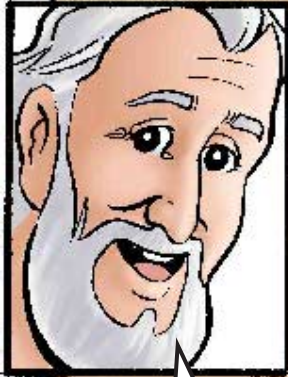


THE GIFT OF SICKNESS



"Is any sick among you?"

Grandpa!

"Let him call for the elders of the church" (Jam. 5:14). You called for prayer...

...and here I am!
I'm your church elder.



Your parents and the older ones in your Home are your earthly elders of the church...

... in Your Name, Jesus, we ask.

And we claim this key promise...

...and they have prayed for you against this sickness, like the Bible says to do.

Did they anoint you with oil?

Not yet.

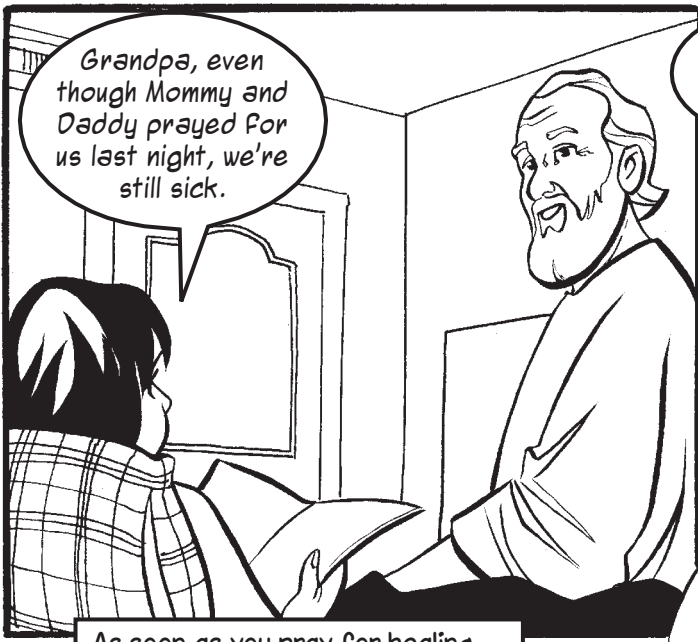
When people pray for your healing, they sometimes anoint you with oil by rubbing a little oil on your forehead when they pray.

Other times they don't anoint you with physical oil. But they always anoint you with the oil of the Word.

"Claim the magical power of the keys of healing and you will be restored."

When they claim healing promises for you, they are anointing you with the oil of the Word.

So Dad and Mom anointed us with the oil of the healing promises they quoted!



Grandpa, even though Mommy and Daddy prayed for us last night, we're still sick.



Why hasn't Jesus healed us?

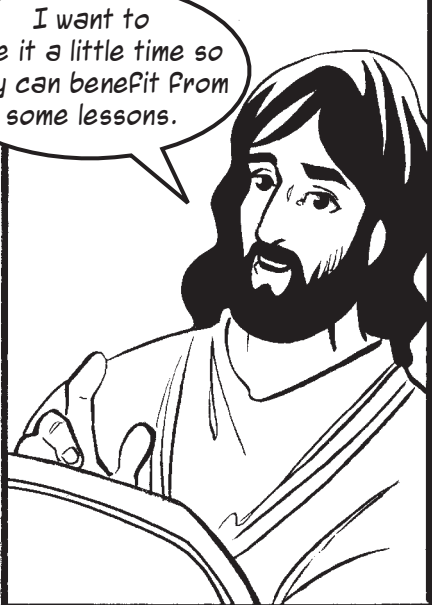
As soon as you pray for healing, Jesus starts working to heal you.



Here's a prayer request for Ryan and Holly.

Sometimes He does it right away, and other times He allows the sickness to last a little longer before He heals you completely.

I want to give it a little time so they can benefit from some lessons.



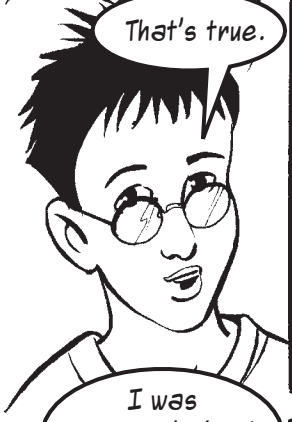
Even if He lets you stay sick for a little longer, He is still answering the prayers people have prayed for you.



I don't feel so sick when I'm reading this Heaven's Library story.

One way He does that is by helping you rise above the sickness and making it easier for you.

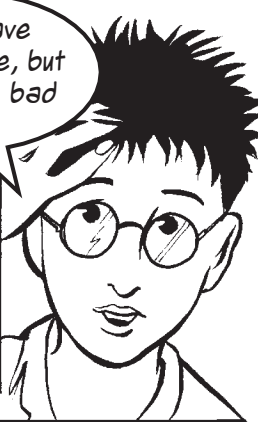
That's true.



I had a bad headache before they prayed for us.



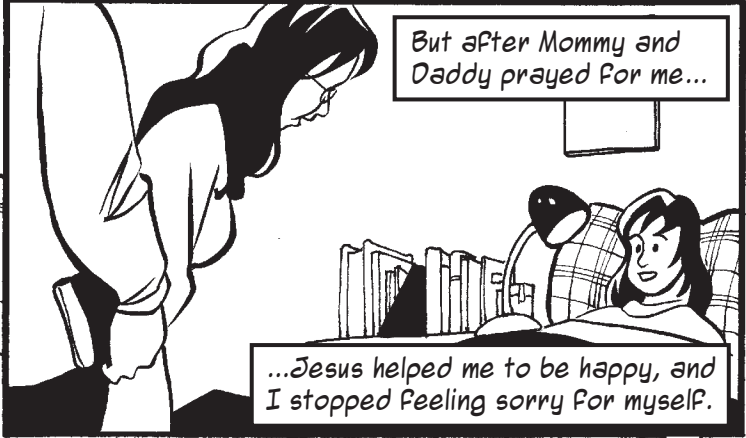
I still have a headache, but it's not as bad now.



I was very sad about being sick.



But after Mommy and Daddy prayed for me...



...Jesus helped me to be happy, and I stopped feeling sorry for myself.

When I lived on Earth I got sick too.

Jesus always did many wonderful things for me when I was sick.

Like what?

Jesus used the times when I was sick to humble me and to keep me humble. When I got sick, it reminded me that I was only human, and that anything good I did was always Jesus working through me.

If you want Jesus to be able to use you, you have to be humble enough for Him to work through.

Step out on the milk!

"God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

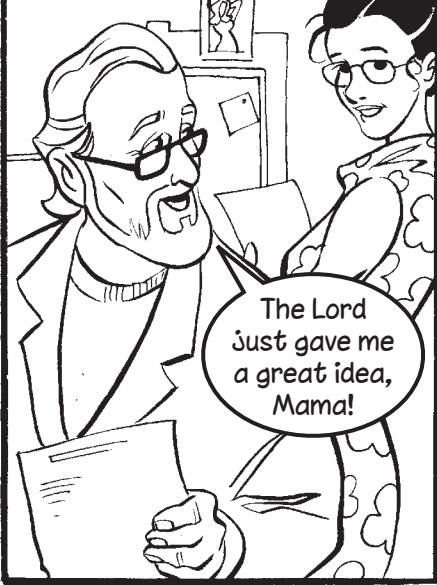
Read ML #2844:1-24, V20, with your teacher for one of Grandpa's healing testimonies.

Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner!

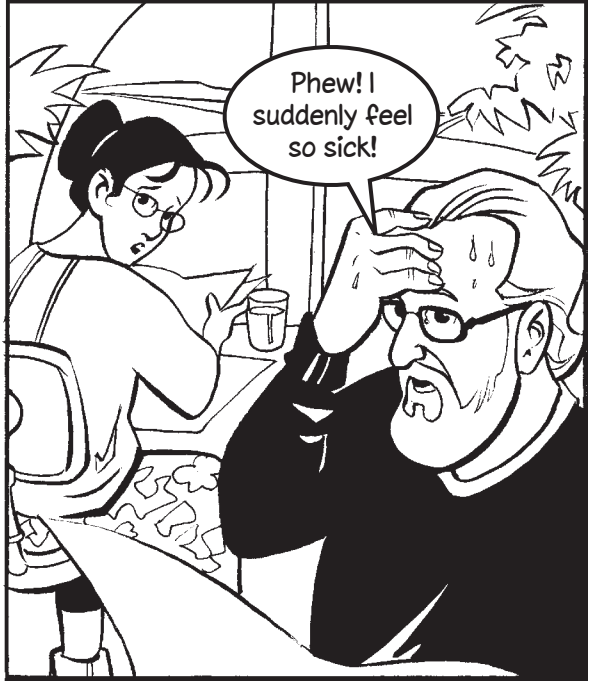
Read James 4:6b and 1 Peter 5:5b.

After Jesus heals you, He can use you even more because you are more humble.

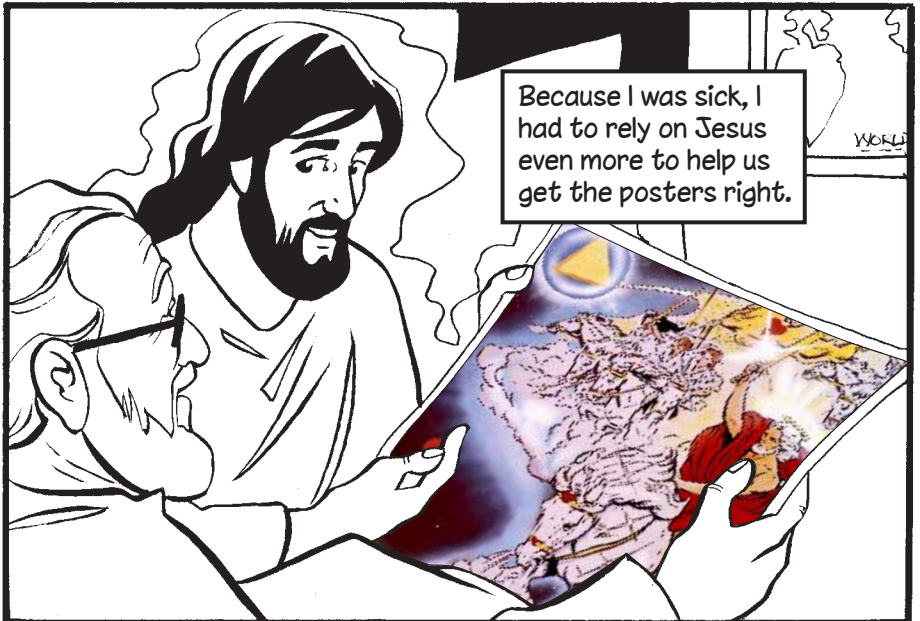
That's what happened back in the 1980s, when God gave the Family the posters to use as a witnessing tool.



I was working on creating the posters with the artists and writers when I got very sick.

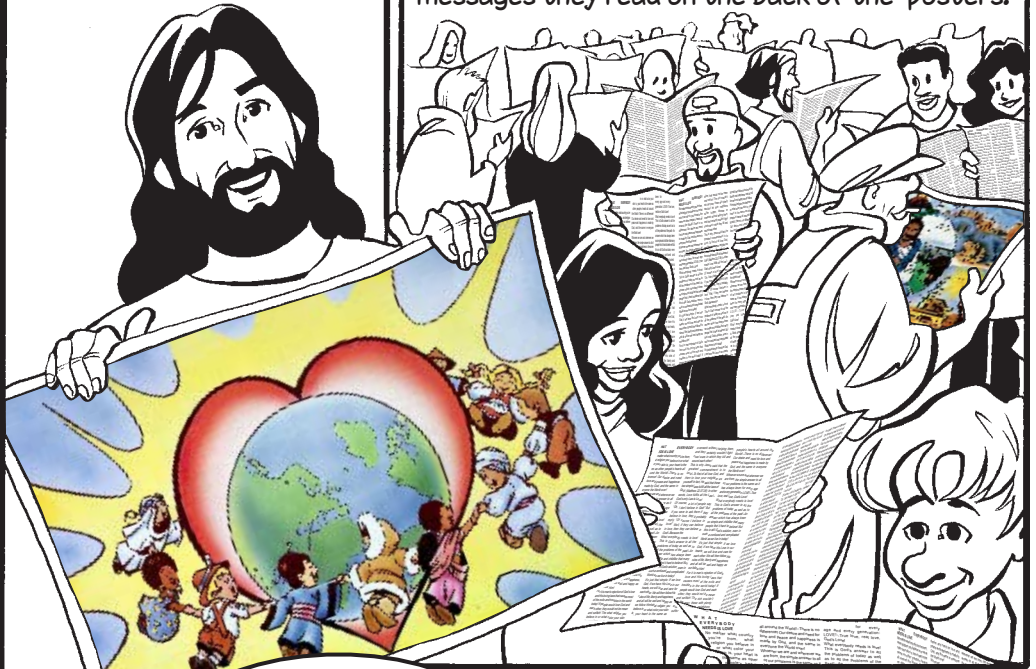


But out of what seems like defeat can come some of God's greatest victories!



Jesus really came through for us with the posters.

Many souls have been won through the posters, and millions have been encouraged through the messages they read on the back of the posters.



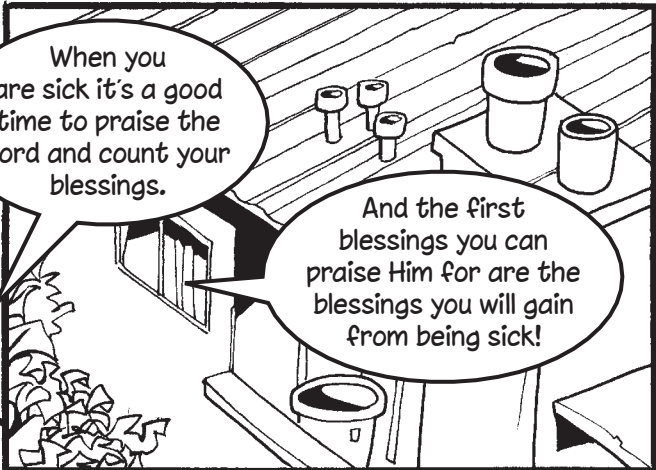
Even now, over twenty years later, our Family posters continue to be a fantastic witnessing tool.



In the year 2003, the Family passed out over two million of our posters as a witness to many!



When you are sick it's a good time to praise the Lord and count your blessings.



And the first blessings you can praise Him for are the blessings you will gain from being sick!

Thank Him for...

how He will heal you,

the good health you have most of the time,

the lessons you will learn from being sick,

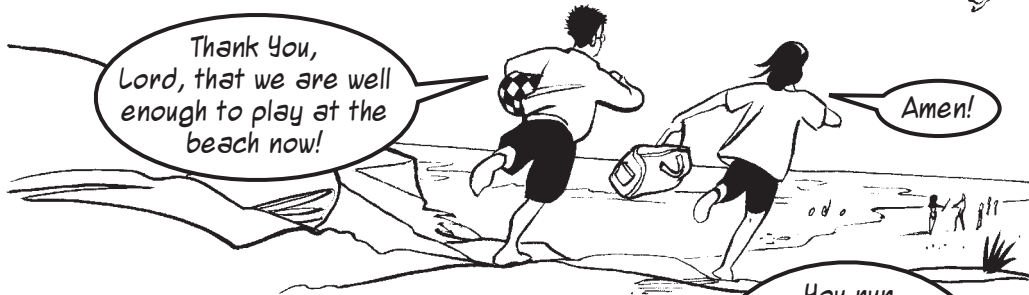
how others take good care of you while you are sick,

and the fun things you get to do while you are sick.



Some of those fun things might be coloring, watching a video, listening to drama tapes, reading HL mags, playing board games such as "Bible Hunt" or other games.

After you've been sick, you are more praiseful and thankful for the good health you normally have. Remember last summer after you had colds?



Thank You,
Lord, that we are well
enough to play at the
beach now!

Amen!

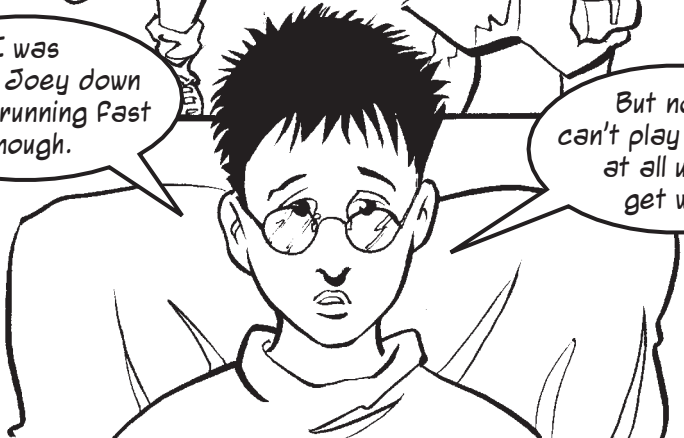


You learn patience with others through being sick.

You run
too slow, and at
the wrong time!
We're losing the
game!

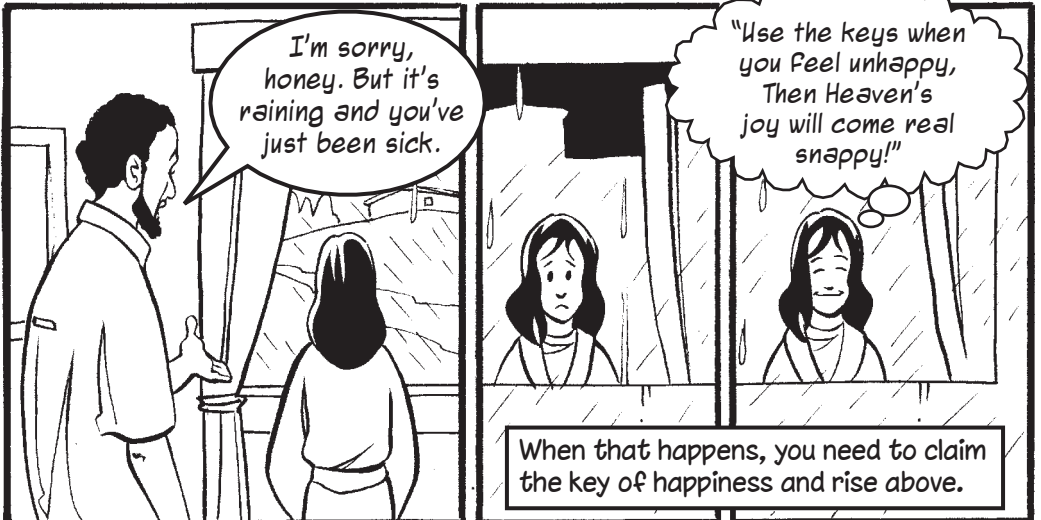
I was
putting Joey down
for not running fast
enough.

But now I
can't play baseball
at all until I
get well.





That's a good lesson to learn. There are lots of other times in life when things don't turn out the way you want them to.



When you are sick it's also a good time to pray for others.

Pray for anyone you know of who is sick.

Pray for the people your Home is witnessing to.

Pray for the needs of your Home.

After you've been sick you are more eager to pray for others who are sick, because you remember what it's like.

Jesus often uses sickness to teach us to obey the health rules.



What's wrong?

Mommy tries to get me to eat vegetables...



...but I don't like eating them.

She told me that eating my vegetables would help me to not get sick.



And when you do get sick, if you've been eating your vegetables...



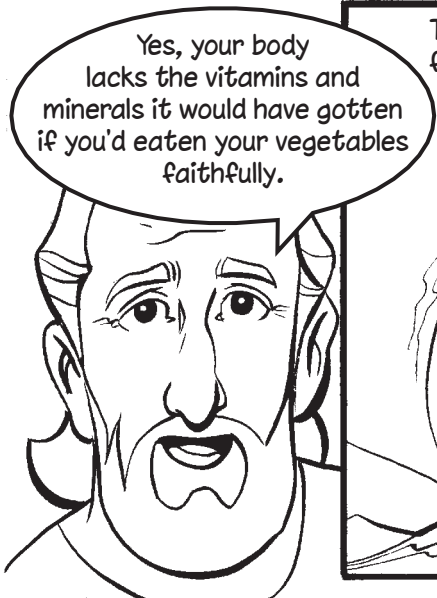
...you'll get well *quicker*.

But I always try to get out of eating my vegetables.



Jesus told me that's one reason why I'm sick.



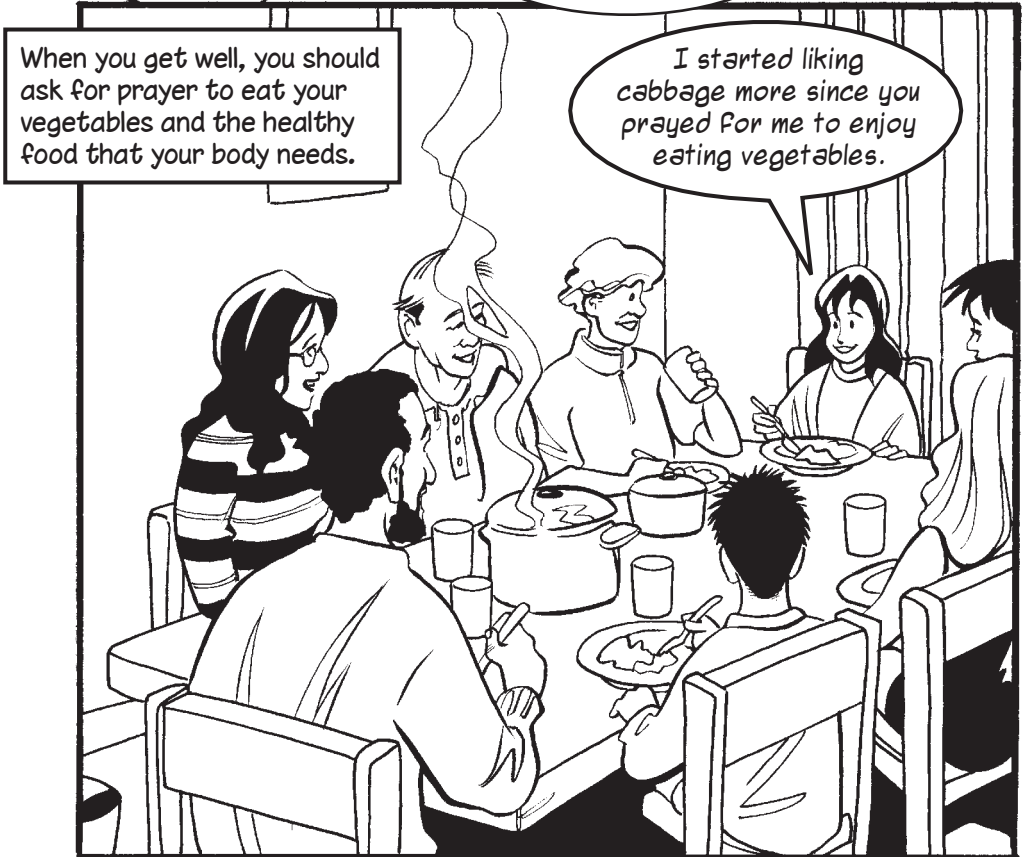


Yes, your body lacks the vitamins and minerals it would have gotten if you'd eaten your vegetables faithfully.



This has probably weakened you, so it's harder for your body to stay healthy.

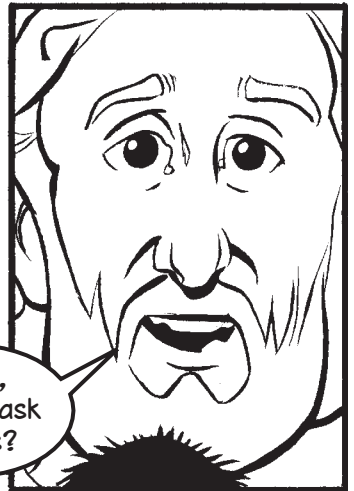
Though we're in the mountains, it's not that cold. You must be getting sick.



When you get well, you should ask for prayer to eat your vegetables and the healthy food that your body needs.

I started liking cabbage more since you prayed for me to enjoy eating vegetables.

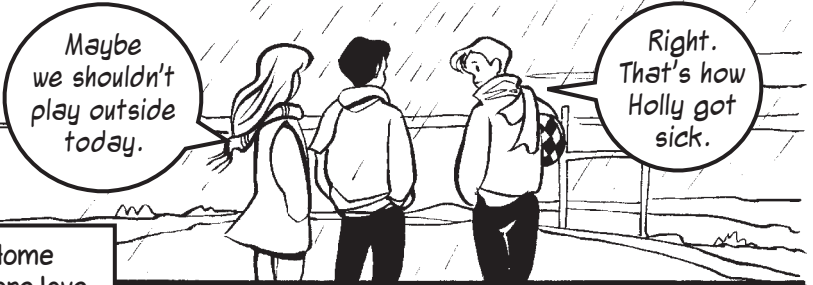
Sometimes the reason Jesus lets us get sick is because He wants to talk to us about how we can do better in our spiritual lives.



"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).



When someone is sick, Jesus uses it to help others learn lessons too.



Others in your Home learn to have more love by helping to take care of and pray for you.





Also, when they pray for you and see Jesus answer their prayers...

...that increases their faith!

Exactly!

These are only some of the reasons Jesus allows you to get sick.

Whenever you get sick, be sure to ask Him about it, and He'll help you to get the most out of this *gift of sickness!*

Read with your teacher from the section "Healing" in MOP 1:7, 10, 23, 33, 63, 70.