

## Keeping “Thankfulness” In Thanksgiving The Thanksgiving Book

- I. Children and the Thanksgiving Book –
  - A. What you will need
    1. Variety of wholesome magazines (Christian, Ladies, Outdoors)
    2. Paper (preferably colored construction or heavy paper)
    3. Glue or tape
    4. Hole punch for paper
    5. Brads, string or yarn
    6. Scissors
    7. Crayons, markers, pens or pencils (preferably colored)
    8. Pre-selected Bible verses on Thanksgiving already cut out and ready. (Feel free to choose your own or use the ones provided in the appendix at the end of this project list.)
    9. Remember, this project may be done with very young children. The parents simply adjust the activities of the child to their skill and educational level
  - B. Collect the materials and organize them together on the floor, table or work area..
  - C. Sit down with your children and discuss the celebration of Thanksgiving. Stress to them the thankfulness of your forefathers and the Christian heritage which brought this celebration into being.
  - D. Do not, and I stress do not, allow your children to argue and fight over their Thanksgiving Book. Have specific disciplines already prepared for fighting and explain clearly to the children that you will discipline them if they are arguing or fighting rather than being thankful just as God does His people and His church. If a child argues, fights or cries because he does not get his verse or picture or magazine, take a quick break, instruct and then discipline the child and then restore him to the fellowship of the family and the task. Do not allow an unmannerly child to ruin this special time for the rest of the family or to foolishly deny himself of the blessing of participation.
  - E. Have the children read (or read to them) the pre-selected verses and allow them to choose one for the cover page of their Thanksgiving Book.
    1. Write on the cover page “**(name of child) Thanksgiving Book**”
    2. Paste the verse either above or below this or if the children are old enough they may want to write the verse out.
    3. If there are leftover verses that children may want to add these to other pages of thier book. The same verse may be chosen by more than one child if they are old enough to write it out themselves.
  - F. Either have the children cut or tear out pictures and paste on colored construction paper or if they are too young, help them with the pictures they choose. Next have them write a word, phrase or sentence as to what the picture reminds them of in terms of being “thankful to God”. (If they are too young, write for them). For your boys, be sure and add some masculine magazines to the mix.
  - G. Then make into a book with brads or colored yarn.
    1. Stack the pages together
    2. Make sure the cover page is on top
    3. Either the child or you punch holes at the top, middle and bottom on the left hand side
    4. Make into book by connecting with brads, yarn or string.
  - H. Have a share and prayer time as each child shows his book to the others.
  - I. Each day at meal time have your children share and pray from their book.
  - J. Now continue two important traditions throughout the year
    1. Sit down family meals at the table
    2. Your children sharing and praying at each meal.

## **Suggested List Of Bible Verses For Your Thanksgiving Book**

(You are free to print and cut these out so that your child can paste the verse in his book or copy it himself)

*Psalms 9:1 I will give thanks to the LORD with all my heart; I will tell of all Your wonders.*

*Psalm 16:6 The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places; indeed, my heritage is beautiful to me.*

*Psalm 50:23 "He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me; And to him who orders his way aright I shall show the salvation of God."*

*Psalms 86:12 I will give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, And will glorify Your name forever.*

*Psalm 107:31 "Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, and for His wonders to the sons of men!*

*Psalm 107:43 Who is wise? Let him give heed to these things; and consider the lovingkindness of the LORD.*

*Psalms 108:3 I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the peoples, And I will sing praises to You among the nations.*

*Psalms 109:30 With my mouth I will give thanks abundantly to the LORD; And in the midst of many I will praise Him.*

*Psalm 116:7 Return to your rest, O my soul, For the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.*

*Psalm 136:26 Give thanks to the God of heaven, For His lovingkindness is everlasting.*

*Psalm 138:1 I will give Thee thanks with all my heart...*

*Psalms 139:14 I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well.*

*Psalm 140:13 Surely the righteous will give thanks to Thy name...*

*Isaiah 25:1 You are my God; I will exalt You, I will give thanks to Your name; For You have worked wonders, Plans formed long ago, with perfect faithfulness*