

THE LEACOCK LESSON

Last week I was sitting in our Priesthood Executive Committee meeting when I heard brother Conner say something that caught my attention. He was referring to sister Leacock, David's primary teacher. He mentioned how he was driving down the highway the other day and thinking how wonderful sister Leacock was to his boy Derik. He said it made him cry. I was intrigued by that statement because I had experienced the very same phenomenon.

During the last year there has been a complete turn around in the CTR class in our ward primary. One year ago the boys had a teacher that resorted to kicking the boys in the shins to keep them quiet. None of the CTR boys looked forward to Sunday. It was drudgery. Then it happened, sister Leacock was called to be their teacher. Almost overnight there was a dramatic change among the class members.

Sister Leacock creates such interesting lessons. Each Sunday the boys remove their shoes outside their classroom and walk into a whole new world. Sister Leacock must use a U-Haul trailer each Sunday to transport all her materials! She covers the walls with pictures. She brings quilts, church videos, special reminders to support the theme of her lesson and treats to reinforce good behavior. She sends the boys post cards during the week - every week. She comes to their baptisms. She calls the parents on the telephone when she perceives there is a problem. She donates money to help each of her students open a missionary savings account. But, most of all, she loves each of them and they all know it.

For David's birthday she baked him his very own cake, bought him a tie, made him a beautiful quilt, bought him a matching pillow, bought him toys, and, gave him a gold tie clasp with the Salt Lake Temple on it. She attended his baptism and made his eighth birthday a very special event. All in all she is a teacher he will never forget. She has made a difference in his life. She has been such a positive influence on him. As a matter of fact, after leaving the locker room from his baptism, David walked over to sister Leacock and snuggling up to her side, said, "I love you".

What a great lesson we can learn from sister Leacock! Here is a person that truly strives to magnify her calling with all her might. When we stop to consider how and what we are doing in our callings, can we say that we are making a difference in the lives of others? Are we a positive influence for good? And most of all, are we magnifying our callings because of the love we have for those over whom we have stewardship?

Let's give some thought to the Leacock lesson and see what we can do in our own callings to help move the kingdom forward.