

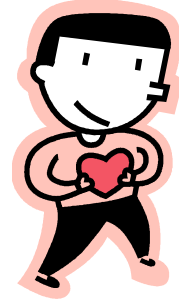
The Lord Looketh on the Heart

PURPOSE

To help family members understand that the Lord values us by what's on the inside rather than what's on the outside

MATERIALS

- A beautifully wrapped box with several heavy rocks inside
- A plain wrapped box with treats inside
- Story, [The Snob](#)
- Story, [The Award](#)

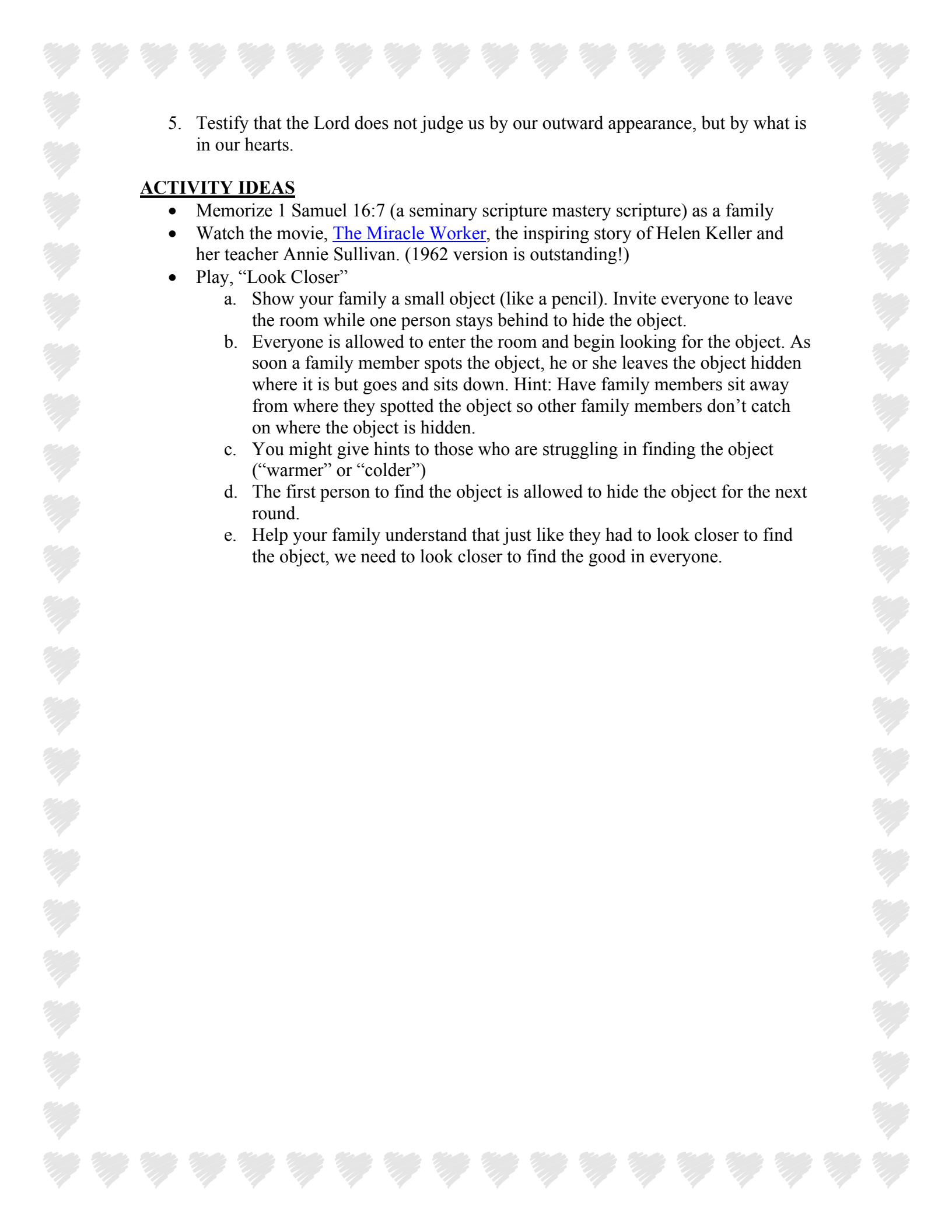


SONG SUGGESTION

- “I Am a Child of God” page 2 in *Children’s Songbook* or page 301 in *Hymns*

LESSON IDEAS

1. Show your family both boxes. Ask: “Which one of these boxes would most people want?”
 - a. Tell your family that the two boxes have something to do with a story in the Old Testament.
2. Explain that the Old Testament prophet Samuel was sent by the Lord to the home of Jesse. Samuel was told that one of Jesse’s sons was going to be chosen to be the next king. Jesse had many strong and handsome sons whom Samuel thought could be chosen to be the king, but the Lord chose none of them. Read 1 Samuel 16:1-13 (or chapter 27 of [Old Testament Stories](#)) to find out who God chose and why.
 - a. Ask, “Where does the Lord look when He evaluates a person?”
3. Allow family members to open both gifts.
 - a. Help them understand that our value is not based on what we look like on the outside but what we are on the inside.
4. Here are several inspiring stories and video clips you may want to share with your family:
 - a. Story, [The Snob](#)
 - b. Story, [The Award](#)
 - c. [Inspirational Video Clip of Patrick Hughes](#)
 - d. [Inspirational Video Clip of Nick Vujicic](#) (click on the word ‘Medium’ under the photo of Nick in the pool – halfway down the web page)

- 
5. Testify that the Lord does not judge us by our outward appearance, but by what is in our hearts.

ACTIVITY IDEAS

- Memorize 1 Samuel 16:7 (a seminary scripture mastery scripture) as a family
- Watch the movie, [The Miracle Worker](#), the inspiring story of Helen Keller and her teacher Annie Sullivan. (1962 version is outstanding!)
- Play, “Look Closer”
 - a. Show your family a small object (like a pencil). Invite everyone to leave the room while one person stays behind to hide the object.
 - b. Everyone is allowed to enter the room and begin looking for the object. As soon a family member spots the object, he or she leaves the object hidden where it is but goes and sits down. Hint: Have family members sit away from where they spotted the object so other family members don’t catch on where the object is hidden.
 - c. You might give hints to those who are struggling in finding the object (“warmer” or “colder”)
 - d. The first person to find the object is allowed to hide the object for the next round.
 - e. Help your family understand that just like they had to look closer to find the object, we need to look closer to find the good in everyone.