PARENT GUIDE Preteen

Shout Out: Let 'em Know You're Thankful

Use this guide to help your family learn how God wants us to be grateful.

First, watch this week's video!

Gratitude: Letting others know you see how they've helped you

Memory Verse

Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good. His faithful love continues forever. Psalm 136:1, NIrV

Bible Story

Jesus Heals 10 Men Luke 17:11-19

Key Question

Why do people forget to say thank you?

Activity

No Thumbs

WHAT YOU NEED:

Items such as paper, pen, coin, paper clip, etc., and a timer (optional)

WHAT YOU DO:

Place all the items on a flat, hard surface, like a tile floor or a table. Tell your child to try to pick up the items without using their thumbs. They can only use their other fingers and/ or their flat palms (to "scoop" items). To add a little pressure, you could time how long it takes for them to pick up each item, seeing which item requires the most effort.

Say, "It's not easy picking up things without your thumbs, is it? Imagine not being able to use your hands at all. The men in our story had a disease that caused lots of painful problems like that. That's why it was so amazing that Jesus healed them!"

Talk About the Bible Story

What happened to the men in the story? (They were sick and Jesus healed them.)

Why do you think nine of the 10 men didn't say thank you?

Why should we say thank you often?

What kinds of things make you want to say thank you?

What if you didn't say thank you for something, but you're pretty sure the other person knows you're grateful? Is it okay to just skip the actual "thank you" part and move on? Why or why not?

Who do you need to thank today? How will you do it?

As a family, think of someone you can say thank you to. Give them a call, send a text, or write them a card and drop it in the mail.

Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"Dear God, remind us this week to say thank you to those who help us, love us, and do kind things for us. Please give us grateful hearts so that we're quick to thank the people You've put in our lives. Help us show our love for You, and for others, with words and actions that say thank you. In Jesus' name. Amen."