



## Be Thankful

Psalm 106:1

**God Statement: God is in Control**

**KEY VERSE:**

**“Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage.” Psalm 27:14,  
NIRV**

### CHECK-IN

**(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)**

*As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.*

### EXPLORE ACTIVITY

**(10 minutes)**

*The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.*

#### **DISCUSS: Be Thankful**

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how we can be thankful.

**Say:** When someone does something nice for you or gives you something, what do you do? You say, “Thank you!” That’s right! God has done so many things for us. He has made so many beautiful things and given us so much. You know what we can do? We can say thank you to Him!

#### **MAKE OR PLAY: Thankful Collage**

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they will be gluing pictures of things they are thankful for.

**Supplies:** magazine cut outs, glue, "I'm Thankful For..." construction paper

**Directions:** Help the kids choose pictures of things they are thankful for and glue them onto colorful paper. Encourage them to glue the items around the words on the page.

**Say:** *Let's say thank you to God. Let's look at all these pictures and see what we can say thank you to God for. Look at this cute puppy. Aren't you thankful for puppies? Here let's glue it on your paper. Look at this ice cream cone. Aren't you thankful for ice cream? Look at this flower. Mm, I bet it smells good. Aren't you thankful for flowers? Etc.*

## CLEAN UP

(5 minutes)

*Have the children begin cleaning up as you transition into Large Group time. All the toys should be put away by the end of clean up time.*

*Try singing: "Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere."*

## LARGE GROUP

(15 minutes)

*After clean up, have your class gather around the story time rug/blanket/squares and Hamilton's house for Large Group time.*

### WELCOME & PRAYER

Tell the kids you are so excited to have them joining you this morning and give them a brief explanation of Large Group and the expectations of them during this time. After going over the expectations, pray to open large group time.

### WORSHIP (5-7 minutes)

Before starting the lesson, open Large Group time by singing a few familiar songs and using instruments. **Find these songs on Plex, videos, EC, 2s3s folder.**

### BIBLE STORY (5-7 minutes)

#### **THIS WEEK'S LESSON: Be Thankful!**

*Using the props and Hamilton puppet, tell the story for the day. Make sure to keep it brief and engaging by asking the kids questions throughout and using Hamilton to keep their attention.*

***Invite Hamilton to come out and see the class***

**Say:** Hamilton, you are such a good friend. Thank you for stopping by every week to see us. Friends, will you say thank you to Hamilton? ***“Thank you, Hamilton.”***

**Say:** There is a verse in the Bible that tells us about saying thank you.

**Read from adult Bible Psalm 106:1**

***“Praise the LORD! Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good for his steadfast love endures forever!”***

**Say:** God wants us to say thank you. God is so good, that we can praise and thank him for all he does! How does it make you feel to praise God? It makes me feel so good and warm.

***Spend a few minutes going around and thanking God for each child by name. Look at each child as you say thank you.***

**Say:** Let’s tell God thank you right now. Will you help me? ***THANK YOU, GOD!***

### **SAY IT OUT LOUD! (30 seconds)**

*This is the opportunity to remind the children of the God Statement for the day. Even if they struggle to pay attention during the lesson, this part is important to do every week.*

We are learning that God is in control. *Point to the large poster that will be on the wall in your class all quarter: “God is in control” (Have the kids shout it out together multiple times)*

### **WORSHIP RESPONSE (2 minutes)**

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

***Encourage class to sit quietly.***

**Say:** Let’s think of things we are thankful for. Close your eyes and think of those things. When I count to three, let’s all say one thing we’re thankful for at the same time. Ready? Eyes closed. Think about your thing. One, two, three... I’m thankful for...

**Say:** Alright, you all said so many things. ***Call on kids specifically to ask what they said thank you for.*** Thank you, God, for everything!

***Pray to close Large Group time out.***

### **BLESSING (1 minute)**

*Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.*

**Let's remember our verse: "Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage." Psalm 27:14 NIRV**

*Friends, remember to thank God for all the good things He gives you.*

## CLOSING ACTIVITIES

(Until parents pickup)

### MAKE: Thank You Cards

*Supplies: thank you cards, markers/crayons, stickers*

**Directions:** Pass out a thank you card to each child. Encourage them to make/decorate the card for their parent/guardian/older sibling to say thank you for loving them. Make sure each kid takes home their cards to give to that person.

## CHECK-OUT

(end of service)

*As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue playing with the classroom games and toys.*

**I'm  
thankful  
for YOU!**

**Thank you for  
loving me!**

**Love,**