

Satan and the Pacifier

PURPOSE

To illustrate Satan's tactic of pacifying the Saints and to encourage us to be on our guard against this tactic

MATERIALS

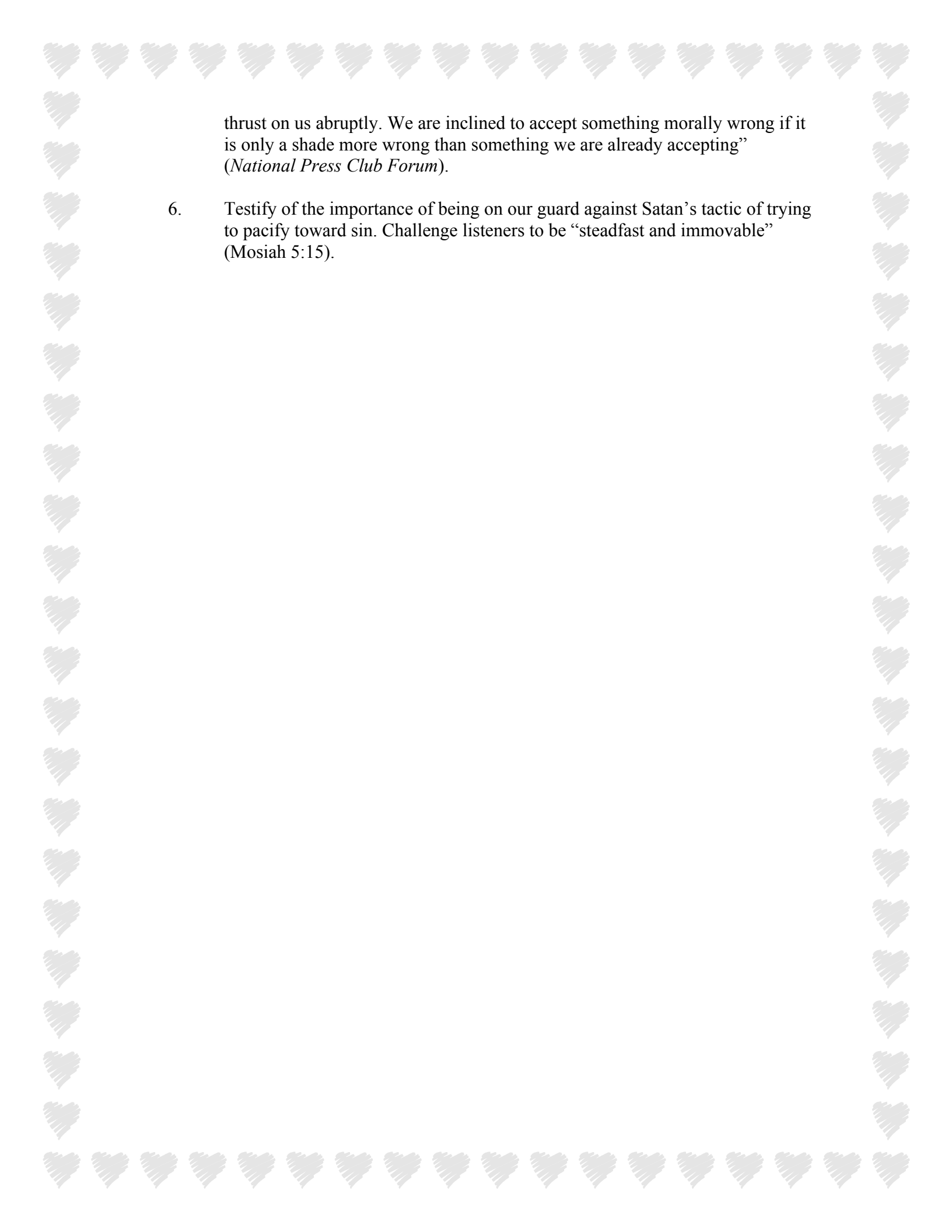
- A baby pacifier
- Scriptures



LESSON IDEAS

1. Without anyone seeing it, hide the pacifier in your closed hand.
2. Hold up your hand and say, "I have in my hand one of Satan's most powerful tools against the Latter-day Saints." Ask for responses as to what it might be.
3. Invite everyone to read 2 Nephi 28:20-21 to discover what the tool is.
 - a. Point out that verse 20 explains how Satan will approach the wicked. (He will motivate them to hate that which is good)
 - b. Point out that verse 21 refers to members of the Church because it refers to those in Zion.
 - c. Ask what Satan's tactics are against the Saints? (He will pacify them)
4. Hold up the pacifier and ask:
 - a. "What does the word 'pacify' mean?" (To calm or soothe)
 - b. "In what things is Satan trying to calm or soothe us?" (Satan doesn't want us to think that sin is 'a big deal')
 - c. "Is it working? Are there Latter-day Saints who are involved in serious sin and don't think it's a big deal?"
 - d. "Is it working in our own lives? Are there some sins that we don't worry too much about?"
5. Share the following quote by Thomas R. Rowan:

"Author and commentator Malcolm Muggeridge once told a story about some frogs who were killed without resistance by being boiled alive in the cauldron of water. Why didn't they resist? Because when they were put in the cauldron, the water was tepid. Then the temperature was raised ever so slightly, and the water was warm, then a tiny bit warmer, then a bit warmer still, and on and on and on. The change was so gradual, almost imperceptible, that the frogs accommodated themselves to their new environment—until it was too late. The point that Mr. Muggeridge was making was not about frogs but about us and how we tend to accept evil as long as it is not a shock that is



thrust on us abruptly. We are inclined to accept something morally wrong if it is only a shade more wrong than something we are already accepting”
(*National Press Club Forum*).

6. Testify of the importance of being on our guard against Satan’s tactic of trying to pacify toward sin. Challenge listeners to be “steadfast and immovable”
(*Mosiah 5:15*).