



## God is Our Provider

Psalm 106:1a

**God Statement: God Gives Me Everything I Need**

KEY VERSE:

**"Praise the Lord! Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good" – Psalm 106:1a**

## CHECK-IN

*Purpose: To build relationships with families and help parents feel comfortable leaving their child.*

As parents check-in their child at your classroom, try to welcome them by name to help them feel secure in leaving their child in your care. Once you've completed each of the check-in procedures, welcome the child into your classroom and encourage him/her to play with the classroom toys and activities. If you have LITs in your classroom, this is a great time for them to help engage with the kids while you continue checking in the kids.

If a child is upset or reluctant to enter the room, encourage him or her by offering toys, books or other fun items. If a child is still upset, let the parents know that we will text them if their child continues to be upset. Then, offer to carry the child into the classroom and try to calm the child with toys or other activities.

Use the "Connect" reminder (listed below) to help kids feel comfortable and safe in your class!

## CONNECT WITH KIDS

*Purpose: Building relationships & prioritizing safety for our youngest children.*

Our goal, first and foremost, when serving babies and young toddlers is to prioritize building trusting relationships and the feeling of safety. We build trust with our littlest kids by meeting needs and helping them learn that church is a secure place where they are loved, known and safe.

The 4 S's are a simple way to keep our hearts and minds focused on this:

When a child feels...(most of the time)

**SAFE:** physically and emotionally

**SEEN:** known and understood

**SOOTHED:** calmed and supported

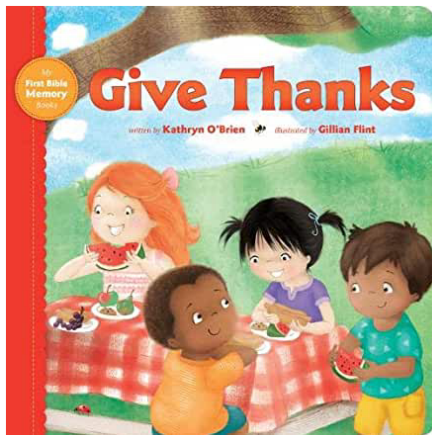
They can become **SECURE**.

## READ A BIBLE STORY

*Purpose: Engage our youngest children in a meaningful way by teaching God's word!*

This month, read ***Give Thanks***, a board book about how God Is Our Provider and gives us every good gift! (Psalm 136:1, Psalm 106:1a, James 1:17)

As you read, try to engage the child(ren) even more by pointing to the pictures as your read, allowing the kids to turn the page or repeating key words and phrases. It's ok if you don't read every word on the page! Kids have very short attention spans (1 minute for each year of age) so try to keep your interactions short and don't get discouraged if a child loses focus!



## SING SONGS

*Purpose: Engage our youngest children through the power of music!*

Use the Little Kids music videos on Plex (Miss Mindy) to sing some simple songs with your class. To access these videos, go to Plex > Videos > EC > 2s/3s folder.

**This month, please introduce the following songs:**

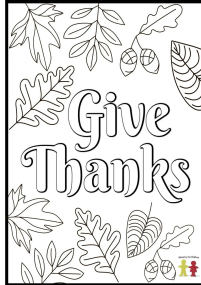
- Jesus Loves Me
- My God is So Big
- Father Abraham (not on Plex, lyrics and video link provided below)

## LEAD AN ACTIVITY

*Purpose: Engage our youngest children by doing a variety of learning activities! (Most are designed for 1 year olds.)*

### WEEK 1: Giving Thanks / Nov 6 & 7

*Teach children the big idea that God provides everything they need and that every gift is from Him.*



After reading the ***Give Thanks*** board book, take a couple minutes to talk about the main points it teaches. 1. God gives me everything I need. 2. Every good gift is from God!

- List some of the simple things that a child understands as their need: God provides us a home, God provides us with food, God provides us with clothes, etc.
- Demonstrate how we can talk to God and give thanks to Him for the many things He provides us and the many gifts He gives us. Pray together.
- After prayer, allow the children to color the Give Thanks coloring sheet. Point out that it says GIVE THANKS! Giving thanks is how we thank and praise God for everything He gives to us!
- Share key verse:  
    **“Praise the Lord! Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good” – Psalm 106:1a**

### WEEK 2: Name & Count Your Blessings / Nov 13 & 14

(insert example pic here)

*Help children understand some of the basic needs that God provides for them every day.*

- On 3-5 leaves, write down some blessings that every child has received. Focus on basic needs, such as: food, a bed, my family, clothes, shoes, my home, my church, and toys, etc. (If you know that they have siblings or pets, feel free to include.)

## November 2021 | Babies

- Talk to them about how God has given them all of these things. Teach them that we can give thanks by telling God “Thank you!” and give praise to Him.
- Allow them to use glue sticks to glue the leaves on their “I am thankful for...” paper wherever they want on the page.
- Take a few minutes to talk about their craft. Ask them what is the color of each leaf. Count their leaves.
- Share the key verse in response to some of these blessings that God has given.  
**“Praise the Lord! Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good” – Psalm 106:1a**

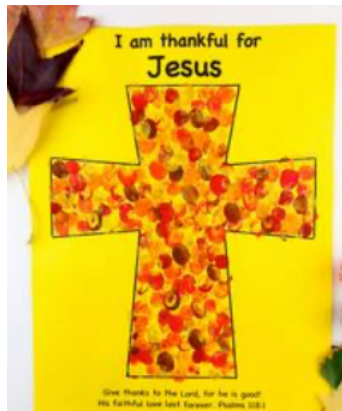
### WEEK 3: My Family Is Thankful for Me / Nov 20 & 21



*Instill in each child they are a gift God has given to their family and their family gives thanks for them!*

- This activity is a Thanksgiving Keepsake craft for their parents. While you use utilize the roller to apply orange paint on their feet and apply to the page, talk to them about how they are a gift from God to their family.
- Tell them how their families give thanks for them!
- Be sure to write their name neatly on the paper and date it in the bottom corner. Hang art to dry.
- Tell them that we (their church family) give thanks for them!
- Take a few minutes to pray and thank God for each child.
- Don't forget to send this important craft home with each child!

**WEEK 4: God's Best Gift / Nov 27 & 28**



Talk about God's best gift to us: Jesus!

- Every good gift is from God! Spend a few minutes talking about how God showed His love for us by sending Jesus.
- Discuss why we should thank God for Jesus: because He came to forgive our sins. This is our greatest and best gift from God.
- Allow the children to use the dot markers to decorate their cross. Give thanks and praise God for Jesus!
- Share key verse:  
**"Praise the Lord! Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good" – Psalm 106:1a**

## PLAY!

*Purpose: Engage our youngest children by playing games and having fun!*

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity with your class. This is a great opportunity to introduce kids to classroom games and encourage interaction and participation with others.

### **Suggestions of activities for Babies & Younger 1 Year Olds:**

- Play Peek-A-Boo
- Read a board book
- Build a tower and let kids knock it down
- Play with a ball
- Roll a large car back and forth
- Take turns putting toys in a bin or bucket

### **Suggestions of activities for Older 1 Year Olds & 2 Year Olds:**

- Hide an object and let kids find it
- Name and count parts of the body

- Discuss colors & numbers
- Turn on music and play freeze dance
- Have kids follow simple instructions (hop, sit down, clap, etc.)

## CHECK-OUT

(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in free play. Follow the check-out procedures for your classroom, making sure to send all of the child's belongings (diaper bag, bottle/sippy cup, pacifier, blanket, etc.) with the parent.

Give the parent encouragement about how the child did in your class and say "Bye (child's name)!"

## PLEASE RETURN:

*Use this checklist of items to return at the end of the month.*

- ☐ ***"Give Thanks" board books***
- ☐ ***Paint***
- ☐ ***Glue Sticks***

***Note: Please keep "The Big Picture Story" Bibles at your campus***



# Give Thanks



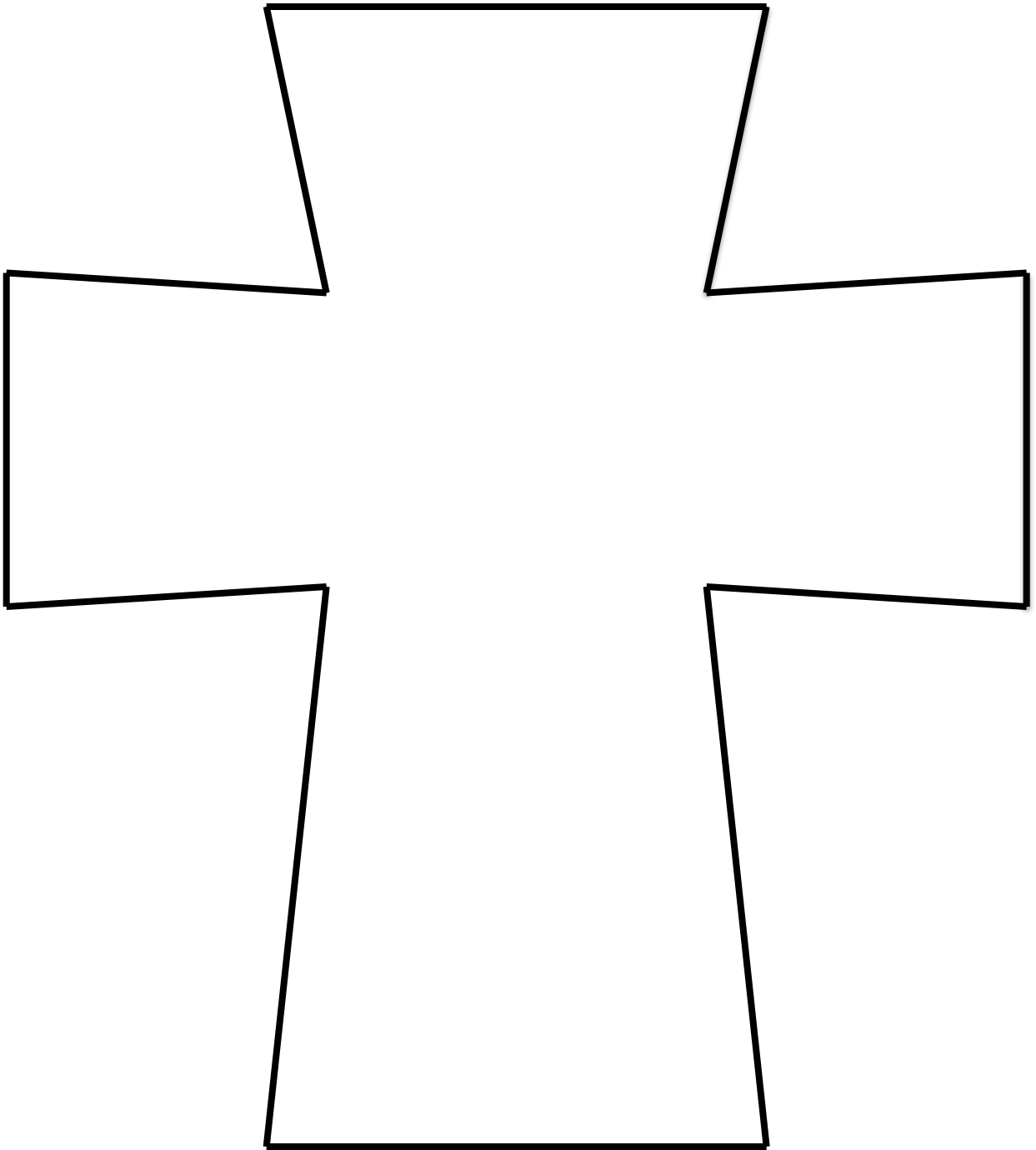
**I am thankful for...**



Thanksgiving 2021

My family is thankful for ME!

I am thankful for  
**Jesus**



Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!  
His faithful love lasts forever. Psalms 118:1