

A Thank You Leper

Kids Small Groups: 2nd-3rd Grade

November 26, 2017

Bible Story: A Thank You Leper (Jesus heals 10 men) • *Luke 17:11-19*

Bottom Line: Say thank you.

Memory Verse: “Give thanks no matter what happens. God wants you to thank him because you believe in Christ Jesus.” *1 Thessalonians 5:18, NIV*

Life App: Gratitude—letting others know you see how they’ve helped you.

Basic Truth: I need to make the wise choice.

GET READY

The following supplies will be prepared ahead of time for Elementary Kids Small Groups this week and can be picked up from the Upper Resource Room on Sunday Morning:

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (Small Group, 15 minutes)

(Choose as many of these activities as you would like.)

1. Early Arriver

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

- No supplies needed

2. Wows & Pows

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build relationships

- No supplies needed

3. Seek Out

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

- A few “Seek and Find” books or a *Where’s Waldo* book *(Note: If you search Amazon for “Find It books for Kids” you will find some good options.)*

Story: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 15 minutes)

Large Group Video: Movie @ 11:10 a.m. in the Children’s Worship Center

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (Small Group, 35 minutes)

(Choose as many of these activities as you would like.)

** If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #1.*

*** 1. Business of Gratitude**

[Talk about God | Bible Story Review | Application Activity]

Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

- Print the "Business of Gratitude Cards" Activity Pages on cardstock; 1 page for each kid
- Markers
- Scissors

2. Speak Out: Thankful Style

[Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

- Kid-sized lip retractors; 1 for each kid *(Note: Instead of purchasing the mouth guards, SGLs could instruct kids to place a finger inside each cheek to prevent their mouths from closing.)*
- Print the "Phrases of Thanks Cards" Activity Page and cut apart; 1 set for each small group

3. Mouth Full of Thanks

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

- Lip retractors from the "Speak Out" activity

Prayer

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

- Make copies of this week's GodTime and Parent Cue Cards; 1 per kid

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction **(Small Groups, 15 minutes)**

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray that kids would understand the importance of making sure others know they are grateful for what they have been given. Ask God to help kids understand that even if they ARE grateful, if they don't say thank you, the other person won't know they're grateful.

1. Early Arriver Idea

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Welcome the kids as they arrive.
 - Ask kids:
 - Who are some people you are thankful for?
 - How do you show or tell them you are thankful?
 - Have you ever thanked anyone in a creative way, or has anyone ever done that for you?
 - What was the last time you said thank you to someone in a really sincere way?
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2. Wows and Pows

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build relationships

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Before heading to large group, ask each kid about a good thing (a Wow) that happened during the week and a bad thing (a Pow) that happened during the week. Encourage each child to share at least one *Wow*.
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3. Seek Out

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: "Seek and Find" books

What You Do:

- Encourage kids to pair up and find items in a few pages of one of the books.
- They can simply find the items listed as a pair, or they can describe something for their partner to try to find, like in “I Spy.”

What You Say:

“Did anybody find all of the items in their ‘Seek and Find’ book? Awesome! ***[Transition]*** Today in Large Group we’re going to learn about someone who made the effort to seek someone out just to say thank you.”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

Story: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways **(Large Group, 15 minutes)**

Lead your group to the ***Ms. Teresa Children’s Worship Center at 11:10 a.m.*** for the Large Group Movie Video. Please sit with your Small Group in the Worship Center and enjoy the movie.

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect **(Small Groups, 35 minutes)**

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

*** 1. Business of Gratitude**

[Talk about God | Bible Story Review | Application Activity]

Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: “Business of Gratitude Cards” Activity Pages, scissors, markers

What You Do:

- Give each kid an Activity Page and scissors.
- Instruct them to cut out the business cards, fill them out, color, and decorate them.
- Encourage them to give out their cards at Thanksgiving (if you are in a country that celebrates this holiday), or tell them that they can keep their cards and hand them out whenever they would like.
- Use the questions below to review the Bible story with your group.
 - What was the miraculous thing Jesus did for the 10 men?
 - What did the 10 men do after Jesus healed them?

- How many men showed gratitude that Jesus healed them?
- What do you think the other men were doing?
- Have you ever forgotten to say thank you for something great someone else did for you? What happened? What caused you to forget to say thank you?

What You Say:

“Sometimes we forget to say thank you for awesome things that people do for us! Maybe your grandma buys you that toy you have been dreaming of, but you forget to say thank you because you are so excited that you run off to show all of your friends. Or maybe your parents let you go to that birthday party after all, and before you say thank you, you go call your friend to tell them the good news! No matter what we should always **[Bottom Line] say thank you** because gratitude is letting others know you see how they’ve helped you. **[Make It Personal] (Describe a time when you forgot to tell someone thank you and you wished you had.)** Remember to always **[Bottom Line] say thank you.**”

2. Speak Out: Thankful Style
[Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: Lip retractors, “Phrases of Thanks Cards” Activity Page

What You Do:

- Instruct kids to sit in a circle together.
- Hand out one card to each kid and instruct kids not to show their neighbor their card
- Give each kid a lip retractor. If you don’t have lip retractors, demonstrate how to place your forefingers inside each cheek and spread your lips apart.
- With your lips retracted say, “Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.”
- Then choose one kid to go first and explain that they will take turns going around in the circle.
- The first kid will put their lip retractor (or fingers) in their mouth and attempt to read their phrase of thanks to the person next to them.
- Once the kid interprets the phrase, she will then be next to read the phrase on her card.
- Continue until each kid has had a turn trying to say thanks.

What You Say:

“It was so funny trying to hear you read your phrases of thanks! You know, we learned today that it’s sometimes hard to say thank you, but it’s so important! I don’t know about you, but even though it was difficult to talk with that mouth guard, it was worth it to hear you **[Bottom Line] say thank you.**”

3. Mouth Full of Thanks

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: Lip retractors

What You Do:

- Review your memory verse as a group while you all wear your lip retractors (or put your fingers in your cheeks).
- Ask if anyone thinks they can say the verse from memory while wearing the lip retractor. Let a couple volunteers do so.
- Then take the lip retractors out and ask kids to give examples of “no matter what” situations, such as when your regular friends don’t want to play with you at recess, when a parent or grandparent is really sick, when you have to do chores instead of playing video games, etc.
- Remind kids that even during those times, it’s important to remember to thank God for what He has given them and to thank the people around them who do good things for them.

What You Say:

“It was fun to say our verse like that! Our verse says we should give thanks no matter what. That means even if this mouth guard makes it impossible, we can STILL **[Bottom Line] say thank you** no matter what!”

Pray and Dismiss

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: GodTime cards

What You Do:

- Tell your few that there are many different ways you can say thank you, such as: make someone a card, draw them a picture, or do the dishes after a meal.
- Encourage kids to come up with their own creative ways to show someone you’re thankful.

What You Say:

“God, You deserve all the thanks in the world! You give us so much, and sometimes we forget to express our gratitude for things like the clothes you give us to wear or the food you provide us to eat. We have so many things that others would be grateful to have. God, help us not to forget how blessed we are to have these things. We want to **[Bottom Line] say thank you** for everything You have given us. You’re the best! In Jesus’ name, amen!”

As adults arrive to pick up, have each kid show them their “Business of Gratitude” cards. Explain to parents that kids created cards to remind them to **[Bottom Line] say thank you.**

Give kids this week’s GodTime card to take home.