



Elder W. Christopher Waddell

Of the Seventy

An unwritten guiding principle in Elder Wayne Christopher Waddell's family has always been, "Trust in the Lord."

"As you trust in the Lord, you don't have to worry about major changes," Elder Waddell says of life's unexpected twists and turns. "We know He has our best interests at heart, and we will be blessed."

Elder Waddell was born in June 1959 in Manhattan Beach, California, USA, and is the son of Wayne and Joann Waddell. He received a bachelor's degree in history from San Diego State University, where he also played volleyball. He has worked in many positions in a global investment services firm.

Elder Waddell married Carol Stansel on June 7, 1984, in the Los Angeles California Temple. They have four children. Unity is paramount in the Waddell family. They attribute that unity to striving to follow the Savior's gospel in their home. Family activities also have been important—spending time together at beaches near their home and attending sporting events as a family.

Prior to his call to the First Quorum of the Seventy, Elder Waddell served as a full-time missionary in Spain, bishop, high councilor, mission president's counselor, stake president, president of the Barcelona Spain Mission, and Area Seventy.

Elder Waddell says that one experience has built upon another and each continues to add to the "treasure of testimony" that he relies on to face challenges in life.

When speaking of preparation for his new calling, Elder Waddell speaks of the temple.

"What prepared us for this? When we went to the temple for the first time and made covenants, we pledged to be willing to do whatever it was the Lord asked us, even if it wasn't convenient," he says. "Going to the temple, serving a mission, making covenants, and then seeing His hand and how He directs the work—that is all you need. We aren't doing anything unique; we are keeping covenants we've made, just like everyone else." ■



Elder Kazuhiko Yamashita

Of the Seventy

Since becoming a young bishop in Fukuoka, Japan, many years ago, Elder Kazuhiko Yamashita has learned from the good examples and attitudes of his senior leaders.

Soon after Elder Yamashita married his wife, Tazuko Tashiro, they moved from Tokyo to Fukuoka, where Elder Yamashita was called as a bishop when he was in his late 20s.

"That was hard for me and my family," Elder Yamashita says. "We had three young children at the time and were new to the area—but it was also a very good teaching and learning experience for me, and my testimony and faith got stronger.

"Of course I had hard times, because my family was young and I didn't have much experience as a Church leader beforehand," Elder Yamashita says. "My senior leaders were good examples and taught me many lessons through their attitude and behavior."

Sister Yamashita says she has seen her husband receive many callings and become a great father and great spiritual leader through the challenges those callings presented. Over time she has seen him change and become a kinder, more loving father and husband. The family enjoys spending time together, including taking long road trips every year.

Elder Yamashita, born in September 1953, is the son of Kiyoshi and Sadae Yamashita. He grew up in Tokyo, Japan, where he found the Church in 1971 through Expo 70, the World's Fair.

Elder Yamashita received a bachelor's degree in education from Saitama University and a master's degree in sport science from Tsukuba University. He also studied the philosophy of physical education at Brigham Young University. Elder Yamashita has been an instructor and professor at various universities and served in numerous scientific, community, and sports organizations.

Elder Yamashita and his wife were married on March 29, 1980, and sealed in December 1980, after the completion of the Tokyo Japan Temple. They have six children.

Prior to his call to the First Quorum of the Seventy, Elder Yamashita served as a bishop, high councilor, stake mission president, stake president, and Area Seventy. ■