

the Friend

junior



THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS



For Parents of Little Ones

Father's Day and Mother's Day can bring up sad feelings for children who don't have a mom or dad at home. What can we do to honor those days in a sensitive way?

Here are some ideas from parents who have transformed potentially painful days into celebrations:

“ I try to remind the kids that every family is different and that, no matter what, our Heavenly Parents will always be there for us. ”

—Erin H.

“ If a parent has passed away, you could celebrate by eating their favorite dinner or sharing favorite memories. ”

—Hayley H.

“ Our Primary has foster children, adopted children, and children who live with grandparents or single parents. One Mother's Day, I made a page for everyone to color and told the kids to pick a woman in their lives who had helped them, someone they looked up to, and to color the card for her. It seemed to go over really well! ”

—Rachel R.

“ My father wasn't present growing up, but I had male role models (uncles, teachers, ward members) who cared about me. I wrote them notes or brought them cookies for Father's Day. It's also OK to skip the holiday and just celebrate it as another day we've been given here on earth. ”

—Chelsea R.



ACTION RHYME

Guess Who?

By Jordan Monson Wright



*He teaches me to dribble.



He shows me how to cook.



He reads to me at
bedtime from our
very favorite book.

He helps me take good care
of my body and my mind.



He helps me to STAND UP for
what's right and true and kind.



Who could it be?
Have you already guessed?



This person is my *daddy!
And, yes, he is the best.

* Replace "daddy" with "grandpa," "brother," "uncle," etc. Or change "he" to "she" for "mommy," "grandma," "sister," etc.

Sharing the Sabbath Day

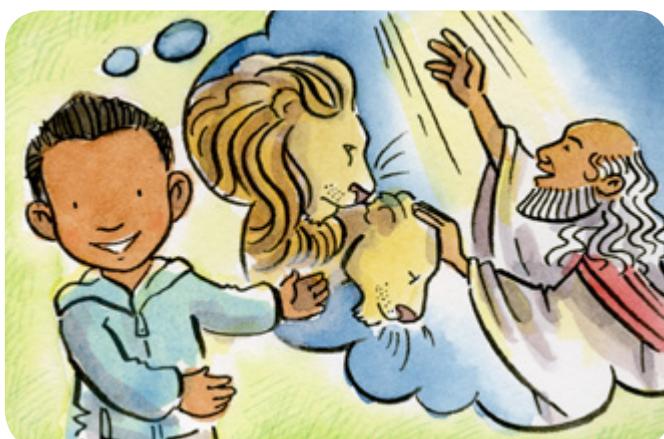
By Jennifer Maddy



"Want to ride bikes?" Alex asks.
"Thanks, but on Sundays I do things with my family," says Tomás.



"Wait! Want to come read with us?" asks Tomás.



"We're reading a Bible story about a guy named Daniel and a bunch of lions!"



"Lions? Cool!" says Alex.



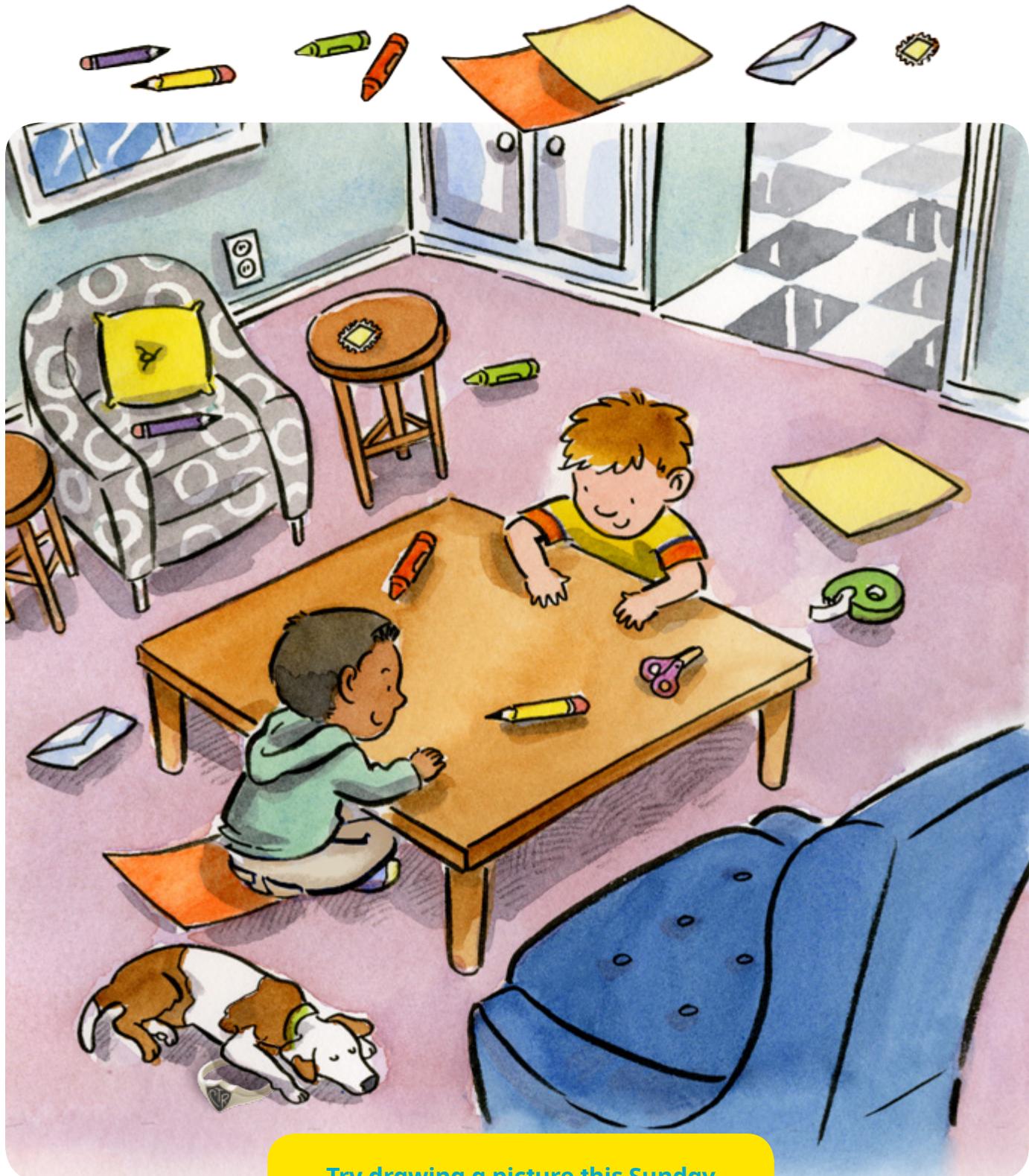
"We're glad you're here, Alex."



Tomás is happy he can share the Sabbath day with his friend.

Sending Sunday Letters

Tomás draws pictures for his grandma on Sundays. Today Alex is going to help him. Can you help them find the things they need?



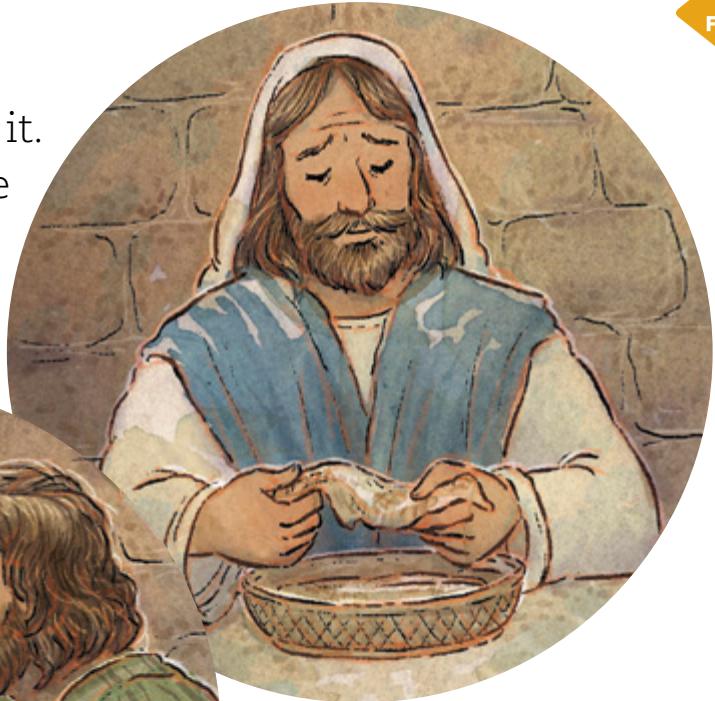
Try drawing a picture this Sunday
for someone you love!

Jesus Taught about the Sacrament



Before Jesus died, He ate a special meal with His disciples.
It was called the Last Supper.

Jesus took bread and blessed it. He gave it to His disciples. He asked them to eat it to help them remember Him.

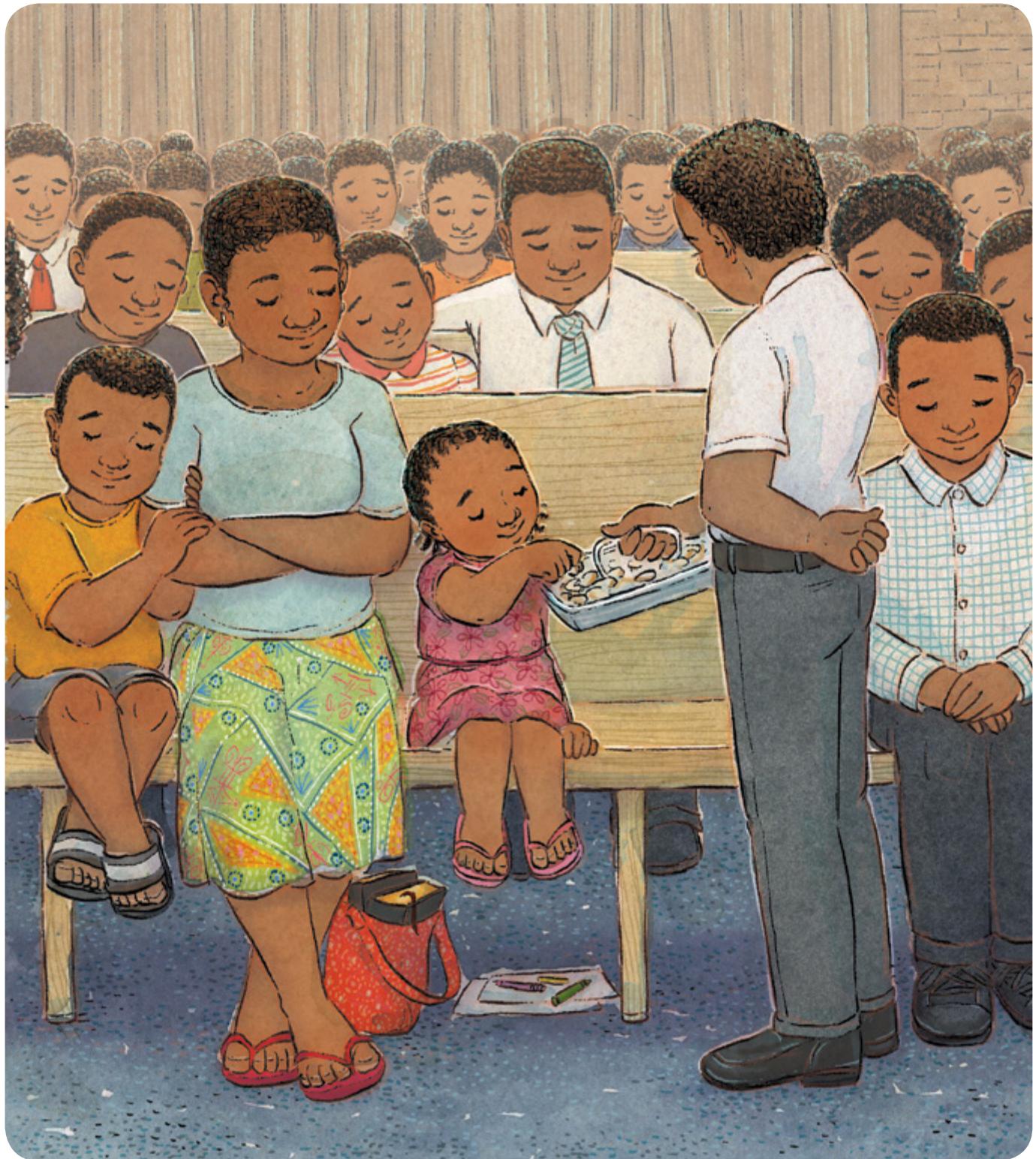


Jesus took a cup and gave it to His disciples. He told them to drink from it to help them remember Him.

Jesus and His disciples also sang a hymn together.



See family manual, page 91; Primary manual, pages 89–90.



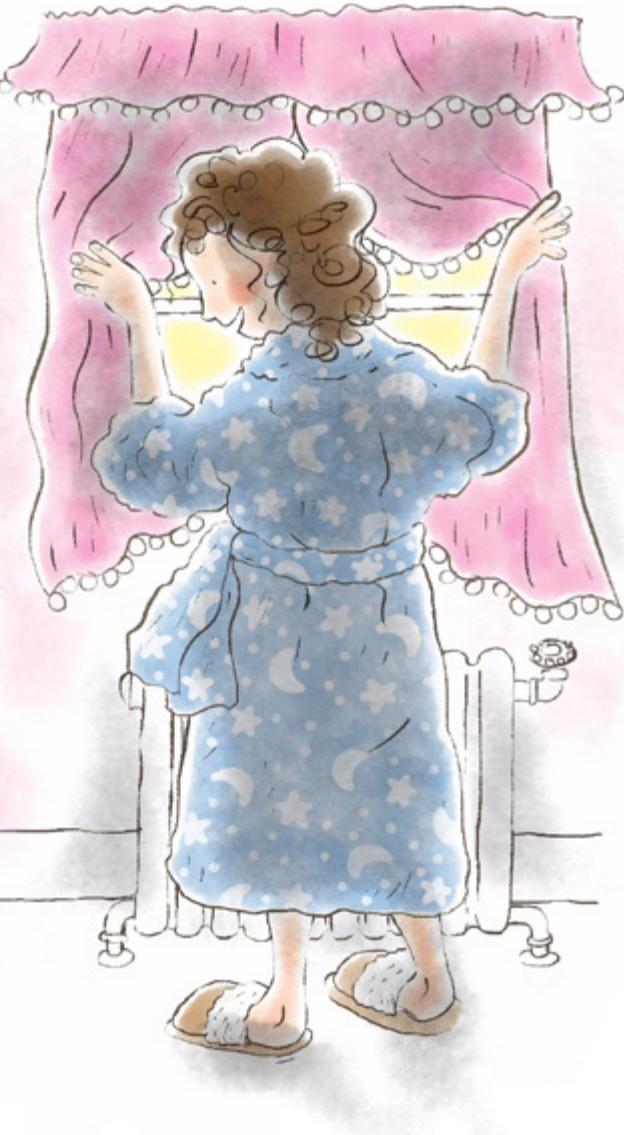
I can remember Jesus by taking the sacrament
every week, as He asked us to do. ●

COLORING PAGE

Jesus Gave Us the Sacrament



Baby's Blessing Day



By Heidi Poelman

(Based on a true story)

Kate jumped out of bed.
“Good morning!” Mom said.
“Today is a special Sunday.”
“Why?” Kate said.
“We’re blessing your baby sister today.”
“Is Susie sick?” Kate asked.
“No,” Mom said. “This is a different kind of blessing. It’s for babies after they’re born. When you were a baby, Daddy gave you a special blessing too.”

Kate didn’t understand. She thought blessings were just for people who were sick. She ate breakfast and got dressed. Then it was time to go.

Kate looked at her baby sister in the car. She was in a beautiful white dress.

When Kate got to church, Grandma and Grandpa were there! So were Aunt Mindy and Uncle Tim. And Kate’s cousins!



Kate was happy to see her family. She usually only saw them on holidays. This must be a special day!

The meeting began. “Today we’re going to bless a baby,” the bishop said.

Kate watched Dad, Grandpa, Uncle Tim, and the bishop go to the front of the chapel. They stood in a circle, holding baby Susie. Everyone else folded their arms and bowed their heads. Kate listened carefully and heard her dad’s voice.

Dad blessed Susie to know that her family loved her. He blessed her to have faith in Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. He blessed her that she would be baptized. And he blessed her that someday she could get married in the temple and have her own family.

“In the name of Jesus Christ, amen,” Dad said. Kate opened her eyes. She watched Dad hold Susie up for everyone to see.

“That was special,” Kate whispered to Mom.

“You’re right,” Mom said.

“I’m glad Susie could have a blessing,” Kate said. ●

The author lives in Utah, USA.

