



Elder QUENTIN L. COOK

OF THE QUORUM OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES

ADJUSTMENTS TO STRENGTHEN YOUTH

Our youth are being asked to take more individual responsibility at younger ages—without parents and leaders taking over what youth can do for themselves. . . .

One of the scriptural duties of the bishop is to preside over the priests and to sit in council with them, teaching them the duties of their office. In addition, the first counselor in the bishopric will have specific responsibility for teachers and the second counselor for deacons.

. . . Young Men presidencies at the ward level will be discontinued. . . .

It is our hope that bishoprics will give great emphasis and focus to the priesthood responsibilities of young men and help them in their quorum duties. Capable adult Young Men advisers will be called to assist the Aaronic Priesthood quorum presidencies and the bishopric in their duties. . . .

. . . A Young Women president [can take a greater role] in counseling with young women. . . .

. . . Ward Young Women presidents will now report to and counsel directly with the bishop of the ward. . . .

Additional organizational changes will be further explained in information sent to leaders. . . .

Dear brothers and sisters, I promise and testify that these comprehensive adjustments, under the direction of an inspired president and prophet, Russell M. Nelson, will empower and strengthen every member of the Church. Our youth will develop greater faith in the Savior, be protected from the temptations of the adversary, and stand prepared to meet life's challenges.

→ See the full address at conference.ChurchofJesusChrist.org

A young man with dark, wavy hair, wearing a dark blue suit jacket, a white dress shirt, and a red tie, is smiling broadly. A hand is resting on his right shoulder. The background is a bright, out-of-focus indoor setting with other people visible in the distance.

RISE TO THE *Challenge*

ELDER QUENTIN L. COOK

New Era