



**By Elder D. Todd Christofferson**  
Of the Quorum  
of the Twelve  
Apostles

# Why are fathers so important?



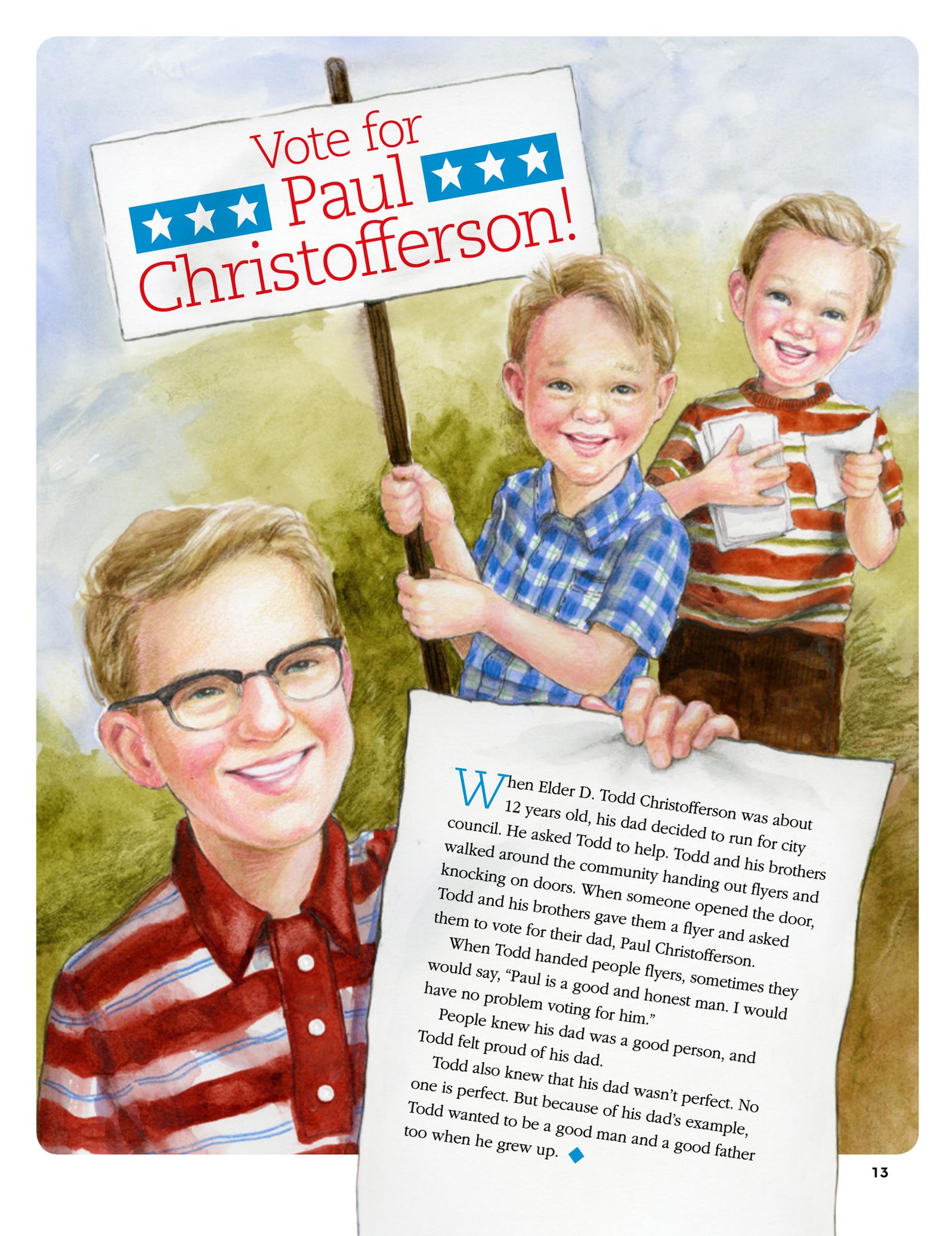
*Adapted from "Fathers," Ensign, May 2016, 93–97.*

Heavenly Father is our Father. He loves us perfectly, and He works to help us be happy and return to Him.

He planned for fathers to love, protect, and take care of their families. Fathers and mothers are equal partners.

Fathers' most important work is to teach their children and help them love Heavenly Father.

If you don't have a father living with you, you are not any less important or valued. Heavenly Father can help us become righteous fathers or mothers someday.



Vote for  
★★★ Paul ★★★  
Christofferson!

When Elder D. Todd Christofferson was about 12 years old, his dad decided to run for city council. He asked Todd to help. Todd and his brothers walked around the community handing out flyers and knocking on doors. When someone opened the door, Todd and his brothers gave them a flyer and asked them to vote for their dad, Paul Christofferson.

When Todd handed people flyers, sometimes they would say, "Paul is a good and honest man. I would have no problem voting for him."

People knew his dad was a good person, and Todd felt proud of his dad.

Todd also knew that his dad wasn't perfect. No one is perfect. But because of his dad's example, Todd wanted to be a good man and a good father too when he grew up. ♦