

Activity: Thankful Always Thanksgiving

Idea from book by Elisa Morgan, "The Beauty of Broken"
www.thebeautyofbroken.com



FAMILY TIME
TRAINING

Teaching Goal: Focus on being thankful in both good and challenging times.

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Be joyful always: pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

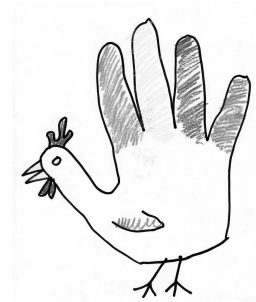
Materials: Paper
Pencil and color pencils/crayons

- I. Play theme song
- II. Pray
- III. Review last lesson
- IV. Lesson and Discussion

✓ Words written in **bold** are when the leader is speaking. Feel free to use your own words.

A. **ACTIVITY: We are going to use our hand to make a Thanksgiving turkey.** Show them the example to the right. Trace each person's hand and complete the turkey with feet, beak, wing, etc.

BEFORE YOU COLOR THE TURKEY. Let's think of four things we are thankful for this year and write one on each finger. Lightly color your turkey so that you can still read what is written.



After everyone is done coloring the turkey, invite a volunteer to read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. **In this letter, Paul teaches us to be thankful in all circumstances. This means good times and challenging times. Did anyone write on their turkey a difficult time that they are thankful for?** Allow time for everyone to share what they wrote.

Let's flip the turkey over and on the other side of the fingers, let's write four things that happened this year that were hard or challenging. Examples: Loss of a loved one. Loss of a job. Sickness. Trouble in school. Leader: Share a story of a hard time in the life of your family, which after a time, turned out to be a blessing. **Sometimes challenges turn out to be blessings. Let's pray and thank God for both the good times and hard times and trust him to turn both into blessings.** Pray.

Display the turkeys during the Thanksgiving holiday. Save them for next year at Thanksgiving and see if we can recognize how God used these bad times for His good purposes.

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V. Memorize

**Thank God for the year we had,
All times, good and bad.**

VI. Pass It On. Make an extra copy of this lesson and *pass it on* to another family.