Small Group
Week 5
November 29, 2026

4th-5th Grade.

BIG IDEA:	BOTTOM LINE:	BIBLE STORY:
Gratitude	Don't let a bad attitude spoil your gratitude.	Parable of the Vineyard Workers (Matthew 20:1–15)

After Large Group

Bible Story Review

SUPPLIES:

- Marker – 1 per group

HOW-TO:

1. Divide the group into two teams for a "Family Feud" game. Place a marker (as a buzzer) on the floor.
2. A kid from each team will sit or kneel on either side of the marker. They'll go head-to-head as you ask a question below about today's Bible Story.
3. The first kid who knows the answer will grab the marker and answer. They can't consult teammates!
4. If they answer correctly, they get a point for their team. If they're wrong, the other team can "steal" the point by consulting with their teammates to answer.
5. Let the kids take turns answering the remaining questions. The team with the most points wins!

SAY THIS:

QUESTIONS

1. Who were the characters in the story we heard today? **(The vineyard owner and workers)**
2. True or false? The vineyard owner hired all the workers at the same time. **(False)**
3. The first workers who were hired agreed to work for how much money? **(One coin)**
4. True or false? All of the workers worked for the same amount of time. **(False)**
5. True or false? At the end of the day, all the workers were paid according to how long they worked. **(False. All were paid the same.)**
6. When the workers who'd only worked one hour got paid one coin, what did the other workers expect? **(They expected to be paid more than one coin.)**
7. What did the workers who worked longer say when they got paid the same? **(They complained and thought it was unfair.)**
8. How'd the owner who hired all the workers react to the complaining workers? What did he say? **(He asked if they got what they agreed to work for–one coin. He said he had the right to pay them whatever he thought was fair because it was his money and they worked for him.)**

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BOTTOM LINE REVIEW

Use these questions to guide the kids on how to apply the Bottom Line: **Don't let a bad attitude spoil your gratitude.** Engage everyone and give them a chance to share and participate in the discussion.

LEVEL UP THE DISCUSSION:
Use the idea below to encourage discussion and group participation.
SUPPLIES:
- **Beanbag – 1 per group**

1. Toss the beanbag randomly to a kid in the group.
2. When a kid catches a beanbag have them answer a question.
3. After they have had a turn, have them toss the beanbag to someone else in the group.
4. Continue like this until all questions have been answered.

SAY THIS

Let's review the message we just heard in Large Group and how we can apply it to our lives.

1. What is something that can quickly give you a bad attitude? (Let kids respond.)
2. When is it the hardest for you to be thankful? (Let kids respond.)
3. What's one thing you complained about recently that you could have been grateful for instead? (Let kids respond.) **HINT: dinner**
4. Why do you think gratitude can change your attitude? (Let kids respond.) **Helps us focus on what we do have or what is good instead of what we don't have or what is bad.**
5. What's one thing you have that you forget to thank God for? (Let kids respond.)
6. Have you ever had a bad attitude and realized later you were wrong? What happened? (Let kids respond.)
7. What is one way you can choose gratitude the next time you are frustrated? (Let kids respond.)
8. If someone watched your attitude this week, would they know you are thankful? (Let kids respond.)
9. Who is someone you should thank this week? (Let kids respond.)
10. What would change in your week if you started every day by thanking God for three things? (Let kids respond.)

The way we respond shows our gratitude. We don't want our bad attitudes to make it seem like we're not grateful for all the things we do have. So this week, let's choose gratitude and NOT a bad attitude. I don't know about you, but I'm going to need God's help with this, so let's pray.

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PRAYER

Huddle up with your group and lead them in prayer.

Dear God,
Thank you for loving us even when we don't get this right all the time. Help us remember that gratitude is way more important than things being fair or getting our way. We love you. Amen.

VERSE OF THE MONTH

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his love endures forever. (1 Chronicles 16:34)

VERSE ACTIVITY

- Bibles
- Yellow cup – 1 per group
- Red cups – 1 per kid

SAY THIS

LEARN IT! (Find the verse and understand what it means.)

The Bible is full of wisdom from God. Let's look up our verse to learn what God says about being responsible for the things we have. (Pass out Bibles and look up the verse. Demonstrate how to locate the Table of Contents to find the correct book, and explain how to find the verse based on the reference.) Read the verse together as a group.

LOCK IT! (Memorize the verse to lock it in our hearts.)

It's important to lock the verse in our hearts. One way we do that is with our cup game this month.

1. Pass out the red cups to the kids while you keep the yellow cup.
2. Scan the QR code. Watch the video to review the cup game verse motions with the kids.
3. Say the verse as you play the game, passing cups to the right after each repetition of the verse.
4. Point out your yellow cup, and encourage them to keep repeating the verse until your yellow cup travels all the way around the circle and back to you.

LIVE IT! (Apply the verse to the way we live every day.)

Now that we've learned the verse and locked it in, we need to live it out. Living out the verse is knowing what the verse means and applying it to the way we live every day.

God is so good to us, no matter what we're going through. How amazing is that? If we didn't know that he's good and trustworthy, it would be harder to be thankful when things are hard. Plus, God's love never stops, especially when things are hard–that's what "endures" means. If we know he loves us,

then we can trust him to do what's best for us and we can be thankful… no matter what. We can be thankful because not only is God good, but his love for us never stops!