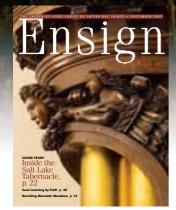
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ON THE COVER Front: Photograph by A. Angle Back: Photograph by John Luke



MESSAGES

FIRST PRESIDENCY MESSAGE

4 Inspirational Thoughts PRESIDENT GORDON B. HINCKLEY

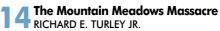
A prophet offers counsel on finding joy, peace, and spiritual security.

VISITING TEACHING MESSAGE

69 Become an Instrument in the Hands of God by Being of One Heart and One Mind



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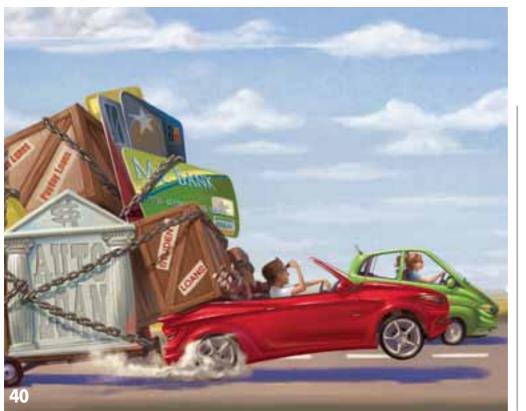
An account of the tragedy, shedding light on the events of September 11, 1857.

n Renovating the Tabernacle

Photographs show how the historic Salt Lake Tabernacle was strengthened and renewed without losing its historic character.

27 They Waited 2,000 Years BO S. CHUNG JR.

As the only Church member in my family, I felt a great responsibility to find the records of my Chinese ancestors. But I had no idea how to begin.





28 My Conversion to Eternal Marriage JAMES WELCH

It wasn't that I didn't want to be married. I did-desperately.

32 The Power of Laughter GARY K. PALMER

If we will learn to laugh and play more with our families, we will feel better—and so will they.

36 Gospel Classics: One for the Money ELDER MARVIN J. ASHTON

By reviewing our current practices and changing as necessary, all of us can learn to improve our moneymanagement skills and live within our means.

40 Finances and Your Future: Tips for Young Single Adults DONALD N. HESTER

Debt may not seem like a big deal to some young single adults, but planning now prevents big problems later.

/ That Their Burdens May Be Light

Five members share ways Church programs, meetings, and materials can be adapted to fit the needs of those with physical disabilities.

49 Latter-day Prophets Speak: Service

53 Heading for Tokyo on the Wrong Side of the Road RICHARD OSTERGAARD

As a missionary I had wrongly assumed that my earlier life's lessons and experiences would be all I needed to take on any challenge.

56 Priesthood, Agency, and Black Powder ELDER DAVID E. SORENSEN

Les had no idea that what was supposed to be an evening of fun with friends would change his life forever.



Preaching by the Spirit and learning by faith are companion principles that we should strive to understand and apply concurrently and consistently.

DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL?

The Ensign invites women to share experiences in making the transition—or helping someone else make the transition—from the Young Women program to Relief Society. What have you learned? Please label your submission "Joining Relief Society" and send it by October 19.

We also welcome other submissions that show the gospel of Jesus Christ at work in your life. *Ensign* Magazine Writers' Guidelines are posted at **http://ensign.lds.org** under **Resources.**

Send submissions to ensign@ldschurch.org or *Ensign* Editorial, 50 E. North Temple Street, Room 2420, Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3220, USA. Include your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, ward (or branch), and stake (or district). Because of the volume of submissions, we cannot acknowledge receipt. Authors whose work is selected for publication will be notified. If you would like your manuscript, photos, art, or other material returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

The *Ensign* can be found on the Internet at **http://ensign.lds.org**



USING THIS ISSUE

Finding humor. In "The Power of Laughter" (**p. 32**), Gary K. Palmer points out that humor is "an attitude, not an event." How are your family relationships different when you use humor in your home? Together, you might want to remember funny moments you've shared or discuss ways you can find humor in everyday situations.

Using agency. After reading "Priesthood, Agency, and Black Powder" (p. 56), list some of the "black powder" we face today. Share with a friend or family member your thoughts about how the gospel helps you avoid these dangers.

Managing your resources. This month's issue contains several helps for financial management (see pp. 36 and 40 and the insert on family finances). To find additional information and tools to help you better manage your finances, including online financial calculators, visit www.providentliving.org and click on Family Finances.



RANDOM

Using butcher paper, scripture

magazines to teach your family;

determining household respon-

sibilities; and storing keepsakes.

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Unity is the outcome of a family engaging in righteous principles.

50 Troubled on Every Side, Yet Not Distressed ELDER ULISSES SOARES

When we face our trials, we gain more confidence to overcome our challenges.

70 LATTER-DAY SAINT VOICES

The blessings of fast offerings, missionary work, visiting teaching, and the Word of Wisdom.

COMING IN OCTOBER

Look for articles on:

- One family's journey to being sealed in the temple—and things you can do to prepare.
- Ways Church members are learning from general conference, long after it's over.
- A military family's efforts to make the most of the holidays.
- Building relationships with in-laws.

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Ensign

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