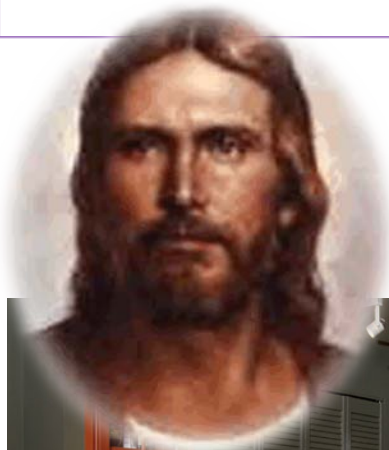


Organize yourselves; prepare every needful thing, and establish a house, even a house of prayer, a house of fasting, a house of faith, a house of learning, a house of glory, a house of order, a house of God;

D&C 109:8



Becoming Self-Reliant

What Is Self-Reliance?

'Self-reliance means using all of our blessings from Heavenly Father to care for ourselves and our families and to find solutions for our own problems.' Each of us has a responsibility to try to avoid problems before they happen and to learn to overcome challenges when they occur. ...



How do we become self-reliant? We become self-reliant through obtaining sufficient knowledge, education, and literacy; by managing money and resources wisely, being spiritually strong, preparing for emergencies and eventualities; and by having physical health and social and emotional well-being.

"The Welfare Responsibilities of the Relief Society President," *Basic Principles of Welfare and Self-Reliance*, 2009, 4–5

Julie B. Beck, Relief Society general president



A Gospel Responsibility



**Elder Robert D.
Hales,
Quorum of the
Twelve Apostles**



As we live providently and increase our gifts and talents, we become more self-reliant. Self-reliance is taking responsibility for our own spiritual and temporal welfare and for those whom Heavenly Father has entrusted to our care. Only when we are self-reliant can we truly emulate the Saviour in serving and blessing others.

It is important to understand that self-reliance is a means to an end. Our ultimate goal is to become like the Saviour, and that goal is enhanced by our unselfish service to others. Our ability to serve is increased or diminished by the level of our self-reliance.

“A Gospel Vision of Welfare: Faith in Action,” *Basic Principles of Welfare and Self-Reliance*, 2009, 1–2

Self-reliance is a product of our work and undergirds all other welfare practices. It is an essential element in our spiritual as well as our temporal well-being. Regarding this principle, President Marion G. Romney [1897–1988] has said: ‘Let us work for what we need. Let us be self-reliant and independent. Salvation can be obtained on no other principle. Salvation is an individual matter, and we must work out our own salvation in temporal as well as in spiritual things.’ ...



**President Thomas S.
Monson**



President Spencer W. Kimball [1895–1985] further taught concerning self-reliance: ‘The responsibility for each person’s social, emotional, spiritual, physical, or economic well-being rests first upon himself, second upon his family, and third upon the Church if he is a faithful member thereof.

“Guiding Principles of Personal and Family Welfare,” *Liahona*, Feb. 1987, 3; *Ensign*, Sept. 1986, 3