



# *I Thank my God*

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For

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# Verses

Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God.

Philippians 1:3 (NLT)

As Jesus continued on toward Jerusalem, he reached the border between Galilee and Samaria. As he entered a village there, ten lepers stood at a distance, crying out, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

He looked at them and said, "Go show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed of their leprosy.

One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, "Praise God!" He fell to the ground at Jesus' feet, thanking him for what he had done. This man was a Samaritan.

Jesus asked, "Didn't I heal ten men? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?" And Jesus said to the man, "Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you."

Luke 17:11-19



# Activity



Supplies needed: Paper, pens, crayons/markers, and stickers or other embellishments if you desire.

As we reflect on the many blessings in our lives during this season of Thanksgiving, we are turning our thoughts and thanks towards God, the provider of all good things. As we practice giving thanks, we can also bless the people in our lives for whom we are thankful by expressing our gratitude to them. In this week's Bible story, of the ten men that Jesus healed, only one took the time to thank Him for what He had done.

Think of someone in your life who has been a blessing to you. Maybe it's your mom or dad. Maybe it's a Sunday School teacher who has taught you about Jesus. Maybe it's a friend who is always there for you. Who are you going to thank? Make them a special, homemade card, and inside it, tell them why you are thankful for them. Write the verse Philippians 1:3, and before you mail or give them card, make sure you pray for that person!

# Devotional

Gather together as a family and read aloud the verses.  
(Philippians 1:2 and Luke 17:11-19)

It is sometimes easier, when counting our blessings, to give thanks for the material blessings in our lives. There are other blessings, though, that come through relationships and how people touch our lives. Who are some of those people in your family? We (usually) remember to say "thank you" when someone gives us a gift or does something for us. Do we then also remember to thank God for that person? We pray for others' needs – for healing when someone is sick, for physical provisions, and for other prayer requests those we care about may have. When we take those requests to God, we should also follow the example of Paul in his letter to the Philippians and thank God for them! Who do you need to remember in prayer today? Take a few moments to pray for those people together, thanking God for them and the blessing they are in your life.



In the story of the 10 lepers, we read that only one of the men who were healed by Jesus came back to thank Him. Why do you think that is? Have you ever been given something that you didn't say "thank you" for? Why is it important for us to thank people when they give us something, whether it is a present, like a toy, or a service, like when someone helps you? Why is it important for us to thank God for the people in our lives? If we keep reading in Philippians,

this is what Paul says: “Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.”

You’ve already talked about the people in your life – have you ever thought about how those people help spread the Good News of Christ? Maybe some of those people have shared the Good News with you! How do your friends and family share God’s love with others (including with you)? Praise God for them!

## *Prayer*



Dear God, We are so blessed for the family and friends in our lives. We thank You for the many people who bless us in so many ways. Thank You for bringing them into our lives. Thank You for how they have shown us Your love! Please help them as they share the Good News of Jesus through their words and actions. Help us remember to say “thank you” to the people who mean so much to us. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.