

The Priceless Privilege of Freedom

PURPOSE

To help family members:

1. Better appreciate the freedoms we enjoy
2. Understand that we can help preserve our freedoms by living righteously

MATERIALS

- A copy of the letter to read (see below)

SONG SUGGESTION

- “My Country” page 224 in the *Children’s Songbook*



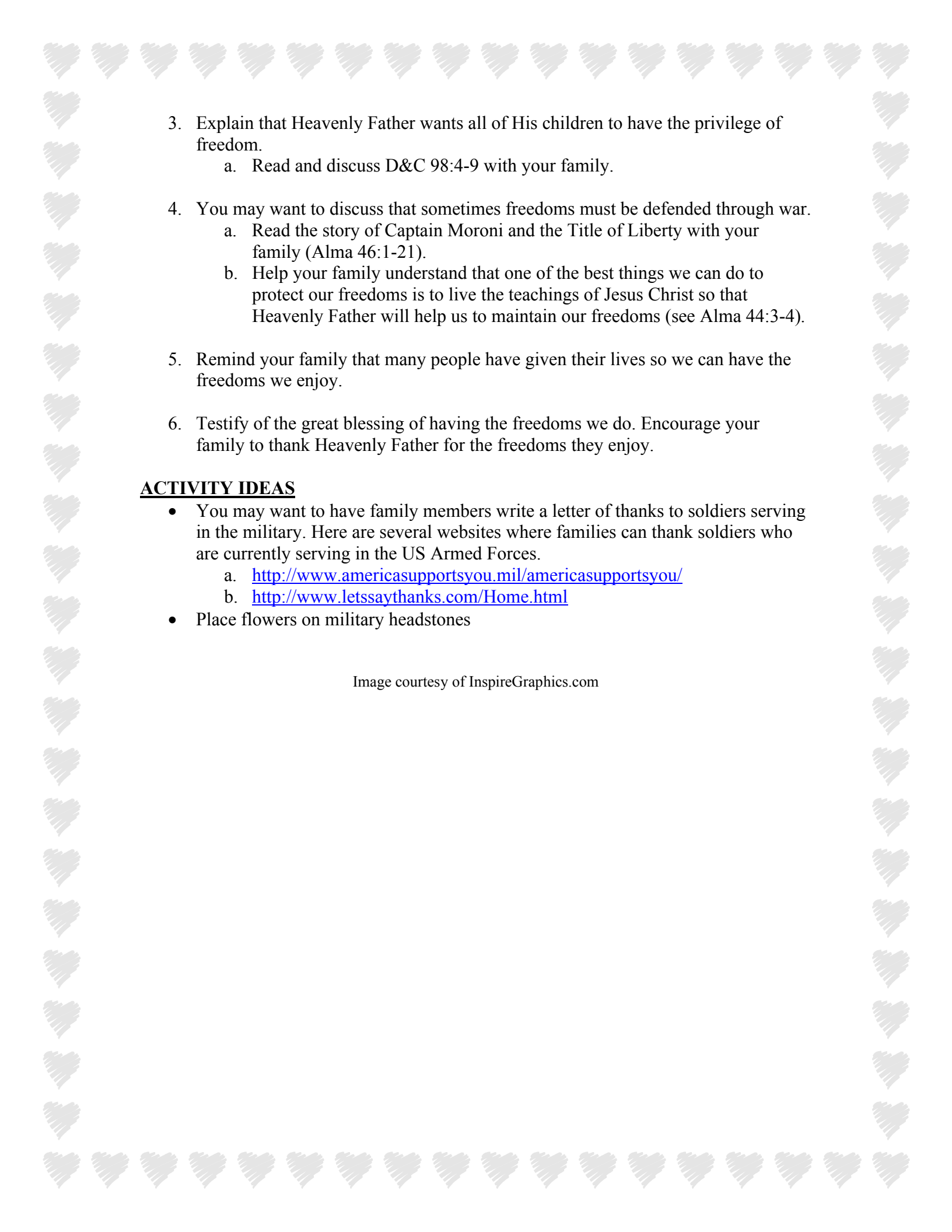
LESSON IDEAS

1. Ask your family to imagine what it would be like to receive the following letter from the government:

To Citizens of Our New Nation:

Be it known that all men, women and children must now live according to the following laws:

- You will no longer be allowed to go to church. Church buildings will be torn down and replaced with New Government buildings.
 - You are forbidden to worship or pray. The New Government must be placed in importance above God and religion.
 - All scriptures and all religious pictures are to be burned.
 - You will no longer be allowed to leave the city in which you live without permission from the New Government.
 - There will no longer be elections in which to vote. The New Government will decide which leaders and which policies are best for you.
 - The New Government has taken control of the school system. Students will receive instruction according to the wisdom of the New Government.
 - The New Government has taken control of television and radio programming. You will watch and listen to only what the New Government decides is best for you.
 - Those who choose to speak against the New Government will be punished.
 - Those who choose not to follow the laws of the New Government will be punished.
2. Ask your family to share how they would feel about living under this kind of government.
 - a. Ask them which of their freedoms they would miss most.

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- A decorative border of small, light gray hearts surrounds the text on the page.
3. Explain that Heavenly Father wants all of His children to have the privilege of freedom.
 - a. Read and discuss D&C 98:4-9 with your family.
 4. You may want to discuss that sometimes freedoms must be defended through war.
 - a. Read the story of Captain Moroni and the Title of Liberty with your family (Alma 46:1-21).
 - b. Help your family understand that one of the best things we can do to protect our freedoms is to live the teachings of Jesus Christ so that Heavenly Father will help us to maintain our freedoms (see Alma 44:3-4).
 5. Remind your family that many people have given their lives so we can have the freedoms we enjoy.
 6. Testify of the great blessing of having the freedoms we do. Encourage your family to thank Heavenly Father for the freedoms they enjoy.

ACTIVITY IDEAS

- You may want to have family members write a letter of thanks to soldiers serving in the military. Here are several websites where families can thank soldiers who are currently serving in the US Armed Forces.
 - a. <http://www.americasupportsyou.mil/americasupportsyou/>
 - b. <http://www.letsaythanks.com/Home.html>
- Place flowers on military headstones

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