



strengthening
our home
and family

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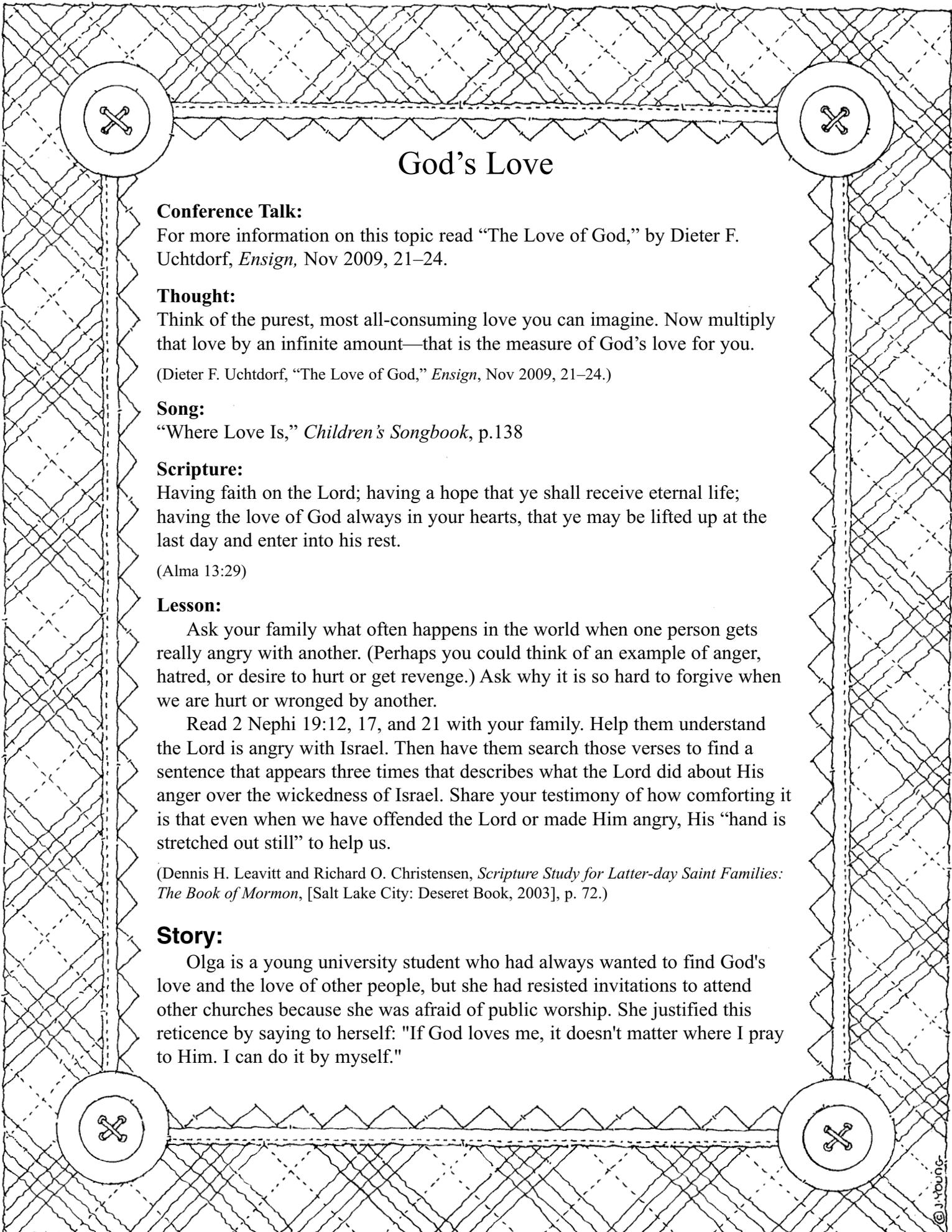
Family Home Evening Materials

Theme: God's Love

Packet #030110

5 tips for successful Family Home Evenings

- 1. Pray.** Pray about the needs of your family as you consider topics for home evenings, and pray as you prepare.
- 2. Prioritize.** Make Family Home Evening a priority; learn to say no to other activities.
- 3. Involvement.** Involve everyone in the family; help little children take part.
- 4. Commitment.** Be committed and be consistent. Set a designated time and stick to it. Holding Family Home Evening on a weekly basis takes dedication and planning on the part of all family members.
- 5. Relax and enjoy it.** The most important thing your children will remember is the spirit they feel in your family home evenings and activities. Be sure the atmosphere is one of love, understanding, and enjoyment.



God's Love

Conference Talk:

For more information on this topic read "The Love of God," by Dieter F. Uchtdorf, *Ensign*, Nov 2009, 21–24.

Thought:

Think of the purest, most all-consuming love you can imagine. Now multiply that love by an infinite amount—that is the measure of God's love for you.

(Dieter F. Uchtdorf, "The Love of God," *Ensign*, Nov 2009, 21–24.)

Song:

"Where Love Is," *Children's Songbook*, p.138

Scripture:

Having faith on the Lord; having a hope that ye shall receive eternal life; having the love of God always in your hearts, that ye may be lifted up at the last day and enter into his rest.

(Alma 13:29)

Lesson:

Ask your family what often happens in the world when one person gets really angry with another. (Perhaps you could think of an example of anger, hatred, or desire to hurt or get revenge.) Ask why it is so hard to forgive when we are hurt or wronged by another.

Read 2 Nephi 19:12, 17, and 21 with your family. Help them understand the Lord is angry with Israel. Then have them search those verses to find a sentence that appears three times that describes what the Lord did about His anger over the wickedness of Israel. Share your testimony of how comforting it is that even when we have offended the Lord or made Him angry, His "hand is stretched out still" to help us.

(Dennis H. Leavitt and Richard O. Christensen, *Scripture Study for Latter-day Saint Families: The Book of Mormon*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2003], p. 72.)

Story:

Olga is a young university student who had always wanted to find God's love and the love of other people, but she had resisted invitations to attend other churches because she was afraid of public worship. She justified this reticence by saying to herself: "If God loves me, it doesn't matter where I pray to Him. I can do it by myself."

Olga and her mother, Larisa, met Sister Cynthia Robbins and Sister Melinda Richards on the street. These missionaries invited them to church, but instead Larisa and Olga, desiring to be taught the gospel, invited them to their home. It did not take Olga and Larisa long to receive a strong spiritual witness of the restored gospel, and they accepted the invitation to be baptized. Olga and Larisa had not yet attended church and were told that this was an important requirement for baptism.

A short time later, Olga attended the a Latter-day Saint worship service but afterwards was assailed with doubts. Thinking about the experience for several days afterward, she decided against baptism. But because she had lost the missionaries' telephone number and thus could not tell them of her decision, she and her mother attended church the next Sunday so they could speak with the missionaries.

This time at church, however, Olga had a wonderful spiritual experience during the sacrament service and afterward felt the great love of the members toward one another and toward her. She recalls:

That Sunday changed my life forever. I understood through the Spirit that I had to belong to this church. I saw such a great faith and kindness on the faces of the people! I felt how their faith was penetrating into my soul. I understood everything without words. I understood that my fear after the first Sunday was a temptation of Satan.

The feeling that I received right after my baptism cannot be described in words. I just can say that it seemed to me that I was flying twenty centimeters above the ground on my way home. I loved everyone; I was so happy. I felt that I was a beloved daughter of my almighty and kind Father. I wanted to hug all the world. I was thankful to God for helping me to find a beautiful church family. I was thankful for being in this church family with my mother.

Eight months later, Olga's father came back to the family after a period of separation, received the gospel and baptism, and was later ordained to the Melchizedek Priesthood. Olga's joy was full: "I cannot find the words in Russian or any other language to describe my feelings and blessings since my baptism. Now I have my entire family in the gospel, and I am eagerly looking forward to going to the temple together with my father and mother."

(Howard L. Biddulph, *Morning Breaks: Stories of Conversion and Faith in the Former Soviet Union*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1996].)

Activity:

Unscamble these names of God found in the scriptures.

1. nleyahve heftra
2. otms hhig ogd
3. hlaymitg
4. sjtmaey no ghih
5. ecorrat
6. yohl noe
7. rdlo fo hte btsahba
8. ym nkgi
9. gdo of uhrtt
10. erftha fo rylgo
11. dgeju fo lal
12. phala nad aoegm

1. Heavenly Father
2. Most High God
3. Almighty
4. Majesty on High
5. Creator
6. Holy One
7. Lord of the Sabbath
8. My King
9. God of Truth
10. Father of Glory
11. Judge of All
12. Alpha and Omega

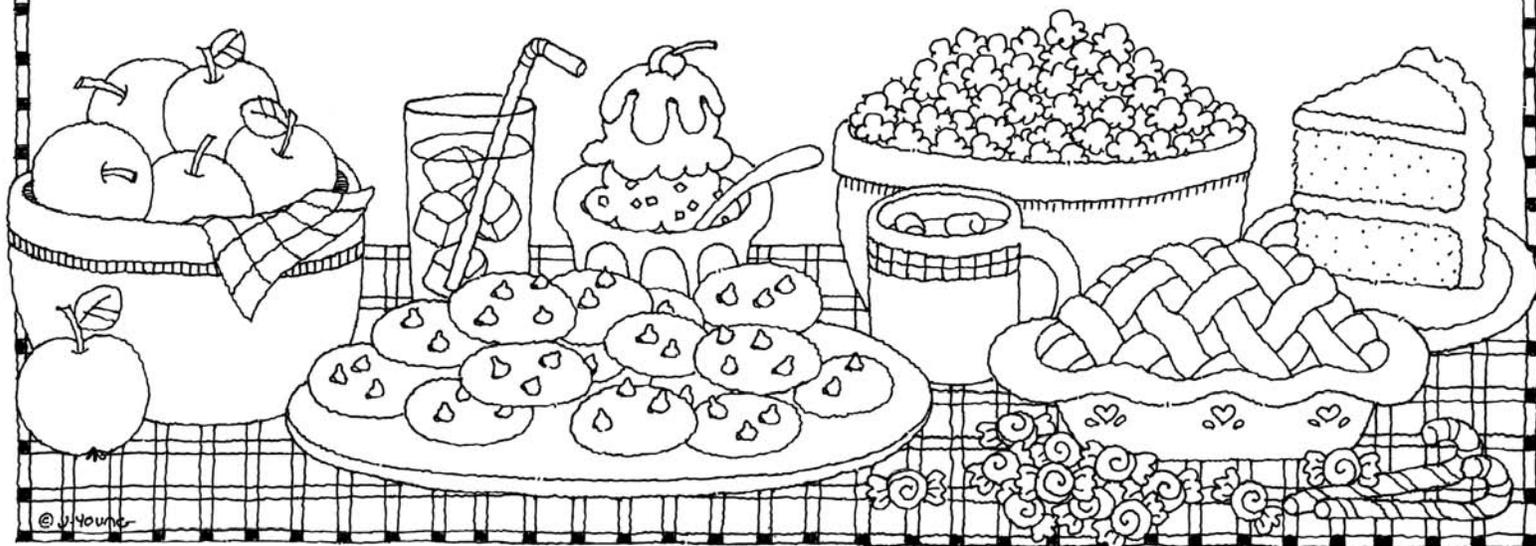
Refreshment

Lemonade Chiffon Pie

Baked 9-inch pie shell (or graham cracker crust)
1 envelope (1 tablespoon) unflavored gelatin
1/4 cup cold water
1/2 cup boiling water
2/3 cup sugar
1 6-ounce can frozen lemonade concentrate
1 cup heavy cream, whipped

In a large saucepan mix gelatin and cold water together. Add boiling water and sugar; stir until dissolved. Add lemonade concentrate; stir until dissolved. Chill until very thick. Fold whipped cream into chilled mixture. Pour into pie shell. Chill. Serve with additional whipped cream, if desired.

(*Lion House Desserts*, [Salt Lake City: Eagle Gate, 2000] p. 94.)



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