

SEASON 28
GODReads!

MONTH 2
Give Thanks, And Sing!

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DESSERT IDEA:
**Pumpkin Chocolate
Chip Bread**

CANDY IDEA:
Hershey's Symphony Bars

ICE BREAKER:

Name that Tune Create a playlist of popular songs from the past or popular Disney songs. Play a couple seconds of each song until someone names that tune. If you have a large group, guests can be broken up into teams.

Draw a turkey on your head using a paper plate. Give each guest a paper plate and a pen. Give each person 30 seconds to draw a turkey on the plate while it is on their head. (See Resources for instructions)

**RESOURCES
& LINKS:**



SERVING • CONNECTING • SHARING

1. FUN: THE PROGRAM

Choose from one of the following or create your own.

1. Discuss ways to serve others during the Thanksgiving season. You may want to look up and share opportunities in your area.
2. Invite someone creative to present ideas on how to decorate your Thanksgiving table.
3. Create a Thanksgiving table centerpiece. Provide materials so that each guest can create a beautiful centerpiece to take home. **Or** provide thank you notes and encourage guests to write a thank you note to someone they are thankful for.

Choose from one or more of these ideas for conversation starters:

- What Thanksgiving traditions does your family observe?
- If you could invite anyone in history to Thanksgiving dinner, who would it be and why?
- Do you sing in the shower, your car or anywhere else?

DEEPER DISCUSSION

God wants us to thank and praise Him daily. He loves to hear our prayers and praises! The offerings of our time and talents are pleasing to Him.

When we are mindful of God every day, it gives Him the opportunity to guide us in our daily walk. Although it's difficult to be still and listen, this discipline is necessary in order to recognize God's voice when He speaks to us.

Expressing gratitude is a great way to prevent current circumstances from stealing our joy. Like the lyrics of the famous hymn "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus" says, *Turn your eyes upon Jesus, Look full in his wonderful face, And the things of earth will grow strangely dim, In the light of his glory and grace.*

2. FAITHFULNESS:

Giving Thanks Morning & Evening

This month's Scripture is about the Ark of the Covenant being returned to Jerusalem and is found in 1 Chronicles 16.

1 Chronicles 16:8-9

Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.

The Ark of the Covenant represented the very presence of God to the Israelites. At this point in history, it has been away from the Israelites for some time, but when David becomes king, he brings the Ark of the Covenant back to Jerusalem and gathers the Israelites for this event.

By bringing the ark back to Jerusalem, King David is essentially saying, we want God's presence, guidance, and care among the nation again. David pitches a tent for the ark and once it is placed, he gives offerings to the Lord, blesses the people in the name of the Lord and they all begin to celebrate with a "thanksgiving" feast.

David then appoints Levites, who were the priest of the Israelites, to minister before the ark of the Lord and to thank and praise the Lord every day.

David shares this beautiful song of thanksgiving found in verses 8-36. Many of these verses can also be found throughout the Psalms.

From that day forward, the Levites were called to minister daily before the ark in accordance with everything written in the Law of the Lord, the present day Bible. Some Levites are named strictly to give thanks to the Lord.

The Israelites had experienced a lot of struggles over the years, but still gave thanks for God's wondrous works and promises in their lives. Do you struggle to give thanks to God for His faithfulness in the midst of your troubles?

1 Chronicles 23:30

They were also to stand every morning to thank and praise the LORD. They were to do the same in the evening.

Before King David died, he gave these instructions to the Levites to start and end each day with thanksgiving and praise to God.

Imagine if we started and ended our day this way. What are some ways we can be more thankful?

SWEET EXTRA

There are approximately 140 references in the Bible to giving thanks to God.

3. CLOSING SCRIPT:

Read Your Bible, Girl!

This devotion is a true story featuring real people and comes from one or more of God's 66 books of the Bible. While it's fun to have fellowship with other ladies and to learn new things, nothing has ever changed my life like God's Word.

The Holy Bible tells us that while we were all sinners, Christ died for us. Through the cross of Jesus, God reconciles us to Himself and restores us to how we were meant to be. This gift of redemption promises eternal life and transforms us from the inside-out. But like all gifts, it must be accepted. If you have not accepted this gift from God, please contact me. I'd love to speak with you and answer any questions you may have.

I encourage you to follow along with this month's Scripture Writing, and read the story for yourself. Ask God what He would like to show you in His life-changing Word.

SCRIPTURE WRITING:

THANKSGIVING



Sweet Scripture Writing

Want to read *David's Song of Thanks for yourself*? Join us in reading and writing God's Word down every day, meditating on it, and writing it on your heart. Look up, read and write each verse and recite them to give thanks to God both in the morning and the evening.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 1 | 1 Chronicles 16:1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 15 | 1 Chronicles 16:21 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 2 | 1 Chronicles 16:2-3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 16 | 1 Chronicles 16:22 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 3 | 1 Chronicles 16:4 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 17 | 1 Chronicles 16:23 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 4 | 1 Chronicles 16:5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 18 | 1 Chronicles 16:24 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 5 | 1 Chronicles 16:6 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 19 | 1 Chronicles 16:25 |
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16:12-13 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 25 | 1 Chronicles 16:31 |
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16:14-15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 26 | 1 Chronicles 16:32 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 13 | 1 Chronicles
16:16-18 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 27 | 1 Chronicles 16:33 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 14 | 1 Chronicles
16:19-20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 28 | 1 Chronicles 16:34 |
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