



NOVEMBER THEME

RE-FOCUS

Know Where to Look

BIBLE STORY

Luke 17:11-19

A Thank You Leper | Jesus Heals 10 Men

Spark Story Bible | pg. 390-393

Ten Men Healed

BOTTOM LINE

Say thank you

MEMORY VERSE

“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

1 Thessalonians 5:18, NIV

LIFE APP

Gratitude | Letting others know you see how they’ve helped you

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice and with God’s help, I can!

FOR LEADERS ONLY

GOD VIEW: the connection between **GRATITUDE** and God’s character, as shown through God’s big story.

This WEEK: Key Question: What are creative ways to say thank you? Saying thank you doesn’t have to feel like a chore. Kids will discover all sorts of fun ways they can show gratitude to the people in their life.

We will take a look at a powerful story in **Luke 17:11-19** about ten lepers who asked Jesus to be healed. But when their skin condition went away, they became so ecstatic about the miracle that they ran off and forgot to say, “thank you.” All except for one who came back.

Bottom Line: Say thank you. We want kids to become the sort of people who take the time to go out of their way to show gratitude towards others.

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today’s story.

Before kids arrive, **PRAY** for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Pray that kids would understand the importance of making sure others know they are grateful for what they have been given. Ask God to help kids understand that even if they ARE grateful, if they don’t say thank you, the other person won’t know they’re grateful.

•• EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

Made to Connect | An activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask your group the following questions:
- Would you rather break your hand or your foot? Why?
- What is the worst injury you’ve ever had? What happened?
- Let kids discuss the answers to the questions.
- Encourage them to ask each other why they chose the answers they did.

•• GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME

Made to Play | An activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: No supplies needed



What You Do:

- Play a few rounds of “I Seek.”
- One group member should describe something they can see (*that can be carried to your small group table*) and rest of the group should try to guess what it is and bring it to the table. (*For example: “I Seek something red. I Seek something red with white laces.” Answer: a group member’s athletic shoe.*)

What You Say: “Yea! We found what our friends were seeking! Awesome! **[Transition] Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship we’re going to learn/we learned about someone who made the effort to seek someone out just to say thank you.**”

[Sunday Leaders: Lead your group to the Family Room for Children’s Ministry worship. Wednesday Leaders: Continue with the study.]

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

●● **TAKE A SNAPSHOT** [Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Move | An activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: Sticky notes, pens

What You Do:

- Pass out the sticky notes and the pens. Put the extras close by in case they are needed.
- Challenge your group to think of as many ways to say “thanks” as they possibly can.
- Tell them to write one way on each sticky note.
- After everyone has written a few, encourage some of them to start sorting the ideas so duplicates or similar ideas are close together.
- Take three new sticky notes and write “Very Creative” on one, “Pretty Creative” on another, and “Not-so Creative” on the last.
- Find a nearby area (*wall or door*) and put the “Very Creative” note up high (*but still reachable for your group*), put the “Pretty Creative” in the middle in a straight line below it, and put “Not-So Creative” down closer to the ground.
- Encourage your group to work together to place the notes where they belong on the creativity scale.
—Not everyone has to agree; encourage kids to go with the majority opinion and move on.

What You Say: “That’s a lot of different ways to say thanks! You can almost never go wrong with a simple “Thank You” and eye contact, but you could also switch it up and surprise people by showing them you’re thankful in some new ways.

Note: Leave the notes up on the wall/door; you’ll use them again later for the Pray and Send activity.

●● **BIBLE STORY EXTENSION** [Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

Made to Imagine | An activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

What You Need: Bible, copy paper, pens

What You Do:

- Ask someone to summarize today’s Bible story. (*They can refer back to the passage in Luke 17:11-19 if needed.*)
- Challenge them to think of a modern-day version of this story—times when people should say thanks but very few do.
- As a group, brainstorm some possible scenarios out loud.



—Write each idea down in its simplest form.

• Then tell your group that they'll have four options for presenting one of these scenarios: Live Play, Written Story, Telling a Story, Comic Strip.

—Give them a moment to decide (*on their own*) which option they want to go with.

—Then assign each option a different corner of your space and let kids divide themselves up according to the option they choose.

• Show them where basic supplies like copy paper and pens are.

• Encourage them to first decide what scenario where people aren't often thankful they are presenting.

• Explain that the goal is for each group to be presenting something different, so once another group has claimed an idea, it's theirs.

• Make sure you save enough time at the end for each group to share their work.

• Remind them to be a good and respectful audience when others are sharing their scenarios.

What You Say: "Those are some great examples of times today when people forget to say thanks! We want to be the one who remembers. We don't want to take for granted what God and what others do for us every day. Look for chances to say, "Thanks so much," this week.

•• **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS** [Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

Made to Connect | An activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

• Ask:

—Have you ever had someone say thank you, but you didn't really feel like they were actually grateful? What happened? How did you feel?

—Does anyone want to share a story about a time when you did something for someone else and they didn't say thank you? How did you feel?

—Can you think of a time when you forgot to say thank you for something big? Did it cause a problem with the other person, or did you remember to come back and thank them?

—What happens when someone feels grateful but doesn't say it or express it in any way? Does the other person feel thanked?

—What are some ways you've thanked friends, parents, or siblings in the past, other than just saying it?

•• **VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU** [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Imagine | An activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

What You Need: Bible, copy paper, markers

What You Do:

• Ask for a volunteer to look up Proverbs 17:22 and read it out loud.

• Ask for another volunteer to write the words of Proverbs 17:22 in big letters on the paper provided.

• Ask kids how they'd make this verse dramatic—how would they act it out and go "over the top" with it?

—It might help to focus on one small part or section at a time and then put it all back together at the end.

• Finish by asking why this verse is a good one to know.

—Why is this a wise saying (*a Proverb*) worth remembering when they are out doing every day life?

—How will this make them stand out in a crowd?



PRAY AND SEND [Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Reflect | An activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: Sticky notes from earlier “Take a Snapshot” activity

What You Do:

- Ask kids to partner up.
- Encourage them to personalize what’s been talked about today by thinking about a time when they honestly forgot to say thanks. (*It can be about something that was a big deal or not a big deal.*) Share the example with their partner.
- Go over to the sticky notes with all the different creative ways of saying thanks.
 - Tell kids to keep in mind the situations they came up with and to find a way on the wall that fits how they could say thanks.
 - Tell them to take that sticky note down and make sure their partner finds a good one, too.
- Tell them to sit back down together and pray for the other person specifically—that they would remember to say thanks this week, especially now that they have a way to show it creatively, too.
- Remind them to put the sticky up somewhere smart—where it will remind them of their goal to say thanks.
 - For example, if someone wants to thank a coach, he/she could put the note near his/her cleats or in the drawer where his/her jersey is kept.
 - Or if he/she want to thank a parent for making dinner, he/she could put the note by the pantry.

Before they leave, ask them to close their eyes and have their sticky notes in their hands so you can pray and send them out.

What You Say: “Dear Jesus, there are so many different ways to say “thank you.” We admit that we get too busy and think of ourselves too much. We act like the nine in today’s story—going on with our days, instead of stopping and taking the time to say thanks like the one man did. Please help us this week to follow through on our plans to show that we are thankful for someone in our lives. And help us to remember that cheerful hearts are good medicine. We know you love us and want only the best for us, which is why you encourage us so many times in the Bible to give thanks. In your name we pray. Amen.”

What You Do: As adults arrive, give each child a **GodTime** card. Sunday leaders, pass out **Parent Cue** cards to any adult who hasn’t already received one this month.