July 15, 2017

Dear Young Friends,

My warm and heartfelt greetings to you, on whatever mountain peak you find yourself! What a wonderful experience you must be having; I wish I could be there with you (as long as you provide a stretcher among your first-aid supplies). I congratulate you and your leaders for the vision and hard work it took to plan and carry out this activity.

In my youth—and for years since then—I have hiked many miles in the mountains and climbed many peaks. When you reach a summit where you can see the beauty of nature for hundreds of miles, all of the blisters and scrapes and sunburns are suddenly worth it—and it is usually easier coming down. I hope you are having an experience you will never forget.

Of course, what makes this hike unique is that you’re doing more than just enjoying nature. I hope you take a moment to consider the symbolism of receiving messages of light and passing those messages on to others. We don’t always know who will notice and receive our communication, but we nevertheless must make sure our signal is strong and bright. You had to prepare well to send your messages today. I hope this leads you to ponder how you are preparing to share salvational light with those who are searching. I hope it is obvious to you that in sharing such gospel messages, we are really reflecting light from the one true Source of all light in this world, the Savior Jesus Christ.

I don’t want to keep you too long from your activity, but I do encourage you to recognize and take advantage every day of the opportunities to communicate with your loving Heavenly Father and share with others the guidance you receive from Him.

Please know that you have my love, my confidence, and my respect. Keep your vision clear and your energy focused for good. In all you do, never lose sight of your duty to God and to others.

Most sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Holland