



# Deeply Loved, Loving Deeply

## EXPEDITION TITLE

### Deeply Loved, Loving Deeply

#### Expedition Driving Question:

How might I delight in God's family despite brokenness?

#### Expedition Deep Hope:

We are deeply loved and loving deeply in God's family!

#### Expedition Verse:

"We love because He first loved us." –1 John 4:19

## LEARNING PLAN TITLE

### Celebrating Family Through Thanksgiving

#### Learning Plan Number: 9

#### Learning Targets:

1. We can celebrate and deeply love others in God's family through our stories and acts of THANKSGIVING.
2. I can practice celebrating my family through thanksgiving.

#### Habit(s) of Learning:

Gracious Communicating: We are kind, specific, helpful

## CUMULATIVE TIME



60-80 MIN

## ICON KEY



Learning activities that support your document panel with visual artifacts are indicated by a push-pin and paper icon in the activity title.



Learning activities connected with sponsored children are indicated by a helping hands icon in the activity title.



Learning activities that support your community engagement project are indicated by a community icon in the activity title.




**Note:** Create a large version of Teacher Resource I.9.b: “Let’s Give a Hand” on chart paper. Responses will be listed near each finger of the hand, so leave space for this.



#### Creating the hand poster/visual:

1. In the center of the hand, write, “I am Thankful for...”
2. Label the inside of the thumb, “God.”
3. Label the inside of the pointer finger, “My Family.”
4. Label the inside of the middle finger, “My Friends.”
5. Label the inside of the ring finger, “My School.”
6. Label the inside of the pinkie finger, “Myself.”

#### ENTRY EVENT

ACTIVITY TITLE	TIME	RESOURCES
<i><b>Celebrating with Thanksgiving</b></i> <i>Engage the Learning Targets (ELT)</i>	 5-10 min	<input type="checkbox"/> I.L.e Student Material: “I Can See the Delightful” glasses <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Ronnie Wilson’s Gift</i> , by Francis Chan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather students into a carpet space and invite them to put on their “I Can See the Delightful” glasses. Ask students to share why we wear these glasses. What do they remind us or invite us to do? (Intentionally see the world through the lens of “delightfulness,” “try to look through God’s eyes ...” etc.).</li> <li>Share with joy that today we will be talking about celebrating our families through thanksgiving! Re-read Francis Chan’s book, <i>Ronnie Wilson’s Gift</i>, with students. Explain that as you read this story, you want them to listen to the many things people are thankful for and to look for ways they show thanksgiving. When you finish reading the story, ask students to turn and share with a neighbor: “Who showed thankfulness in the story?” “In what way did they show their thankfulness?”</li> <li>Students can put their glasses in the basket.</li> </ul>		

#### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

<i><b>Fill-in-the-Blank</b></i>  <i>Introduce the Learning Targets (ILT)</i>	 5 min	<input type="checkbox"/> Post learning targets using chart or poster paper
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Display the learning targets for students, but cover up the words “celebrate,” “celebrating,” and “thanksgiving.”</li> <li>Read the learning targets; for each covered word, say “blank.”</li> <li>It might sound like this:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>We can (blank) and deeply love others in God’s family through our stories and acts of (blank).</u></li> <li>2. <u>I can practice (blank) my family through (blank).</u></li> </ol> </li> <li>Ask for students to imagine what words they could use to complete the learning targets.</li> <li>Record their ideas around the learning targets. Uncover the learning targets; affirm and celebrate their answers!</li> <li>Read, or ask for a student to read, the learning targets after they are uncovered to help point the class to the learning they will engage in today.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Add the learning targets, or a photograph of the learning targets, and students’ responses to the document panel.</p>		





ACTIVITY TITLE	TIME	RESOURCES
<b>Acting Out Thankfulness</b> Engage the Learning Targets (ELT)	15-20 min	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>God's Love for You</i> , by Richard and Renee Stearns
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather the students around the document panel and review the new scripture verse, "We love because he first loved us." –1 John 4:19. Share with students that today, we will be celebrating family with thanksgiving.</li> <li>Read the story, <i>Jesus Heals the Paralyzed Man</i> and <i>Sticking Close</i> from <i>God's Love for You</i>, pg. 178.</li> <li>Share with students that, in a moment, they will be splitting up into small groups to act out the Bible story and talk about stories of thankfulness they heard in both stories. Explain your expectations for group work before students go into their groups. Use your preferred method of assigning students into groups (numbering off, table buddies, drawing names, etc.). Break students into groups of five (if some groups have one more or one less, that will work).</li> <li>In each group, the students will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Act out one of the Bible stories with their group. Have two to three groups act out the Paralyzed Man story and two to three groups act out the Sticking Close story. Groups will have eight minutes to act out their story together. (Assigning roles might help students get started.) Set a timer for eight minutes.</li> <li>After the time is up, students will sit in a circle with their group. Prompt students to share their stories of thankfulness from the Bible story. Set a timer for two minutes for each group to share.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>		
<b>I am Thankful For...</b> Engage the Learning Targets (ELT)	10 min	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After the small group work, gather all the students together in your gathering space. Take out your display of the large 'thankfulness' hand that you prepared before the learning plan. Celebrate with students that "we heard many stories of others being thankful, how amazing! Now, we are going to share celebrations of what WE are thankful for together."</li> <li>Point to the center of the hand and read, "I am thankful for..." Share with students that they will be celebrating what they are thankful for together.</li> <li>For each finger for the hand, share with students they will think about what they are thankful for and will be given a moment to share their responses. List as many responses as space allows next to each finger on the hand poster/display. As the students engage with the hand display, have students touch the correlating finger on their own hand.</li> <li>Read each finger and give time for students to share responses for each finger of the hand. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read the inside of the thumb, "God." Ask: "What are you thankful for about God?" "What is something special God has done for you that you are thankful for?" "What do you want to celebrate with thanks about God?" List responses.</li> <li>Read the inside of the pointer finger, "My Family." "What are you thankful for about your family?" "What is something special about your family that you are thankful for?" "What do you want to celebrate with thanks about your family?" List responses.</li> <li>Read the inside of the middle finger, "My Friends." "What are you thankful for about your friends?" "What is something special about your friends that you are thankful for?" "What do you want to celebrate with thanks about your friends?" List responses.</li> <li>Read the inside of the ring finger, "My School." "What are you thankful for about your school?" "What is something special about your school that you are thankful for?" "What do you want to celebrate with thanks about your school?" List responses.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>		

Continued ...




5. Read the inside of the pinkie finger, “**Myself.**” “What are you thankful for about yourself?” “What is something special about yourself that you are thankful for?” “What do you want to celebrate with thanks about how God created you?” List responses.

- Share with students that clapping is a way of showing thanks to others. Have students put their hands together and clap a clap of thanksgiving for all the stories of thanksgiving.

ACTIVITY TITLE	TIME	RESOURCES
<p><b>Give Them a Hand!</b> </p> <p><i>Reflect on the Learning Targets (RLT)</i></p>	 20-30 min	<input type="checkbox"/> I.9.a Student Material: “Let’s Give a Hand”
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer to the hand poster that students helped create. Show them the thank you card they will be creating today. (See example: there are two pages, the first page is the cover and the back of the card, the second page is the inside of the card.) Explain to students that they will create their own “Let’s Give Them a Hand!” thank you card for a member in their family.</li> <li>• The inside of the card has a blank hand. Instruct students to pick one person in their family who will receive this thank you card. Instruct them to write the name of the person they want to thank in the center of the hand. Then, they will write one celebration of thanks for that person on each finger in the card. (i.e. If a student chose to celebrate and thanks for “Dad,” on the thumb they could write, “His smile.” On the pointer finger they could write, “He loves me.” On the third finger they could write, “He helps me.” etc.)</li> <li>• Help students complete all sides of the card (cover, inside, and back).</li> </ul> <p><i>Tip: Pre-print and fold each card to help students see the cover, inside, and back of their card. Students can use pencil first, and then go over their writing with marker for their final details. Printing the card template on cardstock will provide a lovely “finished” look to the cards.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students can use open ended materials to decorate their card (stickers, variety of writing and coloring implements, lace, ribbon, etc.).</li> <li>• Once the final cards have been completed, make a copy of each card and have students add it to their <i>Deeply Loved, Loving Deeply</i> scrapbook. The original cards can then be mailed or taken home to family members when they are completed.</li> </ul>		



## EXIT EVENT

ACTIVITY TITLE	TIME	RESOURCES
<b><i>Museum Walk</i></b> <i>Assess the Learning Targets (ALT)</i>	 5 min	<input type="checkbox"/> I.L.e Student Material: “I Can See the Delightful” eyeglasses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In your gathering space, thank students for the work and care they put into showing thankfulness to their families with their cards. Share with students they are going to have a <i>Museum Walk</i>.</li> <li>Remind students of the <i>Museum Walk</i> protocol. Then explain that as they walk quietly today using their eyes and hearts to see each other’s work, you would like them to think about how they are seeing their classmates show thankfulness or gratitude to their families.</li> <li>Invite students to wear their “I can see the delightful” glasses. Remind them that “when we wear these glasses, they remind us to change our perspective, how we see the world. Look for the delightful and celebrations of thanks with each card.” Consider setting a timer for the museum walk, about three to four minutes.</li> <li>When the museum walk ends, close the learning by asking for a student leader to pray to close.</li> </ul>		
<b>LEARNING EXPEDITION VISUAL GENERATED THROUGH THE LEARNING PLAN</b> <b>ADD TO DOCUMENT PANEL</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thank-you card: make a copy to add to <i>Deeply Loved, Loving Deeply</i> scrapbook</li> </ul>		
<b>OPPORTUNITY TO DEEPEN THE LEARNING</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This activity of writing and creating thankfulness cards could easily be broken into multiple days. Students could spend time brainstorming, drafting, and creating cards in a letter writing process within the class, if your schedule allows. Expand this activity availability.</li> <li>Ask students to share stories of thanksgiving during lunch with the class (or a natural sharing time in your classroom schedule). Invite other students to reflect on the stories of thanks by sharing what they heard was delightful in each story.</li> <li>Connect the theme of celebrating the delightful stories of love and thanksgiving with other subjects in the classroom to extend and enrich the learning of this expedition. Cross-curricular work can reinforce the learning and provide authentic opportunities of learning and enrichment.</li> </ul>		