

Hold to the Iron Rod

“Okay everyone!” Mom gathered the family to the family room. “We have a special family home evening tonight! We’re going to talk about Lehi’s vision of the Tree of Life! Anyone want to share the story with us?”

“I will!” Auggie volunteered. “So Lehi had a dream about a tree that had delicious fruit that made you feel happy. The only way to get to the tree was the iron rod. But it was super dark all around so you had to hold on tight to the rod. Because if you let go, you could either get lost in the dark or you could fall into a scary river. Oh yeah, aaaaaand there was a huge building full of a bunch of people laughing at you holding on to the rod. But in the end, the building fell.”

“Thank you for your quick summary of the story,” Mom winked. “Well, we are going to act it out now! We’re going to pretend that the kitchen is the Tree of Life. The kitchen has something special and delicious that will make us happy! But guess what? You’re going to have to make it to the Tree of Life blind folded!”

Mom pulled out four blind folds. One for each kid. Both Mom and Dad helped tie the blind folds over the kids’ eyes so they could not see. Then each kid was spun around so they didn’t know where they were. Mom and Dad led them near the front door. Attached to the door knob was a string of yarn.

“Okay,” Mom began. “So the blindfolds are like being in the darkness. Everyone, hold on to this yarn. It will be our pretend iron rod. Hold on tight to it and it will lead you to the kitchen. Just make sure you don’t let go. Alright! Go!”

Very slowly, the kids walked holding on to their “iron rod.” This wasn’t so hard! All of a sudden, Auggie and May heard their favorite TV show playing. Oh! It was an episode they hadn’t seen yet! May really wanted to go watch it! It started to get harder for them to hang on the iron rod. But they kept going.

“Kids!” Dad whispered. He shook a bag. “I have some candy! Want some? Come this way!”

“Candy!” June shouted as she ran towards Dad’s voice. Uh-oh. Where did Dad go? June had let go of the iron rod and was lost. She began to cry.

“June!” April called out. “Listen to my voice! I have my hand out. I’m holding on to the rod and can help you back!” June found her sister, gave her a hug, and held on to the iron rod again.

“Hahaha!” The kids heard Mom cackle. “You’re going to the kitchen where you think there’s something that will make you happy. That’s all a lie! Come this way! I have something that will make you happy!”

The kids knew better this time than to let go of the iron rod. They kept walking. Finally they made it to the kitchen. The smell of brownies filled the air. Taking off their blindfolds, the kids each grabbed a brownie. Mmmm! They were so delicious!

“See?” Mom smiled. “All you had to do was hold on to the iron rod to receive a great reward. It was hard at times, but you did it!”