

# The Justice and Love of God

Before you start your group discussion, read together the following discussion tip:

## Improving Our Group Discussions

**Strive for balanced participation.** We learn best when we hear from all group members, not just one or two. If you are naturally outgoing and talkative, please be careful to not take over discussions, interrupt, or talk over others. If you are naturally quiet and less talkative, please be courageous and speak up so others can learn from you. Set aside the idea that your opinion does not matter.

Read aloud the following scenario together:

Zane feels overwhelmed by the laws and commandments of God. For a long time, he has felt like he is just not good enough and always falls short. Discouraged by his lack of “progress,” he recently has fallen into a pattern of serious transgression. He feels a loss of the Spirit. He is no longer worthy to have a temple recommend. He wonders if God still loves him, because of his poor choices. He recently said to his friend Maia, “My life is worthless. I am pretty sure God has given up on me.” In response Maia said, “Don’t worry about it. God loves us unconditionally and He will save you regardless of what you have done. That is what the Atonement of Jesus Christ is for.”

Briefly review the conditions that preceded the Flood. Then review Moses 7:28–29, 32–33, 37, and look for what Enoch learned about the nature of God from watching Him see His disobedient children suffer. Then discuss the following questions:

- What truths from these verses could help Zane realize that Heavenly Father loves him even though he has broken the commandments? How could this knowledge help improve Zane’s relationship with Heavenly Father? (You could read Elder Jeffrey R. Holland’s statement in section 1 of the preparation material as part of this discussion.)
- In what way is God’s justice, sometimes manifested by His anger or wrath, an evidence of His love? (Consider reading together the statement by President Dallin H. Oaks in section 1 of the preparation material.) If God were not just, how might this weaken our faith in Him?
- What might be misleading about Maia’s perspective on God’s love? (It might be helpful to read Elder D. Todd Christofferson’s statement in section 1.) What might be some better ways to describe God’s love? In what ways have you experienced God’s love?