

Alley All Together Activities—November 15th, 2020

Today's Bible Story: Say Something (Jesus Heals 10 Men) • *Luke 17:11-19*

Today's Key Question: Why do people forget to say thank you?

Today's Bottom Line: Say thank you.

Monthly Memory Verse: Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good. His love endures forever. (Psalm 136:1 NIV)

1. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: Index cards, pens (1 per student)

What You Do:

- **Provide** an index card and pen for each kid.
- **Ask** each kid to write their own definition of gratitude without using any form of the word THANK.
- **Listen** as each kid shares their definition.
- **Ask** kids to indicate their answer to the question below by writing YES or NO on the back of their index card.
 - Do you *have to* say thank you every time someone does something for you?
- **Form two groups** based on the answers kids gave. If there is only one kid on a team, join forces with them so they are not alone.
- **Ask** both the YES and NO groups to each come up with three reasons why they believe theirs is the right answer.
- **Hold** a "Gratitude Debate" as each team shares their thoughts and tries to persuade the others to agree.

2. Bible Story Extension

What You Need: Index Cards, Markers (1 per student)

What You Do:

- **Review** the Bible story using the questions below. Let kids compete to see who can say the answer ten times in a row in the shortest amount of time.
 - What book of the Bible is our story found? (*Luke*)
 - What disease did the men in the story have? (*skin disease, leprosy*)
 - How many men in the story had a skin disease? (*10*)
 - How many men did Jesus heal in this story? (*10*)
 - How many men came back to thank Jesus? (*1*)
- **Ask** kids to share why they think only one of the men who was healed came back to say thank you to Jesus.
- **Lead** kids in the following experiment to illustrate the way we can easily miss seeing opportunities to show our gratitude that are right in front of us.
 - Give each of the kids a marker and an index card.
 - Use the marker to make a dot on the left edge of the index card and an X on the right edge.
 - Hold the card with the X on the right at eye level about an arm's length away.
 - Tell kids to close their right eye then look directly at the X. They should still be able to see the dot.
 - Tell them to focus on the X, as they slowly bring the card closer to their face. The dot will disappear.
- **Connect** the experiment with a challenge to do what the nine men in the Bible story missed the opportunity to do: say thank you.
 - What are we most likely focusing on when we forget to say thank you?
 - Give some reason why we should say thank you often.
 - When are you most motivated to say thank you?
 - Can you think of a time when you forgot to say thank you for something big? Did it cause a problem with the other person, or did you remember to come back and thank them?
 - Who do you need to thank today? How will you do it?

3. Discussion Questions

- If someone says thank you, but they don't really mean it, is it truly gratitude? Why or why not?
- Is it enough to just *feel* grateful without actually say it or expressing it in any way? Explain.
- What are some ways we can thank someone other than just saying "thank you"?

4. Verses to Take with You

What You Need: Foam Door Hangers (1 per student), Stickers (approx. 8 per student), Verse Label (1 per student)

What You Do:

- **Pass** out door hangers, verse sticker, and stickers.
- **Read** Psalm 136:1 together, then have students put the verse label on the door hanger.
- **Allow** students a few minutes to decorate their door hangers with stickers.
- **Ask:**
 - What is the most important thing to you that you are thankful for?
 - If asked to give that thing away, could you?
 - Where can you place this door hanger to remind you to always be thankful?