

ALLEY SG – November 18- 20, 2023

Today's Bible Story: The One (Jesus Heals 10 Men) • *Luke 17:11-19*

Today's Key Question: What helps you remember to be grateful?

Today's Bottom Line: Take time to say thank you.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good. His faithful love continues forever.* Psalm 136:1 (NIRV)

1. Bible Story Extension

Bible Story Review

What You Need: Bible, phone timer, "Story Time" Cards (1 set per group)

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle.
- Have one kid read from the Bible: Luke 17:11 then pass the Bible to the next kid.
- Direct the next kid to read verse Luke 17:12 out loud to the group.
- Continue passing the Bible and reading one verse until kids finish verse 19.
- As the kids read, instruct them to pay close attention to the details in preparation for retelling the story in a short amount of time.
- Give each of the kids a "Story Time" card.
- Direct the kids not to share what's written on the card.
- Allow kids a moment to think about the way they will tell the Bible story.
- Invite a kid to go first and hand you their card.
- Start the timer and say, "STOP" when the time on their card is up.
- Continue until everyone has had a turn.
- Say: "In Bible times, there was no cure for the skin disease the men in the story had. It was one of the worst things that could happen to a person. When Jesus healed the ten men, He instantly changed their lives completely. He turned just another bad day into the best day ever! And yet, only one person made the choice to say thank you."
- Ask:
 - What did you like about the people in the story? What did you not like?
 - We can't know for sure why all ten of the men who were healed did not come back and thank Jesus, but what are some reasons you can think of?
 - What are some reasons we neglect to tell others thank you?
 - Why do we sometimes forget to thank God?
 - What can you learn about gratitude from this story?
- Challenge the kids to ask themselves, "Who do I know that doesn't get thanked very often?"
- Invite the kids to think about how they can express thanks to God and to those around them in meaningful ways.

2. Take a Snapshot

Application Activity

What You Need: Paper, pens

What You Do:

- Give each kid a piece of paper and a pen.
- Instruct kids to make a list of 10 things they're grateful for.
 - If the kids are struggling, prompt them with ideas like: people they love, gifts they've been given, foods they enjoy, places they've gone, or activities they like to do—anything for which they are grateful.
- Instruct everyone to shout out one thing that's on their list at your signal.

- Invite the kids to write down as many things as they heard the other kids shout out.
- Repeat until all the words from the lists have been shouted.
- Once all of the words have been shouted, invite the kids to compare lists to see the items on each other's lists.
- Ask:
 - What helps you remember to be grateful?
 - Is it enough to just *feel* grateful without actually saying it or expressing it in any way? Explain.
 - What are some ways we can thank someone other than just saying it?
 - What can get in the way of gratitude and keep us from being thankful?

3. Discussion Questions

- What would you say is the main reason we should take the time to say thank you?
- Apart from thanking God in prayer, what are other ways you can show gratitude to God?
- Who do you need to take the time to say thank you to this week? What will help you remember to do so?
- If someone says thank you, but they don't really mean it, is it truly gratitude? Why or why not?

4. Verses to Take with You

Memory verse activity

What You Need: Bibles

What You Do:

- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- Together, look up Psalm 150:6.
- Challenge the kids to take a deep breath and begin saying Psalm 150:6 as loudly and long as they can before running out of breath.
- Ask:
 - What is the most compelling or persuasive reason we have for being grateful?
 - If you're breathing, this verse applies to you. So, what can you do to help you remember to thank God and others?
 - If someone asked you what it means to praise the Lord, what would you tell them?
- Challenge kids to take another deep breath, then, in unison, challenge them to say "Thank You" as many times as possible with one breath as you count.

5. Pray

- "Dear God, help us this week to remember to show our gratitude by saying thank you to those who help us, love us, and care for us. Remind us that all good things come from You. Give us grateful hearts that are quick to give You thanks many times each day. Help us show our love for You and for others with words and actions that say, 'Thank You!' We pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

PARENT PICK UP POINT: Ask the kids to tell their parent who they are going to say thank you to this week.