

PARENT CORNER

weekly

TODAY: NOVEMBER 29

Bible Story: The parable of the vineyard workers *Matthew 20:1-15*

Big Idea: Be thankful with what you have.

Memory Verse: "Give thanks to the Lord, because He is good. His faithful love continues forever." *Psalm 136:1, NIRV*

Life App: Gratitude—Being thankful.

Bible Story Summary: This week we'll dig into a parable Jesus told one day about some vineyard workers. In Matthew 20:1-5, we read that a few of the workers started making comparisons to what others were getting paid and became ungrateful and started complaining. Then at the end of the day, they had a bad attitude because they thought, that's not fair.

God wants us to be thankful for what we've been given. We change our whole outlook on life if we take the time to think about all that we've been given instead of comparing ourselves to others.

Our memory verse is Psalm 136:1, "Give thanks to the Lord, because He is good. His faithful love continues forever." (NIRV) There are many times when we don't want to give thanks, but our hope in Jesus allows us to be thankful regardless of our circumstances.



Ask your kid: What is something you can't imagine living without? Who should you thank for that thing?

Ask a parent: If you could go back in history and thank one person for something they did to help the world, who would it be?

November 29 | 2-4

WEEK 5



DAY 1

Read Colossians 2:7

Have you ever pulled up a plant from the ground? What lies beneath the surface of the plant? To have a healthy plant you have to have a healthy root system. Those roots are what soak up all the nutrients in the water and soil to help it grow.

Did you know that your faith needs strong roots? It's true! Strong roots are the big secret to having an attitude of gratitude. So how can you get those strong roots? By doing what you're doing RIGHT now. By showing up at church for your small group. By praying, talking to your mom or dad about God, and spending time in the Bible. And as you grow in your faith, you will notice your attitude will change to one of gratitude. God will help you grow strong in Him so that you can be more thankful than EVER before.

Plant a seed! Pour some soil into a clear plastic cup to fill it up halfway. Place a seed into the center and cover it up with more soil. Water and keep the cup near a window where it can get some sun. Watch what happens!

THANK God for the opportunity to grow in your faith so you can be more thankful!

DAY 2

Read Ephesians 2:8-9

Over 2,000 years ago God gave us the most precious and priceless gift ever. God gave us Jesus. Jesus came to the earth as a baby, grew up and lived a perfect life, died on the cross for your sins and rose again to BEAT death once and for all. Why? So that you could be forgiven.

On a piece of paper, write down all the good things you've done—it can be anything like "played with my little sister" or "put away my bike."

Did you come up with a pretty good list? The problem is, you can't do enough good things to earn your way into a relationship with God. Doing good doesn't make you perfect. Perfection isn't what is required because God is perfect.

Now draw a large cross over your list of good things. God's gift of Jesus wasn't something you deserved and it isn't something you can earn by doing good. God sent Jesus because He loves you and wants a relationship with you. And that's reason enough to be grateful.

ASK God help you remember this BIG gift and adjust your attitude.

DAY 3

Read Ecclesiastes 6:9

Have you ever tried to chase the wind or catch a bird in your hand? Impossible right? You know what makes gratitude almost impossible? Comparison. It's as silly as chasing the wind. Because comparison—looking at what other people have versus what you have—is pretty pointless. It's better, God says, to be satisfied or grateful for what you DO have, rather than wanting more or what other people have. God promises to provide for all your needs and He wants you to live a life of gratitude.

Go for a walk with your family. Talk about all the amazing things God has made—take the time to point to specific things you see and feel like the wind on your face. Thank God for the body He's given you, eyes to see, ears to hear, hands to touch, lungs to breathe in the cool air, and the list goes on!

LOOK for and name things you have to be thankful for.

HEY PARENTS SIGN HERE!

Have a parent sign your completed GodTime.

Parent signature

Date

Return for 5 Bible Bucks!

DAY 4

Read Colossians 3:15

There is ALWAYS something to be grateful for. Always. Even when things seem bad, even when nothing goes your way, or even when everything is hard there is always a reason to be thankful. And while you can't change what happens to you when you have a bad day, you can choose how you respond. You can't control your circumstances or the things that happen to you, but you can adjust your attitude and choose one of gratitude.

At some point today, sit down with your family in a circle. Name one bad event—real or make believe. Then ask each person in your family to name something good that could come from that bad event. For instance, you might say, "It rained on field day." And someone might answer—"You were able to play inside the gym instead and no one got sunburned."

KNOW that God can always make something good out of something bad when we choose gratitude.

parent CUE:

Have you ever been watching a sporting event where one of the teams played like they were falling apart at the seams? The team is a complete mess until finally the coach calls it: "Time out!" He brings the team in, takes a moment to regroup. He adjusts and recalibrates to get his team ready to get back on the field and face their opponent.

The same goes for life.

It's not a quick change. It may even happen so gradually over time that you hardly know it's happening. Then one day you realize that everyone is grumpy, complaining about every little thing.

The kids who were once happy and played together are now bickering and nagging each other over nothing.

Something is off. Something is broken. Everyone needs a time out.

There are just some things that need an adjustment.

Take the idea of GRATITUDE, for example.

If we never take the time to acknowledge what God has done in our lives or how others have helped us, we may develop an unhealthy ego or a growing frustration with the people around us. We might become bitter and complain about everything little thing.

That's why we're taking this month to talk about what it means to take show GRATITUDE.

This month, let's think about how:

- (1) God is at work in our lives even though we may not understand.
- (2) Our response of gratitude shows that we trust God in all circumstances.

at a GLANCE



Bibles N Bucks Shopping:

We will be postponing Bibles-N-Bucks Shopping until further notice! Please note that you are more than welcome turn in ALL OF YOUR GODTIMES and collect your Bible Bucks. We encourage you to save them!

FACEBOOK:

Please check out our KidCity Facebook page! There will be EXCITING activities going on there!

