

**Saving Souls:
The Mission of Young Women Leaders
Julie B. Beck and Elaine S. Dalton
Counselors in the Young Women General Presidency
Fall 2005 Open House**

Scriptural Teaching about the Worth of a Soul

- “Remember the worth of souls is great in the sight of God. . . . And if it so be that you should labor all your days in crying repentance unto this people, and bring, save it be one soul unto me, how great shall be your joy with him in the kingdom of my Father!” (D&C 18:10, 15).
- “And if any man among you be strong in the Spirit, let him take with him him that is weak, that he may be edified in all meekness, that he may become strong also” (D&C 84:106).
- “I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick” (Ezekiel 34:16).

President Thomas S. Monson: Message to Young Women Leaders

- "Right now, today, some for whom we have responsibility are caught in the current of popular opinion. Others are torn by the tide of turbulent times. Yet others are drawn down and drowned in the whirlpool of sin. This need not be. We have the program. We have the people. We have the power. Our mission is more than meetings. Our service is to save souls” (Thomas S. Monson, *Sugar Beets and the Worth of a Soul*, video presentation, 2005).
- “Young Women leaders, do you know your girls? Do you understand their problems and their perplexities, yearnings, ambitions, and hopes? Do you know how far they have traveled, the troubles they have experienced, the burdens they have carried, the sorrows they have borne? . . . True happiness and lasting joy will come to you and your young women as you take a hand and reach a heart” (Thomas S. Monson, *Sugar Beets and the Worth of a Soul*, video presentation, 2005).
- "My dear sisters, ours is the responsibility, yes even the solemn duty, to reach out to all the young women. Our duty is to guide our girls to the celestial kingdom of God. May we ever remember that the mantle of leadership is not the cloak of comfort, but rather the robe of responsibility" (Thomas S. Monson, *Sugar Beets and the Worth of a Soul*, video presentation, 2005).

Stakes and Wards Are Part of the Lord’s Program for Saving Souls

- “And that the gathering together upon the land of Zion, and upon her stakes, may be for a defense, and for a refuge from the storm, and from wrath when it shall be poured out without mixture upon the whole earth” (D&C 115:6).
- “Under the direction of the stake presidency, members of the stake Young Women presidency . . . serve as a resource to ward Young Women presidencies. They instruct and advise individual presidencies as requested by the ward [or] directed by the stake presidency. . . . They occasionally visit ward Young Women meetings and activities to give support and ensure that the organization is functioning properly” (*Church Handbook of Instructions, Book 2: Priesthood and Auxiliary Leaders* [1998], 215).

Questions to Ponder for Young Women Leaders

- Is the focus of the ward and stake Young Women program on saving souls?
- Are all activities, Sunday lessons, Personal Progress experiences, camps, and leadership opportunities being used to strengthen and fortify young women?

Note: The video presentation *Sugar Beets and the Worth of a Soul*, used in this Fall 2005 Open House session, is not currently available.