

THANKFULNESS - Week 3 Skit

Definition: A grateful heart that comes from trusting God.

Verse: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NLT) “Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.”

Week 3: We can be thankful even through hard times

Other Scriptures: Jeremiah 20, Lamentations 3 (Jeremiah’s struggles)

Characters:

Tammy/Tommy (cousin with broken leg)
Ryan/Rori (little kid)

Props:

Thankful tree (tree in pot)
Tag to hang on tree
Soccer ball
2 Jump ropes
Chair or couch
List of Fun
Crutches and/or boot

At Home Suggestions:

- Choose an area in or around your house for the stage. This month, one of the main characters talks to the audience a lot. Don’t have an audience? No sweat! Build your own audience with stuffed animals!

Helpful Hints:

- Stage directions (what the characters are intended to do or how they are intended to act) are written in *ITALICS*.
- Most of the characters for this month can be played by a boy or a girl! So cast roles according to your family!

SFX: We Are Family / lights down

Ryan/Rori is sitting on the couch eagerly awaiting his/her cousin's arrival

Ryan: It's finally here... its finally here! The weekend I've been looking forward to all... year... long! My cousin Tammy/Tommy and I only get to see each other twice a year, so we always have a long list of fun things to do while she/he's in town. This year I've made the ultimate list of fun: riding bikes, jumping rope, finger painting, playing soccer...it's going to be the best Thanksgiving ever! Maw Maw will be so proud that I've finally gotten the hang of this whole thankful tree thing. Today, I am thankful for my cousin Tommy/Tammy and all the fun we are going to have.

SFX: Car horn sounds

Ryan: *(Rushes to the front door)* He's here, He's finally here!!
Woohoo!! TOMMY!! *(Waving with wild arms)*

Ryan: *(Opens the door as Tommy walks in behind him)* Tommy, I've been waiting at the window for like 42 hours! Got our list of fun riiiiight here... *(realizing Tommy is wearing a boot he turns his gaze down)* TIME OUT *(Tommy freezes)*. Does anyone else see that boot on my cousin's leg? Huh? Surely that's just a prank, right? I mean, Tommy is always up for a good joke... let's see. TIME IN *(Tommy unfreezes)*.

Tommy: Hey Ryan...soooo it looks like we might have to change our list of fun this year...

Ryan: Stop messing around Tommy! Take that pretend cast off and let's go ride our bikes around the neighborhood or something...there's this new trail I found last week...

Tommy: *(Cutting Ryan off midsentence)* I'm not messing around this time. I fell out of a tree last week and the doctors say that it's officially broken.

Ryan: TIME OUT *(Tommy freezes)*. Are you kidding me?! I have been waiting ALL year for Tommy to come over and play, and now his leg is broken?! TIME IN *(Tommy unfreezes)*. Tommy, I've been waiting to hang out all year and that boot isn't going to ruin our fun. We will complete this list of fun one way or another.

Tommy: Okay, I guess..., let's see how good I am with a soccer ball?

Ryan: How are you going to play soccer with a broken leg?

Tommy: Well, I still got one good leg, right?

Ryan: Alright, fine. Let's give it a try.

Tommy kicks the ball, and it rolls to the back of the stage for Ryan to miss

Ryan: *(Runs to the other side of the living room but misses)* Come on, Tommy, there was no way I could get to that.

Tommy: I'm sorry.... How about you kick the ball this time?

Ryan: *(Lining the ball up)* Fine, here ya go...

Tommy: *(Hobbling to the other end of the living room but misses kicking the ball back)* I'm sorry, let's try again...

Ryan: You can't run or kick in that cast...we can't play soccer *(head down and sad)*!

Tommy: Maybe I can't play soccer, but... maybe I can do something else?!

Ryan: *(Looking at the list)* Next on the list is: *(Excitement that turns back to realization)* JUMP...rope...

Tommy: That sounds like fun! Let's do it!

Ryan: *(Confused faced)* TIME OUT *(Tommy freezes on one leg with the jump rope)*. I've got a feeling this is not going to go well. TIME IN *(Tommy unfreezes)*.

2 boys grab jump ropes and begin jumping but Tommy has to jump on 1 leg. Ryan is going quickly but Tommy is struggling and eventually sits on the floor

Ryan: Man... it doesn't matter what we do, you're not going to be able to play, Tommy. This is the WORST.

Tommy: I know I'm not able to play with you like normal, but there are still other fun things we could do!

Ryan: But I spent all year writing THIS list of very fun things I wanted us to do...I thought I had found something to be thankful for on my own...but I guess not...

Tommy: You're thankful for me?

Ryan: Well, yeah! Mam Maw got me thinking of things I'm thankful for and I put that I was thankful for all the fun we we're going to have today...but now you have a broken leg...

Tommy: We can still be thankful even through the hard times, ya know, Ryan?

Ryan: It's pretty hard to be thankful when we can't play together.

Tommy: Well...have you ever heard of a guy named Jeremiah in the Bible?

Ryan: TIME OUT (*Tommy freezes*). My next-door neighbor's name is Jeremiah. You think that counts? (*Wait for kids to reply*) Yeah... you're probably right... TIME IN. (*Tommy unfreezes*) Unless it's my next-door neighbor, then I don't think so.

Tommy: Good try.... but no, that's not who I'm thinking of. See there's this guy in the Bible and all of these bad things were happening to him. It would have been really easy for him to focus on what was going wrong, but do you know what he did instead?

Ryan: He protested by not eating his vegetables?

Tommy: Nope.

Ryan: He protested by not making his bed? Not brushing his teeth?

Tommy: Noooo...

Ryan: He stopped using his words and only made loud noises like this AHHHHHHH!

Tommy: No! No! Ryan! He gave thanks to God!

Ryan: What?! Why? What would he have to be thankful for when all those terrible things were happening?

Tommy: God tells us that there will be hard times in life, but still...we can give thanks even through those hard times.

Ryan: Okay, so are you trying to tell me that I can be thankful even though you have a broken leg?

Tommy: Exactly! God is always good and always with us in both the easy AND the hard times. That's just one of the many reasons we can be thankful through the hard times. Thankfulness is having a grateful heart that comes from trusting God. So... now let's trust God and figure out how to have some fun! Your list did include finger painting, right? Oh! And we could build a fort!

Ryan: A FORT! I LOVE FORTS! Tommy, that's the best idea EVER!

Tommy: Yeah, let's go! (*Starts to exit*)

Ryan: TIME OUT (*Tommy freezes*). Hm. Who would have thought? I guess you really can be thankful even in the hard times. Man, I sure have been learning a lot from the stories in God's word lately. Kinda cool how you can be thankful...no matter what. I'm going to put that on the thankful tree. TIME IN (*Tommy unfreezes*). I'm really glad you are here, Tommy. Let's make it the best Thanksgiving ever! (*exits*)

SFX: We Are Family