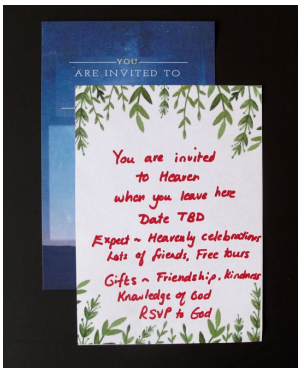
Learn by Doing

Choice An Invitation to Heaven



The Lord invites each of us to form a relationship or enter into a covenant with Him. The Word often depicts this covenant as a wedding, at which the Lord is the Bridegroom and we (His church) are His "bride". Encourage students to consider the Lord's invitation to each of us, and our need to respond to His call, by creating a "wedding invitation".

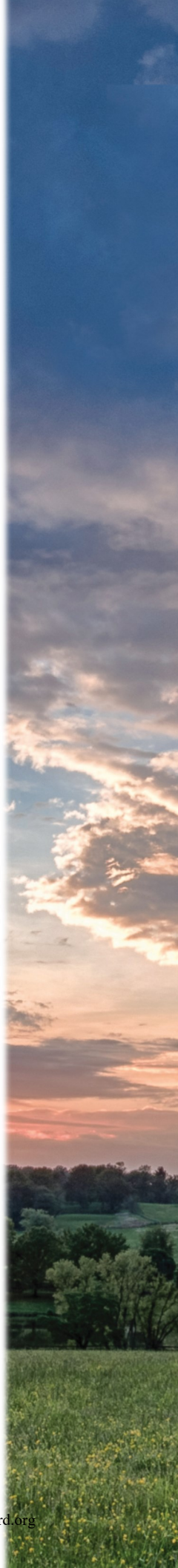
1. Have you ever been to a wedding? A wedding is often the most beautiful day of a person's life. To recognize this, people wear special clothes, eat special food and invite family and friends.
2. Usually people receive invitations to attend a wedding. The host, often the parents of the couple getting married, send invitations to family and friends. Guests are expected to reply, letting the host know whether or not they will attend. Guests usually bring the couple gifts when they come. These gifts support the couple by surrounding them with the love of family and friends and helping them build a home.
3. The Lord invites each of us to a "wedding". He wants us to join our life with His life so that He can give us true happiness. Each time we choose to do what He tells us in the Word we are saying "yes" to His invitation. This wedding does not take place in an instant, but happens gradually as we respond to the Lord's call over a lifetime.
4. We are going to design an invitation for the heavenly marriage between the Lord and a person. Think of it as an invitation you might send to a friend, describing what he or she needs to do to come into a relationship with the Lord and enter heaven. Hand out copies of *You Are Invited Instructions* (p. 2). Go over the directions.
5. Distribute *Invitation Templates* (pp. 3-4) and writing supplies. Encourage students to reflect on specific things they'd like to do when they get to heaven, and the gifts they'd like to bring with them.

Materials Needed

Copies of *You Are Invited Instructions* p. 2 for students to share; enough copies of the *Invitation Templates* pp. 3-4 that all students will have some choice of templates; nice pens, e.g. gold and silver pens and thin markers

New Church Concept Practice

Unless the will and intellect, or affection and thought, or charity and faith, enter into and clothe themselves in works or deeds when possible they are like puffs of air which pass away, or like mirages which fade and vanish. Furthermore they remain for the first time in a person and become matters of life when the person puts them into practice and does them. See *Divine Love and Wisdom* 216



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You Are Invited Instructions

The Lord invites each of us to live with Him in heaven. We do this by developing a relationship with Him through a life centered on loving and living what He teaches in His Word.

Invite a friend to heaven. Design a "wedding" invitation with details about when and where the happy event will take place. Be sure to include a list of what to bring. Use the sample below to help you.

Invitation

Design an invitation that includes the following:

- Host—who is inviting you?
- Request being made —what you are being invited to?
- Place—where will it happen?
- Date and time—when will it happen?
- Celebration—what to expect on your arrival?
- Gifts—what to bring with you
- RSVP—let God know whether you want to join Him!

Sample

The Lord God Jesus Christ
Requests the honor of your presence

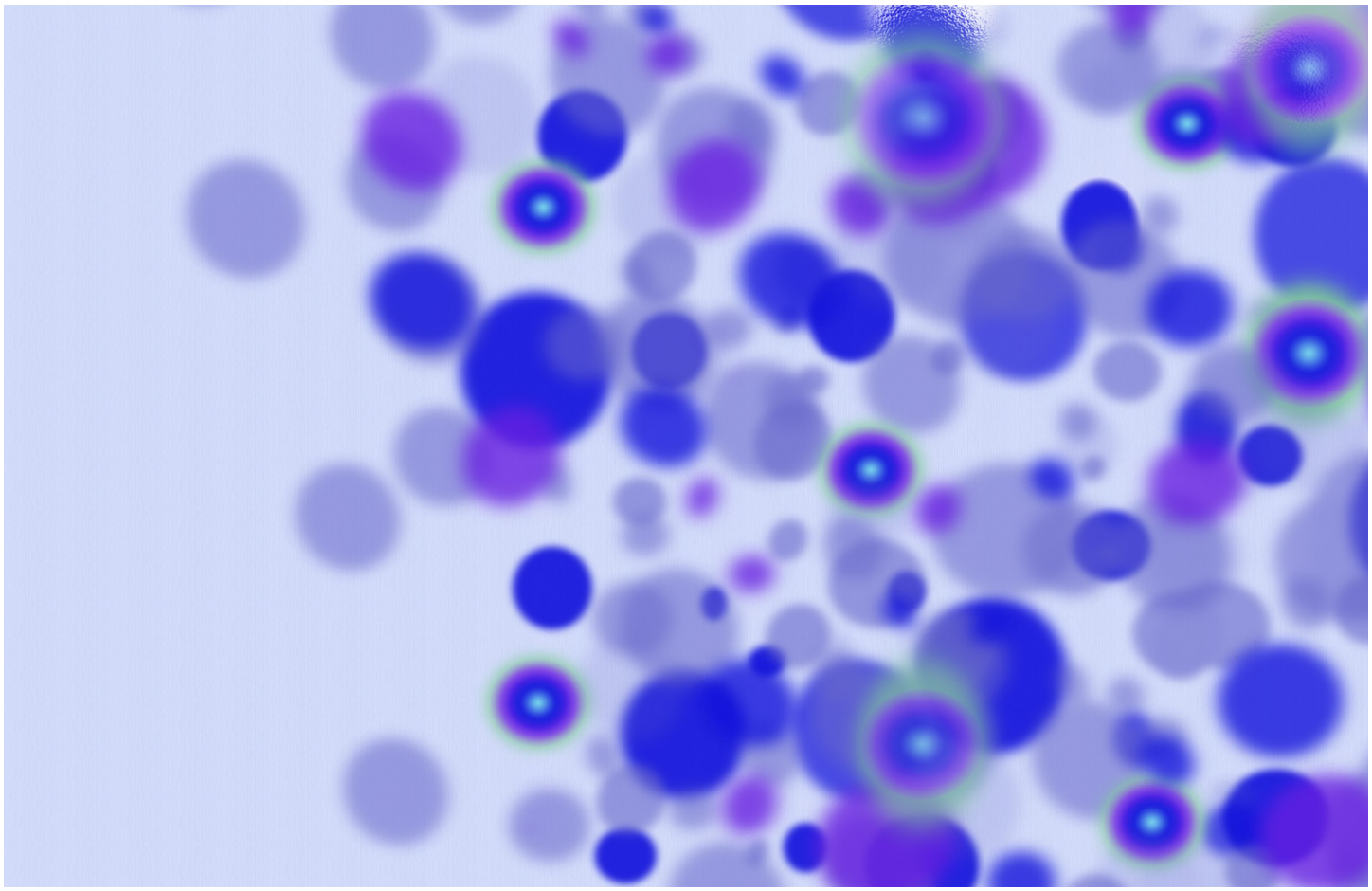
In heaven

When you leave this world. Date to be determined.

Your arrival will be celebrated by friends and relatives.
Heavenly tours guaranteed.

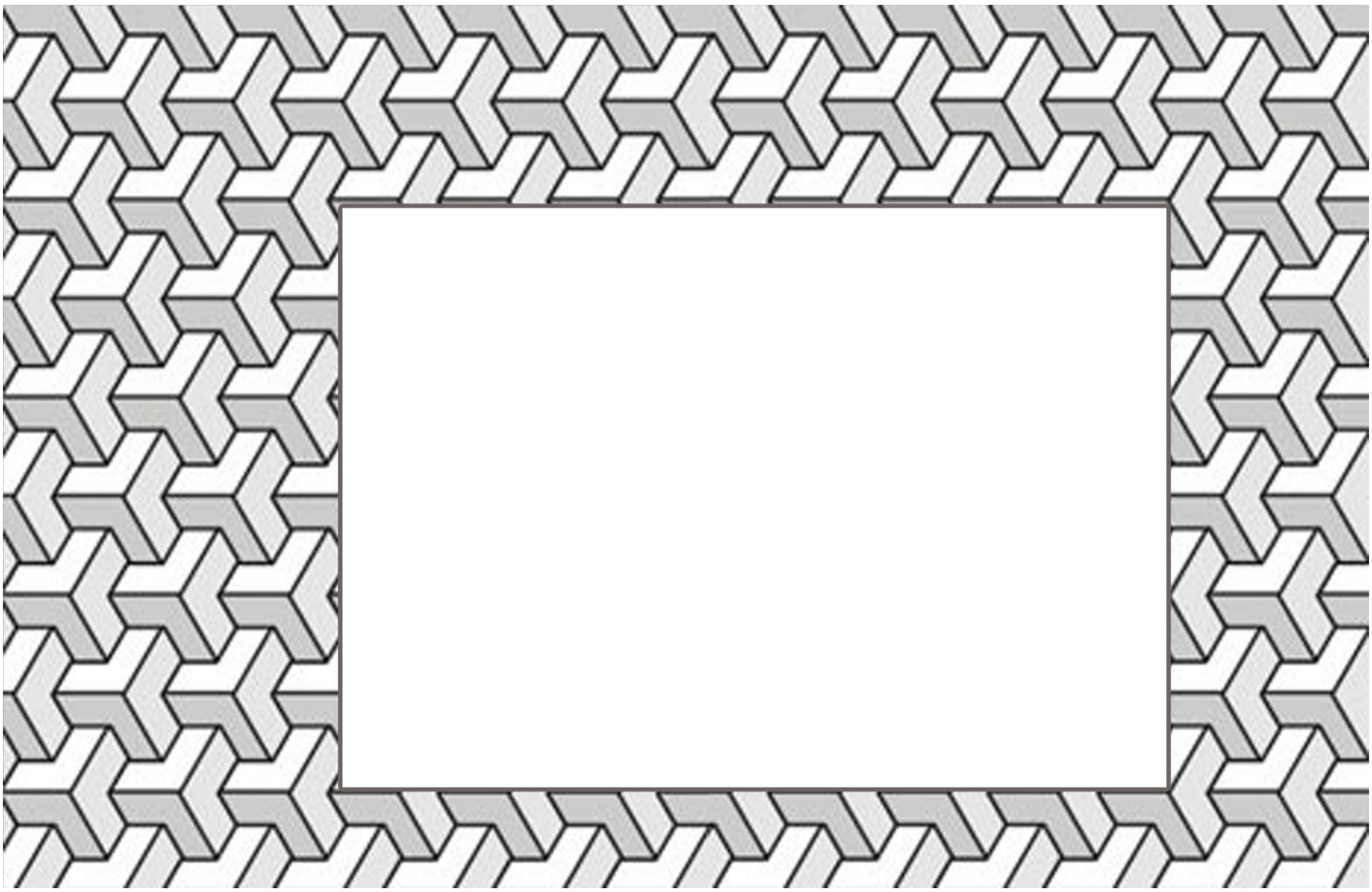
Gift suggestions: acts of kindness, friendship,
knowledge of God, love for others, sharing,
humble spirit.

RSVP to God





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