

An Eye Single to the Glory of God

Doctrine & Covenants 3-5

Objectives:

Reinforces Principles of:

■ Learn about Joseph Smith and Martin Harris and the lost manuscript. Discuss the importance of focusing the Lord's will.

Obedience

Reverence Time

Song:

I Will Follow God's Plan Children's Songbook page 164

https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/music/library/childrens-songbook/i-will-follow-gods-plan

Scripture:

Doctrine & Covenants 4:4-5

"For behold the field is white already to harvest; and lo, he that thrusteth in his sickle with his might, the same layeth up in store that he perisheth not, but bringeth salvation to his soul; And faith, hope, charity and love, with an eye single to **the glory of God, qualify him for the work."**

Video:

Watch this week's clip from the Living Scriptures Streaming Library. Find the clip at https://www.livingscriptures.com/fhe-lesson-focus

Lesson Time

An Eye Single to the Glory of God

Lesson Summary:

The Lord tells us that we need to "have an eye single to the glory of God" to do His work. That means we need to be selfless and focus on the Lord's will, not our own. Joseph learned this lesson the hard way.

Joseph was finally able to begin translating the gold plates that Moroni had given him. Martin Harris volunteered to help as a scribe. But Martin's wife didn't understand or believe in what Martin was doing. She demanded to see proof of the translation. When Martin asked if he could take the pages of the translation to show his wife, Joseph asked the Lord if that would be allowed. The Lord told him no. Martin kept begging and so Joseph asked again. After several tries, the answer was a conditional, "yes." But after Martin took the pages, they were lost! Joseph lost the ability to translate for a time. The Lord knew this would happen. He had prepared many years before, telling Nephi to keep two sets of plates. Joseph repented and the translation finally continued.

The Lord knows what is best for us. As we follow His commandments and learn to focus on His will instead of our own, we will be blessed and we'll be able to help others. We're promised that if we are faithful in keeping God's commandments, we'll be lifted up at the last day.

Quote:

"When our eyes are fixed on God's glory, we feel the majesty of His creations and the grand scope of His work on this earth. We feel humble to be participants in His latter-day kingdom. If we pause and quietly reflect on our role in all of this, we will come to know that placing our egos and our vain ambitions on the sacrificial altar is one of the most important offerings we can ever make." Marlin K. Jensen

Questions: What does it mean to keep our "eye single to the glory of God"?

How can we learn what the Lord wants us to do?

How are we blessed when we keep the commandments?

When we make mistakes, how can we make things right?

Description:

Make two sets of glasses and talk about how we can see more clearly when we focus on the Lord than if we focus only on ourselves.

What you need:

■ A copy of the of the "Seeing Clearly" glasses pattern (artwork included with this lesson, optional: print on cardstock), scissors, tape, plastic wrap or cellophane, wax paper, markers or pens.

Preparation:

1. Print out glasses pattern. Cut squares of cellophane or plastic wrap and wax paper large enough to cover the lense portion of the classes.

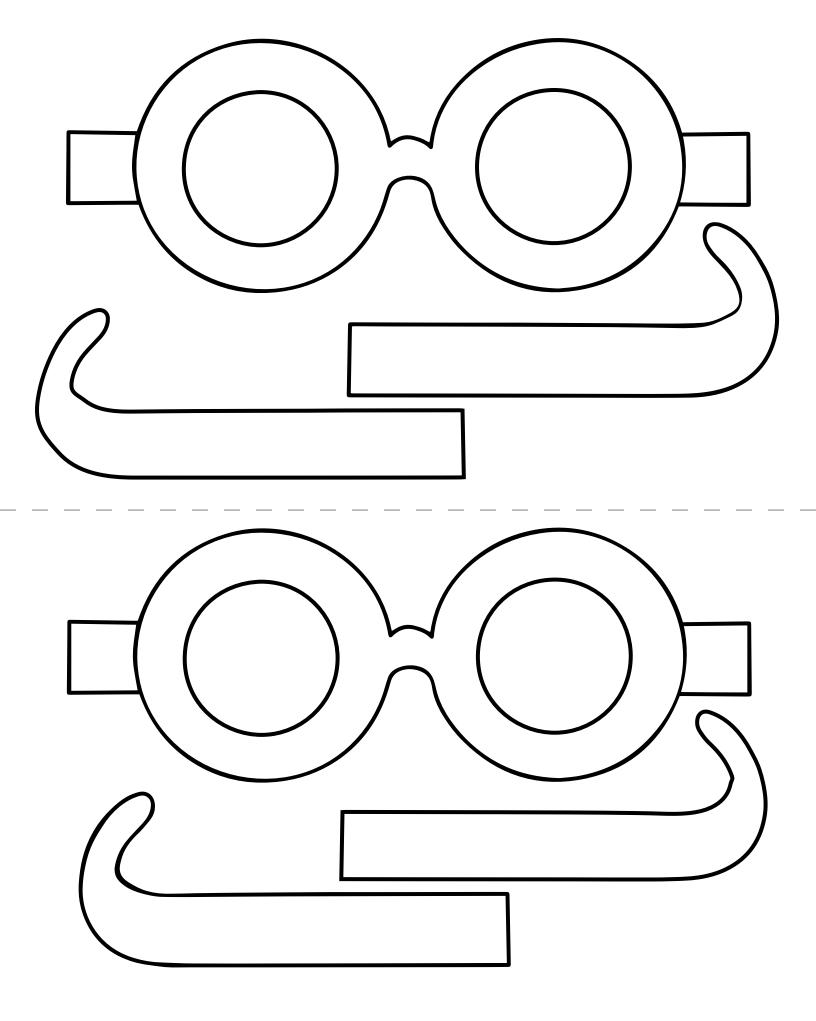
Activity:

Have family members assemble the glasses. (If you'd like, print one set of glasses per person and have each family member assemble a pair). First, decorate the glasses as desired with markers or pens. The cut out the pieces for each pair of glasses. Be sure to cut out the lenses. Assemble the glasses with tape.

Use the squares of cellophane (or plastic wrap) to make lenses for one of the pairs of glasses. Use squares of wax paper to make lenses for the other pair. Tape the lenses in place and trim as needed.

Let each family member try looking through the glasses with wax paper lenses. Notice that you can't see through them! Then let each family member try looking through the glasses with clear plastic lenses. It's much easier to see through the clear lenses.

Explain that if we follow God's commandments and try to do His will, we will be able to see things more clearly and accurately. We can have an eternal perspective and be able to know what things are truly important. If we only do what we want, without trying to do what God wants us to do, it's like looking through the wax paper lenses. We won't have a clear vision of where we need to go and what we need to do in this life. The Lord knows what is best for us and for those around us!



Treat Time

H'ear' and Obey Cookies

Prep Time: 10 minutes
Chill Time: 10-15 minutes
Bake Time: 8-10 minutes



Ingredients:

1 cup butter

1 1/2 cups sugar

1 large egg

2 tablespoons dark corn syrup or molasses

1 tablespoon water 3 1/4 cups flour

2 teaspoons baking soda2 teaspoons cinnamon1 teaspoon ground ginger1/2 teaspoon ground cloves

Instructions:

Cream the butter and sugar until fluffy. Add the egg, corn syrup and water, blending well. Sift the dry ingredients togehter and add to the butter mixture. Chill the dough for 10-20 minutes.

Treat Time: Give each child two 1 inch balls of dough. Roll balls of dough in sugar and them form into the shape of ears (see diagram). Bake on ungreased cookie sheets, in a preheated 350 degree oven for 8-10 minutes.



