

So Thankful

Babies and Toddlers: Feel free to do this lesson with two children at a time while others play. I recommend using a Centers approach in the classroom.

Objectives

- Children will listen to a Bible verse.
- Look at objects that show what their teacher is thankful for.
- Make thankful turkeys.
- Find an item at home that shows what they are thankful for.

Materials

Mascot (a puppet or stuffed animal of your choice) with the Bible, bag of teacher selected items, brown pieces of construction paper, colorful construction paper feathers (pattern is on p 5), orange and black washable markers, glue sticks, caregiver letters (p 6)

Ahead of time, select three items from home that depict things you are thankful for. Some examples: photo of your family or friends, models of a home, pet, favorite foods, Bible, craft project. Also, trace the feather pattern on pieces of red, yellow, and orange construction paper and cut out. Make copies of letter.

Introduction

- **Sing** the [Welcome Song](#).
- **Hold up** the mascot with the Bible.
- **Say:** This is a Bible. It has special words in it.
- **Show** the children Psalm 105.
- **Read** the first part of verse one aloud.

Scripture

"Oh give thanks to the Lord: call upon his name..." – Psalm 105: 1a

Lesson

Main Point: We can thank God for what He has given us.

- **Hold up** the bag of items.
- **Say:** I brought some things from home which I am thankful to God for.
- **Hold up** each item one at a time.
- **Say:** This is a (picture of my family). I am thankful to God for (my family).
- **Repeat** with the other two items. (If not fragile, allow children to touch the objects.)

Closure

- **Say:** Let's thank God!
- **Invite** the children to stand up and jump up and down as you shout, "Thank you, God!"
- Make sure to give caregivers copies of the letter found on p 6.

Center Time

Children may play in centers. Someone should supervise both Manipulatives and Art and Writing. (For an explanation of Centers, see the free lesson, "Lovely Leaves".)

Art and Writing Center: Assist children with tracing their hand on construction paper and making an eye, beak, and legs with the black and orange markers. Then, assist with children sticking feathers on the other fingers. (Allow them to put however many feathers they want on their picture and allow them to make marks on their papers with the markers.)

Preschool and Above:

Objectives

- Children will repeat a Bible verse.
- Point to objects that show what their teacher is thankful for.
- Name what they are thankful for and who they gave thanks to.
- Make thankful turkeys.
- Find an item at home that shows what they are thankful for.

Materials

Mascot (a puppet or stuffed animal of your choice) with the Bible, bag of teacher selected items, brown pieces of construction paper, colorful construction paper feathers (pattern is on p 5), orange and black washable markers, glue sticks, caregiver letters (p 6)

Ahead of time, select five to six items from home that depict things you are thankful for. Some examples: photo of your family or friends, models of a home, pet, favorite foods, Bible, craft project. Also, trace the feather pattern on pieces of red, yellow, and orange construction paper and cut out. Make copies of letter.

Introduction

- **Sing** the [Welcome Song](#).
- **Hold up** the mascot with the Bible.
- **Say:** This is a Bible. It has special words in it.
- **Show** the children Psalm 105.
- **Read** verse 1 aloud. Children repeat the words after you.

Scripture

"Oh give thanks to the Lord: call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples." – Psalm 105: 1

Lesson

Main Point: We can thank God for what He has given us.

- **Hold up** the bag of items.
- **Say:** I brought some things from home which I am thankful to God for.

- **Take** each item out of the bag and place so the children can see them.
- **Ask:** Can you point to the (picture)? (Children point to the correct item.)
- This is a (picture of my family). I am thankful to God for (my family).
- **Repeat** with the other items.

Closure

- **Say:** We are going to play the thanking game. We can take turns jumping up and saying what we are thankful for.
- **Jump up** and say: I am thankful for this class! (Children can join in. It is okay if they say the same things.)
- **Ask:** Who should we give thanks to? (Children chorally respond, God.)
- Make sure to give caregivers copies of the letter found on p 6.

Center Time

Children may play in centers. Someone should supervise both Manipulatives and Art and Writing. (For an explanation of Centers, see the free lesson, “Lovely Leaves”.)

Art and Writing Center: Children can trace their hands on construction paper and then draw an eye, beak, and legs with the black and orange markers. Children can stick feathers on the other fingers. Finally, they can tell you four things they are thankful to God for. Write one word on each feather for them, unless they are able to do it themselves.

Pattern

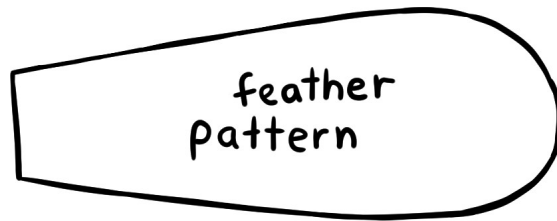


Photo of craft



Date: _____

Dear Parent or Guardian,
Today we talked about what we are thankful to God for. Please help your child pick one item to bring in to share, like your family picture, a toy, a special book. Have your child bring it to class.

Thank you, _____