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BOOK 3

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LIMITED-USE

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RECOMMEND

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### Book 3: Limited-Use Recommend

Issue a Limited-Use Recommend from this book to worthy unendowed members only to (1) participate in baptisms and confirmations for the dead, (2) be sealed to their parents, or (3) observe sealings of their living brothers and sisters to their parents.

The same standards of worthiness apply to those who receive Limited-Use Recommends as to those who receive the other recommends.

#### **Baptisms and Confirmations for the Dead**

Those recommended to participate in baptisms and confirmations for the dead must be at least 12 years old, and all males must hold the priesthood. You may use this as a group recommend for youth who are 12 through 20 or as an individual recommend for both youth and adults.

An unendowed member who is 21 or older or married may use this recommend only as an individual recommend and only to perform baptisms and confirmations for the dead. The recommend expires one year after the end of the month in which it is issued. An unendowed college-age youth not going to attend the temple with a youth group may be issued a Limited-Use Recommend as an individual and keep it until it expires.

If parents take older children to the temple to participate in baptisms and confirmations for the dead, the patrons will keep all recommends issued, whether to one youth or more than one

in the same family. They will present them whenever they come to a temple. They expire one year from the end of the month in which they are issued. Unendowed youth who attend the temple must have adult supervision.

#### **Sealings to Parents**

Unendowed members either being sealed to their parents or observing the sealings of their living brothers and sisters to their parents must be single and younger than 21 years of age. Children observing the sealings of their brothers and sisters to their parents also must have been born in the covenant or sealed to their parents. This recommend can be used for an individual child or for a group of children in the same family. Children being sealed and those observing the sealing may be listed on the same recommend. Children under the age of 8 do not need recommends to enter the temple. When a recommend is issued for a sealing to parents, the membership file number, where used, of the person(s) to be sealed should be written on the recommend to the right of the name.

First Presidency approval is necessary before Limited-Use Recommends may be issued to youth and children to observe the sealings of stepbrothers and stepsisters to parents. Adopted brothers and sisters, half-brothers and sisters, and full brothers and sisters—if they are worthy—may be issued recommends to observe such sealings without any special approvals.

## Instructions for Issuing Recommends to Enter a Temple

You should become familiar with the instructions on temples in the *Church Handbook of Instructions, Book 1*, including instructions on wearing and caring for garments. Confidentiality is crucial in handling all matters discussed in this book.

### Issuing Recommends

You may issue recommends to worthy members during any month of the year. Usually a recommend is issued during the individual's or the spouse's birth month. Encourage husbands and wives to apply together, but interview them separately.

### Completing the Recommend Form

You (the bishop, bishop's counselor in the case of recommend renewals, or branch president) are to complete the recommend in duplicate, including the date the recommend is issued (see *Church Handbook of Instructions, Book 1*, page 66). Complete each recommend legibly and accurately, using information from membership records. Retain the pink duplicate copy in the book, and give the white original to the member.

In a stake the member who has been issued a Temple Recommend, a Recommend for Living Ordinances, or a Limited-Use Recommend (unless issued only to do baptisms and confirmations for the dead) takes the original to a member of the stake presidency, who also interviews the member. He signs the recommend if the member is worthy.

In a mission district the branch member takes the recommend to an authorized member of the mission presidency, who interviews the member. If the member is worthy, the member of the mission presidency signs the recommend.

Each member who receives a recommend as indicated above is to be interviewed individually by the bishop, bishop's counselor, or branch president and by a member of the stake presidency (or an authorized member of the mission presidency if in a mission). Near the date that the member will go to the temple, the stake or mission president personally interviews the member seeking a Recommend for Living Ordinances.

When the member is to be endowed, sealed to a spouse, or married in a temple for time only, he or she must have a Recommend for Living Ordinances in addition to a Temple Recommend; these are printed as a set in Book 2. See the instructions following the tab dividers for each type of recommend.

A male member must hold the Melchizedek Priesthood to receive a Temple Recommend or a Recommend for Living Ordinances.

Always issue a recommend to a woman in her current legal name, even if she has been divorced and regardless of whom she is sealed to.

When completing a Recommend for Living Ordinances for a married woman going to a temple either to receive her own endowment or to be sealed to her husband, enter her full maiden name followed by her current married surname in parentheses. For example, you would write *Louise Emma Jones (Archer)*.

### Signing of Temple Recommends by Temple Presidents

In exceptional cases when members living in isolated areas are unable to reach their stake or mission president for an interview and to have their recommends signed, temple presidents are authorized to conduct the interviews and sign the recommends. This procedure is used only in circumstances when a member's meeting with the stake or mission president would require unreasonable travel expense or other unusual difficulties.

In such cases the patron's recommend must be signed by the bishop, one of the bishop's counselors (for a renewal recommend only), or the branch president. The temple president confers with the mission or stake president to make sure he is aware and concurs with the temple president conducting this interview.

### Issuing Limited-Use Recommends

Only a Limited-Use Recommend (Book 3) may be issued to a member who is not endowed and is not being endowed. A child under the age of 8 needs no recommend, but an unendowed member who is 8 years of age or older must have a Limited-Use Recommend if he or she is to be sealed to parents, observe the sealings of living brothers and sisters to parents, or participate (if 12 years of age or older) in baptisms and confirmations for the dead. Other requirements for the participation of unendowed members in these ordinances are listed in the front of the Limited-Use Recommend book and in the *Church Handbook of Instructions, Book 1*, page 68.

The same standards of worthiness apply to those who receive a Limited-Use Recommend as apply to those who receive the other recommends.

Those 8 years of age or older must have been baptized and confirmed (unless not accountable) and must have recommends before they can be sealed to parents.

### Recommending the Endowment of a Member Who Has an Unendowed Spouse

You (the bishop or branch president) may interview a member who is married to an unendowed spouse for a recommend after you receive the signed consent of the spouse. Both you and the stake president must be satisfied, through interviews, that the responsibilities assumed with the endowment will not impair marital harmony.

### Reporting Lost, Stolen, or Revoked Recommends

Report immediately to your assigned temple or to the Temple Department, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, UT, 84150, telephone: 1-801-240-2395, any recommend that is lost or stolen or is revoked and still in the member's possession. When reporting such recommends, give the name and gender of the recommend holder, unit numbers, issue date, and recommend number. If a recommend book is lost or stolen, report the beginning and ending recommend numbers and the numbers of the unused recommends.

### Safeguarding Recommend Books

Safeguard temple recommend books very carefully to prevent any possibility of their falling into unauthorized hands. Record the beginning and ending recommend numbers of each book on the form provided, and keep the numbers in a safe place.

When you have issued all the recommends in a book, place the used book in the back of the binder, and retain it for one year after the end of the month in which the last recommend was issued. This retention period will enable you to report possible lost recommends. After this period has passed, destroy the book by burning or shredding it.

Use all the recommend forms in each book. A separate order form is placed in each book for you to reorder recommends before the current supply is exhausted.

## Determining the Expiration Date

All recommends to enter a temple, except Limited-Use Recommends issued to ward youth groups, are valid for one year after the end of the month in which they are issued. Inform all applicants plainly that they will not be admitted to a temple without presenting a valid recommend.

Limited-Use Recommends (Book 3) expire according to the following rules:

1. A recommend issued to a ward youth group to do baptisms and confirmations for the dead may be used for only one temple visit.

2. If parents take older children to a temple to participate in baptisms and confirmations for the dead, the patrons will keep all recommends issued, whether to one youth or more than one in the same family. They will present them whenever they come to a temple. The recommends expire one year from the end of the month in which they are issued. Unendowed youth who attend the temple must have adult supervision.
3. Unendowed members over 21 and college-age youth not going to the temple with a youth group may keep Limited-Use Recommends issued to them individually and use them for one year.

## Interviewing Instructions

Exercise great care when interviewing applicants for recommends to enter a temple. Be sure they understand that you represent the Lord in determining worthiness to enter His holy house. No unworthy applicant should receive a recommend. Be certain that each applicant is worthy as a result of living up to Church standards and principles. An applicant who is not living up to Church standards and principles must demonstrate true repentance before receiving a recommend to enter a temple. Acceptable answers to the recommend interview questions ordinarily will establish worthiness to receive a recommend. Do not assume that worthiness to enter the temple at one time is reason for a casual interview later. Discuss the interview questions with each applicant, and keep each interview private.

When a Limited-Use Recommend is issued solely for baptisms and confirmations for the dead, the applicant is interviewed only by the bishop or one of his counselors and not by a member of the stake presidency. All other Limited-Use Recommends require an interview and signature by a member of the stake presidency.

When interviewing an applicant for a recommend, do not inquire into personal, intimate matters about marital relations between a husband and wife. Generally, do not deviate from the recommend interview questions. If, during an interview, an applicant asks about the propriety of specific conduct, do not pursue the matter. Merely suggest that if the applicant has enough anxiety about the propriety of the conduct to ask about it, the best course would be to discontinue it. If you are sensitive and wise, you can usually prevent those being interviewed from asking such explicit questions.

## 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 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 applicant the need to safeguard the recommend. It must never be loaned and should be reported immediately to the issuer if lost or stolen. (See "Reporting Lost, Stolen, or Revoked Recommends" on the preceding page.)**

THE CHURCH OF  
**JESUS CHRIST**  
 OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

**Order Form: Recommends to Enter a Temple**

Inside the United States and Canada  
 SALT LAKE DISTRIBUTION CENTER  
 1999 WEST 1700 SOUTH  
 SALT LAKE CITY UT 84104-4233  
 TELEPHONE: 1-800-537-5971

Outside the United States and Canada

Order from your local  
 distribution center

*Recommend books may be obtained only by mail order.*

Local units: Only stake, mission, and temple presidents; bishops; and branch presidents may order the items on this form.

**Mission, Ward, or Branch Information** Print or type. Check the appropriate boxes.

Name of  temple  mission  stake

Date of order

Name of  ward  branch

Unit number

Name of  stake president  mission president  temple president  bishop  branch president

Street address of requester

City, state or province, zip or postal code, and country

Signature of requester (required)

Telephone number of requester

**X**

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**Order Information** Check each item being ordered.

**Office Use Only**

Item	Item number	Order in	Order out	Number sequence of book(s) sent
<input type="checkbox"/> Temple Recommend Number of books ordered: <input type="checkbox"/> One <input type="checkbox"/> Two	32600			
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend for Living Ordinances Number of books ordered: <input type="checkbox"/> One <input type="checkbox"/> Two	32601			
<input type="checkbox"/> Limited-Use Recommend Number of books ordered: <input type="checkbox"/> One <input type="checkbox"/> Two	32602			
<input type="checkbox"/> Binder	32599			
<input type="checkbox"/> Tabbed divider pages	32604			
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend-issuing instructions and interview questions	32605			
<input type="checkbox"/> Statement on Wearing the Temple Garment	35748			

## Temple Recommend Book Number Sequence

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**Bishop or branch president:** In the space below, record the beginning and ending numbers of the recommends in this book. *File the white copy separately from this recommend book for security.*

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Beginning recommend number

Ending recommend number

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WHITE—File separately from recommend book for security    CANARY—Keep in recommend book