



Tower of Faith

Dashanel wanted her faith in Christ to be tall and strong.

By Gretchen Picklesimer Kinney
(Based on a true story)

This story took place in Jamaica.

Dashanel helped her older brother take the nut bread out of the oven. It smelled so good!

Then she heard a knock at the door. "The missionaries are here!" her sister called.

Dashanel ran to the door. She loved it when the missionaries came. She always had a good feeling when they visited. Sometimes they brought games for her and her siblings to play.

"Tyrell made nut bread again!" Dashanel said. Her brother liked to make food for the missionaries.

"I can't wait to try some," Elder Colas said. He and Elder Yusaki came inside and sat down on the floor. Dashanel, her brother and sister, and Mom sat across from them.

"What are we going to do for the lesson today?" Dashanel asked.

Elder Yusaki pulled out a stack of cups. "We're going to build a faith tower. Each of these cups represents something we can do to build our faith in Jesus Christ."

Elder Yusaki started to stack the cups into a tower. Dashanel saw that the cups had words like "prayer," "scripture study," and "church" written on them.

"These are all things you've asked us to do as a family," she said.

"That's right," Elder Colas said. "When you do these things, you are building your faith in Jesus Christ."

Dashanel and her siblings took turns building their own towers with the cups while they listened to the lesson.

After the missionaries left, Dashanel thought about what they'd taught. She wanted her faith in Christ to be tall and strong, just like the tower she built.

As the months passed, Dashanel learned more and more about the gospel from the missionaries. She started going to church with her family. She pictured her tower of faith growing taller and taller.

One day after the missionaries left, Dashanel talked to Mom. "Can I get baptized?" she asked.

"Are you sure you're ready?" asked Mom.

"Yes," Dashanel said. "I want to follow Jesus."

"OK," Mom said. "If you want to, you can be baptized."



Dashanel's brother and sister chose to be baptized too. Mom said she didn't feel ready to get baptized yet.

On the day of their baptism, Dashanel and her siblings dressed in white clothes. They each waited patiently to be baptized.

When it was Dashanel's turn, Elder Yusaki helped her into the water. Then he said the words of the baptism prayer and lowered her under the water. When Dashanel came back up, she couldn't stop smiling! She felt happy and clean. She never wanted to forget this feeling.

Dashanel kept doing things to build her faith in Jesus Christ. She read the scriptures with her family. She prayed to Heavenly Father. She did kind things for others. And she remembered how she felt when she was baptized. She wanted Mom to have that feeling too.

"Mom, why don't you get baptized?" Dashanel asked one day.

Mom was quiet for a minute. "You have set a good example for me. Now I need to set an example for you," she said. "I want to be baptized too."

On the day of Mom's baptism, Dashanel was so happy. When Mom came up from the water, everyone was smiling. Now Dashanel's whole family could build their towers of faith together. ●