



What We Really Think of Youth

"I [express] commendation to all of you. In this challenging world, the youth of the Church are the very best ever."

President Thomas S. Monson, "Constant Truths for Changing Times," *Ensign*, May 2005, 19.



Quote from Conference

"All truth and knowledge is important, but amidst the constant distractions of our daily lives, we must especially pay attention to increasing our gospel knowledge so we can understand how to apply gospel principles to our lives. As our gospel knowledge increases, we will begin to feel confident in our testimonies and be able to state, 'I know it.'"

Ann M. Dibb, second counselor in the Young Women general presidency, "I Know It. I Live It. I Love It." *Ensign*, Nov. 2012, 10.



Conquering the Mountain

Climbing trees is one of those childhood joys that often sticks with you even as you grow older. Of course, not many people take it to the same heights as Hunter S., a 17-year-old young man from Washington, USA.

Several years ago, Hunter's father showed him a video on climbing Mount Everest. Instantly, Hunter knew he wanted to become a mountaineer. For training, he began running every day and scaling a massive pine tree in his backyard with climber's equipment.

He started climbing smaller peaks with some peers, and then he moved on to higher ones

with his dad and brother. Soon, climbing Mount Rainier became his goal. At over 14,000 feet (4,267 meters), this peak requires some serious training. While conditioning for the attempt, however, Hunter found an even bigger problem to tackle.

A local baby named Casen was born with a rare genetic disorder that has no known cure. Hunter knew Casen's family needed all the help they could get to provide medical treatments. He decided to make his climb a fund-raising effort. "Climb for Casen" was born. "I felt the Spirit confirm that this is what I'm supposed to do," says Hunter.

Not only did he successfully

summit Mount Rainier after two long days of climbing with an accomplished team, but he raised \$13,000 (well beyond his goal of \$10,000) for Casen's medical treatments. The public certainly rallied, donating to the fund-raiser.

Hunter compares mountaineering to living the gospel. "I couldn't just climb Mount Rainier without doing any training," Hunter says. "As with faith, I had to exercise, get the proper training, and do the right things. With the gospel, we can't just say that we want a closer relationship with Christ. We need to actually keep the commandments."



Fire Up the Machines

You know you're in for a good service project when a facilities expert has to be consulted beforehand to make sure your intended activities don't knock out a fuse. The combined young women from a stake in Nevada, USA, had an ambitious goal: to create 100 pillowcases from scratch and donate them to local charities, ranging from the children's ward in hospitals to homeless shelters. As a bonus, they'd also learn sewing skills.

They certainly had strength in numbers: 130 young women from their stake showed up for the activity. In addition, they had a Relief Society sister assigned to teach and work with them one-on-one as they tackled the big sewing project.

The 130 sewing machines were spread out among four Church buildings, filling gymnasiums, stages, and lobbies in a strategic electrical arrangement planned out by a facilities specialist ahead of time.

As the night unfolded, the young women soared past their goal of 100 pillowcases almost before the sewing machines had warmed up. By the end of the

evening they had cranked out over 600 pillowcases, all of which were donated to local charities. The young women had an absolute blast. "It was fun sewing the pillowcases and imagining the reactions of the children who would receive them," says Kaelamae T., a 14-year-old in attendance.

Erin C., a Laurel, was so impressed with the activity that afterward she decided to launch her own pillowcase project for those in need. Plus, "my love and appreciation for [the Relief Society sisters] grew so much after this," Erin says. "I can't wait to join Relief Society in a few years."



My Favorite Scripture



D&C 24:8. "Be patient in afflictions, for thou shalt have many; but endure them, for, lo, I am with thee, even unto the end of thy days."

This scripture makes me feel good when I'm passing through a trial because it says, "I am with thee, even unto the end of thy days."

This means to me that if I seek Him, Heavenly Father will always be with me unto the end of my life.

Alex O., 15, Chihuahua, Mexico



Tell us about your favorite scripture in a paragraph or two. Send it to us, along with a photo, by going to newera.lds.org and clicking "Submit Material."

His Grace Is Sufficient

I want to thank you for publishing "His Grace Is Sufficient" in the August 2012 issue. It made the Atonement so much more understandable and applicable to me. I feel that my life has been changed. I wish I could go out and shout this message to the world! I already shared it on my Facebook page and plan on telling all my friends about it.

Laura P., 18, Idaho, USA

An Eternal Change

I enjoyed the story entitled "A Promise and a Prayer" in the July 2012 issue of the *New Era*. I agree that the Book of Mormon can bring about a great and eternal change in our lives. It was a very heartwarming and spiritual story. Thank you.

Matthew T., 14, California, USA

We love hearing from you, whether it's sending us a message or leaving a comment online. Write to us by going to newera.lds.org and clicking "Submit Material." Or leave a comment on any article at youth.lds.org.

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