

# **Gretchen Picklesimer Kinney**

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Dear Gospel Living team,

I have to confess: the first time I ever heard of the Gospel Living app was when I started looking into Church Magazine internships, so I've had to do a bit of research. I was pleasantly surprised to discover the fun and colorful app containing short articles, interactive videos, and engaging content for youth. In today's social media focused world, youth get bombarded with constant degrading and inappropriate posts and messages, and I'm ecstatic that the Church has designed an app that combines uplifting gospel topics with short, powerful social media posts.

I learned firsthand the positive impact of sharing gospel messages on social media when I served as a missionary in the France Paris Mission during the COVID-19 pandemic. Although we were in lockdown, we were still able to find and teach new people by reaching out over social media and sharing daily gospel posts and messages. I remember one day, I worked for a long time on a post that was really special to me about perfectionism and feeling inadequate (I even found an adorable picture of baby sea turtles to go with it!). A few days later, I got a message from a girl who had seen my post, and she said that she resonated with the feelings I described. That opened up an opportunity for us to have an honest conversation together, and I could help her know that she was loved and valued. I was so grateful and humbled that I was able to share a personal experience that strengthened and touched someone that I had never even met in person.

As a member of the Gospel Living team, I would work to create brief, powerful messages to inspire and empower youth around the world. I hope to help youth feel listened to and understood by highlighting topics that are important to them. Thank you so much for this opportunity, and I hope that we will be working together soon.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Gretchen Picklesimer Kinney