



Parents' prayer

Before you begin leading your child through this study, spend time alone with God interceding for His help. Ask Him to help you grow in thankfulness, and to release His power in your child. If you wish, you can use the sample prayer below to guide you in praying for your child's character development.

Sample prayer

*Lord, You are the giver of so many good things (James 1:17). I have so much to be thankful for, yet I find it so easy to fall into an "oh poor me" attitude. Instead of praising You, I use my voice to complain and model ungratefulness for our kids. In my mind I keep records of injustices. I complain that I am always the one who **(FILL IN THE BLANK)***

I want to be joyful always and ready to give thanks in all circumstances because this is Your will for us in Christ Jesus (1 Thessalonians 5:16-19). For Your love and patience, I thank You! Amen.

Scripture References:

Psalm 136:1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever.
Psalm 69:30 I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving.

Definitions of words

Praise is saying things to God that are true about God

Endure means to last, or to bear with (as in God's love endures forever)

Discussion Conversation at home with your kids

"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever." These are great words! In fact, they are the words of a song that we can hear on the radio! But the amazing thing is that these words have been used in songs to praise God for thousands of years.

About 3,000 years ago a man named David (King David of Israel) wrote these words down in order to praise God with them. David also wrote these words: "I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving." (Psalm 69:30)

Praising God means saying things to God that are true about Him. When we say things like: "God is good!" that is praising God, because God is good!

We might say things like "God is loving" or "God is always there" and that is praising God, because those things are true about God. God is loving and God is always there.



What are some other things we could say to praise God? What kinds of things can we that are true about God? (Listen to answers)

The Bible says that we are to give thanks to God. We are to give thanks to God because He is good. And God is good, isn't He? Let's talk about one of the ways that we know God is good. We know God is good because He gives us good things. (James 1:17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father...)

Let's name some of the good things God gives us or has given us. (Listen to answers)

What holiday is coming up soon? (THANKSGIVING)

When we celebrate the holiday of Thanksgiving, we are setting aside a day to thank God for all the good things He has given to us. We can thank Him for things as simple as our pets or as big and wonderful as our salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ. We can thank Him for anything good that we have received, because the Bible tells us that He has given us every good and perfect gift.

King David wrote: "Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever." One of the ways we can give thanks to God is to pray. Let's pray and thank God for all the good things He has given us!

Closing Prayer

Dear God, Thank you for all of the good and perfect gifts you have given us! We praise you for how good and loving you are!! Help us to make every day a day of thanksgiving!! AMEN

In the season of thanksgiving, have your kids create their own cards to send to someone they are thankful for!