

# Turning

## A Youth Journey through Doctrine and Covenants 163:10a–b

### Trip Planning

A wrong turn or an inaccurate map might cause us at times to get lost in our life's journey. The challenge for us when we're lost is to find our way back to a course that takes us to our planned destination. Today's scriptural theme addresses the real problem that many find themselves in as they journey through life, feeling lost or unworthy of the love of God. This lesson explores being vulnerable to divine grace. Using Doctrine and Covenants 163:10a–b and 2 Corinthians 9:8, we will focus on

1. what being vulnerable means,
2. obstacles to being vulnerable, and
3. how being open to divine grace will change the way we experience daily living.

### Packing List

- Bible
- Doctrine and Covenants
- paper
- pencils
- a cross
- newsprint
- markers

### Navigational Aids

“Collectively and individually, you are loved with an everlasting love that delights in each faithful step taken. God yearns to draw you close so that wounds may be healed, emptiness filled, and hope strengthened. Do not turn away in pride, fear, or guilt from the One who seeks only the best for you and your loved ones. Come before your Eternal Creator with open minds and hearts and discover the blessings of the gospel anew. Be vulnerable to divine grace.”

—Doctrine and Covenants 163:10a–b

“And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.”

—2 Corinthians 9:8 NRSV

### Unpacking the Scripture

Ask the youth to read Doctrine and Covenants 163:10a–b. This scripture suggests that we often don't feel worthy of experiencing God's grace because we may have fears, guilt, or are too prideful to remember that God's grace is unconditional. The following activity will help us explore vulnerability, grace, and our relationship with God.

### Being Vulnerable/ Casting Our Burdens

For many, the word “vulnerable” carries with it images of being weak or exposed to harm or danger. For our purposes, we will refer to the meaning as “being open or available.” Being open may require trust, which for some may be difficult. Being open and vulnerable to divine grace is a different story. It means making yourself available to God's grace and understanding it is unmerited and unearned and is for everyone, regardless of what you may have done. This may be difficult for some to do, because it involves confession and repentance.

Give each student a piece of paper and allow them no more than five minutes to think of issues they believe may prevent them from being in a relationship with Christ. Have them write these issues on the paper. Give them opportunity to discuss these with the class, then invite them to place their papers at the foot of the cross. This act of confession and casting allows them to turn around and find their way back.

### The Blessing of Grace

Read 2 Corinthians 9:8. This passage suggests that God provides blessings. In several versions it reads “God is able to make all grace abound toward you.” These words tell us that God's grace is for us and is a blessing to us. Grace again implies that God loves us unconditionally. For this activity, pass out papers, suggesting students write the word “GRACE” as an acrostic.

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G  
R  
A  
C  
E

Invite the youth to either write words or short sentences that describe how experiencing God’s divine love or grace can turn their lives around. Or write sentences telling what grace can change in their lives. When they are finished, suggest they share what they wrote with the class.

### Sharing God’s Grace

In the Trip Planning section it is suggested that a wrong turn or an inaccurate map might cause you to get lost. For a further exploration of being vulnerable to divine grace, ask the youth to think of the burdens previously identified, obstacles to their being vulnerable, and how grace has helped them. Provide time for them to discuss how they might share their understanding of God’s grace with others. Challenge them to think of how this grace may be shared with a community they are a part of.

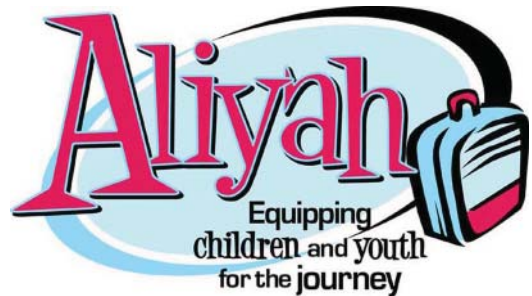
### Repacking the Scripture

#### Turning Home

Doctrine and Covenants 163:10a–b focuses on discovering how experiencing God’s grace can be life changing. Being vulnerable to divine grace allows us to encounter God in intimate and meaningful ways. In a sense it is finding a way back onto a path that many drift away from. Using newsprint, ask the youth to make a map that has a starting point and the word “grace” as an ending point. Ask them to write down things that might get them off the path and may cause them to feel as if they cannot experience God’s grace. After they have done this, have them make a legend for the map including items that may help them be more open to divine grace; for example, you might add “prayer” to the legend. Share with the class that the legend is a table that explains the map and might provide direction of how to more fully experience God’s grace.

### We’re Not There Yet

This class has explored ideas about vulnerability and more fully experiencing divine grace. As a closing, ask participants to gather around the cross and remember the gift of Christ and the grace God gives to us. Close with prayer.



### Legend

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