

I'm Going There Someday

By Mary N., age 12,
Maryland, USA

When I was almost 12, I was so excited to go to the temple. My family and I talked about what it was going to be like inside, and I looked at pictures of the inside of temples as well.

A few weeks before I went to do temple baptisms, my family had a special family home evening. We listened to great stories about some of our ancestors and learned about where they lived and what their lives were like. I even found out that my great-great-grandpa was struck by lightning and survived! Some of my ancestors were from England, so my little brothers and I colored pictures of the English flag. I felt like I made a little connection with my ancestors.

The temple was as beautiful inside as it was outside. Everyone there was so nice, and there was a warm and peaceful spirit there. It was different than anything I had felt before. Everything was exactly perfect. My aunt brought names of some family members who hadn't

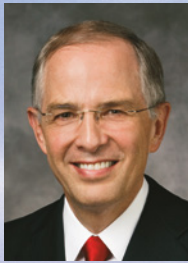
been baptized yet. As we were waiting, my mom and aunt and I imagined what these women were like when they lived on earth 300 years ago. It was special to have my dad baptize me for them.

Seeing everyone in white made me feel like I was surrounded by angels. The temple is like heaven on earth. ♦



5 TIPS FOR YOUR FIRST TEMPLE VISIT

- **Talk** to a parent or teachers about what to expect.
- **Look** at pictures of the rooms inside the temple.
- **Make** an appointment with your bishop to get your recommend. He'll talk with you about your testimony and about keeping the commandments.
- **Find out** about your own ancestors. If possible, find an ancestor you could be baptized for! Visit FamilySearch.org to learn more.
- **Pray** for the Holy Ghost to be with you. Then enjoy your first visit to the temple!



SPECIAL WITNESS

What will it be like when I go inside the temple?

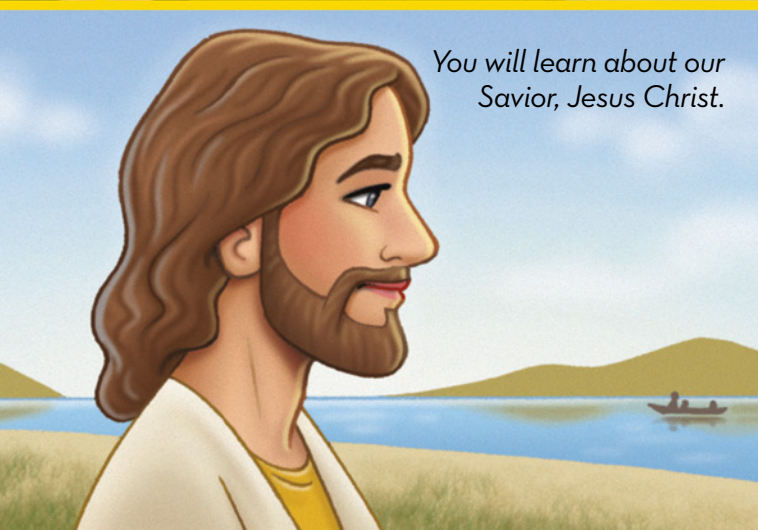
By Elder Neil L.
Andersen

Of the Quorum of the
Twelve Apostles

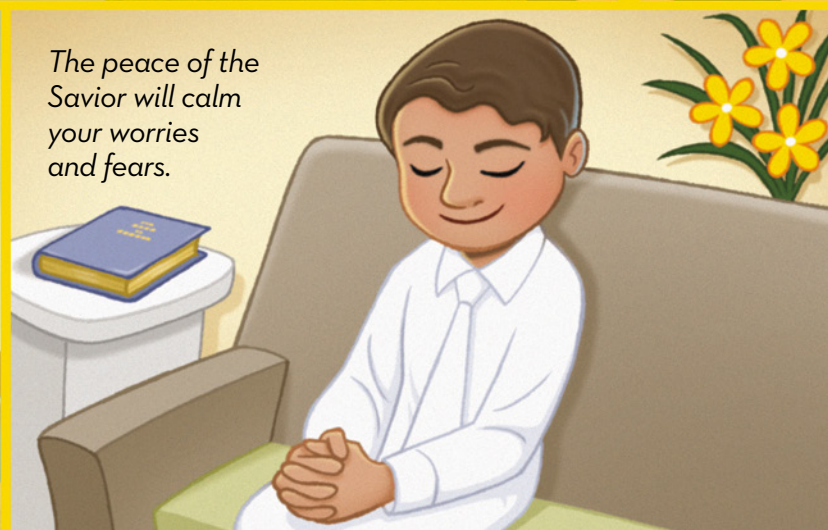
*The members of the
Quorum of the Twelve
Apostles are special
witnesses of Jesus Christ.*



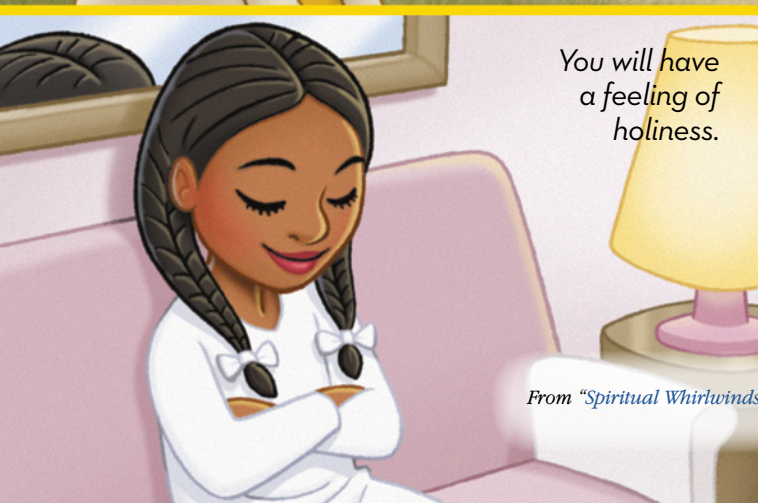
You will learn about the Creation of the world.



You will learn about our
Savior, Jesus Christ.



The peace of the
Savior will calm
your worries
and fears.



You will have
a feeling of
holiness.



It will help
you stand
strong when
life is hard.

From "Spiritual Whirlwinds," Ensign, May 2014, 18–21.

A story from Elder Andersen's life.

The Temple Is a Holy Place

When Elder Neil L. Andersen was young, he learned how important it is to be in holy places. When he was three years old, his family had to drive 90 miles (145 km) every Sunday to get to church! His parents taught him that going to church is important. They helped him learn to choose the right. This helped him prepare to go to another holy place—the temple.

When Neil was older, he wanted to serve a mission. But he was a little worried. “How can I serve a mission when I know so little?” he prayed.

He felt the answer in his heart. “You don’t know everything, but you know enough.”

That answer gave Neil courage. He obeyed and served a mission in France. Before he left, he went to the temple. There he made special promises, called *covenants*, with Heavenly Father. He was blessed for going to the temple.

After his mission he met a girl named Kathy. Kathy chose the right. She loved Heavenly Father. Neil and Kathy decided to get married.

Neil and Kathy were married and made covenants together in the Salt Lake Temple. Later they had four children. Their family is blessed because of their temple covenants. They can be together forever. ♦

5 FACTS ABOUT ELDER ANDERSEN

Born on August 9, 1951

The *L* in his name stands for Linden

When he was a teenager, there were only 13 temples in the world

Served a mission in France and later served as president of the France Bordeaux Mission

Became an Apostle in April 2009



What Do We Do IN THE TEMPLE?

The temple is the house of the Lord. When we go inside, we feel close to Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. We can feel the Holy Ghost. In the temple we take part in sacred *ordinances* like baptism. We also make special promises, or *covenants*, with Heavenly Father. We can help give those who have died the chance to accept the gospel. It will be a very special day when you go inside for the first time! ♦



Celestial Room

The celestial room is beautiful! It reminds us of how peaceful and happy we will be when we live with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ someday.



Baptismal Font

When you turn 12, you can be baptized for people who died without being baptized. The font rests on oxen that represent the twelve tribes of Israel.



When you turn 12, you can meet with your bishop to get your own temple recommend. Then you can go to the temple to do baptisms.



Sealing Room

In rooms like this, families can be sealed together for eternity. This means they can live as a family forever—not just in this life.



*For the temple is a house
of God,
A place of love and beauty.
I'll prepare myself while
I am young;
This is my sacred duty.*

*("I Love to See the Temple,"
Children's Songbook, 95)*

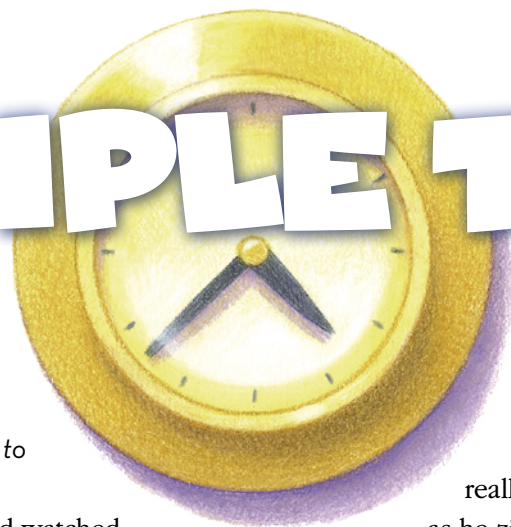
**To see pictures of
temples around the
world, visit [temples
.lds.org](https://www.lds.org) and click
on "Gallery."**

Ordinance Room

In rooms like this, we learn about Heavenly Father's plan for us and we make covenants that will allow us to live with Him again. We learn about the Creation of the world, about Adam and Eve, and about Jesus Christ. We also learn about the blessings we will receive in the next life if we are faithful.



TEMPLE TIME



By Jane McBride Choate

(Based on a true story)

“The hearts of the children shall turn to their fathers” (D&C 2:2).

Kyle sat on his parents’ bed and watched Dad take his temple bag out of the closet. Mom and Dad went to the temple every month. Kyle couldn’t wait until he turned 12 and could go to the temple with them. Then it could be their special family night!

But for now, Kyle got to spend the night at his grandparents’ house. And that was pretty great too. Grandpa and Grandma always did fun things, like watch movies and play board games. Kyle already had his bag packed.

Kyle watched as Dad reverently folded a white shirt and placed it in his bag. “Remind me what you’re doing at the temple?” he asked Dad.

“Well, you know how Grandma has been doing a lot of family history lately? She found out that temple work hasn’t been done for some of our ancestors. So we’re going to do their temple work tonight.”

Kyle nodded. He’d helped Grandma figure out how to use the family history website. They had typed in lots of names and dates and scanned and uploaded a stack of black-and-white photographs.

“What exactly is temple work?” Kyle asked.

Mom sat down next to Kyle on the edge of the bed.

“Well, you know what ‘covenants’ are.”

Kyle nodded. “Promises with Heavenly Father.”

“Right. You made a covenant when you were baptized. In the temple we make more covenants. But some of our relatives didn’t have a chance to make those covenants before they died. So we go to the temple to make those covenants and give them a chance to accept them.”

“We call it ‘temple work,’ but it really doesn’t feel like work,” Dad said as he zipped up his bag. “It feels like a blessing—a blessing for us and a blessing for them. Lots of Grandma’s relatives still need their temple work to be done.”

“I wish I could help them,” Kyle said.

Dad squeezed Kyle’s shoulder. “You *can* help them. In fact, you already have! Remember how exciting it was when you helped Grandma put the stories and pictures on the family history website?”

Kyle nodded. That had been fun!

“When you do that, you’re helping us get to know our family members better. *And* we can see who still needs help getting their temple work done. I hope you keep helping Grandma find more pictures and stories. And I *really* hope you help us keep it organized online!”

Kyle smiled. He *was* pretty good at using the computer.

Dad picked up his bag. “Let’s go to the living room and have a prayer before we leave. Then we’ll drop you off at Grandma and Grandpa’s.”

Kyle knelt at the sofa. He listened to Mom thank Heavenly Father for the temple and for family history work. Then she prayed for help to learn more about their ancestors so that they could do their temple work.

Kyle got a warm feeling as Mom prayed. He decided right then that he would make good choices so that he would be worthy to go to the temple with Mom and Dad when he was old enough. And in the meantime, he

could help other members of his family have temple time too. ♦

The author lives in Colorado, USA.



“The covenants we make at baptism and in holy temples connect the family of God on both sides of the veil.”

Sister Carole M. Stephens, First Counselor in the Relief Society General Presidency

“The Family Is of God,” *Ensign*, May 2015, 13.



*“What’s so special
about temple work?”
Kyle wondered.*

I Want to Be a Stained-Glass Artist

My name is Tom Holdman, and I'm a stained-glass artist.

When did you learn to make stained glass?

In high school. After my mission I wasn't accepted to a university, so I studied on my own. I read *lots* of books. I visited Europe to study the stained-glass windows of famous cathedrals. I stared at one window in Czechoslovakia for an hour! It was



inspiring. I promised myself that someday I would try to make a window that beautiful. Now I get to make stained-glass windows for temples around the world.

How do you get your inspiration?

I fill my mind with great art and music. When I was making stained glass for the Winter Quarters Temple, I listened to the hymn "Come, Come, Ye Saints." Nature also inspires me. When I look up at the rustling leaves of my apricot tree, I get many great ideas!

How does your job help you share the gospel?

I was born with a speech impediment, which means I stutter. When I was a child, I was often treated unkindly. But it actually blessed me because I had to find other ways to



express myself. Through my art, people can feel my love for the Savior.

From an interview by Amie Jane Leavitt

What advice do you have for someone who wants to be an artist?

Just get some paper and draw! Don't be afraid that it won't look good. I have a motto: there's always more paper! If one picture doesn't turn out, get more paper.



Find That Temple!

Next time you visit a temple, look at the windows. Do they have any pictures or patterns in them? The windows in many temples have different themes.

Use the clues to find the art glass that goes with each temple. Check your answers on page 48.

1. The Winter Quarters Nebraska Temple was built where pioneer Saints stopped during their journey to the Salt Lake Valley.

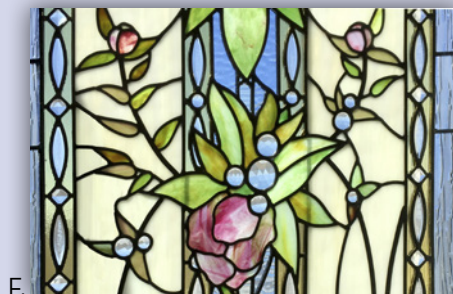
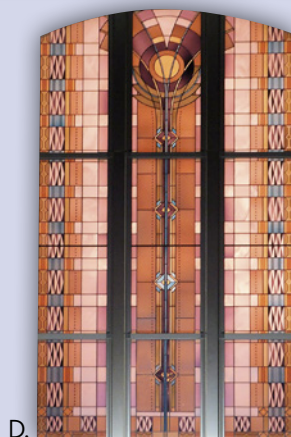
2. The Palmyra New York Temple is near the Sacred Grove, where Joseph Smith saw the First Vision.

3. The São Paulo Brazil Temple is built in South America. Christ visited the Americas after His Resurrection.

4. The Payson Utah Temple is in an area that was once filled with apple orchards.

5. The outside of the Nauvoo Illinois Temple is decorated with carvings of the sun and moon.

6. The Accra Ghana Temple has windows colored with patterns from traditional African art.



STAINED-GLASS PICTURE

By Sherry Timberman

YOU WILL NEED:

white poster board
masking or painter's tape
acrylic or watercolor paint
foam brushes

You can make these beautiful pictures to give as a gift or to hang on your wall. Be sure to get an adult's help.

1. Place strips of tape randomly across the shiny side of the poster board.
2. Paint the spaces between the tape. It's okay to get paint on the tape because you'll take it off when you're done. Try blending different colors with wet paint, or paint different colors over dried paint.
3. Let the picture dry. Then carefully peel off the tape.



STAINED-GLASS COOKIES

You can also make these fun cookies! See the “Christmas Workshop” in the Dec. 2009 *Friend* at friend.lds.org.





MATT AND



MANDY

The Coopers like to go to the temple to see the gardens and to talk.



It's beautiful!

I can hardly wait to go inside someday.

I can show you something great about the temple without even going in. Look over there.

What do you notice about those people?

They all look happy?



Remember how you felt when you bore your testimony last month?

Yeah. I felt happy and peaceful.

You said that feeling was the Holy Ghost.



This temple is Heavenly Father's house. He wants all of His children to come here.

And when they do, He blesses them with His Spirit.



I think that's why those people are smiling, don't you?

Now I really can't wait until I'm old enough to go to the temple!



Show and tell

We love to see the temple!



The largest photo in our home is of the temple. Next are pictures of our family and my parents when they were married in the temple. Someday I want to be married in the temple too, like my mama and papa.

Dantzel (second from left) with Richmond, Margaret, Eliza, and Elaine A., ages 6, 9, 8, 5, and 3, Ozamiz District, Philippines

About 120 members and friends of the **Valrico Ward, Brandon Florida Stake, USA**, visited the Orlando Florida Temple. Before they went, the activity-day girls went to the family history center to learn how to use FamilySearch. Dressed in their Sunday best, 48 Primary children visited the temple grounds while their parents attended the temple.



I'm trying to be like Jesus by helping take care of my sister, Kira, who has autism. A lot of kids think she is weird, but I don't think that. When I play with her, I help her go down the waterslide and do many other things. I love her so much! I do those things because I know Jesus loves her. That is how I'm trying to be like Jesus.

Anika E., age 7, Pennsylvania, USA

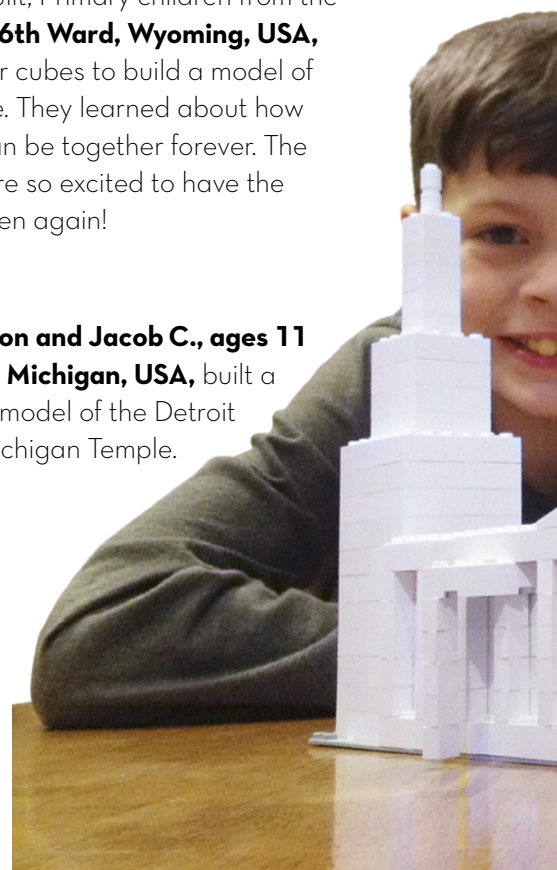
My grandpa is not a member of the Church. My mom took him to the temple open house. My grandpa's favorite room was the celestial room. I hope he will join the Church soon. I love him.

Elisabeth H., age 8, Idaho, USA



While the Ogden Utah Temple was being rebuilt, Primary children from the **Evanston 6th Ward, Wyoming, USA**, used sugar cubes to build a model of the temple. They learned about how families can be together forever. The children are so excited to have the temple open again!

Preston and Jacob C., ages 11 and 9, Michigan, USA, built a model of the Detroit Michigan Temple.



Find more art online at childart.lds.org!

HELPING HANDS

8,575
hands and
counting!



Gavin T., age 10, British Columbia, Canada



I read to my baby sister.

Erica J., age 6, New South Wales, Australia



I surprised Mom by cleaning her bedroom.

Asha G., age 6, Netherlands



I helped others when they fell down.

Hayden S., age 5, Washington, USA



The **Bangkok International Ward Primary** in Thailand sent us a picture of their hands!



I give people hugs when they are sad.

Jordan M., age 5, Hawaii, USA



I can play music to make people happy.

Jaydon M., age 5, Hawaii, USA



I help Mom tend my nieces by playing with them, helping them clean up, and sharing my toys. We have lots of fun!

Genet D., age 8, Utah, USA



I helped my mom clean up the kitchen.

Silas G., age 3, Netherlands

TELL US HOW YOU'VE SERVED!

See page 48 to send us your "helping hand."

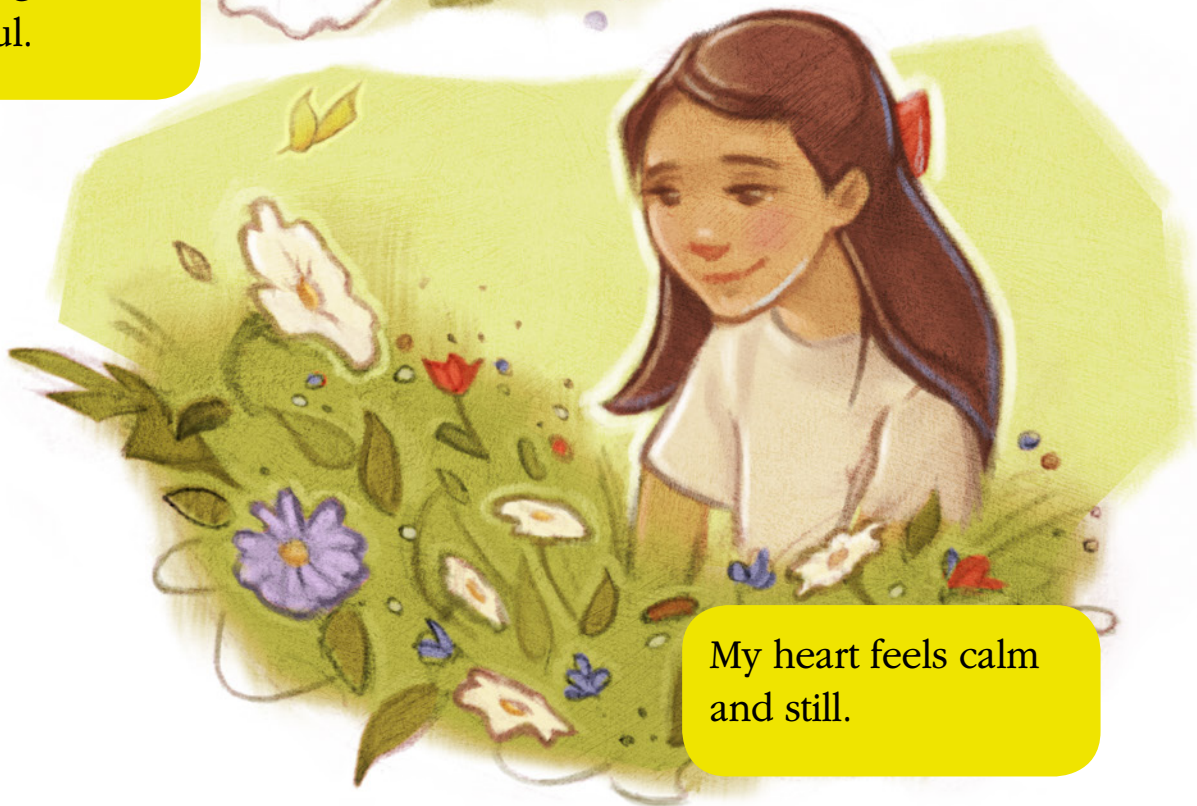


The Temple Grounds

By Amanda Hill



The temple grounds
are beautiful.



My heart feels calm
and still.

I cannot go inside
just yet,

But one day
soon I will.





