

On the Stairway to Heaven

When a person possessing a heavenly love reads the Word, it links him to heaven, and through heaven to the Lord, as a result of which he receives enlightenment and instruction.
(see *Arcana Coelestia* 9382:3)

The Lord helps us walk on the stairway to heaven as we learn truths from His Word and try to obey them. Reading or listening to the Lord's Word also connects us with the angels in heaven who share their delight in the truths of the Word with us. To illustrate this idea, let your child put an angel on the stairway to heaven—coming down or going up the steps—as he or she reads or listens to a story from the Word. For a group project, you could let each child make the stairway to heaven.

Suggested Materials

the Lord's Word
scissors
glue or tape
print out of the color pages for each child
cover stock or other thick paper (as a backing for the stairway)

Procedure

1. Attach the stairway with the Lord onto a thick piece of paper or cardboard. (Note: If your printer will accept thick paper, you could print directly onto cover stock.)
2. Have each child cut out the angels and put them in an envelope or other secure place.
3. Each time the child reads a section of the Word (several verses or a chapter) or hears the Word being read in church or in family worship, let him or her put an angel on the stairway.

Note: The angels will look bigger when they are near the bottom of the stairway and smaller when they are near the top. But we have also included some angels that are little children, so they can be anywhere the child wishes to put them.

4. *Optional:* Children can make their own angels if they like. These can be drawn in the blank ovals below to make them easier to cut out.
5. When all of the angels are on the stairway, it can be displayed as a beautiful reminder of the way reading the Word connects us with heaven and helps the Lord prepare us to become angels ourselves someday.
6. *Optional:* If children wish to continue this project, you can help them make the ladder taller by adding paper below or attaching yellow paper at the sides so that more angels can be placed on or near the stairway.





