

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

July 2011

Dear Boy Scouts, Dear Friends:

I extend to each of you my heartfelt congratulations for accepting the challenge and succeeding in making the climb to the top of a mountain peak. You may be proud of the accomplishment of this quest. As you gaze all around from the heights of the mountaintop, you can see great distances and witness and feel the majesty of God's handiwork.

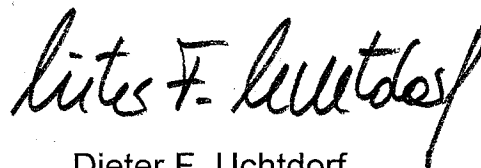
Hiking is one of my favorite activities as it allows me to clear my mind and concentrate on the beauties of the earth. With each step and breath, I always feel deep gratitude and reverence for all I see around me. Hiking can make us more grateful for the magnificent bodies God has created for us. I am confident that you will reflect upon God's creations as you bask in the achievement you have just completed. I encourage you to recommit yourselves to keeping your bodies healthy and strong and free of all substances that will do harm.

May your glorious experience of accomplishment today remain with you in the years to come to give you courage and the knowledge that when you give your best efforts, you are able to complete difficult tasks.

The virtues you develop and skills you obtain as a Boy Scout—being prepared, working hard, developing personal integrity, going forward with determination, being honest in your dealings with others, and serving your fellowmen—will stay with you and help you in a changing and challenging world.

Dear friends, live close to the Lord, cherish the principles found in the teachings of Jesus Christ, keep your bodies and minds clean, and your hearts in tune with the promptings of the Spirit. God loves you—you are His sons. Stay true to God's commandments, and remember the future is yours. May God bless and watch over you always.

Sincerely your brother,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dieter F. Uchtdorf". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dieter F. Uchtdorf