

## **We Are Responsible for Our Own Learning**

**December 31- January 6**

Auggie walked into his parents' bedroom.

"I don't know if I want to go to church tomorrow. Sam is going to be there and I don't want to see Sam. Remember how mean he was to me yesterday?"

"Auggie," Mom bent down to his level. "What Sam said wasn't nice, but that shouldn't keep you from going to church."

"Your mom's right, Bud." Dad said as he pulled on his socks. "Lots of people have made us angry, but not going to church won't fix a thing. It'll only hurt you. Do you remember the story of the ten virgins?"

"Yeah," Auggie thought. "Five women had oil in their lamps and wouldn't share with the five women who forgot to bring oil. I don't get that story though. Why don't those women share?"

"The oil represents a testimony." Dad explained. "You can't give away your testimony to someone else. You develop it. Grow it. You need to learn to have faith, no matter what happens. If you don't go to church because of Sam, you're giving up on your faith. And over time, if you let things like that keep you from going to church every time, you're going to end up without a testimony. Or like a woman who has forgotten her oil."

"Hard things will always happen throughout your life." Mom admitted. "Keep strengthening that testimony of yours so when you're old enough to be by yourself, you'll know the truth for yourself and keep going to church."

"You're right," Auggie sighed. "I'll go because I need to keep learning for myself."

"We're proud of you, Auggie." Mom said with a smile.