

IN OTHER CHURCH MAGAZINES

THE NEW ERA



STANDING ON HIGHER GROUND
By David S. Beck
The 2013 Mutual theme is about how Doctrine and Covenants 87: "Whoso standeth in holy places, and be not moved, until the day of the Lord come." The question I hope every young man will ponder throughout this coming year is, "Am I standing in holy places?"

As I have met with vibrant young men all around the world, I have witnessed firsthand how thousands of you are doing this already in many ways. You stand in the holiest of places when you enter the temple to perform baptisms for the dead. I encourage you to take every opportunity available to enter the temple and to always be ready to do so.

Each day as you fulfill your duty to God, you stand in holy places and are in a position to be able to "stand in holy places and be not moved" until the day of the Lord. You stand in holy places as you prepare, learn, and pass the sacrament each Sunday. You stand in holy places as you do the general conference and when you sit at a meeting together—one who is always able, willing, and ready to serve and strengthen others.

As an Atoning Priesthood holder, you have been given the charge to warn, reprove, correct, teach, and exhort all to come unto Christ (see D&C 20:17). Do anything that I have commanded you to do, and I will strengthen them, you, I will help them (Doctrine 41:30:17-18).

Thomas S. Monson has said, "We are young men who are in your charge years. Always have the temple on your right."

continually work to strengthen your testimony and always be willing to share it.

You have sacred responsibilities to be an instrument in the Lord's hands. As you pray and study the scriptures, enter to keep the commandments, and learn in the prophecies of the Spirit, you will stand upon higher ground. As a consequence, wherever you are will become a holy place. Then, when situations arise, you will have the strength, courage, and the ability to help lift others. You will have the power and protection the Holy Ghost promises those who stand in holy places.

I hope that President Thomas S. Monson said about those promises when he announced that as we draw near to the "end," we will feel the Spirit to work first, providing us the divine and the courage to stand strong and firm in righteousness as we stand... in holy places, and be not moved (D&C 87:4).

"As the winds of change swirl around us and the world throes of uncertainty continue to disengage before our very eyes, may we remember the Lord's precious promise to show who truly is His True Test. For those that are not moved, for I am the Lord, I will strengthen them, you, I will help them (Doctrine 41:30:17-18)." — Thomas S. Monson, "Stand in Holy Places," *Ensign*, July 2011, 26.

HOLY PLACES IN YOUR LIFE
By Elaine S. Dutton
The 2013 Mutual theme invites you to step out of the world and into the kingdom of God. As President Boyd K. Packer, President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, has taught, we live in a "holy sanctuary." "Stand in holy places" is the key to survival.

This theme invites important questions: What is a holy place? Where is a holy place? How can we stand in holy places? How do we make places we regularly inhabit more holy? As you work answers to these questions, your answers will guide your associations, your choice of activities, and your own work, words, and actions.

You have committed to strengthen your home and family. Some to make your home a holy place. Blessed with the Spirit of the Lord, you can support family prayer and scripture study.

Your room can be a holy place that invites the Spirit of the Holy Ghost. The Lord Himself promised you, "For whoso I say unto you, that great things shall come upon you, I will give you power, and whosoever shall say that he will do it shall do it" (D&C 9:12).

We can stand in holy places as we go to church. The scriptures teach that the words and actions of Zion are holy places that will "be a salvation, and for a refuge from the enemy" (D&C 1:15).

The most holy place on earth is the temple. President Thomas S. Monson has said, "We young men who are in your charge years, always have the temple on your right."

Do nothing which will keep you from receiving the divine and partaking of the sacred and eternal blessings there. I command those of you who already go to the temple regularly to perform baptisms for the dead." Always be ready to have a witness temple recommended, even a temple to be a sign.

Anywhere you are when the Spirit is present can be a holy place. President Harold B. Lee (1899-1972) taught that holy places have more to do with how one lives than where one lives. "If you live worthy of the constant companionship of the Holy Ghost, then you stand in a holy place."

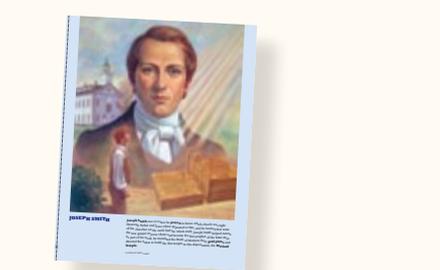
Every temple has the scriptures, "Witness to the Lord." Books to always stand in holy places. As you live the scriptures, pray daily, and read the scriptures—especially the Book of Mormon—you will feel the responsibility of the Holy Ghost. The Lord Himself promised you, "For whoso I say unto you, that great things shall come upon you, I will give you power, and whosoever shall say that he will do it shall do it" (D&C 9:12).

2013 Mutual Theme

Members of the Young Women and Young Men general presidencies share messages for youth about this year's Mutual theme, "Stand Ye in Holy

Places" (page 6). You'll also find a Mormonad (page 9) and a "Line upon Line" article (page 8) related to the Mutual theme.

THE FRIEND



Portraits of Prophets

Starting this year, look on the inside back cover of the *Friend* for the "Prophet Portrait" series. These portraits by artist Robert Barrett will help your children learn about the lives and sacred accomplishments of Presidents of the Church. The January *Friend* features the Prophet Joseph Smith.



On the Trail

This year, help your youngsters learn about Church history by using the "On the Trail" map on pages 24 and 25 of the January *Friend*. Each month as the *Friend* highlights a different Church history site, your children can add a new picture to the map! The first site, Palmyra, is featured on pages 4 and 5.

FROM CHURCH LEADERS

By President Boyd K. Packer
President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

HOW TO LIVE THE WORD OF WISDOM

When you are young people, you are generally doing life activities. Believe it or not, we were young once and we remember. Young people, you must understand that there is something of majestic importance to justify the restrictions imposed by the Word of Wisdom.

The Word of Wisdom was "given for a principle with promise" (D&C 89:3). This word principle in the revelation is a very important one. A principle is an enduring truth, a law, a rule you can apply to guide you in making decisions.

Members: Write in asking if this thing that is against the Word of Wisdom. It's well known that tea, coffee, liquor, and tobacco are against it. It has not been spelled out in more detail. Rather, we teach the principle together with the promised blessings. There are many health-benefiting conditions that over the years or those or which to reject which injure both body and spirit which are not mentioned in the revelation.

In some cultures, native drinks are claimed to be healthy because they are not specifically mentioned in the revelation. Yet they draw members to parties which certainly offend the principle.

Chastity to counsel will keep you on the safe side of life. Young people, learn to show moderation and common sense as matters of health and nutrition, and particularly in medicine, alcohol, being extreme or fanatical or becoming a addict.

For example, the Word of Wisdom counsels us to eat meat sparingly (see D&C 89:12). Less someone because revelation that "whoso forsaketh to fast meat is not ordained of God" (D&C 49:30).

Honor the principle of the Word of Wisdom and you will receive the promised blessings. The Word of Wisdom does not promise how to perfect health, but it teaches how to keep the body you were born with in the best condition and your mind alert to dedicate spiritual prerogative.

The promise of health is not limited to members of the Church. Tell your nonmember friends about the Word of Wisdom and urge them to live it.

While the Word of Wisdom requires strict adherence, it offers 8 promises. Health, great measure of strength, and that redemption bought for us by the Lamb of God, who was slain that we might be redeemed.

Surely the Word of Wisdom was given so that you may keep the delicate, scientific, spiritual part of your nature on proper alert. Learn to "listen" to your feelings. You will be protected and warned and taught and blessed.

I hear witness that this revelation is a powerful protection to all members of the Church, particularly to you, the youth of the Church, as you face a life full of so many troubles and danger and uncertainties.

Share Your Experiences
Word of Wisdom, and what the experiences of others point to by page 48.

HOW HAVE YOU DONE THIS?

I don't wear fur, I get most of my clothing from the thrift store, and I recycle.	I go to the gym 3 times a week and I do yoga.	I play softball and do gymnastics, and I try to be as healthy as I can.
Randy S.	Kathleen M.	Kathleen C.

Word of Wisdom

President Boyd K. Packer gives counsel for living the Word of Wisdom on page 48. A young woman talks about how she was blessed by living the Word of Wisdom on page 40.

I Hope They Call Me on a Mission

Page 11 of the January *Friend* features the first of a series of pages that can help children prepare for a mission or adult life in general. The series will feature simple recipes and explanations of basic skills, and it will run every other month throughout the year.