

TAKE THE SAVIOR'S HAND

"I solemnly testify that Jesus Christ is risen, He lives, and He directs His Church on earth through His prophets, seers, and revelators. I testify that He is the Savior and Redeemer of the world and that through Him we can be saved and exalted in the presence of our dear God."

Elder Ulisses Soares of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, Apr. 2018 general conference.



Elder Soares enjoys time with two of his grandchildren.

ELDER ULISSES SOARES

"The golden pathway to happiness is one of selflessness and of giving love," Elder Soares said during a commencement address at BYU-Hawaii on June 8, 2017.



When Ulisses Soares was a young man, one of his friends invited him to a costume party. It sounded like a lot of fun.

"But as soon as I arrived, I saw people doing bad things that were against what I had been taught," Elder Soares recalls. "I asked myself, 'How could I have put myself in this situation?' I knew better."

Elder Soares had received a ride to the party from some friends and had no way of getting home until after the party ended. He quickly said a prayer.

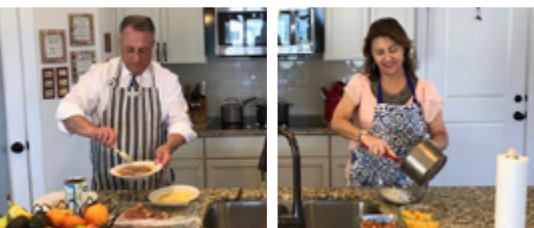
"I said, Lord, help me. I made a mistake," he remembers. "As soon as I had finished, He guided me. I found a way out of the home and stayed outside during the whole party."

The next day at church, he says, "I was able to worthily partake of the sacrament even though all kinds of bad things were happening around me the night before."

That experience was one of several in his youth that taught Elder Soares the importance of holding tight to the iron rod.

"You do your part, and the Lord Jesus Christ will do His part," Elder Soares says. "Hold tight to His hand, and He will guide you. He will inspire you where to go and what to do. Then, even though you're facing challenges and even though you're facing this crazy world pushing against you, you can go forward and you can overcome."

Elder Ulisses Soares was sustained as a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles on March 31, 2018.



Above: Elder Soares with missionaries while serving as president of the Portugal Porto Mission; in 1975, at age 16 (second from right), performing during an area conference, where the first South American temple was announced for São Paulo; and preparing dinner with his wife, Rosana. “The best pizza I have ever eaten is Brazilian pizza cooked by Elder and Sister Soares in their flat in Johannesburg, South Africa,” says Elder Dale G. Renlund.

Below: on assignment with Sister Soares; and as a full-time missionary (right) in the Brazil Rio de Janeiro Mission.



“Do your part,” Elder Soares counsels, “and the Lord Jesus Christ will do His part.”

“WE MUST HOLD EVER MORE TIGHTLY TO OUR TESTIMONY OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST. THEN WILL OUR ABILITY TO DEFEND TRUTH AND JUSTICE GREATLY INCREASE. WE WILL WIN THE DAILY BATTLES AGAINST EVIL, AND... WE WILL RALLY OTHERS TO THE MASTER'S STANDARDS.”

Elder Ulisses Soares, Apr. 2015 general conference.



Elder Soares celebrates Christmas with his family.

