

Uphold, Nourish, and Protect the Family



The family is ordained of God. Marriage between man and woman is essential to His eternal plan. Children are entitled to birth within the bonds of matrimony, and to be reared by a father and a mother who honour marital vows with complete fidelity.

(Elder David A. Bednar "Marriage Is Essential to His Eternal Plan," *Ensign*, June 2006, 83)

As a disciple of Jesus Christ, every woman in this Church is given the responsibility for upholding, nurturing, and protecting families. Women have distinct assignments given to them from before the foundation of the world. And as a covenant-keeping Latter-day Saint woman, you know that raising your voice in defence of the doctrine of the family is critical to the strength of families the world over.

(Julie B. Beck "What Latter-day Saint Women Do Best: Stand Strong and Immovable," *Liahona & Ensign*, Nov. 2007, 110)

How Can I Defend the Family?

D&C 88:119: "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."

Home is a haven against the storms and struggles of life. Spirituality is born and nurtured by daily prayer, scripture study, home gospel discussions and related activities, home evenings, family councils, working and playing together, serving each other, and sharing the gospel with those around us. Spirituality is also nurtured in our actions of patience, kindness, and forgiveness toward each other and in our applying gospel principles in the family circle.

(President Spencer W. Kimball "Therefore I Was Taught," *Tambuli*, Aug. 1982, 2; *Ensign*, Jan. 1982, 3)

Women of God can never be like women of the world. The world has enough women who are tough; we need women who are tender. There are enough women who are coarse; we need women who are kind. ... We have enough women of fame and fortune; we need more women of faith

(Elder M. Russell Ballard "What Matters Most Is What Lasts Longest," *Liahona and Ensign*, Nov. 2005, 42–43)

For too many, responsibility seems to end with hand-wringing and exclamations of dismay. Yet talk without action accomplishes little. We need to be vigorously engaged in the world. If our schools are inadequate or destructive of moral values, we must work with fellow members of the community to bring about change. If our neighbourhoods are unsafe or unhealthy, we must join with the civic-minded to devise solutions. If our cities and towns are polluted, not only with noxious gases but soul-destroying addictions and smut, we must labour to find legitimate ways to eliminate such filth. ... We have the responsibility to be a blessing to others, to our nation, to the world.

(Elder Robert S. Woods "On the Responsible Self," *Ensign*, Mar. 2002, 30–31)

