

How to Contribute to the *Liahona*

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The *Liahona* is published by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for adults, youth, and children worldwide.

Thank you for your desire to share your talents and experiences with our readers. The *Liahona* could not fulfill its purpose without the help of contributors like you, and we welcome your submissions. Perhaps the best tip we can share with you is to base your writing on your personal experiences. To get an accurate feel for what the *Liahona* publishes, we recommend reading a number of recent issues. You can find the *Liahona* online at <http://liahona.lds.org>.

WHAT WE NEED

We welcome submissions in the general categories listed below. Occasionally, we need articles on specific topics; watch for the heading “Call for Articles” printed from time to time in the magazine. Seasonal material, such as Christmas and Easter articles, should be submitted at least one year in advance. We accept articles in any language.

Our general, ongoing needs are as follows:

Gospel-in-Action Stories: We publish articles in which members share testimony and describe blessings that come from obedience to gospel principles and covenants. Some may be dramatic stories of action and physical crisis while others may deal with challenges overcome in the quiet chambers of the heart and mind—conversion, reactivation, resolution of lifestyle problems—but all illustrate the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ in changing and blessing lives. Manuscript length: 1,000–1,600 words.

Gospel Insights: Explications of gospel doctrine are general handled by General Authorities, but we do print articles by others that contain gospel insights based on the author’s personal experiences—for instance, when prayer, scripture study, and action led to a deepened testimony and understanding of a gospel principle. Focus the article on *why* you believe the principle and *how* you came to that testimony. Manuscript length: no more than 1,200 words.

Latter-day Saint Voices: We publish short articles describing a personal experience that gave the writer an insight into a gospel principle. These brief narratives might be like a journal entry. Manuscript length: no more than 750 words.

Marriage: Articles on this topic may be written by husbands and/or wives as well as by professional counselors and teachers. *To assure a warm, personal feel, please include real-life experiences, stories, and examples.* Helpful how-to’s will encourage readers to put the principles into practice. Manuscript length: No more than 2,000 words.

Parenthood: Articles on this topic may be written by parents as well as by teachers and professionals in child care and guidance. Real-life experiences, stories, and examples included in the articles help readers relate them to their own situations. Helpful how-to’s encourage readers to put the principles into practice. Manuscripts length: no more than 2,000 words.

Singles: We publish articles on topics of interest to unmarried Latter-day Saints (never-married, widowed, and divorced), particularly articles written *by* single members. Articles should share helpful insights and positive approaches to challenges faced by LDS singles. Manuscript length: no more than 2,000 words.

News: We seek to publish news items that are of interest to members of the Church in your area. Please notify us of upcoming events as far in advance as possible so we can arrange to cover them when possible. Or send us reports of recent events as soon after the event as you can.

Specifically by and for Youth: We are interested in articles written by and for youth, especially stories about youth who have made a difference in their school, family, or community by living gospel standards. We also accept short accounts (200 to 500 words) from youth of how they discovered the benefits of living a gospel principle or overcame a trial by applying a particular scripture. Other possibilities include a short (300 to 400 words) list of ideas on a gospel topic with a brief introduction on how youth can use the list. We also buy ideas and suggested text for posters, but we do the final writing and photography ourselves.

Specifically by and for Children: We need stories (no more than 1,000 words) that show the gospel at work in the lives of Latter-day Saint children. These stories may be set in any culture, but they must be based on true incidents. Names, dialogue, and details may be fictionalized to better shape the story, but the main events and people must be factual. These stories need to be about real children discovering or applying gospel truths in overcoming real-life conflicts. Don't write these in straight narrative form like news items; rather, follow the rule "show, don't tell," pulling the reader into the experience with dialogue, sounds, sights, and smells. Tell the story from the child's perspective.

We also publish family- and gospel-oriented puzzles and games, but these can't rely on word play because of translation differences.

We welcome submissions from children, specifically stories in which they share the experiences they have had as they try to follow the example of Jesus Christ.

Articles by and for 9- to 12-year-olds are of particular interest to us.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. We encourage readers to share insights, experiences, and comments about articles in the magazine.
2. We are not interested in book-length manuscripts, fiction, plays, self-promotion, travelogues, near-death experiences, or exceptionally personal or sensitive material.
3. Sacrament meeting talks cannot usually be easily converted to effective articles unless they include narratives of personal experiences that illustrate principles of the gospel
4. Accepted manuscripts are scheduled for publication according to need. Accepted manuscripts may not appear for a year or longer.

5. Subscriptions for the United States and Canada may be ordered by phone at 1-800-537-5971. Readers worldwide can order online at ldscatalog.com or by contacting their local Church distribution center.

HOW TO PREPARE YOUR MANUSCRIPT

1. Please double-space everything—body copy, endnotes, quotations, chart copy, titles, and headings.
2. Include your name, address, telephone number, ward or branch, stake or district, and e-mail address in the upper right-hand corner of the first page.
3. We prefer submissions by e-mail online. If sending an attachment, use a standard word-processing format. We also accept typewritten or, if necessary, handwritten manuscripts. Send your manuscript to: liahona@ldschurch.org, or in print form to *Liahona* Editorial, 50 E. North Temple St., Rm. 2420, Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3220, USA. If you are mailing from within the United States and want your manuscript returned if it is not accepted, please enclose a suitable self-addressed stamped envelope.

OPTIONS TO DONATE OR RECEIVE PAYMENT

Most of what the magazines print is donated material. This includes question-and-answer responses, letters to the editor, articles and artwork for children, and short responses to calls for testimonies and experiences. We invite you to consider donating your material when submitting it to the magazines.

If you wish to be paid, we are pleased to send you payment. Payment varies depending on factors such as the complexity of the work and the research required to produce it. Choosing to request payment will not affect how we review your work.

COPYRIGHTS

When an article is accepted, the author is required to sign a submission agreement that grants the Church license to publish it. A parent or guardian must give written permission for the Church to use articles, artwork, or photography by those under age 18 and to publish a photo of anyone under the age of 18. All identifiable people appearing in photos submitted for publication must sign a release allowing the Church to publish their image (form 37707, available by contacting us). When this form is not available, a written, signed statement from those in the photo will suffice.

PHOTOS

Please make us aware of available photographs of individuals, activities, or places described in your article. We also purchase artistic photos occasionally.

Permission: All identifiable people in photos need to sign a statement agreeing to Church use of their image. Those under age 18 need a statement signed by their parent or guardian.

Captions: Please provide credit and caption information for each photo. Give the full name of each person in the photo. Use terms such as “from left” and “standing” to clearly identify each person

Digital photography: Please use the highest resolution, the largest setting on a five megapixels camera or higher, and send the photos on CD or DVD. Low-resolution images may be accepted for preliminary review. Before sending high resolution photos by e-mail, please contact us.

Film: Please develop film before sending us slides or prints. Transparencies (slides) are preferred.

Church standards: All people in photos should observe Church standards of dress, grooming, behavior, and respect for property.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Assignments are made only to artists who have shown their portfolio, but we are eager to know of those who have talent. Please contact us for information about portfolio review, or send samples by e-mail or as color transparencies (slides).

MUSIC

We occasionally publish short songs or hymns. All music submitted is reviewed by the Church Music Committee.

FEEDBACK IS WELCOME

We appreciate your interest in the *Liahona*! Please let us know how we can improve. E-mail us at liahona@ldschurch.org.