



Date: _____
Series: God Talks to Me
Fall Year 1, Lesson 27

The First Thanksgiving

Take Home Point: *GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS....*Thank you God for good things.*

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (CAPS). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Bible Event: Psalm 136:1

We will help children know:

- The story of the first Thanksgiving.
- What it means to be thankful.
- Why we give thanks.

We will help the children feel:




- Thankful for the many good things God has given them.
- Appreciation for what other people do for them.
- Desire to show God their thanks.

We will help the children do:

- Interact with puppet presentation to introduce the Bible Event.
- Participate in the Bible event by being American Indians and Pilgrims.
- Craft: Make a Thanksgiving Centerpiece.
- Snack: Eat a trail mix that reminds them of the first Thanksgiving
- Game: Play 'Thankful Feather'.
- Teach Albie the Take Home Point: GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS....Thank you God for good things.
- Sing and Pray.

Kingdom Quest Year 1 - Lesson 27 - 1

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Large Group Opening 	3 4	Puppet Presentation Bible Event	<i>Puppet Presentation:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bubba puppet Bible <i>Bible Event:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> long sheet of paper (lay it down the center of the room before starting) option: put masking tape on floor in a long oblong shape Option: picture of the Pilgrims and the American Indians on the first Thanksgiving (from a book or a wall decoration)
Small Group Application 	7 8 9 10	Activity 1: Craft Activity 2: Snack Activity 3: Game Prayer Time	<i>Activity 1: Craft</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix A, copied on card stock, 1 per child Dried Indian corn, removed from cob; option: candy corn glue fall stickers, optional <i>Activity 2: Snack</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> napkins, cups, water or juice trail mix consisting of any combination (Bugles, candy corn, raisins, fish crackers, popcorn, etc) <i>Activity 3: Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> one craft feather per child
Large Group Wrap-up 	12 12	Singing (Optional) Lesson Review with Puppet Skit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> your choice of music Albie puppet Example of craft Example of snack

Pre-Session Singing (10 minutes)

Purpose: *When all children are in one group singing, it is easy for children arriving later to join the group and immediately get involved.*

Large Group Opening (15 minutes)



Purpose: *The puppet demonstrates today's lesson. The children are introduced to the take home point and experience the Bible event.*

Puppet Presentation

Supplies: *Bubba puppet with large spoon taped to hand, Presenter holds a Bible*

Presenter: Boys and girls, let's call Bubba. (Children call "Bubba".)

Bubba: (Talking really fast) Hi everyone. I'm very excited because me and Judy and mom and dad are going to Grandma's house today for Thanksgiving. I LOVE going to grandma's house. It always smells sooooo good at her house. All our cousins will be there. We are going to eat turkey.....

Presenter: Bubba, slow down.

Bubba: I can't help it, I'm so excited.

Presenter: I can see that. Why do you have a big spoon in your hand?

Bubba: Oh, I almost forgot. It is so I will be ready.

Presenter: Ready for what?

Bubba: For my favorite food of all times. The most delicious, yummy, mouthwatering food ever invented.

Presenter: Bubba, I can hardly stand the suspense. What is your favorite food?

Bubba: It's pumpkin pie and whip cream. Lots and lots and lots of whip cream!

Presenter: Oh, I like pumpkin pie too. It is wonderful that you are excited about going to Grandma's house. Did you know there is more to Thanksgiving than just being with family and eating special foods.

Bubba: Well, the food is the best part.

Presenter: The food is important. Thanksgiving is really about giving thanks to God.

Bubba: I guess he does give us lots of good things.

Presenter: Bubba, that is exactly what our Bible event is about today.

Bubba: It's about pumpkin pie and whip cream?

Presenter: No, Bubba. It is about giving thanks like they did on the first Thanksgiving ever. Would you like to learn more about it?

Bubba: Yes.

Presenter: First, let's practice the take home point. I'll say the first part and you say the second part.

Bubba: O.K.

Presenter: *GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS... now you say, *"Thank you God for good things ."*

Bubba: Thank you God for good things.

Presenter: Do you think you can teach the boys and girls?

Bubba: Sure.

Presenter: Ok everybody, *GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS...

Bubba: (and everyone): *Thank you God for good things.*

Presenter: Wonderful. Have fun at your grandma's house. Say "goodbye" Bubba.

Bubba: Bye everyone!

Bible Event:

Supplies: long sheet of paper on the floor, option: masking tape in a long oblong shape; optional: picture of the first Thanksgiving from a book or a wall decoration.

Presenter holds the Bible. Direct children to sit on the left or right side of the pretend table.

Boys and girls, today we are going to learn the story of how the first Thanksgiving got started. We are also going to learn the special words *GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS – *Thank you God for good things.*

If you chose the option of the picture of the first Thanksgiving, show it now. Point out the American Indians and the Pilgrims. Explain that the American Indians were people who lived in our land long before the Pilgrims. Both the American Indians and the Pilgrims lived a long time ago. They were the people who had the first Thanksgiving.

I am going to have you help me with the story. The children on this side (indicate the left side of the paper) **of the pretend table will be American Indians. The children of this side** (indicate the right side of the paper) **of the pretend table will be Pilgrims.**

When I point to the left side, the American Indian children will do the actions I show them. When I point to the right side, the Pilgrim children will do the actions I show them.

Event 1: The Pilgrims

Many, many years ago, long before your grandmas and grandpas were born, a group of people lived in a land far away. They loved Jesus. (Point to children playing Pilgrims and give yourself a hug.) **Pilgrims, show me that you love Jesus. Good job!**

Event 2: The American Indians

On the other side of the ocean lived the American Indians. They planted crops. Point to the children playing American Indians. Make a digging motion. **American Indians, pretend to dig a garden. Good job! They hunted** (pretend to shoot a bow and arrow) **and they caught fish.** Pretend to fish.

Event 3: The Pilgrims

Back on the other side of the ocean, the king made a law saying that the people could not worship the way they wanted to. Point finger as if saying "No, no, no!" **Everybody had to worship the same way the king worshiped. This made some people sad.** Make a sad face.

Some of the people, called Pilgrims, decided to get on a ship and sail across the ocean. Rock back and forth.

Event 4: The American Indians

While the Pilgrims were sailing, the American Indians were still digging their gardens (pretend to dig), **hunting** (pretend to shoot a bow and arrow), **and fishing** (pretend to fish).

Event 5: The Pilgrims

Finally (rock back and forth), **after sailing many days and many nights**, **the Pilgrims arrived in their new land. They were happy!** Wave your arms in the air. **The first thing they did** (fold your hands) **was to pray a prayer of thanks to God.**

Event 6: The Pilgrims

That first winter in the new land was very hard for the Pilgrims. They did not have enough food (rub your stomach) **so they were very hungry. They did not have any houses. They lived on the ship** (shiver) **so they were very cold. Many of them got sick** (act sick) **and some of them even died** (hang your arms at your side, bow head, close your eyes).

It was a very hard winter but still the Pilgrims (hug yourself) **loved God. They still prayed** (fold your hands) **to God and they still worshiped God with songs** (cup your hands to mouth).

Event 7: The American Indians

After the Pilgrims arrived in their new land, the American Indians who lived nearby spotted (put your hand to forehead--salute style) **them. One American Indian named Samoset came and told the Pilgrims, "Welcome."** Wave a hand. **The next day he brought a friend, the American Indian Squanto, who could talk the same language and speak the same words as the Pilgrims.**

The American Indians taught the Pilgrims how to (pretend to dig) **plant corn, how to** (pretend to shoot a bow and arrow) **hunt, and how to** (pretend to fish) **fish. They showed the Pilgrims how to build** (pretend to hammer) **houses in their new land. The American Indians shared their food** (hold your arms out in front of your body, palms up) **with the Pilgrims. The American Indians were friends to the Pilgrims and helped them. The Pilgrims learned to live in their new land because the American Indians helped them.**

Event 8: The Pilgrims and American Indians

In the autumn, the time of the year when the leaves turn different colors and fall off the trees, the Pilgrims gathered (pretend to pick crops) **their crops from the field. This is called harvesting. They were thankful** (fold your hands) **to God for their American Indian friends, for their new home, and for their food.**

The pilgrims decided to have a big meal, to celebrate God's goodness. They invited their American Indian friends (make a

beckoning motion) **and everyone brought food.** Have all the children pretend to put food on the table. **They worshiped God** (cup your mouth) **and thanked him** (fold your hands) **for the gifts he gave them.**

The Pilgrims' Thanksgiving feast makes me think of the words in the Bible. (hold up the Bible). *"Give thanks to the Lord because he is good, because his mercy endures forever."* It also makes me think of our take home point for today. ***GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS – Thank you God for good things.** We, too, can thank God for the good things he has given us.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You give us good things.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *London Bridge*)
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

GOD gives M-e GO-od THINGS.
GO-od THINGS. GO-od THINGS.
GOD gives M-e GO-od THINGS.
THANK you GO-D.

Small Group Application (30 minutes)



Purpose: Children will break into small groups. Smaller groups enable children to develop closer relationships with adults and peers in the church. In your small groups you will reinforce the take home point with a fun hands-on activity and discuss the Bible event. Review questions help kids apply the take home point to their daily lives.

Activity 1: Craft: Thanksgiving Table Decoration

Supplies: Copies of Appendix A on card stock, one per child; glue; Indian corn removed from cob; option: candy corn (fall stickers optional)

Before class, fold card stock in half to make a tent; words are on outside.

Today we will decorate a centerpiece for your Thanksgiving table. You may glue the corn on any way that you want. Ask everyone in your family to tell something that they are thankful for. Remind them that all good things come from God.



Review the Bible Event.

Why did the Pilgrims leave their country? (*They could not worship God the way they wanted to.*)

Let's practice the take home point. ***GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS....** *Thank you God for good things.*

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You give us good things.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

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GOD gives M-e GO-od THINGS.
THANK you GO-D.

Activity 2: Snack: Thanksgiving Food

Supplies: napkins, cups, water or juice, Bugles, candy corn, raisins, fish crackers, popcorn or any trail mix type of snack food.

*****CAUTION:** *Be aware of food allergies children may have, before you give them anything to eat.*

Before we eat our snack, let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You give us good things.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Boys and girls, today we are going to eat some foods that remind us of the first Thanksgiving. Give each child a napkin and a handful of trail mix. **Does anyone see anything in your snack that reminds you of the first Thanksgiving?** (Accept any answers.)

Review the Bible event.

Why were the Pilgrims thankful? (*Answers will vary but may include: their new friends the American Indians; God took care of them; they had food to eat*)

Let's practice the take home point. *GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS....*Thank you God for good things.*

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *London Bridge*)

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**GOD gives M-e GO-od THINGS.
GO-od THINGS. GO-od THINGS.
GOD gives M-e GO-od THINGS.
THANK you GO-D.**

Activity 3: Game: Thankful Feather

Supplies: craft feathers, one per child

Boys and girls, today each one of you will get a turn to tell something that you are thankful for. You will say, "Thank you God for _____." After you complete the phrase, all of you will blow your feathers in the air. When you catch your feather say, "Amen." Just as the feather goes up, our prayers go up to God. And just as the feathers come down, God's blessings come down to us. Continue until all of the children have had a chance to complete the phrase.

Give each child a craft feather. If a child can not think of anything, use the following ideas.

- 1. Think of something in your yard you are thankful for.**
- 2. Think of a person you are thankful for.**
- 3. Think of a toy you are thankful for.**
- 4. Think of an animal you are thankful for.**
- 5. Think of a food you are thankful for.**
- 6. Think of something in your bedroom you are thankful for.**
- 7. Think of something outside you are thankful for.**
- 8. Think of a place you are thankful for.**
- 9. Remind the children that we can be thankful for Jesus, too.**

Review the Bible event.

How did the Pilgrims show their thankfulness? (They had a big dinner and invited the American Indians and gave thanks to God in prayer.)

Let's practice the take home point. ***GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS....***Thank you God for good things.*

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You give us good things.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *London Bridge*)
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

GOD gives M-e **GO**-od **THINGS**.
GO-od **THINGS**. **GO**-od **THINGS**.
GOD gives M-e **GO**-od **THINGS**.
THANK you **GO**-D.

Prayer Time:

Tell me some things you are thankful for. (Accept any answers.)
How can you show God you are thankful? (*Praying, singing, giving offerings, sharing God's love with others, reading the Bible, etc.*)

Ask children for prayer requests and pray as a group for child's request.

Let's practice the take home point. ***GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS....***Thank you God for good things.*

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You give us good things.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *London Bridge*)

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GO-od THINGS. GO-od THINGS.
GOD gives M-e GO-od THINGS.
THANK you GO-D.**

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Large Group Wrap-Up (10 minutes)



Purpose: The crazy bird puppet, Albie, struggles with learning the take home point. We try to teach him the take home point, but each time he confuses words or concepts. After three attempts, he finally gets it right.

Singing: (Optional, two or three songs, as time allows)

Supplies: Albie the puppet, sample of today's craft and snack.

Lesson Review with Puppet Skit

Presenter shows Albie an example of each of the Activities done in small group. Then the kids attempt to teach Albie the take home point.

Presenter: We want to welcome all our guests today and thank them for coming. (If you give guests a gift for coming, do it now.)

Presenter: Albie, look at the craft the children made today. It is a centerpiece for their Thanksgiving table. Now the children are going to teach you our take home point. Listen carefully.

Presenter: (says to kids):

Kids say:

Presenter: (says to Albie):

Albie says:

***GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS..**

....Thank you God for good things.

***GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS..**

Like this GORGEOUS face of mine!



Presenter: Albie, look at the snack we ate. It reminds us of the first Thanksgiving. Now listen carefully to the take home point.

Presenter: (says to kids):

Kids say:

Presenter: (says to Albie):

Albie says:

***GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS...**

....Thank you God for good things.

***GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS...**

Got any pumpkin pie and whip cream?

Presenter: Albie, today we played a game called 'Thankful Feather'. Now, please listen closely to the take home point.

Presenter: (says to kids):

Kids say:

Presenter: (says to Albie):

Albie says:

***GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS...**

....Thank you God for good things.

***GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS...**

Where did you get that feather..is it from my tail?

Presenter says:

“Albie, listen one last time.

***GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS...**

Kids response:

....Thank you God for good things.

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS...**

Albie's response:

(Warms up his singing voice with “*Mee, mee, mee, mee...*” and sings in a silly dramatic opera-like voice)

***GOD GIVES ME GOOD THINGS...Thank you God for good things.**

Presenter says to Albie: Good job, Albie!

Albie can leave stage or join in the prayer and song.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

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We love you.
You give us good things.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *London Bridge*)

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GO-od THINGS. GO-od THINGS.
GOD gives M-e GO-od THINGS.
THANK you GO-D.**

Goodbye boys and girls. Remember that God loves you and he wants us to thank him for good things.

Thank You God!

Thank You God!
