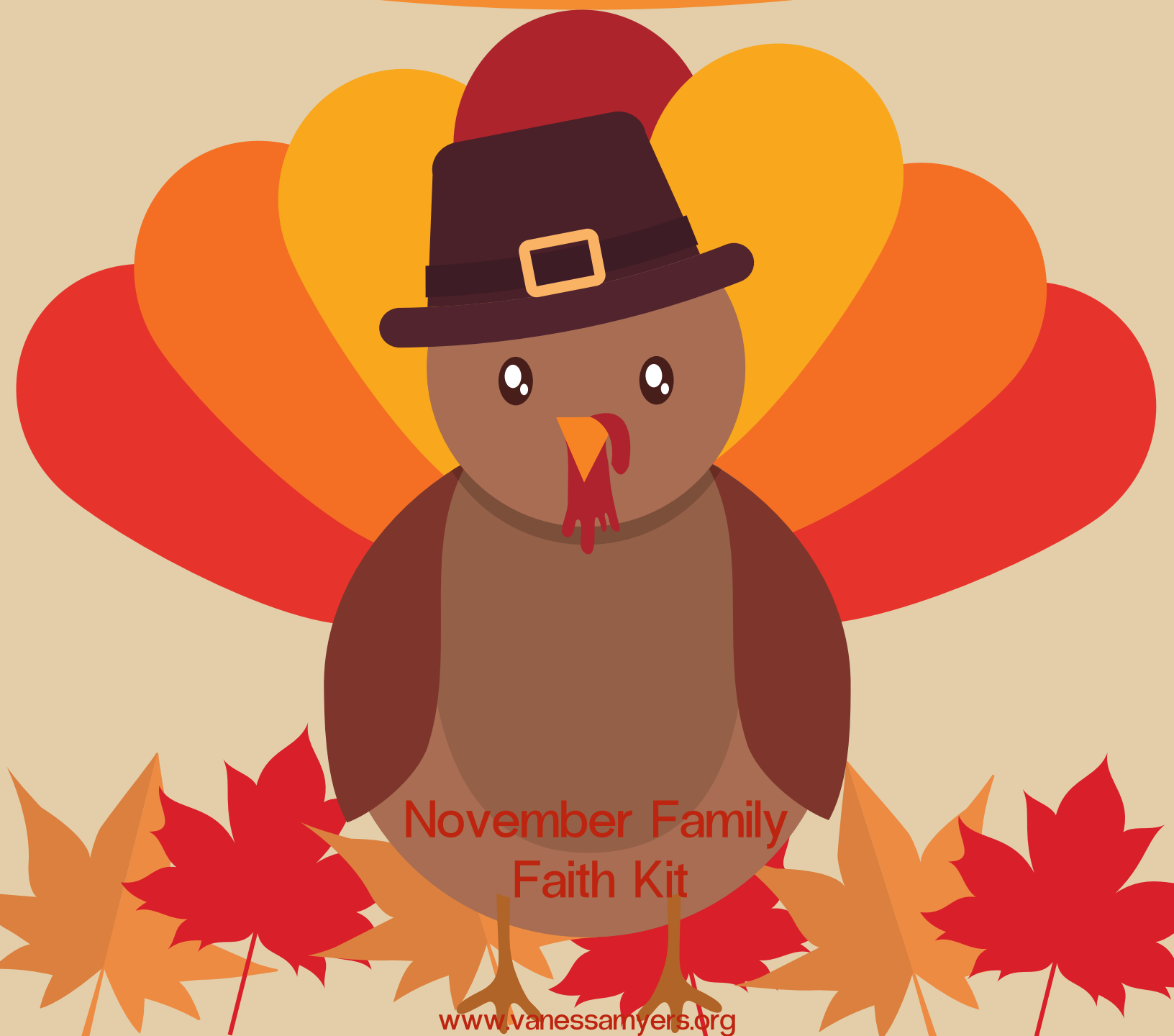


Gobble Up Gratitude



November Family
Faith Kit

Gobble Up Gratitude

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Gobble Up Gratitude

A Note for Parents

Gobble Up Gratitude is designed for families to incorporate faith into their fall family fun. This resource is to be used in the month of November. This month we will be focusing on showing gratitude to God for who He is and what He does for us. This resource includes the following:

- 4 Family Devotions (1 per week)
- 4 Games (1 per week)
- 4 Crafts (1 per week)
- 4 Snack Ideas (1 per week)

When is a good time to do these activities each week?

- Use it on Saturday or Sunday and do all activities for that week in one day.
- Spread out the activities over the whole week. For example, you could read the devotion before school one morning. Then another day do the craft, next day game, next day create the snack.

Fall is a great time to start the habit of spending time together in God's Word as a family. Once you create this habit, your children will want to do it every day and will remind you if you miss a day! These habits will hopefully form in your children a love of God's Word that will stay with them throughout their lives. You are building a foundation of God and His love into your children by spending time together in His Word.

Family Devotion

Week 1 - Give Thanks for Everything

Let's start out this week by writing our Bible verse! I want you to fill in the blanks for this verse. So grab your Bible and look up 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (this verse is the NIV).

"Be _____ always; _____ continually; give _____ in all _____, for this is God's _____ for you in Christ _____."

This verse tells us to do 3 things that may seem impossible: be joyful always, pray continually, and give thanks in all circumstances. How is a person supposed to always be happy? How is a person supposed to pray all the time? How is a person supposed to give thanks to God in the good times and in the bad times? All those things seem impossible, don't they?

I believe that these verses that Paul has written are showing us how to live a life devoted to Christ. Will there be times in our lives that we will be sad? Absolutely. But we can be joyful in knowing that God is with us and will never leave us no matter what happens to us.

Can we pray every moment of the day? Probably not, but we can pray to God every single day. I believe Paul is helping us to see that prayer should be something we never forget to do. When we wake up (even before we get out of the bed), we can say a prayer and thank God that we are alive. When we are at school, we can pray and ask God to help us understand what we are learning. We can also ask God to help us be a good friend and treat others the way we want to be treated. When we are at home, we can ask God to give us patience with our brother or sister when they annoy us. We can ask God to help us obey our mom and dad even in times when we don't want to do something. And then when we go to bed, we can thank God for the day and ask Him to help us rest well as we sleep. This is how we can "pray continually", by remembering to pray many times throughout the day.

Family Devotion

And why should we thank God in all circumstances? There will be times in your life when things happen to you that you don't understand, or don't feel are right or fair, or even things that make you very sad. But Paul reminds us to give thanks for ALL things in ALL circumstances. Of course it's easy to thank God when things go your way and life is good. But, it's a little more difficult to thank God in the hard times. I know that it will be hard to do, but we can remember the promise God gives us in Romans 8:28, *"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."* So when things don't go your way or you're upset about something, remember to give thanks to God and remember that He works all things for good.

So this week, work on being thankful for all things. Remember to pray all throughout the day. And work on that smile of yours and remember to be joyful!

Father God, thank You for the reminder to be joyful, to always pray, and to give thanks. Help me to remember that You are good and that You work all things for good. I am so grateful for all You have done for me, Lord. Amen.

Family Devotion Activity - Gobble Up Gratitude Challenge

For the month of November, you will be helping your "turkey" gobble up gratitude! Here's how it works:

First, you will hang the Gratitude Calendar on your fridge (calendar is included in this resource). At some point during the day (maybe in the morning before school or at dinner time), you will fill in one thing you are grateful for. But here's the challenge...you can't write in the same thing twice! So if someone in your family says they are thankful for friends, no one else can say that for the rest of the month. The goal is to see how many things you are grateful for, to be reminded that God is good, and to remember that we should always give thanks to Him! And you are to just fill in one item per day. Don't jump ahead and fill out the whole calendar at one time. Practice gratitude each day in November by filling in one item a day.

Next, you will feed your "turkey" with gratitude (see craft for Week 1)! Every day you will take what you wrote down on your Gratitude Calendar and write that down on a piece of paper. Then you will "feed your turkey" the gratitude (place slip of paper in bag). At the end of the month, go back with your family and pull out all the gratitude slips and read out loud. Give thanks to God for all these things!

Have fun with your challenge!

Family Game

Week 1 - Bible Verse Pie Stack Race

Supplies Needed: *pie templates (included in this resource), tape, markers or crayons*

This game will help you with memorizing the Bible verse for the week!

First, color each pie using markers or crayons. Then cut out each pie.

Using the pie templates, you will race to stack the pies in order of the Bible verse. Each pie has one phrase from the Bible verse for the week. Your job is to stack the pies in the correct order (top to bottom). You can use tape and stack them on a wall in your house. Or you can stack them on the floor. Time each person and see who can stack the pies the fastest!

Family Craft

Week 1 - Gratitude Turkey Bag

Supplies Needed: brown lunch bag, feather template, gobbler template, construction paper (red, orange, yellow, green, white, black), gluestick

Your family will create one Gratitude Turkey Bag. You will use it each week as part of the family devotion. To see a picture of this, see the next page.

If you need a feather template to trace, visit this website to download a FREE feather template: <https://www.livecrafteat.com/craft/free-printable-paper-feather-templates/>

Using the feather template, trace and cut out one feather from each color construction paper (red, orange, yellow, green). Then cut out a triangle from the orange construction paper for the nose of the turkey. Next, free hand (or search internet for a template to use) a small gobbler onto red construction paper and cut out.

Then find 2 small circular objects in your home (one bigger than the other). These objects will be used to trace eyes for the turkey. Trace 2 large circles onto white paper and cut out. Then trace 2 small circles onto black paper and cut out.

Taking the brown lunch bag, glue the feathers onto the backside of the bag. Then glue the 2 large white circles to the front of the bag (as eyes). Then glue the 2 black circles onto the top of the white circles (as pupils for the eyes). Next, glue the gobbler on the left side of the bag. Then, turn the orange triangle upside down and glue on the nose (glue it over part of the gobbler).

Open the bag and set it on your dinner table and use every week during the devotion activity!



Thanksgiving Dessert

Week 1 - Pecan Pie

All the recipes for this month will be desserts for families to make for Thanksgiving!

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup corn syrup
- 1/4 cup melted butter
- 3 beaten eggs
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 tsp vanilla
- Frozen pie crust

Mix all ingredients together. Pour into unbaked frozen pie crust. Bake at 400° for 10 minutes, then lower to 350° and bake for 30-35 minutes. Cool and serve!

Family Devotion

Week 2 - The Goodness of God

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." Psalm 107:1

God is good...all the time! All the time...God is good!

Have you ever heard that saying before? Perhaps you have heard it at church. The pastor will say "God is good" and the congregation (the people in the church) will say, "All the time." Then the pastor will reverse it and he or she will say "all the time" and the congregation will say "God is good." It's a great way to start the beginning of a worship service! It helps you remember the goodness of the Lord as you start your morning worship.

In today's Bible verse, we find the Psalmist inviting us to give thanks to God for His goodness. So let's do that right now. Take a few minutes with your family to write in the space below some ways that God is good. How does God show goodness to your family?

We know that God is good because we can see it in our lives. All we have to do is open our eyes and look around. So much of God's goodness is seen in the beauty of creation. Another good way to remember God's goodness is to write it down. When something good happens in your life, write it down in a journal. Maybe those good things include the arrival of a new sibling, a new pet, getting to eat at your favorite restaurant, making a good grade on a test, getting to celebrate a birthday, getting to have a sleepover with a friend, getting ice cream from your favorite store, scoring a goal at your soccer game, winning your sports game, or giving a gift to someone you love.

Family Devotion

But have you ever thought about thanking God for these good things in your life: waking up, breathing, water to take a bath, a toothbrush and toothpaste to brush and clean your teeth, hairbrush to brush your hair, clothes to wear, food to eat at every meal, a bed to sleep in, an air conditioner or fan to cool you off, heating in your house to keep you warm, a sofa to sit on, a table to eat meals at, blankets to cover up with, socks to keep your feet warm, shoes to protect your feet, or even lights in your house so you can see.

Sometimes we forget to thank God for His goodness in the everyday, ordinary, simple things in our lives. It's not because we aren't thankful for these things. It's more because we forget about them! They are everyday things and these are the things that are normal and things that sometimes we take for granted. But I know we are all so very thankful for these things.

So your challenge this week is to remember God's goodness. Remember to give thanks to Him for the normal things in your life and also for the special things in your life. Open your eyes and pay attention to all the good that happens to you and all the good that is in this world. And remember that God's love for you lasts forever!

Holy God, thank You for all the many ways You bless us. Thank You for being good to my family. Help me to always look for the good You give to us every day. Amen.

Family Devotion Activity - Gobble Up Gratitude Challenge

Remember to fill out your Gratitude Calendar this week and feed your turkey some gratitude!

Family Game

Week 2 - Newspaper Turkey Costume Contest

Supplies Needed: newspaper, tape

Let's see who can create the best turkey costume out of newspapers!

Divide your family into pairs. Each pair will pick one person to be the "turkey." The other person will cover their family member in newspaper and will make them look like a turkey! Be creative!

Make sure to snap photos of each turkey. Send the photos to family or friends and get them to pick a winner.

Family Craft

Week 2 - Gratitude Activity Placemat

Supplies Needed: *Gratitude Activity Placemat printable, markers, crayons, pen or pencil*

Print enough copies of the Gratitude Activity Placemat for each child in your family. Have kids color the placemat activity sheet and do the activities on the placemat. Use this as a placemat at the table during the month of November. Or hang on the fridge or in their room.

Thanksgiving Dessert

Week 2 - Banana Pudding

All the recipes for this month will be desserts for families to make for Thanksgiving!

8 oz sour cream

8 oz Cool Whip

1 small box instant vanilla pudding

1 box vanilla wafers

4-6 bananas

In a large bowl, make the vanilla pudding by following the directions on the box. Stir in sour cream and Cool Whip. In a dish or bowl, layer like this: wafers, bananas, pudding. Repeat until dish is full. Top with pudding and an extra layer of Cool Whip.

Family Devotion

Week 3 - Peace and Thanksgiving

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philipians 4:6-7

Do you ever worry about things or get nervous or anxious about something?

I am sure there are some things in your life that cause you to worry or even feel a little nervous. But God gives us a great reminder that we should not be worried or anxious. We see this reminder in our Bible verse for the week. In Philipians 4:6-7, God tells us not to be anxious, to pray and lift up our requests to Him, and to do so with a thankful heart.

So how do we be thankful when we are worried or anxious? It's not easy to do, but when we lift our prayers to God and give thanks to Him, He promises us His peace. And this peace is not just any peace, it's a peace that only God can give. It's a peace we will not understand, but we will totally feel at ease and have no worries.

So let's take a minute to write down our worries, fears, or concerns. Or you can draw a picture of what causes you to be afraid or worried. Writing them down helps me let go of them and trust God. I pray it will do the same for you. Write or draw them in the space below.

Family Devotion

Now, take time to pray together as a family. First, praise God. Praise Him for who He is. Praise Him for what He does for you. Praise Him because He is God. Then give thanks to God for all that He has given you. Name some of these things out loud. Then lift up all your concerns to Him (those things you just wrote down or drew). Ask God to give you strength to overcome these fears and worries. After you finish praying, take a permanent marker and write the word "PEACE" really big over the fears and worries you just wrote down. You have lifted up your concerns with a thankful heart and now the peace of God will flow over you. Let go and trust God with everything and be grateful!

Glorious God, thank You for all You do for me. Help me to always come to You with my worries and fears and also help me to trust You with them. Thank You for the peace that You give to me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Family Devotion Activity - Gobble Up Gratitude Challenge

Remember to fill out your Gratitude Calendar this week and feed your turkey some gratitude!

Family Game

Week 3 - Thanksgiving Charades

Supplies Needed: *charades cards (included in this resource)*

This game is played just like regular charades...but with a Thanksgiving twist!

Divide your family into two teams (if you have enough to have at least 2 people per team...if not just play as 1 team).

When it's your team's turn, draw a card. One person will act out what's on the card and the other person will try and guess what they are acting out. The person acting cannot speak, but only act it out. Keep score and see which team wins!

Family Craft

Week 3 - Plate of Prayers

Supplies Needed: *Plate of Prayers activity page*

In our Bible verse today, we read that Paul wrote we should "present our requests to God." This means praying to God and asking Him to help us with things in our life, as well as giving thanks to Him for all things.

Using the Plate of Prayers activity page, write down your prayers to God. You can write small prayers or long prayers. Each day this week, practice talking to God by writing down your prayers inside the plate. Hang this in your room or on your fridge so you can remember to lift up your prayers to God.

Thanksgiving Dessert

Week 3 - Peanut Butter Pie

- 3 oz cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 8 oz Cool Whip, thawed
- 9-inch graham cracker crust

Mix all ingredients together thoroughly and pour into graham cracker pie crust. Chill in refrigerator or freeze.

Family Devotion

Week 4 - Gratitude Through Song

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song." Psalm 28:7

Who likes to sing? Raise your hand if you do or belt out a lyric to your favorite song now!

One of my favorite ways of praising God is through song. I love singing praises to Him...and sometimes I sing loudly!

In Psalm 28:7, David shares with us that he likes to sing, too! David tells us that God is his strength and shield, that he trusts God, and that God helps him. And because of this David says his heart leaps for joy! And then David says he gives thanks to God by singing to Him.

So what makes your heart leap for joy and cause you to want to sing praises to God? Write down these things in the space below.

Now....it's time to sing! As a family, pick a praise song that you love, find it on YouTube, play it and sing a-long with it! Let this be a time of truly praising God through song. In the space below, write down some of the lyrics to the song that you picked out.

Family Devotion

Your challenge this week is to sing more! Let's be like David and praise God through song. Turn on a Christian radio station in your car and sing a-long. While doing homework, turn on praise music in the background (softly, maybe). While you're cooking dinner (mom and dad), turn on worship music. When we fill our lives with songs for God, we will be reminded to give thanks to God. These praise songs will be in our hearts and we will sing them all the time! Praise God for all that He does for us!

Father God, today our family gives thanks to You. We lift Your name up and praise You. Help us to praise You more through song this week and always give glory to You. Amen.

Family Devotion Activity - Gobble Up Gratitude Challenge

Remember to fill out your Gratitude Calendar this week! And don't forget to feed your turkey some gratitude!

Family Game

Week 4 - Bible Verse Turkey Hunt

Supplies Needed: Bible Verse Turkey Hunt cards, scissors

Your family will go on a search for the missing turkeys! These turkeys have parts of the Bible verse written on them and they need to be found!

Before the activity starts, hide all the Bible Verse Turkey Hunt cards around your house or outside. Then send the kids out to hunt for the Bible Verse Turkeys!

After kids find all the turkeys, have them put them in the right order for the Bible verse of the week (Psalm 28:7).

After they finish, read the Bible verse together and discuss.

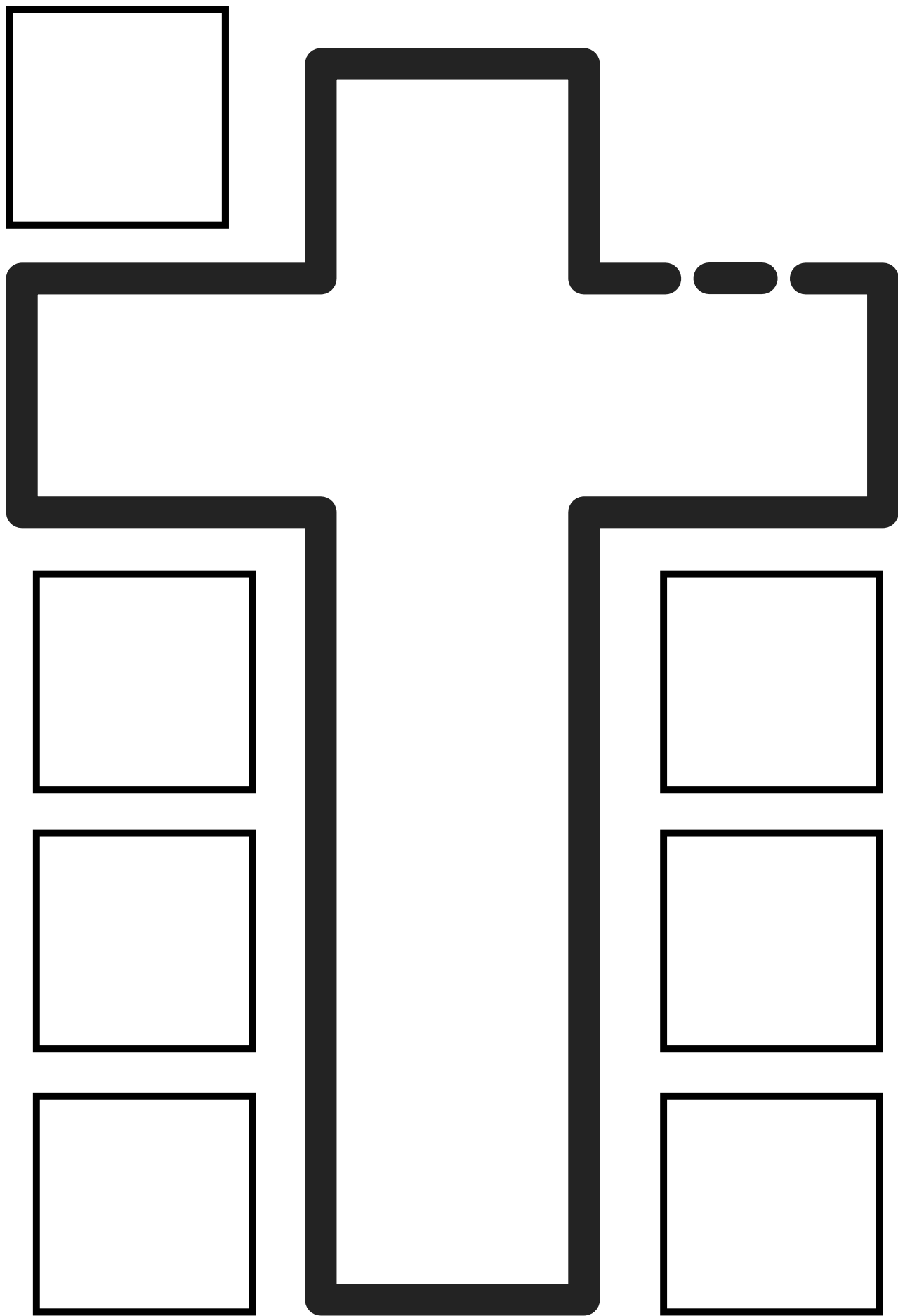
Family Craft

Week 4 - Thankful Cross

Supplies Needed: *cross and square template, cardstock, construction paper, markers, gluestick*

Using the cross template on the following page, trace the cross onto cardstock paper and cut out. Then using the square template, trace 7 small squares out of construction paper and cut out. Use a different color for each square.

Glue 5 squares on the vertical part of the cross. Glue 2 squares on the horizontal part of the cross. On the center square of the cross, write "I Am Thankful". Then on the other squares write things you are thankful for (or draw pictures of what you are thankful for). Hang on your fridge or in your room.



Thanksgiving Dessert

Week 4 - Pretzel Jello Salad

Crust (Bottom Layer)

1 1/4 cup crushed pretzels
1/2 cup sugar
1/3 cup melted butter

Mix the above ingredients. Put into a 13x9 pan and press. Bake at 350° for 8-10 minutes. Let cool after you take it out of the oven.

Middle Layer

8 oz cream cheese
8 oz Cool Whip
1/2 cup powdered sugar

Mix together well using a beater. Spread onto cooled crust.

Top Layer

1 large strawberry jello
2 cups boiling water
1 pint frozen strawberries

Mix together well. Let jello set a little then pour into a 13x9 pan. Chill then serve.

Thank You

Thank you for choosing Gobble Up Gratitude!

For more faith and family fun ideas, please visit my website:
www.vanessamyers.org.

I invite you to subscribe to my blog as well! All subscribers receive access to my Family Bible Study Resource Library. This library is filled with printable Bible resources for children and families. You will also receive one email a week filled with ideas to help equip your family for your faith journey.

If you are looking for a devotional to do with your family, I would love for you to check out my book, Breakfast with Jesus: 100 Devotions for Kids About the Life of Jesus. This book is perfect for elementary age children. Each day includes a devotion, memory verse, prayer, and a Follow Me activity. Also included are some yummy breakfast recipes!

To purchase this book, visit Amazon. If you would like copies personalized and signed, send me an email: vanessamyers99@gmail.com and I will send you a copy!

