

GRADES
K-6



THANKSGIVING

Printable *Bible-Based* Lesson Kit



M **GHTY MESSAGES**

THANK YOU

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THANKSGIVING

LESSON OVERVIEW

MIGHTY MESSAGE

This Lesson on celebrating Thanksgiving will help students feel and practice gratitude. Gratitude for all we have is such a big part of our faith. Yet it can often be lost in the sea of requests to God for what we don't have! Teaching contentment with what we have is crucial, and Thanksgiving is the perfect holiday to emphasize this.

How to Use the Lesson Kit:

This kit includes a variety of activities that you can select from to customize your perfect lesson. We suggest beginning with the Scripture Reading & Lesson followed by the Discussion Questions. From there, feel free to mix & match the activities to build your lesson plan based on the time you have allotted and the age level/interests of your kids.



WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Scripture Reading & Lesson
- Discussion Questions
- Printable Craft
- Game
- Coloring Page
- Wordsearch
- Crossword Puzzle
- Learning Lookups Journaling
- Parent Handout
- Quiz
- Reference Sheet
- Certificate of Completion
- Answer Page



MATERIALS LIST:

- Crayons
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- White paper or cardstock
- Fall colored paper or cardstock
- Coloring utensils
- Marker or pen
- Paper (game)
- Simple item like a piece of fruit or a spool of thread or a bag of Legos. (game)
- Pencils or pens
- Bibles (electronic or hardcopy)



THANKSGIVING

SCRIPTURE & LESSON

PASSAGE (NIV): SCRIPTURES THAT FOCUS ON GRATITUDE

Read the following excerpts as shown (NIV translation),
or read from your chosen Bible translation:



Psalm 100:1-5

- Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.
² Worship the Lord with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.
³ Know that the Lord is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.
⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.
⁵ For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Romans 5:6-8

- ⁶You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.
⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die.
⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Questions for Children about Thanksgiving

1. Name some things for which you are grateful to God—little or big things in your life. ***You should get plenty of answers.***
2. The second verse doesn't tell us to be thankful. It gives us something to be thankful about. What was the "big thing" that Jesus did? ***He died as a sacrifice for the sins of others.***
3. Oftentimes we only speak to God when we want something. Why do you think it is so much easier to see what we **want** rather than what we already **have**? This may be a good time to bring up school, and how being in large crowds, such as a classroom, creates a chronic comparison for some people: Shorter than me; bigger than me; richer than me; more friends than me; better clothes than me. By making students aware, you can discuss how to break out of that.



TEACHER'S MIGHTY MESSAGE

Thanksgiving is a time to be joyful and thankful. Of course, we want to thank God for our toys, pets, parents, and food. But sometimes we miss the bigger things he has done.

The verse in Romans 5 says that sometimes a heroic person would offer to die in the place of a very righteous man. Jesus died for normal people like us-- as a sacrifice for our wrongdoings. He did it so we can all have a relationship with God, starting now. The Apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 13:12, "Now we see only a reflection in a mirror." It will become clearer after we go up to heaven, and it will last forever.

Think of it like someone running in front of a train to remove a small child who is sitting there. He person tosses the child to safety but gets hit himself. There are normal people who would do such a thing. A parent would do it for their own child, whom they love more than anyone. A grandparent or an aunt or uncle might do so also.

The thing is, that Jesus did this for people he didn't even hang around with. He did it for people who wouldn't even be born for another 2,000 years. He did it for the very people who were mean to him while he was dying on the cross. He did it for us.

The love of Christ is unmatched in human history. God and Jesus provide us with love, guidance, protection, direction, immortality, peace, and security. Let's remember, on Thanksgiving, to thank him for the big things.



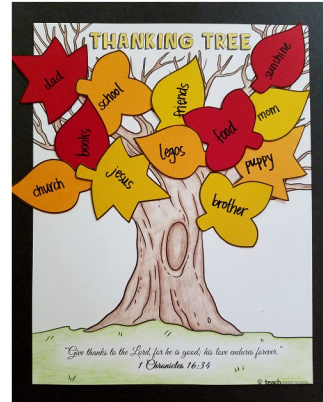
THANKSGIVING

PRINTABLE CRAFT



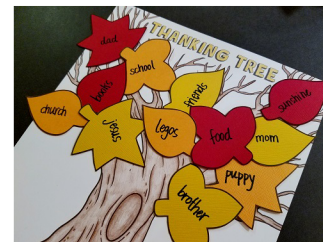
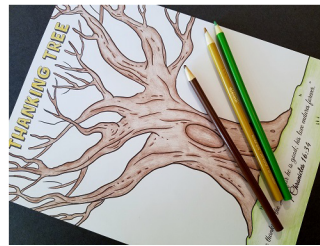
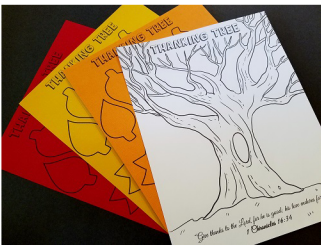
MATERIALS:

- White paper or cardstock
- Fall colored paper or cardstock
- Coloring utensils
- Marker or pen
- Scissors
- Glue



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Print out the Thanking Tree Template on white paper, and the Leaves Template on fall colored paper or card stock.
2. Color the Thanking Tree as desired.
3. Cut out the leaves.
4. With a marker or pen, write on the leaves different things that you are thankful to God for.
5. Glue the leaves to the Thanking Tree.
6. Hang up to display an adorable reminder of gratitude!



THANKING TREE



"O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever."

1 Chronicles 16:34

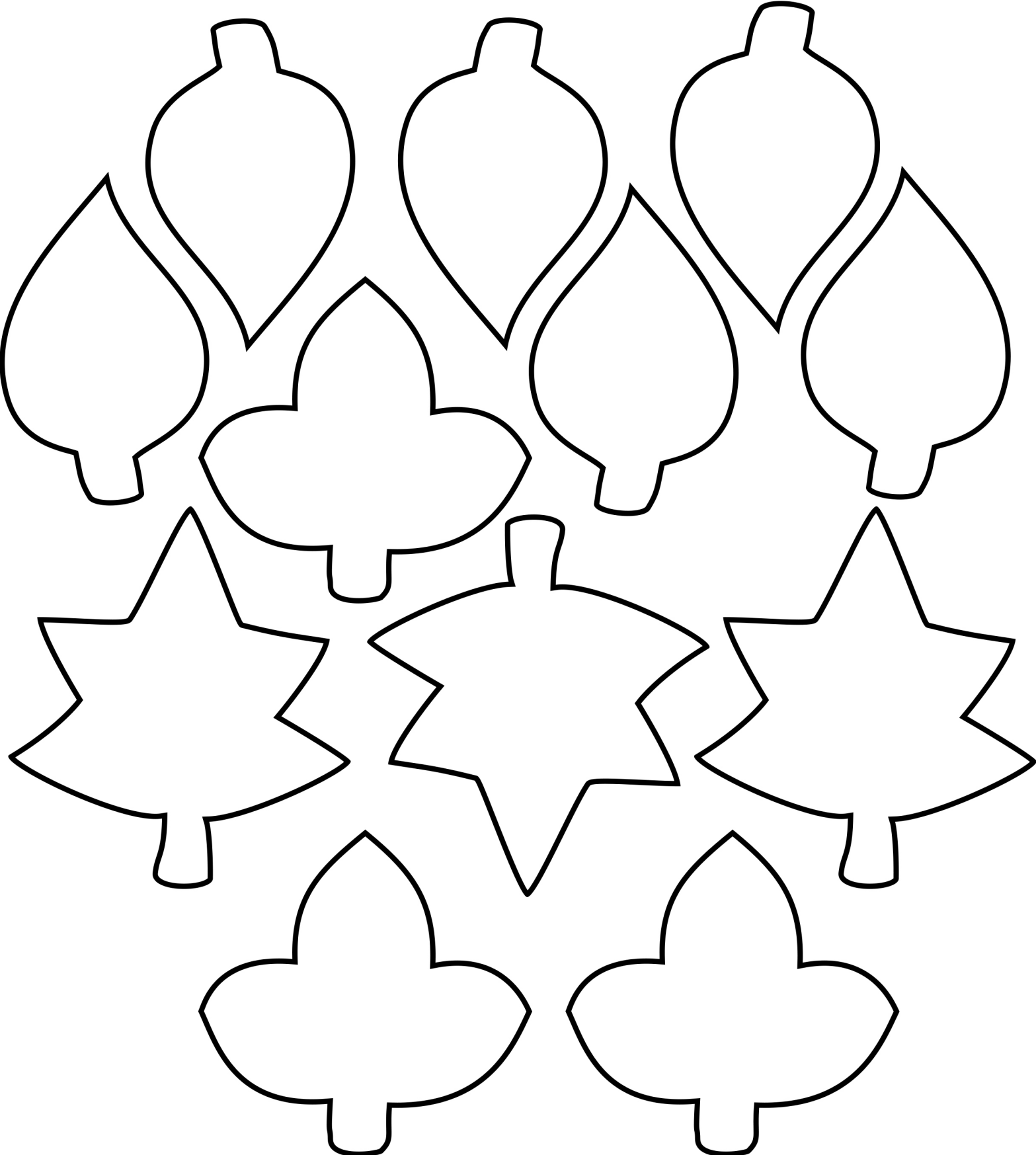
THANKING TREE



“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.”

1 Chronicles 16:34

THANKING TREE





GAME

THANKS FOR... OH YEAH!

This game will require some concentration and a paper and pencil. It will hone their gratitude skills like nothing played before!



MATERIALS:

- Paper
- Pencil
- Simple item like a piece of fruit or a spool of thread or a bag of Legos.



PREPARATION:

None

Objective:

Be the first to have 15 reasons to be grateful for the item written down.



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Place the item in the middle of the learning table after giving out the pencils and paper.
2. Tell students to write down everything reason they can think of to be thankful for that item.
3. Tell them to try to reach 15 reasons.
4. After several minutes, have them each read their reasons. Applaud the original ones especially. Have them scratch off any that are just silly or don't make sense.
5. Tell them to write down each other's reasons, adding them to their own list.
6. The first student to reach 15 reasons for gratitude wins.

Conclusion:

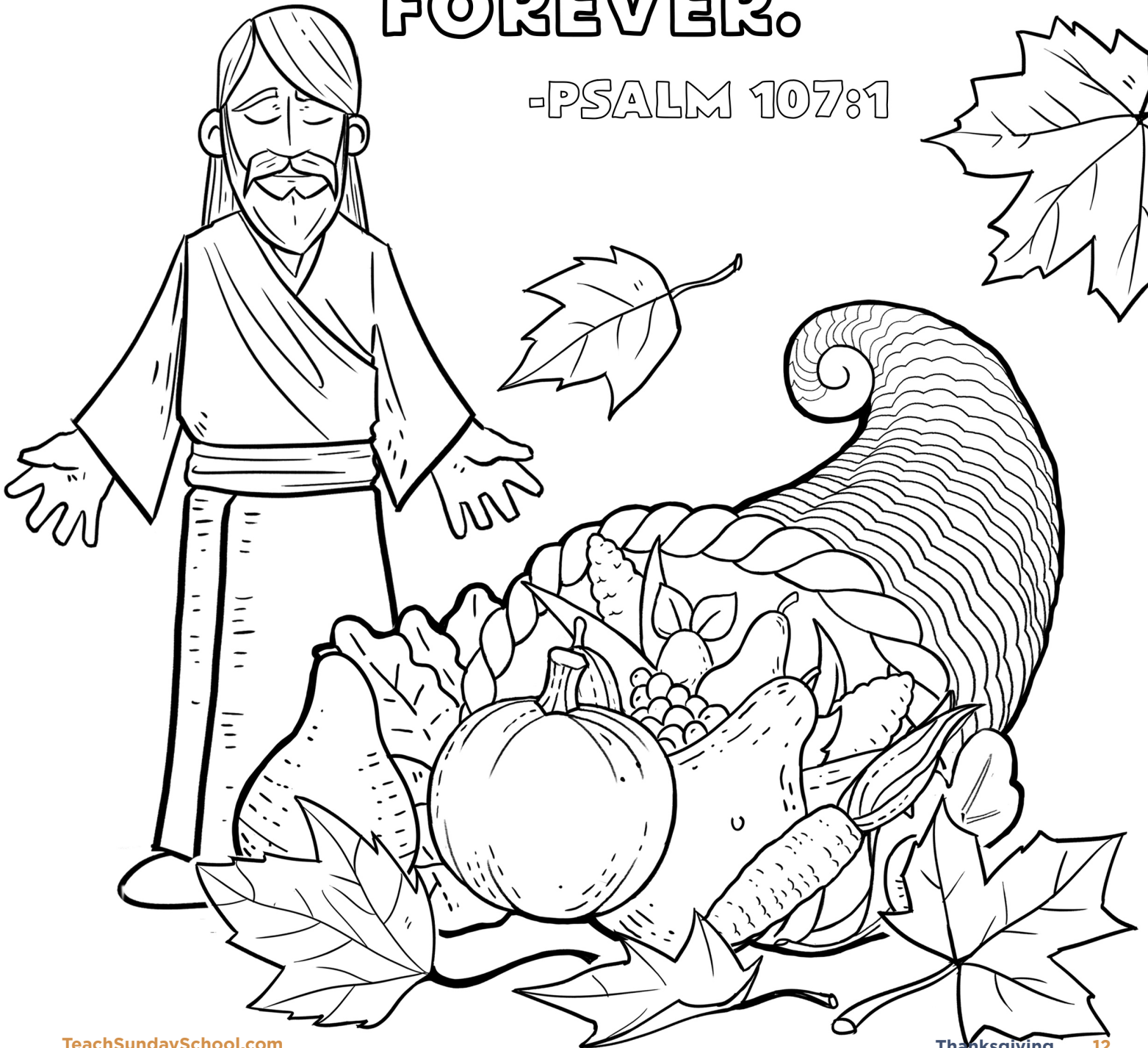
We often get great gifts from God. And we either don't recognize them or we forget to say "thank you!" If we spent a little time each day of the year, focusing in on one object and figuring out how it has blessed us, how much more grateful would we be?

Let's remember not just to be thankful for the very serious or very obvious things; let's look at gratitude as an opportunity to explore all the little pieces of the world God gave us.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

GIVE THANKS TO THE
LORD, FOR HE IS GOOD;
HIS LOVE ENDURES
FOREVER.

-PSALM 107:1





WORD SEARCH

It's fairly obvious we should be thankful for our loved ones and our possessions. Below is a list of reasons we should be thankful for what JESUS DID for us already. Find the words and reflect on your gratitude for each as you solve the puzzle.

T	V	Y	N	P	O	S	I	T	I	V	I	T	Y	J	O
Z	R	K	P	R	O	T	E	C	T	I	O	N	Z	R	Q
R	V	A	S	N	J	H	H	P	A	R	A	B	L	E	S
R	S	O	N	A	S	C	E	N	S	I	O	N	P	L	I
I	E	T	N	S	P	P	H	E	A	L	I	N	G	I	N
N	D	S	R	B	F	A	A	G	O	Y	A	F	T	S	S
T	E	M	U	E	F	I	T	L	I	B	E	X	T	T	T
E	F	E	G	R	N	S	G	I	R	J	K	A	V	E	R
R	E	V	G	R	R	G	A	U	E	H	O	Y	C	N	U
C	N	I	R	E	G	E	T	L	R	N	K	Y	B	I	C
E	S	C	O	N	N	C	C	H	V	A	C	T	M	N	T
S	E	T	W	E	D	G	Y	T	H	A	T	E	V	G	I
S	S	O	T	W	R	D	H	H	I	X	T	I	H	W	O
I	P	R	H	A	M	M	Z	T	O	O	G	I	O	H	N
O	Q	Y	K	L	D	B	A	X	G	P	N	J	O	N	I
N	G	U	I	D	A	N	C	E	L	E	E	A	W	N	L

Words to Find:

RESURRECTION
ASCENSION
TRANSFIGURATION
GUIDANCE
HOPE

JOY
HEALING
PARABLES
INSTRUCTION
VICTORY

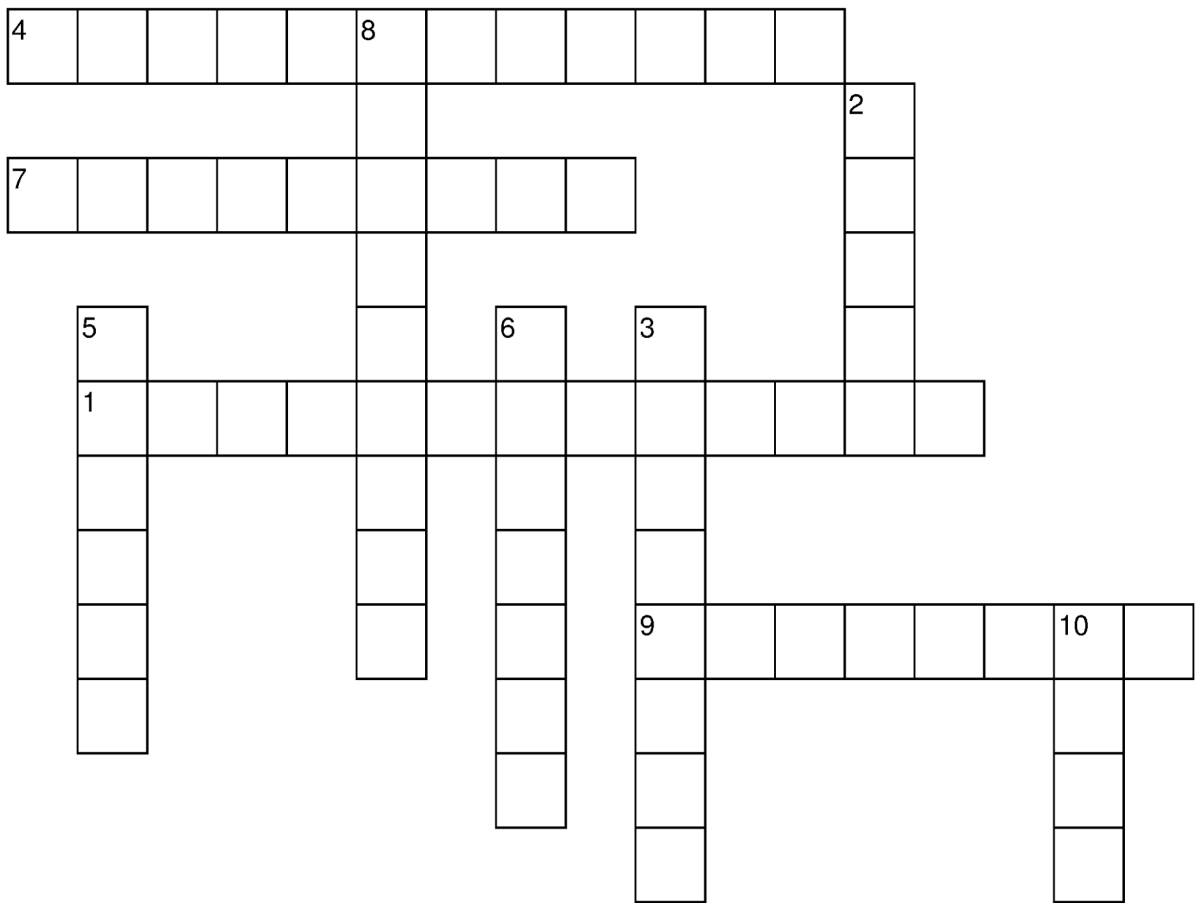
PROTECTION
LISTENING
DEFENSES
INTERCESSION
GROWTH

STRENGTH
PATIENCE
POSITIVITY
RENEWAL
SALVATION



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Use your At-A-Glance Sheet, Top Ten Thanksgiving Psalm Verses, to finish the puzzle below.



Across

- 1. I will give thanks to the Lord because of his _____
- 4. Another name for gratitude
- 7. God's love is this, which means always succeeds or never fails (see Psalm 107:8)
- 9. The writer of Psalm 119:62 worships at this hour

Down

- 2. I will tell of all your wonderful _____
- 3. I will give thanks in this great place
- 5. I will enter his courts with _____
- 6. God's love endures for this amount of time
- 8. God becomes this, according to Psalm 118:21
- 10. Psalm 147:7 mentions worshipping God on this instrument



PARENT HANDOUT



Scriptures to Read: Psalm 100:1-5 and Romans 5:6-8



This Week We Learned About ...

Thanksgiving! This lesson provides ways to help the students feel and practice gratitude. Gratitude for all we have is such a big part of our faith. Yet it can often be lost in the sea of requests to God for what we don't have! Teaching contentment with what we have is crucial, and Thanksgiving is the perfect holiday to emphasize this.



✓ Questions for Kids:

1. God wants us to worship him with this feeling: _____.
A. Gladness
2. God compares us to this animal: _____.
A. Sheep
3. The Psalm says God's love will go on for how long?
A. Forever

✓ Dinner Table Discussion:

Take turns listing three things each of you are thankful for. Explain why you are grateful for each thing.

Sometimes we want things we can't have or need to be patient for. What are some things you feel you are waiting for at the moment? Do you think reflecting on your gratitude list will help you wait? How so? Discuss.

Scripture Notes (tuck in lunchboxes, tape to mirrors, etc.):



Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.
Colossians 3:15



Therefore since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe.
Hebrews 12:28

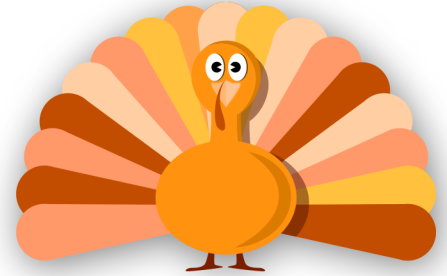


I will give thanks to the Lord because of his righteousness; I will sing the praises of the name of the LORD Most High.
Psalm 7:17



TOP TEN THANKSGIVING PSALM VERSES

The Book of Psalms is the most fruitful place in the Bible to find scriptures to do with praise and thanksgiving. Here is a Top Ten list that can be used for reflection and prayer by Christians young and old.



PSALM 7:17

I will give thanks to the Lord because of his righteousness; I will sing the praises of the name of the Lord Most High.

PSALM 9:1

I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

PSALM 35:18

I will give you thanks in the great assembly; among the throngs I will praise you.

PSALM 69:30

I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving.

PSALM 100:4

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

PSALM 106:1

Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

PSALM 107:8

Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind.

PSALM 118:21

I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation.

PSALM 119:62

At midnight I rise to give you thanks for your righteous laws.

PSALM 147:7

Sing to the Lord with grateful praise; make music to our God on the harp.



LEARNING LOOKUPS



THANKSGIVING

Lookup: Romans 5:5-8. Write down verse 8.

Lookup: John 11:25-26. Write down verse 25.

Question: Above are some fantastic reasons to be thankful for Jesus. Describe one or the other using your own words.

Create a prayer below. Speak to God and write it. Ask God to help you never lose your vision for what Jesus has done for you, no matter how old you get or where you go. Use your own words:



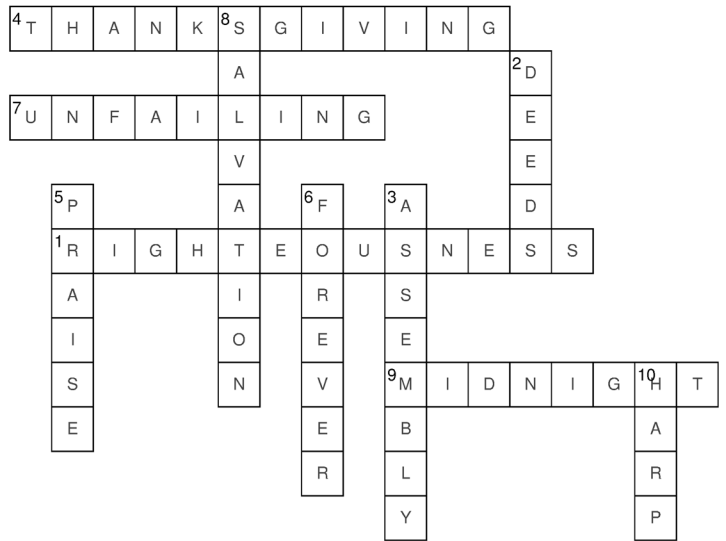
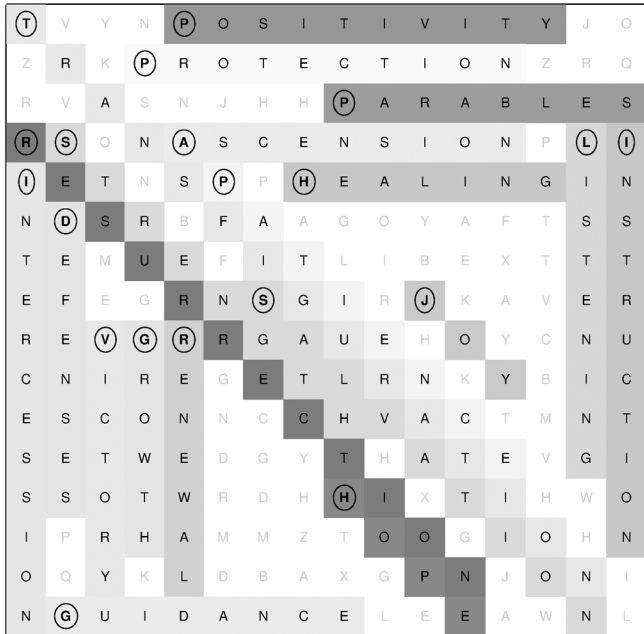
Instructions: Below are some great scriptures of thanks. Lookup any scriptures for which you are unsure of the answer. Fill in the blanks with the words below them—and use them to grow a thankful heart:

Bible Lookups for Thankfulness

1. **Psalm 69:30** I will praise the name of God with song, and shall _____ him with thanksgiving.
2. **Psalm 92:1** It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing _____ to your name, O Most High;
3. **Psalm 100:4** Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his _____ with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.
4. **Psalm 107:1** Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his love _____ forever!
5. **Ephesians 5:20** _____ giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
6. **1 Timothy 4:4** For everything God _____ is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving,
7. **1 Thessalonians 5:18** Give _____ in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.



ANSWER KEY



QUIZ ANSWERS

- always
- courts
- created
- endures
- magnify
- praises
- thanks

THANKSGIVING



CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION TO

Date

Signature

