

THANKSGIVING LESSONS

LESSON 2: GIVE THANKS TO GOD ☆

Lessons in this series: [1](#) [2](#) [Overview](#)

This Sunday school lesson will help children learn how important it is to give thanks to whom it is owed: God, the Father.
by Kristy Thornton

TOPICS

Blessings, Provision, Thanksgiving, Thankfulness

AS KIDS ARRIVE (10 MINUTES)

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You (Activity) [Click here](#)

WORSHIP TIME (5 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

BIBLE VERSE (5 MINUTES)

"...always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Ephesians 5:20 NIV

Have the children repeat this verse several times aloud with you. Then, ask them why they think we should give thanks to God the Father for everything? What are some things for which we can give Him thanks? Let's all thank the Lord three times for everything using our expression of joy. I will demonstrate it and then we will do it together as a class. "Thank You, thank You, thank You Lord for everything!"

BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

Gather the children around you in preparation for story time. After the introduction, read the passages as shown or read the verses directly from the Bible. Read each passage before asking the corresponding question.

Introduction:

Our Bible verse taught us to be thankful to God for everything. We will continue to learn about thankfulness, and we will celebrate Thanksgiving together as a class.

Read 1 Timothy 4:4-5

Discussion Questions:

1. Is everything created by God? (Yes.)
2. Does scripture say that everything made by God is good or bad? (Good.)
3. If food is received with thanksgiving, are we to reject it? Why or why not? (No, because God made food to feed our bodies.)
5. Do you think the meal you will eat during Thanksgiving was created by God? (Yes, while our parents or grandparents might buy and cook the food, it was created by God.)

Read Psalm 136

As I read Psalm 136, I want you to remember one thing I read from the verses, for which you can thank God.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why does Psalm 136 say we should thank the Lord? (Because God is good.)
2. What endures forever? (God's Love for us.)
3. What is one thing mentioned in the scripture that God has done for which you are thankful? (Allow for discussion. He alone does mighty wonders: He made the heavens and the earth; He protects His people; He remembers us, and He provides our needs such as food, water, shelter, ect.)

FUN TIME (15 MINUTES)

Thanksgiving Plate (Activity) [Click here](#)

ALTERNATE FUN TIME (10 MINUTES)

Thanksgiving Every Day (Coloring Page) [Click here](#)

PRAYER/SNACK (10 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

Start by giving thanks to God for all the provisions that He has provided. Optional: Provide graham crackers, chocolate frosting, sprinkles, and fruit snacks. Give each child a plate with a graham cracker and a glob of frosting. Have children use their fingers to smear frosting on the graham cracker to make a head, and body. Use frosting and sprinkles or fruit snacks as feathers.

CLOSING ACTIVITY (10 MINUTES)

Turkey Hunt (Activity) [Click here](#)

NEXT WEEK

Select another exciting Bible based children's Sunday school lesson from Kids Sunday School Place.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON TAKE HOME PAGE

Give one copy to each child at the end of the class to take home [PDF]. [Click here](#)

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TURKEY HUNT ☆

Children will have fun finding turkeys and thanking God for His many blessings.

by Kristy Thornton

TOPICS:

Blessing, Provision, Thankfulness

MATERIALS:

Turkey Tracks [PDF] [Click here](#)

Picture of turkey [PDF] [Click here](#)



DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes

PREPARATION:

Print out as many turkey tracks as you can. Make a couple of different trails. Print out some turkeys that you can hide throughout the rooms as the tracks lead to the turkeys. Example: As the children follow a line of turkey tracks, the tracks might stop at a cabinet and with adult supervision they can open the cabinet and see a turkey taped inside. They can all yell, "Thank You God for this turkey." *(Optional: You can tape the turkey tracks to the floor so they will not move as the children walk on them.)*

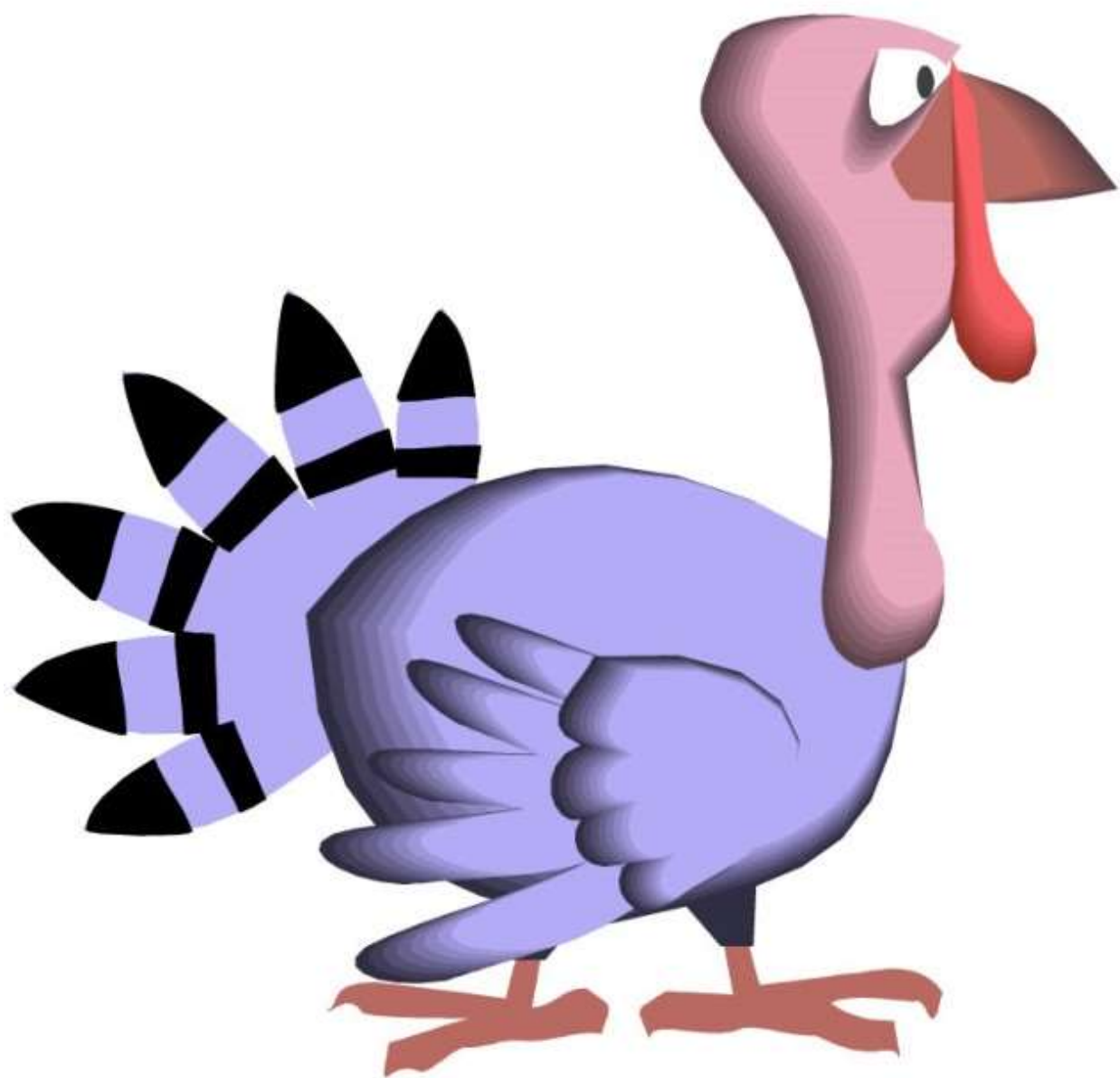
WHAT YOU WILL DO:

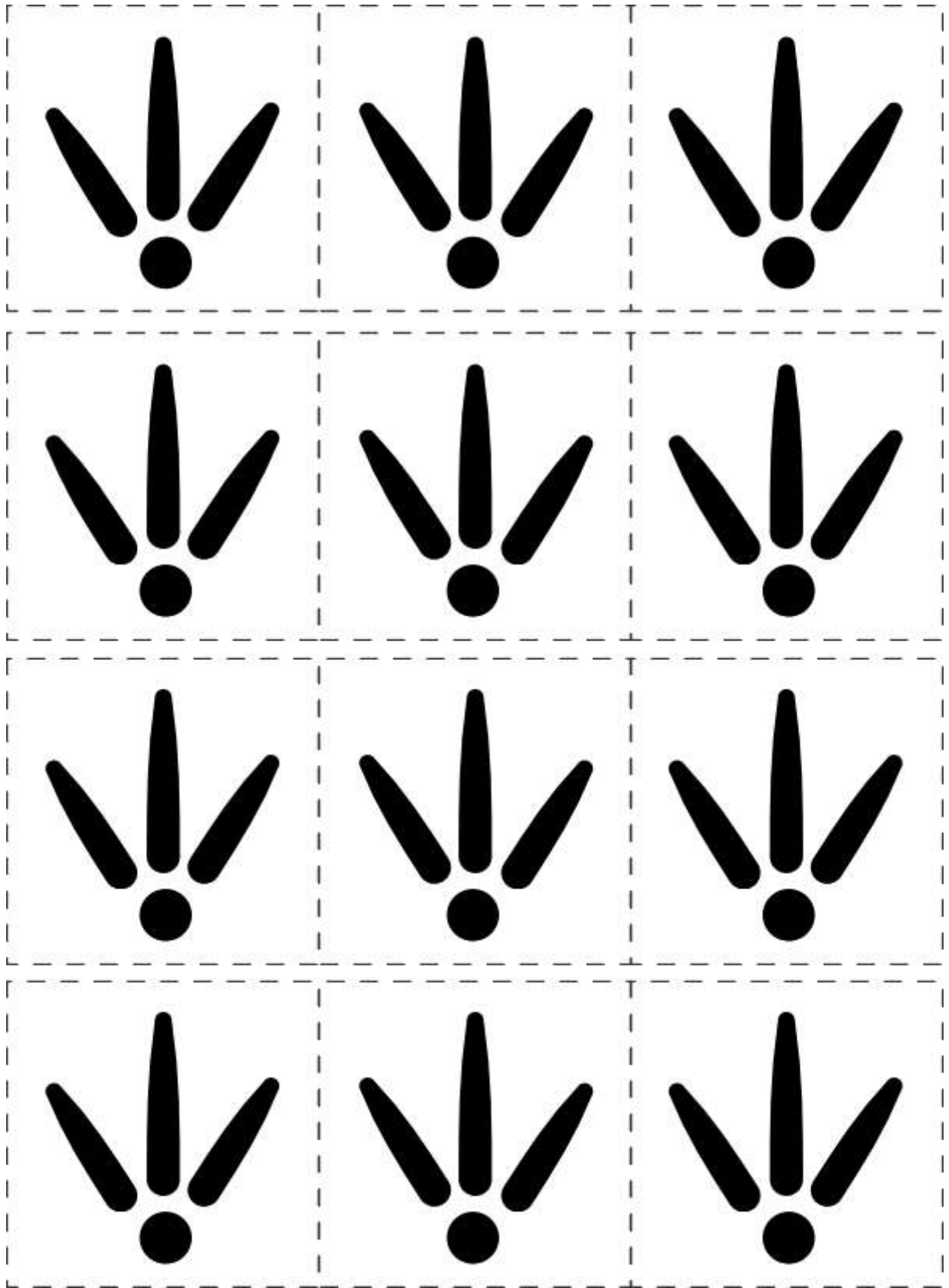
In a single file line, guide the children on a turkey hunt around the room. Encourage them to act like a turkey and make turkey sounds.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

It is time for our turkey hunt. Let's track down some turkeys. We are going to follow the turkey tracks while acting like turkeys so we don't scare them away. When we find a turkey, we will point to the turkey and say, "Thank You God for this turkey and all the other blessings You provide!" Let's practice this once and say it aloud as a class, "Thank You God for this turkey and all the other blessings You provide!" Good job, now who is ready to find some turkeys?

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THANKSGIVING EVERY DAY ☆

A Bible coloring page that helps children learn that they can celebrate Thanksgiving every day of the year.

TOPICS:

Blessings, God's Love, Thankfulness, Thanksgiving

MATERIALS:

Bible coloring page [PDF] [Click here](#)

Crayons or colored markers

Stickers (optional)

DURATION:

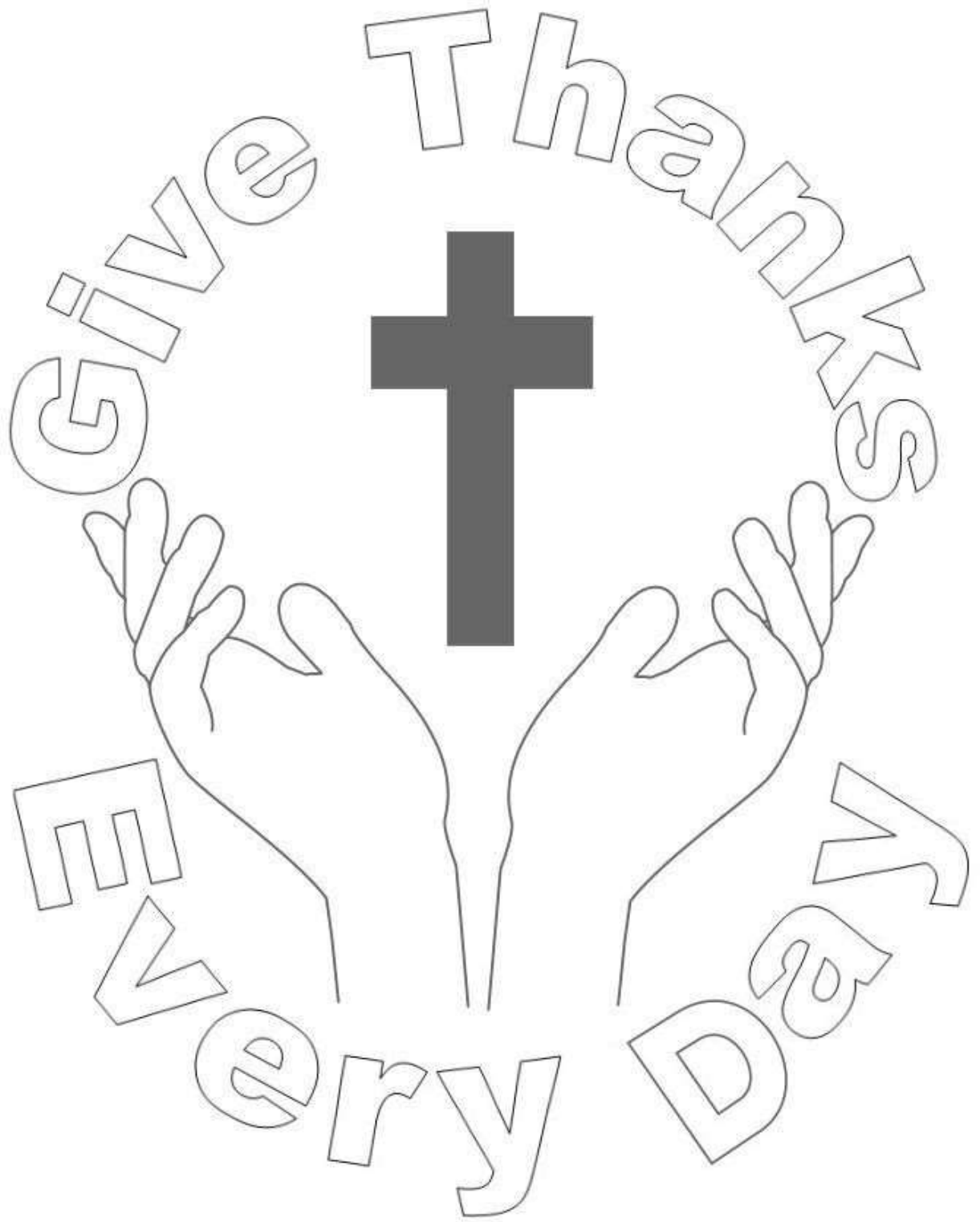
Approximately 10 minutes



Discussion Questions:

1. What do you like most about the Thanksgiving holiday? *(Allow for discussion.)*
2. Did you know that God wants us to celebrate Thanksgiving every day of the year? *(It's true, God wants us to be thankful every day for all of the blessings He gives us on a daily basis.)*
3. What are some ways we can show God that we are thankful? *(Prayer, singing, sharing, ect.)*

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THANKSGIVING PLATE ☆

A fun activity that helps remind children of the many things for which they should be grateful.

by Kristy Thornton

TOPICS:

Blessing, Provision, Thankfulness

MATERIALS:

Thanksgiving Plate activity page [PDF] [Click here](#)

Glue sticks, scissors, crayons, paper plates

Envelopes (*Optional*)

DURATION:

Approximately 15 minutes



PREPARATION:

Before class, print out one copy of the activity page for each child in class.

Depending on the age of the children, you may want to cut out a set of pictures for each child in class and place each set of pictures in a separate envelope. The envelopes will then be distributed to the children during the activity.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

We are going to have a Thanksgiving feast in a different way. Each of you will prepare your own Thanksgiving plate. Instead of filling our plates with food, we are going to fill them with things that we are thankful for and give thanks to God for each item. Each of you will get a plate. Write your name on the back of the plate. You can choose as many pictures as you like to put on your plate. Glue the pictures of the items you are thankful for onto your plate. Each time you glue a new picture on your plate thank God for that item.

For example, I might glue on a picture of my family, teacher, or pet. I would then say, "Thank You God for my family. Thank You God for my teachers. Thank You God for my pets."

After children have finished their plates allow them to share what they are thankful for and why.

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Cut out along the dashed lines



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU ☆

This visual activity helps children identify their feelings as they say and hear the words "thank you."

by Kristy Thornton

TOPICS:

Blessing, Thankfulness

MATERIALS:

Paper, crayons, tape
Letter Print Out [PDF] [Click here](#)

DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes

The words 'Thank You' are written in large, colorful, block letters. 'Thank' is on the top line and 'You' is on the bottom line. The letters are multi-colored: 'T' is red, 'h' is green, 'a' is yellow, 'n' is blue, 'k' is purple, 'Y' is red, 'o' is purple, and 'u' is blue.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

Today, we are going to understand the purpose of a special phrase. Each of you will get a letter. Each of you will color and decorate your letter. When you are done, we are going to put our letters together and see what it spells. *(Optional for small classes: Some of you may get another letter if you finish before others.)*

Now that we are all finished, I am going to call out a letter. If you have the letter I call out, raise it high in the air and I will call on someone sitting patiently. You will bring your letter up to me and I will tape it to the wall. Some letters are the same, but do not worry; all the letters will get used. *(Call out the letters one at a time to spell "Thank you, Thank you, Thank you.")*

Discussion Questions:

1. Does anyone know what we have just spelled? *(Thank you, Thank you, Thank you.)*
2. Have you ever been so thankful that you had to say thank you more than once? *(Allow children to answer.)*
3. Why do you think you said thank you more than once? *(Allow children to answer. Maybe they were so excited, joyful, overwhelmed with happiness, or just so thankful that someone did something nice, etc.)*

It is pleasing to the ears to hear the words "thank you," and even more exciting to hear them with joy and excitement. When we thank God, we should do so with joy and excitement.

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