adam answered, “except the Lord commanded me.”

The angel explained that the sacrifices were to remind Adam and Eve that someday Jesus Christ would come to earth and make it possible for all men to live again after death and to

return to the presence of our Heavenly Father. The angel also told Adam that he should repent of his sins and be baptized, that Adam and his family should keep all the commandments given to them, and that they should pray forever to our Heavenly Father in the name of Jesus Christ.

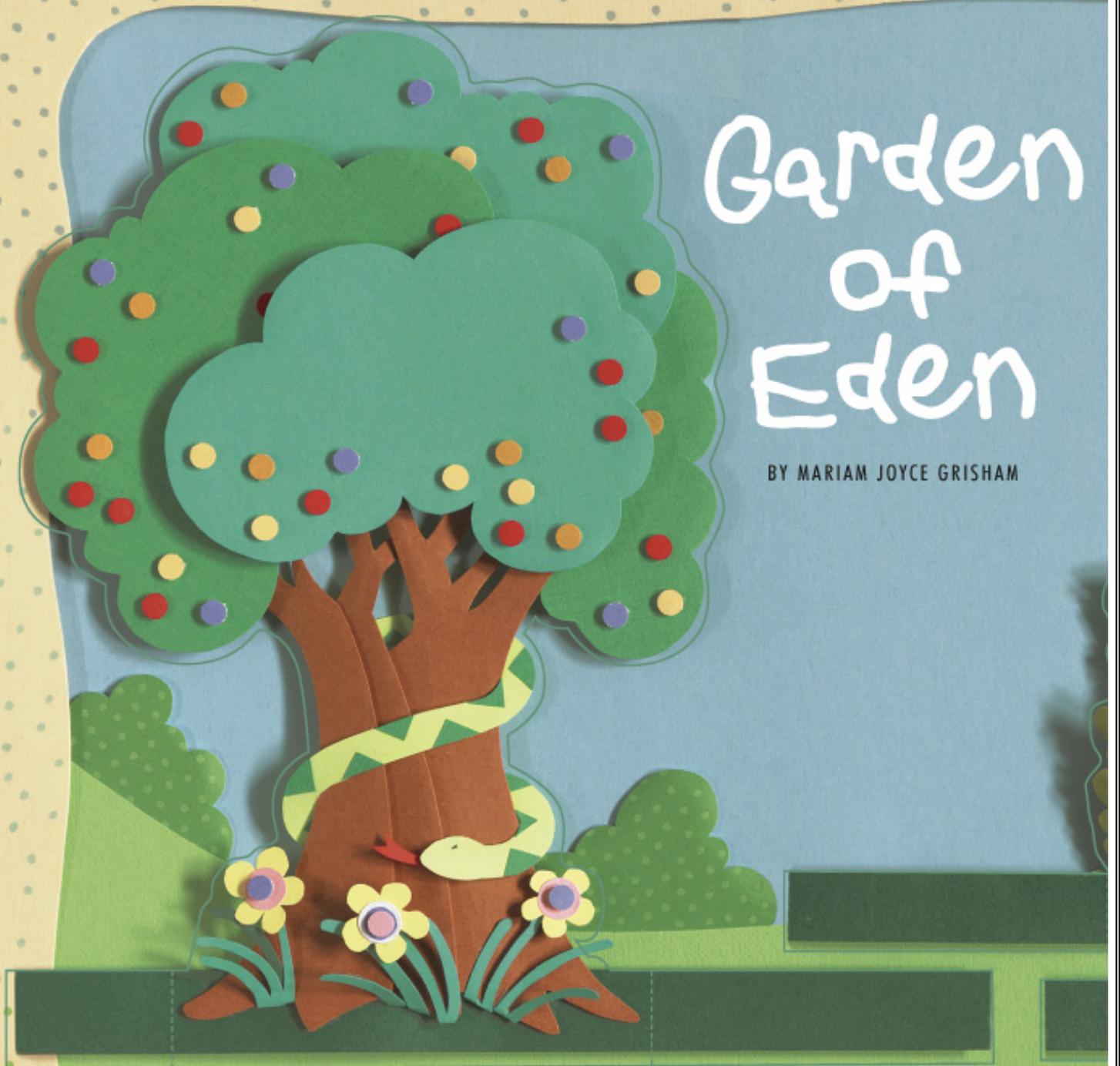
Adam was baptized and his heart was filled with joy. He exclaimed, "Blessed be the name of God, for because of my transgression my eyes are opened, and in this life shall I have joy, and again in the flesh I shall see God."

Adam told Eve all that the angel had made known to him. And Adam and Eve rejoiced together and blessed the name of God, and they made all these things known to their sons and daughters.

ACTIVITY: Garden of Eden - Friend, September 2006 - cut out the trees, sword, and figures on the heavy solid lines. On each tree and figure, fold the tabs back along the broken lines, and tape or glue the ends together to make a finger puppet. Use these puppets to help you tell the story of Adam and Eve in a family home evening lesson or Primary talk (see Genesis 2:15–25; 3).

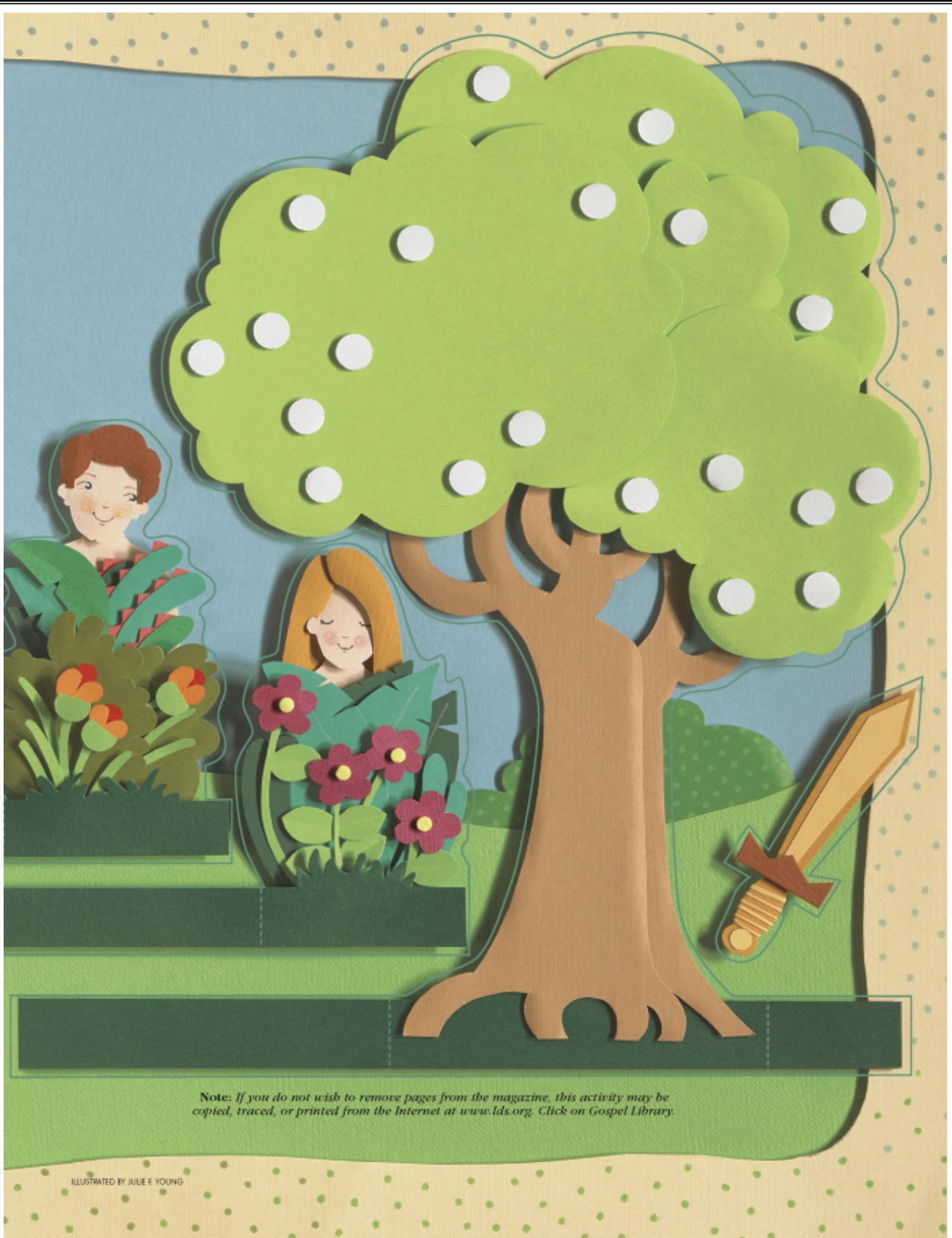
Garden of Eden

BY MARIAM JOYCE GRISHAM



Instructions: Remove these pages from the magazine, mount them on heavy paper, then cut out the trees, sword, and figures on the heavy solid lines. On each tree and figure, fold the tabs back along the broken lines,

and tape or glue the ends together to make a finger puppet. Use these puppets to help you tell the story of Adam and Eve in a family home evening lesson or Primary talk (see Genesis 2:15-25; 3).



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. Click on Gospel Library.

5-You Must Choose for Yourself

(Adam and Eve and Their Family Offered Sacrifices)

SONG: I Want to Live the Gospel, p. 148

SCRIPTURE: D&C 6:7

LESSON: Friend, February 2005 - Priscilla's grandparents lived in a beautiful home in Liverpool, England. Though Priscilla was the fourth of nine children and had many cousins, Grandfather and Grandmother Mitchell made her feel like their favorite person in the entire world. She loved to be in their home, and they were always buying gifts for her.

Then, one day, everything changed. Missionaries from America taught her family the gospel, and her parents were baptized. Priscilla and her brothers and sisters planned to be baptized, too. When Grandfather found out, he was angry.

Priscilla had never known Grandfather to be angry before. It frightened her. He shouted unforgettable, sickening words to Priscilla's father: "Hezekiah, take your family and leave. Don't ever come back!"

At home, the stunned family gathered around the fireplace. Father had never looked so sad. Mother hadn't stopped crying since they had left their grandparents' home. Priscilla was confused and heartbroken. "Why don't Grandmother and Grandfather love us anymore?" she cried.

Father tried to explain. "Grandfather is opposed to our new church. He wants no part of it, and he wants no part of us if we continue with it." Father stood tall. "But I know that Jesus Christ lives. This is His true Church. He will help us find the way, as long as we do everything we can to be like Him."

Priscilla's family tried to be happy, but everything seemed to get worse. Father lost his job as a minister in their former church, so money was scarce even though he taught school. Mother mended clothes instead of replacing them. Priscilla tried not to complain, but life seemed to get harder every day. She longed to visit her grandparents. If she could only talk to them ...

A knock sounded at the door. Priscilla's heart leaped with hope, but it wasn't her grandparents. Uncle George and Aunt Hannah stood on the porch with gifts and a basket of food. Priscilla was happy to see them, but all too soon she was sent outside so they could talk to her parents. It sounded serious.

"Priscilla," Aunt Hannah finally called. "How would you like to come live with us?" They had no children and wanted to adopt her, Uncle George explained. There would be plenty of room for her in their mansion, and she could receive better schooling.

“It will leave more of the basics for your brothers and sisters, too,” Aunt Hannah added. Priscilla knew that it was a struggle for her parents to feed and clothe all nine of their children. If she went, it would make things easier for her family.

Father gazed sadly at the floor. Mother sobbed into her handkerchief. The offer was kind, but accepting it would not be easy. Priscilla packed her bags and bid her family farewell.

“This will be your bedroom,” Aunt Hannah said. Priscilla had always shared a room with her four sisters. Now she had a room of her own and a maid to clean it.

Aunt Hannah took her shopping to buy pretty dresses. In no time, the closet was full of them. Her aunt and uncle planned parties so Priscilla could meet new friends. Priscilla had many advantages, but she missed being with her family and listening to Father teach as they sat around the fireplace.

On the morning of her 10th birthday, Priscilla was making dancing dolls out of hollyhock blooms in the garden. She was excited for the party to be held that afternoon, but she wished her sisters could come. Suddenly, she spotted a tall, thin man coming up the road with a walking stick. Priscilla ran to meet him.

“Happy birthday, Princess Priscilla,” Father said. He swept her into his arms and swung her around.

“Oh, Father, you remembered!” she exclaimed. Together they walked inside. Father pulled a letter from his pocket. “Priscilla, Uncle George and Aunt Hannah have requested to officially adopt you.” Priscilla knew what that meant—she would inherit great wealth and a respected name. She would never need to worry about money again.

“I have more news,” Father said. “Soon your mother, brothers, sisters, and I are going to America.”

“Will you ever come back?” Priscilla asked. Father shook his head. “George and Hannah love you. They will take care of you and give you more wealth and opportunities than I can ever offer. On the other hand, life in America with the new church will be difficult and require many sacrifices.” Father looked into his daughter’s eyes. “You must choose for yourself, Priscilla.”

Priscilla didn’t hesitate. She ran to Aunt Hannah and hugged and kissed her. “I love you, Aunt Hannah, and I will always remember you,” she said. “But I know that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is true. I must go to America with my family and be baptized.”

And that is exactly what she did.

ACTIVITY: Choices Maze - Friend, February 2005

Choices Maze

Every day we make many choices in our lives. With every decision, we must decide either to choose the right and follow Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ or to choose the wrong and make bad decisions that will lead us away from Heavenly Father. Follow the maze below.

When you come to a fork in the maze, read both choices and decide which one to make. Choosing the right will eventually lead you to Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ, while making bad choices will lead you to dead ends and unhappiness.



6-Show You Know

(Adam and Eve Lived the Gospel of Jesus Christ)

SONG: I Will Follow God's Plan, p. 164

SCRIPTURE: 1 Nephi 3:7

LESSON: Friend, June 2003 – Coleen K. Menlove - Dear Primary children, this year we celebrate the 125th year since Primary was organized. It was organized by a prophet of God to help children learn and live the gospel of Jesus Christ with joy. Primary is important, and this will be a wonderful year as we celebrate. Most importantly, we—your parents, leaders, and teachers—honor you, the children. We love you. We rejoice in who you are and who you can become.

You are a child of God. You have a loving Heavenly Father who hears and answers your prayers. He wants you to be worthy to return and live with Him someday. Knowing this can help you plan for your earthly and eternal future with a brightness of hope. As you look to the future, look far beyond tomorrow. The scriptures, the teachings of latter-day prophets, and even the Primary songs can help you understand and prepare to reach your eternal potential. Jesus Christ set the example for us of how to live worthy so we may return to the presence of our Heavenly Father. Each of you will have opportunities to learn about Jesus Christ and then follow Him in faith.

We show we know how to follow Him by making and keeping baptismal covenants and by receiving and listening to the Holy Ghost. We show we know how to follow Him each time we worthily partake of the sacrament and remember Jesus. I want to talk about another way we show we know—by keeping the commandments.

The Lord declared, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, this is my gospel; and ye know the things that ye must do in my church; for the works which ye have seen me do that shall ye also do.”¹ I love the Primary song “I’m Trying to Be like Jesus,”² and I love the way I feel when I sing it. Each day we are given opportunities to show we know how to be like Jesus and follow Him in faith.

When 10-year-old John joined the swimming team, he told his coach he could compete in the meets held on Saturday but not those held on Sunday. At the last meet of the season, John’s relay race was scheduled for Sunday. He remembered a family home evening lesson about making decisions in advance so it would be easier to do the right thing when the time came. John said: “I had made the decision not to swim on Sunday before I joined my team. That made it easier for me to tell the coach that I couldn’t swim the relay. I thought the coach would be mad at me. But at the end-of-the-year banquet, ... he told the team how proud he was of me for having standards and then sticking to them.”³ John shows he knows by keeping the Sabbath day holy and setting an example of someone who follows the teachings of Jesus. Every time you keep the Sabbath day holy, you show you know.

Perhaps you have had an experience like the one I had when I was 11 years old. I had a friend whom I admired because she seemed to know so much. One day she offered me a cigarette. She told me she would help me learn to smoke, and she pressured me with words like “It won’t hurt—just this once.” I didn’t want to offend her, but I had decided when I was very young that I would never smoke. This decision made it easier to say no. Show you know by obeying the Word of Wisdom.

When Caitlin was six years old, she asked her dance teacher if she could wear a more modest costume for the dance recital. When her teacher said no, Caitlin knew what she had to do. She told her teacher she would have to drop out because she had to do what Jesus would want her to do. Caitlin said, “It was a very hard decision to make, but I felt good afterward.”⁴ We respect our bodies by dressing modestly. We show we know how to keep the commandments and follow the Savior.

We show we know by living the commandment to love one another. Our prophet, President Gordon B. Hinckley, said: “There is a mighty strength that comes of the knowledge that you and I are sons and daughters of God. ... One who has this knowledge and permits it to influence his [or her] life will not stoop to do a mean or cheap ... thing.”⁵ Jesus commanded us to love our neighbors as ourselves. He illustrated this great teaching with the example of the good Samaritan, who performed acts of kindness and mercy when no one else would help. Then the Savior said, “Go, and do thou likewise.”⁶ The Savior taught us to love and do good to one another—even those who have different standards. These differences are no excuse for avoiding others or being unkind.

A friend of eight-year-old Chelsea said that she didn’t like a certain boy because he wasn’t a member of our church. What do you think Chelsea did? What would you do? Chelsea told her friend it’s OK that he is not a member of our church; he is still a good person.⁷ We show we know how to follow the Savior when we treat others with kindness and respect.

What about the kindness we show to our own family members? The most important and sometimes the most difficult place to show kindness is in our own homes, to our parents and to our brothers and sisters. When our son Mitch was 10 years old, he wanted to help our family, especially if he could make it fun. When no one was looking, he put a bell on a string around his neck and pretended to be a bellboy as he helped with family jobs. When family members noticed things were done, he would just say, “It must be the bellboy.” Mitch was a great help to us and also brought fun and delight to our family.

The boys and girls of whom I have spoken show they know by keeping the Sabbath day holy, obeying the Word of Wisdom, being modest in their dress, and being kind to friends and family. You, too, can show you know by keeping these and the other commandments.

Being a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints means we have been given opportunities to receive all the blessings of the gospel. Each day you can say with full confidence:

I am a child of God.

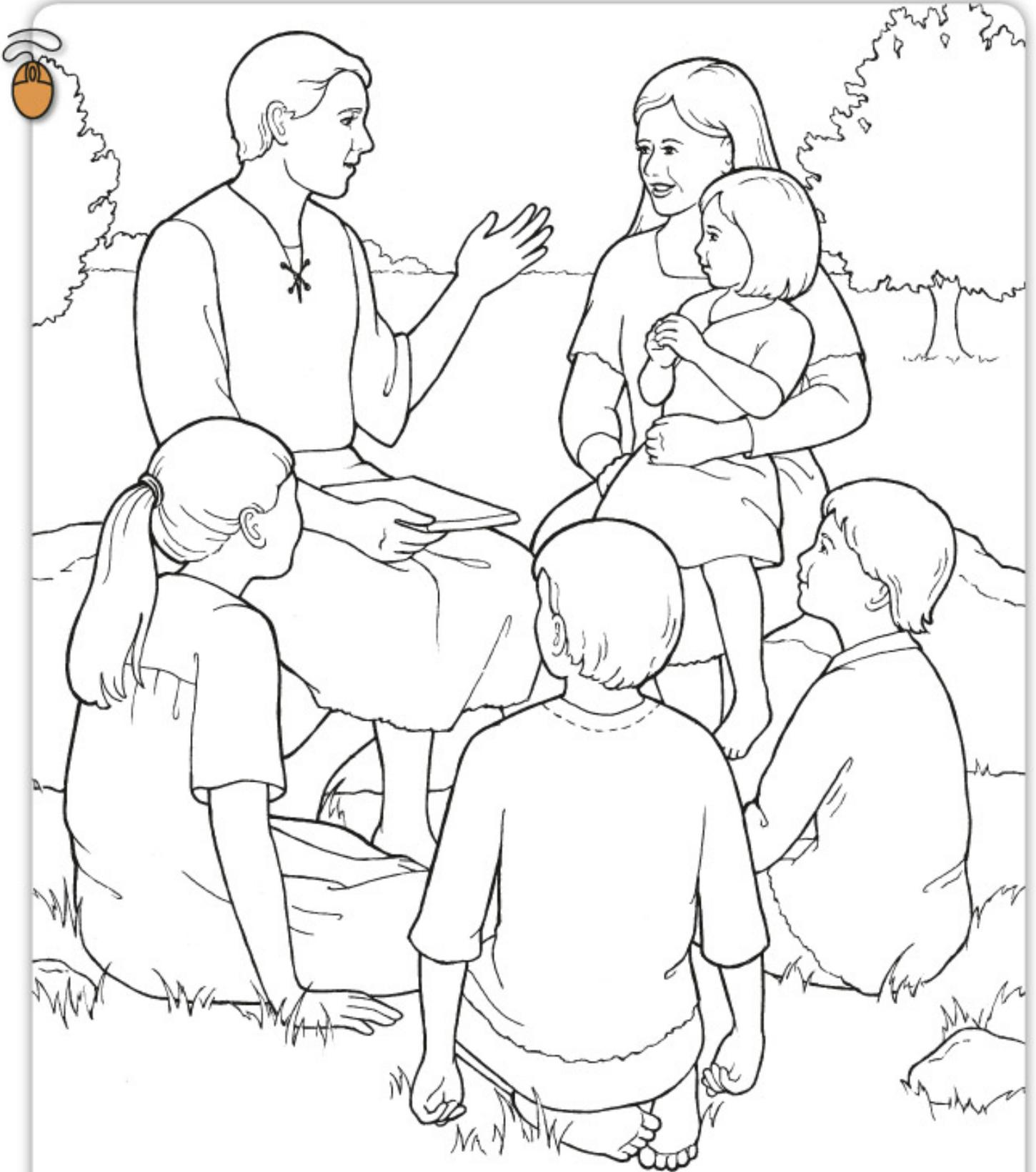
I know Heavenly Father loves me, and I love Him.

I can pray to Heavenly Father anytime, anywhere.

I am trying to remember and follow Jesus Christ.

Make a decision today to show you know by following Jesus Christ in faith. The path back to Heavenly Father will not be easy. You will need courage to continue day after day as you follow the Savior. I bear my witness that as you make the decision to show you know by following Jesus Christ in faith, you will experience peace and happiness now and throughout eternity. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

ACTIVITY: Coloring Page - Adam & Eve - Friend, February 2010



Adam and Eve Teach Their Children

Adam and Eve blessed the name of God, and they made all things known unto their sons and their daughters (Moses 5:12).

7- Enoch-Mover of Mountains

(Enoch and a Zion People)

SONG: Follow the Prophet, p. 110

SCRIPTURE: Moses 6, 7

LESSON: Friend, April 1987 - Enoch, the great-great-great-grandson of Adam, was a very righteous man. So righteous was he that God descended from heaven to walk and talk with him. Though Enoch and some of the other descendants of Adam were obedient to the Lord's commandments, many more were wicked.

The Lord commanded Enoch that he should preach to these evildoers and persuade them to turn away from their sinful practices. But Enoch was frightened of the wicked people and reminded the Lord that he was "but a lad, and all the people hate me; for I am slow of speech."

Enoch received a promise from the Lord that no one would hurt him, that he would become a powerful speaker, and that the Lord's Spirit would be with him so that he would even be able to move mountains and turn rivers from their courses.

Then the Lord instructed Enoch to wash his eyes with clay. Upon doing so, Enoch beheld all the spirits that God had created and other things that were not visible to the natural eye. From then on, the people called Enoch a seer.

The promise to Enoch was fulfilled, and he became a forceful speaker. Unafraid, he climbed upon hills and other high places to preach the word of God. At first the people were angry when he told them to repent, and many called him a wild man.

Gradually, though, some of them realized that they must change their lives and obey the commandments if they were to be happy. As more and more people joined the congregation of believers, they banded together to form a city. When their enemies fought against them, Enoch used the power the Lord had given him: He moved mountains, made the earth tremble, changed the course of rivers, and caused the roar of lions to be heard from the wilderness.

A new land appeared out of the sea, and the enemies of Enoch's people were so frightened that they fled. Even the giants who lived in the land were afraid. A curse was placed upon all those who fought against God and His people.

Enoch and his people prospered. The Lord called their city Zion, meaning "City of Holiness." He also called the people Zion "because they were of one heart and one mind, and dwelt in righteousness; and there was no poor among them," and He lived there with them.

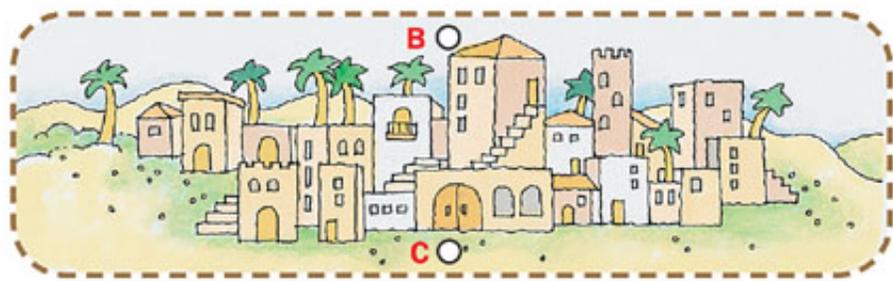
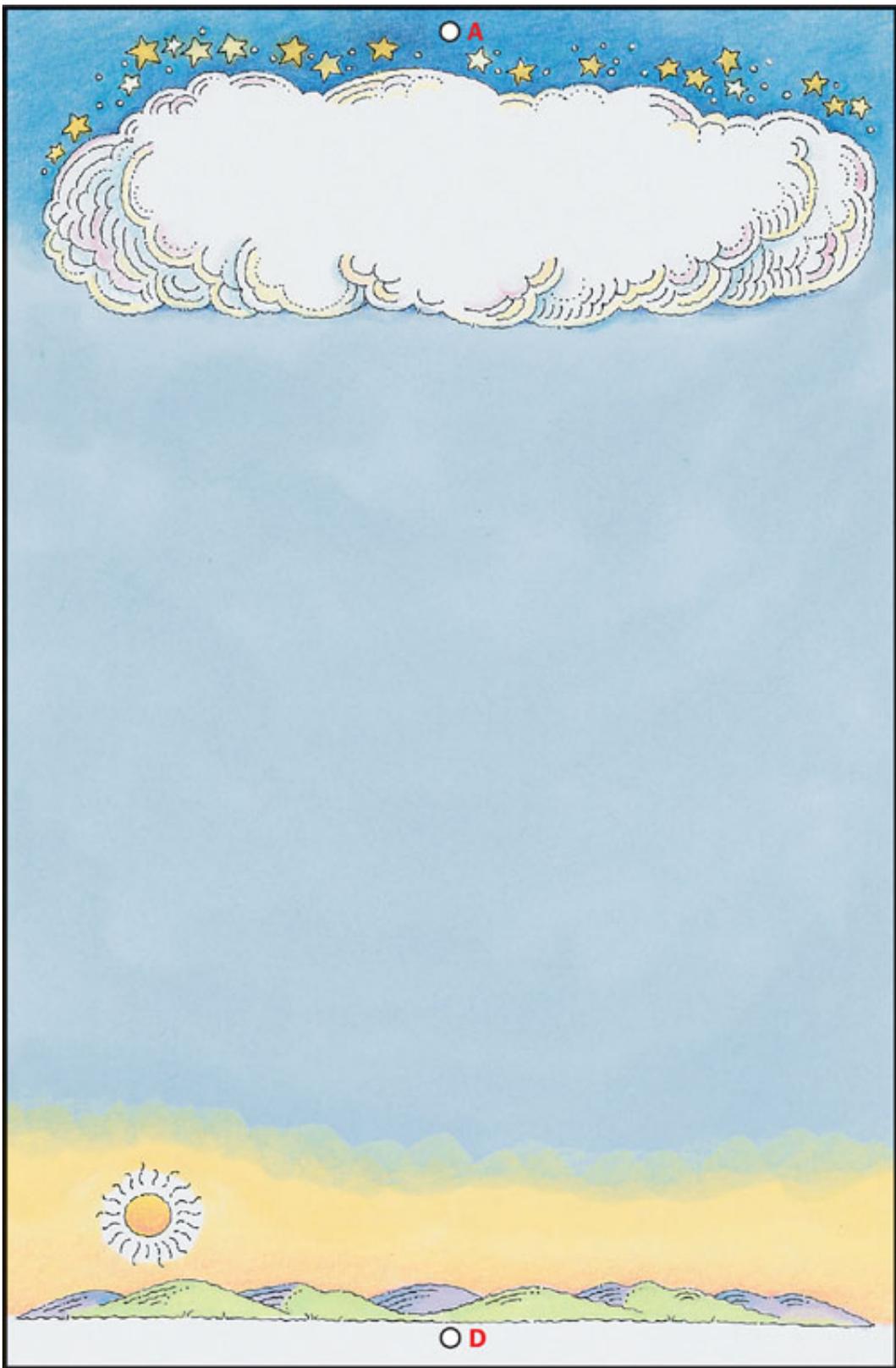
The people surrounding Zion, however, were so wicked that the Lord told Enoch that he and his city would be taken to heaven and that a flood would be sent to destroy the remaining people. Enoch asked that Noah, his great-grandson, and Noah's wife and children be left on earth to make a new start. The Lord agreed, and when the flood came, Noah and his family obeyed the Lord's commandment to build an ark and were spared.

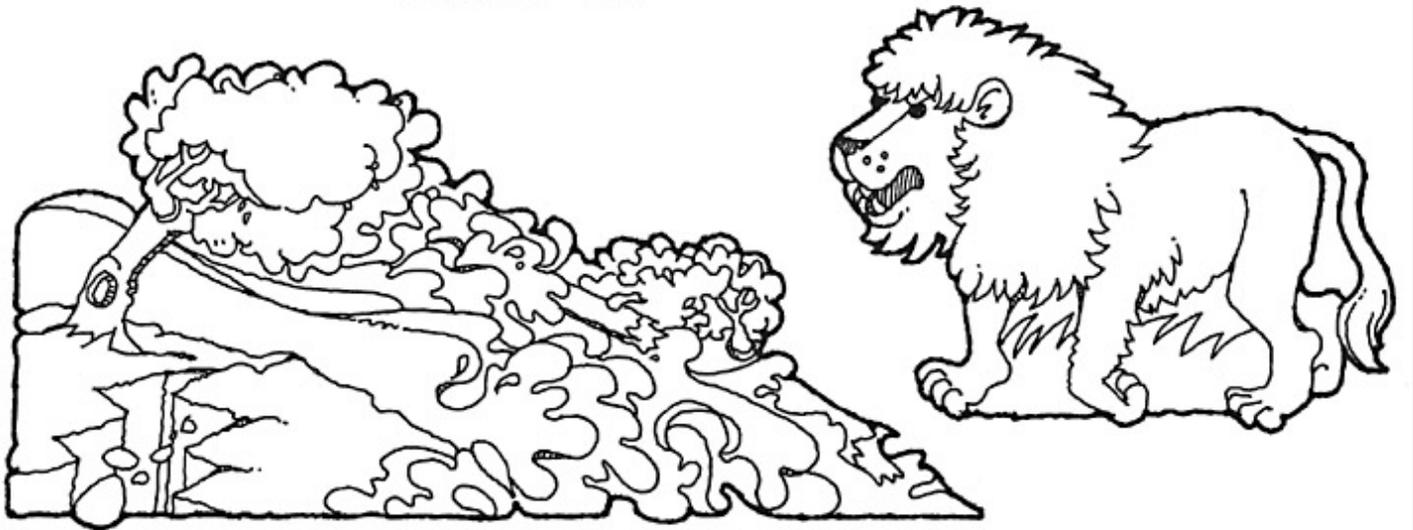
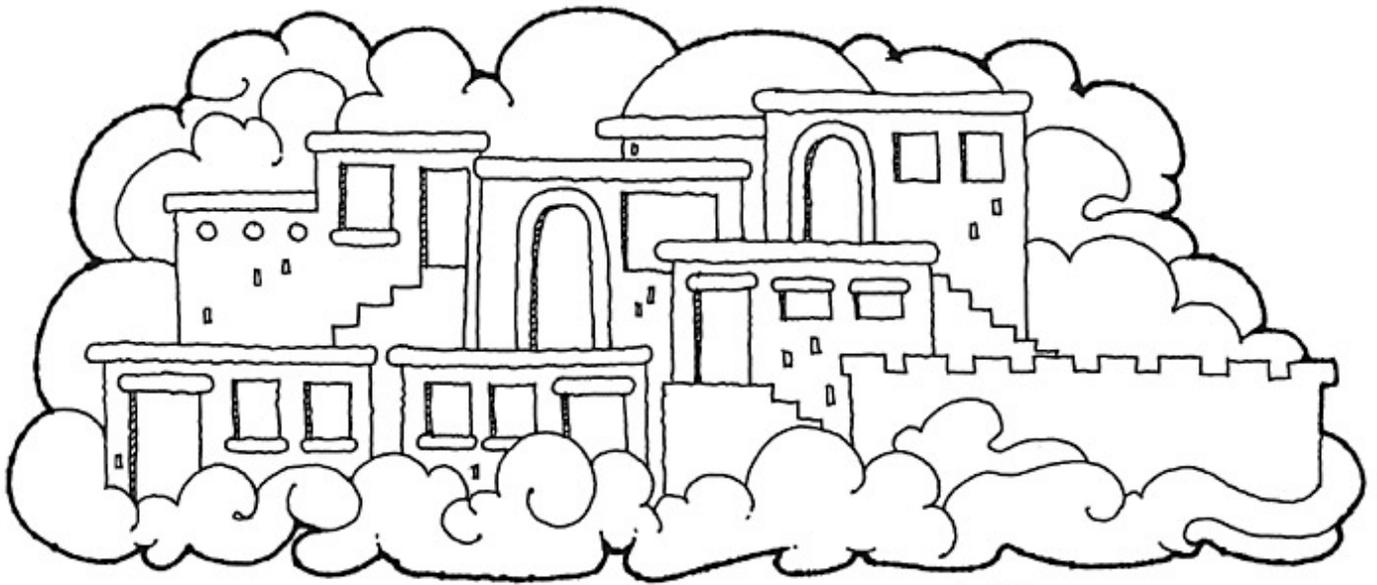
As Enoch continued to talk with God, he was shown the coming of Christ and His resurrection. God also showed Enoch the restoration of the gospel and the Second Coming. Through faith and obedience, Enoch changed from a boy who trembled when he spoke, to a prophet who preached with power and conviction and founded a whole city that was taken up to God.

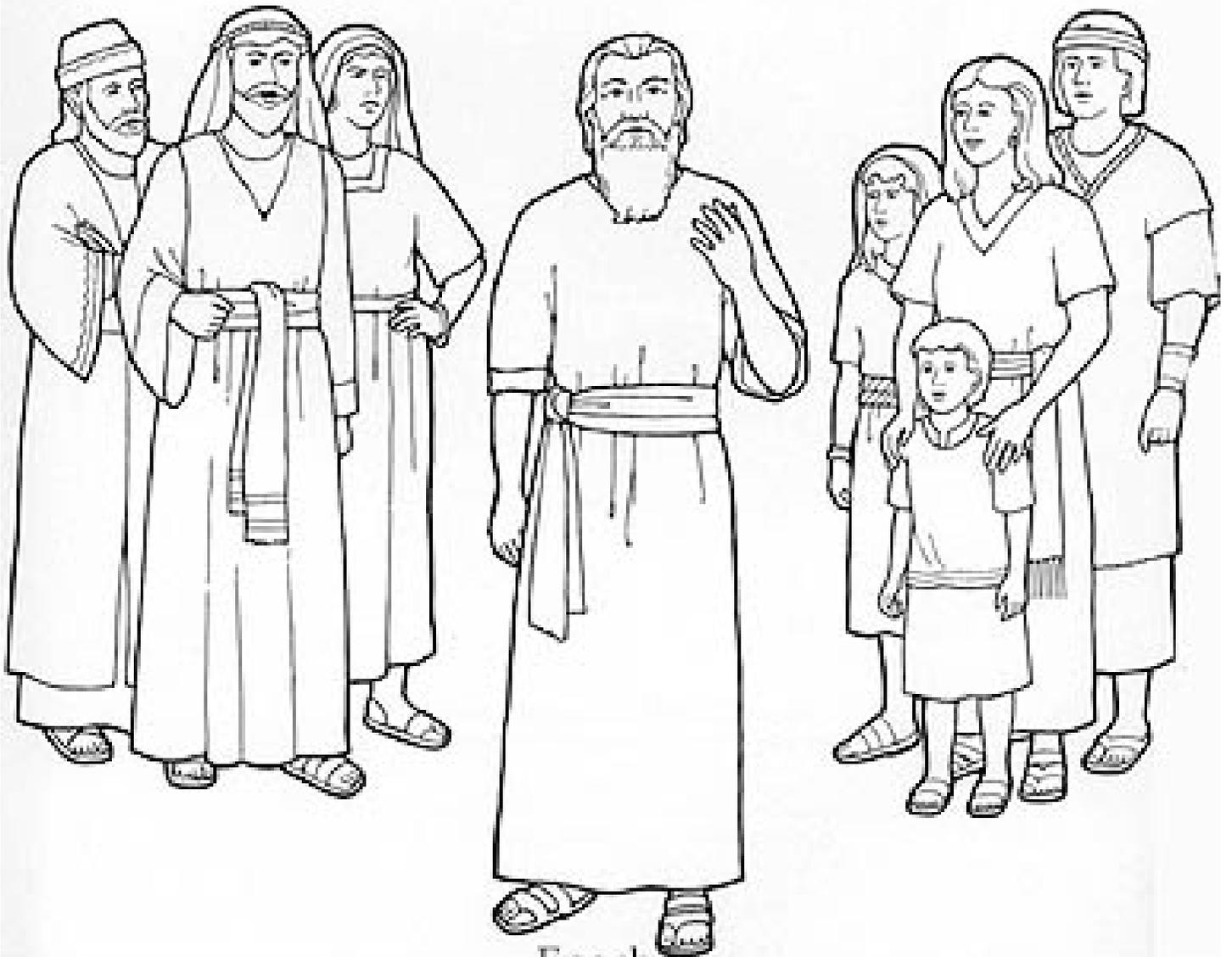
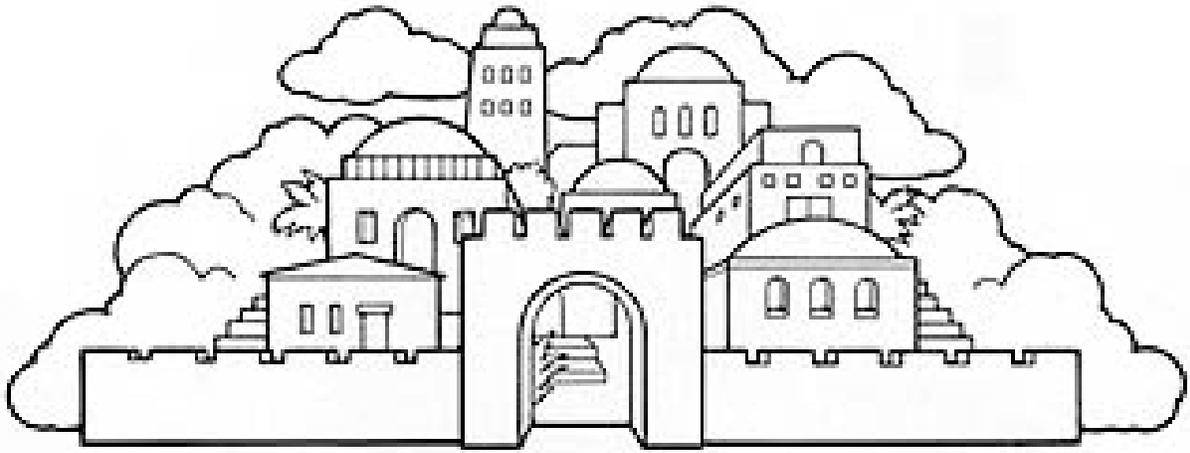
ACTIVITY: The City of Enoch - Friend, April 2002 - Remove this page and glue it to heavy paper. When the glue is dry, trim the page along the heavy solid lines. Cut out the city on the broken lines. Using the pencil point, punch small holes through the circles at A, B, C, and D. Thread one end of the string into B, down the back of the city, and out C. Then thread one end of the string through A, the other end through D, and tie the two ends together behind the page. Each time you tell the story of the city of Enoch, slide the city up the string to heaven and then back down the string to Earth again.

Or Follow the Prophet - Friend, May 2001 - Color the flannel-board figures, then mount them on heavy paper. Cut them out and use them to retell the story of Enoch.

Or Enoch Builds Zion - Friend, October 1998 - Color the flannel-board figures, then mount them on heavy paper. Cut them out and use them to retell the story of Enoch.







Enoch

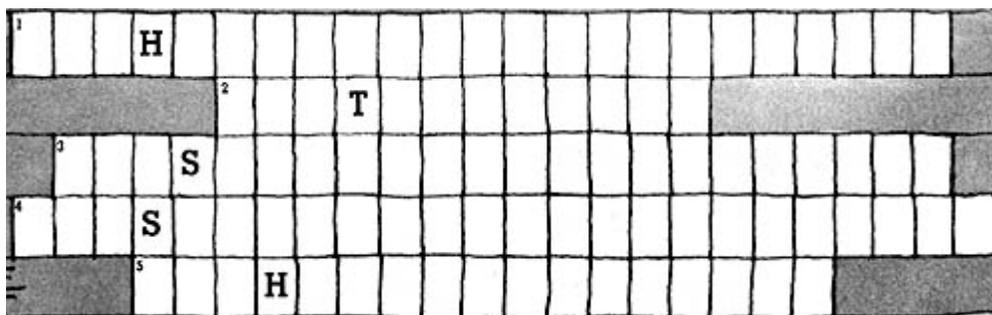
8-Noah's Ark

(Noah and the Flood)

SONG: The Prophet Said to Plant a Garden, p. 237

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 6:7-8

LESSON & ACTIVITY: Friend, May 1986 - Read the story of Noah's Ark, and fill in the missing words. Place the words in the ark, noting that the last letter of each filled-in word is the first letter of the next one. Use the scripture references at the end of each paragraph, if needed.

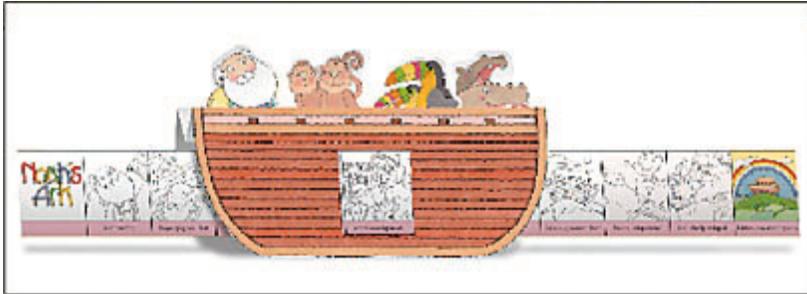


1. God told _____ to build an ark. He was to make it three _____ cubits long, fifty cubits wide, and thirty cubits high. It was to have a _____ in the side, _____ in it, and be three _____ high. (See Gen. 6:13-16.)
2. Noah was then to bring every _____ of living thing, _____ of each, into the ark, including fowl, cattle, and every creeping thing _____ the earth. He was to gather _____ for himself and for them. Noah _____ all that God commanded. (See Gen. 7:4-6.)
3. God told Noah that He would cause it to rain for forty _____ and that every living _____ on the face of the _____ would be destroyed. Noah was then six _____ years old. (See Gen. 7:4-6.)
4. After seven _____, Noah; his wife; and his sons, _____, Ham, and Japheth; and their wives all went into the ark. It was the seventeenth day of the second _____ in the six _____ year of Noah's life. The windows of _____ were opened, and the ark was lifted by the waters. Every living thing on earth died. (See Gen. 7:10-13, 21.)
5. After forty days, _____ sent a raven out a window of the ark to see if the waters _____ dried up. He also sent a _____, which came back to him. When he sent it again a week later, it returned in the _____ with an olive leaf in its mouth. Noah knew then that the water was drying up. When the land was dry, _____ told Noah to take his family and all of the animals and leave the ark. (See Gen. 8:6-16.)

Answers:

(1) Noah had a hundred door rooms, (2) sort two food, (3) days substance earth hundred, (4) day she month hundred heaven, (5) Noah had dove even in God.

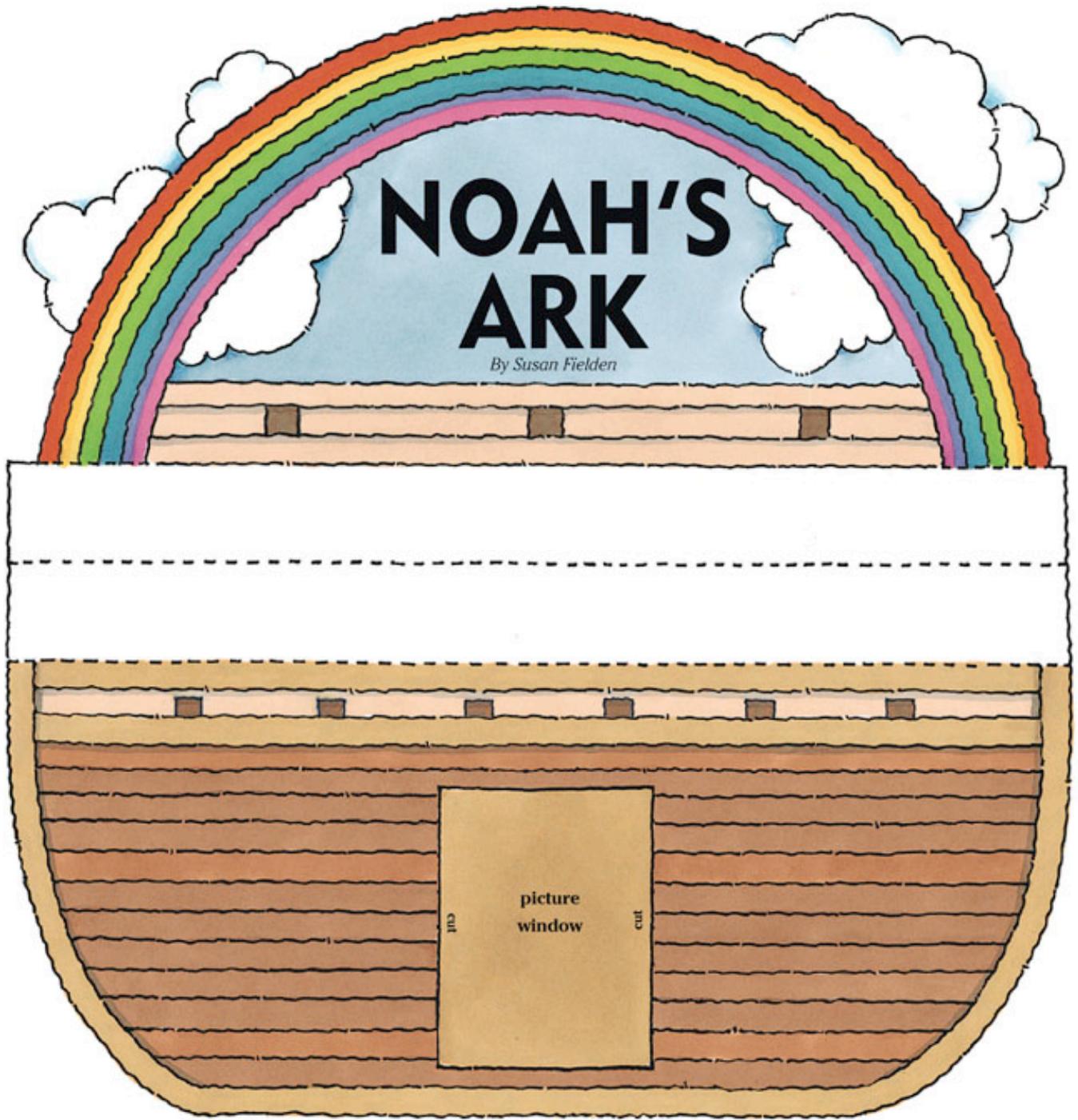
ACTIVITY: Noah's Ark - Friend, October 2002 - To make a Noah's ark with a story stage and story picture window, glue these pages to heavy paper. Cut out the ark, the story strip, and each of the story figures. Fold the ark on the broken lines (see diagram).



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

NOAH'S ARK

By Susan Fielden



no
picture
window
cut

Noah's
Ark



Noah preaching



People trying to kill Noah



Noah receiving revelation



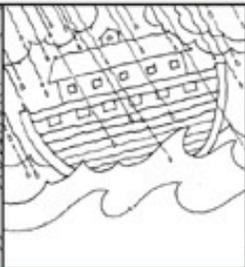
Noah and his family
building ark



Animals entering the ark



Rain falling



Ark floating



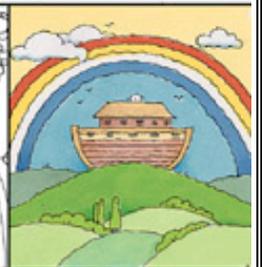
Ark landing on mountaintop



Dove returning with leaf



Noah's family leaving ark



Rainbow over ark on dry earth

9-Abraham

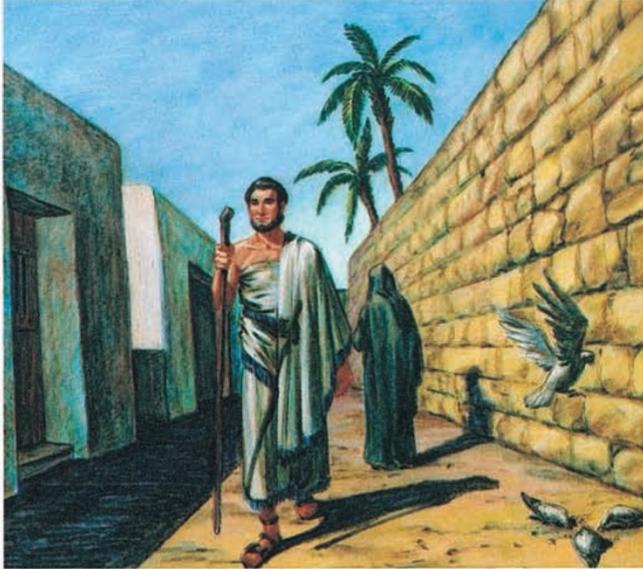
(Jehovah Makes Covenants with Abraham)

SONG: The Books of the Old Testament, p. 114

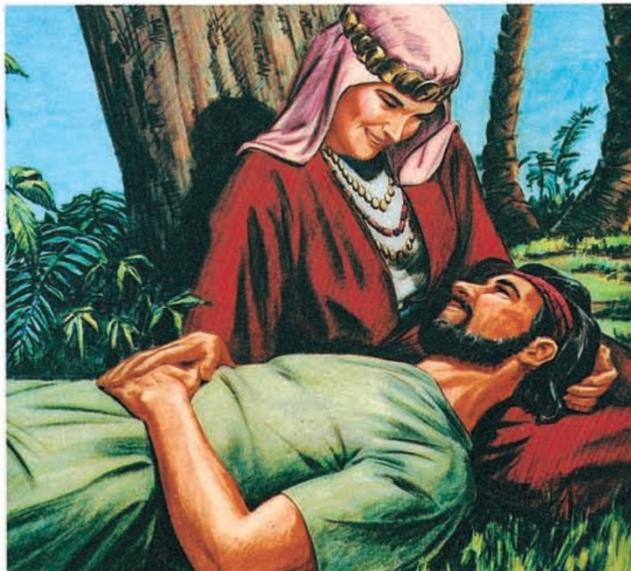
:

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 11:31

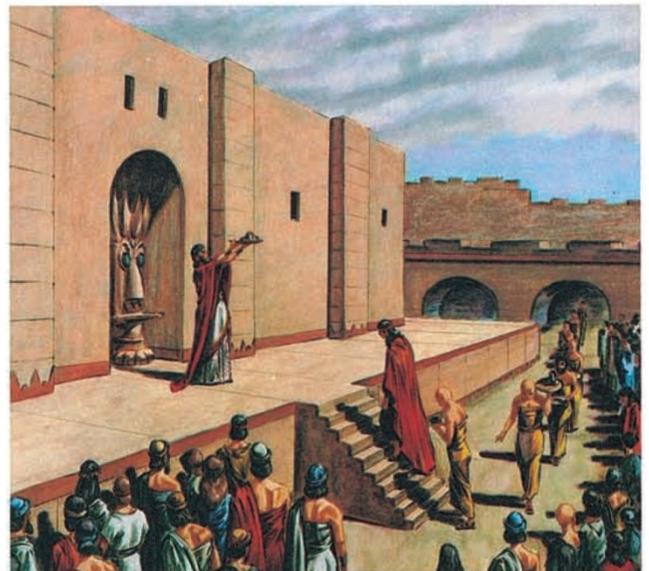
LESSON: Old Testament Stories - Abraham



Abraham was a righteous man. He lived in the city of Ur. (Abraham 1:1-2; 2:1; Genesis 11:31)

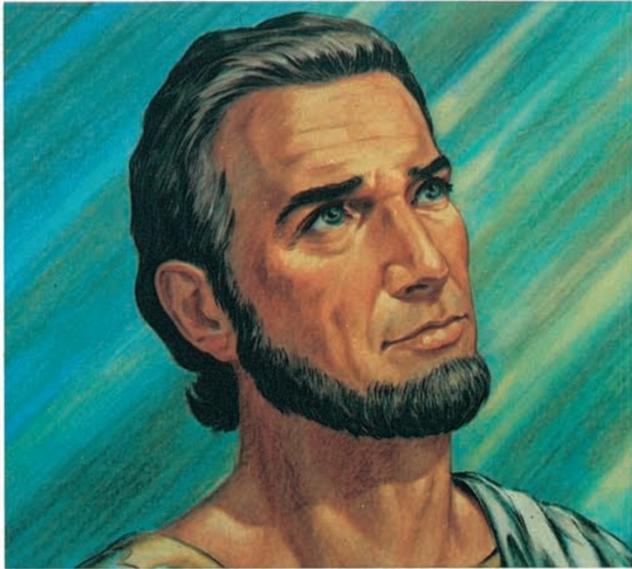


Sarah was Abraham's wife. They had no children. (Genesis 11:29-30)



Other people in Ur prayed to idols. They did not obey God. They killed some righteous people. They tried to kill Abraham.

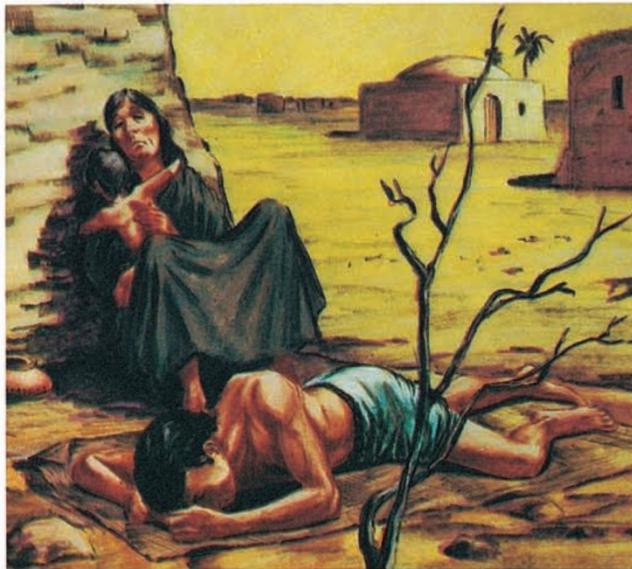
(Abraham 1:5, 7, 11-12)



Abraham prayed. God said he would bless Abraham and his family. God would send a famine to the wicked people. There would be no food. (Abraham 1:15, 29)



God told Abraham and Sarah to leave Ur. He would lead them to the Promised Land. They obeyed God. (Abraham 2:3-6)



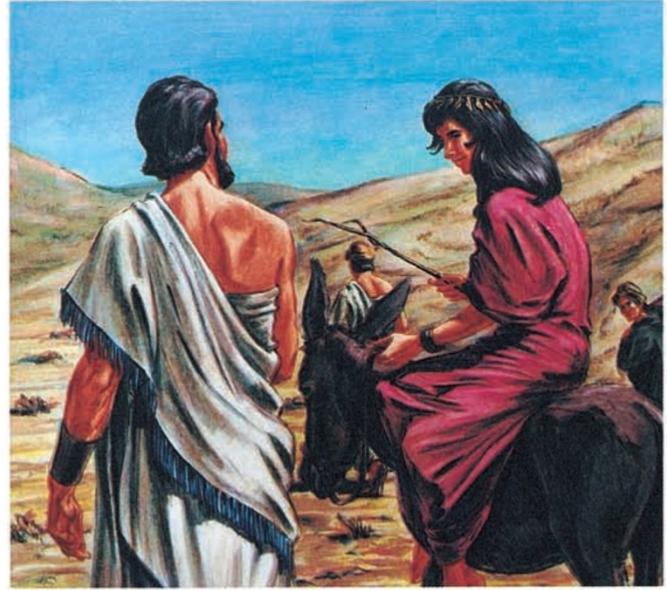
God sent the famine. There was no food. (Abraham 2:21)



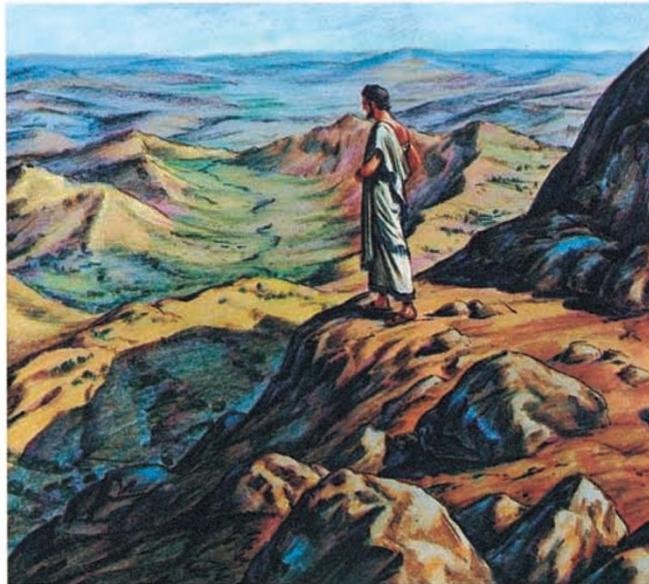
Abraham and Sarah traveled to find food. There was food in the land of Egypt. (Abraham 2:21; Genesis 12:10)



Abraham and Sarah went to Egypt. The king of Egypt liked them. He gave them many gifts and animals. They became rich. (Genesis 12:15-16; 13:2)



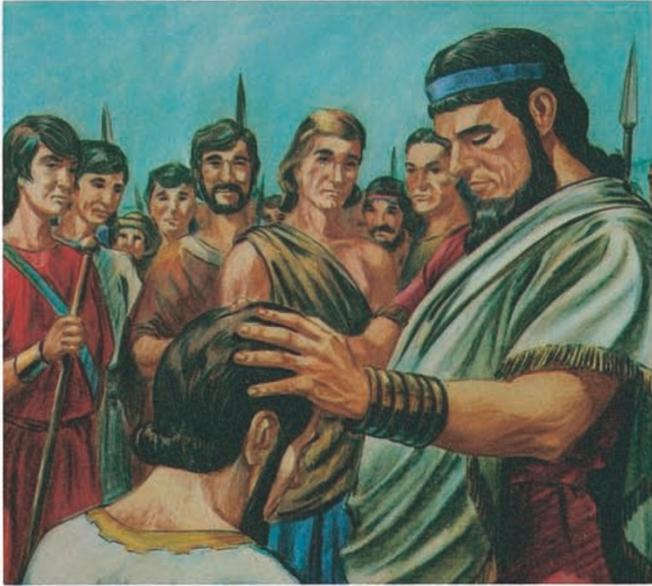
Later Abraham and Sarah left Egypt. They took their animals with them. They traveled a long time. (Genesis 13:1-3)



At last they came to the Promised Land. God told Abraham to look at the land. God gave him the land. (Genesis 13:14, 17)



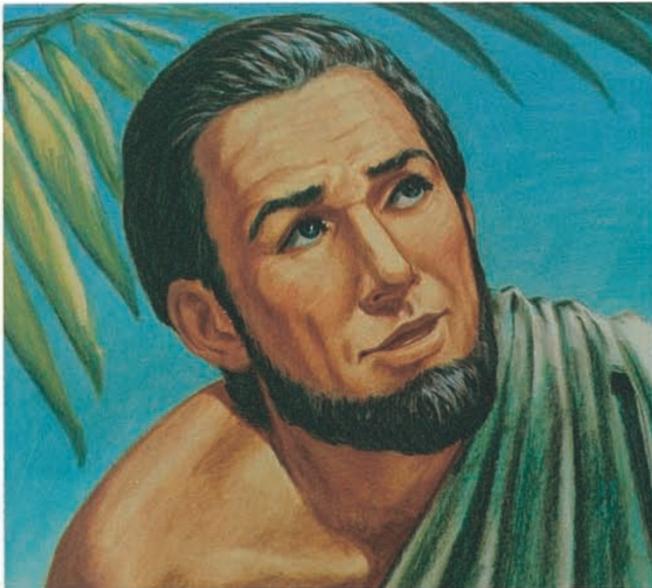
Many years passed. There were wars in the land. Abraham took his servants to fight. They won the war. (Genesis 14:14-16)



After the war Abraham met Melchizedek. Melchizedek was a righteous king. He had the priesthood. He blessed Abraham. (Genesis 14:18-19)



Abraham paid his tithing to Melchizedek. (Genesis 14:20)



God said Abraham's family would be large. His family would have the priesthood. His family could have the Promised Land. (Genesis 17:4-8)



Abraham and Sarah were sad because they had no children. (Genesis 15:2-3)



Later God said Abraham and Sarah would have a son. His name would be Isaac. He would serve God and obey his commandments. Sarah was 90 years old. She was too old to have a baby. But God said Sarah would have a baby. (Genesis 17:15-21)

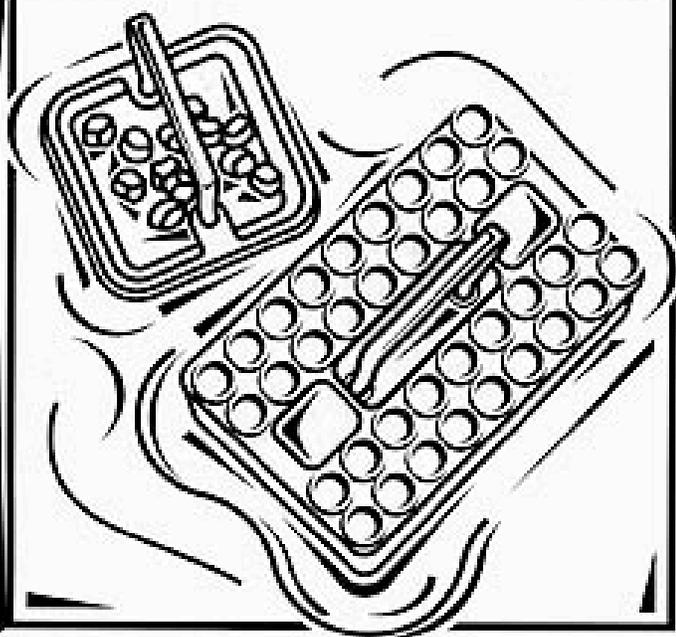
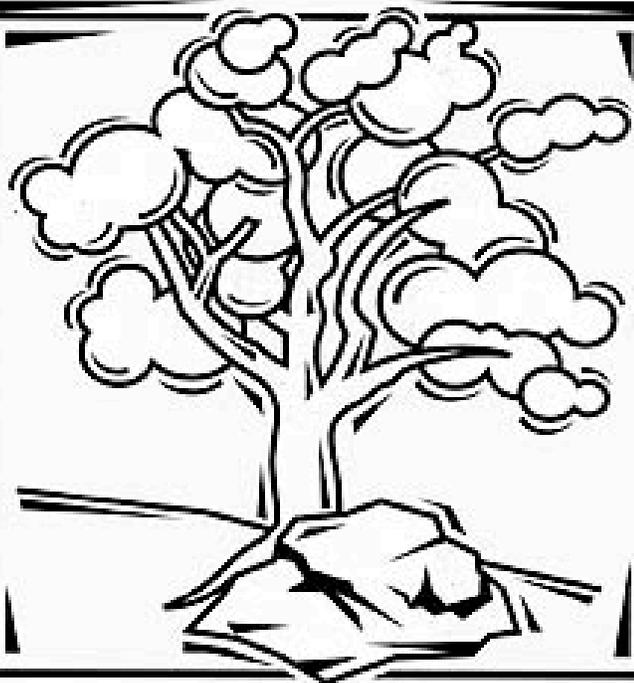
ACTIVITY: Keeping my Promise - Friend, August 1998 - Look up each scripture reference on this page, read it, draw a line from the reference to the picture that relates to it, then color the picture. We can make important covenants with the Lord too. Circle the pictures that represent covenants that apply to your life.

Genesis 9:12-15

Mosiah 18:8-13

Joshua 24:15, 24-27

Doctrine and Covenants 20:75, 77, 79



10-Friend of God

(Abraham and Lot)

SONG: Faith, p. 96

SCRIPTURE: Abraham 1-3

LESSON: Friend, July 1987 - False and wicked priests tied Abraham to a pagan altar to be sacrificed to the false gods that he would not worship. As the priest of Elkenah strutted forward and raised the dagger over Abraham's heart, Abraham struggled to free himself. But the bands held tight. Helpless, Abraham called upon the Lord to save him.

Abraham's plea was heard, and an angel appeared, speaking comforting words as he unloosed Abraham's bands. "Abraham, Abraham, behold, my name is Jehovah, and I have heard thee, and have come down to deliver thee." He told Abraham many more things and destroyed the altar and the pagan statues. Then the Lord smote the wicked priest of Elkenah. Because of his great faith, Abraham had been saved; and because of the wickedness of the people, the Lord cursed the land with a famine.

"Get thee out of thy country," the Lord commanded Abraham, "and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee."

Abraham did as he was commanded. He took his wife, Sarah (Sarai), and his nephew Lot and Lot's wife, and they settled in a land called Haran. Later, the Lord again instructed Abraham: "Arise, and take Lot with thee; for I have purposed to take thee away out of Haran, and to make of thee a minister to bear my name in a strange land which I will give unto thy seed after thee for an everlasting possession, when they hearken to my voice."

Once more Abraham and Sarah departed from their home, taking with them Lot's family and others who had been converted to the gospel. They traveled south, but the famine persisted in this part of the land, so they continued on into Egypt. During these years the Lord taught Abraham many things. He gave Abraham the Urim and Thummim and showed him visions concerning the creation of the earth and other doctrines of the gospel.

After the famine ended, the Lord led Abraham back to the promised land. Many years had passed, and the Lord had blessed him and Sarah in many ways, except with children. Finally Sarah gave Abraham her maid, Hagar, to be his wife and to give Abraham a much-wanted child. Hagar bore Abraham a son, who was named Ishmael.

Then one day an angel came and told Abraham that Sarah would have a son. Sarah was then ninety years old. She laughed when she heard the angel's news, because she thought that she was too old. But nothing is impossible with the Lord. As the angel had promised, she gave birth to a son, Isaac. Abraham and Sarah were now very happy.

As Isaac grew, however, there were many problems between Hagar and Sarah. Finally Abraham sent Hagar and Ishmael away. Isaac was the promised son, and the priesthood inheritance was to be his.

Abraham loved the Lord and tried hard to live all the commandments; he also loved his children very much, especially Isaac. It must have been very difficult for Abraham when the Lord commanded, "Take now thy son ... Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the Land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of."

Abraham hated human sacrifice. He knew the fear of being tied to an altar—and the terror. But the next morning he arose early and, taking Isaac and two servants with him, departed for Moriah. After three days, they saw Moriah in the distance. Leaving the servants behind, Abraham and Isaac approached the mountains. Isaac, by then a strong young man, carried the wood for the burnt offering. As they approached the mountain, he asked, "Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

Abraham replied, "My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering."

They reached the appointed place, built an altar, and laid the wood for the fire. Then Abraham bound Isaac and laid him on top of the wood to be the sacrifice. How his heart must have ached! This was the promised son whom he had waited so many years for, whom he loved very much. But the Lord had commanded, and Abraham would obey. As he took the knife to slay his son, an angel appeared and said, "Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son ... from me."

Abraham then saw a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. In thankfulness, he offered the ram as the sacrifice instead of Isaac.

When Sarah was 127 years old, she died. Later Abraham married Keturah, who gave him six more sons. But Isaac was still the promised son who was to receive the inheritance.

Abraham lived to be 175 years old; then he died and was buried in the cave of Machpelah with Sarah.

ACTIVITY: Gospel Twelves - Friend, April 1989

After looking up the scripture references, complete the statements.

1. Gen. 49:28. The sons of Jacob became the **twelve** _____ of Israel.
2. 1 Kgs. 18:31–32. Elijah built an _____ with **twelve** stones.
3. Luke 6:13. Jesus chose **twelve** _____.
4. D&C 107:23. Members of the Quorum of the **Twelve** _____ are special witnesses of Christ.
5. D&C 107:85. **Twelve** young _____ are in a quorum.
6. Rev. 21:10–12. The city of Jerusalem is described as having **twelve** _____, and at them **twelve** _____.
7. D&C 102:1; D&C 107:36–37. The _____ council of each stake has **twelve** members.
8. 1 Kgs. 7:preface, 1 Kgs. 7:23–25. The baptismal font of Solomon’s temple rested on **twelve** _____.
9. D&C 38:26–27. This lesson about **twelve** sons is a _____.
10. Gen. 17:18–20. _____, a son of Abraham, was promised that he would be the father of **twelve** princes.
11. D&C 101:44. In this parable, a nobleman tells his servants to plant **twelve** _____.
12. 3 Ne. 12:1–2. Jesus chose **twelve** disciples and gave them power to _____.

Answers:

(1) tribes, (2) altar, (3) apostles, (4) Apostles, (5) deacons, (6) gates, angels, (7) high, (8) oxen, (9) parable, (10) Ishmael, (11) olive-trees, (12) baptize.

11-Abraham Covenants with the Lord

(Abraham and Isaac)

SONG: Seek the Lord Early, p. 108

SCRIPTURE: Mosiah 18:10

LESSON: Friend, August 1998 - Abraham was a man who tried to do all that the Lord asked of him. When he and Sarah, his wife, were quite old, they had a son, Isaac. He was very dear to them. One day the Lord told Abraham to travel to Moriah, build an altar there, and sacrifice his son.

Though Abraham loved his son very much, he had great faith in the Lord, and he took his son to Mount Moriah. There he built an altar and laid his son on it. He raised his knife and was just about to slay his son, when the angel of the Lord called to him out of heaven:

“Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me” (Gen. 22:12).

Because of his great faithfulness and obedience, the Lord made a covenant with Abraham. Through him and his descendents, all the nations of the earth would be blessed. His family would be as numerous as the sands of the sea. They would bear the holy priesthood and would take the gospel of salvation to all nations. When you become a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, you share in that Abrahamic covenant. If you obey the commandments and do all the Lord asks you to do, you will receive all the blessings promised to Father Abraham.

Abraham's Sacrifice

Friend, October 1975

For many long years Abraham and his wife, Sarah, had hoped to have a child. But they both grew old and felt it was too late for them to be blessed as they desired. Then one day three strangers came to visit Abraham. He made them welcome and gave them food. As they ate, one visitor asked, “Where is Sarah?” Then he prophesied, “She will have a son.”

Sarah overheard his words and laughed because she and Abraham were so old. But later Sarah and Abraham learned that the men who had come to their home were really heavenly visitors, and the prophecy was fulfilled.

Sarah did have a son and they named him Isaac, which means rejoicing.

Here is the story of Isaac as it was told to a group of young people by Elder Melvin J. Ballard, a member of the Quorum of the Twelve, before his death in 1939:

You remember the story of how Abraham's son came after long years of waiting and was looked upon by his father as more precious than all his other possessions. Yet in the midst of his rejoicing, Abraham was told to take this only son and offer him as a sacrifice to the Lord. He obeyed. But can you imagine what was in the heart of Abraham on that occasion? What do you think he felt when he started away from Mother Sarah? What do you think was in his heart when he saw Isaac bidding good-bye to his mother to take that three-day journey to the appointed place where the sacrifice was to be made?

I imagine it was about all Father Abraham could do to keep from showing his great grief and sorrow at that parting, but he and his son trudged along three days toward the appointed place, Isaac carrying the fagots that were to consume the sacrifice. The travelers rested, finally, at the mountainside, and the men who had accompanied them were told to remain while Abraham and his son started up the hill.

The boy then said to his father: "Father, we have the fagots, we have the fire to burn the sacrifice, but where is the sacrifice?"

It must have pierced the heart of Father Abraham to hear the trusting and confiding son say: "You have forgotten the sacrifice." Looking at the youth, his son of promise, the poor father could only say: "The Lord will provide."

They ascended the mountain, gathered the stones together, and placed the fagots upon them. Then Isaac was bound, hand and foot, kneeling upon the altar. I presume Abraham, like a true father, must have given his son a farewell kiss, his blessing, and his love. His soul must have been drawn out in that hour of agony toward his son who was to die by the hand of his own father. All preparations were made until the cold steel blade was drawn, and the hand raised that was to strike the blow to let out the life's blood when the angel of the Lord said: "It is enough."

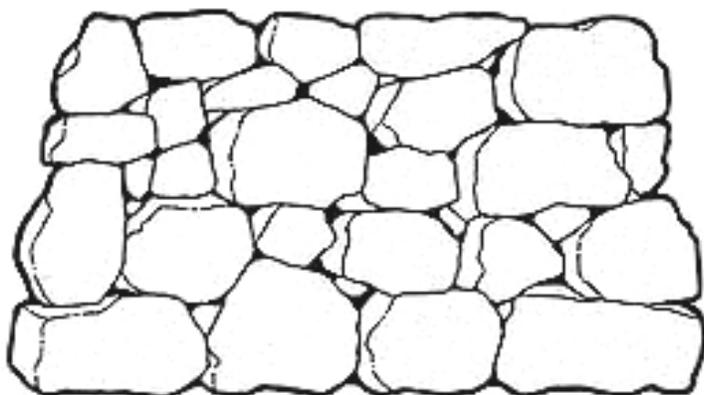
Then the angel said, "Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou anything unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son."

Abraham looked up and saw a ram that was caught by its horns in a thicket. He took the ram and offered it up for an offering to the Lord instead of his son. And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham again and said, "In thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed."

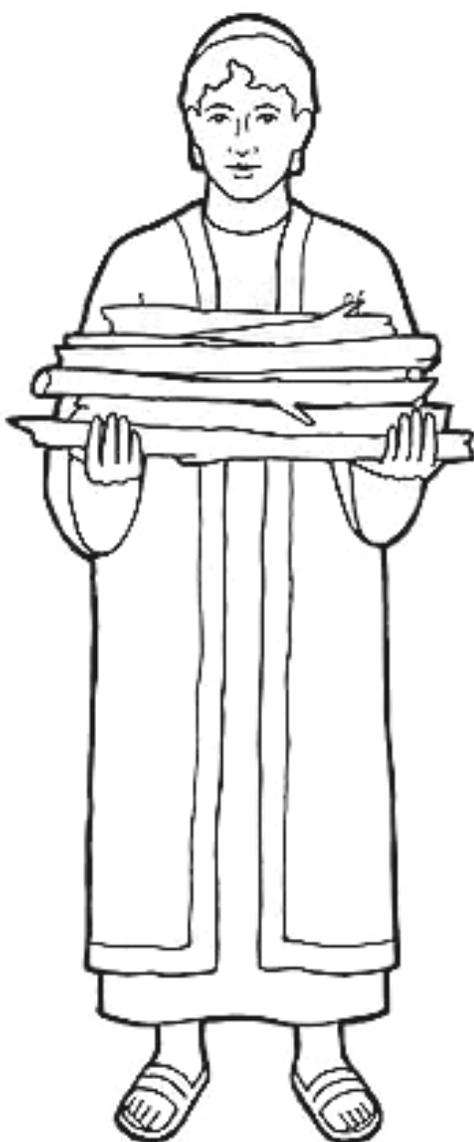
ACTIVITY: Abraham Covenants with the Lord - Friend, August 1998 - Color the flannel-board figures, and then mount them on heavy paper. Cut them out and use them to retell the story of Abraham.



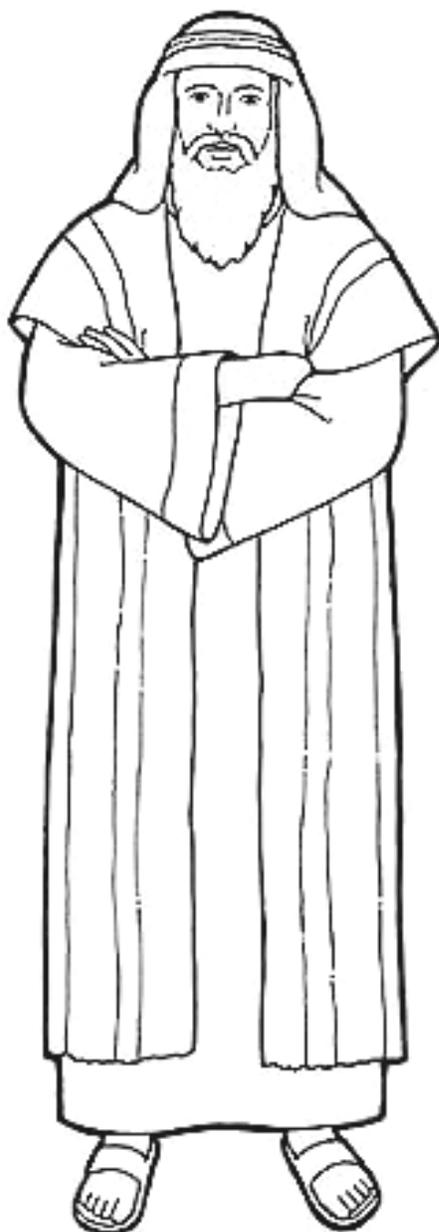
Knife



Altar



Isaac



Abraham



Sarah

12-Rebekah's Betrothal

(Isaac and Rebekah)

SONG: Quickly I'll Obey, p. 197

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 24: 27

LESSON: Friend, February 1984 - Abraham lived in Canaan, and he wanted to find a good wife for his son Isaac. He did not want Isaac to marry a Canaanite woman, because the Canaanites worshipped false gods.

Abraham called his oldest servant to him and asked him to search for a wife for Isaac. He said, "Thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites ...

"But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac."

The servant understood how important this assignment was and asked, "Peradventure the woman will not be willing to follow me unto this land: must I needs bring thy son again unto the land from whence thou camest?"

Abraham told him that he was not to take Isaac to Abraham's former home. The Lord had given the land of Canaan to Abraham and his family as an inheritance, and Abraham did not want his son to leave it. Abraham told his servant, the Lord "shall send his angel before thee."

The servant journeyed to Mesopotamia with ten camels and a few men to help him. When he reached the outskirts of the city of Nahor, he made his camels kneel near a well. It was evening, and many women were getting water at the well. The servant needed help, so he prayed, "O Lord God, ... shew kindness unto my master Abraham.

"Behold, I stand here by the well of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water:

"And let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: let the same be she that thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac."

Before he had finished praying, a beautiful young woman named Rebekah approached the well. Rebekah loved the Lord and tried to keep His commandments. As she turned from the well with her water pitcher filled, "the servant ran to meet her, and said, Let me, I pray thee, drink a little water of thy pitcher."

"Drink, my lord," she replied. Then when she had given him a drink, she said, "I will draw water for thy camels also." This was the answer to the servant's prayer, so he knew Rebekah was the woman the Lord had chosen to be Isaac's wife.

After the camels had been watered, the servant asked Rebekah, "Whose daughter art thou? tell me, I pray thee: is there room in thy father's house for us to lodge in?"

Rebekah told him she was the daughter of Bethuel and a granddaughter of Nahor. The servant knew that Nahor was Abraham's brother and that he had been led to the house of Abraham's relatives. He bowed his head and thanked the Lord.

When Rebekah ran home and told her family what had happened, her brother, Laban, ran out to meet Abraham's servant. "Come in, thou blessed of the Lord," Laban greeted him. "I have prepared the house, and room for the camels."

When food was set in front of him, the servant said, "I will not eat, until I have told mine errand." Then he told the family why Abraham had sent him there. He told them, too, that he had prayed to know who Isaac's wife should be and that Rebekah was the one the Lord had chosen. The servant asked Rebekah's father and brother for permission to take her to Canaan to be Isaac's wife.

Rebekah's family were good people. Their answer showed their great faith and trust in the Lord. They told the servant that they knew that the Lord had sent him. They said, "Behold, Rebekah is before thee, take her, and go, and let her be thy master's son's wife, as the Lord hath spoken."

When Abraham's servant heard this, he again bowed himself to the earth and thanked God. He brought out clothing and jewels of silver and gold and gave them to Rebekah. To Rebekah's mother and brother he gave other precious gifts. Then he ate and spent the night with Rebekah's family.

When morning came, Rebekah's family blessed her and said, "Thou art our sister, be thou the mother of thousands of millions."

Then, mounting the camels, Rebekah and her nurse went with the servant of Abraham.

Back in the land of Canaan, Isaac awaited them. He knew that the Lord would direct the servant to find the right woman to be his wife.

Isaac and Rebekah trusted in the Lord, and He brought them together to be husband and wife.

ACTIVITY: Rebekah at the Well - Friend, May 2002 - To help Rebekah do her kind deed, color the picture on this page. Then remove it from the magazine and mount it on heavy paper. Cut out piece A, line up the two Xs with piece A on top, and put a brass fastener through them. The arm can now move to lift the jug.

Rebekah at the Well



13-Jacob and Esau

(Jacob and Esau)

SONG: I Pray in Faith, p. 14

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 25:24-26

LESSON: Friend, February 1990 - Jacob and Esau



1. Isaac's wife, Rebekah, was going to have twin babies, and the children "struggled together within her." When she prayed to the Lord, He said that the babies would grow up to become the fathers of two nations and that "the elder shall serve the younger." (See Gen. 25:20-23.)



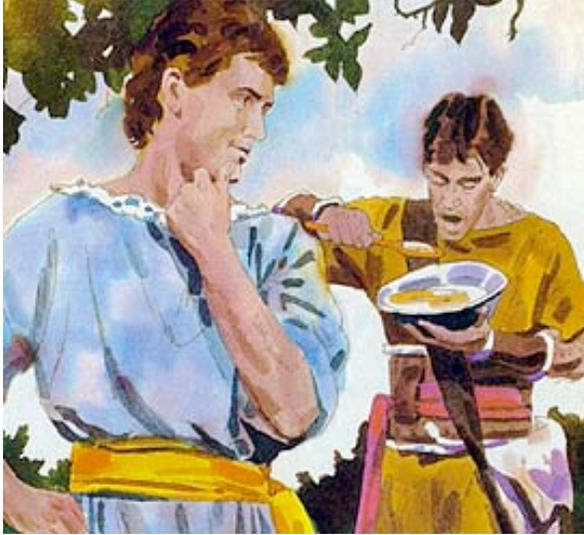
2. Esau was born first. Then when Jacob was born, "his hand took hold on Esau's heel." Isaac loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob. (See Gen. 25:24-26, 28.)



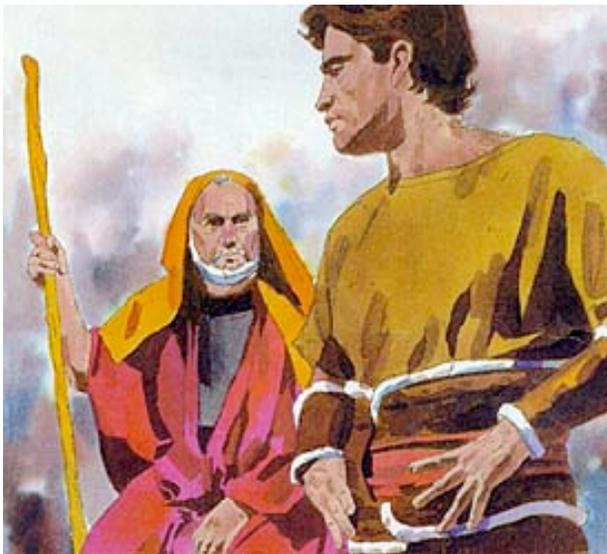
3. When they were older, Jacob made a pot of pottage, a kind of thick soup. (See Gen. 25:29.)



4. Esau was very hungry from having worked all day in the fields. He asked Jacob for some pottage. Jacob answered, "Sell me this day thy birthright." (A birthright is a blessing given to the oldest boy.) (See Gen. 25:30-31.)



5. Esau said, "Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me?" Esau did not care about the Lord or the blessing; but Jacob was righteous, and the birthright was important to him. Jacob gave Esau the pottage, which he ate. (See Gen. 25:32-34.)



6. Years later, when Isaac was old and blind, he told Esau to take his bow and arrow and bring him some venison to eat; afterward he would bless Esau. Rebekah heard what Isaac said, and she told Jacob. (See Gen. 27:1-7.)



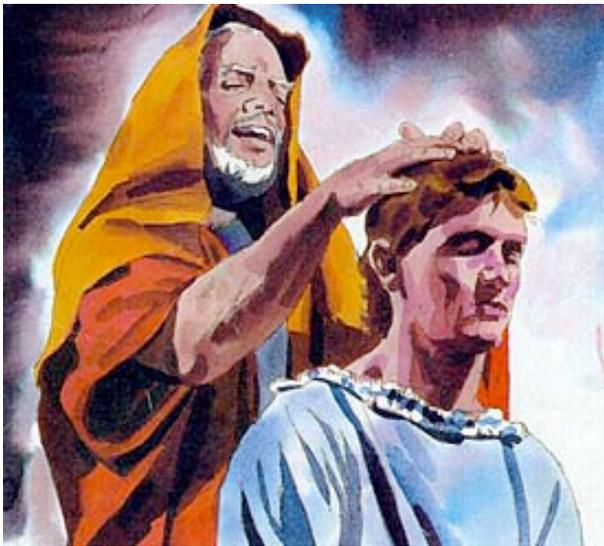
7. While Esau was hunting, Jacob killed two goats, which Rebekah cooked Isaac's favorite way. Remembering what the Lord had said to her, Rebekah told Jacob to pretend to be Esau. (See Gen. 27:9-14.)



8. Because Esau was a hairy man, Rebekah put goatskins on Jacob's arms and neck. She also dressed him in Esau's clothing. Jacob took the prepared meat to his father. (See Gen. 27:15-18.)



9. When Isaac asked, “Who art thou, my son?” Jacob said, “I am Esau thy firstborn.” Isaac felt the goatskins and believed him. (See Gen. 27:18–23.)

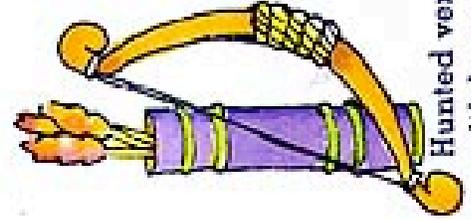


10. Isaac blessed Jacob that people would serve him and that he would rule over his brother and nations. He also blessed Esau and explained that he must serve Jacob. Thus, the Lord’s declaration to Rebekah was fulfilled. (See Gen. 27:26–29.)

ACTIVITY: Jacob and Esau Match-Up - Friend, February 1990 - After reading the story of “Jacob and Esau” on pages 27–29, draw a line from each symbol to the correct twin.
Optional: Remove this page from the magazine, and mount it on heavy paper; then cut out the twins and symbols and use them to retell the story.



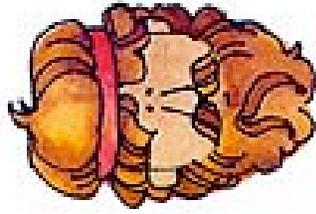
Esau



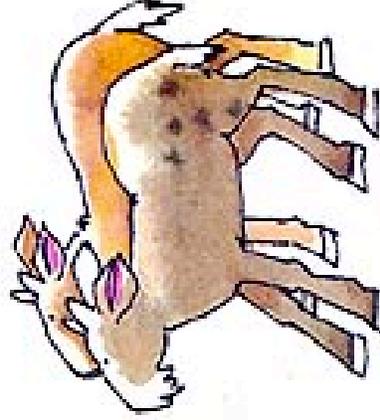
Hunted venison
with bow and arrow



Ate pottage



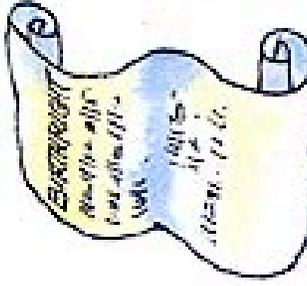
Hairy man



Killed two goats



Isaac
loved



Bought birthright



Rebekah
loved



Jacob

14-Jacob and His Family

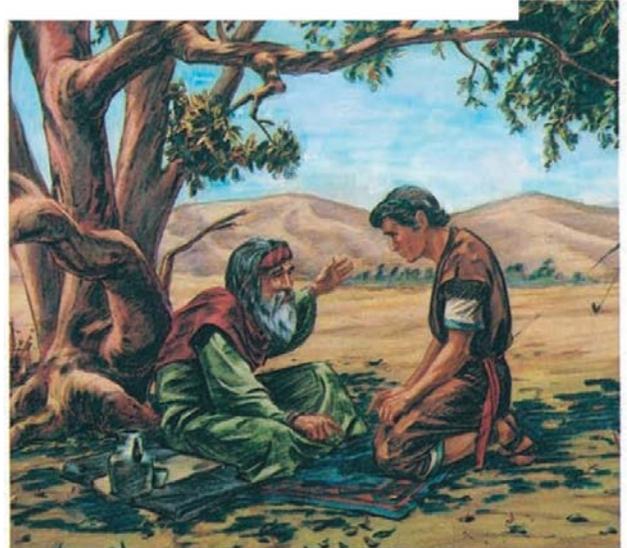
(Jacob and His Family)

SONG: I am a Child of God, p. 2

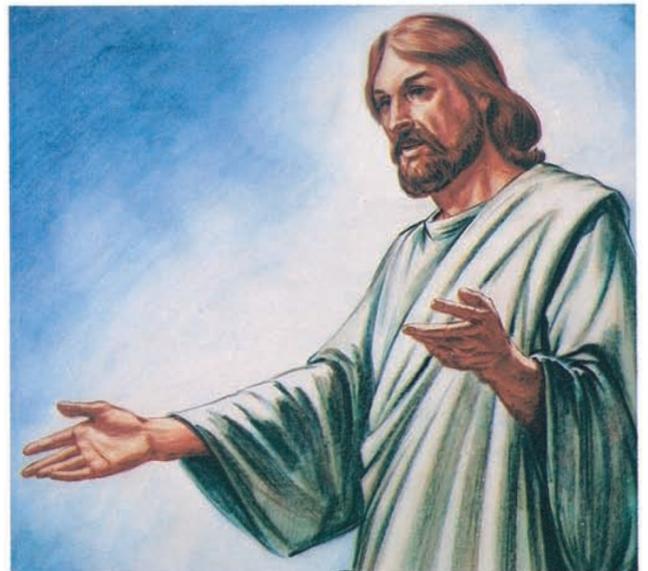
SCRIPTURE: Genesis 28:1-2

LESSON: Old Testament Stories – Jacob and His Family

Isaac talked to Jacob. He said Jacob should not marry any of the girls from Canaan. Jacob should go to another land. There Jacob would find a girl to marry. (Genesis 28:1-2)



Jacob started on his way. (Genesis 28:5)



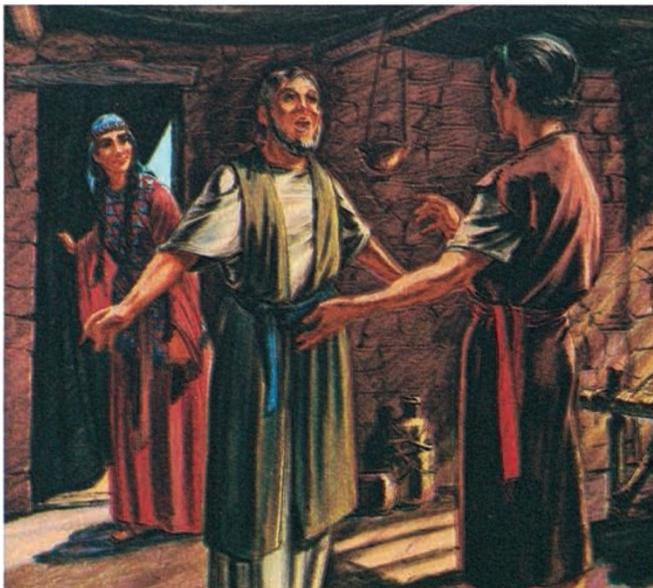
One night Jesus Christ came to him. Jesus said Jacob would have many children. Jacob's family would have all of the land of Canaan. Canaan was the Promised Land. (Genesis 28:12-15)



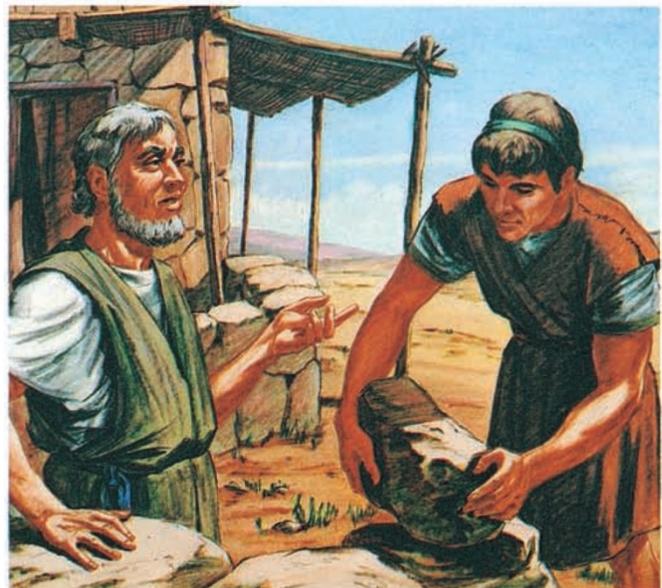
Jacob promised to obey God. He promised to pay tithing. (Genesis 28:20-22)



One day Jacob stopped by a well. He saw many sheep. He met a girl named Rachel. He helped her give her sheep water. (Genesis 29:1-2, 10)



Jacob met Rachel's father. His name was Laban. He was glad to see Jacob. Jacob said he wanted to marry Rachel. Laban said Jacob could marry Rachel. But Jacob must work for him. (Genesis 29:13-14, 18-20)



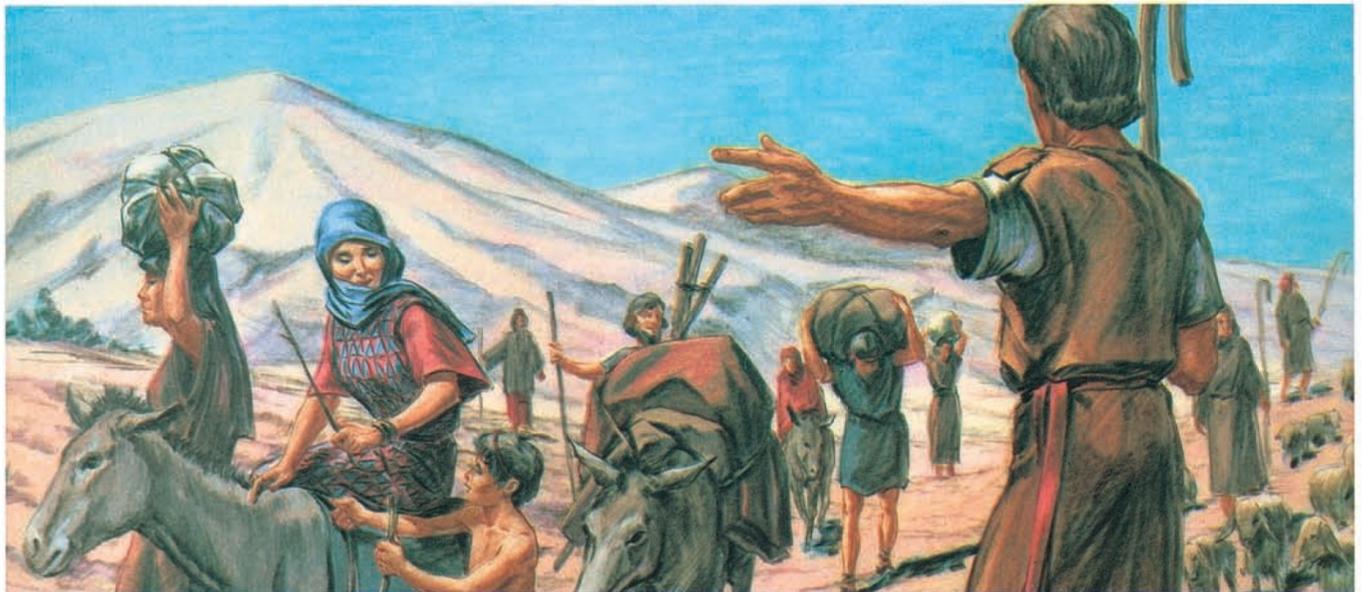
Jacob worked for Laban for seven years. He worked very hard. Laban gave him Leah for his wife. Leah was Rachel's sister. (Genesis 29:20-25)



Laban let Jacob marry Rachel, too. But Jacob had to work for seven more years. (Genesis 29:26-28)



Jacob had many children. He became rich. He had many animals. (Genesis 30:1-24, 43)



Jacob worked for Laban for many years. Then Jesus told Jacob to go back to his own land. So he took his family and animals and left Laban's house. They went to the Promised Land. (Genesis 31:3, 17-18, 41)



On the way Jesus Christ came to Jacob. Jacob asked Jesus for a blessing. Jesus blessed Jacob. Jesus said Jacob would have a new name. His name would be Israel. Israel would have the priesthood. (Genesis 32:24-30)



On his way home Jacob met Esau. Jacob thought Esau still hated him. Jacob bowed down to Esau. (Genesis 33:1-3)



But Esau did not hate Jacob any more. He and Jacob hugged each other. They loved each other. (Genesis 33:4-15)



Jacob and his family went on to Canaan. Esau and his family went to another place. (Genesis 33:16-20)



Jacob had 12 sons. They were called the 12 sons of Israel. Each son and his family was called a tribe. Israel's family became the 12 tribes of Israel. They were called Israelites. (Genesis 35:22; 49:1-28; Exodus 9:7)

ACTIVITY: Twelve Tribes of Israel - Friend, August 1990 - Find the twelve tribes of Israel, as mentioned in Genesis 49:1-28 [Gen. 49:1-28], by reading forward, backward, up, down, and diagonally.

B E N U L U B E Z

Y Z H A R E U B E

M N A P E B U E R

H A I T H P N A E

A P V M S X H C U

D H E V A C H N B

U T L S A J G J E

J A U S O A N A N

O L S D A J A E D

S I M E O N D Z B

Dan Asher Gad Judah Reuben Naphtali

Joseph Benjamin Issachar Levi Simeon Zebulun

15-High Bid-62¢

(Joseph Was Sold into Egypt)

SONG: God's Love, p. 97

SCRIPTURE: Alma 32:21

LESSON: Friend, May 1988 - The glistening morning sun cast its warming rays over the dilapidated old barn, transforming it into a painter's dream. On the sagging barn door was a large poster—

- STRAY-ANIMAL AUCTION
- June 10, 1894—10:00 A.M.
- All critters sold to highest bidder
- CASH ONLY

Clouds of dust rose from all the roads leading to the barn as a colorful crowd began to gather. There were cowpunchers in worn chaps and ten-gallon Stetsons, sitting cross-legged in their saddles, and be-whiskered farmers in bib overalls and straw hats, tying their horses and wagons to fence rails. A sprinkling of better-dressed townsfolk arrived in black-top buggies. A pair of Navajo Indians had taken up squatter's rights beside the barn, hoping to trade one of their bright handmade blankets for a goat or a sheep.

Wow! thought nine-year-old T. J. as he scrambled to the top of the high pole fence and stared down at the corral filled with animals churning about. *This is better than a circus.* He opened his little, ragged purse and counted his coins for the umpteenth time, "Fifty-nine, sixty, sixty-one, sixty-two cents. It's not much, but I don't care. I'm going to bid anyway!"

The old auctioneer chided him, "Back again, T. J.? Are you going to buy yourself a horse today?"

He's just poking fun at me, T. J. thought and gave him a disgusted look. "I'll show you," he muttered to himself. "I'm really going to bid today."

In the corral beneath T. J. were several large horses, three old milk cows, a young steer with long horns, two nanny goats, and four sheep.

The auctioneer climbed on top of the auction box. Just as he was about to speak, T. J. lost his balance and plunged headlong into the corral, landing on the back of the steer. The startled animal took off, kicking and bellowing. T. J. grabbed hold of its horns and managed to stay on top as it bucked and plowed in and out among the other frightened animals.

Everyone clapped and hollered, "Hang in there, T. J." "You can do it." "Whoopee!"

Suddenly the steer stopped, and T. J. sailed off, landing sprawled out in the dust of the smelly corral. Everyone cheered.

“Humph,” grunted the auctioneer. “Now that the show’s over, we’ll get started.”

A big, bay mare was led out for inspection. “How much am I bid for this fine mare?” the auctioneer asked.

Before anyone else could say anything, T. J. waved his arms wildly and shouted, “I bid sixty-two cents!”

Everybody snickered, and one of the men hollered, “Well, kid, I’ll just have to bid ten dollars and sixty-two cents.”

T. J.’s hopes were dashed. The horse was eventually sold for eighteen dollars and sixty-two cents. Then the next horse was brought forward.

“How much am I bid for this fine gelding?” the auctioneer queried.

Once again young T. J. bravely shouted, “I bid sixty-two cents!”

This time the crowd really laughed and hooted. After several bids, the gelding sold for twenty-two dollars and sixty-two cents. Still determined, T. J. bid unsuccessfully on the third horse.

For a change of pace the auctioneer sold two milk cows and a sheep. Soon there was only one horse left, another mare. As she was led out for display, T. J. could see big, shiny patches of hide here and there between dust and dirt where she had been rolling around in the smelly corral. “All she needs is to be brushed and wiped down,” T. J. sighed. “She’s just beautiful, and I want her.”

As he longingly gazed at the mare, he heard the auctioneer roar with feigned admiration, “I’ve saved the best for last! How much am I bid for this beauty?”

T. J. was shocked to hear Old Pete sneer, “The best? Why she’s the worst-looking critter I’ve seen in all my life. She must be sick, and you must be crazy!”

Pete’s son added, “Yeah, Pa! Worse still, I hear that she’s a stumpsucker.”

Someone else volunteered, “Besides that, I know for a fact that she has a mean streak a mile wide.”

Then they all stopped talking and looked at T. J. The boy felt sorry for that horse; he even loved her. And he didn’t believe one word of what he’d just heard. But he’d given up all hope of being able to buy a horse with sixty-two cents. He just sat there, staring sadly at the

horse he wanted so badly. Then he heard a farmer say, "Tell you what—I'll bid five cents for the nag."

Somebody else hollered, "I'll go you one better, Jake. I bid twenty-five cents!"

Old Pete jumped up and shouted, "I'm going to get that mare for fifty-five cents!"

T. J. came to life and wildly waved both arms and shouted, "I bid sixty-two cents!"

Dead silence followed. The auctioneer was very disgruntled to have the bidding go sour. In fact, he was furious. "I have a high bid of sixty-two cents. How about ten dollars and sixty-two cents?"

Not a single word was spoken; not a single head nodded.

"Then how about five dollars and sixty-two cents?"

When no one offered to up the bid, he exploded, "Well, I'm not going to sell this horse for sixty-two cents, and that's final!"

"Oh, yes, you are!" Old Pete yelled. "You'll sell to the highest bidder, or none of us are paying for our animals."

The other men shouted in agreement.

Realizing that the men meant business, the auctioneer meekly declared, "I have a high bid of sixty-two cents. Do I hear any more bids? Going once, going twice, ..." Down went the gavel. "Sold to T. J. for sixty-two cents."

The crowd went wild. They whistled and clapped and threw their hats into the air and slapped each other on the back. T. J. was speechless. He scrambled down off the fence and reached into his pocket for his purse—but it was gone! "I've lost my money!" he wailed. He scurried under the fence and ran frantically in and out among the startled animals.

"Hold on, everybody. T. J.'s lost his purse!" shouted Old Pete as he jumped down and began to help T. J. search. Soon there were as many men in the corral as there were animals, all running hither and thither. Dogs were barking, cows were bellowing, and sheep were bleating.

All at once T. J. spied his purse in the muck under the hoof of a cow. "I've found it! I've found it!" he screamed.

"Hurray!" shouted the men as Old Pete lifted T. J. over the fence.

T. J. counted out his sixty-two cents for the gatekeeper. The gatekeeper gave him a leg up, and there sat T. J. astride his very own horse. "I'm going to call her Beauty," he proudly

announced, lovingly stroking her tangled mane, “‘cause she’s the most beautiful horse in the world, and she’s all mine.”

ACTIVITY: Old Testament People Game - Friend, November 1998

Game 1 - Put the title cards in a small container (sack, bowl, box) and mix them up. Lay out the picture cards faceup. In turn, each player draws a title card, matches it with the correct picture card, then tells the cards’ story, reads it aloud from the scriptures,* or, if available, reads it from the *Old Testament Stories* reader (see references on the card).

Game 2 - Place the picture cards and the title cards facedown. In turn, each player turns over a picture card and a title card. If the two cards match, that player tells the cards’ story, reads it aloud from the scriptures,* or, if available, reads it from the *Old Testament Stories* reader (see references on the card). If the cards don’t match, the player turns the cards back over and it is the next player’s turn.

Or Have children color patterns onto the coat **or** have children cut out small pieces of construction paper. They can then glue small squares of many colors to the blank coat to create a coat of many colors. (www.ayearoffhe.blogspot.com)

Or Coloring Page – www.ayearoffhe.blogspot.com

Title Cards

Temptation of Adam and Eve

Read: Moses 3:16–17; Moses 4:4–12; 2 Ne. 2:19 (*Old Testament Stories*, pages 15–18)

Abraham and the

Sacrifice of Isaac Read: Gen. 22:1–18 (*Old Testament Stories*, pages 38–41)

Baby Moses Read: Ex. 1:7–10, 22; Ex. 2:1–10 (*Old Testament Stories*, pages 61–63)

Daniel and the Lions' Den

Read: Dan. 6:1–13, 16–23 (*Old Testament Stories*, pages 156–157)

David Plays the Harp

Read: 1 Sam. 16:13–23 (This story is not in *Old Testament Stories*.)

Elisha Takes Elijah's Place as Prophet

Read: 1 Kgs. 19:16; 2 Kgs. 2:1, 6–15 (*Old Testament Stories*, pages 139–140)

The Prophets Testify of Jesus

Read: Isa. 7:14–15; Isa. 9:6; Micah 5:2; 1 Ne. 1:18–19; Jacob 7:1, 3, 10–11 (*Old Testament Stories*, pages 170–172)

Spies Return from the Promised Land

Read: Num. 13:1–3, 17, 21–31 (*Old Testament Stories*, pages 87–90)

Walls of Jericho Fall Down

Read: Josh. 6:1–16, 20 (*Old Testament Stories*, pages 91–94)

Jonah and the Big Fish

Read: Jonah 1; Jonah 2:1, 10; Jonah 3:1–5, 10 (*Old Testament Stories*, pages 144–146)

Joseph and His Coat of Many Colors

Read: Gen. 37 (*Old Testament Stories*, pages 50–53)

Moses and the Burning Bush

Read: Ex. 3:1–5, 10–22 (*Old Testament Stories*, pages 64–68)

Moses and the Ten Commandments

Read: Ex. 19:1, 20; Ex. 20:1–17; Ex. 31:18 (*Old Testament Stories*, pages 75–78)

The Dove Gives Noah a Sign

Read: Gen. 8:1–12 (This story is not in *Old Testament Stories*.)

Noah and the Ark of Animals

Read: Gen. 6:9–14, 17–22; Gen. 7:16–17 (*Old Testament Stories*, pages 26–29)

Rachel at the Well

Read: Gen. 28:1–2; Gen. 29:1–28

Ruth and Naomi

Read: Ruth 1:1–18; Ruth 2:1–2;

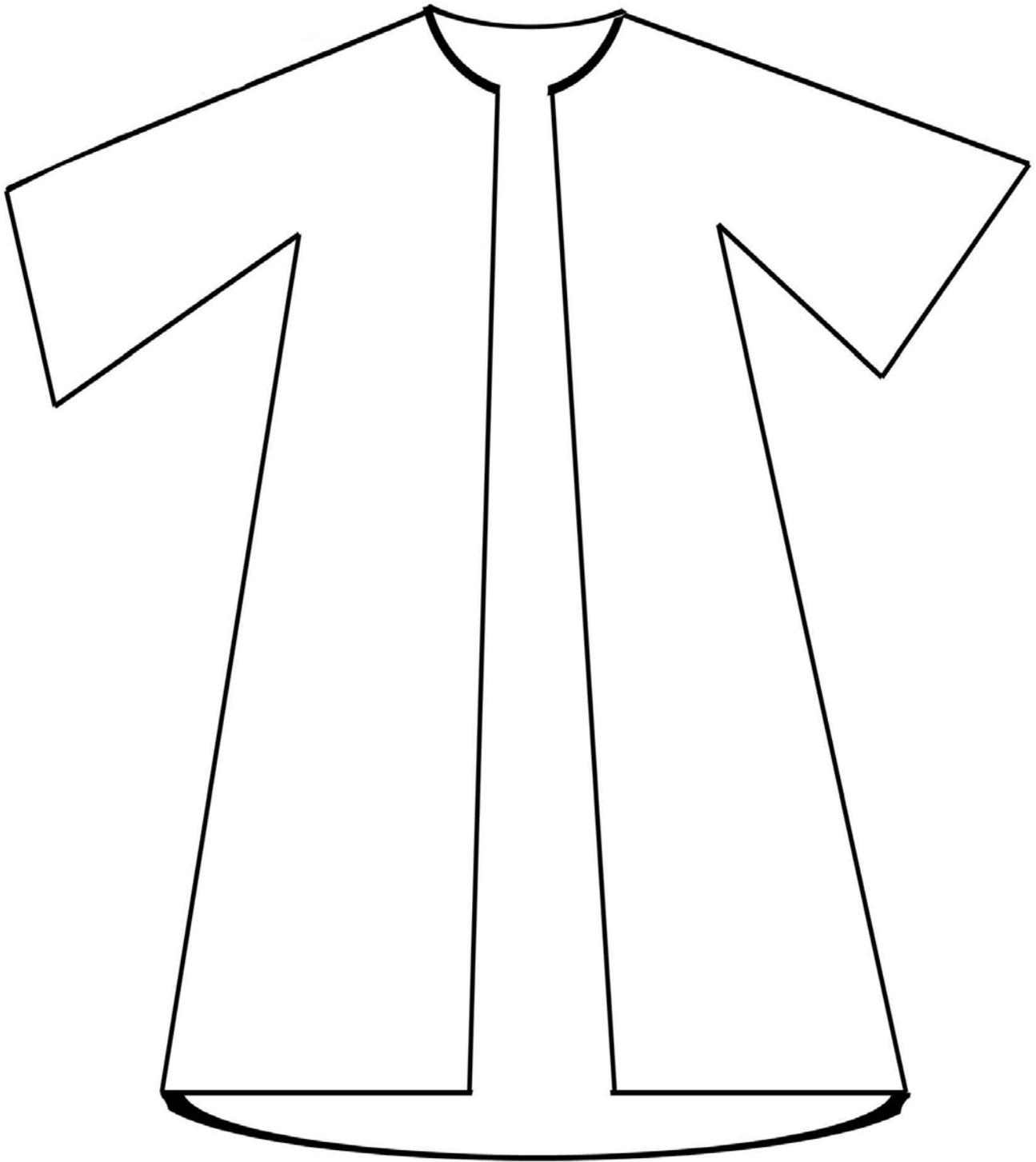
David and Goliath

Read: 1 Sam. 17:3–20,

*(Old Testament Stories, pages
45-47)*

Ruth 4:13, 17 (*Old
Testament Stories, pages
95-98*)

23-24, 32-51 (*Old
Testament Stories, pages
112-114*)



Add many colors to Joseph's coat.



Joseph was obedient, humble and forgiving.

16-Israel's Foods and Festivals

(Joseph in Egypt)

SONG: The Commandments, p. 112

SCRIPTURE: D&C 89:20

LESSON: Friend, April 1974 - Foods and festivals are important traditional Jewish customs for boys and girls who live in Israel. Eating some foods is forbidden during certain holidays, but other foods are always prepared because they symbolize the history of Old Testament days.

Some of the holiday festivals and the special foods associated with them follow:

Rosh Ha Shanah (New Year) is in September or early October. On New Year's Eve the people say, Happy New Year! Serving *lakach* (honey cake) is traditional for this happy festival. Here is an easy *lakach* recipe for you to make.

3/4 cup sugar

2 eggs

3 tablespoons oil

1 cup honey or golden syrup

1 1/2 cups flour

1 teaspoon baking powder

1 teaspoon ground ginger

1/2 teaspoon allspice

1 teaspoon soda

1/2 cup warm water

blanched and halved almonds

Cream sugar and eggs well. Add oil and honey and mix thoroughly. Sift dry ingredients together and add to mixture alternately with warm water. Pour into greased and floured pan, sprinkle with almonds, and bake in moderate oven (350°) for 1 hour.

Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) is on the tenth day of the new year. It is a day of fasting and worship and is a most important and sacred holiday. The holiday begins at sunset on the ninth day of *Tishri*, the first month of the Jewish new year, and lasts until sunset on the tenth day.

Succoth (Harvest Festival) begins four days after the Day of Atonement. When the children of Israel fled from the Egyptians, they lived in huts called tabernacles. *Succoth* is sometimes known as the Feast of Tabernacles. Stuffed cabbage is usually a special food eaten during this festival.

Hanukah is the most important winter festival. It is celebrated for eight days and is known as the Festival of Lights. It begins on the twenty-fifth day of the Hebrew month *Kislev* (November–December). Every night for eight nights the family gathers to light special candles, say special prayers, and sing special songs. The candles are set in a *menorah* (eight-branched candleholder). Each night one candle is lighted and set in the menorah, and on the last day of *Hanukah* eight candles are burning.

These lighted candles celebrate the time long ago when the Jewish people drove the Greeks out of one of their temples that had been taken away from them in battle. An old legend tells that there was only enough oil available for the altar lamp in the temple to last for one day, but by a miracle the oil in the lamp burned for eight days.

In the city of Tel Aviv every public building has its own *menorah*, and each night during *Hanukah* another candle is lighted until eight of them are burning in every *menorah*. In addition to the candles, all the lights of the city are left on during the festival. For this reason Tel Aviv is often called the City of Lights.

Boys and girls in Israel especially enjoy this holiday when they hold parties, light candles, play with their tops, and sing songs. Here are the words to one of the songs that children sing during *Hanukah*:

My mother gave me a levivot*
A warm and sweet levivot
Do you know to honor what?
To honor the Hanukah.
My father gave me a seveevon,**
A seveevon cast out of lead.
Do you know to honor what?
To honor the Hanukah.

Latkes (potato cakes) are a favorite *Hanukah* treat, and here is an easy latke recipe for you to make:

3 medium potatoes

1/4 teaspoon soda

1 chopped onion

1/4 cup flour

1 egg

oil for deep frying

Seasoning (ginger, nutmeg, salt, and pepper) to taste

Peel potatoes and grate very fine. Sprinkle with soda and squeeze out excess liquid. Mix other ingredients and drop batter by spoonfuls into hot oil, frying until pancakes are crisp on outside. Drain on paper, season, and serve hot.

Purim (Feast of Esther) is celebrated on the fourteenth day of the Hebrew month *Adar*, or exactly four weeks before Passover. It is held in honor of Esther, a beautiful Jewish queen. Esther was encouraged by her cousin Mordecai to go to her husband the king when his wicked adviser, Haman, had persuaded him to kill all of her people. After fasting and praying, Esther did go before her husband and pled for all of the Jews to be saved. Her desire was granted (See story in *Friend*, July 1972, p. 32).

On *Taanit Esther*, the day before *Purim*, many people fast in remembrance of the fasting of Queen Esther. A little verse boys and girls in Israel learn and recite at this time is:

*Mordecai, the Just,
On his horse is riding,
And the wicked Haman
From the tree is hanging.
On Purim Day we send
Nice gifts to each other,
And all the happy children
Dress up in fancy costumes.*

A sweet bread called *hamantaschen* is usually served in all the homes at the time of *Purim*.

Pesach (The Passover) is the Jewish festival of freedom. It is held in remembrance of the time when the children of Israel safely left Egypt after they had long been slaves.

The name Passover refers specifically to the tenth plague that God inflicted on Egypt. A destroying angel killed the firstborn in every Egyptian home but passed over the homes of the Israelites where special markings had been made on each door.

The festival of the Passover is sometimes called the Feast of Unleavened Bread, because the Israelites hurried to bake unleavened bread before they left Egypt. This bread is called *matzah*, and it is still baked and eaten today at Passover.

During this time it is forbidden to eat or use any flour, cereal, dried peas, beans, yeast, baking powder, or anything that may have in any way come in contact with *chometz* (leaven).

Every room in every house and every cooking utensil is specially cleaned before the beginning of *Pesach*. Just after dark falls on the eve of Passover, the father takes a candle and goes from room to room to make sure that no *chometz* is left anywhere in his home. This is the beginning of sacred rituals held in all Jewish homes.

Another rule of the Passover is that the firstborn of each family must fast on the eve of *Pesach*. If the firstborn is under thirteen years of age, the father fasts for the child. Boys and girls have special importance in the rituals, the youngest one present asking why this holy time is celebrated and the others giving the answers. This takes place during the *Seder* meal, or feast, when the children take part in the *Haggadah*, or tale of the *Pesach*.

Children in Israel sing many little songs about *Pesach* and play games in which they pretend that they are being driven out of Egypt. Here is one song they sing as they play:

*Israelites together stand!
We are quitting Egypt's land.
On our shoulder matzah—
Staves in our hand,
See us onward marching
Out of Egypt's Land.*

Another song the boys and girls in Israel like to sing about this happy holiday is:

*Holiday cheer! Holiday cheer!
Spring is coming; Pesach's near.
Sew in my jacket pockets four
And fill them up with nuts galore.*

ACTIVITY: Choose a recipe from above and make while giving lesson.

17-Joseph

(Joseph Forgives His Brothers)

SONG: Stand for the Right, p. 159

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 45: 15

LESSON: Friend, September 1994 - Joseph's brothers resented the fact that he was their father's favorite son, the firstborn of his wife Rachel. "Now Israel (their father, Jacob) loved Joseph more than all his children, ... and he made him a coat of many colours." The brothers disliked Joseph so much that "they could not speak peaceably unto him."

To make matters worse, Joseph dreamed a dream, and then another, that showed that he would one day reign over his brothers. They as well as his father were upset with him when he told them.

One day Joseph's ten older brothers were sent to Shechem to feed their father's flocks. Later Jacob sent Joseph out to them to see if all went well. When his brothers saw him coming, they decided to slay him. His oldest brother, Reuben, persuaded the others not to kill Joseph, so instead they threw him into a pit, then sold him for twenty pieces of silver to some merchants who were going to Egypt. Afraid of what Jacob would say about what they'd done, the brothers took Joseph's fine coat, dipped it into the blood of a young goat, and told their father that "an evil beast hath devoured" his favored son. Jacob wept.

When the merchants arrived in Egypt, Joseph was sold again, this time to Potiphar, the captain of Pharaoh's guard. Because Joseph was a righteous young man, the Lord blessed him. His master saw that "the Lord was with him, and that the Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand." As a result, Joseph was given great responsibility and was made an overseer in Potiphar's house.

Joseph served honorably and well, but when he was falsely accused of doing wrong by Potiphar's wife, he was thrown into prison. Even there his great merit was recognized, and the keeper of the prison put him over all the other prisoners. "That which he did, the Lord made it to prosper."

Two years later Pharaoh dreamed two unusual dreams. He asked the magicians and wise men in his land to interpret them. When they could not do it, his butler, who had been in prison with Joseph, remembered that he had been able to interpret dreams. Pharaoh sent for Joseph.

Pharaoh's first dream was of seven fat and healthy cows, anciently called kine, being eaten up by seven lean and sickly cows. In his second dream, seven full and good ears of corn were devoured by seven withered and thin ears. With the Lord's help, Joseph explained that both dreams meant the same thing. Egypt could expect seven years of plenty, followed by seven years of famine.

When Pharaoh asked what to do, Joseph said to store food during the seven good years, then sell it to the people during the seven lean years. He was put in charge of the project and given great authority, and when the seven lean years arrived, the people of Egypt did not go hungry.

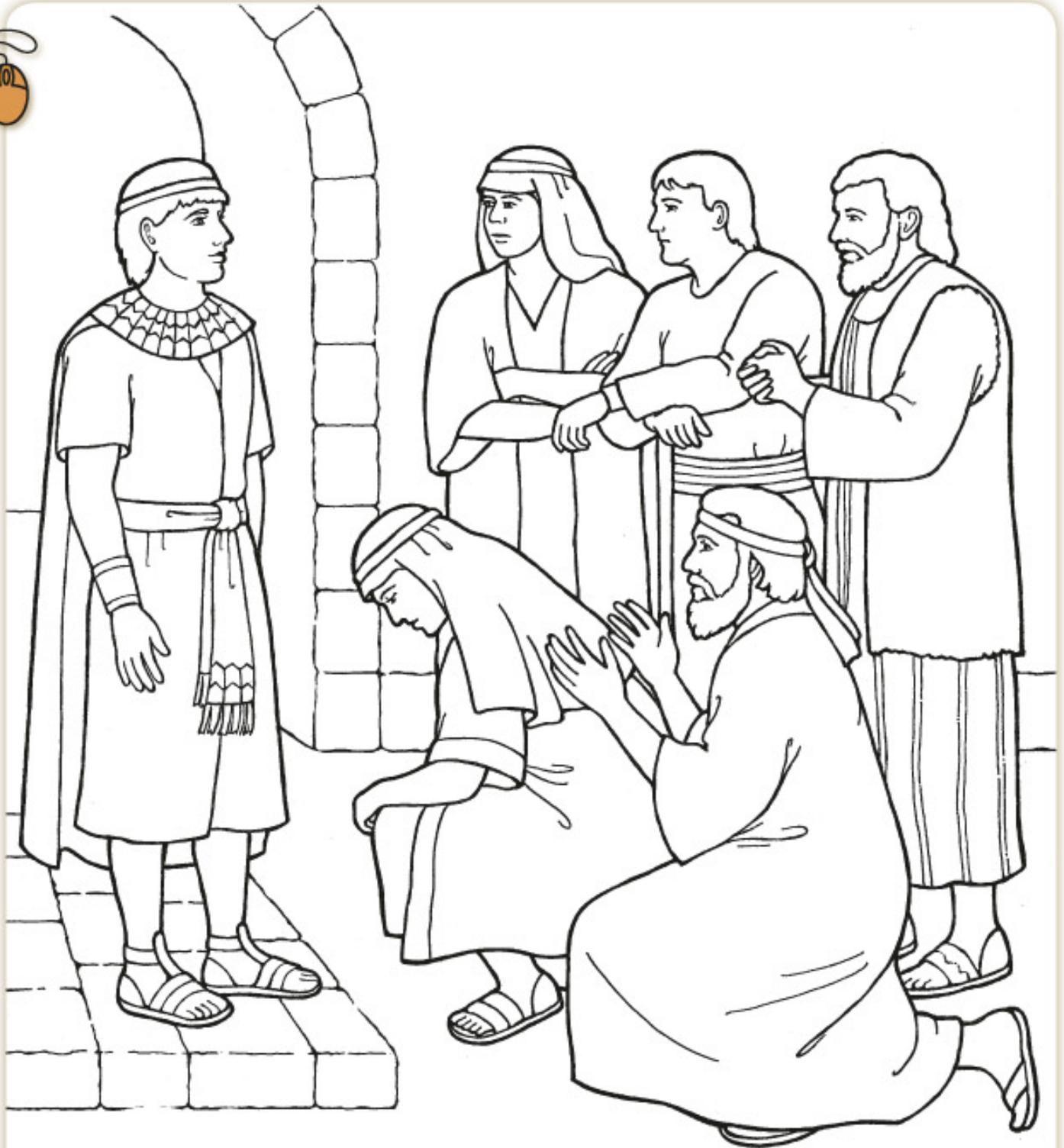
The famine extended as far away as Israel, and people there heard of the storehouses of Egypt. One day Jacob called his ten older sons to him and sent them to Egypt to buy food for their families. When they appeared before Joseph and asked to buy food, they didn't recognize him. But he knew at once who they were.

At first he accused them of being spies. In order to prove they were not, he commanded them to leave Simeon there while they took the food to their families, then come back to Egypt with their youngest brother, Benjamin, which they did.

This time when Joseph filled their bags with food, he hid a silver cup in Benjamin's bag. Then he sent his servant after them to accuse them of stealing the silver cup. When it was found in Benjamin's sack, Joseph said that Benjamin had to stay and serve him as punishment. Judah pleaded with Joseph to let him stay, instead, because the loss of Benjamin would kill their father.

When Joseph saw that his brothers were not willing to have Benjamin or their father harmed, he made himself known to them. The reunion was sweet as he kissed his brothers and wept and forgave them. Jacob and all his family were sent for so that Joseph could feed them and care for them during the remainder of the famine.

ACTIVITY: Coloring Page - Joseph of Egypt - Friend, April 2010



Joseph Forgives His Brothers

I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt. Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life (Genesis 45:4-5).

18-Moses

(The Birth and Calling of Moses)

SONG: Teach Me to Walk in the Light, p. 177

SCRIPTURE: Moses 1:4

LESSON: Friend, February 1994 - Long ago, before Moses led the children of Israel through the wilderness, he was called by the Lord to a high mountain. There he saw the glory of God and spoke to Him face to face.

“Behold,” the Lord said, “I am the Lord God Almighty, and Endless is my name.”

The very next thing He said to Moses was, “And, behold, thou art my son.” He told Moses that He had an important work for him to do and promised to show him many things. Then the Lord told him, once again, that he was His son, a son “in the similitude of mine Only Begotten.”

Next the Lord showed him a wonderful vision of the whole earth and all the people who were created. The glory of God was upon Moses, or he would not have been able to see such things. When the vision was finished, the glory of God left him, and he was very weak. It took him several hours to regain his strength.

After Moses’ strength had returned, Satan came to tempt him, saying, “Moses, son of man, worship me.” But Moses had seen the glory of the Lord. He had been told by that Holy Being that he, Moses, was not just a son of man but a child of God, so he was able to say to the devil, “Who art thou? For behold, I am a son of God, in the similitude of his Only Begotten; and where is thy glory, that I should worship thee?”

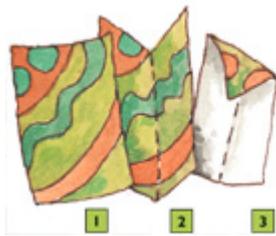
Satan responded by crying out in a loud voice and ranting, and though Moses was frightened at first, he called upon Heavenly Father for strength and told Satan to leave. Knowing that he was a child of a glorious Heavenly Father, a Father who loved him and would hear his prayers, gave Moses courage and strength to withstand evil. In his heart was the peace of knowing who he was.

ACTIVITY: Plague of Frogs - Friend, November 2002

When Moses asked the pharaoh of Egypt to let the children of Israel go into the wilderness, Pharaoh refused. The Lord sent plagues (many really bad things) to help Pharaoh change his mind. One of these was a plague of frogs. The frogs were everywhere, and the people hated them.

Make your own plague of frogs by gathering several 3" x 5" (8 cm x 13 cm) index cards and frog-color crayons and/or markers, then following these steps (see illustrations for each step):

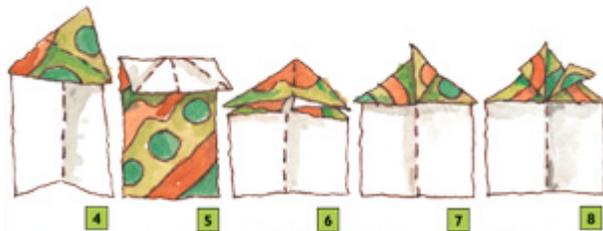
Decorate the blank side of the card with lines, dots, and squiggles.



Fold the card in half the long way with the design on the outside. Then open it back up.

With the blank side facing you, fold the right top corner down to the left edge to make a triangle, then open the card back up.

Do the same on the left top corner to the right edge, then open the card back up.



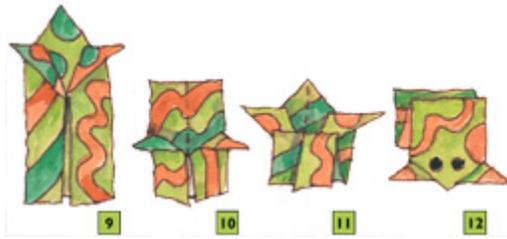
Turn the card over to the frog-colored side. You will find a folded **X** on the card. Fold the top half of the card down so that the **X** is folded in half.

Open the card back up and turn it over to the blank side. Push the sides in and down along the fold lines at the top. Push the top down to form a triangle.

Fold the right flap of the triangle to the center. Do the same with the left flap. This will form a diamond shape.

Fold the right and left flaps to the bottom edges of the diamond. This makes the front legs of the frog.

To start making the back legs, fold the bottom part of the card inward from both sides so that two sides meet in the center.



Fold down the top of the frog just below the diamond shape.

Turn the frog over and fold the bottom part of the frog in half toward you. This gives the frog “knees.”

Turn the finished frog over and make eyes. To make the frog jump, push its back down and quickly let it go. Have your family help you make a plague-sized batch of frogs. Then use them in a family home evening lesson about Moses and the children of Israel. Afterward, your frogs can plague your desk or bookcase. You can also have frog races or jumping contests.

19-Parting the Red Sea

(Moses Delivers the Israelites from Bondage)

SONG: The Fourth Article of Faith, p. 124

SCRIPTURE: Moroni 7:33

LESSON: Friend, September 1988

"Jessie," Mother called, "are you OK? You've been in the bathroom for a long time."

"I'm getting my family home evening lesson ready," Jessie called back.

"In the bathroom?"

"I can't part the Red Sea in the living room," Jessie replied.

"That's true," said Mother.

Jessie had a little water in the bathtub. She put in several drops of red food coloring, just for effect. Her father had carefully installed a rotating fan on a shelf above the tub for her, and if she stopped the fan from moving back and forth, turned it on high, and used only a little water in the tub, she could part the Red Sea.

But this only solved part of her problem. She couldn't turn the fan off to drown Pharaoh and the Egyptians while she was still getting Moses and the Israelites to the other side of the bathtub. And how was she going to get Pharaoh into the sea to begin with? There was also the cloud that separated the Israelites and the Egyptians. She could use cotton for that, but someone else would have to hold up the cloud.

David came into the bathroom to comb his hair. "David," asked Jessie, "would you turn this fan off and on for me when I ask you to?"

"If it won't mess up my hair," said David.

"It won't, I promise."

Just then their sister Ruth came into the bathroom to get some nail polish. "Playing in the water I see, David," Ruth teased.

"Be quiet," said David. "I'm helping Jessie part the Red Sea."

"Ruth," said Jessie, "I need you to get the Egyptians into the Red Sea so that David can drown them."

“Clever!” Ruth exclaimed, picking up the small figures. “They’re plastic cowboys and horses dressed up in Egyptian capes.”

Jessie’s little brother, Jared, came into the bathroom to see what was going on. He picked up the cotton. “Soft,” he said.

“Jared,” Jessie asked, “Can you hold that cotton cloud right here to protect the Israelites?”

“Me water,” said Jared leaning over the bathtub and swishing the water with one hand and swinging the cloud with the other.

Dad came into the bathroom to brush his teeth. “Well, it looks like we’re having a meeting in here,” he said.

“We’re parting the Red Sea,” said Ruth.

“Tonight’s lesson?” asked Dad. “So that’s why you wanted the fan set up in here, Jessie.”

“Yes,” Jessie replied. “Will you please help me get Moses through the Red Sea? I can’t move all these Israelites by myself.”

“The robes on these army men of yours look great,” said Dad. “They make good Israelites.”

“Thanks, Dad,” said Jessie.

Mother poked her head into the room. “What on earth is going on in here?”

“Oh, Mom,” Jessie answered, “we’re ready for my part of the family-home-evening lesson. Will you sit on the clothes hamper and watch? We need a watcher.”

“I’d love to,” said Mom.

“Ready, begin,” announced Jessie.

David turned the fan on. The Red Sea parted. Jessie and Dad led the Israelites through the bathtub. Jared held the cotton cloud and swished his hands in the red water. Ruth rode the caped Egyptians into the tub on their horses. David turned off the fan, and the Egyptian soldiers and Pharaoh drowned. Mom clapped and cheered.

“Whew,” said Jessie, wiping her forehead, “that was quite a job.”

“A great family effort,” said Dad.

“Jessie, I’ve made your favorite red sugar cookies,” Mom said, “in honor of your parting the Red Sea.”

“Boy, I’m luckier than Moses,” said Jessie.

“Why’s that?” asked Dad.

“I’ll bet Moses didn’t get red sugar cookies after *he* parted the Red Sea.”

ACTIVITY: Moses Leads the Children of Israel - Friend, May 2011



Moses Leads the Children of Israel

By Mariam Joyce Grisham

Moses grew up to be a great prophet. He led the children of Israel out of slavery in Egypt. To find out what Moses did when the children of Israel were trapped between the Red Sea and the Egyptian army, read Exodus 14:13–16, 21–22 out loud. To demonstrate this great event, fold Lines A and B to meet at Line C. Then open the page to see Moses leading his people to safety on dry ground.

20-Moses Teaches His People

(The Israelites Receive Food from Heaven)

SONG: Where Love Is, p. 138

SCRIPTURE: 1 Nephi. 19:23

LESSON: Friend, May 1998 - God called Moses to be the prophet to lead the children of Israel out of captivity in Egypt. He parted the Red Sea so that Moses could lead the people through it to escape the Egyptian armies who were chasing them. When the people had no food, the Lord gave them manna. When they needed water, He provided it. The Lord blessed His people, and they were grateful.

After they had traveled in the wilderness for two months, they came to Mount Sinai. Moses went up on the mountain, and the Lord called to him and told him to tell the people, "If ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people" (Ex. 19:5). The people answered, "All that the Lord hath spoken we will do" (Ex. 19:8).

The Lord asked Moses to gather the people at the foot of the mountain. When they had gathered there, the mountain was covered with a cloud of smoke and it shook. Then the Lord spoke, saying:

"I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

"Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

"Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image. ...

"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain. ...

"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. ...

"Honour thy father and thy mother. ...

"Thou shalt not kill.

"Thou shalt not commit adultery.

"Thou shalt not steal.

"Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

"Thou shalt not covet." (Ex. 20:2-4, 7-8, 12-17.)

During the forty years that followed, as the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness on their way to the Promised Land, Moses taught them and counseled them. He tried to help them obey these commandments, known today as the Ten Commandments. And though we were not there at the foot of Mount Sinai when they were given, it is just as important for us to obey them today. As we read this story in the scriptures, we can imagine the voice of the Lord speaking to us, and the voice of Moses counseling us.

ACTIVITY: Moses Teaches his People - Friend, May 1998 - Mount the flannel-board figures on heavier paper, color them, cut them out, and use them to tell the story of Moses and the Ten Commandments.

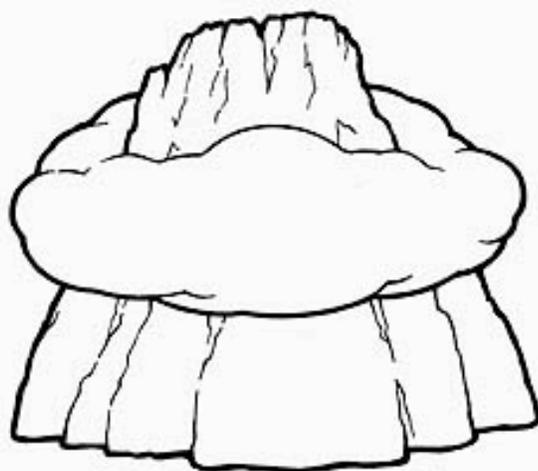
Or Remember the Sabbath Day - Friend, November 2004



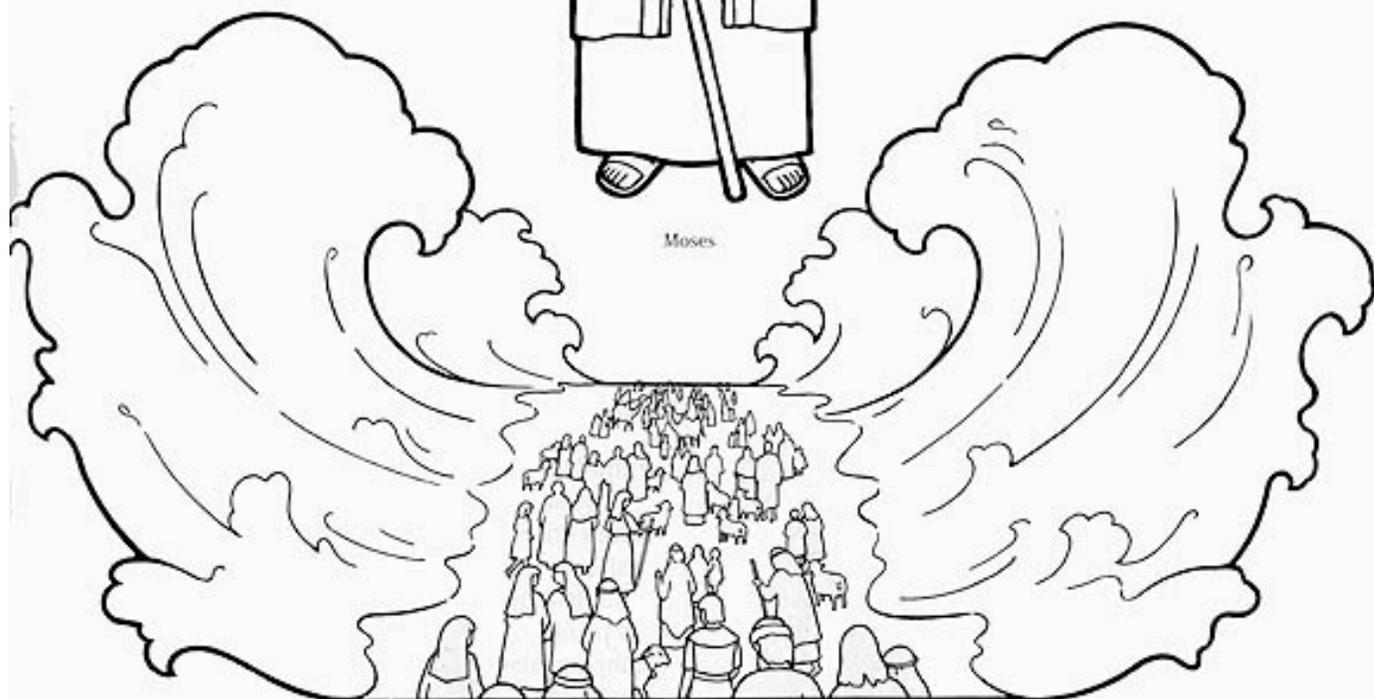
Tablets with the
Ten Commandments



Moses



Mount Sinai in a cloud



The Red Sea parted, and the children of Israel went through.



Remember the Sabbath Day

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy
(Exodus 20:8).

The children of Israel received manna from heaven to eat while they lived in the wilderness on their journey to the promised land. Manna was a special food that the Lord prepared for them to eat. Each morning they woke up and found manna on the ground, ready for them to gather. Usually, they had to gather and eat the manna on the day it fell or it became wormy and smelly. The day before the Sabbath, twice as much manna fell, and the Lord told the children of Israel to gather enough for two days. On the Sabbath day they did not receive any manna, but the manna they gathered the day before did not go bad. The Lord preserved it for His people (see Exodus 16:16–24).

Like the Israelites, our families will be guided and blessed when we keep the Sabbath day holy. President Gordon B. Hinckley teaches: “Gather your family about you, teach them the gospel, enjoy yourselves together on the Sabbath Day, come to your meetings, participate. You will know that the principle of the Sabbath is a true principle which brings with it great blessings” (*Teachings of Gordon B. Hinckley* [1997], 559).



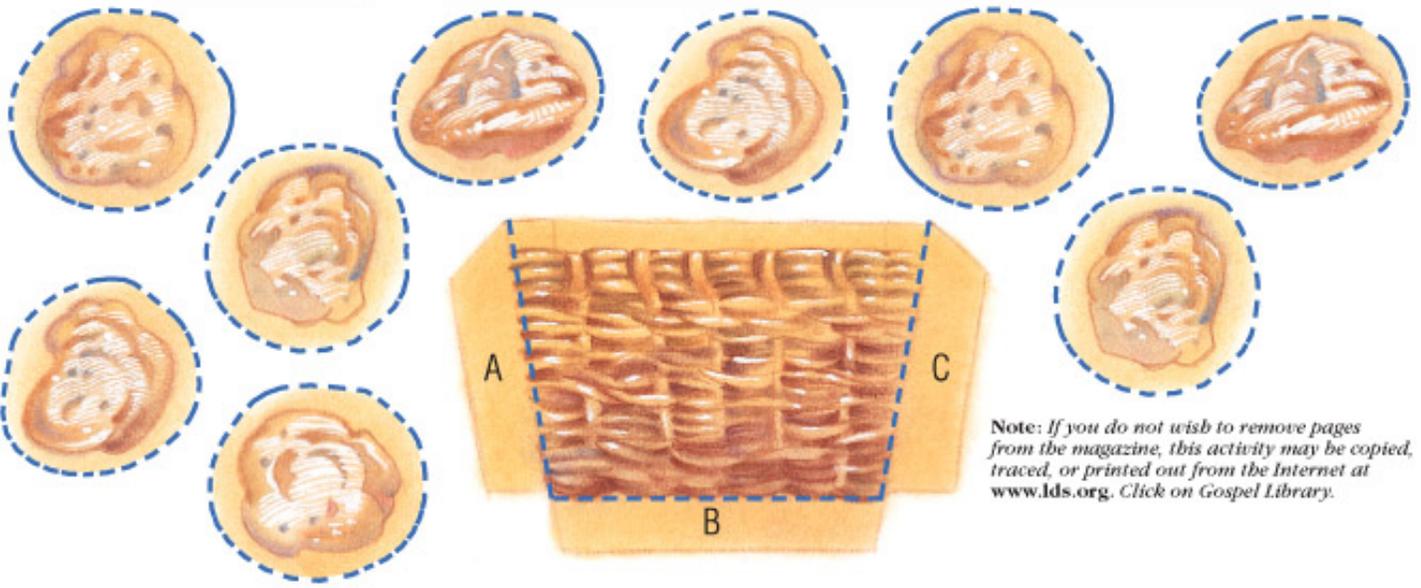
Activities and Ideas

1. Cut out the picture of the Israelite family on page 39 and mount it on heavy paper. Fold the tab along the dotted line to make the family stand up. Then cut out the basket and fold in along the broken lines. Glue tab A to side A on the family cutout, with the basket pattern facing out. Glue tab B to bottom B and tab C to side C to make a pocket. Cut out the manna and put them in the basket.

2. For a family home evening activity, give pieces of manna to each member of your family. Take turns thinking of activities you can do as a family. Together decide if each activity is a good one to do on the Sabbath day. If it is, put a piece of manna in the basket. Try to fill the basket with all the manna.

3. For a family home evening lesson or Primary talk, read and discuss the statement by President Hinckley. Can you think of ways your family has been or could be blessed by keeping the Sabbath day holy?

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



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.

21-I Am Accountable for My Choices

(The Ten Commandments)

SONG: I Like My Birthdays, p. 104

SCRIPTURE: D&C 68:27

LESSON: Friend, February 2000 - Do you like birthdays? How do you celebrate your birthday? Some children invite their friends to a party. Sometimes the birthday boy or girl is allowed to choose something special for his or her birthday dinner. It is great fun to make such choices!

When you reach your eighth birthday, you can make one of the most important choices of your life: the choice to be baptized! The Lord has taught that “children shall be baptized for the remission of their sins when eight years old” (D&C 68:27). By the time you are eight years old, you are able to tell the difference between right and wrong and you are able to choose the right. You are accountable, or responsible, for your choices.

When Drew* was a young boy, he lived next door to the bishop of his ward, Bishop Philip T. Sonntag. The bishop’s son Mark was one of Drew’s best friends. One afternoon, Mark and Drew were playing in different parts of the Sonntag yard, when the bishop came outside looking for his son. “Drew, do you know where Mark is?” he asked. Drew knew that if he told the truth, Mark would have to quit playing and go inside. “No, I don’t know where he is,” Drew answered.

The bishop went back into his house, and Drew ran to the other side of the large yard, where Mark was playing. “Who were you talking to?” Mark asked. “It was your dad,” Drew answered. “What did he want?” “He wanted you to go inside.” “Then I’d better go in,” Mark said. He left, and Drew stayed outside. A few minutes later Bishop Sonntag came outside again. He told Drew that what he had done was not right and that he (the bishop) was disappointed that Drew hadn’t told the truth.

Drew felt terrible. He was nine years old. He had been baptized. He knew that he was accountable and that he had made a mistake. He walked home and went to his bedroom. He cried as he knelt beside his bed and asked Heavenly Father to forgive him. Then he went back to his friend’s home. When Bishop Sonntag answered the door, Drew said, “I just want you to know that I’m sorry about what I did.” The bishop put his arm around Drew and invited him to come inside.

Drew learned two valuable lessons from the experience: First, it’s important to tell the truth. Second, when we repent after doing something wrong, we feel better. Drew always remembered the outpouring of love he felt from his bishop upon correcting his mistake. He appreciated the bishop and felt that he had been forgiven.

Heavenly Father knew when He sent us to earth that we would need to become accountable for our choices. Being accountable helps us learn to make wise choices. Heavenly Father knew that we would not always choose the right. He and Jesus Christ have provided a way for us to correct our mistakes so that we can be happy here on earth and one day return to live with Them forever. The way is repentance.

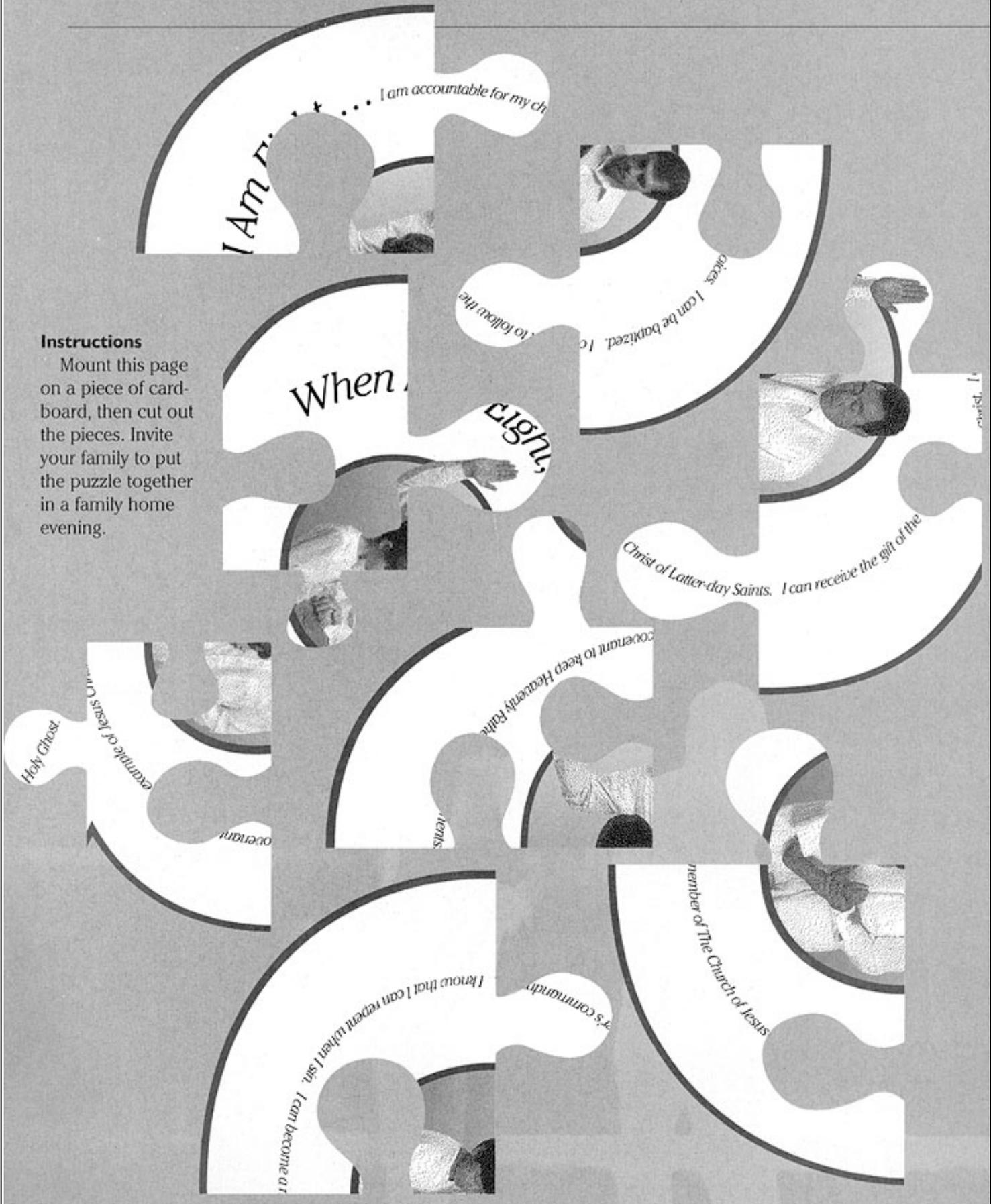
When we repent, we accept responsibility for our wrong choices, feel sorry, ask forgiveness, and correct our wrongs. Then we try very hard to not repeat that sin.

Heavenly Father has given us commandments to help us to be happy. He has promised us blessings—happy consequences—if we obey. If we choose to break the commandments of God, then we must suffer the consequences. This includes not receiving the blessings that come from keeping the commandments. Choosing to be baptized and then choosing to listen to and follow the promptings of the Holy Ghost after you have been confirmed are two very important, right choices. When you make these choices and are baptized and confirmed, you become a member of Jesus Christ's own church; and when you choose to keep Heavenly Father's commandments and always remember Jesus Christ, you will always have His Spirit to be with you. Those are very happy consequences! That is why your eighth birthday is such a special one.

ACTIVITY: I Am Accountable for My Choices - Friend, February 2000 - Mount this page on a piece of cardboard, then cut out the pieces. Invite your family to put the puzzle together in a family home evening.

Instructions

Mount this page on a piece of cardboard, then cut out the pieces. Invite your family to put the puzzle together in a family home evening.



22-Exodus Game

(Israel and the Brass Serpent)

SONG: I Will Be Valiant, p. 162

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 6:6

LESSON & ACTIVITY: Friend, November 1990

Materials Needed: A Bible for each player

Object: To get all twelve tribes of Israel to Canaan, and to learn about their journey along the way.

Rules: Divide the family into two teams. Take turns answering the questions in order. Give two points if the team knows the answer without looking it up first. Give one point for answering correctly if they had find the answer in the Bible. The team with the most points wins.

EGYPT

Why did the children of Israel leave Egypt? (See Ex. 6:6-7.)

Why were they led around the land of the Philistines? (See Ex. 13:17.)

Where were they led through instead of the land of the Philistines? (See Ex. 13:17-18.)

True or False?: By day the Lord led them in a pillar of fire. (See Ex. 13:21.)

How did they get across the Red Sea? (See Ex. 14:21-22.)

What problem did they have in the wilderness of Shur? (See Ex. 15:22.)

How did Moses make bitter water sweet at Marah? (See Ex. 15:23-25.)

How many wells and how many palm trees were in Elim? (See Ex. 15:27.)

What sin did the children of Israel commit in the wilderness of Sin? (See Ex. 16:1-2.)

What did the Lord give them to eat in the evenings after the people murmured? (See Ex. 16:11-13.)

What did the Lord give them to eat in the mornings? (See Ex. 16:13-15.)

What happened when they tried to save some of the food overnight? (See Ex. 16:16-20.)

How did they get water in Rephidim? (See Ex. 17:1-6.)

What happened when Moses put down his hands when they fought Amalek? (See Ex. 17:8–12.)

Who came to the family reunion; how did they celebrate? (See Ex. 18:5–12.)

Why did Moses choose rulers over the children of Israel? (See Ex. 18:13–26.)

What mountain did they camp at the foot of? (See Ex. 19:1–2.)

What did they do after they were sanctified? (See Ex. 19:10, 14.)

What caused the children of Israel to tremble on the third day they camped there? (See Ex. 19:16.)

Whom did the Lord tell Moses to bring with him to the top of the mountain? (See Ex. 19:17–25.)

Recite any one of the Ten Commandments that no other player has recited. (See Ex. 20:1–17; Ex. 24:12.)

After offerings were made for the children of Israel, who went with Moses and saw God? (See Ex. 24:4–11.)

Tell why the tabernacle was built and one thing about it that no other player has told. (See Ex. 25:8, heading; Ex. 26:33–34; Ex. 27:20–21.)

Tell two things about the ark of the testimony that no other player has told. (See Ex. 25:10–22.)

Why did Aaron have special garments, and what was put in his breastplate of justice? (See Ex. 28:4, 15, 30.)

What was wrong with making the golden calf? (See Ex. 32:1–8; Ex. 20:3–5.)

What did Moses do when he came down from the mountain? (See Ex. 32:15–20.)

When Moses went up the mountain again, what did he take with him and why? (See Ex. 34:1–4.)

Who was numbered in the census that Moses took? (See Num. 1:1–2, heading.)

What feast were the children of Israel commanded to keep and why? (See Num. 9:1–5; Ex. 12:27; Ex. 13:15.)

Why did they complain about the manna and what was their punishment? (See Num. 11:4–9, 16–20.)

What did the Israelite spies find, and why did two of them disagree with the others? (See Num. 13:1-3, 17-33; Num. 14:1-9.)

Why did Aaron's rod blossom? (See Num. 17:1-8.)

Who died at Kadesh and at Hor? (See Num. 20:1, 22-29.)

What were the children of Israel to do if they were bitten by the fiery serpents? (See Num. 21:4-9.)

Who were allowed to leave the wilderness and why, and who became their new leader? (See Num. 14:26-31; Num. 26:1, 4, 63-65; Num. 27:12-13, 18-23.)

CANAAN

23-Joshua, Devout General

(Joshua Leads Israel)

SONG: Called to Serve, p. 174

SCRIPTURE: Numbers 27:18

LESSON: Friend, January 1987 - After wandering in the wilderness for forty years, the children of Israel finally reached the promised land. But the land was inhabited by wicked, idol-worshipping peoples. Before the Israelites could live there, it had to be cleansed of all evil.

Moses had led the people out of slavery and through the wilderness, but he was old and could not go with them into the promised land. Instead, he prayed to find out who the new leader of the Israelites would be. The Lord told him to “take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him.”

Joshua, whose name means “God is help,” was born in Egypt while the Israelites were still in bondage. He had served as minister to Moses throughout the forty years of the Exodus and now, at eighty years of age, was being asked to do a difficult thing. But Joshua was faithful; he knew that the Lord would help him. Humbly he accepted this call to lead Israel in cleansing the promised land.

The first thing that the Lord commanded Joshua to do was to have the people cross the Jordan River with the ark of the covenant, which was to be carried by the Levites.

The ark of the covenant was a sacred chest that contained the Tables of the Law (scriptures). It was to be carried to the middle of the river, and the people were to follow it, pass it there, and continue to the other side of the river.

Joshua was not to worry about the Israelites doubting his leadership over them. “This day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel,” the Lord told him, “that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee.”

When the priests started to carry the ark into the overflowing river, the water upstream stopped flowing and heaped up, leaving the riverbed dry for the people to cross. From the middle of the crossing, the priests watched as all the rest of the Israelites, about forty thousand people, crossed the Jordan River. After everyone had completely crossed, the priests finished carrying the ark across.

To help them remember this great miracle, Joshua commanded the people to erect a monument of twelve stones taken from the riverbed. He told them, “When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean these stones?

“Then ye shall let your children know, saying, Israel came over this Jordan on dry land.”

Later the Lord instructed Joshua to conquer the city of Jericho. It was a small city but was completely encircled by a strong wall many feet thick. Instead of commanding the Israelite warriors to fight against Jericho, the Lord told Joshua to have them march around the city once each day for six days. The ark of the covenant was to be carried with them by Levite priests, and seven of the priests were to carry trumpets made of ram's horns but not blow on them. On the seventh day the warriors were to circle the city seven times; then the seven priests were to sound their trumpets. At the sound, all the people were to give a great shout.

The men did as Joshua instructed, and when the trumpets sounded on the seventh day, Joshua ordered, "Shout; for the Lord hath given you the city."

At the tremendous sound, the strong walls of Jericho tumbled to the ground, and the Israelite army charged in and captured Jericho.

Joshua next went to battle against the wicked people in the land of Ai. The Lord had promised that He would help the Israelites if they obeyed Him, but the people of Ai won the battle! Joshua, bewildered, asked God why He had not helped the Israelite armies.

The Lord answered, "Israel hath sinned." He told Joshua that His commandment that no one should steal during the battle of Jericho had been broken. Because it had been broken, the Israelites had lost the battle with the people of Ai.

Joshua arose early the next morning and began a search of the people, tribe by tribe. Finally in one tribe, he found a man named Achan who had stolen silver and gold during the conquest of Jericho. According to the command of the Lord, Achan was punished for his sin. Once more the armies of Israel entered Ai. This time the Lord helped them, and they won the battle.

When the Israelite army battled the Amorites, they had to fight the armies of the kings of Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, and Eglon, too, because they had banded together. Joshua's warriors fought valiantly, and the other armies began to flee. As they ran, the Lord cast down great hailstones that killed more of the Israelites' enemies than were killed by Joshua's men.

But the battle had not quite been won, and night was fast approaching. So Joshua, full of faith and the power of God, commanded the sun and moon to stop in their places. With the sun and moon stopped, the Israelites were able to win the battle, and everyone knew that the Lord was fighting for Israel.

Joshua was one hundred ten years old when he died. Before he did, he called the people together and reminded them that it was the Lord God who had freed them from Egypt, had led and fed them in the wilderness, and had driven their enemies out of the promised land. "Be ye therefore very courageous," Joshua told his people, "to keep and to do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses."

Joshua warned the people against worshiping false gods and then said, "Choose you this day whom ye will serve; ... but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

The people answered, "The Lord our God will we serve, and his voice will we obey."

Joshua had the people make a covenant that they would always remember this promise and obey God.

Joshua's mission on earth was now finished. He had been a devout warrior, a worker of many miracles. When he died, this true servant of the Lord was buried in his own city, Timnath-Serah.

ACTIVITY: Journey into Egypt - Friend, April 2008 - Each player should select a place marker. Place them on Start and read the description and scriptures. Take turns rolling a die to see how many spaces to move. When you land on a space, read the description and then look up the scripture and read it. If the space has directions on it, move your marker that many spaces. The first player to reach the promised land wins. **Note:** All scriptures are from the book of Exodus unless otherwise noted.

JOURNEY INTO EGYPT

BY BRITNEY RULE

Instructions: Each player should select a place marker. Place them on Start and read the description and scriptures. Take turns rolling a die to see how many spaces to move. When you land on a space, read the description and then look up the scripture and read it. If the space has directions on it, move your marker that many spaces. The first player to reach the promised land wins. **Note:** All scriptures are from the book of Exodus unless otherwise noted.



Egypt is plagued with frogs, lice, and flies. Go back 2 spaces. (8:6, 17, 24)

The cattle of the Egyptians die, but the Israelites' cattle don't. Move forward 1 space. (9:6)

The Egyptians get painful sores all over their bodies. (9:9-10)

The Lord sends a storm of hail. (9:23)

The firstborn Egyptians die. (12:29)

The Israelites celebrate Passover for the first time. Move forward 2 spaces. (12:21-24)

Pharaoh lets the Israelites go. Move forward 3 spaces. (12:31-32)

The Lord leads the Israelites with a pillar of fire by night and a cloud by day. (13:21)

The Israelites arrive at the Red Sea and are afraid when they see the Egyptians following them. Go back 1 space. (14:10-12)

Moses parts the Red Sea with the Lord's help. The Israelites walk across on dry ground. Move forward 2 spaces. (14:21-22)

The Israelites have only bad water to drink. The Lord cleanses the water. (15:23-25)



The Nile River is turned to blood. The Egyptians have no water to drink. Go back 1 space. (7:20-21)

Aaron and Moses go to Pharaoh. He tells them he will not let the Israelites leave Egypt. (5:1-2)

The Lord speaks to Moses from a burning bush on Mount Sinai. He tells Moses to lead the Israelites out of the land of Egypt. (3:2-4)

Moses dies. Joshua becomes the prophet. (Deuteronomy 34:5-9)

Because the Israelites have lost faith in the Lord, they will wander in the wilderness for 40 years. Miss a turn. (Numbers 14:34)

Joshua and Caleb are excited about Canaan. They say the Lord has blessed them with a land of promise. (Numbers 14:6-8)

Moses sends spies to Canaan. Many of them are scared. They do not believe the Lord can help defeat the people of the land. Go back 1 space. (Numbers 13:1-2, 31)

Some of the Israelites make a golden calf and worship it. The Lord is angry with them. Go back 2 spaces. (32:8)

The Lord commands the Israelites to build a tabernacle. Move forward 2 spaces. (25:8-9)

FINISH

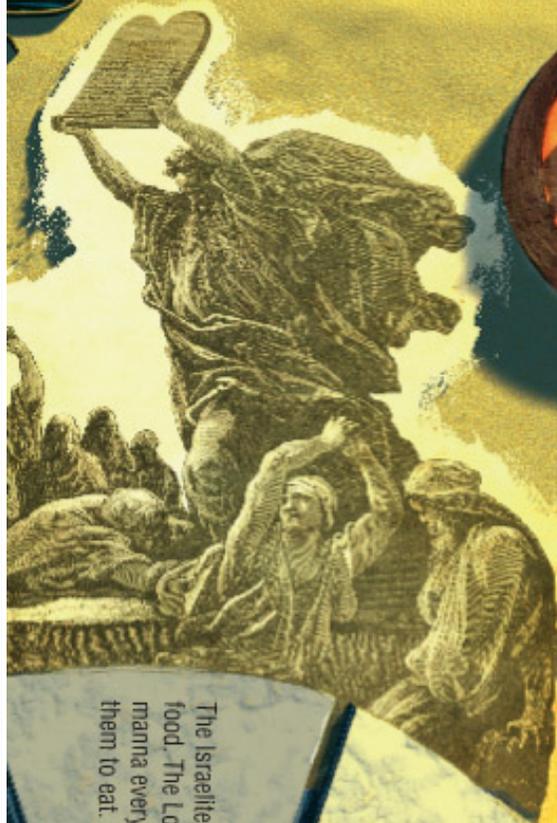
The Lord leads the Israelites into Canaan, the promised land. Joshua leads them through the Jordan River on dry ground. (Joshua 3:17)

START

The Israelites need food. The Lord sends manna every day for them to eat. (16:4)

The Israelites need more water. The Lord gives Moses power to make water come out of a rock. (17:6)

The Israelites arrive at Mount Sinai. Moses receives the Ten Commandments. (19:20; 20:1-17)



24-Trust in the Lord

(Gideon)

SONG: Tell Me, Dear Lord, p. 176

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 3:5-6

LESSON: Friend, June 1998 - When we trust someone, we believe in him. We feel sure that he will do what he says he will do. There is One we can always trust. We can always trust the Lord.

When we trust someone, we believe in him. We feel sure that he will do what he says he will do. There is One we can always trust. We can always trust the Lord.

The scriptures are full of stories of men and women whose lives were blessed because they trusted Heavenly Father. Many faced difficult choices or strange situations. Often their own experiences were not enough to help them know what they should do.

In the Old Testament story of Joseph, his beautiful coat was stripped from him, and he was sold by his brothers to slave traders going to Egypt (see Gen. 37). Would you know what to do if you were sold as a slave and taken to a strange country all alone like Joseph was?

When Abraham's servant prayed mightily about finding the right woman for Isaac to marry, the Lord sent Rebekah to the well (see Gen. 24). Would you know what to do if you were Rebekah and were asked to marry a man you had never met?

Would you know what to do if you were told to eat and drink things that were against the Word of Wisdom? That happened to Daniel and his friends (see Dan. 1).

When these people had difficult challenges, each of them knew something very important: He or she could trust the Lord. They all knew that He would direct their paths (see Prov. 3:6).

Joseph trusted the Lord and kept His commandments even when faced with great temptation. Later, Pharaoh made Joseph a ruler over all of Egypt (see Gen. 39-41:41). Rebekah trusted the Lord and went to marry Abraham's son Isaac because she knew that Abraham and Isaac loved and served God. She became a great mother in Israel (see Gen. 24; Gen. 25:21). Daniel trusted the Lord's counsel to eat and drink only those things that would not harm him. He became wise and was appointed "ruler over the whole province of Babylon" (see Dan. 1; Dan. 2:48).

When we trust in the Lord, He can direct our paths. Heavenly Father loves each girl and boy just as He loved Joseph, Rebekah, and Daniel. Every day as we keep the commandments, pray, and humbly seek Heavenly Father's direction for the choices we have to make, He will help us. When we trust in the Lord, He will direct our paths.

ACTIVITY: Trust in the Lord - Friend, June 1998 - Complete the dot-to-dot puzzle to discover a great heroine who trusted in the Lord to direct her paths. Read about her in the scriptures, then write her name in the box and color the picture.



Genesis 24

“He Shall Direct Thy Paths”

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1. First murder victim (See Gen. 4:8.)
2. Nabal's widow, whom David married (See 1 Sam. 25:36-42.)
3. Original name of Abraham (See Gen. 17:5.)
4. Rider in a chariot of fire (See 2 Kgs. 2:9-11.)
5. Person called by God from burning bush (See Ex. 3:1-4.)
6. Pharaoh's officer who bought Joseph (See Gen. 39:1.)
7. Queen of _____, who gave Solomon riches and hard questions (See 1 Kgs. 10:1-10.)

8. Abraham's wife, who laughed at the words of the holy men (See Gen. 18:9-14, heading.)
9. Prophet who helped a widow pay off her debts (See 2 Kgs. 4:1-7.)
10. Ruth's mother-in-law, who returned to her family from Moab (See Ruth 1:1-16.)
11. Woman mistaken for a drunk in the temple (See 1 Sam. 1:9-18.)
12. King of Israel who refused to be slain by his enemies (See 1 Sam. 10:21-24; 1 Sam. 31:3-6.)
13. Son of Beor, who was saved by an ass (See Num. 22:4-33.)
14. Woman who lured Samson to his ruin (See Judg. 16:4-21.)
15. Moses' father-in-law, who chastised him (See Ex. 18:12-26.)
16. Moses' sister, smitten with leprosy for complaining (See Num. 12:1-15.)
17. Brother kept by Joseph as hostage in Egypt (See Gen. 42:3-24.)
18. Moses' successor (See Num. 14:6-7; Num. 27:heading.)

Answers:

(1) Abel, (2) Abigail, (3) Abram, (4) Elijah, (5) Moses, (6) Potiphar, (7) Sheba, (8) Sarah, (9) Elisha, (10) Naomi, (11) Hannah, (12) Saul, (13) Balaam, (14) Delilah, (15) Jethro, (16) Miriam, (17) Simeon, (18) Joshua.

26-Ruth & Naomi

(Ruth and Naomi)

SONG: How Will They Know, p. 182

SCRIPTURE: D&C 1:37

LESSON: Friend, February 1972 - In the days when the judges ruled over Israel, there was a great famine in the land. Day followed day and week followed week without enough food for the people.

Elimelech and his wife, Naomi, lived in Bethlehem. They grieved to see their two sons, Mahlon and Chilion, hungry.

One day Elimelech said, "In Moab there is food to eat. Let us journey there."

So Elimelech, Naomi, and their sons made preparations to leave Bethlehem. Their friends were sad to see them go.

It was a long journey across the Jordan River and around the Dead Sea. But finally the little group turned south toward Moab. In the land of Moab the people worshiped many gods, but Naomi taught her sons to believe in the one God of Israel.

Elimelech and his sons worked hard in their new land. They were happy together and had plenty of food to eat.

When they had been in Moab only a short time, Elimelech died, leaving Naomi alone with her two sons in a strange land.

The years passed, and Naomi's sons grew to manhood and married two beautiful girls from Moab. Mahlon married Ruth and Chilion married Orpah, and they dwelled in the land for about ten years.

Then sorrow came again to Naomi for her sons Mahlon and Chilion both died. Since the famine in Bethlehem was over, Naomi decided she would return to the land of her kinsfolk.

Naomi and her two daughters-in-law prepared to make the journey to Bethlehem. They had gone only a short distance when Naomi stopped. She turned to Ruth and Orpah and said, "Go, return each to your mother's house: the Lord deal kindly with you, as ye have dealt with the dead, and with me." Then she kissed them.

The two daughters wept and said to Naomi, "Surely we will return with thee unto thy people."

Naomi thanked them for their love but said it would be better for them to return to their own people and their familiar ways.

Finally Orpah kissed Naomi goodbye and returned to Moab. But Ruth would not leave.

Then Naomi said, "Behold, thy sister-in-law is gone back to her people; return thou after thy sister-in-law."

But Ruth replied, "Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God."

Naomi was grateful to Ruth, and together they journeyed to Bethlehem. When they reached the gates of the city, many people came to greet them. Naomi's sorrows had changed her so much that her friends and kinsfolk hardly recognized her.

"Call me not Naomi," she answered sadly. "Call me Mara, for I went away from here full, but have come back empty." And Naomi told her friends of the deaths of her husband, Elimelech, and their two sons.

The people of Bethlehem welcomed the two women, and Naomi and Ruth made their home in Bethlehem among Naomi's kinsmen and friends.

Ruth

Friend, March 1972

Ruth returned with her mother-in-law, Naomi, to Bethlehem in the beginning of the barley harvest. At harvest time there was a special law, known as the law of the gleaners, that allowed any who might be in need to follow after the reapers in the fields and glean the fallen spears of grain or ears of corn or clusters of grapes that had been overlooked.

One day Ruth suggested to Naomi, "Let me go out into the fields and glean the ears of corn."

Naomi answered, "Go, my daughter." And Ruth went to work in the nearby fields.

One day Boaz, the owner of the field in which Ruth was gleaning, visited the reapers in his fields and asked his servants about the new girl he saw working there. Boaz was told that she was a girl from Moab who had returned with her mother-in-law, Naomi, after the death of Elimelech and his sons.

Ruth was a good worker. A servant told Boaz that she had "continued even from the morning until now."

Then Boaz went to Ruth and said, "Go not to glean in another field, but abide here by my maidens." He not only told her to always come to his fields, but also that she could drink from the pure water that the young men brought from his well.

"Why have I found grace in thine eyes?" Ruth questioned. "I am a stranger."

Boaz answered, "I have heard of your devotion to your mother-in-law, and a full reward will be given thee by the Lord God of Israel."

Boaz then commanded his servants to let Ruth glean freely and told them to purposely leave handfuls of grain for her to gather.

When Ruth returned that evening with her gleanings, she told Naomi about the day's good fortune. And Naomi rejoiced.

The Lord blessed Ruth, and she gleaned in the fields of Boaz during the barley harvest and continued on through the wheat harvest.

Ruth found favor in the sight of Boaz, and one day Boaz purchased all of the belongings of Naomi's husband. Boaz went to the marketplace and said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses this day that I have bought from Naomi all that was Elimelech's and all that was Chilion's and Mahlon's. And Ruth the Moabitess will be my wife."

And all the people said, "We are witnesses, and the Lord bless your home!"

So Boaz married Ruth, and they took Naomi with them into their home.

Ruth had a son and they called his name Obed. And both Ruth and Naomi thanked the Lord for His many blessings to them.

ACTIVITY: Women in the Bible - Friend, May 2002

Across

1. The mother-in-law of Ruth, to whom Ruth said, “Thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God (see Ruth 1:heading, 16).
2. The wife of Joseph, son of Jacob, she gave birth to their two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim (see Gen. 41:45, 50–52).
3. Abraham’s servant prayed to find her, a righteous woman to be the wife of Isaac (see Gen. 24).
4. This queen risked her life to help her people (see Esth. 4:10–16).
5. God told Abraham that He would bless this woman, Abraham’s wife, to “be a mother of nations” (see Gen. 17:15–16).
6. This woman and her sister (see #3 Down) were friends of Jesus Christ, who raised their brother, Lazarus, from the dead (see John 11:1, 5, 41–44).

Down

1. “The mother of all living” (see Gen. 3:20).
2. The sister of #11 Across.
3. This woman, Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, were disciples of Jesus Christ and were healed by Him (see Luke 8:heading, 1–3).
4. This woman “was full of good deeds”; her other name is the answer to #7 Down (see Acts 9:36–41).
5. Peter raised this woman from the dead (see #6 Down).

Answers:

Across—(2) Naomi, (4) Asenath, (8) Rebekah, (9) Esther, (10) Sarah, (11) Mary. Down—(1) Eve, (3) Martha, (5) Susannah, (6) Tabitha, (7) Dorcas.

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27-Samuel, the Boy Prophet

(Samuel, the Boy Prophet)

SONG: I Believe in Being Honest, p. 149

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 2:26

LESSON: Friend, May 1983 - Hannah did not feel comforted, even after talking with her loving husband, Elkanah. She wanted to be a mother!

When Hannah entered the temple, she knelt to pray. "O Lord of hosts," she pleaded, "if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and ... wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the Lord all the days of his life."

Eli, the priest, was watching Hannah. Her lips were moving, but she prayed silently. He thought she was drunk, and he approached her, asking, "How long wilt thou be drunken?"

Hannah answered, "I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the Lord."

Understanding the intent of Hannah's heart, Eli said, "Go in peace: and [may] the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him."

The days seemed brighter for Hannah when she discovered that the Lord had answered her prayer. She was overjoyed when her beautiful baby boy was born, and she named him Samuel.

Hannah treasured every moment with Samuel. He learned to walk and to talk, and he was a great joy to his parents. Nevertheless, Hannah remembered her promise to dedicate her son's life to the Lord. When Samuel was old enough, she took him back to the temple. Samuel was to live there, seeing his parents only once a year when they came to worship. As difficult as it was to leave Samuel, Hannah was true to her promise. With gratitude she offered her son as a servant to the Lord.

There were many things to learn and do in the temple, and Samuel learned rapidly and was obedient. Eli's sons also worked in the temple, but they were wicked and disobedient. The Lord commanded Eli to correct his sons, but Eli ignored their wickedness.

One night after young Samuel had gone to bed, he heard a voice calling his name. Quickly he ran to Eli's side, saying, "Here am I; for thou calledst me."

"I called not," Eli responded; "lie down again."

Samuel obeyed Eli and returned to his bed. When he lay down again, he heard the same voice call his name.

Samuel hurried back to Eli's side, but Eli again denied calling him. Puzzled, Samuel returned to his room. A third time he clearly heard his name called, and again he returned to Eli.

This time Eli realized that it must be the Lord who was calling Samuel. He said, "Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, Lord; for thy servant heareth."

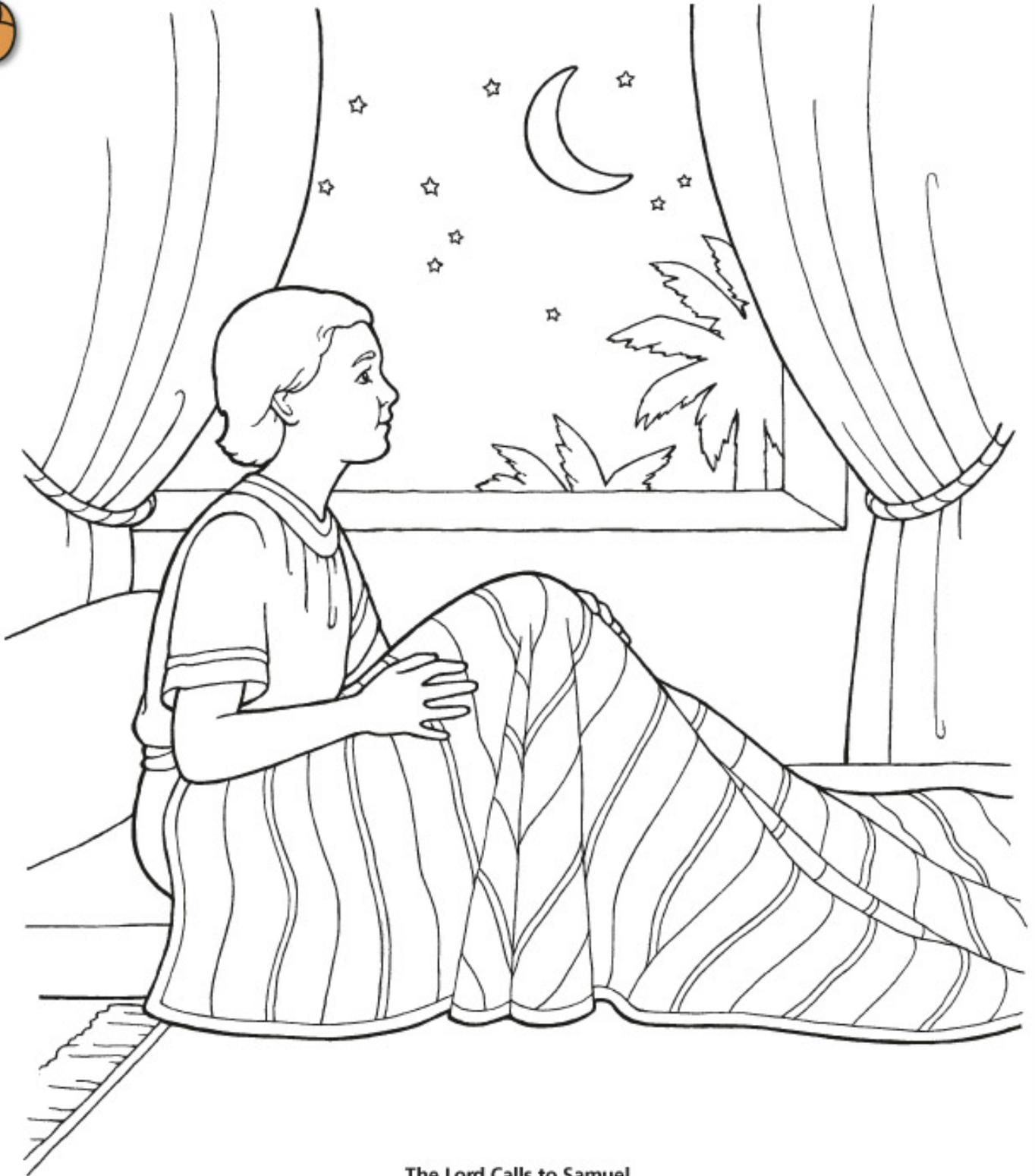
Samuel returned to bed and waited. Once more the Lord came and called, "Samuel, Samuel."

This time Samuel responded, "Speak; for thy servant heareth."

The Lord then told Samuel that because Eli's sons were disobedient and because Eli did not control them, they would be punished and Samuel would become the new prophet.

Because of his diligence and obedience, Samuel continued to learn and grow. The Lord was with him, and all Israel knew that Samuel had been called to be a prophet of the Lord.

ACTIVITY: Coloring Page - Samuel - Friend, June 2010



The Lord Calls to Samuel

The Lord called Samuel: and he answered, Here am I
(1 Samuel 3:4).

28-David and Goliath

(David and Goliath)

SONG: Nephi's Courage, p. 120

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 17:32

LESSON: Friend, June 1990 - David was a shepherd boy. His father asked him to leave his flock and take food to his brothers in the Israelite army.

When he arrived at their army camp, David saw a nine-foot giant shouting at the Israelite army. The giant's name was Goliath, and the Israelites were afraid of him. Every morning and night for forty days Goliath had challenged them to choose one soldier to fight him, but none of them had had the courage for such an uneven fight.

When David said that he would fight the giant, his brothers became angry with him. But David knew that God would help and protect him. He refused the armor and weapons offered to him. Instead, he took his sling and gathered five smooth stones from a streambed. When Goliath saw the young boy, he laughed and made fun of him. But David said, "This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand." As the giant approached, David fitted his sling with a stone. He slung the stone, and it hit Goliath in the forehead. Goliath fell to the ground, dead, and the rest of Goliath's army ran away.

ACTIVITY: Friend, June 1990 - Circle the correct answer to each question, then color all the pictures.

Or David and Goliath - Friend, July 2002 - To reenact this great Old Testament account, mount page 33 on poster board or heavy paper. Then cut out the background scenery, Goliath, David's arm and sling, and the stone-throwing device. With a pencil point, punch a small hole in David's arm and shoulder at **A**, the scenery and stone-throwing device at **B**, and Goliath's foot and the scenery at **C**. Then attach the moving parts with paper fasteners as shown in the illustration (with the stone-throwing device on the back of the scenery). Whenever you feel tempted to do something wrong, remember President Hinckley's promise. Remind yourself of David's victory by swinging his arm and sling, flinging the stone to hit Goliath on the head, and then making him crash onto his back.

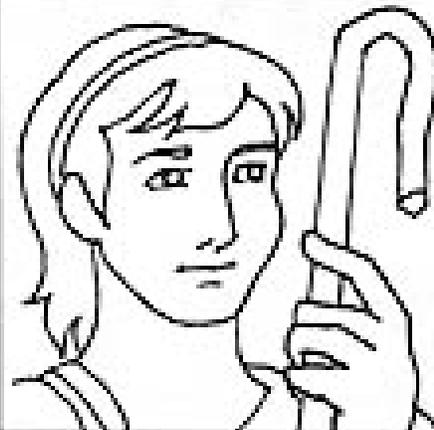
Or Coloring Page - David & Goliath - Friend, July 2010

Circle the correct answer to each question,
then color all the pictures.

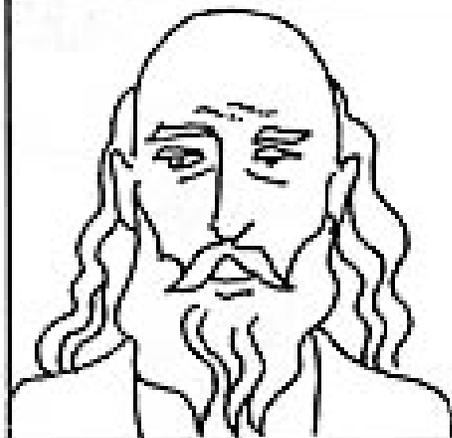
1. How old was David in this story?



baby



shepherd boy



old man

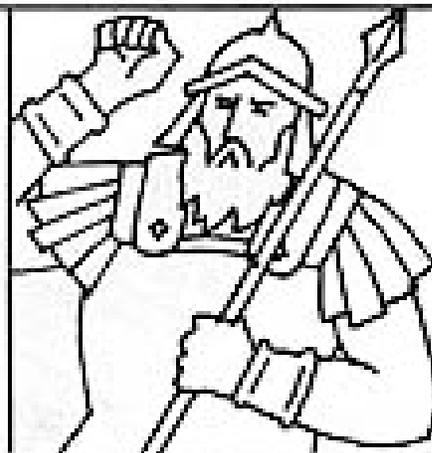
2. What did Goliath look like?



shepherd

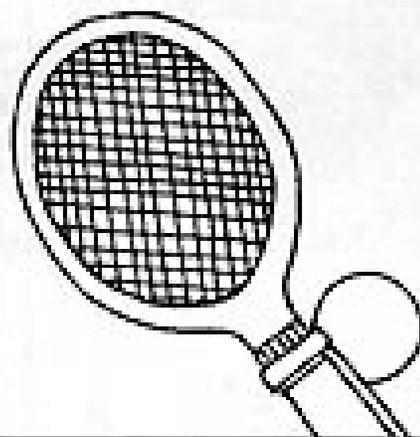


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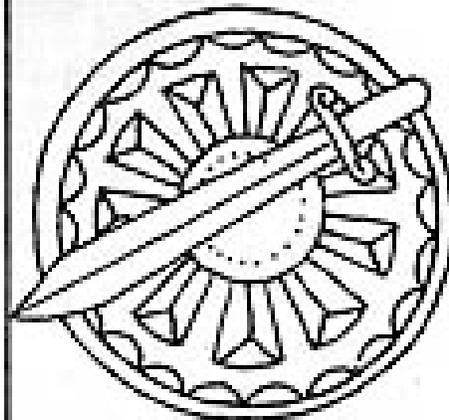


giant

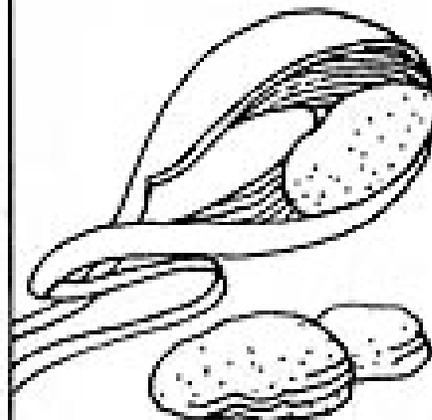
3. What weapon did David use when he fought Goliath?



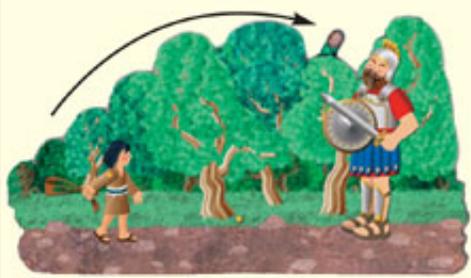
tennis racket



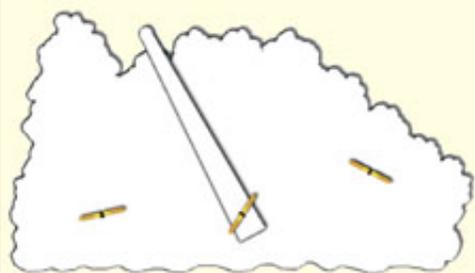
sword and shield



sling and stones



Front



Back



C

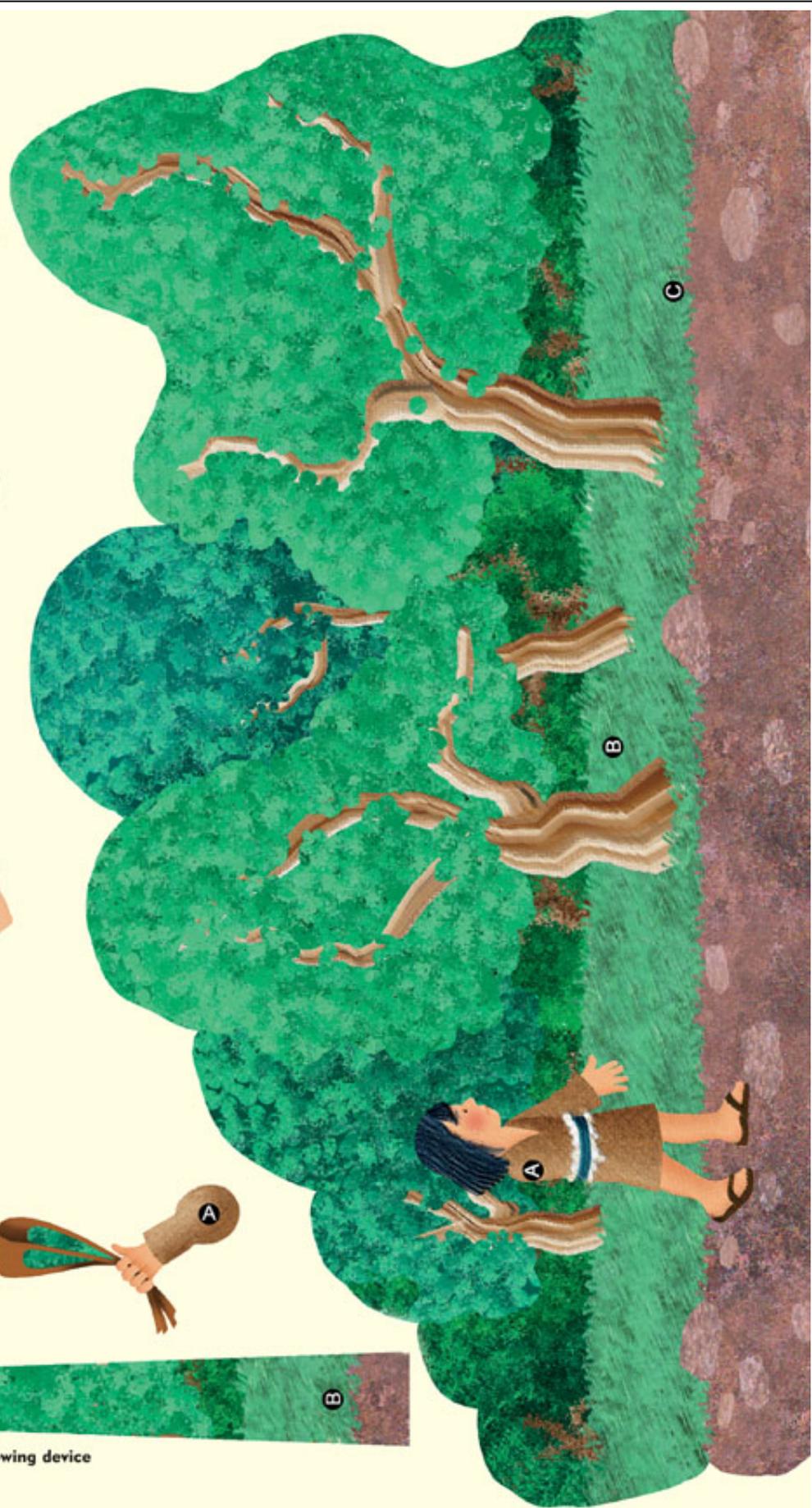


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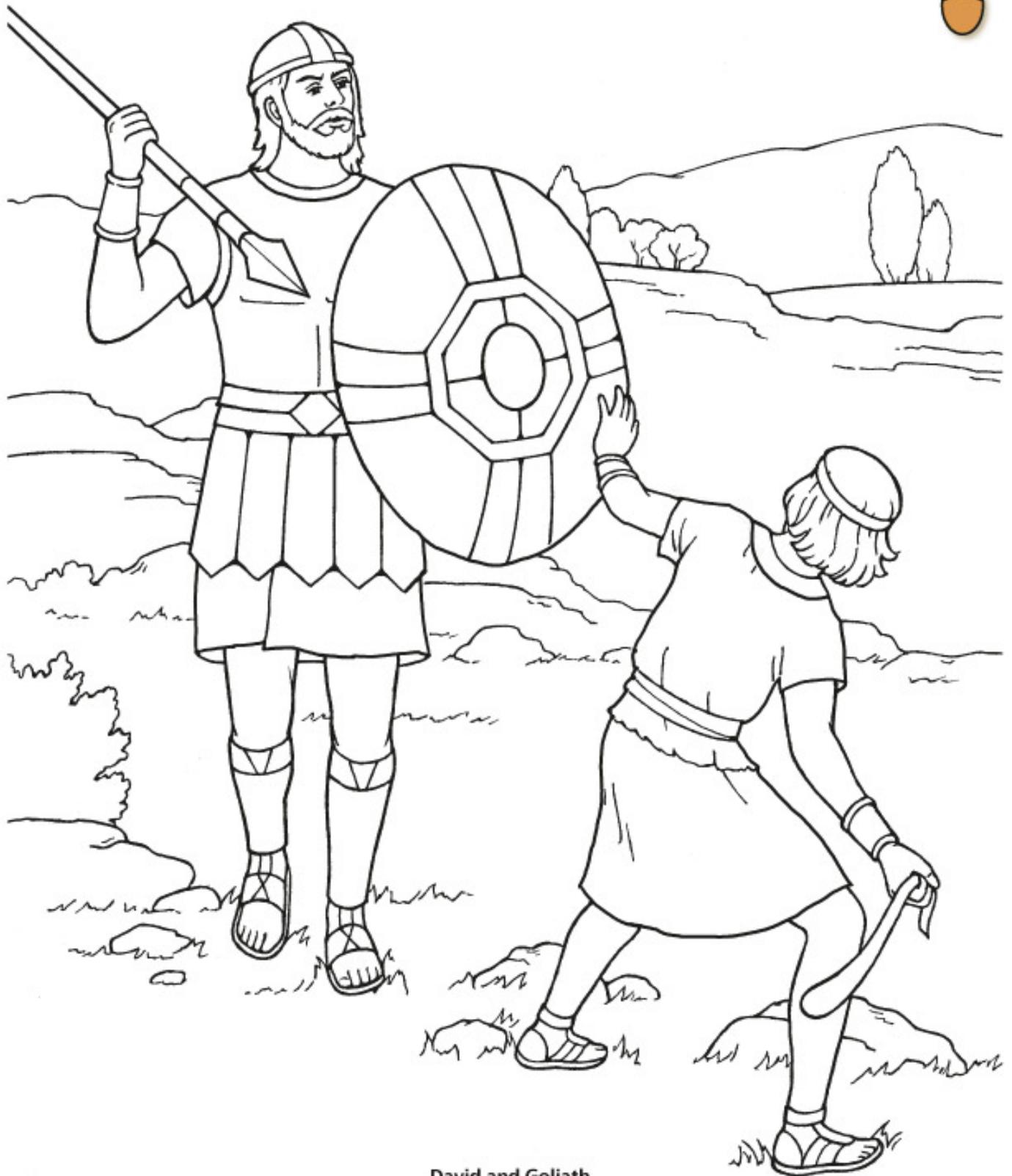
Stone throwing device



A

B

C



David and Goliath

*Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield:
but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel (1 Samuel 17:45).*

29-Friends Forever

(David and Jonathan)

SONG: Choose the Right Way, p. 160

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 21:11

LESSON: Friend, March 1976 - After David had slain Goliath, King Saul was so impressed with the young man's ability and courage that he took him into his own household. It was there that David became the best of friends with Jonathan, Saul's oldest son. Their admiration for each other quickly developed into such a strong bond that the Bible says, "the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David and Jonathan loved him as his own soul." And the two made a covenant to honor their friendship forever.

So strongly did Jonathan feel about their pledge that he "stripped himself of the robe that was upon him, and gave it to David, and his garments, even to his sword, and to his bow, and to his girdle [belt]."

Whatever task King Saul gave to David he excelled at it. And when Saul set David over a legion of soldiers to fight against the Philistines, he was victorious. The Israelites had accepted David as a great leader and when he returned from the fighting there was singing and dancing and much celebrating. As the women played their instruments and sang, they rejoiced and called to one another, "Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands."

To hear such praise heaped upon David caused Saul to become very angry, and the seeds of jealousy and suspicion began to grow in his heart. The next day, as he had done many times before to soothe Saul's nerves, David played his harp for the king. But the music didn't gentle the king's soul. Instead, a spirit of evil entered his heart, and he threw a javelin (spear) he was holding at David and tried to kill him—not once but twice. However, the deadly javelin missed David both times as he dodged out of the way.

King Saul then made David his captain over a thousand soldiers, hoping that he would be killed in battle. But "David behaved himself wisely in all his ways; and the Lord was with him. Wherefore ... Saul ... was afraid of him. But all Israel and Judah loved David."

When he was unsuccessful in getting rid of David as he had planned, Saul ordered all his servants and also Jonathan to slay David. But Jonathan had covenanted with David to be his friend, so he warned David to go into hiding. Then he pleaded with his father, "Let not the king sin against his servant ... David; because he hath not sinned against thee, and because his works have been to thee-ward very good."

Jonathan reminded his father how valiant David had been in battle and how he had saved Israel from their Philistine enemies. He concluded by saying, "Thou sawest it, and didst

rejoice: wherefore then wilt thou sin against innocent blood, to slay David without a cause?"

Saul's heart softened at these words, and he promised that his son's friend would not be slain. Jonathan was very happy and brought David to be reunited with Saul. But when there was a war again and David and his army were victorious, King Saul was furious that the Lord so favored David. When David innocently played and sang as before for the king, an evil spirit entered into Saul and again he tried to kill David with his javelin. But it just missed David and thudded into the wall next to him.

David fled into the night and Saul in his fierce anger sent messengers after him to slay him. Saul's changeable attitude was frightening and puzzling to David. When he met secretly with his friend Jonathan, he said, "What have I done? what is mine iniquity? and what is my sin before thy father, that he seeketh my life?"

It was difficult for Jonathan to believe that his father would break his promise to let David live. But when Saul in his fury tried to kill Jonathan, too, Jonathan warned David by a prearranged signal of spent arrows that his friend's life was in great danger.

When the two friends knew that for David's safety they must part, they kissed one another as brothers and wept bitterly. "And Jonathan said to David, Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the name of the Lord, saying, The Lord be between me and thee, and between my seed and thy seed for ever. And he arose and departed: and Jonathan went into the city." (1 Sam. 18-20.)

ACTIVITY: What Kind of Friend Are You - Friend, May 2009

Take this quiz to see how well you are doing at being a friend. Mark the circle under each question that best describes you. Then add up your responses to find out what kind of friend you are.

1. I take turns and play honestly.

Almost Always

Sometimes

Not Often

2. I am courteous to others, even if I do not agree with them.

Almost Always

Sometimes

Not Often

3. My friends know that I try to choose the right, even when others aren't watching.

Almost Always

Sometimes

Not Often

4. I find ways to show people I care about them, especially when they are sad.

Almost Always

Sometimes

Not Often

5. I am kind to others. I am not rude or mean.

Almost Always

Sometimes

Not Often

6. When I tell somebody that I'll do something for him or her, I do it.

Almost Always

Sometimes

Not Often

7. I look for opportunities to share my testimony with others.

Almost Always

Sometimes

Not Often

8. I make an effort to be a good example to people around me.

Almost Always

Sometimes

Not Often

For each “Almost Always” answer, give yourself three points. For each “Sometimes” answer, give yourself two points, and for each “Not Often” answer, give yourself one point.

19–24 Super Friend

You are not just a good friend—you are a great friend! People trust you and enjoy spending time with you because you make them feel good about themselves.

11–18 Good Friend

People like to spend time with you. You try to play fair and respect others. Although you might do something unfriendly every once in a while, you learn from your mistakes and try to do better.

8–10 Learning to Be a Friend

Being a friend can sometimes be difficult, but you have what it takes to be a friend who people like to spend time with. Continue to think of ways you can be kind to others. Even though being a friend can be hard work, you’ll feel great as you do nice things for others.

30-Spring Cleaning

(King David and Bathsheba)

SONG: Dare to Do Right, p. 158

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 6:11

LESSON: Friend, March 2004 – President Hinckley - When I was a boy living in Salt Lake City, most homes were heated with coal stoves. Black smoke belched forth from almost every chimney. As winter came to a close, black soot and grime were everywhere, both inside and outside of the house.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Our bodies are sacred. They were created in the image of God. They are marvelous, the crowning creation of Deity. I cannot understand why anyone would knowingly wish to

injure his body. And yet it happens around us every day as [people] drink alcoholic beverages and use illegal drugs. What a scourge these are.

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

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

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

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

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

Be clean in dress and manner.

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

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

ACTIVITY: Ye are the Temple of God - Friend, May 2002 - Find your way through the maze. When you get to a picture, follow the path that represents your choice. Choose the Yes path if the picture shows something that helps you keep your body "a temple of God." Choose the No path if it is something that would not be good for your mind or body.

Draw small pictures of five other things that are good for you, and five things you should avoid. Place your pictures over corresponding good-and bad-choice pictures in the maze.



31-The Wisdom of Solomon

(The Wisdom of King Solomon)

SONG: I Am a Child of God, p. 2

SCRIPTURE: 1 Kings 3:28

LESSON: Friend, Aug-Sept 1983 - One night after King Solomon, son of David, had offered sacrifices, the Lord appeared to him in a dream. Knowing that Solomon had an honest heart, the Lord said, "Ask what I shall give thee."

Solomon told the Lord that being the king of the chosen people was very difficult for him. He said he felt like a little child who did not know what to do. His people were so numerous that they could not even be counted. Humbly Solomon said to the Lord, "Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad."

Solomon had not asked for selfish things like riches, a long life, or victory over his enemies. He had asked for a blessing to make him a good leader. The Lord was pleased with Solomon and answered, "Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee."

One day two women stood before Solomon. They had a serious disagreement. They lived together in the same house, and each had given birth to a baby. During the night the baby of one woman died. She took the dead child and placed him in the arms of the other mother, who was sleeping. Then she took the living child and pretended it was her baby.

In the morning, when the real mother saw the dead child in her arms, she knew it was not hers. She recognized the living child in the other woman's arms as her own and accused the woman of taking her baby.

The woman replied, "Nay; but the living is my son, and the dead is thy son."

Unable to settle the argument, the two women asked Solomon to decide who the mother of the living child was.

Wise King Solomon turned to his servants and commanded, "Bring me a sword." When the sword was brought, the king commanded, "Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one [woman], and half to the other."

The real mother's heart ached. She could not let her baby be cut in half. She cried to the king, "O my lord, give her the living child, and in no wise slay it."

The other woman said, "Let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it."

King Solomon realized that the real mother would never allow her baby to be killed. He now knew which woman was the baby's real mother, and he said, "Give her the living child ... she is the mother thereof."

All Israel heard of Solomon's judgment, and during his reign kings and queens from all the world came to hear him speak and to receive his advice.

ACTIVITY: Coloring Page - Solomon - Friend, February 1993



2. SOLOMON

32- Some Scriptural Lessons on Leadership

(Rehoboam)

SONG: Families Can Be Together Forever, p. 188

SCRIPTURE: Moses 1:39

LESSON: Ensign, May 1990 – Spencer J. Condie - I wish to extend a warm welcome to the new members of the Church who “are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God.” (Eph. 2:19.)

Inasmuch as many of you newly baptized members will soon be called to serve as leaders at different times in various Church callings, I would like to share some short scriptural lessons on leadership.

In the Pearl of Great Price we learn that as Moses was called to become a prophet of God, he was taken to a mountaintop, where he beheld a panoramic view of all of God’s wondrous creations. Jehovah gave him a vision of his immediate goal, which was to “deliver my people from bondage.” (Moses 1:26.) The Lord then explained his long-term goal: “This is my work and my glory—to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man.” (Moses 1:39.)

From the Book of Mormon we read of the young prophet Nephi who also beheld a vision on a mountain. (See 1 Ne. 11:1.) Once he had envisioned the promised land, he could not be dissuaded from building a ship that would take him there. (See 1 Ne. 17–18.) Once parents have a vision of a son dressed in a missionary suit or of a daughter in the temple dressed in white, then family home evening, family prayer, and scripture study assume their proper place in every home. From Moses and Nephi we learn that *a leader must have a vision of the work which lies ahead.*

Following the Great Exodus from Egypt to the land of promise, the children of Israel were governed by judges for a period of more than three centuries (1429 to 1095 B.C.). These judges were then succeeded by a series of kings, the first of whom was Saul, anointed by the prophet Samuel. (See 1 Sam. 8–10.) For decades Saul enjoyed the adulation and support of the people. But then, lifted up in the pride of his heart, he disregarded the counsel of the Lord’s prophet. At that point Samuel reminded him of the time when he was little in his own sight (see 1 Sam. 15:17) and taught him that immortal lesson: “To obey is better than sacrifice” (1 Sam. 15:22). From Saul’s life we learn that *a leader must be humble and obedient.*

Saul was succeeded by King David, whose forty-year reign is considered by many to be the golden age of Israelite history. Indeed, Jerusalem became known as the City of David. But notwithstanding his great leadership abilities, he was tempted to commit a very grievous sin, which he then compounded with an even greater sin. From King David’s life we learn

that even kings must be careful. *Leadership positions do not totally protect us from temptation.*

Following the death of David, his son Solomon ascended to the throne. At the beginning of his reign, Solomon prayed in deep humility: "O Lord my God, ... I am but a little child. ... Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people." And God *did* give him "a wise and an understanding heart." (1 Kgs. 3:7, 9, 12.)

Armed with the Spirit of the Lord, Solomon became God's instrument in building the holy temple for which Israel had hoped and prayed for many generations. But with the passage of time Solomon took him wives outside of Israel "and his wives turned away his heart" and he "did evil in the sight of the Lord." (1 Kgs. 11:3, 6.) From Solomon we can learn that *knowledge and wisdom alone do not qualify people to lead.* Perhaps Jacob said it best: "To be learned is good if they hearken unto the counsels of God." (2 Ne. 9:29.)

After Solomon's forty-year reign, his son Rehoboam went to Shechem to be made the king. He sought the counsel of the elders regarding how he should rule. "And they spake unto him, saying, If thou wilt be a servant unto this people this day, and wilt serve *them*, and answer *them*, and speak good words to *them*, then *they* will be *thy* servants for ever." (1 Kgs. 12:7; italics added.) The Savior gave his disciples similar counsel when he taught them, "If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all." (Mark 9:35.) Within the kingdom of God, *to lead is to serve.*

But Rehoboam rejected the counsel which required him to humble himself and to serve others. Instead, he chose to reign over Israel with a very heavy hand, thus causing a great division into the northern Kingdom of Israel and the southern Kingdom of Judah. (See 1 Kgs. 12:20.)

For the next 220 years the people generally set aside their sacred covenants, thus wandering in the ways of the world. Then a young man named Hezekiah began to reign in Judah. "And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord," and "He trusted in the Lord God of Israel." (2 Kgs. 18:3, 5.)

Hezekiah gathered together the priesthood bearers of the day and said, "Hear me, ye Levites, sanctify now yourselves, and sanctify the house of the Lord God of your fathers, and carry forth the filthiness out of the holy place." (2 Chr. 29:5.) "Be not ye like your fathers, and like your brethren, which trespassed against the Lord God ... but yield yourselves unto the Lord, ... and serve the Lord your God." (2 Chr. 30:7-8.)

In response to this assertive leader, who was supported by the prophet Isaiah, "the Lord hearkened to Hezekiah, and healed the people" (2 Chr. 30:20), and "in their set office they sanctified themselves in holiness" (2 Chr. 31:18).

From King Hezekiah, as from King Benjamin (see Mosiah 2-5), we can learn a very positive lesson on leadership: circumstances do not always need to remain the same. Leaders *can*

make a difference! *Faith in the Lord and high expectations can bring about a mighty change of heart* among an entire people.

One of the great teachers and prophet-leaders in Israel was Ezra, who “had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments.” (Ezra 7:10.) As Saints of the latter days, we are grateful for a modern-day Ezra, even our beloved prophet, Ezra Taft Benson, who, like Ezra of old, has prepared himself to receive the word of the Lord and is prepared to do the Lord’s will. I bear you my witness that there is a living prophet in Israel today.

Another great leader who continually sought the will of the Lord was the Prophet Joseph Smith. His very life exemplified Paul’s admonition to live the gospel that we preach. (See 1 Cor. 9:14.) A great strength of the Prophet was his ability to delegate and develop leadership skills in those around him. The expedition of Zion’s Camp is but one example of Joseph’s leadership based upon the principle “Come Follow Me.” (See Luke 18:22.) At the conclusion of Zion’s Camp, the Prophet gave the newly organized high council detailed instructions regarding their callings and then told them, “If I should now be taken away, I [have] accomplished the great work the Lord [has] laid before me.” (*History of the Church*, 2:124.) Long before his martyrdom the Prophet Joseph was diligently training those who would continue to lead the kingdom after he was gone. Here is another important lesson of leadership: *Leaders are duty-bound and obligated to prepare others to take their place* at some future time. Brothers and sisters, the cemeteries are filled with leaders who thought they were indispensable.

Among the most righteous and effective leaders to ever walk the earth was Enoch, who persistently sought to save every single soul.

“And the Lord called his people Zion, because they were of one heart and one mind, and dwelt in righteousness. ...

“And lo, Zion, in process of time, was taken up into heaven.” (Moses 7:18, 21.)

Note the reference to the “process of time.” A great leader must have high expectations, tempered with patience. In section 107 of the Doctrine and Covenants we learn that Enoch was “four hundred and thirty years old when he was translated.” (Moses 7:49.) Brothers and sisters, I rest my case: *perfection takes a long, long time*. But still, we are commanded to become perfect, even as our Father in Heaven is perfect. (See Matt. 5:48; 3 Ne. 12:48.)

From the most exemplary life of all, even that of the Savior Jesus Christ, we learn perhaps the most important lesson of all. As the Savior was in the depths of suffering in the Garden of Gethsemane, he prayed that the bitter cup might pass from him, adding in meekness and lowliness of heart: “Nevertheless not *my* will, but *thine*, be done.” (Luke 22:42; italics added.) *A leader in the Lord’s kingdom must be meek and lowly of heart*. (See Alma 37:34.)

May each of us engaged in the work of the Lord perform *His* work in *His* way, “by persuasion, by long-suffering, by gentleness and meekness, and by love unfeigned;

“By kindness, and pure knowledge ...

“Reproving betimes with sharpness, when moved upon by the Holy Ghost; and then showing forth afterwards an increase of love.” (D&C 121:41–43.)

I humbly pray, in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

ACTIVITY: Primary 6, Lesson 32 - Write situations such as the following on slips of paper and put them in a container. Have each class member draw out a slip of paper and then take turns telling how they should respond to the situation. Remind the children that they can be a positive influence on others in many ways.

You have a friend who often asks you to skip school and spend the day playing. How could you be a positive influence on your friend?

You are staying the night at a friend’s house. Every night before getting into bed you kneel down and say your prayers, but you know your friend does not have that habit. What could you do when it is time to say your prayers?

A group of your friends wants you to go to a movie with them. You know that your parents consider the movie to be inappropriate, but your friends beg you to go. How could you be a positive influence on your friends?

You want to go to church on Sundays, but some friends want you to stay home and play soccer with them. How could you be a positive influence on your friends?

You have a friend who wants you to go with her to help a widow who lives down the street. You would rather play. What should you do? Why?

Ask the children to share experiences they have had or have observed when someone’s example has influenced others for good.

33. The Miraculous Story of Elijah!

(Elijah Uses the Priesthood)

SONG: Truth from Elijah, p. 90

SCRIPTURE: D&C 2:1, 2

LESSON: Friend, February 1983 - The promise the Lord made through his prophets was that a time would come when everyone, living or dead, would have the opportunity for baptism and temple blessings.

About 900 years before Christ, Elijah had the keys, or authority, to use priesthood sealing powers on earth and in heaven. In the latter days his mission was to bring that authority back to earth so that genealogy and temple work could be done.

ACTIVITY: Read the statements about Elijah, then number the pictures to match the statements.

1. Because the people were wicked, Elijah sealed the heavens so that it wouldn't rain.
2. Ravens brought food to Elijah during the famine.
3. A widow shared her last flour and oil with Elijah and was promised her supply would last.
4. The widow's son became sick and died. God answered Elijah's prayers, and the boy lived again.
5. Elijah called down fire from heaven in a contest with the wicked priests of Baal, hoping the people would then believe in the true God.
6. Elijah divided the waters of the Jordan River by hitting the water with his mantle, or cloak.
7. Elijah did not die, but was taken to heaven in a chariot of fire.
8. About 400 B.C. the prophet Malachi prophesied that Elijah would return the power and keys for sealing to the earth.
9. On September 21, 1823, Moroni appeared to Joseph Smith. After telling Joseph about the golden plates, Moroni quoted Malachi and foretold Elijah's coming.
10. On April 3, 1836, Elijah came to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery in the Kirtland Temple in Ohio. Because the prophecy of Malachi was fulfilled, families can now be sealed for eternity, and genealogy and temple work is done for the dead.





Elijah Praying



Dividing the Waters



Idol

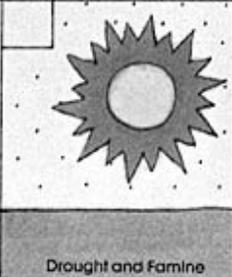
Priests



Kirtlan's Temple



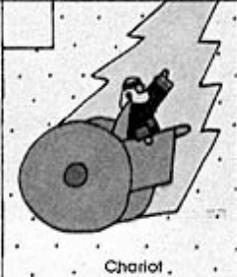
Moroni



Drought and Famine



Raven



Chariot



Old Testament Prophecy



Flour and Oil

34-Bread Enough to Eat

(Elijah and the False Prophets of Baal)

SONG: I Pray in Faith, p. 14

SCRIPTURE: Pslam 55:17

LESSON: Friend, January 1976 - King Ahab was a wicked man and “did more to provoke [Heavenly Father] than all the kings of Israel that were before him.”

Besides the many other evil things they did, Ahab and his followers worshiped graven images of wood and stone. They also believed in a false god named Baal.

Hoping to humble these foolish and proud people, the prophet Elijah was sent by the Lord to warn them. Elijah told the king how displeased our Heavenly Father was with him and with his people’s wickedness. He warned the king that there would be no rain or even dew in the land until the Lord permitted it.

The Lord then commanded Elijah to go secretly and live by the brook Cherith where ravens would bring him food to eat each morning and evening. As promised, the birds fed Elijah faithfully. But in time the brook dried up because there had been no rain. The Lord then directed Elijah to go to Zarephath and dwell with a widow who lived there. When he arrived in that city Elijah saw the widow gathering sticks. Thirsty from his journey he said to her, “Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.” As she turned to go for the water, Elijah also asked if he might have a little piece of bread.

“As the Lord thy God liveth,” the woman answered, “I have not a cake [bread], but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse [jar]: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it [make a small loaf of bread] for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.”

Elijah’s heart was touched by her words. He knew that there was famine in the land because the grain needed precious rainwater and full streams to make it grow.

Nevertheless, the prophet tested the woman’s faith and, hoping to ease her mind, he said, “Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me a little cake [bread] first, and bring it unto me, and after make [bread] for thee and for thy son.

“For thus saith the Lord God of Israel, the barrel of meal [flour] shall not waste [become empty], neither shall the cruse of oil fail [run dry], until the day that the Lord sendeth the rain upon the earth.”

And it was true as the Lord promised through his prophet. Each day there was enough meal and oil for the widow and her son and Elijah to have bread to eat.

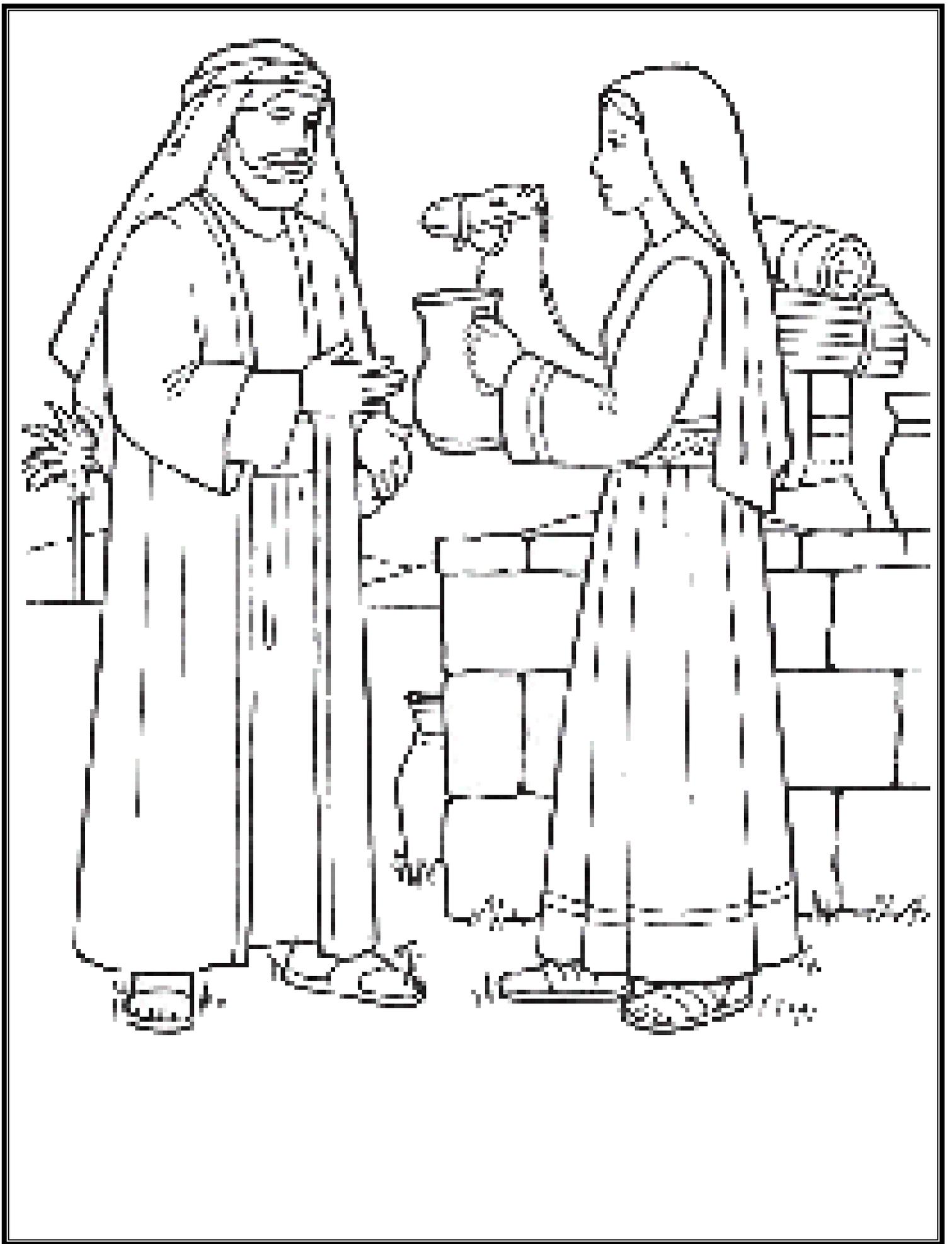
One day the widow's son suddenly became so ill that there was "no breath left in him." The woman was heartbroken over the death of her son and blamed Elijah, thinking that he had been sent by the Lord to punish her for some wrongdoing.

Elijah, however, was unable to explain the boy's death and asked for permission to take the lifeless body up to his own room. There he pleaded with the Lord to "let this child's life come into him again."

The prophet's sincere prayer was answered and, when he carried the boy down to his weeping mother, Elijah said, "See, thy son liveth."

With a thankful heart the widow replied, "Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in thy mouth is truth."

ACTIVITY: Coloring Page - Elijah - PrimaryClipart.com



35-Naaman the Syrian

(Naaman is Healed)

SONG: I Will Be Valiant, p. 162

SCRIPTURE: Alma 53:20-21

LESSON: Friend, February 1987 - As captain of the king's army, Naaman was an important man in the country of Syria. He was a good and valiant man, but he was a leper. Naaman's wife had a little maid from the land of Israel. She told her mistress that if Naaman were with the prophet in Samaria, the prophet would heal him. When the king of Syria heard this, he sent Naaman to the king of Israel with gifts of silver and gold and a letter asking the king of Israel to heal Naaman of his leprosy.

The king of Israel rent his clothes because he knew that he could not make Naaman well. When Elisha the prophet heard about the situation, he sent this message to the king: "Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? let him [Naaman] come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel."

So Naaman went with his horses and his chariot and stood at the door of Elisha's house. The prophet sent a messenger out to tell Naaman that if he washed himself in the Jordan River seven times he would be healed. This message made Naaman angry. He exclaimed, "Behold, I thought, He [Elisha] will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place, and [heal me]."

"Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean?" Naaman stomped off in a rage. But his servants followed him and said, "If the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?"

Naaman thought it over, then went to the Jordan River and washed himself seven times as the prophet Elisha had instructed him. When he came out of the river, he was completely healed. Naaman returned to Elisha's house, happy and thankful. He told the prophet that he knew that he had been healed by the power of God, and he promised that from then on he would worship only God.

ACTIVITY: Follow Me - Friend, July 2003 - cut out the large rectangle and the individual maze pieces. Locate the scripture referred to on each maze piece, read it, find the person or persons mentioned in that scripture on the large rectangle, and glue that piece of the maze on that part of the large rectangle. Find the path that leads to the Savior. Display the maze as a reminder of your choice to follow Jesus Christ.

Alma and Helam are baptized.

The 2,000 warriors do not doubt.

Paul testifies of Jesus Christ.

Nephi tells his father that he will obey the Lord.



Enos prays and is blessed.

Peter and Andrew put down their nets and follow the Savior.

The sons of Mosiah search the scriptures.

Jacob goes to the temple.

Jesus' disciples partake of the sacrament.

Ten lepers obey and are healed.

Naaman obeys the prophet Elisha.

The children of Israel keep the Sabbath day holy.



Alma 53:22;
56:46-48, 54-56

Exodus 31:12-17

Enos 1:4-5

Luke 17:11-19

Acts 18:5

Matthew 4:18-20

1 Nephi 3:7

Jacob 2:2

Mosiah 18:12-14

Matthew 26:26-28

Alma 17:2

2 Kings 5:1-17

36- Isaiah Prophecies of the Savior

(The Prophet Isaiah)

SONG: Samuel Tells of the Baby Jesus, p. 36

SCRIPTURE: 1 Nephi 10:5

LESSON: Friend, December 2001 - These words of the Savior to the Nephites tell us just how important Isaiah's prophecies are to us, too. Isaiah, a prophet who lived over seven hundred years before Jesus Christ, told how we should live our lives by having faith in Him and by obeying His commandments.†

Because the Savior had not yet come to live on the earth, Isaiah told of His birth, His ministry here, and His death and resurrection:

“For unto us a child is born, ... and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God. ...

“[He will be] a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy ... , a refuge from the storm. ...

“He [will be] despised and rejected of men; ... taken from prison and from judgment: ... for the transgression of my people [will he be] stricken. ...

“He will swallow up death in victory.”‡

Isaiah also told about the Second Coming of Jesus Christ:

“And it shall come to pass in the last days, that ... the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, ... and all nations shall flow unto it. ...

“And he shall judge among the nations, and ... nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. ...

“The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid[,] and the calf and the young lion ... ; and a little child shall lead them. ...

“The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord. ...

“He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces. ...

“And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; ... we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

“Now therefore, ... saith the Lord, ... my people shall know my name: therefore they shall know in that day that I am he that doth speak.”**

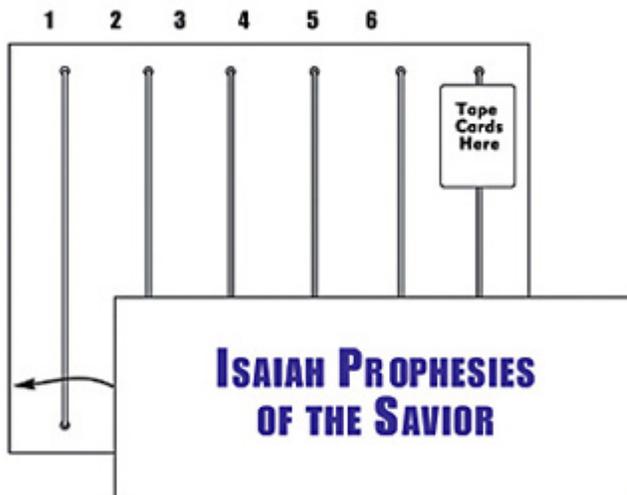
As we study the words of the prophets and do our best to live the gospel, we, too, look forward to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. As we hear the gospel from our parents and teachers, and as we study the scriptures and listen to our living prophets, we can say with Isaiah, “How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that ... saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!”††

ACTIVITY: Isaiah Prophecies of the Savior - Friend, December 2001 - Cut a piece of poster board 11" x 14" (28 cm x 35.6 cm). Draw a line 3/4" (2 cm) from the edge of the long sides on both the top and the bottom. Mark places for six holes on each line 2" (5 cm) apart so that they line up from the top to the bottom; punch the holes (see illustration).

Cut six pieces of string 24" (61 cm) long. Thread a piece of string through a top and a corresponding bottom hole, tie taut, and trim ends. Repeat this procedure with the remaining strings (see illustration).

Pull the knots to the bottom holes. Cut a piece of poster board 5 1/2" x 14" (14 cm x 35.6 cm). Tape three outside edges of this poster board over the bottom of the strings poster board (unknotted side) to form a pocket over the strings (see illustration). Print “Isaiah Prophecies of the Savior” on the pocket.

Tape the back of each picture to the corresponding numbered string so that each shows above the pocket (see illustration). Lower the pictures behind the pocket by raising the string knots on the back. Pull each picture into view as you retell “Isaiah Prophecies of the Savior”.





37-Josiah-Believer in the Scriptures

(Josiah and Ezra Read the Scriptures to the People)

SONG: The Eight Article of Faith, p. 127

SCRIPTURE: Moroni 10:4-5.

LESSON: Friend, February 1998 - Josiah was only eight years old when he became king of Judah. His father had been a wicked king, but Josiah chose to be righteous. When he had been king for several years, he ordered that the temple be repaired. While that was being done, the "book of the law" (scriptures) was found. The high priest sent it to King Josiah, who studied it carefully. To his dismay, he discovered that he and his people had not been living the gospel. He wept when he realized that they had been worshiping idols (false gods). He ordered that the idols be destroyed.

The Lord saw that Josiah wished to be obedient and live according to the scriptures, and promised him that though Jerusalem would one day be destroyed because of its wickedness, it would not happen while he was king.

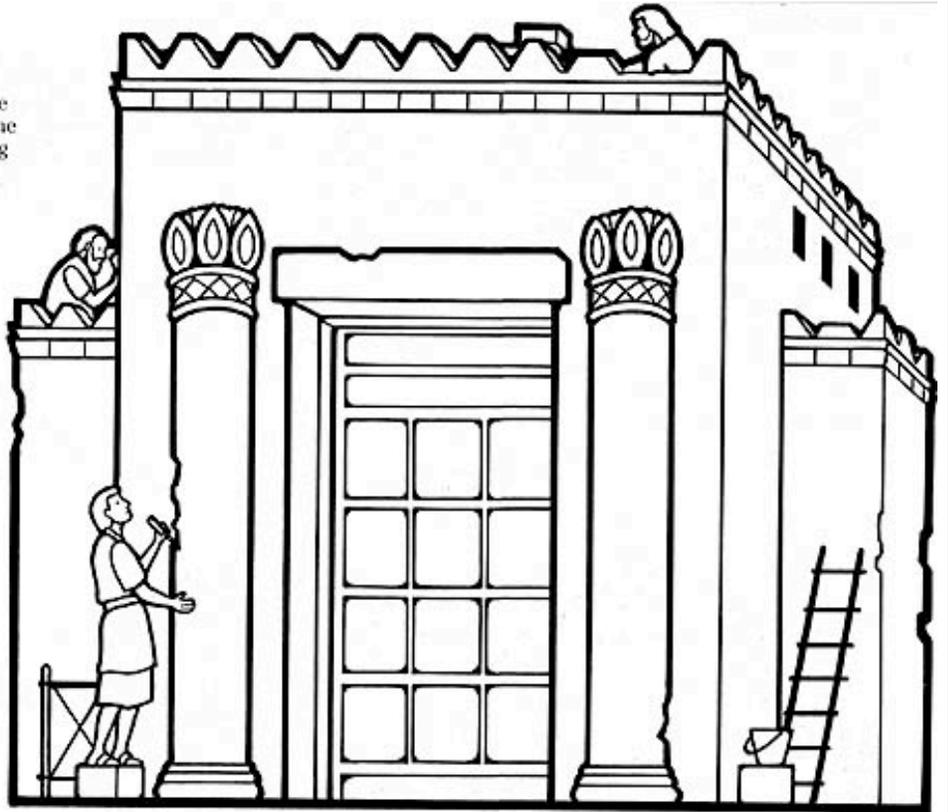
King Josiah had all the people brought before the temple. As he stood next to a pillar, he read to them from the book of law. He then had them make a sacred covenant to "walk after the Lord, and to keep his commandments ... with all their heart and all their soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book" (2 Kgs. 23:3). All the people agreed. Josiah tried all his life to live by the scriptures, and he tried to teach his people to do the same.

Though his people did not remain faithful after his death, Josiah was such a righteous man that it was said, "like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the Lord with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; neither after him arose there any like him" (2 Kgs. 23:25).

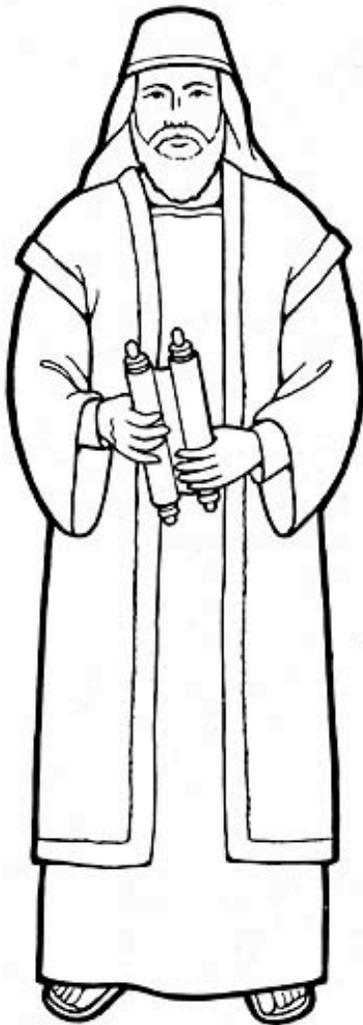
ACTIVITY: Josiah, Believer in the Scriptures - Friend, February 1998 - Color the flannel board figures, then mount them on heavy paper. Cut them out and use them to retell the story of righteous King Josiah.



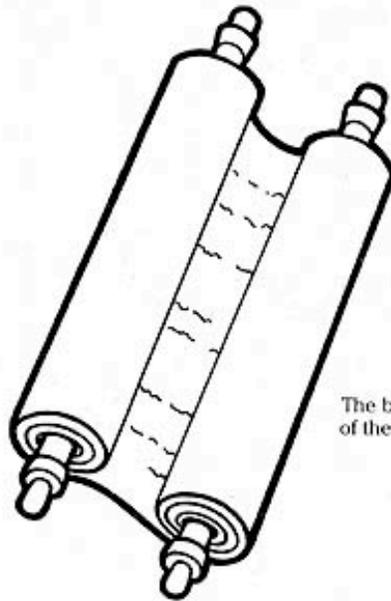
Josiah at age eight, when he became king



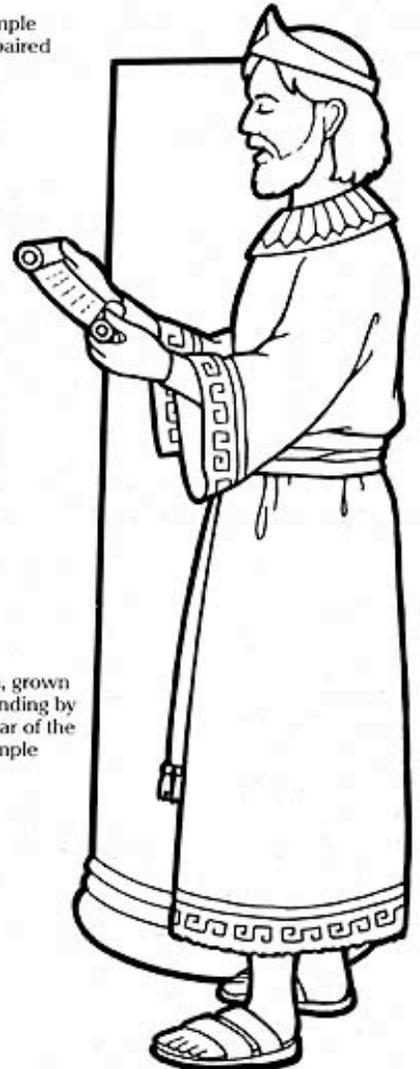
The temple being repaired



The high priest



The book of the law



Josiah, grown up, standing by the pillar of the temple

38-Esther

(Esther Saves Her People)

SONG: The Ninth Article of Faith, p. 128

SCRIPTURE: Esther 4:16

LESSON: Friend, May 1994 - Queen Esther was troubled. Her servants had just told her that her cousin Mordecai was wearing sackcloth and had sprinkled himself with ashes, a sign of great mourning. It wasn't just Mordecai—Jews throughout the kingdom of Persia and Media were grieving. But why?

Immediately Esther had clothing sent to Mordecai. He worked in the palace, but no one dressed in sackcloth was allowed to enter it. Esther loved her older cousin very much, for he had raised her after her parents had died when she was young. It distressed her that he should be so sad.

Soon Esther received word that Mordecai would not accept the clothing, so she commanded her servant Hatach to go to Mordecai and find out why.

Hatach returned with Mordecai's reply: Haman, one of the king's most powerful servants, was an evil man who hated the Jews. When Mordecai did not bow to Haman, as everyone had been commanded, Haman sought revenge on *all* the Jews in the kingdom. He lied to King Ahasuerus, saying that there was a group of people scattered throughout the kingdom who refused to obey the king's laws. Ahasuerus, not knowing Haman was speaking of Esther's people, had allowed him to write a decree calling for them to be destroyed.

Mordecai wanted Esther to plead with the king to spare their lives. But Esther was frightened. She knew that anyone who went into the king's inner court without being summoned might be put to death. Only those to whom the king held out his golden scepter were pardoned, and it had been thirty days since the king had asked to see her.

When Hatach told Mordecai of the young queen's fear, her cousin warned that if she did not go before the king, the decree could cause her to lose her life as well. "Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom (are now the queen here) for such a time as this (to save the Jews)," he said.

Esther knew what she must do. She sent another message to Mordecai, telling him to gather the Jews in the city and fast three days for her. "I also and my maidens will fast likewise," she said, "and so will I go in unto the king, ... and if I perish, I perish."

At the end of the three days, Esther put on her finest robes and went to the court. When the king saw her awaiting him, he reached for his golden scepter. She would live! "What wilt thou, queen Esther?" asked Ahasuerus.

“If it seem good unto the king, let the king and Haman come this day unto the banquet that I have prepared for him.”

The king agreed.

At the banquet, the king asked again, “What is thy request? even to the half of the kingdom it shall be performed.”

Esther replied that if he and Haman would come to another banquet the next day, she would make her request then.

At the second banquet, Esther told Ahasuerus about Haman’s plan to destroy the Jews. Ahasuerus was furious and he ordered that Haman be put to death.

Later, Esther told the king that Mordecai was her cousin. Mordecai was given Haman’s old position and was permitted to draw up a new decree, in the king’s name, allowing the Jews to defend themselves against those who would try to destroy them because of Haman’s earlier decree.

The day when the first decree was to be fulfilled, the Jews gathered themselves together and destroyed their enemies. Now, instead of mourning, there was great rejoicing throughout the land. Because Esther and the Jews had shown great faith through fasting, the lives of many people were preserved and the Jews had peace.

ACTIVITY: Coloring Page - Esther - Friend, August 2010

Or Esther Saves her People - Friend, September 1998 – Cut, color, and re-tell story of Esther.



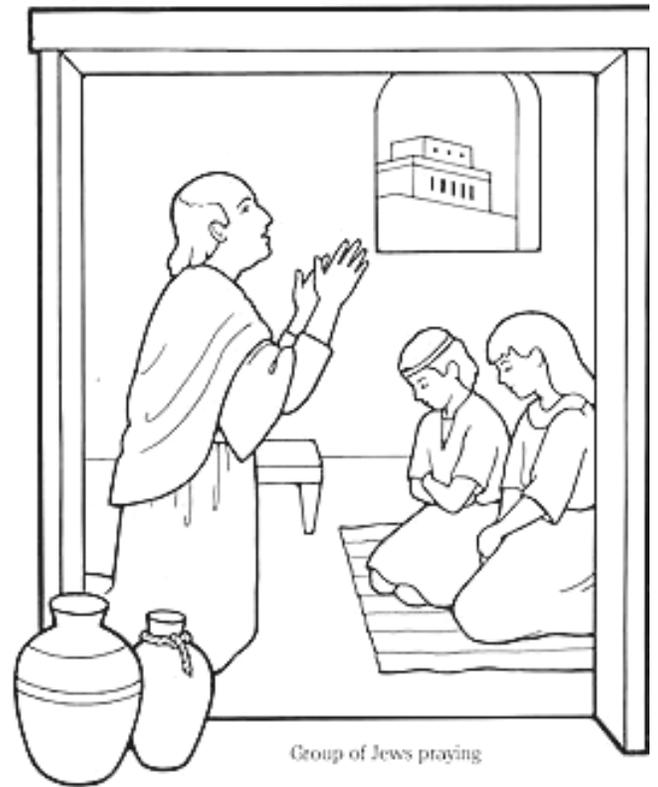
Esther Pleads with the King

And it was so, when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that she obtained favour in his sight: and the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand (Esther 5:2).

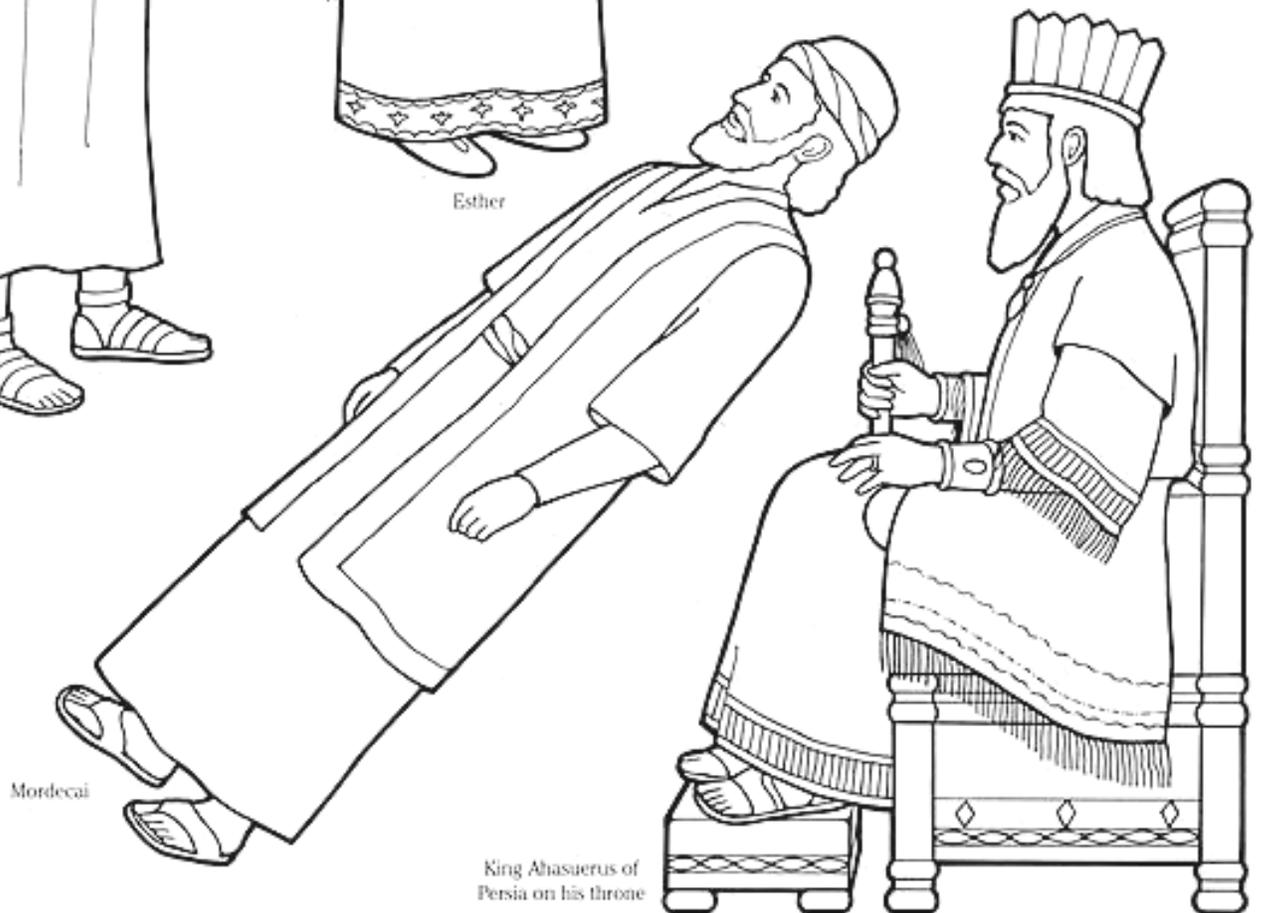


Haman

Esther



Group of Jews praying



Mordecai

King Ahasuerus of Persia on his throne

39-Job-He Would Not Deny God

(Job)

SONG: I Feel My Savior's Love, p. 74

SCRIPTURE: Job 19: 25

LESSON: Friend, June 1987 - (See Job 1-42) - In the land of Uz lived a faithful and obedient man named Job. Job had been greatly blessed by the Lord. He had seven sons and three daughters, whom he loved very much. He owned seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yokes of oxen, five hundred donkeys, and a great deal of property.

Job was grateful to God for all the blessings that he had received, and he worshiped God.

Satan was displeased because Job was so obedient and humble. So Satan complained to God, saying that Job was only righteous because he was so rich. If his riches were taken away, Satan argued, Job would quickly deny God. Then Satan challenged, "But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that [Job] hath, and he will curse thee to thy face."

Because of His faith in Job, the Lord allowed Satan to test Job. Everything Job had, including his children, the Lord would allow Satan to destroy, but he was not to physically harm Job. Satan agreed.

One day a messenger came to Job and reported that all his oxen and donkeys had been stolen and that his servants had been killed. A second messenger immediately followed the first, carrying the news that Job's sheep and shepherds had been struck by lightning. While Job was still speaking to the second messenger, a third arrived and said that Job's camels had all been stolen and their caretakers killed.

Finally, a fourth messenger arrived and told Job that all his children had been killed when a wind blew down the house of Job's oldest son while all Job's children were inside.

Heartbroken, Job tore his clothing and shaved his head, as was the custom then, to show his great sorrow. But despite his grief, Job did not blame God. Instead, he continued to worship Him, saying, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

Job's faithfulness angered Satan. He now claimed that if Job were to suffer physically, he would deny God. But the Lord still had faith in Job. He allowed Satan to afflict Job with pain and suffering, but not death.

Satan caused boils to break out all over Job's body, and they pained him continually. His friends told Job that he must have sinned terribly, or such a punishment would never have been sent from heaven. Even Job's wife told him to curse God and die. But Job knew that he

had been obedient, and he would not deny God. He held fast to his faith and said, "I know that my redeemer liveth ...

"And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God."

The Lord was very pleased with Job's faithfulness. He healed his sores and blessed him with another seven sons and three daughters and with twice as many animals as he had previously owned.

ACTIVITY: Faith in Jesus Christ - Friend, January 1999 - To make a book to remind you that the word of God is like a seed, mount page 15 on heavy paper. Cut out the four large panels, and punch or cut holes where indicated. Arrange the pages so that the seed is planted and grows into a tree. Fasten the pages together with yarn or string.

To watch the seed grow, cut out the long panels and the heart box. Cut along the broken lines in the heart. Form one long strip by gluing the long panels together where indicated. Thread the strip up through the bottom slit in the heart and down through the top slit. Pull the strip through the heart, and watch the seed grow.

Activity 1: The Word of God Is like a Seed



*The Word of God
Is like a Seed*
(See Alma 32:27-43.)

**Plant it:
Believe.**



**Nurture it:
Read the scriptures.
Listen to the prophets.
Keep the commandments.**




**Tend it:
Pray.
Listen and respond to the
promptings of the Holy Ghost.**



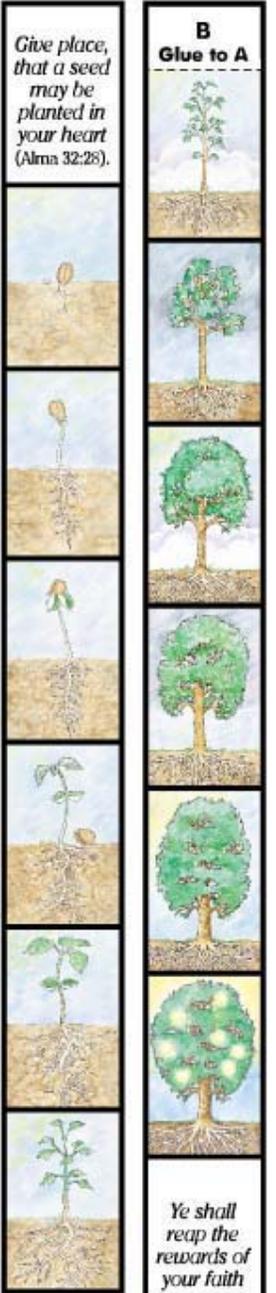

And it will grow.

*If ye will nourish the word, yea,
nourish the tree as it beginneth
to grow, by your faith with great
diligence, and with patience,
looking forward to the fruit
thereof, it shall take root; and
behold it shall be a tree springing
up unto everlasting life*
(Alma 32:41).

ACTIVITY 2: WATCH THE SEED GROW

*Give place,
that a seed
may be
planted in
your heart*
(Alma 32:28).

**B
Glue to A**



A

*Ye shall
reap the
rewards of
your faith*
(Alma 32:43).



Cut along
broken lines.

40-Daniel

(Daniel and the King's Food)

SONG: Search, Ponder and Pray, p. 109

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 3:5-6

LESSON: Friend, May 1972 - One night King Nebuchadnezzar had a troublesome dream and awoke in fright. Early the next morning he called all his wise men to come and stand before their king, and he said to them, "I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit is troubled to know the dream."

"Tell us your dream, O king," they answered, "and we will tell you what it means."

"The dream is gone from me," the king explained. "If you tell me the dream and its meaning, you shall receive gifts and rewards and great honor."

When they could not do what the king requested, Nebuchadnezzar was angry with them and ordered that all the wise men of Babylon be put to death.

Daniel and his friends had not gone before the king, and they were surprised when a servant of the king came to carry out the order. Daniel persuaded the servant to spare their lives until he could talk with the king.

Then Daniel and his friends prayed that Nebuchadnezzar's dream and its interpretation might be given to them. And that night the secret of the king's dream was revealed to Daniel in a vision, and Daniel blessed the God of heaven, saying, "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His. I thank thee and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast made known unto us the king's matter."

Then Daniel told Nebuchadnezzar that no man, however wise, could have learned the forgotten dream and given its meaning, but that both had been revealed to Daniel so that he might tell the king and so that the king would know of the one true God.

After Daniel repeated the dream and explained its meaning, the king fell upon his face and said to Daniel, "Of a truth it is that your God is the true God and a revealer of secrets. His works are truth."

Nebuchadnezzar later made Daniel ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon.

After the death of Nebuchadnezzar, the city of Babylon was captured by King Darius, who appointed a hundred and twenty princes over the whole kingdom. Over the princes were three presidents, and because of Daniel's wisdom and kindness, he was named as the first of the presidents.

This made the other princes jealous and angry, and they plotted together in an effort to remove Daniel from his trusted position.

“Surely he has some fault,” said one prince, “that we can point out to King Darius.” But they could find no fault, nor could they find any error in his work.

Then some of the princes suggested that they look for a way to blame Daniel because of the law of his God.

So the princes went to King Darius and said, “O king, there is no one as great as you. No one should ask a favor of any man or god except you.” Then they persuaded him to sign a decree that anyone found giving thanks or praise during the next thirty days to any god or man other than the king should be cast into a den of lions. King Darius, thinking this was being done to honor him, signed the decree.

Early the next morning as Daniel knelt in his house in prayer, which he did three times each day, the jealous princes came and seized him and took him before the king. They told King Darius that they had found Daniel asking help and offering praise to his God. “Remember the decree you signed,” they urged.

And the king sorrowfully remembered. Although he loved Daniel and was displeased with himself that he had let the princes talk him into signing the decree, he could not change a law that he had made and signed.

As Daniel was being taken away, the king spoke to him and said, “Thy God, whom thou servest continually, will deliver thee.”

Then a stone was brought and laid at the opening of the den of lions in which Daniel had been placed, and the king sealed it.

After he had done so, King Darius returned to his palace and ordered that no music be played and that no food be served to him. He spent an anxious sleepless night, and when morning finally came, he hurried to the lion’s den and called out to Daniel.

Daniel calmly answered, “My God hath sent His angel and hath shut the lions’ mouths that they have not hurt me.”

Then King Darius rejoiced, and he wrote to all the people upon the earth proclaiming the God of Daniel to be “the living God and steadfast forever; He delivereth and rescueth and He worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth.”

Daniel Obeys the Lord

Friend, June 1998

When King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon conquered the land of Judah, he brought back to his kingdom some of the well-favored children of Israel. Chosen were those who were without blemish, who were wise and well-educated.

Among them were four young men-Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. The king told his servant to feed them rich foods and wines for three years, the same food he would eat himself, and then bring them before him.

Daniel and his friends had been taught to eat a more healthy diet, and he made a request of the king's servant. "Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse [seeds, grains, vegetables] to eat, and water to drink.

"Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants." (Dan. 1:12-13.)

The servant agreed. The Lord blessed the four young men for their faithfulness, and after ten days had passed, Daniel and his friends were fairer and healthier than those who ate the king's meat.

You can be like Daniel in the scriptures. You, too, know what the Lord would have you eat and drink. You know what is not good for you (see Doctrine and Covenants 89). If a king, or a friend, or anyone else tempts you to try something that is harmful to your body, say no with the same courage shown by Daniel.

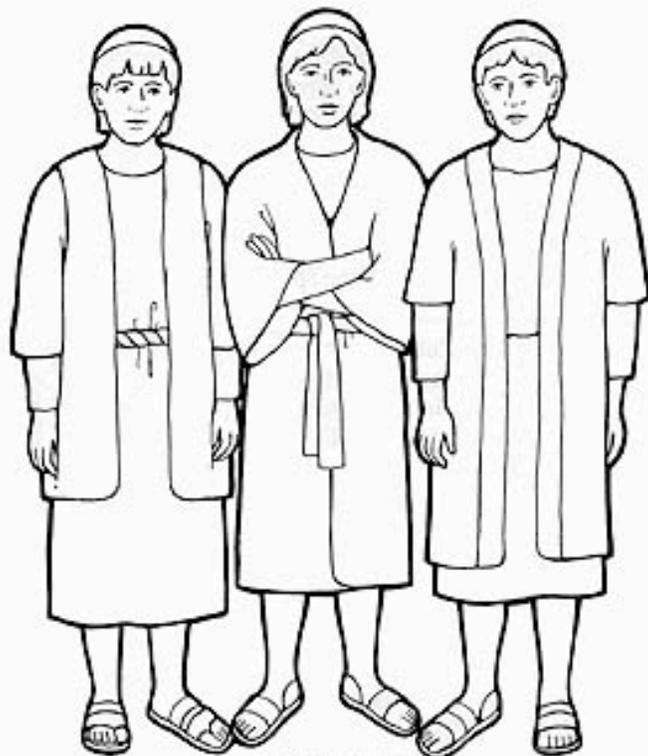
ACTIVITY: Daniel Obeys the Lord - Friend, June 1998 - Color the flannel-board figures, and then mount them on heavy paper. Cut them out and use them to retell the story of Daniel and his three friends.



The King's servant



Daniel



Hananiah, Mishael, Azariah



King Nebuchadnezzar

41-Obedient Servants of God

(Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego)

SONG: I Know My Father Lives, p. 5

SCRIPTURE: Luke 11:28

LESSON: Friend, May 1991 - King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon created a golden image and commanded all his people to worship it. Anyone who would not bow down and worship the image was to be thrown into a fiery furnace.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego were faithful servants of God. They told the king that they would not bow down or worship anyone but Heavenly Father. They bore their testimonies to the king and said, "Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace." They added that even if God chose not to preserve their lives, they still would "not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up" (Dan. 3:17-18).

King Nebuchadnezzar was angry and commanded that the furnace be made as hot as possible and that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego then be thrown into it. The fire was so intense that it killed the mighty soldiers who threw them in. When the king looked into the furnace, he was astonished to see the men walking about—and with them was a fourth person, who looked "like the Son of God" (Dan. 3:25).

When the king called for the three men to come out from the furnace, he saw that not even their hair or their clothes had been burned. They didn't even smell of fire. The king then commanded all his people to respect the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego.

From this experience, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego must have known with even greater confidence that God lived and watched over them. Like these obedient servants of God, our testimonies will also grow and be strengthened as we obey Heavenly Father's commandments and live as He wants us to live.

ACTIVITY: Read each set of riddles about people in the scriptures whose testimonies were strong because they were obedient to the commandments of God. As soon as you can guess who the person is, write his or her name in the blank. Mount the puppet figures on heavy paper, cut them out, and glue each one onto a flat stick. Use the puppets to retell the riddles to your friends and family.

1. _____

- a. I was born in Jerusalem.
- b. My father was a prophet who led his family into the wilderness.
- c. I obeyed my father when he told my brothers and me that the Lord wanted us to return to Jerusalem to get the brass plates from Laban.
- d. I was obedient to the Lord and built a ship to carry my family to the Promised Land. (See 1 Ne. 2, 1 Ne. 3, 1 Ne. 18.)

2. _____

- a. I was a priest of wicked King Noah.
- b. I believed the preaching of the prophet Abinadi and repented.
- c. I baptized many people in the waters of Mormon.
- d. I was obedient to God's commandments. With His authority, I founded His church and was a high priest over the people. (See Mosiah 17, Mosiah 18, Mosiah 23.)

3. _____

- a. I was engaged to be married to Joseph.
- b. An angel visited me and told me that I would be the mother of the Son of God.
- c. I was obedient to God and said, "Be it unto me according to thy word."
- d. My baby was born in a stable in Bethlehem. (See Luke 1:26--38; Luke 2:4-7.)

4. _____

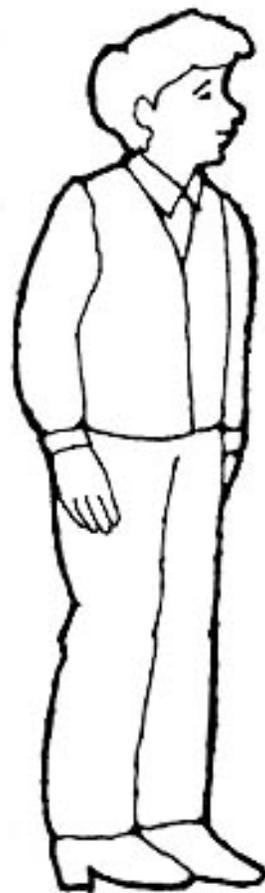
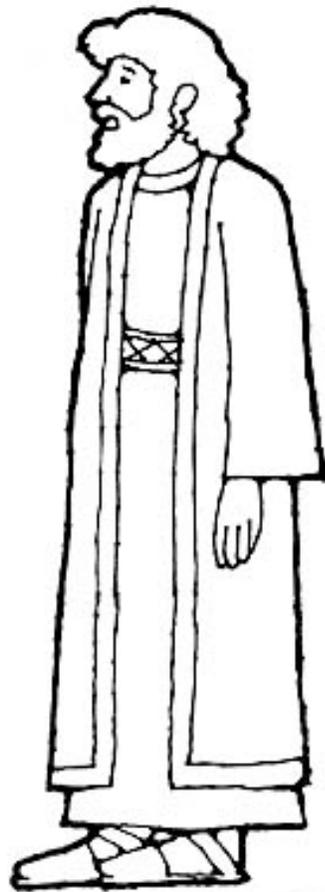
- a. Jesus' twelve Apostles called me to help the widows.
- b. Because I was obedient to God's commandments, I was full of faith and power and did great wonders and miracles among the people.
- c. I bore testimony that I saw Jesus standing on the right hand of God.
- d. I was stoned to death for my testimony of Jesus. (See Acts 6, Acts 7.)

5. _____

- a. I persecuted members of Jesus' church.
- b. While I was traveling on the road to Damascus, Jesus appeared to me and told me to repent, which I did.
- c. I was obedient to God's commandments and was chosen to be an Apostle. I served many missions.
- d. Because I bore testimony of Jesus Christ, I was imprisoned for many years and was finally put to death in Rome. (See Acts 8, Acts 9; Bible Dictionary--Paul.)

6. _____

- a. I went to the woods and prayed to know which church I should join.
- b. Heavenly Father and Jesus appeared to me and told me to join none of the churches that existed then.
- c. I was obedient to God and helped restore the true Church to the earth.
- d. I was put into prison many times and was martyred for my testimony. (See JS---H 1.)



42-I Can Pray to Heavenly Father Anytime, Anywhere

(Daniel in the Lions' Den)

SONG: Choose the Right, p. 239

SCRIPTURE: D&C 112:10

LESSON: Friend, August 2003 - My young brothers and sisters, can you think of the last time you received an answer to your prayers? Was it when you lost something? Was it when you were scared? Maybe you were sick or someone you loved was sick. I have prayed in those times, too.

Where were you the last time you prayed? I have prayed in many places. I have prayed on the beach, in the mountains, in church, on the playground. I have prayed in my house, in an airplane, and at the hospital. I know that I can pray to Heavenly Father anytime, anywhere. I know He hears me.

Let me tell you a story about two children—a boy who was about six years old and a girl just over seven. They went for a ride one hot summer day with their dad in their grandpa's old Jeep. They drove for an hour and a half, and the Jeep started making funny noises. It died completely as they rolled into a gas station in the next town. "We can fix it," the attendant said, and he directed them to walk across town to a parts store. Once inside the store, the children found lots of things to look at, and they didn't notice their dad go into the back with the manager. All they knew was that they couldn't see him. They looked outside and saw a man down the street who was wearing a hat like their dad's. He was just turning a corner, so they ran after him crying, "Dad! Dad!"

By the time they figured out it wasn't their dad, they were lost. They couldn't find the store, they didn't know where they were, and they didn't know anyone in that city. The girl wanted to go this way; the boy thought they should go that way. How could they find their dad, or at least the Jeep? She said, "We need to pray." He felt self-conscious about praying in public, but after they prayed, they both started walking in the same direction. They found the gas station, crawled in the back of their Jeep, and waited. After a little while—it seemed like a long time to them—their father came. He had also been praying that he'd find them and find them quickly.

In the scriptures there are many stories of answers to prayer. Do you remember these? Nephi was told how to build a ship and where to find food; Daniel prayed for protection from the lions; Enos prayed all day and into the night that his sins would be forgiven; Hannah prayed that she could have a baby. My favorite story about prayer is the story of a young boy who wanted to know something. He wanted to know which church he should join. His friends and his family were finding churches to join. He just didn't know which church was right. He was only 14 years old.

One day Joseph Smith was reading in the Bible, and this is what he read: “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him” (James 1:5). That scripture was so powerful to him! He’d never prayed out loud before, but he needed an answer and he believed the scripture. Humbly, he went to a wooded area close to his house, and he knelt down and began to pray. This was such an important prayer that the powers of darkness threatened to overwhelm this strong, young farm boy, but he cried out to God for help. As he did, a light descended and the darkness went away. Joseph saw two personages standing in the light. One of them said to him, pointing to the other, “This is My Beloved Son. Hear Him!” (JS—H 1:17). It was God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ.

When I think of that story, I think of my children. All of them served in missions outside of the United States. They each needed to learn a new language. One of the things they learned to share in their new languages was the story of Joseph Smith’s prayer. Why did they learn that? Because the people they were teaching needed to know that Heavenly Father and Jesus chose Joseph Smith to be the prophet who would restore the gospel and the Church of Jesus Christ to the earth once more. And the people needed to know that just as Joseph Smith received an answer to his prayer, they could pray to Heavenly Father and receive answers to their prayers. He will answer your prayers, too. I know we can pray to Heavenly Father anytime, anywhere, and I’m so grateful that we can.

Here is my testimony on the fingers of one hand:

1. I know that God is our Father in Heaven and that He loves us.
2. Jesus Christ is His Son, our Savior and Redeemer.
3. Joseph Smith is a prophet of God. He translated the Book of Mormon by the gift and power of God.
4. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the Lord’s Church on the earth today.
5. The living prophet is President Gordon B. Hinckley.

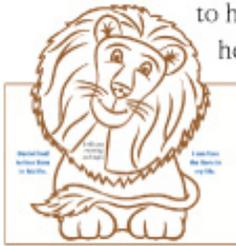
In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

ACTIVITY: Daniel, Lions, and Me - Friend, October 2005

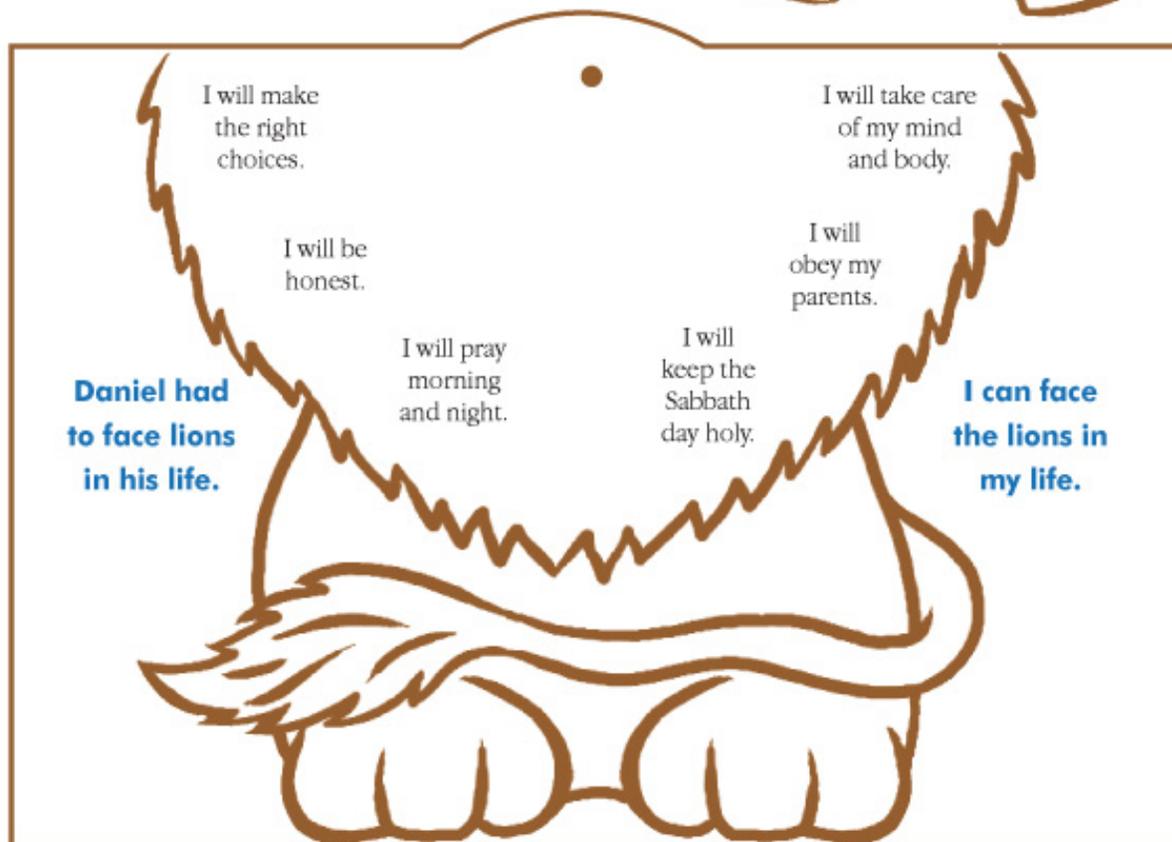
Daniel, Lions, and Me

BY RUTH M. WOODS

Daniel faced the lions in his life. He showed great faith and courage. We need to have faith and courage to help us make the right choices in our lives.



Instructions: Carefully remove this page from the magazine and glue it to heavy paper. Color the lion head and the body section and then cut them out. Punch holes where indicated. Use a brass fastener to attach the head to the body.



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. Click on Gospel Library.

43-First Things First

(Jonah and the People of Nineveh)

SONG: The Fourth Article of Faith, p. 124

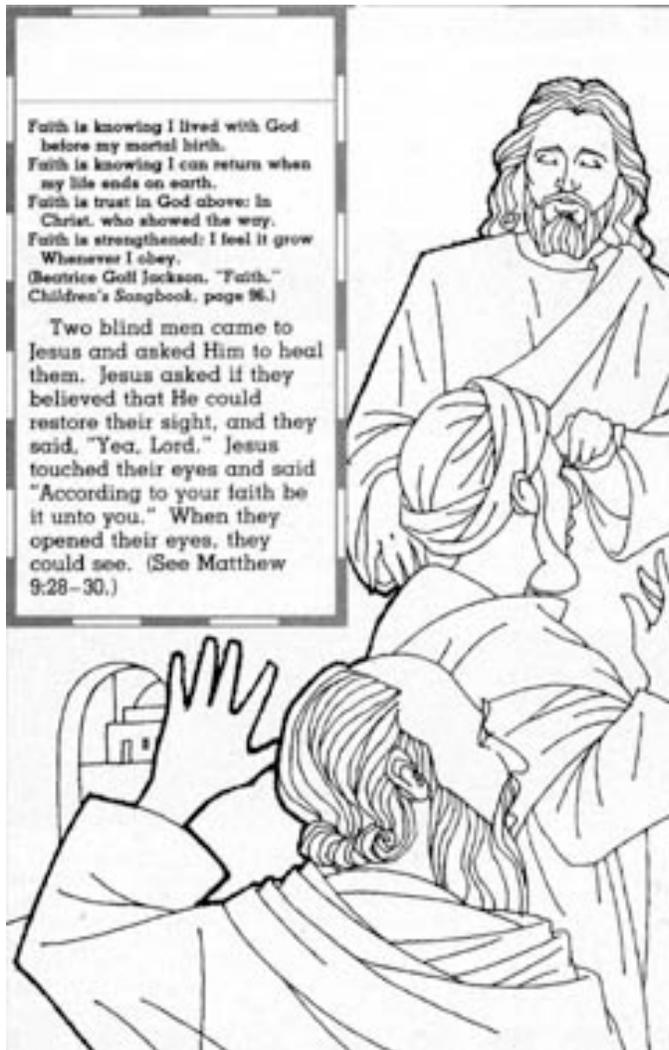
SCRIPTURE: Article of Faith 1:4

LESSON: Friend, March 1990 - What would happen if you went to college before you went to kindergarten? Could you learn to add numbers before you learned to count? Could you run before you learned to walk? When you learn something, you usually start with the simplest part of it, then move on to a more difficult part. You put first things first.

Joseph Smith said that when you become a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the first things that you need to do are to have faith, to repent, to be baptized, and to have those with the proper authority lay their hands on your head so that you can receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. When we obey these first principles and ordinances, we can then learn other things that Heavenly Father wants us to learn and do.

ACTIVITY: First Things First - Friend, March 1990 - Color the four word strips above, then carefully cut them out. Each verse, picture, and story on these pages are examples of either faith, repentance, baptism, or the gift of the Holy Ghost. Read these examples, decide where each word strip belongs, and glue it in place. Color each picture. Use this completed poster to teach a lesson in family home evening on the fourth article of faith.

Or Put different-size cans or rocks labeled wrongdoing in sack. Have child carry it around. Tell children that weight of our sins can hold us back from living with Heavenly Father. We can rid ourselves of our sins by repenting. Take contents out of sack and say that when we repent, our sins are forgiven, and we can forget them. We no longer have to bear their heavy burden.



Faith is knowing I lived with God
before my mortal birth.
Faith is knowing I can return when
my life ends on earth.
Faith is trust in God above; in
Christ, who showed the way.
Faith is strengthened; I feel it grow
Whenever I obey.
(Beatrice Goff Jackson, "Faith,"
Children's Songbook, page 96.)

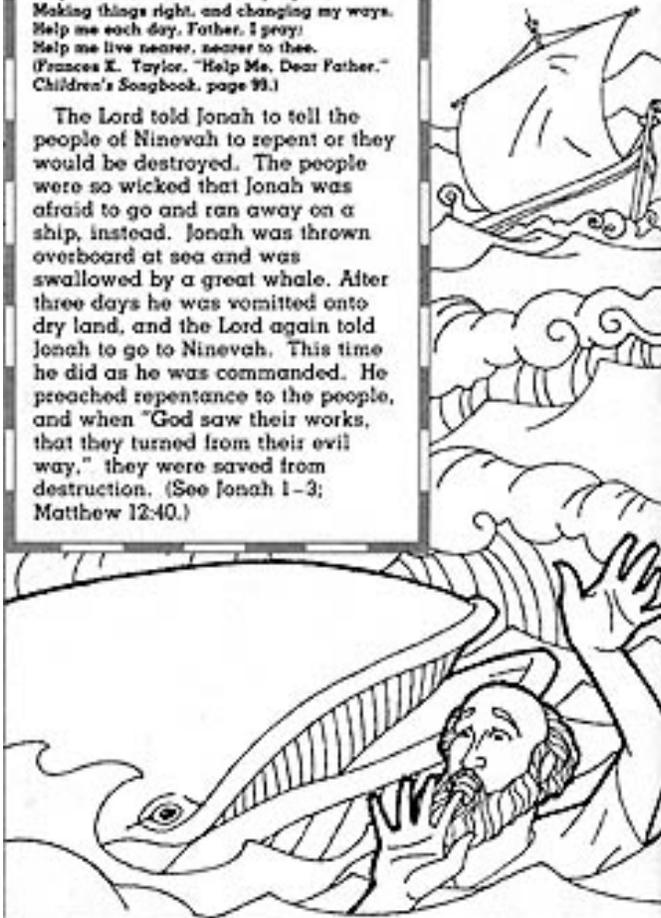
Two blind men came to
Jesus and asked Him to heal
them. Jesus asked if they
believed that He could
restore their sight, and they
said, "Yea, Lord." Jesus
touched their eyes and said
"According to your faith be
it unto you." When they
opened their eyes, they
could see. (See Matthew
9:28-30.)

Faith is knowing I lived with God before my mortal birth.
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Faith is trust in God above; In Christ, who showed the way.
Faith is strengthened; I feel it grow Whenever I obey.
(Beatrice Goff Jackson, "Faith," *Children's Songbook*, page 96)

Two blind men came to Jesus and asked Him to heal them. Jesus asked if they believed that He could restore their sight, and they said, "Yea, Lord." Jesus touched their eyes and said "According to your faith be it unto you." When they opened their eyes, they could see. (See Matt. 9:28--30)

Help me, dear Father, to truly repent,
Making things right, and changing my ways.
Help me each day, Father, I pray;
Help me live nearer, nearer to thee.
(Frances K. Taylor, "Help Me, Dear Father,"
Children's Songbook, page 99.)

The Lord told Jonah to tell the people of Ninevah to repent or they would be destroyed. The people were so wicked that Jonah was afraid to go and ran away on a ship, instead. Jonah was thrown overboard at sea and was swallowed by a great whale. After three days he was vomitted onto dry land, and the Lord again told Jonah to go to Ninevah. This time he did as he was commanded. He preached repentance to the people, and when "God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way," they were saved from destruction. (See Jonah 1-3; Matthew 12:40.)



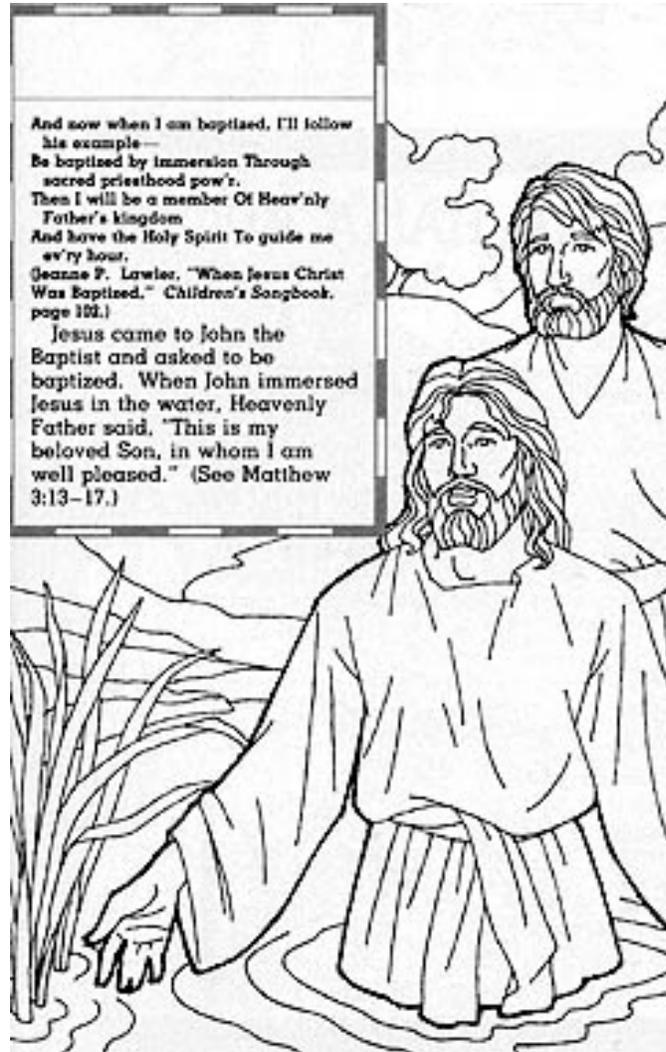
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And now when I am baptized. I'll follow his example-
Be baptized by immersion Through sacred priesthood pow'r.
Then I will be a member OfHeav'nly Father's kingdom
And have the Holy Spirit To guide me ev'ry hour.
(Jeanne P. Lawler, "When Jesus Christ Was Baptized," *Children's Songbook*, page 102.)

Jesus came to John the Baptist and asked to be baptized. When John immersed Jesus in the water, Heavenly Father said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (See Matt. 3:13-17)

When hands are laid upon my head,
Then I'll receive the Holy Ghost.
And, if I listen carefully,
I'll have the blessing I need most.
(Wallace F. Bennett, "I Like My Birthdays," *Children's Songbook*, page 104.)

When Jesus appeared to the Nephites in America, He chose disciples to help Him preach the gospel. Before Jesus left, He laid His hands on the head of each disciple and "gave them power to give the Holy Ghost" to others. (See 3 Nephi 18:36-37.)



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44-Promised Blessings

(Malachi Teaches about Tithes and Offerings)

SONG: I Thank Thee, Dear Father, p. 7

SCRIPTURE: D&C 82:10

LESSON: Friend, October 2001 - Romero had been looking forward to this day for a very long time. This was the day his mother and he had planned on going to the park. But that morning his mother had been called away to help a neighbor who was very ill. When she left, she promised Romero that they would still go to the park when she returned if he would do some of the household chores while she was gone. Romero told her that he would.

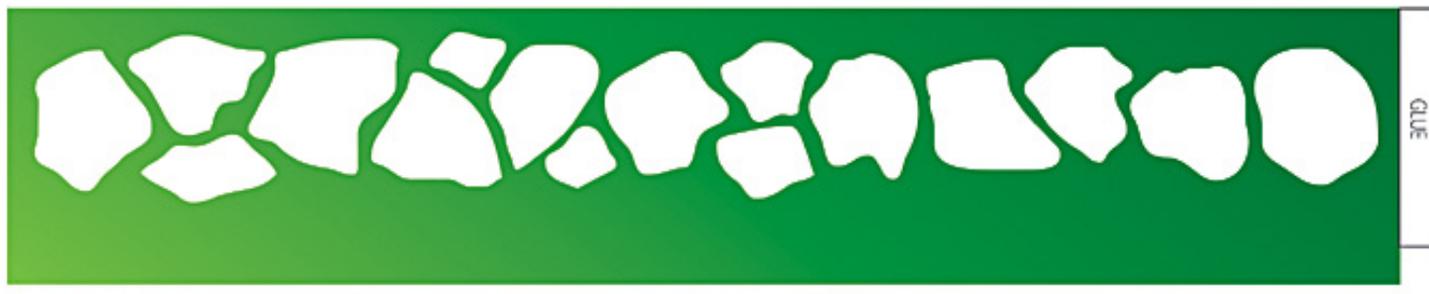
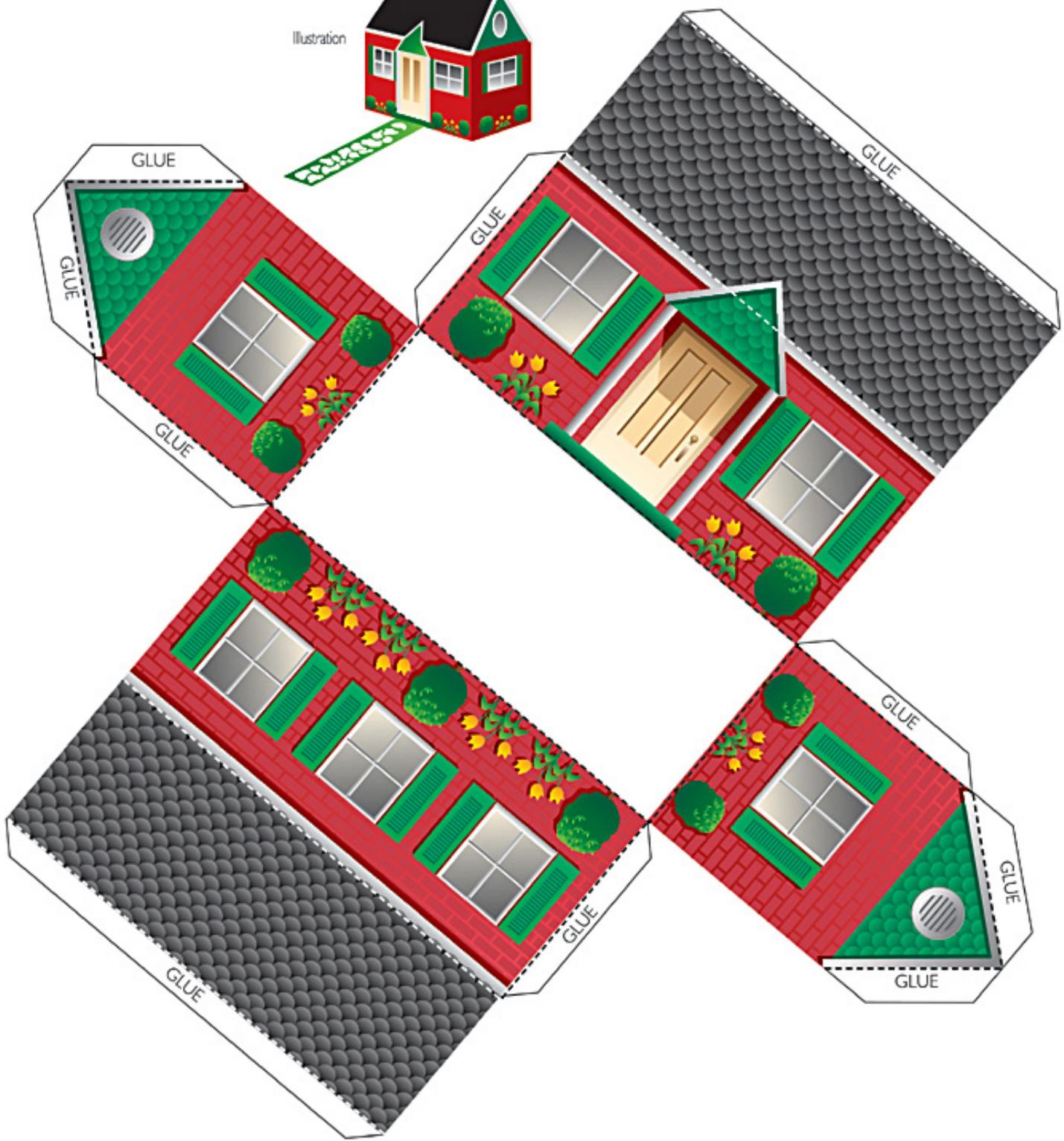
After his mother left, Romero started to do the things she had asked him to do. Then his friend José came by and wanted to play. Romero remembered what his mother had asked him to do and her promise that they would go to the park if he was obedient. He told José that he couldn't play just then because he had work to do. José went home, and Romero hurried to finish the chores. When his mother came home, she was happy to see that he had done what she had asked. Because he had, she kept her promise and together they spent the afternoon at the park.

Sometimes Father in Heaven asks us to do certain things and promises us blessings if we do them. Although the blessings are not always received immediately or even in this life, we *will* receive them if we are obedient.

One of the things that Heavenly Father has asked us to do is listen to His servants the prophets and follow their teachings. If we do what they ask, our lives will be blessed. When we keep the Word of Wisdom by not eating or drinking harmful things, our bodies will be stronger. When we only watch or listen to things that are pleasing to Heavenly Father, we will be spiritually stronger. When we remember to think of Jesus Christ during the sacrament and keep His commandments, we will have His Spirit to guide us in our lives.

In general conference each April and October, the prophet speaks to us for Heavenly Father. It is important that we listen and do the things that he asks us to do. Our prophet, President Gordon B. Hinckley, has asked us to be more like the Savior by being more forgiving and considerate of others. (See *Ensign*, November 1999, page 74.) He has asked us to be obedient to our parents, kinder to one another in our families, and more thoughtful of others (see *Ensign*, May 2000, page 87). He has asked us to have family home evenings and to pray to Heavenly Father and tell Him how thankful we are for all of our blessings. He has taught us that our prayers are answered (see *Ensign*, November 2000, pages 88–89). If we do what Heavenly Father asks us through the prophet to do, we will receive many blessings. Heavenly Father always keeps His promises.

ACTIVITY: Promised Blessings - Friend, October 2001 - Find out what the prophet and the Apostles have asked us to do during general conference this month that will help us to build up and strengthen our families. Write some of these things on the large stones on the path on page 41. Cut out the house and pathway, glue them onto heavy paper, and trim. Fold along the broken lines, and form a house. Glue each tab to the back edge of the corresponding part of the house (see illustration). Glue the pathway to the bottom of the house so that it leads to the door. When you do something written on one of the stones, color the stone. Think about how Heavenly Father blesses and strengthens you and your family when you follow the prophet's teachings. Continue working on strengthening your family and making its members happy by doing all of the things written on the stones.



45-The Atonement

(The Gift of the Atonement [Easter])

SONG: He Died That We Might Live Again, p. 65

SCRIPTURE: Alma 7: 11-12

LESSON: Friend, August 2003 – Neal A. Maxwell - However, on our smaller scale, just as Jesus has invited, we can indeed strive to become “even as [He is]” (3 Ne. 27:27). ...

Mortality presents us with numerous opportunities to become more Christlike: first, by coping successfully with those of life’s challenges which are “common to man[kind]” (1 Cor. 10:13).

Though stretched by our challenges, by living righteously and enduring well we can eventually become [enough] like Jesus ... , that one day we can dwell in the Father’s presence forever and ever. By so living now, our confidence will “wax strong in the presence of God” then (D&C 121:45). ... The Prophet Joseph declared, “If you wish to go where God is, you must be like God” (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, sel. Joseph Fielding Smith [1976], 216). ... Being valiant in our testimony of Jesus, therefore, includes being valiant in our efforts to live more as He lived (see D&C 76:79).

The Savior's Atonement

Friend, March 2002

James E. Faust - Jesus Christ was appointed to be our Redeemer before the world was formed. With His divine Sonship, His sinless life, the shedding of His blood in the Garden of Gethsemane, His [painful] death on the cross and Resurrection from the grave, He became the author of our salvation and made a perfect Atonement for all mankind.

Some years ago, President Gordon B. Hinckley told “something of a parable” about “a one-room schoolhouse in the mountains of Virginia where the boys were so rough no teacher had been able to handle them.

“Then one day an inexperienced young teacher applied. He was told that every teacher had received an awful beating, but the teacher accepted the risk. The first day of school, the teacher asked the boys to establish their own rules and the penalty for breaking the rules. The class came up with ten rules, which were written on the blackboard. Then the teacher asked, ‘What shall we do with one who breaks the rules?’

“‘Beat him across the back ten times without his coat on,’ came the response.

“A day or so later, the lunch of a big student, named Tom, was stolen. The thief was located—a little hungry fellow, about ten years old.

“As little Jim came up to take his licking, he pleaded to keep his coat on. ‘Take your coat off,’ the teacher said. ‘You helped make the rules!’

“The boy took off the coat. He had no shirt and revealed a bony little crippled body. As the teacher hesitated with the rod, big Tom jumped to his feet and volunteered to take the boy’s licking.

“‘Very well, there is a certain law that one can become a substitute for another. Are you all agreed?’ the teacher asked.

“After five strokes across Tom’s back, the rod broke. The class was sobbing. Little Jim had reached up and caught Tom with both arms around his neck. ‘Tom, I’m sorry that I stole your lunch, but I was awful hungry. Tom, I will love you till I die for taking my licking for me! Yes, I will love you forever!’”

President Hinckley then quoted Isaiah:

“‘Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows. ...

“‘He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our [sins].’” (Isa. 53:4–5.)

No man knows the full weight of what our Savior bore. His [deep] suffering in the Garden of Gethsemane, where He took upon Himself all the sins of all other mortals, caused Him “to tremble because of pain, and to bleed at every pore, and to suffer both body and spirit” (D&C 19:18).

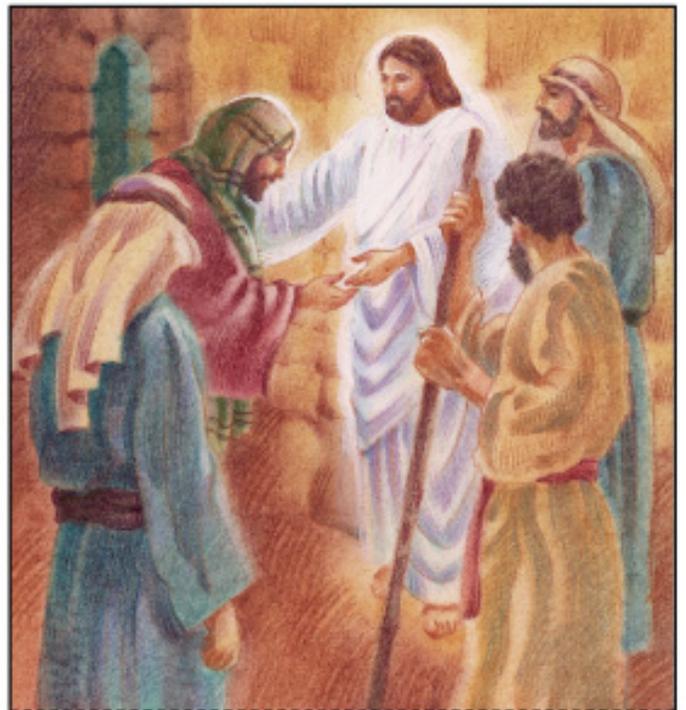
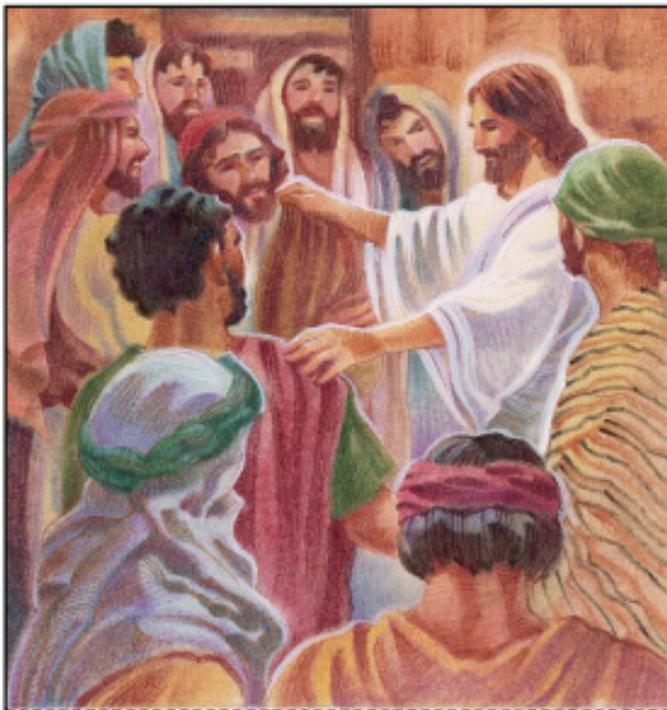
The Atonement and the Resurrection accomplish many things. The Atonement cleanses us of sin on condition of our repentance. Christ’s resurrection gave us the assurance of life after death.

Our Redeemer took upon Himself all the sins, pains, and sicknesses of all who have ever lived and will ever live (see Alma 7:11–12). He knows our trials by firsthand experience.

Because the Savior has suffered anything and everything that we could ever feel or experience, He can help the weak to become stronger. He understands our pain and will walk with us even in our darkest hours.

We long for the ultimate blessing of the Atonement—to become one with Him, to be in His divine presence, to be called individually by name as He warmly welcomes us home with a radiant smile, beckoning us with open arms to be enfolded in His boundless love (see Alma 26:15; Morm. 5:11; Morm. 6:17; Moses 7:63).

ACTIVITY: He Lives - Friend, April 2007 -



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

46-A Wonderful Time of Year

(Prophets Foretold the Birth of Jesus Christ [Christmas])

SONG: When Joseph Went to Bethlehem, p. 38

SCRIPTURE: Ether 4:12

LESSON: Friend, December 2004 - Merry Christmas to the children of the world! This is a joyous time of year when our hearts are filled with love as we think about the birth of the Savior and feel sincere gratitude to our Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ.

Because of the Savior's birth and mission, we will receive the blessing of the Resurrection. Through the Savior's Atonement, as we keep the commandments, serve others, and do what the Lord has asked us to do, we will return to live with our Heavenly Father.

Our sincere prayer is that each of you and your families will feel the Savior's love at this wonderful time of year. We bear our witness that Jesus is our Savior, the Son of God. With love, The First Presidency

Jesus Grew Up in a Righteous Family

Friend, December 2004

Heavenly Father gives us parents and families to teach us righteous principles so we can return to Heavenly Father and live with our families forever. Heavenly Father planned for Jesus Christ to be born into a family, too. Jesus had righteous parents on earth to take care of and teach Him.

Before Jesus was born, an angel came to His mother, Mary. The angel told her that she would have a son and that she should call Him Jesus. He would be the Son of God. The angel told her, "The Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women" (Luke 1:28). Mary told the angel that she would do as she was commanded: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38).

The angel also appeared to Joseph. The angel told him that Mary would have a son, that His name would be Jesus, and that He would be the Son of God. The angel told Joseph that Jesus would save His people from their sins (see Matt. 1:20-21).

Mary and Joseph had faith. They did what they were commanded to do. When we remember Jesus Christ and follow His example and the example of Mary and Joseph, our families will be blessed.

ACTIVITY: Coloring Page - Jesus Grew Up in a Righteous Family - Friend, December 2004



47-No Greater Power

(The Priesthood Can Bless Our Lives)

SONG: The Seventh Article of Faith, p. 126

SCRIPTURE: Article of Faith 7

LESSON: Friend, April 1996 - Jacob lunged off the step. "I am Global Guard," he hollered, arms thrown out, fists clenched, "protector of planet Earth."

"Mr. Guard," Jacob's father called from the kitchen, "do you think you can stop defending Earth long enough to have your bedtime snack?"

"It's not *Mr.* Guard, Dad." Jacob flung himself onto the chair at the kitchen table. "It's Global Guard, protector of planet Earth. If you watched the show, you'd know that."

Jacob's father placed a glass of milk and a plate of graham crackers in front of his son. "You watch enough Global Protector for all of us."

"It's not Global Protector, it's—"

"Eat," his father ordered, shaking his head.

Jacob popped a piece of cracker into his mouth as his mother shuffled into the kitchen, tying her bathrobe.

"How are you feeling?" Dad asked.

"About the same," she said, slumping into a chair at the table.

"Wow, Mom," Jacob exclaimed, staring at her, "you look sick!"

His mother nodded in agreement.

Jacob took a gulp of milk. He imagined himself as Global Guard protecting his mother from evil invaders, mutant monsters, and from any other bad guys. He was picturing himself scaring off vicious villains, when he felt a hand on his head. He glanced up.

"Are you ready for family prayer?" Dad asked.

"Yep." Jacob pushed himself from the table, swinging his hand within inches of his father's nose. "I have the power, Dad," he said with a grin.

"Uh-huh," Dad said.

Jacob followed his parents into the family room.

Dad offered the prayer. Although he tried to concentrate on the prayer, Jacob's mind wandered to a Global battle, with himself as the hero.

The next morning, Jacob felt himself being gently shaken. *It must be time to get up for school*, he thought. He was going to wear his new Global Guard shirt.

"Jacob?"

Jacob's eyes opened in surprise. It wasn't Mom's or Dad's voice he heard. It was his grandmother's.

"What are you doing here?"

His grandmother forced a smile. "It's all right, Jacob. Your parents aren't here right now."

"Where are they?" Jacob kicked the blanket off his legs.

"Your mother became very ill during the night, and your father took her to the hospital. After you get dressed and have breakfast, I'll drive you there to see her."

At the hospital, Jacob saw that his dad looked tired and worried. Mom was lying on a hospital bed, her eyes closed. A clear fluid went through a thin tube into her arm. Dad explained to Jacob that Mom had a serious infection.

Jacob sat in silence in a large chair. He felt scared and helpless. "I wish I could do something," he finally said in frustration. "I wish I could make her better."

His father gave him a tired smile, then glanced at his watch. "Brother Davis ought to be here any minute. We're going to give your mother a priesthood blessing."

"Will the blessing help?"

"Yes, Jacob," Dad said, "if it's Heavenly Father's will. The power of a priesthood blessing to help someone is very strong."

"Power?" Jacob stared at his father.

Both turned as Brother Davis, one of the family's home teachers, entered the room.

"Thank you for coming," Jacob's father said, reaching into his pocket for a vial of consecrated oil.

Jacob watched as his father poured a few drops of oil onto his mother's head. Dad and Brother Davis then gave his mother a blessing. Jacob relaxed slightly as his mother was

blessed that she would recover. As his father continued the blessing, Jacob felt calm for the first time since his grandmother had awakened him.

At home that night, Jacob and his father knelt and prayed that Mom would recover. Jacob concentrated harder than he ever had before on the words his father said.

“Dad,” Jacob said after the prayer. “Before Brother Davis came, you said something about priesthood power.”

“That’s right.” His father sank onto the couch.

“Is that like Global Guard’s power to protect people?”

“No, Jacob.” His father pulled Jacob next to him. “Global Guard is a TV show. We’re talking about something real—the priesthood. Remember, if you are worthy, you will hold the priesthood in a few years.”

“And then I’ll have the power?” Jacob asked, swinging his hand in front of his father’s face.

His father took Jacob’s hands in his. “Actually, Jacob, God has the power.”

“Oh.”

“But if you live right and have faith, you can hold His priesthood and act for Him. That’s an important thing to remember. You’re acting for God.”

After school the next day, Jacob and his father went to the hospital. When they entered his mother’s room, her eyes were open. Smiling weakly, she beckoned them to come closer. Jacob dashed to the side of her bed.

“How are you?” his father asked, taking her hand.

“The doctor said that with some rest, I’m going to be fine.”

“Dad, you were right!” Jacob exclaimed. “The power really works!”

“I know that it does, Jacob.”

“This can’t be talk about Earth Guard,” his mother said, glancing at Jacob’s father.

“Honey,” his father said, looking relaxed for the first time in two days, “you mean *Global Guard*—”

“That’s not what I’m talking about, Mom,” Jacob interrupted, pushing a chair next to his mother’s bed. “Global Guard’s only pretend.”

Then, kneeling on the chair by the bed, Jacob explained what he had learned about real power—priesthood power.

Sacred Priesthood Blessings

Friend, October 2004

James E. Faust - A priesthood blessing is sacred. It can be a holy and inspired statement of our wants and needs. If we are in tune spiritually, we can receive a confirming witness of the truth of the promised blessings. Priesthood blessings can help us in the small and great decisions of our lives. If, through our priesthood blessings, we could perceive [see] only a small part of the person God intends us to be, we would lose our fear and never doubt again.

As a small boy, I remember being intrigued [interested] by my grandmother's magnifying glass which she used in her old age to read and do needlework. When the glass was in focus, everything I looked at was greatly magnified [made larger]. But I was most intrigued by what happened when the lens concentrated the sunlight on an object. When it passed through the magnifying glass, the sunlight's power was absolutely amazing.

Blessings strengthen and magnify us. In the Church, blessings are available to all who are worthy through those authorized to give priesthood blessings. Worthy fathers and grandfathers, as well as other Melchizedek Priesthood holders, may give blessings to members in times of sickness and when important events occur. Such individual blessings are part of the continuous revelation that we claim as members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Like the images in my grandmother's magnifying glass, [through priesthood blessings] we can become stronger, our talents and ability can be magnified and multiplied, our understanding can be greatly enlarged, and our spirituality can flower.

ACTIVITY: Aaronic Priesthood Activity - Friend, May 2004

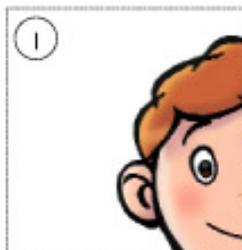
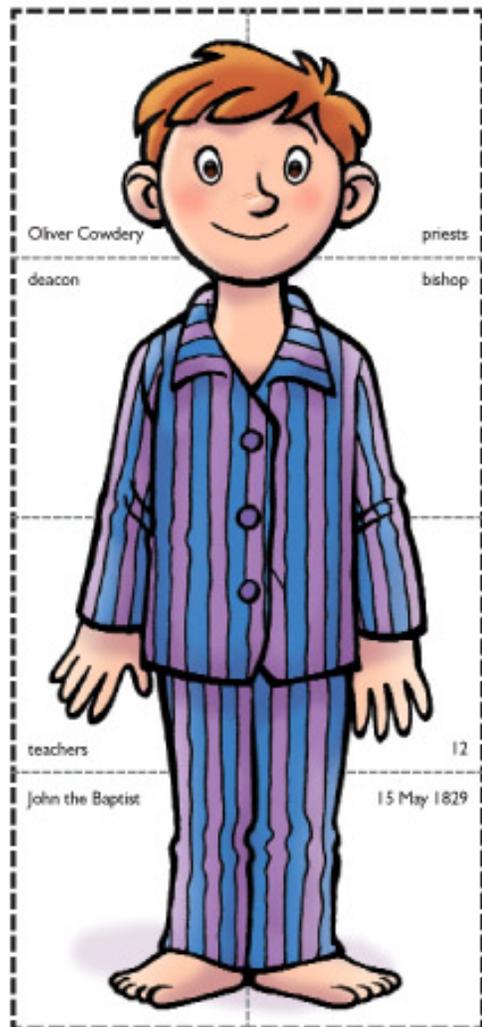
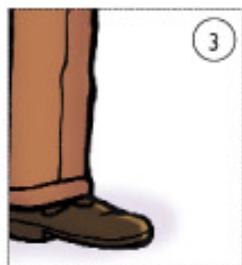
Aaronic Priesthood Activity

BY CALLIE BUYS

Even though boys in Primary aren't old enough to hold the Aaronic Priesthood, they can prepare now to receive it. Both boys and girls can learn more about the Aaronic Priesthood and its responsibilities by helping the boy on this page get ready for church.

Carefully cut out the boy in the box on this page. Cut out the numbered squares. Look at the list of numbered questions below. The numbers on the

squares match the numbered list of questions. The answer to the number of the question on the square is somewhere around the boy. When you find the right answer to the question, cover the answer with the square, picture side up. When you have answered all the questions, the boy will be dressed and ready to fulfill his Aaronic Priesthood duties.



1. Joseph Smith and _____ ordained each other to the Aaronic Priesthood. (See Joseph Smith—History 1:66–71.)

2. Who conferred the Aaronic Priesthood on these two men? (See Joseph Smith—History 1:72.)

3. What day, month, and year did they receive the Aaronic Priesthood? (See Joseph Smith—History 1:68–69, 72.)

4. At what age can a young man receive the Aaronic Priesthood?

5. Offices in the Aaronic Priesthood include bishop, priest, teacher, and _____ . (See D&C 20:67, D&C 84:30.)

6. Members of the _____ quorum administer the sacrament and can perform baptisms. (See D&C 20:46.)

7. Members of the _____ quorum “watch over the church” and “see that all members . . . do their duty.” (See D&C 20:53–55.)

8. The _____ is the head of the Aaronic Priesthood in each ward. (See D&C 107:13–15.)

48-I Know....

SONG: This Is My Beloved Son, p. 76

SCRIPTURE: John 1:34

LESSON: Friend, January 1991 - What do *you* know? Do you know your name and where you live? Do you know how to recognize colors and shapes? Do you know how to count, do arithmetic, read, and spell? If you are older, do you know something about science, history, and literature?

All knowledge is important, but to know that the gospel of Jesus Christ is true is the most important truth that you can ever learn. This knowledge is called a testimony. A testimony is revealed through the Holy Ghost. "For because of my Spirit [ye] shall know that these things are true" (Ether 4:11).

Through the Holy Ghost, you can know that:

1. Jesus Christ is Heavenly Father's Son and our Savior.
2. Joseph Smith was the prophet through whom God restored the gospel of Jesus Christ to the earth.
3. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the only true church.
4. We are led by a living prophet today.

Everyone can gain a testimony, but it takes effort. First, you must really want to have one. Then you need to study the scriptures, obey the commandments, and pray in faith to know the truth. When you have done these things, the Holy Ghost gives you a calm, peaceful feeling in your mind and heart that tells you that the gospel is true.

When you have a testimony, you can testify with confidence, as Job did: "I know that my redeemer liveth" (Job 19:25).

ACTIVITY: To help you remember some of the important parts of a testimony, cut out the pictures along the broken lines and mount them on heavy paper. Color the pictures, and tape the edges of pictures 3 and 4 together to make one long strip. Accordion-fold the pictures (see illustration) so that your picture-strip will stand on its own. Read the scriptures listed, then put the picture strip in a place where you can see it often.

1-When I have a testimony, I know that:

2-Jesus Christ is Heavenly Father's Son and our Savior. (See D&C 46:13.)

3-Joseph Smith was the prophet through whom God restored the gospel of Jesus Christ to the earth. (See D&C 21:1-3; D&C 135:3.)

4-The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the only true church. (See D&C 1:30.)

5-We are led by a living prophet today. (See D&C 1:3 8.)

6-This is the testimony, last of all, which we give of him: That he lives! For we saw him, even on the right hand of God; and we heard the voice bearing record that he is the Only Begotten of the Father (D&C 76:22-23).

Or Read testimonies from the concluding paragraphs of recent general conference addresses. (See May and November *Ensign* Magazines) Let the children determine which elements of a testimony are included in each.

Or Hide something in the room, and tell the children to find it, but don't tell them what they are looking for. Explain that it is easier to find something when you know what it is. It is easier to gain a testimony if you understand what it is. Discuss the elements of a testimony that are listed. Divide the children into four groups, assign one of the four elements listed to each group, and have each discuss and report on why that element is important to know. Or

Or Let younger children draw pictures about things that they know or want to know as part of their testimony. Have them pantomime what they must do to obtain a testimony.

1

When I have a testimony,
I know that:



2

Jesus Christ is Heavenly
Father's Son and our Savior.
(See Doctrine
and Covenants 46:13.)



3

Joseph Smith was the
prophet through whom God
restored the gospel of Jesus
Christ to the earth.
(See Doctrine and Covenants
21:1-3; 135:3.)



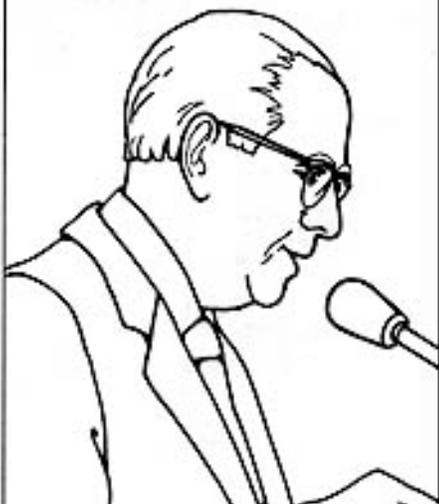
4

The Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-day Saints is the
only true church.
(See Doctrine
and Covenants 1:30.)



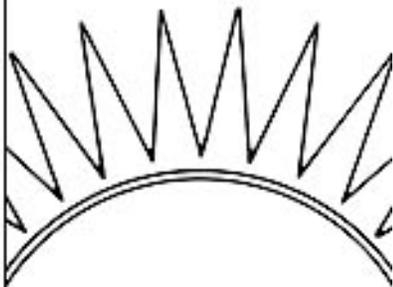
5

We are led by a living
prophet today.
(See Doctrine
and Covenants 1:38.)



6

*This is the testimony,
last of all, which we
give of him:
That he lives!
For we saw him, even
on the right hand of
God; and we heard the
voice bearing record
that he is the Only
Begotten of the Father
(Doctrine and
Covenants 76:22-23).*



49- Getting to Know President Boyd K. Packer

SONG: Book of Mormon Stories, p. 118

SCRIPTURE: Joseph Smith History 1:34

LESSON & ACTIVITY: Friend, February 2005 - To learn more about President Boyd K. Packer, Acting President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, match the lettered pictures with the clues below.

1. The fifth son and tenth child in his family, President Packer was born here.
2. About his childhood, he says, "I thought we were poor. I later learned that that was not true." Though his family had little of this, they were rich in faith, testimony, and love of family.
3. He shows his love for nature by painting and carving animals, especially these flying creatures.
4. He was unable to serve a full-time mission because World War II broke out. Instead, he served his country by operating one of these.
5. He and Donna Edith Smith were married here on July 27, 1947.
6. These strong animals, sculpted by his son, symbolize the faith of his pioneer ancestors and his own family's cooperating and taking upon themselves the Savior's "yoke" (see Matt. 11:29-30).
7. He and his wife, Donna, have 10 children. They owned these so the children could learn to work.
8. He taught seminary classes using these items.
9. One of his grown sons says that early in the morning he sees this inside his parents' house and knows his father is already awake. President Packer enjoys writing and studying.
10. He has called this "the single most powerful influence in [his] life."

Answers:

1F (Brigham City, Utah), 2J, 3B, 4A, 5C (Logan Utah Temple), 6I, 7G, 8D, 9H, 10E.



50- Getting to Know Elder Jeffrey R. Holland

SONG: Called to Serve, p. 174

SCRIPTURE: D& C 20:19

LESSON & ACTIVITY: Friend, January 2005 - To learn more about this member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, choose from the list of words to complete the crossword puzzle.

born	football	June	special
Brigham	grocery	Patricia	Yale
England	hope	president	

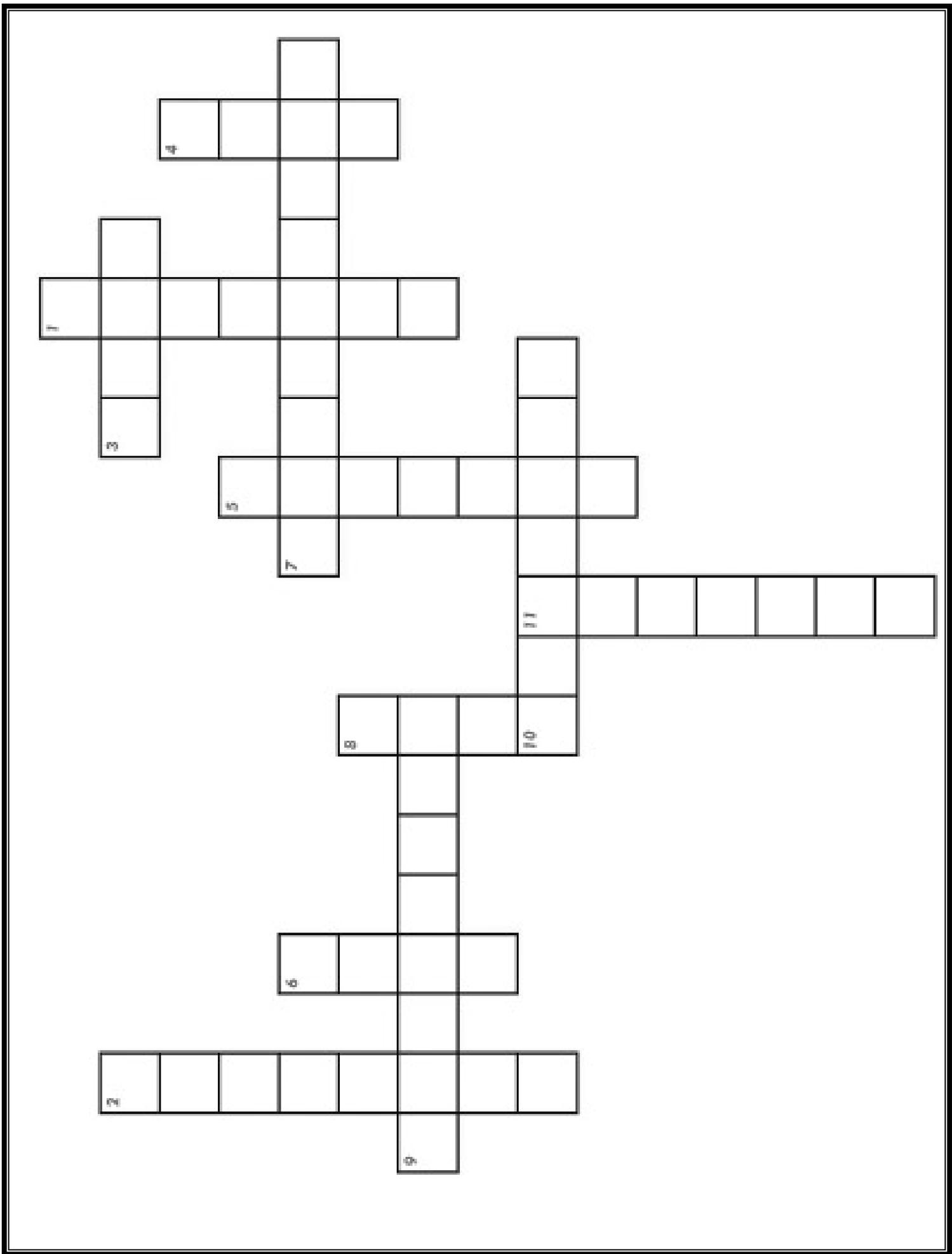
Across

3. Sister Holland says that her husband helps discouraged people see that there is ___ ___ through the Savior.
7. Elder Holland served as the dean of religious education at BYU and as the commissioner of education for the Church. In 1980, he was appointed _____ of BYU.
9. Playing sports in high school helped him become friends with the woman he would one day marry, _____ Terry, or "Pat." She was a cheerleader.
10. He served his mission in _____. His parents were called to the same mission while he was there, so he had to say farewell to his parents both when he left for his mission and before he returned home!

Down

1. The Hollands have three children: Matthew, Mary Alice, and David. They all say that their dad made them feel _____.
2. In high school he ran track, played baseball, and helped win the state championships in both _____ and basketball.

4. Elder Holland had served as a bishop, a member of three stake presidencies, and a Seventy before President Howard W. Hunter called him to his office on _____ 23, 1994. That day changed Elder Holland's life—he was called and ordained an Apostle.
5. He attended Dixie College, where he was co-captain of the basketball team, and _____ Young University, where he graduated with a degree in English.
6. Elder Holland was _____ on December 3, 1940, and grew up in St. George, Utah.
8. After teaching institute in California and Washington, he went to graduate school at _____ University in New Haven, Connecticut.
11. As a teenager, he worked as a service station attendant, a paperboy, and a _____ bagger.



51-Getting to Know Elder Richard G. Scott

SONG: I Love to See the Temple, p. 95

SCRIPTURE: D&C 124:39-41

LESSON & ACTIVITY: Friend, April 2005 - To learn more about Elder Richard G. Scott of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, match the pictures above with the clues below.

1. Elder Scott was raised in this city.
2. As a young man, he didn't get a summer job he applied for with the Utah Park Service. He traveled to Utah anyway, and he offered to do this chore in the kitchen for two weeks. He said, "If you don't like my work, you don't have to pay me." By the end of the summer, he had become the number-two cook.
3. He had many other interesting jobs, including gathering these while sailing off the coast of New York.
4. He likes jazz music and knows how to play this instrument.
5. As a young man he was encouraged by his girlfriend, Jeanene Watkins, to serve a mission. After he served in Uruguay and she served in the northwestern United States, they were married here.
6. He likes science and became a nuclear engineer. During a job interview, the interviewer snapped at him for mentioning his mission. He defended his beliefs and was hired because he had shown enough confidence for the difficult job—helping to design this nuclear-powered vehicle.
7. He lived in this country for three years as a member of the Seventy.
8. In his free time, Elder Scott likes spending time in the outdoors watching these.
9. He also enjoys this hobby.
10. He loves to help them.

Answers: 1G (Washington, D.C.), 2A (washing dishes), 3C, 4F, 5I (Manti Utah Temple), 6B, 7D (Mexico), 8H, 9J, 10E (youth and children).

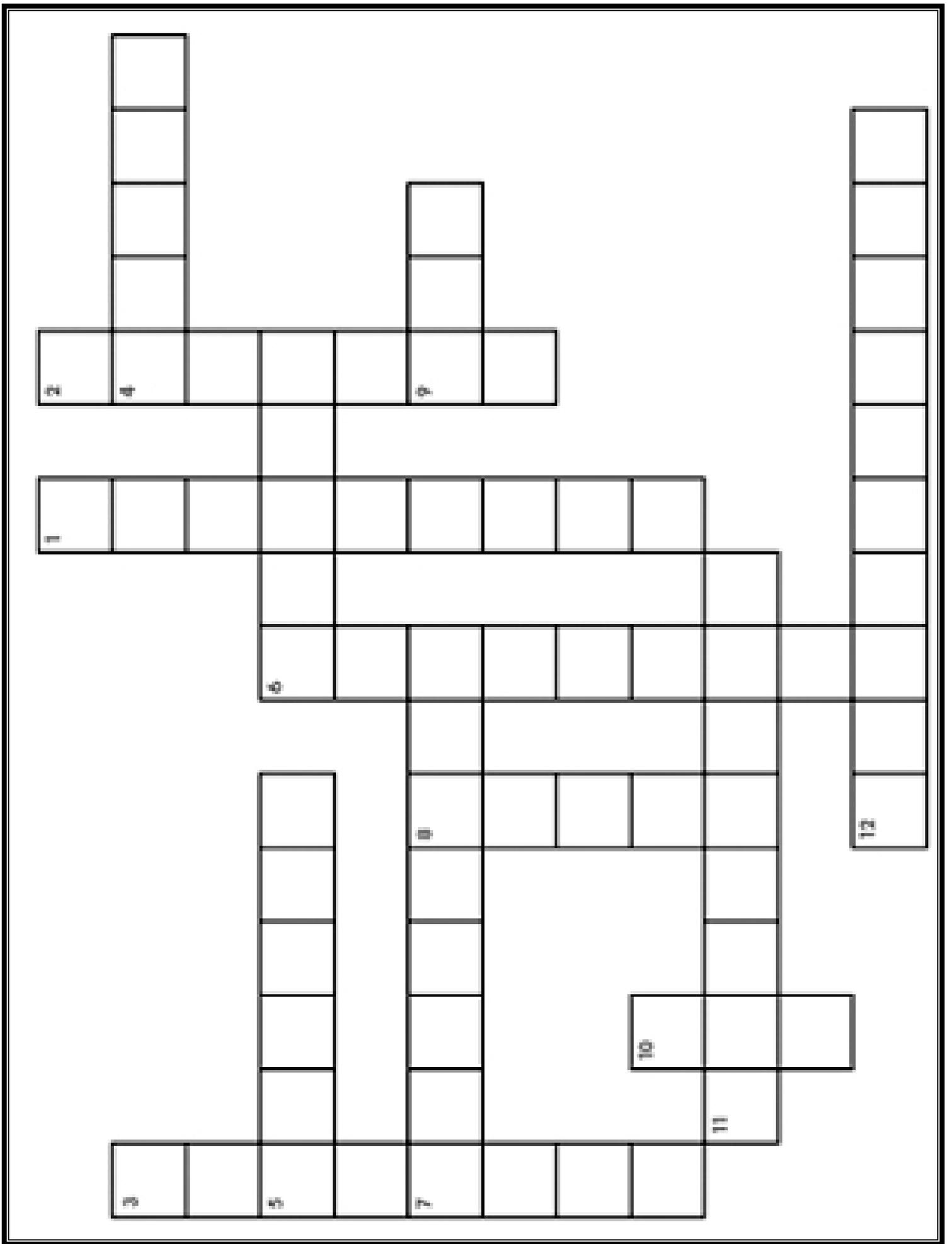
CLOSING PRAYER:

REFRESHMENTS:



Across

4. Henry B. Eyring grew up in New Jersey. The Church was small there, and his branch met in a _____ room.
5. Elder Eyring's wife says that the thing she most appreciates about him is his sensitivity to the _____.
6. Every night, Elder Eyring asks two questions when he _____: "What blessings do I have that I am not aware of?" and "Who can I help?"
7. His family and friends often call him by his _____, Hal.
9. Elder Eyring contributed to institute and seminary programs all over the world by serving as commissioner of the Church Educational System (____). He also served as a member of the Sunday School General Board and as First Counselor in the Presiding Bishopric.
11. While studying at Harvard University in Boston, Massachusetts, he met his wife, _____ Johnson. They were married in the Logan Utah Temple.
12. One of Elder Eyring's hobbies is _____ painting.



53-Getting to Know Elder Dallin H. Oaks

SONG: I Hope They Call Me on a Mission, p. 169

SCRIPTURE: D&C 133:8, 37

LESSON & ACTIVITY: Friend, May 2005 - To learn more about this member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, choose from the list of words to complete the crossword puzzle.

announcer	Korean	Philippines	Supreme
basketball	mission	prayer	sweeping
Chicago	newspapers	Provo	work

fishing

Across

2. When Dallin H. Oaks was eight years old, his father passed away. He learned to ___ ___ ___ hard at a young age to help his widowed mother and brother and sister. He says, "I don't do anything for fun. I just have fun at what I do."
3. Elder Oaks was appointed a judge on the Utah _____ Court.
6. He is well educated and reads three or four _____ a day, along with books and magazines. Sometimes he even reads while waiting at stoplights.
8. He was born in _____, Utah, on August 12, 1932.
9. While announcing a high school _____ game, he was introduced to his first wife, June Dixon. After 46 years of marriage, June passed away. Two years later Elder Oaks married Kristen McMain.
10. He was part of the Utah National Guard at the time of the _____ War.

11. After receiving a degree in accounting, Elder Oaks attended law school in _____
_____.

12. His daughter remembers often going into her parents' room to tell them good-night
and finding her father on his knees in _____.

Down

1. Elder Oaks worked at many interesting jobs. His first job was _____ out a
radio repair shop.

4. Some of the Church positions he has held include being a member of a stake
presidency, stake _____ president, and president of Brigham Young University.

5. He enjoyed spending time with his children, especially going _____.

7. Because of his first job, he later became a radio _____.

8. As an Apostle, he served in the _____ as Area President.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12