

Give Thanks to the Lord



Give Thanks to the Lord Unit Study

Book by Karma Wilson

Unit study prepared by Melissa Crabtree

Bible

Scripture Memory

This story is based on Psalm 92:1. Memorize this verse as a family this Thanksgiving! Psalm 100 is also about thanking the Lord and praising Him. This is a bit longer (5 verses) and would be easy to commit to memory as well. (Print the phrases of Psalm 92:1 or verses of Psalm 100:1-5 on separate sheets of paper and put them in order to enjoy learning them and use for review later.)

A Joyful Heart

Ask your child to look at the faces of each of the people in the book. Based on the illustrations only, how are these people feeling? Talk about Proverbs 17:22, “A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones.” It is clear from the illustrations that these people have happy hearts! Be sure to explain, however, that joy and happiness are different things. *Happiness* is caused and affected by circumstances. *Joy* remains no matter if we are “getting our way” or not. It is a remaining contentment that God is good no matter what. If we are thankful for all the wonderful things the Lord has given us, we will have a *joyful* heart, not just a *happy* one. Talk about a grumbling, complaining heart and how it can make our life miserable (and that of everyone around us!). Ask your child through the week if their behavior is coming from a joyful heart or a grumbling one. The family in the book has happy smiles on their faces, but from the words of the book, we know they are joyful as well.

Thankfulness

This story mentions several things this family is thankful for at Thanksgiving. The Bible says in James 1:17 that “Every good and perfect thing is a gift from above...” Be sure to talk about and praise the Gift Giver for the wonderful gifts He gives us *every day*!

Make a list of the things you are thankful for. Start this list early and continue it through the week or through this entire Thanksgiving season. We have done a “Thankful Tree” in the past and had all family members participate, even those not schooling.

Doxology

It would be great to learn the Doxology as well! Learn it and sing it as a family as your Thanksgiving prayer or have your children sing it for grandparents.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Language Arts

Vocabulary

(To challenge your older child, have them look the words up in the dictionary.)

autumn - the season of year between summer and winter (Ask your child: What do we often call this instead?)

gusty - a kind of weather that has strong and sudden rushes of wind

tempting – attractive, appealing

grateful – thankful, expressing gratitude

savor – to taste or smell with pleasure

Making a List

Make a list with your child of all the foods he sees in the illustrations. (How many of these foods will you have this Thanksgiving?)

Handwriting

Use Psalm 92:1 or Psalm 100:1-5 for copy work. Consider sending this written verse to a grandparent to enjoy and share in the praise!

Creative Writing

Have your child write (or dictate/copy) a note telling someone how thankful she is for them. Or have her call someone to share this.

Poetry

Write an acrostic poem based on the words I'M THANKFUL. Fill in each line with something for which your child is thankful. (Include all the family if you need to!)

Writing

Create invitations with your child for anyone you're inviting to your Thanksgiving table this year.

Social Studies

Family Relationships

Discuss with your child with whom you will be spending your holidays this season. Make a family tree with your child if you would like to develop this further.

The World Around Us

This book presents a great opportunity to explain to your child how privileged we are. Many children around the world do not have *anything* to eat today, or maybe rice or broth only. Some children in America will have only soup or bread today. Not to mention turkey, apple cider, pumpkin pie, pumpkin bread, olives, carrots, buttered rolls, mashed potatoes and gravy! What a great time to get food to donate to a food pantry, or better yet, personally deliver it with your child to someone in need.

The First Thanksgiving

Study the root of the Thanksgiving holiday in America. Be sure to point out that the Pilgrims were having a feast to thank God for all the gifts He had given them in their new land. Read several non-fiction books about the first Thanksgiving to teach this. *The Thanksgiving Story* by Alice Dalgliesh is a well written account of the first Thanksgiving.

Public Speaking

Have your child recite memorized scripture for Grandparents. (Praise your child for speaking well in public, but be sure she knows it pleases Jesus when we share His scripture with others, not just Mommy & Daddy.)

Science

Health: Appropriate Clothing

Look at the clothing the children are wearing in the pictures. Does that mean it is warm or cold for their Thanksgiving day? Discuss appropriate clothing for fall.

The Four Seasons

Briefly review the four seasons and their order: winter, spring, summer, fall.

“What season is it in this story? How do we know? What other things do we notice about fall at our house?” (Temperature, wind, rain?) Take a walk and take time to notice the signs of fall where you live, even if the leaves are gone. Stop and draw a picture of something your child notices.

Our Five Senses

Discuss the five senses God has given us. Hearing, sight, touch, taste, and smell.

“What are the children seeing?”

“What are the children hearing?”

“What are the children touching?”

“What are the children smelling?”

“What are the children tasting?”

You could chart the answers on the senses printable (with words or drawing pictures) and write or draw them if you would like to develop this further.

My Five Senses by Aliko is great to read with this lesson.

Identifying Trees

The tree where the children are playing is a white oak tree. Find a picture of these leaves online and see if there is one of these in your yard or another yard you frequent.

Labeling Trees

Collect leaves from your yard or street and notice the color, shape and sizes of them. Dry the leaves (in a phone book for several days) and glue them on paper. Label the correct tree name next to each leaf. Don't forget about these names. Use the correct tree name as you see them with your child over the next weeks and commit the tree names to memory.

The Digestive System

The boy and his grandpa mention having very full stomachs after dessert. Point out the location of your child's stomach. Have your child look at/feel his stomach before a meal and then after. What is the difference?

For your older child, discuss the entire digestive tract and the role it plays in our body.

What happens to a Hamburger by Paul Showers is a "Let's Read and Find Out Science" book that explains the digestive system.

Dog Breeds: Yellow Labs

In this book is a very loyal Labrador Retriever that is obviously very in love with this little boy! Labradors, or "labs" for short, are very even-tempered, loyal dogs. They are the most popular breed of dog (by registered ownership). The lab in this book is a Yellow Lab. Do you know anyone who has a yellow lab you could visit?

Math

Counting

the rolls, the leaves in the air, the olives on the boy's fingers, how many fingers we have

Making a Chart

1) Use the prepared chart to note how many boys, girls, men, and women, and dogs your child sees in the illustrations through the whole book. To make it fun and tasty, use the pumpkin shaped candies and put down the pencil!

2) For your older child, add together boys + girls and men + women to make “children” and “adult” categories as well.

3) Count your chart totals and write them using tally marks. Be sure to point out that every fifth line crosses the previous four, making it easy to count by fives.

Fractions

Bake! Choose something your family enjoys and bake it this week! (You could choose rolls, pumpkin pie, apple cider, or pumpkin bread if you’d like to choose something from the story.)

Art

Details

The illustrator has made it clear that the temperature is cold and the food/drink is fragrant. Notice the lines drawn above the pie, rolls, and apple cider? Point out that the same lines could mean the food is producing steam or is particularly fragrant. Which do you think is represented in each instance? Have your child draw a simple picture of something that smells good or is producing steam in order to practice this skill.

Mixed Media






These illustrations were painted with watercolors after the main picture was drawn. Have your child observe the pictures, noticing the pencil lines and the paint over them. Have your child draw a picture (with pencil) of something they are thankful for. Then paint it with watercolors.

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What do they...

 <p>Touch</p>	 <p>See</p>	 <p>Smell</p>	 <p>Hear</p>	 <p>Taste</p>



How many?

	Tally Marks	Total
Boys		
Girls		
Men		
Women		
Dogs 		
Boys + Girls	<u> </u> + <u> </u> = <u> </u>	
Men + Women	<u> </u> + <u> </u> = <u> </u>	

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow!

Praise Him, all creatures here below!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host!

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

Proverbs 17:22

"A joyful heart is good
medicine, but a broken
spirit dries up the bones."

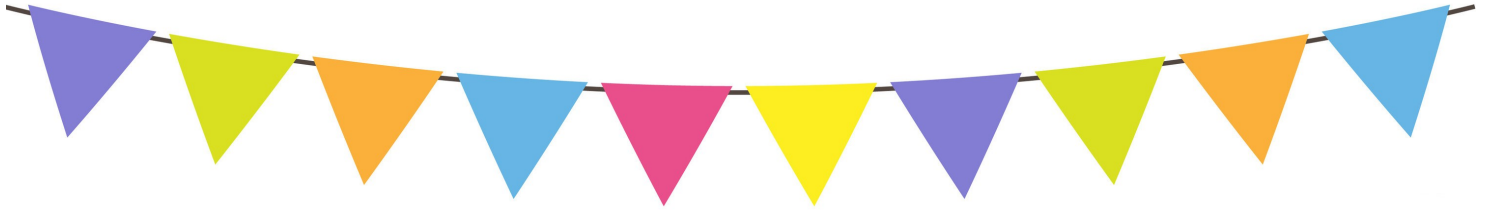


Proverbs 17:22

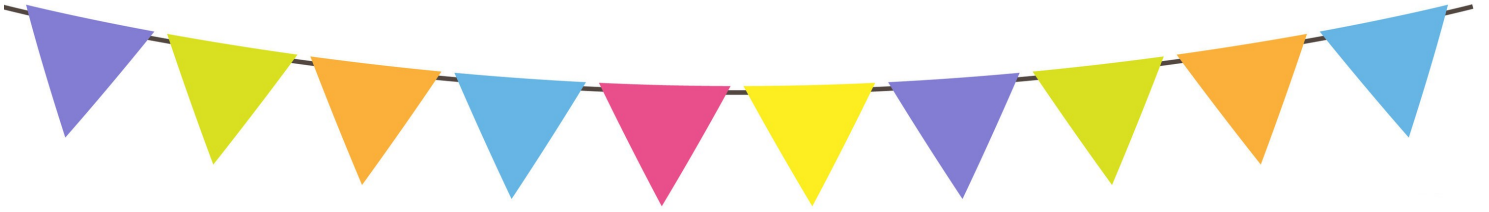
"A joyful heart is good
medicine, but a broken
spirit dries up the bones."



I Am Thank-ful!

[illegible]

I Am Thankful!



Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dotted midline. There are ten sets of these lines for writing practice.