

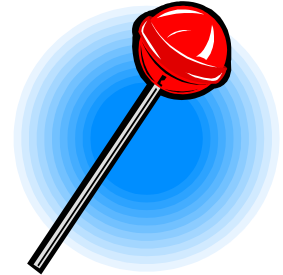
The Spirit and the Scriptures

PURPOSE

To teach the importance of having the assistance of the Holy Ghost in understanding the scriptures

MATERIALS

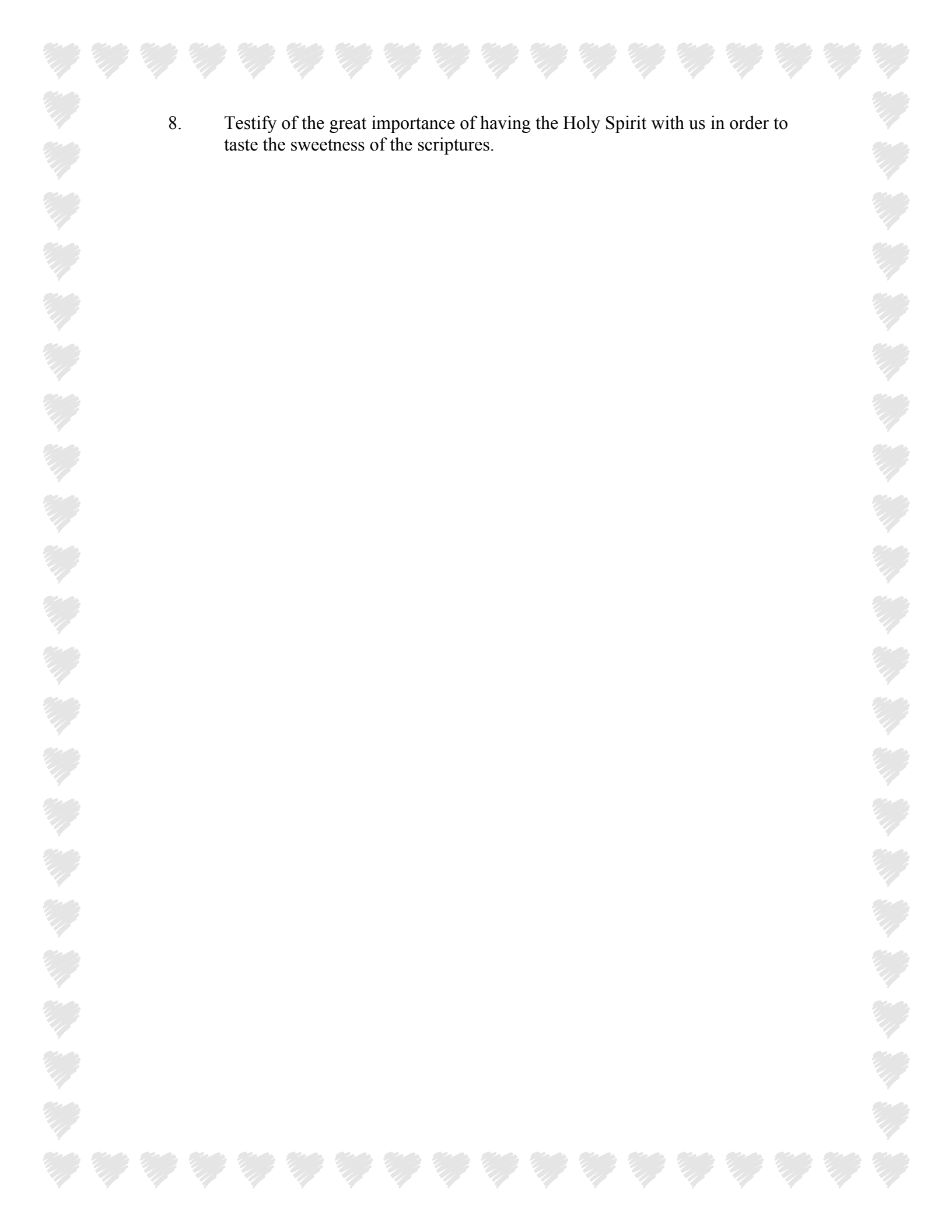
- A lollipop or small piece of wrapped candy



LESSON IDEAS

1. Hold up the lollipop (or candy) and ask for a volunteer who likes candy.
2. Invite the volunteer to put the candy in his/her mouth. They will begin to take off the wrapper. Say, "I didn't say you could take the wrapper off, I just said you could put it in your mouth."
3. Have them put the candy in their mouth with the wrapper on. Ask them how it tastes. Ask them how long they think it will take their saliva to dissolve the wrapper before they can taste the candy. Point out that their saliva has the ability to dissolve the hard candy, but not the wrapper.
4. Help them understand that the scriptures are very much like the candy. Because the scripture were written by the power of the Holy Ghost they cannot be understood unless a person has the help of the Holy Ghost. The mind of man alone does not have the ability to "take off the wrapper".
5. Share 1 Corinthians 2:11-14. Be sure to read the JST translation of verse 11 listed in the footnotes of the scriptures.
6. Ask, "So how do we obtain the help of the Spirit?"
 - a. Share the following quote from Elder Howard W. Hunter:

"There is nothing more helpful than prayer to open our understanding of the scriptures. Through prayer we can attune our minds to seek the answers to our searchings. The Lord said: 'Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you' (Luke 11:9). Herein is Christ's reassurance that if we will ask, seek, and knock, the Holy Spirit will guide our understanding if we are ready and eager to receive" (*Ensign*, Nov. 1979, 64).
7. Invite the volunteer to take the wrapper off and put the candy back in their mouth. Ask, "How does it taste now?"



8. Testify of the great importance of having the Holy Spirit with us in order to taste the sweetness of the scriptures.