



FOLLOW THE PROPHET

By Heidi S. Swinton

President Thomas S. Monson was 22 years old when he was called to be a bishop. As a young bishop, he watched carefully over the members of his ward, especially those who didn't often come to church.

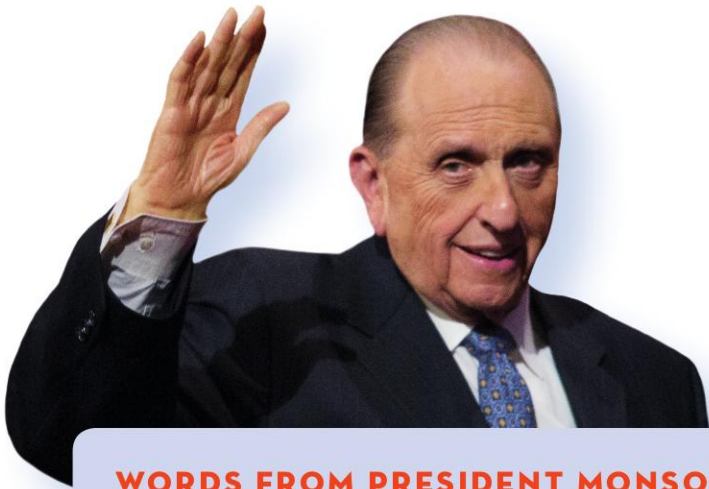
One Sunday morning he noticed that a young man named Richard was missing. This was not unusual because Richard often missed church. But Bishop Monson decided to try to find him. First he went to Richard's home. When Richard's mother answered the door, she said he was working at a gas station.

Bishop Monson drove to the gas station. He looked everywhere but could not find Richard. Then he felt inspired to look down in the grease pit at the side of the building. As he looked down into the dark pit, he saw a pair of shining eyes looking back at him and heard Richard say, "You found me, Bishop! I'll come up."

Bishop Monson told Richard how much the priests quorum missed him and needed him. Richard nodded and promised to come to church the next Sunday. He came to church the next week and the weeks after that. Then he and his family moved away.

One evening Bishop Monson got a phone call from the bishop in Richard's new ward. He asked Bishop Monson to give a talk in the ward before Richard left to serve a mission. Richard served as a valiant missionary, and he also later served as a bishop. He said that the turning point in his life was when Bishop Monson found him in a grease pit that Sunday morning and encouraged him to come back to church.

Being a friend to someone who is missing the opportunity to come to church is one way we can follow the Lord's commandment: "Love one another, as I have loved you" (John 15:12). ♦



WORDS FROM PRESIDENT MONSON

"The best way to help people to become fully active in the Church is to love them."

From "How Do We Show Our Love?" Ensign, Jan. 1998, 5.

JESUS'S EXAMPLE

One day Jesus was teaching in the temple. Some people brought a woman to see Him. They wanted her to be punished because she had broken one of God's commandments. Jesus told the Pharisees they could punish her only if they had not broken any of the commandments. The Pharisees felt guilty, and they went away. Jesus loved the woman. He told her to not break any more commandments. Then she could be happy. Jesus wants us to follow Him. He wants us to love others

and invite them to do things that will make them happy.

From John 8:1-11.

BE A FRIEND!

These pictures show some ways you can help others feel welcome at church. Color the heart after you have tried to do something shown in that picture.



You Found Me, Bishop!

