

# News of the Church

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## Church Magazines' New Series to Highlight For the Strength of Youth Standards

By Lok Yi Chan

Church News and Events

Starting this month, the Church magazines will launch a series of articles that highlight the standards outlined in the newly updated version of *For the Strength of Youth*.

### Content for Youth

The Young Men and Young Women general presidents are introducing the series in this month's issue of the *Liahona* and *New Era*, and the series will appear in both magazines each month thereafter, excluding the May and November issues.

Each of the other 10 months, a different standard in the booklet will be featured in an article authored by a member of the Young Men or Young Women general presidencies or a member of the Seventy.

Each article will also be accompanied by specific experiences of youth around the world pertaining to *For the Strength of Youth*. For this reason, the Church magazines are soliciting content from youth.

Young women and young men around the world are encouraged to submit their stories or experiences in living the standards from *For the Strength of Youth* to the *Liahona* or the *New Era* through their websites or by e-mail at [NewEra@ldschurch.org](mailto:NewEra@ldschurch.org). Youth can also share brief experiences by leaving comments at [youth.lds.org](http://youth.lds.org) by clicking on **For the Strength of Youth** under **Youth**

**Menu**, clicking on one of the 19 standards, and clicking on **Share Your Experiences**. Church members ages 12 to 18 can log in with their LDS Account username and password and share their experiences.

### Content for Adults and Children

Although the new series will mainly target youth, the standards apply to members of all age groups in the Church, as Ann M. Dibb, second counselor in the Young Women general presidency, recently taught.

"One of the greatest ways we can arise and shine forth is to confidently obey the commandments of God. We learn of these commandments in the scriptures, from modern-day prophets, and within the pages of the booklet *For the Strength of Youth*," she said during the 2012 general Young Women meeting. "Each of you should have your own copy. On my personal copy, I have circled the words *for* and *you* [the first three letters of *youth*], as taught to me by a respected friend. This simple act reminds me that these standards are not just general guidelines—they are specifically *for me*. I hope you will take the time to ... read it cover to cover and feel the Spirit testify that the standards are *for you* as well" ("Arise and Shine Forth," *Ensign*, May 2012, 117).

A one-page article for adults about how parents can teach that month's standard to

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## For the Strength of Youth AN ANCHOR FOR TODAY



**David L. Beck**  
Young Men General  
President



**Elaine S. Dalton**  
Young Women  
General President

The First Presidency wrote that the standards in *For the Strength of Youth* “will help you with the important choices you are making now and will yet make in the future.” With the release of a new edition of the pamphlet, Church magazines were able to spend a few moments with Young Women general president Elaine S. Dalton and Young Men general president David L. Beck talking about the revised pamphlet.

### Why a new edition of *For the Strength of Youth* now?

**Brother Beck:** The Lord’s standards have not changed, but the adversary’s

attacks against those standards have increased in frequency and intensity. *For the Strength of Youth* has been updated to help youth withstand these attacks.

**Sister Dalton:** Prophets continue to speak in very clear terms to youth, and we want to keep their current words available. Youth need to be anchored in following the prophet, so recent teachings have been integrated into this pamphlet.

**Brother Beck:** As President Thomas S. Monson has reminded us, today’s youth are growing up in a time when the gap between the Lord’s standards and the world’s

standards is widening.<sup>1</sup> Temptations are becoming stronger, and sinful behavior is becoming more socially acceptable. The inspired counsel in this new pamphlet is an indication of Heavenly Father’s love for the youth. He wants each young person to enjoy the blessings of living the gospel and has given them standards to help them. He has an important work for them to do now. The standards in *For the Strength of Youth* help qualify them to perform His work.

This goes along well with another new section: “Physical and Emotional Health.” You need to be physically healthy and take care of your body, but you also need to be mindful of your emotional health.

**Brother Beck:** Additional emphasis has also been placed on following the Spirit and living worthy to attend the temple.

### How can youth make *For the Strength of Youth* a part of their lives?

**Sister Dalton:** I’d like for them to look for the blessings mentioned in the pamphlet and think about how these blessings will lead them to their goals. I really believe this generation is preparing the earth for the Savior’s Second Coming. I would urge youth to remember that they want to stand with confidence in His presence when He comes again.



YOUTH

**Brother Beck:** The *Fulfilling My Duty to God* and *Young Women Personal Progress* booklets also offer several good ideas. For example, in the “Live Worthy” sections of *Duty to God*, young men are invited to study the standards in *For the Strength of Youth*, make a plan to live by them, and then share their experiences with others. By doing so, they strengthen not only their own testimonies, but they also strengthen others.

**Sister Dalton:** Another interesting exercise would be for the youth to go through *For the Strength of Youth* and circle all mentions of the Spirit. Living these standards will enable



### What has been updated with this edition?

**Sister Dalton:** “Work and Self-Reliance” has been added. A lot of youth are spending so much time with new technologies—social networking, Internet browsing, video gaming—that they never really learn how to work. That’s a concern because when a young person goes on a mission, sometimes he or she isn’t prepared for the rigors of that hard physical and spiritual labor.



their children will be included in the *Ensign* each month. And, when the topics in *For the Strength of Youth* correspond with topics in My Gospel Standards for Primary children, there will also be an article for children in the *Liahona* and the *Friend*.

David L. Beck, Young Men general president, emphasized the significance of *For the Strength of Youth* for youth, parents, and leaders.

“It is our hope that these standards will be thoroughly studied in our homes and in

Church classes, and that the principles taught in them will go down into the hearts of the youth of the Church,” he said.

To help the youth better understand and apply the standards in their lives, additional resources are provided online at youth.lds.org. Here, teens, their parents, and their leaders can find statements and articles by General Authorities on each standard, as well as videos, posters, questions and answers, experiences from youth, and other resources. ■