

## Sharing Time

### Pioneers worked hard and sacrificed to build temples.

#### **Preparation:**

- Bring a basket with the items listed below to represent the sacrifices of the pioneers.
- Bring a box with a picture of Jesus Christ on the front for the children to put the objects in to represent giving their sacrifice to the Lord.
- Cut pictures of the Kirtland, Nauvoo, and Salt Lake temples into four pieces (one for each sacrifice for that temple).
- As the children put an object into the box, we will add a piece to the temple on the board. This represents the pioneers sacrificing to build temples.

#### **Lesson:**

What is a sacrifice?

--Where we give up something and we don't get it back, but we are given blessings instead. For example, we sacrifice our money to pay tithing, and we are blessed with the things we need.

The pioneers lived in at a time where they didn't have a lot of money or fun things. They had to grow any food they had, make their own clothes, and work very hard. Heavenly Father still asked them to build temples and they sacrificed a lot to build them. They knew how important the temple was and they wanted to receive those blessings.

Today we are going to learn about three temples that the pioneers built--Kirtland, Nauvoo, and Salt Lake. I will choose someone to pick something out of the basket that will teach us about a sacrifice the pioneers made to the Savior, and we will put it in the gift box for Him. As we make sacrifices, the temples will be able to be built on the board just like the pioneers sacrificed to build these temples.

#### Sacrifices

##### **Kirtland**

- Small pillow(sleep): After working long days to build the temple, the men had to sleep outside the temple to prevent mobs from destroying all their hard work .
- Dish: The prophet asked the women to give up their dishes and other sparkling items to be smashed into tiny pieces. These pieces were mixed into the outside stucco to make the temple sparkle.
- Hammer (work): Every able man & boy was asked to work on the temple as often as they could, and at least one day in ten (like tithing). This was on top of running their farms and other jobs.
- Shirt: Women worked all day to make clothes for the workers. They also sewed all the curtains for the temple. Often times they would go without new clothes so that the men would have the clothes they needed.

### **Nauvoo**

- Can of food: Any extra food, and sometimes all the food they had, was given to the men who were working so hard on the temple.
- Money: The pioneers did not have a lot of money, but the Relief Society asked each sister to donate a penny a week. They donated 50,000 pennies=\$500. That was a lot of money back then.
- Toys: One little boy was asked to give his brand new birthday wagon so that the men could use it to haul their tools around. He did not want to, but he did because he wanted to help build the temple (Nauvoo).
- Temple picture: The pioneers even had to sacrifice their temples. Tell about leaving Kirtland and Nauvoo—and how Nauvoo temple was destroyed, but has now been rebuilt.

### **Salt Lake**

- Tithing slip: The pioneers did not have a lot of money, but they paid their tithing because the prophet asked them to so they could build the temple.
- Clock (time): Did you know that it took 40 years to build the Salt Lake Temple? Pioneers worked long hours to make the temple a beautiful place.
- Stone: The stones for the Salt Lake Temple were cut from granite in Little Cottonwood Canyon, which was 33 miles away. They were put onto carts and oxen pulled them back to the temple site. Sometimes it took 4 days for one stone to make it back to the temple. It was very hard. The last few years, the railroad was in place so they could move the stones a lot quicker.
- Piano Book (Talents): One of my talents that I have is playing the piano. That won't help build a temple, but many pioneers had talents and sacrificed a lot to share them so that the temples could be built. Tell story of John Moyle (see below).

Conclusion: Read D&C 109:4-5(if time). The pioneers sacrificed a lot to build these temples, and think of the millions of people who have been blessed because of their sacrifices. Bear testimony.

### Pioneer Stories from *The Friend*

In order to finish the temple, the prophet Wilford Woodruff asked everyone to make special contributions to the temple fund. Even young children were encouraged to give whatever they could. Many children worked on holidays and gave all their earnings to the temple fund. Other children asked to do extra chores around the

house in order to earn some money to give.

During this time, one young Primary boy was trying to earn enough money to buy something for himself. He found work at a neighbor's farm. After working very hard, he was paid twenty-five cents—a lot of money in those days—for his efforts. He “clutched the coin and ran home” excitedly to show his father how much he had earned. “Pa, look what I have!” he proudly announced. “The next time you go to Provo,” he continued, “I can get a new pair of jeans with this money.”

His father reminded him of the prophet's request for funds for the temple. “President Wilford Woodruff needs ten cents of this quarter for the Salt Lake Temple. Here, I'll give you fifteen cents for the coin, and we'll go together to give the dime to our bishop, who will send it to Salt Lake City.” The boy gladly took the money to the bishop so that he, too, could help build the temple.

John Rowe Moyle was a convert to the Church who left his home in England and traveled to the Salt Lake Valley as part of a handcart company. He built a home for his family in a small town a valley away from Salt Lake City. John was an accomplished stonemason and, because of this skill, was asked to work on the Salt Lake Temple.

Every Monday John left home at two o'clock in the morning and walked six hours in order to be at his post on time. On Friday he would leave his work at five o'clock in the evening and walk almost until midnight before arriving home.

One day, while he was doing his chores at home, a cow kicked him in the leg, causing a compound fracture. With limited medical resources, the only option was to amputate the broken leg.

Once John could sit up in bed, he began carving a wooden leg with an ingenious joint that served as an ankle to an artificial foot. Walking on this device was extremely painful, but John did not give up, building up his endurance until he could make the 22-mile (35-km) journey to the Salt Lake Temple each week, where he continued his work.

His hands carved the words “Holiness to the Lord” that stand today as a golden marker to all who visit the Salt Lake Temple.

Benjamin Woodbury Driggs was the son of Shadrach Ford Driggs. Shadrach Driggs aided in building the beautiful city of Nauvoo. He was a wagon maker by trade. Little Benjamin was always interested in the big wagon shop across the road from his home. The shop was a very busy place with music coming from the workman and their tools. Benjamin's father was always saying to Ben, “Don't get in the workmen's way and please don't mess with the tools.”

Benjamin, being a very inquisitive little boy, would take some boards and a tool and sit in an out-of-the-way spot and hammer his heart away day in and day out. His father promised him a wagon for his seventh birthday that would be exactly like the ones he made to cross the plains. However, the workers made Ben promise not to get in their way or to tease his father!

Benjamin's father, Shadrach, would work evenings making a beautifully crafted wagon from scrap iron and

seasoned lumber that he used for creating the big wagons. The little wagon got its final coat of paint the day before Benjamin's birthday, May 13, 1844. Oh! It was a beauty.

Ben awoke to a beautiful May day on his birthday and there in the living room was his wagon. Tears were in his mother's and father's eyes as they watched the joy in Benjamin's eyes. He jumped, squealed, and lovingly hugged his parents for such a rare gift.

Ben trained his dog, Bones, to pull the wagon and the two of them became a familiar sight around the streets of Nauvoo. Ben's favorite errand for his mother was to go down Mullholland Street through the business part of town and past the lot where the great temple was being built and then on to Parley P. Pratt's store. Ben was intrigued watching the men shaping and replacing stones to make the beautiful temple. One day on his way home from the store he passed near the temple and became so interested in watching the carving of the stones that he didn't notice two workmen checking out his wagon until he heard one say, "That wagon would be a mighty handy thing to haul tools and materials about the yard." Then, to the startled boy he said, "Sonny, how would you like to let us have your wagon to help build the temple?"

"Oh no, I couldn't do that!" replied Ben. "Isn't your father the boss of the big wagon shop?" the man questioned. "Yes." "Well, we will talk to him about it." Frightened at the thought of losing his precious wagon, Ben sped for home with Bones at his heels. There, bursting into tears, he exclaimed, "Mother, you won't let them take it away will you?"

"What are you talking about boy?" his mother asked. "Some men at the temple asked me for my wagon to haul their tools' and when I said I couldn't give it to them they said, 'We will see your father.'" "Perhaps they were just joking, Ben." His father came in the house just as the two men appeared at the door. In the kitchen with his mother Ben heard one of them say, "It would be a great help Brother Driggs, to keep some of our best tools together and move things around from place to place." "Well, let me talk it over with the boy," replied the father. "He is mighty proud of that little wagon; but perhaps he will give his consent if he sees things as we do."

That night Ben had a heart-to-heart talk with his father and mother. "You see son, everybody is giving something to help build the temple," said his father. "I know just how you feel about it and I am not going to force you to part with your wagon. Perhaps even a little boy like you can help." Ben's mother took him to bed, she kissed a tear-stained face and patted his head.

The next morning little Ben, drawing his wagon and Bones at his side, made his way to the temple. After finding the foreman, he simply said, "I've brought you my wagon to help the men build the temple." Looking into Ben's frank face, the kindly man replied with feeling, "God bless you, boy. I know what this means to you. No one has made a greater sacrifice to help build the Nauvoo temple. Your gift will help. God bless you boy." Little Ben bravely held back the tears as he walked home with Bones on his side.

This Ben Driggs is the same 19 year-old whose name is listed a Martin's cove as one of the rescuers to assist the Willey and Martin Handcart companies. A float depicting Benjamin, his dog, and his wagon as well as a capstone from the Nauvoo temple has been created by the Midvale Utah Stake this year (2005) and will be shown in the Days of '47 Parade in Salt Lake City on July 25th.