

Book of Mormon Buddies



By Christy Monson
(Based on a true story)

"I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded" (1 Nephi 3:7).

Tory swung her legs back and forth under her chair. Her stomach growled. She loved going to her new church, but sometimes she got a little hungry by the end.

"What can we do to follow Jesus?" Sister Jameson asked the class.

Tory put her feet on the floor. She sat up straight. *I want to follow Jesus!* she thought.

Erica raised her hand. "We can read the scriptures."

"That's a great idea. Our stake president just asked us to read the Book of Mormon every day," Sister Jameson said. "Who will do that?"

Everyone raised their hands high. Everyone except Tory. She raised her hand only halfway.

Tory was a new member of the Church—and the only member in her family. She had first learned about the Church when her friend Erica invited her to Primary.

Tory still had a hard time reading the Book of Mormon on her own. It had lots of funny names in it, like Teancum and Anti-Nephi-Lehies.

"I'm not sure if I can," Tory told Erica.

"I'll help you!" Erica said. "You can come to my house before school. My family reads

scriptures right after breakfast. Then we can walk to school together."

"Thanks!" Tory said. She was glad that Erica lived so close.

Dad said it was OK, so every morning Tory went to Erica's house before school. They read the Book of Mormon with Erica's family. Tory even tried reading by herself on the weekends.

But then one day in soccer practice, Tory twisted her ankle. After a trip to the doctor, Mom helped Tory to the couch so she could rest. Then Tory called Erica with the bad news.

"I hurt my ankle at soccer today. I have to use crutches for two weeks! And my mom has to drive me to school." Tory swallowed. Her eyes stung a little bit. "I can't come over to read scriptures anymore."

"Oh no! I'm so sorry," Erica said.

"I wish I could keep reading the Book of Mormon with your family." Tory frowned at her foot. It was wrapped in white, sticky tape and propped on a chair in front of her.

Erica was quiet for a moment. Then she said, "I have an idea—a way we can keep reading together!"

"How?"

"Stay by the computer before school tomorrow. You'll see!"

The next morning Tory got ready for

school as fast as she could. But her ankle made it tricky. She got out her favorite green socks. But they wouldn't even fit on her foot! Tory hobbled to the living room and plopped into the chair by the computer.

The computer made a beeping sound. It was a video call from Erica's family! Tory answered, and a blurry screen came up. Erica's face appeared.

"We're ready!" Erica grinned. "Now you can still read with us every morning."

Tory opened her scriptures. She followed along as they read 1 Nephi 3:7: "I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded." She smiled. She was doing what the Lord had commanded too! ♦

The author lives in Utah, USA.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY HOLIE HIBBERT



"If you are not reading the Book of Mormon each day, please do so."

President Thomas S. Monson
(1927-2018)

*"The Power of the Book of Mormon,"
Ensign, May 2017, 86.*