

THANKSGIVING “THANKFULNESS”

(page 1)



BIBLE CONNECTION

Luke 17:11-19
(pages 1133-1134)

CHARACTER WORD

Thankfulness – being grateful
and saying so

TEACHING OBJECTIVE

I can thank Jesus for
what He's done for me.

MEMORY LINK

Luke 17:15a

“And one of them... with a loud
voice glorified God.”

(KBC Study Bible pgs. 1133-1134)

SUPPLIES NEEDED THIS WEEK

GET CONNECTED

Memory Link cards, Hang
10 pages, index cards, pens,
highlighters

MEMORY LINK ACTIVITY

Option 1: Jump rope

Option 2: None

BIBLE CONNECTION

Resource item

SURF TEAM LEADER

Memory Link cards, Hang 10
pages, index cards, pens

MAKE-IT-STICK REVIEW GAME

Option 1: Jump rope

Option 2: Jump rope

Jesus Heals 10 Lepers

WHAT'S THE POINT?

Remembering to be thankful is sometimes difficult. It's important to remember to thank God every day for all the things that He has given to us. The Bible says everything we have is given to us by God. All good things are from Him! We don't deserve any of them because we are born with sin, but He chooses to give good things to us anyway because He loves us!

Thankfulness is an important trait to instill in children. Because Thanksgiving is coming, it's the perfect time to focus on having gratitude for the blessings God has given us. In this lesson, the healing the lepers receive should invoke a thankful heart from all of them, although only one returns to thank Jesus. But more importantly, it's the spiritual healing of the one leper by Jesus at the end that is the true blessing because of its eternal significance.

GET CONNECTED

Building relationships in Surf Teams; introducing today's lesson



Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens, highlighters

Use the following conversation prompts to get to know the kids in your Surf Team and to introduce today's lesson.

- Today's Character Word is thankfulness. What does that mean to you?
- Tell us three things for which you are thankful.
- Can you remember a time you forgot to say thank you?
- What might happen if we commit to say thank you about something every day?

Optional: The club leader can make two posters with the titles “Thank You!” and “Love, Beach Club,” or something similar, and then place them at the front of the club area as well as provide a container of markers. At some point in your “Get Connected” time, have the children go 2-3 at a time to write a note of thanks and sign their name. The club can give one poster to the school and one to the sponsoring church.



Guide students to locate and mark today's Bible Connection and Memory Link in their Bibles so they can find the pages quickly as directed in the session.

WORSHIP TIME

Pointing hearts toward God

Choose songs that reflect your church so when your students come to church they'll hear familiar worship music. If you're looking for songs today, try these: “The Doxology” by Cross Culture Thailand VBS ([youtube.com/watch?v=LjqcnFjVF6k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LjqcnFjVF6k)) and “Thank You” by The Katinas ([youtube.com/watch?v=xvP6WX5VpjY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xvP6WX5VpjY)).



MEMORY LINK



2 Minutes – Teaching the Bible verse to students
8 Minutes – Activity to help them memorize the verse

No supplies needed

Focus on the Bible

Who brought a Bible? Each week in Memory Link, count who remembered to bring their Bibles. Encourage kids to hold up their Bibles high in the air while you count.

Focus on Today's Memory Link

Today's Memory Link is part of a sentence that tells about a man Jesus healed of a skin disease. Guide students to read the whole sentence in Luke 15-16 (page 1133). *"Glorified" means to honor or praise. The healed man honored and praised God with a loud voice. The man was very thankful.*

Show the Memory Link poster. Remind the kids that the three dots (...) represent part of a verse that is left out and today kids are learning a portion of the verse, not the entire verse. Guide kids to look at their Bibles to identify the part of the verse they are learning and the part that is left out. Help them understand that the words removed are not less important, but makes the verse simpler to memorize and does not change the meaning.

Ask kids to recite the Memory Link several times, instructing the girls to say the first half and the boys to say the second half, and say the reference all together, then switch. Lastly, have the entire club say it altogether before breaking into Surf Teams for the Memory Link activity.

Option 1 – JUMPING FOR JOY

Jump rope

Each child takes turn jumping rope while saying the verse. The other children may say it along with them.

Option 2 - MEMORY VERSE MOTIONS

No supplies needed

At the appointed time, Surf Teams will have three minutes to create motions as a group to go with the verse. At the end of three minutes, each team takes turns sharing the motions they created with the rest of club.

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Luke 17:15a

"And one of them... with a loud voice glorified God."

(KBC Study Bible pg. 1133)

Teaching Tip
Leprosy - Generic term applied to a variety of skin disorders from psoriasis to true leprosy. Its symptoms ranged from white patches on the skin to running sores to the loss of digits on the fingers and toes.

Thank the children for participating and send them back to their seats in large group.

Ask the children to look at Luke 17:15-16 (page 1133-1134) in the KBC Study Bible. Discuss what words the thankful leper might have used to express his thankfulness.

The lepers received a HUGE gift from Jesus. What was it? (He healed their disease!) What would we expect them to do after receiving such a big gift? (We would expect them to go thank Jesus when they realized He had healed them.) Show me with your fingers how many lepers were healed. (10) How many returned to thank Jesus? (Only one out of 10!) It can be hard to remember to say thank you to others, but sometimes it's especially hard to remember to say thank you to God. He's given us everything! Even things you receive from others come from something He provided and created. Let's remember to thank God every day and to thank others when He uses them to be kind to us.

Application

One of the greatest gifts to be thankful for is Jesus. He is the greatest gift because God sent Jesus to earth as the only way to fix our relationship with Him. Because we are born with a sinful nature, we have no way to fix our broken relationship with God. God made a way to fix our sin problem. He sent Jesus to earth. He lived a perfect life, did in our place for our sins, and then He was raised to life again so we could live in heaven with Him. That is a lot for which to be thankful.

Ask students to turn in their KBC Bibles to “How to Know God” (between pages 626-627) as you lead them to discuss the A-B-Cs.

Gospel Connection

Just like Jesus healed the thankful leper's disease and heart, He can heal our hearts, too. Remember, Jesus said to the leper, “Your faith has made you well.” You can show your faith in Jesus by believing God's word is true. God's word tells us God's plan for how people can become followers of Jesus. It's as simple as A-B-C. All you have to do is ADMIT, BELIEVE and CHOOSE TO FOLLOW. ADMIT you're a sinner and ASK Jesus to forgive your sin and come into your life. Next, BELIEVE that Jesus' sacrifice paid the debt for your sin and then CHOOSE TO FOLLOW Jesus by turning away from your sin and choosing God's way rather than your own way.

Invite students wanting to know more about praying to ask Jesus to be their forever friend to move to the designated counseling area to talk with a leader one on one. Be sure to have all the decision supplies available.

Gospel Tip

Thanksgiving is a natural time to have one or two adult volunteers (especially those that came to Christ as children) share a brief, 1-2 minute testimony. The following template is helpful in preparing a concise, yet complete, testimony: 1) My life before I knew Jesus, 2) How I discovered I was a sinner, 3) How I became a Christian (emphasize how you experienced the A-B-Cs of salvation) 4) My life after Christ. Have volunteers write out their testimony (1-2 minutes is 150-300 words). Writing helps focus our words and stay brief while sharing the essentials with students.

SURF TEAM TIME

Connecting with kids in small groups;
applying today's Bible Connection and Character Word



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Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens

Today's Bible Lesson

- Before you begin, ask if there are any students who would like to talk with the Bible Connection leader about praying to ask Jesus to become their forever friend. If so, let them go to the designated area.
- *What questions do you have about today's story?*
- *What does this story tell us about who Jesus was on earth and what He is like?*
- *What do you think God wants us to learn from this story?*
- *How can you show thankfulness this week? Tell the person sitting next to you what you plan to do. Let's pray right now and thank God for sending Jesus to save us and for the many blessings He has given us. (Lead the kids to pray the prayer below.)*

Use the Bible

Give each child a Memory Link card. Review today's Memory Link and Character Word. Guide kids to use cards to mark today's story in their KBC Study Bibles. Lead them to highlight today's Memory Link.

Hang 10 Pages

Give each child a Hang 10 page. Challenge kids to hang out with God 10 minutes each day by praying and reading the Bible, using the Hang 10 page as a guide. Encourage kids to do the Weekly Challenge and bring back their Hang 10 pages next week for a time of discussion.

Day 3 of our Hang 10 page will ask us to name a person for whom we are thankful. Let's see if we can each name a person right now.

Pray

Give kids a few minutes to share their prayer requests or write them on index cards. Ask someone to lead the group in prayer. Take the cards home and remember to pray for the kids in your surf team this week.

Heavenly Father, thank You for all You have provided us — our world and everything in it, our nation where we are free to worship and serve You, our families, our school and Beach Club. God, we are most thankful for Jesus Christ and the gift of eternal and abundant life that only He can provide. In Jesus' name, amen.

Teaching Tip

Students are literal in their thinking at this age. When we ask them "to make Jesus their forever friend," it's important to explain that that is the same thing as "asking Jesus into your heart," or "asking Jesus to be your Lord and Savior" or "asking Jesus to come into your life." Helping them realize these are all the same will clear up much confusion they may have because of our "churchy" language.

Thanksgiving Holiday

Not all students will come from a home that honors God or even believes in God. Some of their families will not include God as part of their Thanksgiving holiday activities. You may be the only person sharing the truth of God's word with them. Remember to thank God for each student you have the privilege to teach about Jesus.

MAKE IT STICK - REVIEW GAME

Playing a game to review today’s Bible Connection and Character Word



Option 1 - JUMP ROPE REPLAY

Jump rope

Line the children up by Surf Teams or divide evenly into groups. Each leader should line up at the opposite end of their group with their review questions in hand. When the leader says “Go,” the kids jump rope all the way down, answer a question, then jump rope back. Children should sit at the end of their line when they each have finished. This continues until all have gone. The first line to finish wins.

Option 2 - THANKFUL LIMBO

Jump rope

Guide kids to form a single file line. Ask questions to the group. Call on someone to answer. For every correct answer, the group can try to pass under the rope without touching it. If a student can’t pass, he drops out and helps hold one of the ends of the rope. Ask the next question, and when it is correctly answered, the leaders will lower the rope and the group will try to pass under again. After each question, the rope will be lowered just a bit. If you run out of questions, you may make up questions or simply continue lowering the rope and allowing the kids to pass under the rope for fun.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is today’s Character Word? (*Thankfulness*)
2. Recite today’s Memory Link. (“And one of them... with a loud voice glorified God.” Luke 17:15)
3. In what book in the Bible is our story found? (*Luke*)
4. How many lepers were in today’s story? (*10*)
5. What did Jesus do for the lepers? (*He healed their disease*)
6. Where did Jesus tell the lepers to go? (*to the priests*)
7. How many lepers returned to thank Jesus? (*one*)
8. What did the one leper do to thank Jesus? (*glorified him loudly, fell down at Jesus’ feet*)
9. What do the A, B and C stand for in our A-B-Cs? (*Admit, Believe, Choose to Follow*)
10. What did Jesus say made the thankful leper well? (*his faith*)
11. What does God want us to learn from this story?
12. What is something you are thankful for that money can’t buy?

**“And one of
them... with
a loud voice
glorified God.”**

Luke 17:15

