

Topic: Proper Humanity – Thankful

Note: The practical applications provided in the lesson are offered as suggestions to help the saints in their preparation. They are not meant to direct or limit the ways in which the focus of the lesson can be applied. The saints are encouraged to pray and contact the Lord to receive His burden and guidance in teaching and applying the lesson. Fellowship with other saints, and inquiring of the children themselves, may also bring out many helpful applications.

Elementary:

Verse: “In everything give thanks” (1 Thessalonians 5:18a).

Focus: We should be thankful to the Lord for the things He gives us.

Practical Application: When someone gives us a gift, it is normal and proper to say, “Thank you.” In like manner, the Lord has given us so much (food, sunshine, air, water, toys, a home, etc.). Let the children see how blessed they are to have things in abundance. Ask them remember to thank the Lord for something specific every day this week.

Intermediate:

Verse: “I thank my God always concerning you...” (1 Corinthians 1:4a).

Focus: We should be thankful to the Lord for the people He has placed around us.

Practical Application: Have the children list all the people that the Lord has placed around them (e.g.: parents, siblings, friends, teachers, neighbors, saints, etc.). It is very easy for us to take them for granted. Let the children see how blessed they are to have many people who love them. Ask the children to remember to thank the Lord every day this week for people that the Lord has placed around them.

Advanced:

Verse: “Giving thanks at all times for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to our God and Father” (Ephesians 5:20).

Focus: We should be thankful to the Lord not only in good times but at all times, and not only for good things but for all things.

Practical Application: We may not always get what we want (e.g. the best toy, the best grade in school, the best score or team in sports, etc.), but we still need to learn to be thankful to the Lord for the good and bad things, for the good times and the bad times. There was once a man who was in a car accident. Because of this, he lost his legs and had to be in a wheelchair for the rest of his life. People thought he would be complaining but instead, he was thankful to the Lord that He kept and preserved his life.