

Glenview New Church Sunday Morning Program  
Preschool Lessons, Phase 2 – Lesson 34  
Aspects of Angels' Lives (*Conjugal Love* 42)

**Theme:** Angels in Heaven

**I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher**

- A. Heaven is a wonderful place where good people go to live after they die. The good people who live there are called angels.
- B. It is the Lord's will that all people go to heaven, but He leaves us in freedom to decide for ourselves.
- C. The Lord will lead us to heaven if we look to Him and follow the teachings of His Word.
- D. Everyone who comes into heaven, comes into the greatest joy of his heart. (DP 254)
- E. Angels are the best of friends with the other angels in their society, because their loves are so similar. (DP 338:4)
- F. All the happiness of heaven springs from the delights of conjugal love. Angelic couples love to think and feel as one, and sometimes they appear as one angel from a distance.
- G. The Lord provides everything that the angels need: homes, food, clothing, and other things. The better the angel, the lovelier the things are that the Lord gives to him. But everything in heaven is beautiful.
- H. Angels sometimes see the Lord's face in the sun of heaven. He is the source of all life, and everything in heaven and on earth is in His presence and under His guidance.
- I. Heavenly happiness comes from living usefully. The angels delight in their work from a love of use.

**II. Story Circle**

- A. Introduce the Story
  - 1. Do you know what heaven is like? It is sunny and warm, always like springtime. There are lovely trees and flowers. And gentle animals like deer and lambs. Everyone living in heaven is good and kind. They live in houses with gardens all around. Everything in heaven is wonderful!
  - 2. Who lives in heaven? The Lord lives in heaven. Who else lives in heaven? (The angels live in heaven). Angels are people who were good when they lived here on earth. When they died, they went to live in heaven near the Lord. Do bad people live in heaven? (No). Bad people don't want to live near the Lord. They want to live in hell far away from the Lord and the angels.

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3. Today we are going to talk about the angels in heaven. Let me read you about something the Lord showed Swedenborg in heaven.

### B. Tell/Read the Story

1. Read the attached adaptation of the memorable relation from *Conjugal Love* #42 as translated by Lisa Hyatt Cooper.

### C. Discuss the Story

1. What did Swedenborg see coming from the highest heaven? (A carriage)
2. The carriage glittered like a \_\_\_\_\_? (Diamond)
3. What were pulling the carriage? (Two young horses as white as snow).
4. At first, Swedenborg thought there was one angel in the carriage. How many were there really? (Two)
5. There were two people in the carriage, and they were husband and wife. What did they hold in their hands? (Doves)
6. The husband was very handsome wasn't he? And the wife was very beautiful. More beautiful than anyone you have ever seen! And their clothes were wonderful, too. Can you remember something the wife was wearing? (Diamond flowers in her hair, a pearl bracelet, a necklace, and a scarlet robe with rubles.)
7. How did they go back to their home? (In the carriage).
8. What did Swedenborg see along the road? (Flowers, olive trees, and orange trees.)

### D. Further Ideas

1. Swedenborg met many married couples in heaven. All of the angels are married. They all have a husband or a wife. And the husband and wife love each other very much! They like to do the same kinds of things. They want to make each other happy. And they look to the Lord together. Sometimes, they look like one angel because they think and act like one person. That is why Swedenborg saw one angel in the chariot, but saw two when they came closer.
2. The Lord showed Swedenborg many other things in heaven, too. He saw the beautiful homes the angels live in. And he saw their lovely gardens with so many kinds of flowers and so many kinds of trees. Sometimes the flowers seem to sparkle with diamonds and other jewels. Sometimes the trees seem to have golden fruit or leaves brushed with silver. There are so many things in heaven that you can't find here on earth.

## III. Enrichment Activities

### A. Music

1. "When I'm happy I like to sing," *First Songs for Little Children*, p.2.
2. "Every child in heaven has a garden bright," *Hymnal* #49.
3. When He cometh," *Hymnal* #150 (about the Lord gathering "gems" for his kingdom - heaven).

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### B. Activities

1. Cut out one copy of the line drawing of the angel couple very carefully. Fold lengthwise so that children can see the two people looking like one angel.

### C. Project: AN ANGELIC COUPLE IN HEAVEN

#### ***Materials Needed:***

crayons  
scissors  
glue  
2 popsicle sticks  
sequins or glitter  
rocks or pebbles  
flowers

#### ***Directions:***

1. Have children color and then cut out the husband and wife angel figures. Cut out figures for the children if they are too young to use scissors.
2. Spread glue on half of each popsicle stick and place lower half of figures onto the glue, allowing to dry for a few minutes.
3. Let the children glue sequins or glitter onto figures, perhaps as jewels or light from the angels. (See *Conjugal Love* 42 for a beautiful description of a husband and wife in heaven.)
4. If time permits, you could let the children make a garden in heaven for the angel couples.

Show the children how the figures can hold hands or put their arms around each other. Emphasize how the married couple loves to be together. Talk about how people meet their partners in the other world, the uses they perform, how they are young and strong in heaven, and live together in lovely homes forever.

#### **IV. Teaching Aids**

- A. Picture of Swedenborg
- B. Pictures of houses and gardens in heaven

#### **V. Further Reading for the Teacher**

- A. *Life Is Forever* by Peter M. Buss

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**Adaptation of a Memorable Relation from *Conjugal Love 42***

Translated by Lisa Hyatt Cooper

One morning, I looked up into heaven. I heard a voice from heaven, which sounded like a trumpet, saying, "We know that you are thinking deeply about marriage and its love. We will send a married couple down to you so that you can learn about the love that is in a true marriage."

Then I saw a carriage! It was coming from the highest heaven, and a single angel could be seen in it. But as it drew closer, I saw two angels in it.

From a distance the carriage sparkled like a diamond. Young horses white as snow were harnessed to the carriage. The two people sitting in the carriage held two turtledoves in their hands. They called out to me, "Do you want us to come closer? If you do, be careful."

I answered, "I'll be careful. Come closer."

They did come closer, and they turned out to be a husband and his wife. They said, "We are married partners. We've lived happily in heaven since the earliest times. And we've always had the same bloom of youth in which you see us today."

I looked closely at them, because they were a picture of marriage love. The husband was very handsome, and light flashed from his eyes making his face glow. He was wearing a robe that came down to his feet, and under the robe a garment of sky blue. A gold belt was tied around, and on the belt were three precious stones: two sapphires on the sides and a ruby in the middle. Such was the appearance of marriage love with the husband.

The wife was very beautiful, and her eyes sparkled with the light of heaven. Her beauty was so great that no painter could copy it. Her hair was arranged beautifully, to match her loveliness, and it was sprinkled with diamond flowers. She had a ruby necklace from which hung a rose-shaped pendant. She also had pearl bracelets. She wore a bright red robe, and under it a deeper red bodice, fastened in front with rubies. But it amazed me to see that the colors changed depending on how she turned toward her husband. They also sparkled the more they faced each other.

Finally they said, "We are being called back. We have to go." And then they appeared to be riding in a carriage again, the same as before. They rode along a paved road with flower gardens on either side. Olive trees were growing up from the flowerbeds, and orange trees full of fruit. When the couple got close to their heaven, some girls came out to meet them, welcome them, and lead them in.

(Adapted from *Conjugal Love 42* as translated by Lisa Hyatt Cooper)

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