

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
OFFICE OF THE FIRST PRESIDENCY
47 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE STREET, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84150-1200

December 9, 2011

To: General Authorities; Area Seventies; Stake, Mission, District, and Temple Presidents

Dear Brethren:

Updated Temple Recommend Books

Beginning Friday, December 9, 2011, updated temple recommend books will be sent to units when they order replacements. (Updated books are currently in English only; copies in other languages will be available as they are translated.) The old recommend books should continue to be used until they are depleted.

The First Presidency statement on "Wearing the Temple Garment" has been updated to reflect changes to instruction in *Handbook 1: Stake Presidents and Bishops* - 3.4.5 (2010). This statement should be read during the temple recommend interview. We are providing a copy of the updated statement and an updated version of Instructions for Issuing Recommends to Enter a Temple: For Stake and Mission Presidencies.

Stake, mission, and district presidents should ensure that bishops and branch presidents receive a copy of the updated "Wearing the Temple Garment" statement for use in temple recommend interviews.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Thomas S. Monson

Henry B. Eyring

Walter F. Willard

The First Presidency

Interview Questions for Recommends to Enter a Temple

1. Do you have faith in and a testimony of God the Eternal Father; His Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Ghost?
2. Do you have a testimony of the Atonement of Christ and of His role as Savior and Redeemer?
3. Do you have a testimony of the Restoration of the gospel in these, the latter days?
4. Do you sustain the President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints as the prophet, seer, and revelator and as the only person on the earth who possesses and is authorized to exercise all priesthood keys? Do you sustain the members of the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles as prophets, seers, and revelators? Do you sustain the other General Authorities and local authorities of the Church?
5. Do you live the law of chastity?
6. Is there anything in your conduct relating to members of your family that is not in harmony with the teachings of the Church?
7. Do you support, affiliate with, or agree with any group or individual whose teachings or practices are contrary to or oppose those accepted by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints?
8. Do you strive to keep the covenants you have made, to attend your sacrament and priesthood meetings, and to keep your life in harmony with the laws and commandments of the gospel?
9. Are you honest in your dealings with your fellowmen?
10. Are you a full-tithe payer?
11. Do you keep the Word of Wisdom?
12. Do you have financial or other obligations to a former spouse or children? If yes, are you current in meeting those obligations?
13. If you have previously received your temple endowment:
 - a. Do you keep the covenants that you made in the temple?
 - b. Do you wear the garment both night and day as instructed in the endowment and in accordance with the covenant you made in the temple?*
14. Have there been any sins or misdeeds in your life that should have been resolved with priesthood authorities but have not been?
15. Do you consider yourself worthy to enter the Lord's house and participate in temple ordinances?

In each interview, emphasize to the member the need to safeguard the recommend. It must never be loaned and should be reported immediately to the issuer if lost or stolen. (See "Lost or Stolen Recommends" on the preceding page.)

*Read the "Wearing the Temple Garment" statement, included below, to each member.

Wearing the Temple Garment

Wearing the garment is the sacred privilege of those who have taken upon themselves the covenants of the temple. The garment is a reminder of these covenants and, when properly worn, will serve as a protection against temptation and evil.

It is expected that members will wear the garment both night and day, according to covenants made in the temple. Members should not adjust the garment or wear it contrary to instructions in order to accommodate different styles of clothing, even when such clothing may be generally accepted. The garment should not be removed, either entirely or partially, to work in the yard or for other activities that can reasonably be done with the garment worn properly beneath the clothing.

Members who have made covenants in the temple should be guided by the Holy Spirit to answer for themselves personal questions about wearing the garment. These sacred covenants are between the member and the Lord, and the proper wearing of the garment is an outward expression of an inner commitment to follow the Savior Jesus Christ.