



# THE APPLE OF HIS EYE

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# THE APPLE OF HIS EYE

1. God cares for you.
2. God is your refuge.
3. God gives you His DNA.
4. God is your Protector.
5. God is your Deliverer.
6. God restores you.
7. God goes ahead of you.



# 1. GOD CARES FOR YOU



- We need to protect our eyes, and the pupil is commonly known as “the apple of the eye.”
- Just as human beings take special care of the eye, in the same way God uses this figurative language to show He cares for us.

“...He encircled him, He instructed him,  
He kept him as **the apple of His eye**” (Deuteronomy 32:10).

“...for he who touches you touches **the apple of His eye**” (Zechariah 2:8).



# 1. GOD CARES FOR YOU

## FOR DISCUSSION

- Look at each other and describe the color of the eyes of the person to your right. Be as precise as possible.
- What is the color of her pupil?
- What application does it have?



# 1. GOD CARES FOR YOU

## FOR DISCUSSION

- Who took care of you in childhood:
  - parent, grandparent, sibling, or another caretaker?
- Did that help you develop trust or mistrust in that person?
- Were you able to keep a close relationship with that person through the years?
- Do these relationships resemble God's care for you and your relationship with Him?



## 2. GOD IS YOUR REFUGE



- God provides a shelter, a refuge in our time of trouble. A refuge is a place serving as protection from danger.

“Trust in Him at all times, you people;  
Pour out your heart before Him;  
God is a **refuge** for us” (Psalm 62:8).

- After the basic human needs of food/water and clothing are met, Abraham Maslow’s hierarchy of needs shows that safety and security must be met for humans to survive.



# Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs



## 2. GOD IS YOUR REFUGE



- God is our refuge in time of trouble. We can turn to Him for safety and protection.

“You are my **hiding place**;  
You shall preserve me from trouble;  
You shall surround me with songs of deliverance” (Psalm 32:7).





## 2. GOD IS YOUR REFUGE

### FOR DISCUSSION

- Share some experiences when you were frightened or were in a dangerous situation, but God helped or rescued you.
  - Share about the emotions you felt in this situation.
  - Has this experience strengthened your faith in God?
- Someone said: **“Do not fear for the future; God is already there.”**
  - Do you agree?
  - What are your current worries?
  - Can you apply this thought to your situation?



# 3. GOD GIVES YOU HIS DNA



- Our value lies in the fact that we are created by the Creator using genetics of His own DNA—because we are made in His image.
- God’s DNA makes us valuable because He is King of kings and Lord of Lords, which means we are His daughters and royal princesses.

“You have been **honored**,  
And I have **loved** you...” (Isaiah 43:4).



### 3. GOD GIVES YOU HIS DNA



“Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a **special treasure** to Me above all people; for all the earth *is Mine*” (Exodus 19:5).

- When you grasp this concept that you are God’s child—the apple of His eye, His special treasure—you will find your real self-worth.



# 3. GOD GIVES YOU HIS DNA

## FOR DISCUSSION

- How do you evaluate yourself?
- How is your value related to your evaluation of yourself?
- When you understand that your real self-worth is how God sees you—as His daughter, His royal princess—how does it affect your ability to see yourself?



# 4. GOD IS YOUR PROTECTOR



- No fear exists under the shadow of the Almighty, only safety and security.

“He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High  
Shall abide **under the shadow** of the Almighty” (Psalm 91:1).

- Practice putting your trust in the strength of the Lord—even when you are being stubborn . . . or in the worst of situations.

“The LORD *is* my strength and my **shield** . . .” (Psalm 28:7).



# 4. GOD IS YOUR PROTECTOR



- God’s protection does not mean that we will not have troubles, but it does mean that He will be there with us even in difficult times.

“When you **pass through** the waters, I will be with you;  
And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you.  
When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned,  
Nor shall the flame scorch you” (Isaiah 43:2).



# 4. GOD IS YOUR PROTECTOR

## FOR DISCUSSION

- How do you understand this promise?

“The name of the LORD *is* a **strong tower**;  
The righteous run to it and are **safe**” (Proverbs 18:10).

- How can God’s name be a tower of refuge for you?
- Make a list of symbols and metaphors that Bible writers used to describe God’s strength and protection.



# 5. GOD IS YOUR DELIVERER



From a Prayer of David:

“Keep me as **the apple of Your eye;**  
Hide me under the shadow of Your wings,  
From the wicked who oppress me,  
From my deadly enemies who surround me” (Psalm 17:8-9).





# 5. GOD IS YOUR DELIVERER



- The enemy who interferes with you, interferes with the apple of God's eye. And God always reacts to the interference.

*Many are the afflictions of the righteous,  
But the LORD **delivers** him out of them all (Psalm 34:19).*

*But the LORD is with me as a mighty, awesome one.  
Therefore my persecutors will stumble, and **will not prevail**.  
They will be greatly ashamed, for they will **not prosper**.  
*Their everlasting confusion will never be forgotten*" (Jeremiah 20:11).*



# 5. GOD IS YOUR DELIVERER

## FOR DISCUSSION

- Describe the difference between
  - protection and
  - deliverance
- Describe the difference between
  - our redemption
  - and restoration



# 6. GOD RESTORES YOU



- God restores you with His forgiveness and through your forgiveness to others He
  - restores earthly relationship,
  - heals your wounds, and
  - transforms your sadness into joy.

“But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, **strengthen**, and **settle** you” (1 Peter 5:10).



# 6. GOD RESTORES YOU



“And the Lord **restored** Job’s losses when he prayed for his friends. Indeed the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before” (Job 42:10).

- We don’t know if God will replace everything as He did for Job, but we can surely trust His wisdom.
- His primary concern is to restore our souls.

“He **restores** my soul;  
He leads me in the paths of righteousness  
For His name’s sake” (Psalm 23:3).



# Ellen White writes:

He restores the willing, desirous soul  
from the power of Satan unto God.

*The Review and Herald, October 12, 1897*  
paragraph 7

Our condition through sin is unnatural,  
and the power that restores us must be supernatural,  
else it has no value.

*The Ministry of Healing, 428.3*



# Ellen White writes:

Christ is the Great Physician, not only of the body,  
but of the soul. He restores man to his God.

*Medical Ministry, 120.3*

They are spiritually blind, and the Lord Jesus performs a  
greater miracle when He restores  
spiritual vision to those who have been blinded  
by the glitter and tinsel of this world,  
than if He healed the most malignant disease.

*The Signs of the Times, March 28, 1895*  
paragraph 8



# 6. GOD RESTORES YOU

## FOR DISCUSSION

- What burdens have you carried or are carrying? Ellen G. White writes:

“The burden of disease and wretchedness and sin He came to remove. It was His mission to bring men **complete** restoration.”

*A Call to Stand Apart, 59.1*

- In what ways has God lifted your burdens already?
- Do you have burdens you need to give to Jesus?



# 6. GOD RESTORES YOU

## FOR DISCUSSION

- Sometimes a great loss can be the motivation to depend wholly on God, which in turn, develops faith and character. Explain why this can happen.
  - What losses have you grieved that helped you depend on God?
  - What suffering have you experienced that helped to develop your faith?
- In what ways has God restored you?





# 7. GOD GOES AHEAD OF YOU



- What are your challenges today?
  - Do you feel scared of a situation out of control?
  - Are you going through a difficult season in your life?
  - Do you feel that you are not worthy enough?
  - Do you feel alone and unprotected?

“And the LORD, He is the one who goes **before** you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed”  
(Deuteronomy 31:8).



# 7. GOD GOES AHEAD OF YOU



- Leave your affairs and challenges to God. He goes before you and fights your battles.

“You will not *need* to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, **stand still and see** the salvation of the LORD, who is with you. O Judah and Jerusalem! Do not fear or be dismayed...for the LORD *is* with you” (2 Chronicles 20:17).



# 7. GOD GOES AHEAD OF YOU

## FOR DISCUSSION

- How does it feel to know that God goes ahead of you fighting your battles?
- Describe how vulnerable you are from behind. Do you have someone you trust who covers your back? Did you know that God covers your back also?

“For you shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight; for the LORD will go **before** you, and the God of Israel will be your **rear guard**” (Isaiah 52:12).



# CONCLUSION

- Being the apple of God's eye means being at the center of His attention and protection.

For thus says the LORD of hosts: "He sent Me after glory, to the nations which plunder you; for he who touches you touches **the apple of His eye**" (Zechariah 2:8).



# CONCLUSION

## FOR DISCUSSION

- What did you learn today that changed your perspective
  - about **yourself?**
  - about **God?**
- What is your takeaway from “The Apple of His Eye” workshop?

