Truth from a Young Age
By Marge Poppenhagen

*"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (*John 8:32)

As a young girl, I was not always truthful. I had to learn the hard way to be truthful. It still took a few years before I truly learned that the truth would set me free. It took years before my parents knew I was being truthful. I learned that being truthful is always the best thing and that it should start when you are a child. After I grew up and got married, I taught my four children to always be truthful, as my parents had taught me. Their punishment was always less if they told the truth, and to my knowledge, they were truthful.

This lesson has been carried on in my grandchildren. I think this was illustrated recently when my sixteen-year-old grandson applied for a job and got it. One week later, the company informed him that he had to be at least seventeen years old to qualify for the job. They told him this even though they had already given him the job and even though he had been truthful and upfront with them when he told them he was only sixteen. Since the company had lied to him, his mother encouraged him to not work for a dishonest employer. A week later, my grandson landed a job that he liked much better, and he is now happily working for an honest employer.

We should always seek the truth. Truth has been very important in my life, in the lives of my children, and the lives of my grandchildren. Remaining truthful has been proven to be the right thing all my life. May we all see more truth, that it may set us free.

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." (John 8:36)