

LO, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS

Ideas for Picturing the Lord

The Lord is constantly present with every human being, from the moment of birth to eternity. Jesus said, “Lo, I am with you always...” (Matthew 28:20).

When our lives are difficult, it can be easy for us to lose sight of the Lord. Here is an art activity that is designed to remind us of the Lord’s constant and loving presence.

We will be rendering the Lord’s face. The idea is to make a small picture of the Lord to display somewhere at home—on the fridge, a bedroom mirror, or a door that is frequently passed, *etc.* In seeing the Lord’s face we can remember that He is constantly caring for us in all our states of life.

Most artists depict the Lord as he appeared when He was in the world. The Heavenly Doctrine for the New Church also gives us light on how we will see Him in the spiritual world after death. The angels in heaven continually have the Lord before them. He appears to them in the spiritual sun of heaven.

Angels turning toward the Lord works like this: no matter which way they turn their bodies, they are looking at the Lord as the sun in front of themselves. Angels can turn this way and that and can thus see the various things that surround them, but still the Lord as the sun seems to be constantly in front of them (see *Divine Love and Wisdom* 131).

The spiritual world is different than our natural world. In the spiritual world, a person’s surroundings reflect what is happening in his or her mind. The reason the angels see the Lord all the time is because their minds are constantly focused on heavenly things: the Lord’s love and wisdom. The angels’ minds extend outward and what they see is a mirror of their spiritual loves and thoughts.

Gather supplies for making a small drawing or painting. (You may also gather samples of work by famous artists that depict the Lord to use as motivators.) Render the Lord as you see him, either as He appeared when He was in the world, or as He appears to angels in heaven.

You can make this project special by purchasing a small clear plastic photo frame for the finished picture. Depending on where the picture will be displayed, you may want to use a frame that can be stuck to a metal surface using magnetic strips on the back, or a frame that is free standing.

Display the picture where you will see it regularly in your home to remind you that the Lord is always with you.

Note: This activity is adapted with permission from the Teacher Edition of The Human Face, which offers teaching ideas to go with The Human Face by the Rev. Donald L. Rose. This is available from the General Church Office of Education.