

# CITY SG – November 4-6, 2023

**Today's Bible Story:** Give Thanks (Give Thanks No Matter What Happens) • 1 Thessalonians 5:18

**Today's Bottom Line:** You always have something to be grateful for.

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

## 1. Gratitude Wall

*Bible Story Review*

**What You Need:** Large Piece of Butcher Paper (one per group per service), Sticky notes (10 per kid), pens and markers

### What You Do:

- Say, "Sometimes, we might have situations in our life that feel difficult. You might feel lonely, sad, or frustrated. You might have a day when it feels like almost everything is going wrong. But even when you have challenging times, **you always have something to be grateful for.**"
- Place the large piece of butcher paper in the middle of your group. Write "Gratitude Wall" in the middle of the page with a marker.
- Give each kid a few sticky notes.
- Place the pens and markers in the center.
- Invite the kids to write or draw something they're grateful for.
- Invite them to add their sticky note to the butcher paper.
- Allow the kids to create and add as many sticky notes as they'd like.
- Let the kids share what they were grateful for with the group.
- Give the butcher paper to your coach or coordinator to hang on the wall in the City.

## 2. Attitude of Gratitude

*Application Activity*

**What You Need:** "Attitude of Gratitude" Page (1 per bin)

### What You Do:

- Divide your group into pairs.
- One by one, read the scenarios from the "Attitude of Gratitude" Activity Page out loud to the group.
- Instruct the kids to discuss the scenario with their partner and come up with a way to show gratitude in that situation.
- Ask kids for some things someone in that situation could be grateful for.
- Invite each pair to share their ideas with the rest of the group.
- Say, "When things go wrong, it can feel challenging to find something to be grateful for. Some of these scenarios were a little harder than others to find a reason to be thankful, but you all did a great job of seeing something good between the challenges."

### 3. Gotcha!

#### *Memory Verse Activity*

#### **What You Need:** Bibles

#### **What You Do:**

- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- Depending on the age/ability of your group, you can either:
  - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
  - Read the memory verse from a Bible aloud to your group.
- Instruct the kids to pay attention as you read the memory verse out loud to the group a few times.
- Read Psalm 136:1 out loud to the group again but make a mistake with one word.
  - For example, "Give thanks to the LORD, because he is **strong**. His faithful love continues forever." Psalm 136:1 (NirV)
- When a kid hears the mistake, instruct them to shout "GOTCHA!" and say the verse correctly.
- Continue to play, making "mistakes" on different words, as time and interest allow.

### 4. Pray

"God, thank You for our families, our friends, our church, the food we eat, the homes we live in, and all the blessings You've given us. But most of all, thank You for giving us Jesus who showed us that You love us always. Help us have hearts that can always find a reason to be grateful, even when we go through challenges. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

**PARENT PICK UP POINT:** As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show their parent the Gratitude Wall what they were thankful for.