

Where I live there are very few people I could date who have my standards. What should I do?

Don't feel pressure date, especially one-on-one, and especially if there aren't people around you "who have high moral standards and in whose company you can maintain your standards" (For the Strength of Youth [2011], 4). Dating is just one way to get to know members of the opposite sex. You can look for healthy, wholesome ways to make friends who will help you maintain high moral standards.



Are They Respectful of My Standards?

I live in an area where there are few youth members of the Church,

so when I do choose to date those who do not share my beliefs, I take time beforehand to consider how respectful they would be of my standards. Dating can be a great experience to share values with a nonmember, but you may want to ask yourself: Is this person respectful enough of me to support my standards while on a date?

Emily N., 17, Colorado, USA



Get to Know Different People

I live in an area where there are not a lot of people who share my standards. So, instead of going on

lots of dates, I just try to get to know a lot of different people and be friendly to everyone I meet.

Katherine K., 17, Illinois, USA



Group Date

In high school, the purpose of dating is to get to know people and have fun. There are a

lot of good people out there who are not members of the Church but still have high moral standards of their own and will support you in keeping yours. When going on dates with them, clearly define what the date will be and go with a group so you do not get into a bad situation. Some good activities include having a game night, going rock climbing or hiking, and cooking a meal together.

Luke B., 15, Oregon, USA



Don't Rush into Dating

It is better to wait to date than to date people who would have a bad influence on you. If a good opportunity comes up, then that's great! There is no need to rush into dating. In the meantime, make good friends and follow worthwhile goals. Not only is having goals attractive, but it will also help you be happy while waiting (which is also attractive).

Megan J., 21, Utah, USA

Follow the Standards

Follow the standards in *For the Strength of Youth*. They are not just suggestions we follow some of the time; they are there to protect us. God gives us rules because He loves us and asks that we follow them.

Keeli S., 16, Washington, USA

Responses are intended for help and perspective, not as official pronouncements of Church doctrine.



How do you know if you're ready for the Second Coming?

We don't know when Jesus Christ will come again, but we've been told by Him, as well as ancient and modern prophets and apostles, what to focus on as we prepare. For example:

"The hour and the day no man knoweth, neither the angels in heaven, nor shall they know until he comes.

"Wherefore, I [the Lord] will that all men shall repent" (D&C 49:7-8).

"They that are wise and have received the truth, and have taken the Holy Spirit for their guide, and have not been deceived—verily I say unto you, they shall not be hewn down and cast into the fire, but shall abide the day" (D&C 45:57).

"What if the day of His coming were tomorrow? ... What confessions would we make? What practices would we discontinue? What accounts would we settle? What forgivenesses would we extend? What testimonies would we bear?

"If we would do those things then, why not now? Why not seek peace while peace can be obtained?" (President Dallin H. Oaks, First Counselor in the First Presidency, Apr. 2004 general conference).

"When Christ comes, the members of His Church must look and act like members of His Church are supposed to look and act if we are to be acceptable to Him. We must be doing His work, and we must be living His teachings" (Elder Jeffrey R. Holland of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Preparing for the Second Coming," *New Era*, Dec. 2013, 4).

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