



Thanksgiving

Attitude of Gratitude

A CSBC Faith@Home Resource

Best Use

As a Thanksgiving Family Night activity

Nutritional Value

Learning to develop an attitude of gratitude

Advance Preparation

Make sure you have the following on hand:

- A glass of water
 - Paper and crayons or markers
 - Index cards
 - A Bible
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Serve It Up

Follow these steps for a great experience...

1. Fill a glass of water half-way and place it on the table in front of the children.
2. Give each child an index card with the phrase “The glass is half _____” written on it and ask them to complete the phrase.
3. Once they’ve completed the phrase, identify who wrote “full” and who wrote “empty” in the blank.
4. Now give each child a piece of drawing paper and crayons. Ask them to draw a large glass half full of water. Ask them to spell the name or draw pictures of good things they already have (toys, books, family, food, clothes, etc.) in the portion of the picture WITH water.
5. In the space WITHOUT water, have them write or draw things they would like to have such as more money, a new toy, a vacation to a favorite destination, a special kind of cereal, or of whatever else they might like.
6. Read [1 Timothy 6:6-9](#) and [Philippians 4:11-12](#) and discuss why it is important that we “learn” to be content no matter what we do or don’t have. Then read [Ephesians 5:20](#) and explain that the practice of expressing thanks is one way we make our life “half full” instead of “half empty” because it helps us focus on the blessings God has given rather than complain about the things we don’t have.
7. Finish by giving the children a stack of index cards and having them do a “Thanksgiving scavenger hunt” by running all over the house and identifying as many things as they can for which they are thankful in 10 minutes (or as long as you like). Let them write a word or draw a picture to represent each blessing.
8. Gather back together and have the children pray a brief prayer of thanks for each card.
9. Memorize the jingle – “I’ll be content with what God sent!”

MEMORY PANTRY: Attach a picture and jot down what happened to remember later or to share a memory with others . . .
