

Standing For Something

President Gordon B. Hinckley's book:

“Standing For Something — 10 Neglected Virtues That Will Heal Our Hearts and Homes”

Objectives:

- Share spirit of Pres Hinckley. His commitment, his proposition.
- Encourage reading this great book.
- Help us all strengthen our commitment to “Stand for Something” — the gospel of Jesus Christ, the values and principles of the gospel, the values which will bless and heal our hearts and home, our community, our nation.

The Secularization of America

- “I love America”
- George Washington and other founding fathers looked to God

The Ten Virtues:

1. Love The Lodestar of Life
2. Honesty Where There is Honesty, Other Virtues Will Follow
3. Morality Making a Case for Morality
4. Civility Our Fading Civility
5. Learning “With All Thy Getting Get Understanding”
6. Forgiveness and Mercy Twin Virtues
7. Thrift and Industry Getting Our Homes in Order
8. Gratitude A Sign of Maturity
9. Optimism In the Face of Cynicism
10. Faith Our Only Hope

The Guardians of Virtue:

- I. Marriage What God hath Joined Together

Four Cornerstones:

1. Mutual respect and loyalty to one another.
2. The soft answer.
3. Financial honesty
4. Prayer

- II. The Family We Can Save Our Nation by Saving Our Homes

Ten specific things that can help bring a turnaround in our homes, in our nation:

1. Accept responsibility for our role as parents and fulfill our obligations to our children.
2. Get married and stay married.
3. Put the father back at the head of the home.
4. Recognize and value the supreme importance of mothers.
5. Celebrate and treat children as our most priceless treasures.
6. Discipline and train children with love.
7. Teach values to children.
8. Teach children to work
9. Read to and with children.
10. Pray together.

The Loneliness of Moral Leadership

“In leadership, in standing for principle, there is loneliness. But men and women of integrity must live with their convictions. Unless they do so, they are miserable.”

“What we desperately need today on all fronts—in our homes and communities, in schoolrooms and boardrooms, and certainly throughout society at large—are leaders, men and women who are willing to stand for something. We need people who are honest; who are willing to stand up for decency, truth, integrity, morality, and law and order; who respond to their consciences even when it is unpopular to do so—perhaps *especially* when it is unpopular to do so.”

We must do this in a way that is persuasive, without being heavy-handed or offensive.

“The problem with most of us is that we are afraid to stand up for what we believe, to be witnesses for what is true and right. We want to do the right thing, but we are troubled by fears. So we sit back, and the world drifts about us, and society increasingly adopts attitudes and standards of behavior that most of us do not approve of.”

“Never in the history of the world has there been a more profound need for leaders of principle to step forward.”

“It is not wise or even possible to divorce private behavior from public leadership... By its every nature, true leadership carries with it the burden of being an example.”

“We are involved in an intense battle. It is a battle between...the design of the Almighty on the one hand and that of Lucifer on the other.”

Leadership demands loyalty.

We fight for one another (as do troops in battle).

As we contribute in a meaningful way to our society our capacity to do so is increased.

The wonder of man...

“The distance between mediocrity and excellence can be ever so small. ... A little extra effort can result in a tremendous difference. We would all do well to walk a higher road of excellence.”

The way we contribute, our excellence can be in our unique ways... caring for those in need, music, ...

“*the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong*” (Ecclesiastes 9:11) “Life’s winners are generally those who endure to the end. What a tremendous strength there is in commitment!”

“The time has come for good people everywhere to demonstrate that they stand for something—something that is virtuous and clean and worthwhile. To that end, may we move forward with faith in the Almighty, and with a determination to live virtuous lives and to return to our society the element of goodness on which it was founded.”