



## Teaching Outline

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**The One** Jesus Heals 10 Men  
Luke 17:11-19

### WEEK 3

Key Question: **What helps you remember to be grateful?**

It's important for us to identify the reasons behind what we do. We hope to help our preteens think about the reasons why gratitude is important. As they discover these reasons, we pray they develop a strategy for remembering to say thank you when people help them.

In week three, we head to **Luke 17:11-19** and discover a significant moment when 10 men with a serious skin condition asked Jesus to heal them. As their skin cleared up, the men were so thrilled about the miracle that most of them ran off and never returned to thank Jesus. Only one man, a Samaritan, turned around and showed his gratitude. Jesus made a point to commend this man's faith.

Bottom Line: **Take time to say thank you.** This is a simple idea, but it's often so hard to put into practice. People offer their help with kindness and love, yet we often take those people for granted. We pray that through this moment in Jesus' life, kids will understand the importance of remembering to show gratitude when others are kind to them.

### HEADS UP: IDEAS TO KEEP IN MIND AS YOU TALK ABOUT GRATITUDE WITH KIDS

On the surface, gratitude might be one of those topics that everyone can relate to. We all have something to be thankful for. However, there are some things to keep in mind when it comes to how kids think and process these sorts of topics. Remember, kids think like scientists. They are concrete thinkers who start from the most literal interpretation of what they hear people say. When we use a phrase like, "We can be thankful for God's blessings," and kids don't come from a family with many monetary blessings or have recently lost a loved one or pet, they might start to feel like God isn't blessing them. Kids are also starting to compare and contrast. When we go around the circle and kids start naming things they're grateful for—good grades, video games, big vacations, etc.—kids who don't have those things might feel bad about themselves and what they have. Steer the conversation to include more general reasons for gratitude that can be inclusive for everyone: friends, church, needs that are met, and people who love us. Of course, be sure to tie all of it back to being thankful to God for the free gift of salvation through Jesus.

### BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way  
want to be treated.

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Take time to say thank you.

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Give thanks to the Lord,  
because he is good. His faithful  
love continues forever."  
Psalm 136:1, NIV

### TEACHING GUIDE:

KEYSCRIPTURE: Luke 17:11-19

This message should be 15-18 min. More time for small group is key. Remember the lead small model.

### SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

"What helps you remember to be grateful? How can you be sure that you are like the one who returned to show your thanks? Maybe you've never thought about that question before and you're not sure how to answer it. That's okay, too. You'll get a chance to talk all about this with your Small Group and come up with some great ideas. But before you head out, let's pray for God's help to make us the kind of people who regularly return and say thanks! Let's pray!"

### LANDING COMMUNICATOR:

What helps you remember  
to be grateful?

### TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What helps you remember  
to be grateful?

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**The One**  
Jesus Heals 10 Men  
Luke 17:11-19

## TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What helps you remember  
to be grateful?

## TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Take time to say thank you.

## MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**"Give thanks to the Lord,  
because he is good. His faithful  
love continues forever."**  
Psalm 136:1, NirV

## MONTHLY VIRTUE

**Gratitude—Letting others  
know you see how they've  
helped you**

## BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way  
want to be treated.

## LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

**AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS STUDENTS ENTER.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**

Host enters . . .

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME**

## WELCOME

Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening, a viral video on YouTube, etc. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.

## OPENER

**HOST:** "What is going on, everyone? We are back again for another great week of Shout-Outs! And speaking of shout-outs, I need to give one to those of you who've already brought in some canned foods for [Name of Local Organization]! Remember, all month long, we're collecting non-perishable cans of food that will be donated to [Name of local organization] that helps people in our community. We want to fill this whole stage with food that can help others! Be sure to bring some cans next week!

"Back to this morning. Let's start with a little activity I like to call, the 'Shout Out Circle of Thanks!'

**SLIDE: "SHOUT OUT CIRCLE OF THANKS"**

"Now, you might be wondering, 'What is a Shout Out Circle of Thanks?' I'm so glad you asked!

"In just a moment, you'll form a circle with your Small Group. The person whose birthday is closest to today will start. You'll turn to the person on your left and say something you are thankful for. They will then turn to the person on their left and say something they are thankful for. They will then turn to the



<b>PRELUDE</b>	<b>SOCIAL</b>	<b>STORY</b>	<b>WORSHIP</b>	<b>GROUPS</b>	<b>HOME</b>
----------------	---------------	--------------	----------------	---------------	-------------

25 MINUTES      10 MINUTES

person . . . you get the picture. Sounds easy, right? Well . . . there's a catch. First, you can't repeat something someone else said. Next, you can't pause to think for more than a beat. And lastly, you can't say 'Umm.' If you do any of these off-limit items, you have to sit down in place right where you're standing. We'll see who is left in your group at the end as the most thankful. Got it? Alright, let's show some gratitude!

**AUDIO: FUN BACKGROUND MUSIC**

*Make sure everyone has a circle to join. If the circles are too big, the game can take a long time.*

*(After the game) "Wow! That was awesome! You sure have a lot of gratitude to share! Now let's bring that energy and spirit with us and stand and show gratitude to God as we sing together!"*



WEEK  
**THREE**  
NOVEMBER 2023

LARGE GROUP  
**PRETEEN**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

## WORSHIP

*Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.*

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Yes! I've waited all week for this moment. I'm so pumped to be here at *[name of your environment]* to praise God with all of you. We hear a lot about being thankful this time of year. But remember, gratitude can be an everyday thing. We can live each day by saying 'thank You' to our amazing God. Let's do that now! Sing this with me.

**AUDIO:** "THANK YOU GOD" / TRACK 1 FROM EVERYTHING TO ME

**OPTIONAL VIDEO:** "THANK YOU GOD" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"Oh, yeah—THAT is how you give thanks! So good! When we feel grateful, we don't have to keep it in. We should go ahead and say it. Let's keep thanking God now as we sing this next song. Here we go!

**AUDIO:** "(I WANT TO SAY) THANK YOU" / TRACK 7 FROM THIS LOVE

**OPTIONAL VIDEO:** "(I WANT TO SAY) THANK YOU" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"It just feels good to be thankful. I love it! Before we sing this next song, I want to share David's words from Psalm 139:4-6: 'Lord, even before I speak a word, you know all about it. You are all around me, behind me and in front of me. You hold me safe in your hand. I'm amazed at how well you know me. It's more than I can understand.' (NirV) God is always there for us. Wherever we go, God is with us. This song says, 'God, I run to You.' Let's sing it together."

**AUDIO:** "I RUN TO YOU" / TRACK 3 FROM MAKE A MOVE

**OPTIONAL VIDEO:** "I RUN TO YOU" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

## COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

*Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.*

### INTRODUCTION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Hey, friends! How's everyone this morning?!"

*Communicator takes out a stack of blank cards and a pen. This is a knock off of "Thank You Notes" from the Late Show.*

"So I usually don't use our time together to take care of some personal things . . . return some emails, write some thank you notes . . . but I am a little behind. Would you mind if I wrote some thank you notes right now?"

*Communicator sits at a table.*

"Can I get some thank you writing music?"

AUDIO: SOFT PIANO MUSIC

*AUDIO NOTE: Every time the Communicator puts the pen to the card, the music begins. It stops after the writing of the card.*

*For the thank you notes, you can create your own inside jokes using leaders, things that have happened in your church or environment. The ones that follow, however, are generic examples that can be used or modified.*

*(Pretending to write)* "THANK YOU, [Host's name], for always answering the question: 'I wonder if anyone would be crazy enough to try that?' Oh . . . and the answer is YES.

*(Pretending to write)* "THANK YOU, sound booth people, for having more power than anyone in the room . . . literally . . . and using it for good and not evil.

*Microphone turns off. Communicator yells "I spoke too soon!"*

*(Pretending to write)* "THANK YOU, [Worship leader's name], for resisting the urge to stage dive every week. We know you really want to!

*(Pretending to write)* "THANK YOU, Small Group Leaders . . . for basically learning to lead a small group and wrangle a herd of wild animals all at the same time."

*Communicator stands up.*

### TENSION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Well, that was good. Thanks for letting me do that. You know, people help us all the time, don't they? A parent might fix us dinner. A teacher can help us learn. Coaches give us a chance to grow our skills. Not to



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

mention all the people in our community who keep us safe or make sure we have what we need. Lots and lots and LOTS of people who on some level deserve our gratitude. But I have to ask. Do we HAVE to say thank you every time someone does something for us? Don't people assume that we're thankful for how they help us? Why is it important to tell people we're thankful?

"These are great questions. We might all have different opinions about how we'd answer them, so let's take a moment and think about this and see if we can find some good answers. Thankfully, we have a great place to start: the Bible. In the Bible we find all sorts of people who experienced God and knew Jesus. They learned something, and God inspired them to write it down so others can learn something too. Let's check out one of those moments now."

## TRUTH

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Today, we head to the gospels in the New Testament, specifically the gospel of Luke. The writers of the gospels tell the story of the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus. And Luke included some pretty important moments, including this one that actually has A LOT to do with being thankful."

"Throughout Jesus' ministry, He would often do a lot of teaching, and with that came a lot of travel. Jesus ministered a lot in Galilee . . .

**SLIDE: MAP OF NEW TESTAMENT ISRAEL SLIDE (GALILEE/SAMARIA/JUDEA)**

". . . but He traveled to Jerusalem in Judea regularly (*pointing to map*). Jerusalem was the place where people would come to worship God in the temple and celebrate the annual Jewish festivals like Passover. On the map, you can also see Bethlehem, which I'm guessing many of you recognize as the town where Jesus was born. Well, in our story today, Jesus was traveling from Galilee in the north to Jerusalem in the south.

"On the surface you might not think that matters too much, but actually it does. That's because in between these two locations was the region of Samaria. At the time, Jewish people and the people of Samaria, or Samaritans, did not get along very well. They had some differences as well as some history that caused them not to like each other very much. You might go as far as to say they were enemies.

"Now, I think to really tell this story, I need [*Host's name*] to help. And . . . it is time for another installment of (*pausing for dramatic effect*) Action Figure Theater!

*Host enters.*

"Did you hear, [*Host's name*]? It is time for . . . (*pause*) Action Figure Theater!"

**HOST:** "Oh! You mean . . . (*Pause*) Action Figure Theater?"

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Why yes . . . (*pause*) Action Figure Theater!"

**HOST:** "What's that?"

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Oh. Oh, okay. Well, it's when we tell the story using action figures to act it out."

**HOST:** "Sounds fun. I have some of my Star Wars action figures backstage. I'll go grab them!"



WEEK  
**THREE**  
NOVEMBER 2023

LARGE GROUP  
**PRETEEN**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Nah, that's okay. I actually have another idea. Because of the content of the story today, I thought you could play Jesus . . ."

**HOST:** "Naturally . . ."

**COMMUNICATOR:** "And instead of action figures, we could use these boxes of bandages . . . with googly eyes, of course."

*Communicator reveals ten bandage boxes with eyes.*

**HOST:** (A little hesitant) "So it's not really Action Figure Theater, it's more like . . . (pause) Googly-Eyes-on-a-Bandage-Box Theater!"

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Yes?"

**HOST:** "Cool! Let's do it."

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Okay, I also need a couple volunteers to help with our . . . 'people!'"

*Communicator chooses two volunteers, gives them instructions, and gets them in position behind the table. Host can help direct as well. There is a lot of improv.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "So as I was saying, Jesus would often travel from Galilee to Jerusalem. And sometimes that would require passing through or around Samaria. And during this particular trip, Jesus was about to have an important interaction. Let's check it out.

*Open the Bible to Luke 17:11-12b (NirV) and read.*

*"Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. He traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men met him."*

*Host (as Jesus) approaches the table with the bandage box people.*

"So, Jesus traveled (*Host reaches the table*) to the border between these two regions, and as He was heading into a village, He was greeted by ten men (*Pause for volunteers to react with the bandages*). BUT it is important to note that He was most likely greeted by these men before He got into the village . . . that's because these men were not allowed in the village . . . they were not welcome. They had been pushed outside. Why? Let's read a little further . . .

*Open the Bible to Luke 17:12 (NirV) and read.*

*"As he was going into a village, ten men met him. They had a skin disease. They were standing close by."*

"The ten men had a skin disease, possibly something like leprosy . . . and their laws demanded that they needed to stay outside of the community. In many cases it seems that they were even rejected by their family and friends. It was bad!"

**HOST:** "Well, yeah, look how hard and shiny their skin is! It's like metal/cardboard!"





PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Not quite like that . . ."

**HOST:** "Oh, I've got an idea!"

*Host flips the top of one of the cases and takes out a bandage, opens it and sticks it on the outside of a case. Host intends to repeat the process but is stopped by the Communicator.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Okay, first of all, a bandage will hardly do the trick. What they were facing was pretty rough. They might have even been hard to look at. They were probably in pain. And many times, they only had each other. On top of that, because this location was on the border of Galilee and Samaria, chances are this was a mix of Jewish and Samaritan people, which could have made for some tense moments knowing these two groups of people didn't always get along.

"Second, Jesus had something else in mind than a simple bandage. We know that Jesus had done many miracles before, and so the question was, what would He do now? Would He reject them or push them away like so many had probably done before? Let's find out.

*Open the Bible to Luke 17:13 (NirV) and read.*

*"And they called out in a loud voice, "Jesus! Master! Have pity on us!"*

*Communicator encourages volunteers to repeat with bandage cases.*

"Now maybe they were just desperate. Or maybe they had seen or heard about Jesus having done something like this before. But they called out for Jesus to act . . . and that's exactly what happened, but maybe not exactly in the way they expected.

*Open the Bible to Luke 17:14a (NirV) and read.*

*"Jesus saw them and said, "Go. Show yourselves to the priests."*

"Okay, what did that mean? Well, in the Jewish law, it was the priest who determined if a skin disease was healed and allowed a person to return to their community. And here was Jesus telling them to go show themselves to the priests.

*Allow for responses.*

"Which meant . . . they were healed! But were they? I mean . . . wouldn't they know? Wouldn't they feel it, see it . . . experience it? But check out this next part of the verse . . ."

*Open the Bible to Luke 17:14 (NirV) and read.*

*"Jesus saw them and said, "Go. Show yourselves to the priests." While they were on the way, they were healed."*

*Communicator encourages volunteers to move cases the opposite direction.*

"While they were on their way. It took the faith of actually believing Jesus' words enough to go . . . and as they went . . . they were healed on the way. By the time they got to the priests, they were healed!"





PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

"This is crazy, and I can only imagine what this must have been like. These guys were walking away, and suddenly, as their bandages started to fall (*rip one of the bandages off the Host put on earlier*) . . . they realized that there was no more pain. The disfigured skin was smooth again. They had been healed ALONG THE WAY. I'm sure they began to celebrate.

*Communicator directs volunteers to celebrate.*

"But now what? I mean, life had COMPLETELY changed for these ten men. Check this out . . .

*Open the Bible to Luke 17:15-16 (NirV) and read.*

*"When one of them saw that he was healed, he came back. He praised God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan."*

*Volunteers walk one of the cases across the table to Jesus, leaving the other nine behind.*

"So all of the ten men realized they had been healed and came back, right?"

*Allow for responses.*

"Nope. One. One guy. One of the ten came back, fell at Jesus' feet, and thanked Him. And the interesting note that we are told about this guy? Did you catch it? (*Responses*) He was a Samaritan. He was an outsider of the outsiders.

*Open the Bible to Luke 17:17-19 (NirV) and read.*

*"Jesus asked, "Weren't all ten healed? Where are the other nine? Didn't anyone else return and give praise to God except this outsider?" Then Jesus said to him, "Get up and go. Your faith has healed you."*

"According to Jesus' calculations (*Host counting on fingers*), there should have been ten guys. Not because Jesus was desperate for attention or needed it, but because He knew what had happened to these men and how life changing it truly was. Their response should certainly match that of this Samaritan . . . return to the One who changed your life and give thanks.

"Hey, give our volunteers a hand!"

*Volunteers are seated. Host exits.*

## APPLICATION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "There's so much to love about this story. I love that Jesus found Himself in a place that others would often avoid. I love that when healing the men, He waited for them to take some steps of faith rather than just snapping His fingers and taking care of things instantly. But above all, I love that this story gives us a model for what it means to give thanks when something good happens in our lives.

"One guy out of ten returned to say thanks. That tells us that maybe saying thanks isn't as natural as we think. Look around. What if our story today represented this room right now. What if, for every good thing God did for us, only one person out of every ten in here actually thanked Him for it. Interesting when you think about it like that, right?"



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

“See, when we experience a problem, the ‘problem’ is all we can think about. It might not be as bad as something like a skin disease, but maybe. And in that moment, all we want is a solution. All we want is someone to swoop in and fix it. We would do anything! But then, when something in our situation does change . . . when God does answer a prayer . . . when someone does help us out . . . what then? Do we just move on? Do we consider what was done for us? Do we, like the one, return to say thank you?”

“Maybe you have been praying for a family member for a while now because they are sick, and then their situation starts to improve. And one day the doctor gives the good news that they are all clear and healthy again. Certainly, say thank you to the doctor who treated them . . . but how can you turn to God and say thank You, too?”

“I don’t think this story has to just be about the way God helps us either, although that is really important. Maybe you have a friend who helped you study really hard for a test because the subject was a struggle for you. They gave up a lot of their time and you ended up getting a great grade! Now can you return and say thank you to your friend for all their help?”

“Maybe you have a coach or another teammate who works with you after practice because you are having trouble mastering a certain move or understanding the plays. How can you return to show how thankful you are?”

“There are moments in our lives when we can learn to better express thankfulness when it’s easier to just move on to the next thing. Consider the people around you this week and consider the way God is working and then think about who you are more like . . . the nine who were healed and moved on . . . or the one who returned.”

## LANDING

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Today, as you make your way to Small Groups, think about this:

### SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

**“What helps you remember to be grateful?”** How can you be sure that you are like the one who returned to show your thanks? Maybe you’ve never thought about that question before and you’re not sure how to answer it. That’s okay, too. You’ll get a chance to talk all about this with your Small Group and come up with some great ideas. But before you head out, let’s pray for God’s help to make us the kind of people who regularly return and say thanks! Let’s pray!”

### SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

*Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.*

**AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**