

THE Friend

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For Parents of Little Ones



Here are some easy ways to help children gain even more from family home evening!

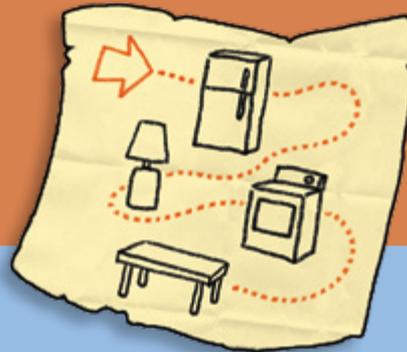
Let children take turns choosing the song. You could listen to some during the week they can choose from. Find songs at music.lds.org.

Your child can help show a picture to go along with the lesson, like Dallin in “Flashlight Family Night” (page FJ2).

Small children may be happier to sit still for lesson time if they have somewhere special to sit, like on a “family home evening cushion” or blanket.



Even if family home evening doesn't always go the way you hope, it still teaches children important lessons. It teaches them that we study Jesus's teachings at home, not just at church. They see that the gospel is a part of their family's everyday lives. They learn that family time is a high priority to you and that you love spending time with them. Those are some pretty great blessings!



Use a game as the lesson. Create a gospel-themed treasure hunt around the house to teach the rewards of following righteous directions. Teach obedience by turning “Simon Says” to “Mom and Dad Say” or “The Scriptures Say.” You can find gospel-themed puzzles and mazes, along with other teaching ideas, at lessonhelps.lds.org.

Plan a family service activity. Ask your children to think of someone who might need help, and listen to their suggestions.

Keep up the good work! Your children will soon surprise you with what they hear, learn, and remember.

You can read past letters at FriendFPLO.lds.org.



“I’m glad that I live in this beautiful world Heavenly Father created for me.”
—*Children’s Songbook*, 229

Flashlight Family Night

By Jennifer Maddy



Time for family night!



Mom's turn for the lesson.



Uh-oh! The lights went out!



"No problem!" Dad says.



Now Dallin isn't so scared.



He helps with the lesson.



Then a parade to the kitchen!



The lights come back on.



"Let's do that again!"

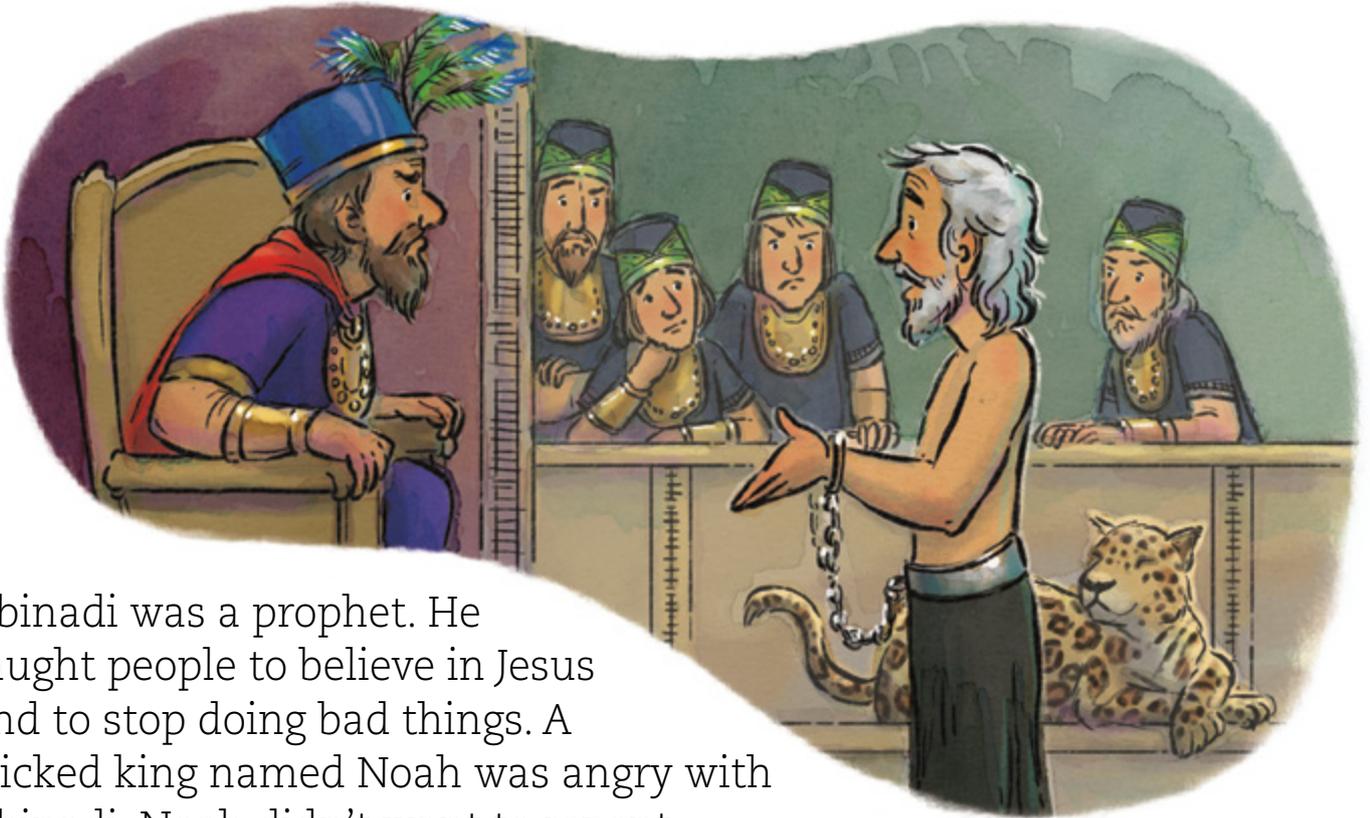
Follow the Light

Help Dallin find the treats for family night.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY LAURA KRUSHAK-GREEN

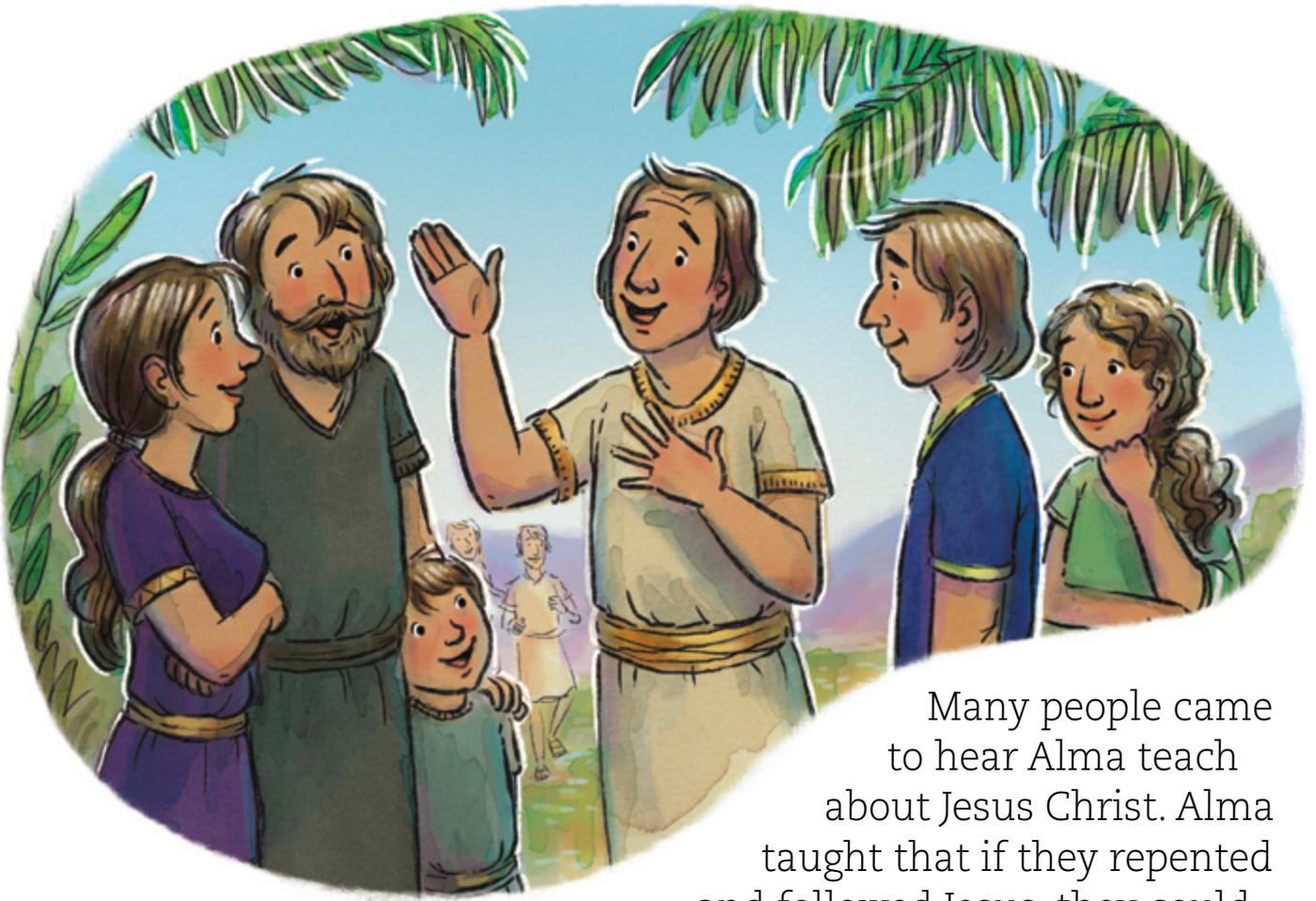
Alma Baptizes Many People



Abinadi was a prophet. He taught people to believe in Jesus and to stop doing bad things. A wicked king named Noah was angry with Abinadi. Noah didn't want to repent.



A man named Alma believed Abinadi. He ran away and hid from the angry king. He felt sorry for doing wrong things, and he repented, just like Abinadi had taught.



Many people came to hear Alma teach about Jesus Christ. Alma taught that if they repented and followed Jesus, they could be baptized.

The people clapped with joy. They promised to comfort others. They promised to love God and tell other people about Him. They were ready to be baptized.





One by one, Alma baptized the people. They were very happy to be part of Jesus's Church.

When we are baptized, we make the same promises that Alma's people did. And we become part of Jesus's Church too! ◆

From Mosiah 16–18.

Alma Baptizes

How many hearts
can you find?



Pesos for Heavenly

Ana chewed her last bite of tortilla. She loved her grandmother's tortillas. They were the best part of breakfast.

Ana watched her grandmother, Abuela, wash the dishes. It was like any other morning. But one thing was not the same.

Most mornings Ana and Abuela walked to the market to buy food. But today there was no money.

What will we eat tomorrow? Ana wondered.

Then Ana remembered. Last night she saw Abuela put a few pesos in a little bag.

"Abuela, you have money to buy food," Ana said.

"What money?" Abuela asked.

Ana ran to get the little bag of coins. *Clink! Clink!*

Abuela smiled. "That is our tithing. That is for Heavenly Father."

"But what will we eat tomorrow?" Ana asked.

"Do not worry," Abuela said. "Heavenly Father will help us."

The next morning Abuela gave Ana



Father

By Angela Peña Dahle
(Based on a true story)

the last tortilla. Then she sat down in her chair. She told stories about when she was a little girl. She did not look worried.

Then Ana heard a knock. She ran to open the door.

“Uncle Pedro!”

“I had a feeling I should visit,” Uncle Pedro said. He put three sacks on the table. One had flour for tortillas. Another had meat. Another had vegetables.

“Oh, my sweet son,” Abuela said.

“Thank you!”

Ana was so happy. But there was one thing she wanted to know. “Abuela, did you know Uncle Pedro would come? Is that why you weren’t worried?”

“No,” Abuela said.

“When I pay tithing, I have faith that Heavenly Father will bless me. And He did!”

