

## Dear Families,

Welcome to the **THANKFUL** box! We have prepared this with the hope that it will help your family learn more about God and the stories of the Bible - but also to grow in thankfulness to God. You will have all the supplies you need to do lessons for five weeks. (Be on the lookout for the **TIDINGS** box sign-up soon!)

We have included enough supplies for 3 children. You may have 3 early childhood kiddos in your family, if not, please share with a friend or neighbor! We have purposely made the box plain white so that your family can decorate it. Please go crazy with colors, markers, stickers and be sure to post a picture on social media so that we can enjoy! Tag us on Instagram *@fellowshipprogers.family* with *#ecthankfulbox* so we can see your memory verses, songs and art!

You can also find copies of all the content by accessing the QR code on the lesson plans with your phone or go to the website at <https://www.fellowshipnwa.org/page/951?Item=852>.

Let us walk you through the box contents and give you some ideas for how to bring the stories to life!

There is a lesson overview for every story. It lists three sections: Bible Activities, Worship Together, and Family Fun Activities. You don't need to do all of this on a Sunday. You can stretch this out over a few days each week!

The **Bible Activities** section refers to the following:

1. Bible Story **Video** - you will find one for every lesson on the family resources web page.
2. Puppet Show **Video** - the Bible story told by one of our Preschool Place puppets.
3. Craft Page - each story has a craft. You will find the supplies needed to go with each one. Enjoy! We would love to see your work!
4. Coloring Page - we have included coloring pages that go with each story. On the back you will also find the story.
5. Read the Bible Story together - You may read the story from the lesson plan or in "*The Preschooler's Bible*." This version is a retelling that will be easy for your youngest kids to understand. You can get this Bible online. We recommend having one handy while you have little ones at home.

The first week we have a special story for you! It is the book, "*The Pumpkin Gospel*". We hope you will enjoy the story and use this as a great tool to discuss the good news with your children.

You can also play the **video** of one of the Early Childhood team members reading the story. Over the course of the week, you might also play the puppet show **video** of the story. Children learn through repetition, so this is a great chance for them to hear the story again and again during the week.

6. Be sure to share the Bible story with a friend! If you can't be together in person, share with your family or friends over Zoom.
7. Table Talk Questions - These are some general questions to use again and again. Take a little time at the dinner table to give everyone a chance to answer these questions. Remember that your children are still young. Table Talk may last 2 or 3 minutes but it's still a "win."

The **Worship Together** section has three parts:

1. Song - There are two songs related to this box. You can find the two worship **videos** on the family resources web page. Enjoy! They are fun songs that will get you moving.
2. Memory Verse - Our memory verse for this box is **Psalm 118:1** - "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever." We have included a refrigerator magnet to help you keep this verse in a prominent place. When doing scripture memory repetition is the key! You can find a **video** of the Bible verse with sign language on the family resources web page. We have also included the signs in your box. Please post your videos and tag us on Instagram at *@fellowshiprogers.family* with *#ecthankfulbox*. We would LOVE to see you and your kiddos memorizing God's Word!

\*TIPS - We suggest breaking the verse down into bite size pieces to memorize. Then add a new part each week or every few days.

Say the verse before each meal, before bed, when you wake up, when you get in the car, etc.

Repeating the verse will help you to memorize it. Talk about what it means to be thankful to God.

Then give thanks in everything! We want our children to not just memorize but also internalize the Scripture.

3. Pray together - Pray with your child. You get the opportunity to show them how to talk with God. Keep it short (they have short little attention spans), use words they can understand, and remember to ask God to help you trust in Him.

The **Family Fun Activities** section has two suggested activities for each lesson. These are meant to give you a little extra fun in helping thankfulness become a regular part of our lives! Also, we added some candy corn to your box as a special treat!

One activity you may follow throughout the month is a thankful tree. We have included some leaves for your tree, but feel free to add your own. Write out something each day that you are thankful for and then attach the leaf to the tree. This will be a reminder to give thanks!

We have included a "Pumpkin Prayer" to pray as a family while you carve a pumpkin. Take a prayer walk, make your own music video with the song video we have on the family resources webpage. Sing your thankful song to a neighbor or friend! There are lots of ways to show thankfulness. Get creative!

We have also added the recipe for a Blessing Mix. It is a fun mix of fall goodies along with the meaning for each ingredient. Make some extra and attach the included Blessing Mix tag to give to friends or neighbors.

These activities are just fun ways to celebrate God's goodness and give thanks!

Please post your pictures on social media and tag us! We love to see how you are doing!

Contact us at [ecrogers@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:ecrogers@fellowshipnwa.org) if you have questions. We would also love to be praying for you and your family.

We love you,

***Fellowship Rogers Early Childhood Team***