

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

"REJOICE ALWAYS, PRAY WITHOUT CEASING, GIVE THANKS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES; FOR THIS IS GOD'S WILL FOR YOU IN CHRIST JESUS." 1 Thessalonians 5.16-18

UPON WAKING:

Oh God, I thank you for the gift of this new day and for the new mercies you have for me in it. Help me to notice you more fully today. Awaken my senses to you and to the abundant blessings that I am not in the habit of noticing or appreciating. All day long I want to offer my praise and thanks to you for the good gifts you delight in giving me. Amen.

BEFORE YOUR THANKSGIVING MEAL:

TABLE FOR ONE

O Gracious God, I humbly thank you for your overflowing generosity to me. Thank you for your tender love and the gift of life. Thank you for the abundant grace and mercy that you continuously pour out upon me. Thank you for your provision and for the people you have given me to journey through life with. Even if we're unable to be together today, I thank you for the beautiful memories I hold in my heart of our time shared together. Thank you for the gifts of your comfort and presence, for being with me through all the joys and sorrows of this world. Be present at my table today. Open my heart to you and to a spirit of Thanksgiving, not only on this day, but every day of my life. Bless the food I am about to enjoy and the hands that have prepared it. May it nourish me in both body and spirit and strengthen me to be a light and witness to your love. I pray these things in the name of Jesus, for whom I give great thanks, Amen.

TABLE FOR MORE THAN ONE

O Gracious God, we humbly thank you for your overflowing generosity to us. Thank you for your tender love and the gift of life. Thank you for the abundant grace and mercy that you continuously pour out upon us. Thank you for your provision and for the people you have given us to journey through life with. Even if we're unable to be together today, we thank you for the beautiful memories we hold in our hearts of our time shared together. Thank you for the gifts of your comfort and presence, for being with us through all the joys and sorrows of this world. Be present at our table today. Open our hearts to you and to a spirit of Thanksgiving, not only on this day, but every day of our lives. Bless the food we are about to enjoy and the hands that have prepared it. May it nourish us in both body and spirit and strengthen us to be a light and witness to your love. We pray these things in the name of Jesus, for whom we give great thanks, Amen.

AT THE CLOSE OF DAY:

God, thank you for your faithfulness to me. Thank you for what I was given today, what I had yesterday, and the blessings you have for me tomorrow. May I never overlook or take for granted the good and perfect gifts that come from you. Help my soul to be still and find rest in you tonight, and rise tomorrow to live thankfully. To seek your face and your will. Shine through me so that each person I encounter feels your presence and love. Amen.



GRATITUDE SCAVENGER HUNT

CULTIVATE A HEART OF GRATITUDE AS YOU FIND OR THINK OF SOMETHING YOU ARE GRATEFUL FOR USING EACH ITEM ON THE LIST. PERFECT FOR ALL AGES!

As you discover each item, pause and pray this breath prayer:

INHALE: GOD YOU ARE GOOD EXHALE: THANK YOU FOR THIS GIFT

SOMETHING IN NATURE	FILLS YOUR BELLY
TASTES GOOD	MAKES YOU FEEL SAFE
SMELLS AMAZING	MAKES A BEAUTIFUL SOUND
OLDER THAN YOU	MAKES YOU UNIQUE
O YOUNGER THAN YOU	MAKES YOUR FRIEND UNIQUE
MAKES YOU HAPPY	SHOWS YOUR FAVORITE COLOR
MAKES YOU LAUGH	REPRESENTS YOUR CULTURE
MAKES YOU CRY	REPRESENTS SOMEONE ELSE'S CULTURE
MAKES YOU FEEL LOVED	O SOMETHING TO SHARE WITH OTHERS
MAKES YOU STRONG	O YOU HAVE HAD TO PERSEVERE THROUGH
MAKES YOU HUMBLE	O YOU RECENTLY DISCOVERED OR LEARNED
○ KEEPS YOU WARM	

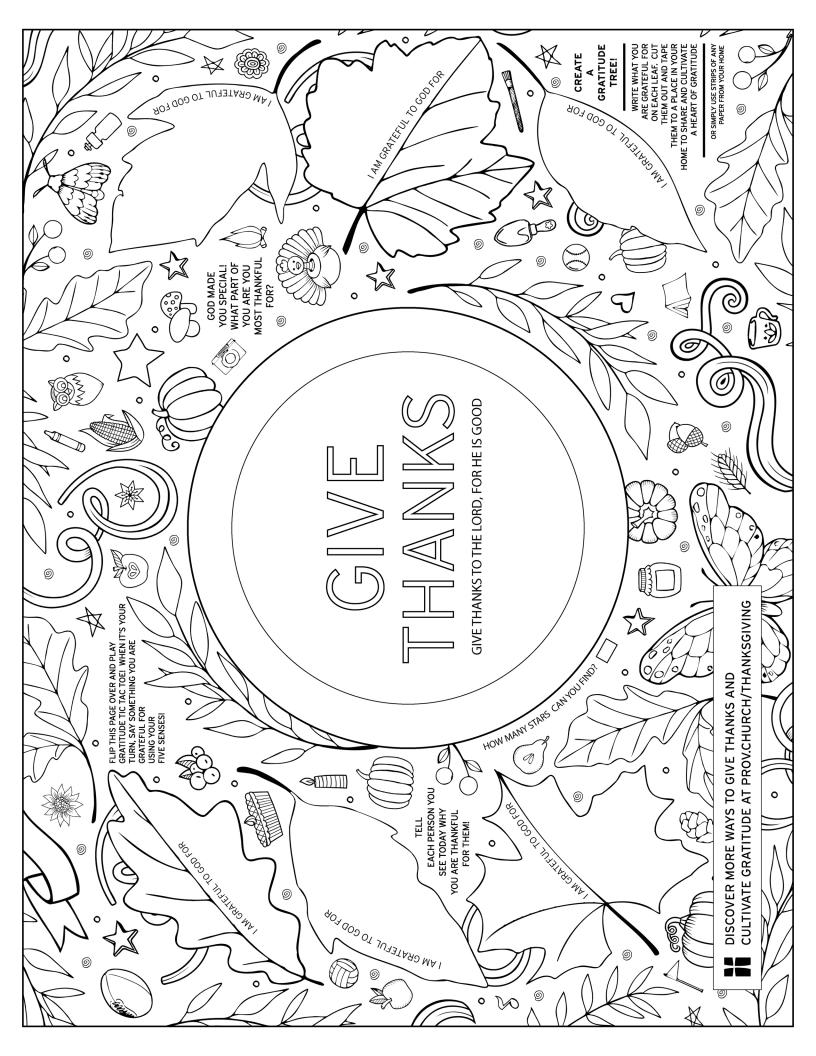


OUTREACH SUGGESTIONS

WE BELIEVE LIVING GRATEFULLY OPENS OUR HEARTS TO A LIFE OF GENEROSITY AND SERVICE TO OTHERS. PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING WAYS.

TAKE A WALK AROUND YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD. AS YOU PASS EACH HOUSE, PAUSE AND SAY A WORD OF BLESSING OVER EACH ONE.
BAKE COOKIES OR OTHER HOLIDAY TREATS AND PLACE THEM ON EACH PERSON'S DOORSTEP, LETTING THEM KNOW THEY HAVE BEEN PRAYED FOR.
CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRY. PURCHASE AND DELIVER A BAG OF NEEDED GROCERY ITEMS.
CONNECT WITH YOUR LOCAL SHELTER FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS. DELIVER COFFEE AND/OR TREATS FOR THE EMPLOYEES SERVING THERE ON THANKSGIVING.
LOCATE YOUR LOCAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND ASK THE PRINCIPAL IF THERE ARE ANY FAMILIES IN NEED OF A THANKSGIVING MEAL. PUT TOGETHER A FOOD BOX WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS: A TURKEY, BOXED STUFFING, AN ONION, CELERY, CARROTS,

POTATOES, BUTTER, MAC-N-CHEESE, DESSERT, ETC.





CONVERSATION & JOURNAL PROMPTS

PRINT AND PLACE THESE CARDS AROUND YOUR HOME OR TABLE TO INSPIRE CONVERSATION AND HELP NOURISH BOTH BODY AND SPIRIT. OR SIMPLY USE THEM AS JOURNALING PROMPTS AS YOU SPEND QUIET TIME WITH GOD.



Where has God surprised you with His goodness this year?



Where do you spend most of your free time/day?



How do you want to be remembered?



What is your proudest moment from the last 12 months?



Share a story of how someone pointed you to Jesus or made you feel loved this year.



What is ahead of you in the coming months that you are grateful for and excited about?



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Share a memory that brings joy to your heart.



Who has made a positive impact on your life?



What is one item you treasure? Share why.



What song always makes you dance?

(ON THE INSIDE OR OUTSIDE)



Where does your soul feel most at peace?



How has God been faithful in your life?



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What movie or show have you most enjoyed watching this year?
Share why.



If you had to change your name, what would your new name be?

Share why.



If you could learn the answer to one question about your future, what would the question be?



Where has fear been holding you back? What truth do you sense God speaking into that fear?



Share 3 things you love about yourself.



What's one thing you were really into as a kid?