

GRATITUDE

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

ELEMENTARY

Bible Story: Jesus and the Ten Lepers (Luke 17:11-19)

2nd-3rd Grade

Bottom Line: Take time to say thank you.

November 8, 2026

BEFORE LARGE GROUP

Early Arriver Idea

SUPPLIES:

- Early Arriver (Activity Page) - 1 per kid
- Crayons or markers

HOW-TO:

1. Give each kid an Activity Page. Have them disguise their turkey as something else (e.g., a police officer, a tiger, or a gumball machine).
2. As they're coloring, ask them some **"HIGH FIVE"** questions below.

HIGH FIVE (Optional Conversation Starters):

1. What's one thing that's already happened today that you're thankful for?
2. Tell me one awesome thing that happened this weekend.
3. Does anyone have a birthday soon?
4. How does it make you feel when people thank you for something you did for them?
5. What's a Thanksgiving tradition in your family? (e.g., you always eat pumpkin pie, you say what you're thankful for.)

Opening Activity

SUPPLIES:

- No supplies needed

HOW-TO:

1. Line up in the center of your small group area. Read each question below.
2. The kids will jump to the left or the right to answer. They'll jump back to the center after each one.
3. If you run out of questions, make up your own!

WOULD YOU RATHER QUESTIONS

- Eat spaghetti with a toothpick OR eat a taco with chopsticks?
- Eat two plates of mashed broccoli OR eat two plates of mashed green beans?
- Eat a dragonfruit (it's a real fruit) OR eat a rambutan (also a real fruit)?
- Drink a tall glass of watermelon juice OR drink a tall glass of carrot juice?
- Have nothing but fruit for dinner OR have nothing but bacon for dinner?
- Eat only cereal for breakfast every day OR eat only eggs for breakfast every day?
- Eat pickles with peanut butter OR eat carrots with strawberry jelly?
- Eat pizza without using your hands OR eat lemon pie without using your hands?
- Sip pickle juice through a straw OR sip pea soup through a straw?

HEAD TO LARGE GROUP > > >

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AFTER LARGE GROUP

Bible Story Review

SUPPLIES:

- No supplies needed

HOW-TO:

1. Review the Bible Story using the prompts in "Say This" below.

SAY THIS:

Start the Bible Story with the prompts below. If a kid wants to add something, have them raise their hand and tell ONE part. Then let another kid continue the story. Use the format below to give them hints if they miss a part or get stuck. The idea is to have them retell the story as much as possible.

ONE DAY WHEN JESUS WAS TRAVELING, HE SAW... (HINTS TO KEEP THE STORY GOING)

- Ten men who had leprosy.
- Jesus walked by.
- They shouted out, "Jesus, help us!"
- Jesus walked right up and healed them.
- The men were excited!
- The men ran back to their families.
- Only one man came back to Jesus.
- And thanked him.

Do you think all the healed men were grateful? Yes! But only one took the time to say thank you. Now, you might think, *Well, I'd definitely remember to say thank you to Jesus!* But sometimes we don't. The thing is, even if we feel thankful inside, the only way people know we are is if we say it.

Can you think of a time recently when you should've said thank you... but didn't? (Let kids respond.) Well, let's do that right now!

Bottom Line Review

SUPPLIES:

- Activity Page - 1 per 2 kids
- Crayons or markers
- Stickers

HOW-TO:

1. Give each kid a thank you card.
2. Help them fold the paper in half to make the card.
3. Discuss who the kids are thankful for—a teacher, parent, friend, or coach.
4. Help them choose who to make their card for. Then they'll decorate it using the supplies.

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SAY THIS:

Just like the people in today's Bible Story, we don't always pause to say thank you. But God really does want us to **[Bottom Line] Take time to say thank you.** So let's practice right now! Let's make a thank-you card for someone in our life that we're grateful for... a teacher, a coach, a parent, or even a friend! Then give your card to that person this week and tell them THANK YOU!



**Today we learned that we need to
[Bottom Line] Take time to say thank you.**



**If you haven't had a chance to pray with your small group yet,
take the time now.**

Prayer

Be sensitive to any visitor during this activity, and don't ask them to pray out loud if they're not comfortable.

SUPPLIES:

- No supplies needed

HOW-TO:

1. Have the kids huddle up to pray. Tell them that you'd like to take time as a group to thank God.
2. Ask them to think of someone that they're going to take time to say thank you to this week.
3. Explain that when their shoulder is tapped during the prayer, they may say that person's name out loud if they're comfortable doing so.
4. Lead the kids in the following prayer, giving them time to say the names.

SAY THIS:

Dear God,

We don't want to just BE thankful—we want to remember to say it. Please help us remember to thank people who do things for us. Right now, we want to thank you for _____. (Say who you're thankful for, then tap a kid next to you so it continues around the circle.) God, thank you for loving us. Amen.

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Verse Activity

SUPPLIES:

- Bibles - 1 per 2 kids
- Solo® cups - 1 per kid
- Verse Cling Activity Page - 1 per group

≡ HOW-TO:

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

The Bible is full of God's wisdom. Let's look up our verse to learn what God says about being thankful.

1. Divide the kids into pairs and give them each a Bible. Explain that the Bible is divided into the Old Testament and the New Testament. Demonstrate how to find the verse.
2. Have them find the book of 1 Chronicles under the Old Testament heading in the Table of Contents.
3. Have them find chapter 16 (big number), verse 34 (little number).
4. Read the verse aloud.

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 this activity.

5. Scan the QR code to review the cup motions to learn the verse.
6. Pass out one cup per kid.
7. Rewatch the video, pausing it frequently to learn the motions.
8. See if your group can learn the entire verse using the cup and motions.
9. Repeat as time allows.



SAY THIS:

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? 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!

Let's say our verse together one last time! "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever" 1 Chronicles 16:34. You'll get a verse cling like this (hold up Verse Activity Page) when you leave. Use a device to scan the QR code, then use any cup you have at your house to practice this verse.