



March 29 Family Lesson

Bible Story: David's Prayer (Psalm 86:1-17)

Today's Takeaway: I need God no matter what!

Series Verse: "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance."
(James 1:2-3 NIV)

Weekly Verse: "God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs." (Matthew 5:3 NLT)

Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean to be blessed?
(You have a personal relationship with Jesus, so you are forgiven of your sins and have God's divine favor and protection over you. You have hope no matter what happens because God will always be with you, and one day you will live with Him forever where no more bad or sad things will impact you.)
2. Are you blessed only when things are going awesome for you?
(No, we are blessed all the time because we serve a God who is awesome all the time.)
3. Is it easy to remember that you are blessed and thankful when things are going well for you in your life? Why or why not?
4. Help kids find these verses and discuss them - Hebrews 13:6, 2 Corinthians 12:9, Psalm 9:10

Activity Ideas:

1. Thanks and Needs Scattergories Game

What You Need:

- 1 Timer (could use your phone)
- A piece of paper and writing utensil for each player

What You Do:

- Draw two columns on your paper.
- Title one column "Thanks" and the other "Needs"
- Have any player call out a letter, set a timer for 1 minute, and say "go."
- Everyone should then write down anything they can think of to be thankful for or that might be a need a person would have (in their respective columns) that starts with the letter that was called out.

- Everyone should keep their answers secret.
- Once the time is up, each player should share their answers.
(If more than one player has a particular answer, it should be crossed off. If any player has an answer that the majority does not agree fits, it should be marked off. Finally, each player should award themselves a point for any answers that are not crossed off.)
- Then start another round by having another player call out another letter, set a timer of 1 minute, and say “go.”
- Play as many rounds as you want.
- Once you finish playing, **pray together as a family**...feel free to use some of the things you guys wrote down during the game in your prayers.

For smaller kids, play this without writing. Just focus on Thanks or Needs for each round not both. Call out a letter, and have one person say something they are thankful to God for. Then the next person would have 5 seconds to say something different they they are thankful for that also starts with that same letter. Continue around your circle of players. When someone cannot come up with something within the five seconds allotted for their turn, they are out. Play until only one person is left in the round.

2. Thanks and Needs Paper Ball Wars

What You Need:

- 20 pieces of paper or rip 5 pieces of paper in fourths to make 20 smaller pieces of paper– look for already used paper like old school assignments or pages from a magazine
- Tape or something to mark off each team’s area – could be a table or couch, etc.

What You Do:

- Write “T” on 10 of the papers and “N” on the other 10.
- Then wad them up to make 20 paper balls.
- Split your family into two teams. (You can play this one on one, as well).
- Find a place in your house or outside (a trampoline with a net would be a great place to play this) where you can mark off an area for one team and another area for the other - there needs to be a line (or a couch or table or hose, etc.) between each team’s area.
- Put all 20 paper balls on that line, and have each team in their own area.
- Set a timer for about a minute, and then have someone say, “go.”
- Both teams should race to grab the paper balls and throw them into the other team’s area and keep throwing any balls that land in their area back across to the other team’s area. (They can hit the other team members if they want, but that is not necessary ☺).
- At the end of the minute, count the paper balls on each side. Whichever team has the LEAST wins!
- Then before setting up to start another round, have each team open all the paper balls that were on their side.
- Have each team take turns saying something they are thankful to God for for each of the “T” balls that were on their side, as well as expressing a need to God for each of the “N” balls that were on their side.
- If you want play another round, wad the paper balls back up, and repeat.
- Once you finish playing, **pray together as a family**...feel free to use some of the things you mentioned during the game in your prayers.