



Thanksgiving



Aims: Participants will have the opportunity to celebrate thanksgiving and consider things we are thankful for this year.

Outcomes: Participants will be more able to see how an attitude of thankfulness can help improve our lives.



Icebreaker:
Eat pumpkin pie and serve drinks. .

Unlocking life experience:

Talk about today being Thanksgiving in America and what that means.

- ◆ How often do you say thank you?
- ◆ Have people ever not thanked you when you thought they should?
- ◆ Have you ever received a thank you gift?
- ◆ Have you ever given a thank you gift?
- ◆ What have you to be thankful for this year?
- ◆ Draw/write on a frieze.



We had a really good conversation and didn't do the frieze bit as the conversations had naturally gone onto

being upset when you have not been thanked without my prompting; which led nicely to the Bible story.



Revealing Good News of the Down to Earth Christ:

Tell the story using the text below illustrated by the power point presentation here

https://www.sermons4kids.com/powerpoint_presentations.htm

(Be careful to select the English version—not the Spanish one!)

Luke 17:11-19 Good News Translation (GNT) Jesus Heals Ten Men

¹¹ As Jesus made his way to Jerusalem, he went along the border between Samaria and Galilee.

¹² He was going into a village when he was met by ten men suffering from a dreaded skin disease. They stood at a distance ¹³ and shouted, “Jesus! Master! Have pity on us!”

¹⁴ Jesus saw them and said to them, “Go and let the priests examine you.”

On the way they were made clean. ¹⁵ When one of them saw that he was healed, he came back, praising God in a loud voice. ¹⁶ He threw himself to the ground at Jesus' feet and thanked him.

The man was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Jesus spoke up, “There were ten who were healed; where are the other nine? ¹⁸ Why is this foreigner the only one who came back to give thanks to God?” ¹⁹ And Jesus said to him, “Get up and go; your faith has made you well.”



Releasing Life Changing Skills and Confidence:

Questions for discussion:

- ◆ Are there any similarities between our stories and the Bible story?
- ◆ How many said thank you?
- ◆ What did Jesus think or do?
- ◆ What would you have done if you were one of the 10?



We did the frieze activity planned for earlier at this point and it was really good to do because everyone present had experienced a difficult year for various reasons – sudden death of one lady's husband, child setting fire to one lady's house, father suffered a heart attack, a partner recently sent to prison... However, everyone thought of something to be thankful for.



Continuing Reflective Cycles:

Activity: many colouring pages are available to download and print. In advance, search—'Give Thanks to the Lord colouring sheet' and choose some that you like and print. Provide colouring pens and pencils and allow people to continue their discussions as they colour them in.



Questions for discussion:

- ◆ How would having an attitude of thankfulness help improve our lives?
- ◆ Christmas – could an attitude of thankfulness help your Christmas? How will you show it?
- ◆ Would you consider sending a thank you card or gift to someone you wouldn't normally remember to thank?

During the colouring we shared celebration Chocolates—which went down really well!



Outline Developed by Alison Adlum: Unlock Burnley

