

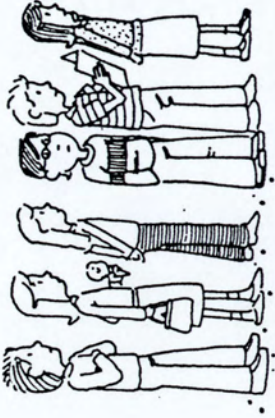
LESSON PLAN

Lesson Number: 168
Grade Level: 4-6

Date: _____
Title: Enough for Everyone (Thanksgiving)
Text/Story: 1 Kings 17:1-16; Matthew 14:15-21
Main idea: God has promised to provide for our physical and spiritual needs; we should always give thanks.
Key Verse: Psalm 92:1

Time	Activity	Description
Pre-Lesson Collage		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials: poster paper, glue, scissors, magazines and catalogues • Divide class into groups and have them make a collage of the things we need daily (e.g., food, clothes, home, etc.) for which we are thankful • Allow 10-15 mins. and display on wall when complete • Discuss how God provides these things through giving us the health and ability to work and obtain what we need
Lesson 1 Kings 17:1-16; Matt 14:15-21 Paraphrasing		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divide the class in two and provide each group with a sheet of chart paper and markers • Ask each group to read their story and retell the story by writing it, in their own words, on their sheet of chart paper • When complete, each group will read its story for the class; each member of the group should participate in reading the story • Discuss the idea behind the stories: how God provides according to our needs and we should remember to thank Him for these provisions
Post-Lesson	"It's All in the Attitude" worksheet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide each student with worksheet and pencil • Read the list on page and discuss/clarify • Ask students to complete the worksheet • Discuss the results; list any other examples of a grateful attitude and an ungrateful one • Option: create a few role-play situations using these examples and have students act them out

IT'S ALL IN THE ATTITUDE!



We can show God in many ways how thankful we are. We can also show our ungrateful attitude by other things we do. Read the following list of the things we do and write them in the correct column below.

- wasting food
- saying grace before meals
- spending money we don't have
- donating food & clothing to downtown shelters
- littering
- buying things we don't need
- donating money to missions
- not saving any money
- complaining about our meals
- overeating
- tithing our allowance
- wishing for more money

GRATEFUL ATTITUDE	UNGRATEFUL ATTITUDE

True Appreciation

The key verse for this lesson says, "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Ephesians 5:20). Make a list of some of the things in your life that you wouldn't want to do without. (Examples: automobile, electricity, friends)

Another verse in God's Word says, "in every thing give thanks" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Every thing? At this moment you may be wondering about the unpleasant things that come into a person's life; things such as bad grades, lost friendships, sickness, injury, and even death. How can anyone be thankful for these moments? Is it possible to be thankful for all things? Yes, if you keep your trust in God, it is possible. Look up Galatians 6:9 and fill in the words that are missing from the following verse.

"And let us _____ be weary in well doing: for in _____ season we shall _____, if we faint not."

Giving thanks is one part of "well doing." Knowing that God's Word tells us to be thankful, and knowing that Jesus gave us examples of prayer should help us to be truly thankful.

Make a list of some other ways you can show your appreciation to God for His care and love.

Opener: make a collage using magazine clippings representing the things God provides for us.

Object lesson: Giving thanks for everything.

Needed: a key, a nail, a match, a battery and a small cross.

We have many obvious things for which we are thankful: food, shelter, family, pets . . .
I have some little things here that will help us to remember more.

Key -- without a key, you could be locked out of your house. Keys are very important. A "key" in our lives for which we might be thankful might be a bit of truth that unlocks a mystery, knowledge that solves a problem, or God's wisdom to deal with a situation.

Nail -- a nail can join two pieces of wood permanently. It can fix a broken object or hang a picture. The "nail" in our lives is the kindness that can bond people together. It is the understanding that mends a broken relationship.

Match -- a camping trip would be a disaster without one! This match represents enthusiasm for God's cause, a spark of faith to pass around, the warmth and support of God's people.

Battery -- stored energy. Energy is important for following through on projects, carrying out responsibilities, living an effective Christian life. God gives us this energy so we can spread His love.

Cross -- a symbol of our faith. We can be thankful because God gives us these reminders to help us remember what Jesus did on the cross for us.

God has promised to provide for our needs, both physically and spiritually. We should learn to be thankful for the little things as well as the obvious things.

Discuss: In school you've learned about what makes a healthy diet. What are the basic ingredients for a healthy Christian "diet"?

Make a "pie graph" on posterboard or write-on board. Have the students answer. Answers should include Prayer, Reading the Bible, Fellowship, Worship, Private devotions, and the like.

Ask: Where does Thankfulness fit in?