

COME UNTO CHRIST

through Duty to God

EVERYTHING YOU DO TO FULFILL YOUR DUTY TO GOD WILL HELP YOU TO FULFILL THE INVITATION TO COME UNTO CHRIST

Young men, this year's Mutual theme gives you an opportunity to take a fresh look at how you are fulfilling your duty to God as you progress in your priesthood service. As Brother David L. Beck, Young Men general president, explains on page 8 of this issue, the theme gets to the heart of priesthood service through its invitation to "come unto Christ, and be perfected in him, and deny yourselves of all ungodliness" (Moroni 10:32).

As you serve in the Aaronic Priesthood, you will notice that everything you do to fulfill your duty to God helps you fulfill the invitation in the Mutual theme as well. For instance, consider the six areas in each section of the *Fulfilling My Duty to God* booklet, and ponder how they help you come unto Christ.

PRAY AND STUDY THE SCRIPTURES



"Jesus taught that 'men ought always to pray' (Luke 18:1). . . . We . . . pray for guidance, and we teach that we should have frequent personal prayers and daily kneeling prayers as a family. Like Jesus, we pray to our Father in Heaven, and we do so in the sacred name of Jesus Christ."

Elder Dallin H. Oaks of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Followers of Christ," *Ensign*, May 2013, 97.



"In the end, the central purpose of all scripture is to fill our souls with faith in God the Father and in His Son, Jesus Christ."

Elder D. Todd Christofferson of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "The Blessing of Scripture," *Ensign*, May 2010, 34.

Learn

- Think about your personal prayers. How often do you pray? How do you feel when you pray? Study James 1:5–6; Alma 34:17–26; 3 Nephi 18:13–21; and Moroni 10:3–5. Identify principles that can help make your prayers more meaningful and the blessings that will come as you "pray always."
- Carefully study Helaman 3:29–30 and Doctrine and Covenants 18:30–36; 44:89. As you study, look for words and phrases that describe:
 1. How you should approach your study of the scriptures and words of the living prophets.
 2. Blessings that will come as you study the scriptures and words of the living prophets.
- On the next page, write your plan to improve your personal prayers and scripture study during your years as a teacher. Your scripture study could include the words of the living prophets in the conference issues of the *Ensign* or *Liahona*.

38

LIVE WORTHILY



"Living the standards set in *For the Strength of Youth* will make you feel good about yourself. Write those standards into your heart and mind, and live accordingly. Compare each of those standards with where you are today. Listen to the Spirit, who will teach you what you need to do to become more like Jesus. If you recognize a need for change, make the change; don't procrastinate. Use true repentance and the gift and power of the Atonement of Jesus Christ to clear up those things that are keeping you from reaching your true potential. If this process appears tough, hang in there; it is worth it."

President Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Second Counselor in the First Presidency, "See the End from the Beginning," *Ensign*, May 2006, 45.

Learn

- Read the section titled "Repentance" in *For the Strength of Youth*, and write your answers to the following questions in a notebook or journal:
 1. What do you learn about the Atonement and repentance from this section?
 2. How does repentance help you grow spiritually?
 3. What is the relationship between repentance, the Atonement, and personal worthiness?
- Discuss your answers with your parents or quorum members. Discuss how repentance will help you prepare to enter the temple and participate in sacred ordinances.
- Choose at least three other sections from *For the Strength of Youth* that will help you live worthily. Study the standards in these sections, and write what you will do to live these standards and to help others do the same.

39

UNDERSTAND DOCTRINE



"As you ponder and pray about doctrinal principles, the Holy Ghost will speak to your mind and your heart [see D&C 8:2]. From events portrayed in the scriptures, new insights will come and principles relevant to your situation will distill upon your heart.

"You cultivate such revelatory experiences by living according to the light already given you and by searching the scriptures with pure motives—with real intent to 'come unto Christ' [Jacob 1:7; Omni 1:26; Moroni 10:30, 32]. As you do so, your confidence will 'wax strong in the presence of God,' and the Holy Ghost will be your constant companion [D&C 121:45; see also D&C 121:46]."

Elder Russell M. Nelson of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Living by Scriptural Guidance," *Ensign*, Nov. 2000, 18.

LEARN

"Look more closely my dear, but still see to understand the things that your teacher has taught you."

• Read Doctrine and Covenants 20:46. Part of your duty as a priest is to "expound all things concerning the church of Christ." Review the lists of doctrinal topics you studied as a deacon and as a teacher (see pages 39 and 43). Then write on the next page four or more additional topics (one well known and teach over the next three years [see page 48]).

• For each of the topics you study, prepare lesson outlines based on the principles and techniques described in *Push My Gospel* (see chapters 2 and 3).

• Study the scriptures listed on page 19 again. Reflect on your experiences and update your outline on "The priesthood and Priesthood Keys" (see page 18). Write about how your understanding and appreciation of the priesthood has changed.

• In preparation to become a full-time missionary, make a list of questions someone might ask about the topics you have studied, and discuss these questions with a parent or priesthood leader.

ADMINISTER PRIESTHOOD ORDINANCES



"The sacrament [is] centered in Christ, the shedding of His blood, and the atonement He made for our sins. . . . The authority to perform these ordinances belongs to the Aaronic Priesthood.

" . . . It is no wonder that we feel so humble when we participate in the ordinances assigned to the Aaronic Priesthood."

President Boyd K. Packer, President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "The Aaronic Priesthood," *Ensign*, Nov. 1981, 31.

LEARN

"He took of the bread and said, 'This is my body which is given for you; eat it and go unto the tabernacle and receive the sacrament there over'" (3 Nephi 10:5).

• Read Doctrine and Covenants 36:43. The command "Be ye clean that bear the name of the Lord" has special meaning as you fulfill your duty to prepare sacrament worthily. Answer a question concerning the meaning of preparation worthily.

• Read Matthew 26:26–28. On the next page, write your answers to these questions:

- What can you do to prepare the sacrament in a reverent and dignified manner (even through most people will not see you perform this duty)?
- How can you set a good example for the deacons when you are asked to serve the sacrament?

SERVE OTHERS



"Because you are called by Jesus Christ to His service, you may go forward with great confidence. . . . The Savior will let you feel the love He feels for those you serve. The call is an invitation to become like Him (see 3 Nephi 27:27)."

President Henry B. Eyring, First Counselor in the First Presidency, "Watch Over and Strengthen," *Ensign*, May 2000, 66.

LEARN

"By this right of consecration that I am my master's servant, I now consecrate another" (D&C 10:1).

• Think about the service tasks you have been assigned to perform yearly as a deacon and teacher, and answer the following questions:

- How did your attitude affect the service you gave? (Review the questions you wrote on page 36.)
- How does service help you become less self-centered and more aware of others' needs?
- How were the people you served affected by your service?
- What can you do as a priesthood give more effective service? (See Mosiah 22:16–40; Luke 15:1–10; and Mosiah 24:7, looking for maximize your efforts. Discuss with your group the opportunities you have to serve others (ask your bishop or quorum leader for ideas). List some specific things your quorum will do to give service. Also list several things you will do on your own to serve your family and others.)

INVITE ALL TO COME UNTO CHRIST



"Deacons and teachers are also to 'warn, expound, exhort, and teach, and invite all to come unto Christ' (D&C 20:59; see verses 46 and 68 for priests).

"Many young men think that their missionary experience starts when they . . . enter the Missionary Training Center. We learn from the scriptures that it starts long before that. The Lord wants every Aaronic Priesthood holder to invite all to come unto Christ—beginning with his own family."

Larry M. Gibson, First Counselor in the Young Men general presidency, "Sacred Keys of the Aaronic Priesthood," *Ensign*, May 2011, 56.

LEARN

"We must invite others in the family, in need, in communion in charity, or spirit, or body, in unity" (3 Nephi 9:12).

• Read Doctrine and Covenants 20:30. What does the phrase "come unto Christ" mean to you? Share your thoughts and feelings with a quorum leader or your parents, and ask what the phrase means to them.

• Contrast the missionary stories of Ammon (Alma 17–19) and Corianton (Alma 39:1–11). What influence did their actions have on the people they taught? Consider ways you can set a good example that can help people come unto Christ.

• Think about family members and friends whom you could invite to come unto Christ. Write down their names and what you will do to help them (such as inviting them to a Church activity or giving them a copy of the *Book of Mormon* or a *Church* magazine).