

## DRESS DISTRESS

**WHEN I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL,** I was chosen to participate in a fashion show for an annual school event. I knew that the coordinator would choose dresses that were not modest, so I told her that I would not participate if the dress I had to wear was immodest. She said that would be all right.

When my friends and I went to check out our dresses, I was confused. Despite what the coordinator had told me, all the dresses were the opposite of the dress and appearance standards in the *For the Strength of Youth* booklet. Because it seemed like there was no solution, I tried on one of the immodest dresses. I wanted to look pretty, but when I wore that dress, I didn't feel like myself. I wondered, "How would I feel in the Lord's presence in this kind of dress?"

I thought about how I could get out of this situation. Finally, I found my older sister's prom dress, which did meet the Lord's standards. When I told my friends that I would use my own dress, I could tell from their facial expressions that they thought I would look better in the immodest dress. Fortunately, the coordinator said it was OK to wear the modest one.

I was relieved, and I felt confident. I didn't care what my friends thought. I found a way to participate with a gorgeous *and* modest dress. I was grateful that I had the courage to keep my standards high, especially when it was not easy or popular.

*Jessika S., Indonesia*

