

# ELEMENTARY ACTIVITY GUIDE

**CHARACTER TRAIT:** THANKFULNESS

**FINISH LINE:** We can be thankful even through hard times

**SCRIPTURE:** Lamentations 3:17-26

## ACTIVITY 1: MEMORY VERSE GAME

**OPTIONAL SUPPLIES:** Dry erase board, mirror, dry erase marker, post it notes, memory verse cards from week one

**DIRECTIONS:** Write out the entire verse someplace everyone can see it. You could use the cards you made week one, write out the verse on post it notes, or use a dry erase board or mirror. After you have written it out, say the verse all together. Then start removing words from the verse. After you have removed 1-2 words, say it again. Keep repeating until all the words are gone but you can still say the verse from memory!

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus." **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NLT**

## ACTIVITY 2: LESSON REVIEW

**SUPPLIES:** A print out or drawing of a turkey, paper feathers, writing utensil, tape

**SET UP:** Hang up a drawing or picture of a turkey on the wall and cut out paper feathers.

**DIRECTIONS:** Think of a "hardship" from your past or one that you are going through right now and write it on a feather. On the opposite side of the feather, write a reason you were or are thankful to God through the hardship. (Examples: How God helped you through it, what you learned, how it blessed you, ways you grew closer to Him, etc.) You can then take time to decorate the feathers. Have each person share with the group what they wrote. Once you are all done sharing, tape the feather to the big turkey with the thankful side showing.

**EXPLAIN:** For those of us who are followers of Christ and have accepted His free gift of salvation, our joy does not depend on what is happening to us right now because life is full of both good and bad things. Followers of Christ can be thankful because of what Christ did for us on the cross, and we need to remember this when we go through hard times. No matter what happens to us, the fact that Christ died and rose again to forgive our sins and give us eternal life never changes. No one can ever take away our salvation or separate us from God's love, and that is something we can ALWAYS be thankful for!