

BY KERRI ROBINSON

To learn about the Restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ, tell and sing this story of Joseph Smith with your family, Primary class, or friends. You can have one narrator, or each take turns reading and holding the pictures.

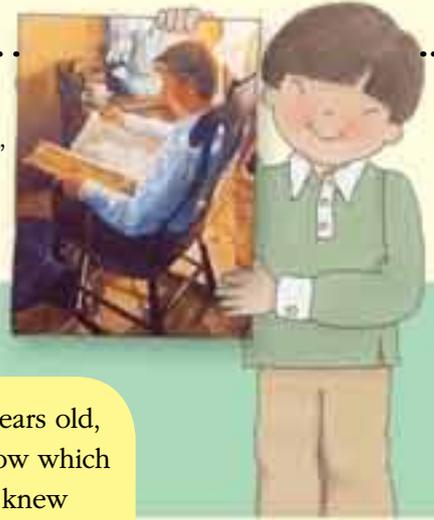
1

Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ had a special mission for a certain man.

Note: Most pictures are from the Gospel Art Picture Kit (240, 402, 403, 404, 406, 520, 400). Substitutes can be found in ward/branch library. All songs are from the *Children's Songbook*.

As a young boy, Joseph Smith had many questions about religion. He studied the Bible often, and found an important scripture in James 1:5: "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."

Song:
"Seek the Lord Early"
(p. 108)



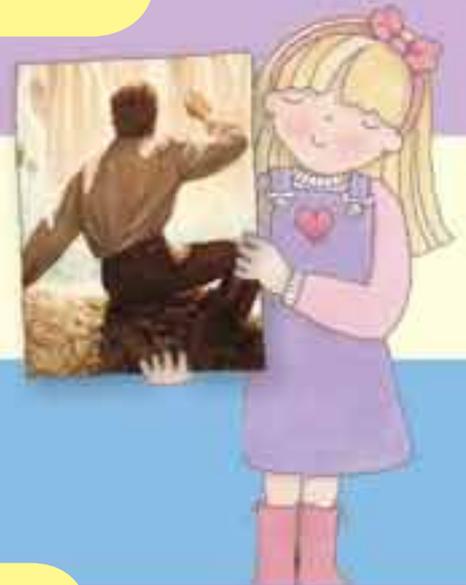
When he was 14 years old, Joseph wanted to know which church was right. He knew he needed to ask Heavenly Father to help him know the truth. On a beautiful spring day, Joseph walked to a quiet place and knelt in a grove of trees to pray. Something happened that day that changed the world.

Song: "This Is My Beloved Son"
(p. 76, verse 3)



Joseph saw Heavenly Father and His Beloved Son, Jesus Christ. They instructed Joseph not to join any of the churches. What joy Joseph must have felt to know that Heavenly Father loves us, and hears and answers our prayers!

Song: "I Know My Father Lives" (p. 5)



When Joseph was 17 years old, he was praying before bedtime when something marvelous happened. Moroni, an angel of the Lord, appeared to him and told him of gold plates. The plates had special inspired writings engraved on them that were recorded hundreds of years ago.

Song: "An Angel Came to Joseph Smith" (p. 86)



In time,
Joseph received
the gold plates.

6



Song: "The
Golden Plates"
(p. 86)

With the help of
Heavenly Father,
Joseph translated the
words so the ancient
record could be read.
That translation is the
Book of Mormon and
is another witness of
Jesus Christ.

7



Song: "Book of
Mormon Stories"
(p. 118, verses 1,
2, and 8)



Through divine
revelation, Joseph Smith
restored the true Church
on the earth. Its teach-
ings center on our Savior,
Jesus Christ. The Church
is directed by Jesus Christ
through a living prophet.

8



9



Stand and
sing "The
Church of
Jesus Christ"
(p. 77).

Joseph Smith was the first
prophet of the latter days.
He made many sacrifices so
we could have the Church,
the blessings of the gospel,
and the Book of Mormon.
He was called names, beaten,
and died defending the truth.
How grateful we are for our
Prophet, Joseph Smith!