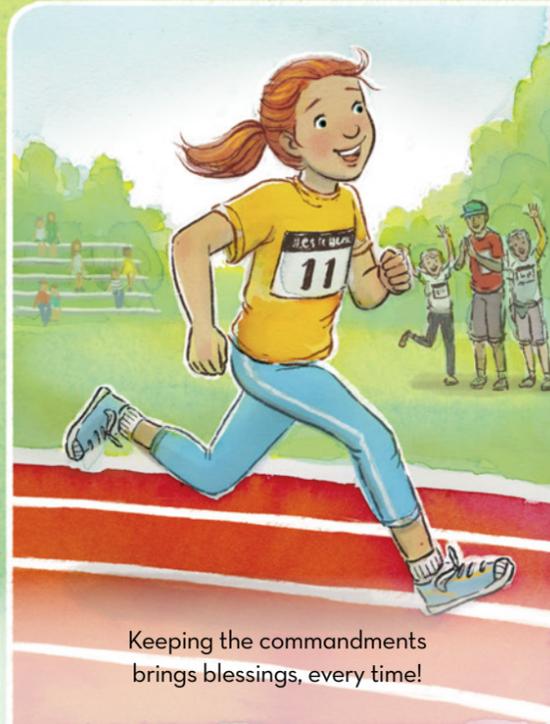


Why is being OBEYIENT so important?

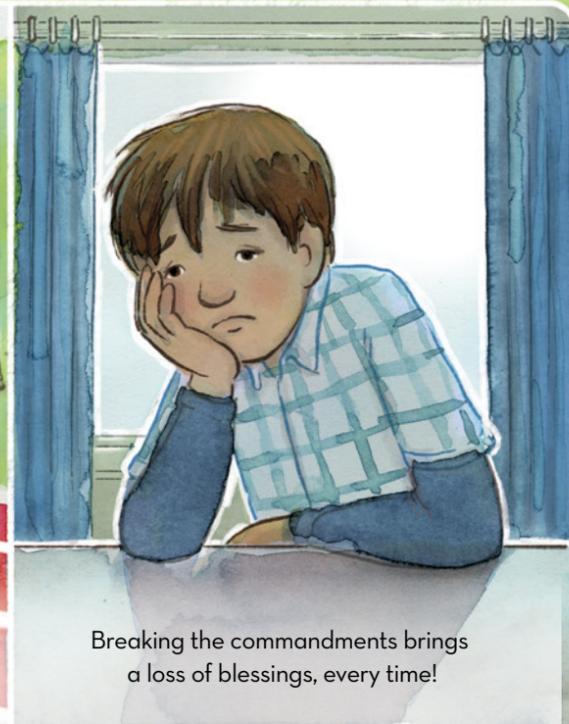
By Elder Russell M. Nelson

Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

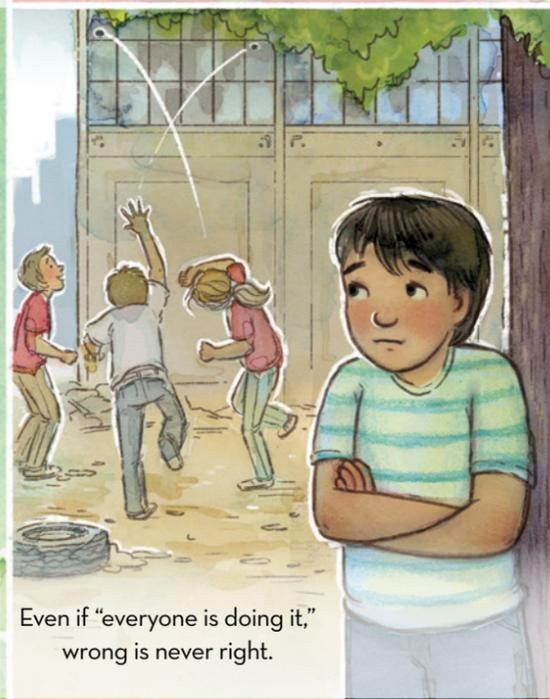
The members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles are special witnesses of Jesus Christ.



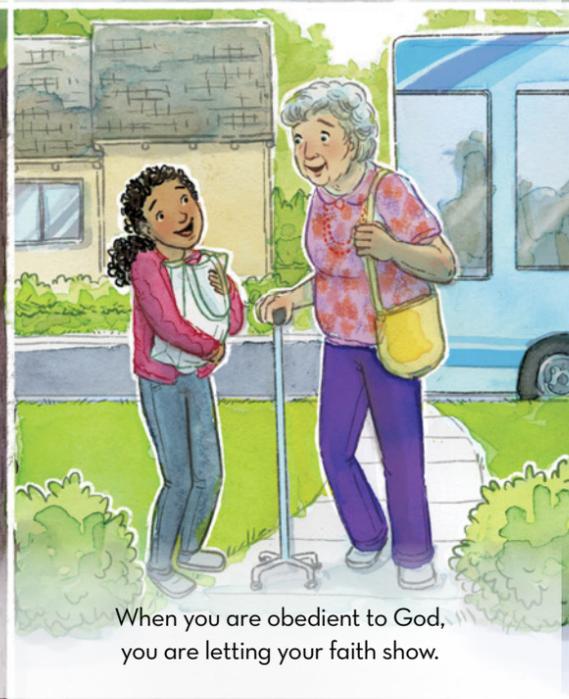
Keeping the commandments brings blessings, every time!



Breaking the commandments brings a loss of blessings, every time!



Even if "everyone is doing it," wrong is never right.



When you are obedient to God, you are letting your faith show.

A story from Elder Nelson's life.

OBEYING Mom and Dad

When Elder Russell M. Nelson was a boy, he learned to obey his parents. Sometimes Russell didn't want to get out of bed in the morning. His dad had a special way of helping him. He would come into Russell's room and sing loudly, "Up, up, the sun is up, the dew is on the grass!"

Russell knew his dad was trying to help him. He obeyed his dad and got out of bed, even though he was tired. When Russell became a dad, he followed his dad's

example. He sang to his children in the morning to help them wake up too.

For Christmas one year, Russell's parents gave him a shiny black bike. When Russell was 10, his dad asked him to come work as his errand boy. He would send Russell on his bike to deliver and pick up things all over town. Russell met lots of new and interesting people. He was excited to help!

Later Russell used the money he earned from his job as an errand boy to buy his mom a present on *his* birthday! He wrote her a note that said, "Thanks for having me!"

Russell's parents didn't go to church very often. But they taught him how to pray and sent him to church every Sunday. When he was a teenager, he gained his own testimony. He knew Heavenly Father loved him, and he decided to always obey Him. When he got older, his parents started going to church too. ♦



5 FACTS ABOUT ELDER NELSON

- Born in Salt Lake City on September 9, 1924
- The M in his name stands for Marion
- Helped to develop open-heart surgery
- Has nine daughters and one son
- Became an Apostle in April 1984

ILLUSTRATIONS BY APRIL STOTT