

# GRATITUDE

## BIG IDEA

Gratitude allows us to give to others because God has given abundantly to us. It is the wise use of stewardship and the attitude that all I have belongs to God and knowing we are the caretakers for His purpose.

## MEMORY VERSE

James 1:17  
Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

## • PREPARATION & MATERIALS •

### BIBLE LESSON

- bible
- paper and marker, one per child

### GAME

- One per child: Balloons, small wrapped candies that can fit in the balloon, paper, markers
- One roll of blue painters tape or a rope

### CRAFT

- Copies of garland templates, 2 per kid
- Markers if they will be coloring the black and white patterns (optional).
- Pencils or markers
- Glue
- 18-24 inches of twine, ribbon or string per kid

### WORKSHEETS

- Photocopies of Coloring Sheet (1 per child)



# GRATITUDE

Lesson 17

## BIBLE LESSON • INTERACTIVE

---

### Preparation:

Give each student a piece of paper and a pencil/marker. Have a bible open to Psalm 65.

Say: I'm going to read a psalm of thanksgiving from the bible. Each time I stop I'm going to ask you to draw something on your paper. Now, just relax and listen to these beautiful words. They were written by King David to be lyrics for a song.

(Read Psalm 65:1-4)

Say: These verses describe how our sins are forgiven. On your paper, draw a little picture about something God has forgiven you of. Maybe you said something mean. Maybe you hid something. Maybe you took something that wasn't yours. Maybe you said "no" to a parent when you should have said "yes". Maybe you made someone sad. As you draw, remember that if you believe in Jesus Christ then you have been forgiven! Be grateful to God for his forgiveness.

(Read Psalm 65:5-8)

Say: These verses describe God's beautiful creation, His power, His care for His people and the joy he gives us. Draw picture of something in God's creation that is awesome to you. Is it the mountains, the ocean, a waterfall, an animal?

(Read Psalm 65:9-13)

Say: These verses describe the beauty of the land. Draw a picture of the most beautiful place you have been to.

Say: Now share one of your pictures with a friend and tell them about why you drew it.

Say: Our verse today says "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." That means our families, friends, homes and toys are from God. Fresh air, trees, rain and sunlight are also perfect gifts from God. He is continually giving us good gifts and it's important that we are grateful. God loves a grateful heart.

---

### SIMPLIFIED LESSON OPTIONS

- *Instead of using individual papers use a large poster board and have children offer ideas of what the leader can draw.*
- *Instead of sharing with a friend have children share with the whole group.*

# GRATITUDE

Lesson 17

## CRAFT

### • CRAFT •

#### OBJECTIVE: GRATEFULNESS GARLANDS

Kids will make colorful garlands filled with things they are thankful for.

#### DIRECTIONS

- Cut out diamond shapes.
- Color if using black and white patterns (optional)
- Kids write things they are grateful for
- Fold diamonds in half to create triangles
- Place a length of twine in the fold and glue triangles together

#### MATERIALS PROVIDED BY EM

- Scissors, staplers, hole punches

#### MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- Copies of garland templates, 2 per kid
- Markers if they will be coloring the black and white patterns (optional).
- Pencils or markers
- Glue
- 18-24 inches of twine, ribbon or string per kid



#### SIMPLIFIED CRAFT OPTIONS

- Precut diamonds
- Print and precut colored patterns only
- Brainstorm a thankfulness list that the kids can copy

# GRATITUDE

Lesson 17

## GAME

### • GAME •

#### OBJECTIVE: SURPRISE GIFTS!

Kids will enjoy popping a balloon to find a prize. They will also enjoy watching their friends receive prizes.

#### MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

One per child: Balloons, small wrapped candies that can fit in the balloon, paper, markers  
One roll of blue painters tape or a rope

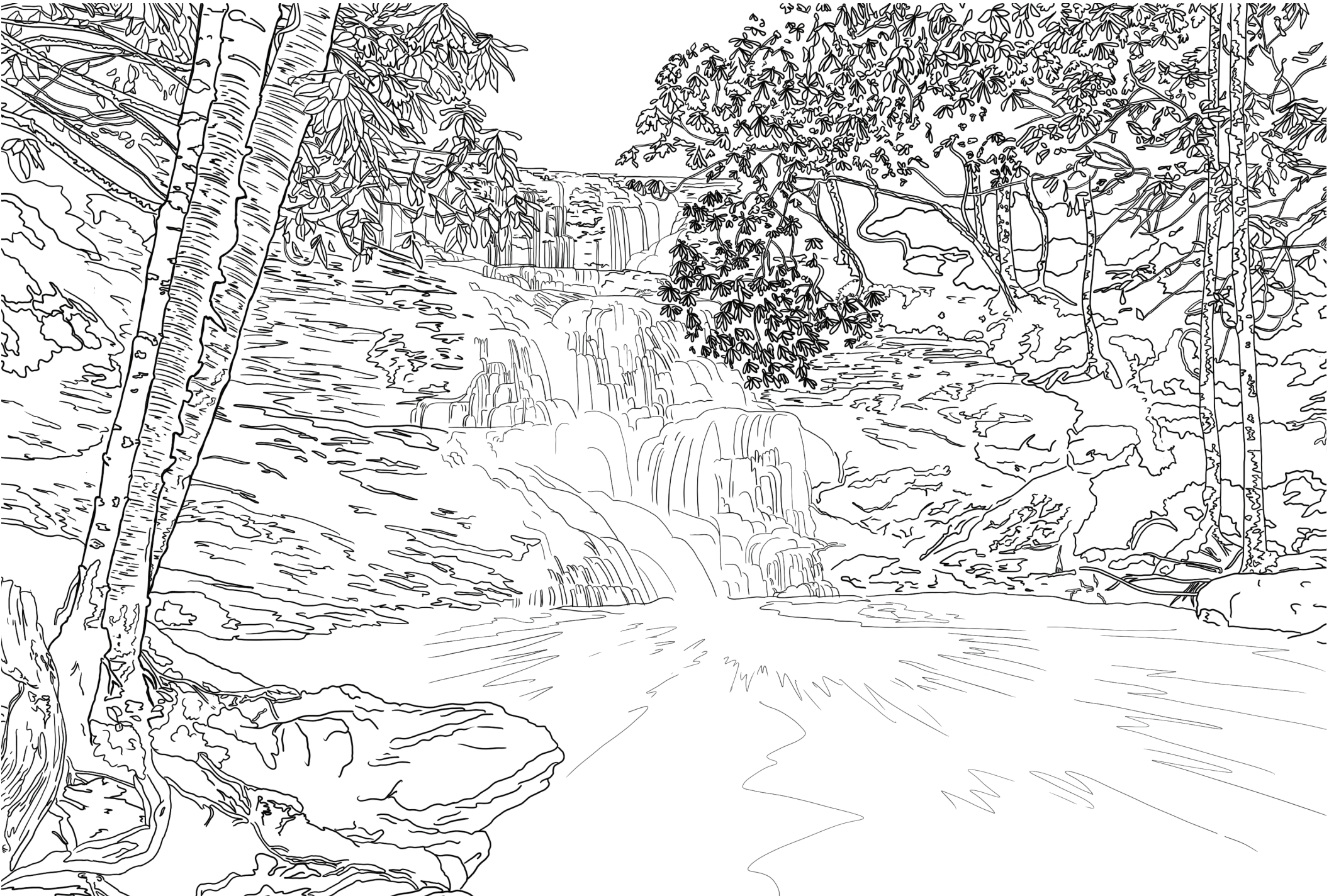
#### INSTRUCTIONS

- Prior to club place a wrapped candy inside a balloon and blow it up. Make one candy-balloon per child.
- Place all the balloons at one end of the room
- Create a 3 foot diameter circle in the middle of the room
- Have the kids sit in a large circle around the small circle.
- Pass out paper and a marker to each of the students. Instruct them to write their name in large letters on the paper and then wad it up into a ball
- On the count of 3 the kids throw their paper into the circle.
- Mission Team Leaders pick up the papers that landed in the circle, call out the names. These kids pick out a balloon, pop it and enjoy the candy prize.
- Return the papers that missed the circle to the the remaining kids. Have them throw their paper wads on the count of 3. Repeat calling out names and popping balloons.
- Continue in this fashion until all the kids have popped a balloon and found their prize

DISCUSS: Who do you think had more fun with this game? You kids or us leaders? (Both. Kids had fun popping balloons and getting prizes. Leaders had fun watching the play.) It's equally fun to give gifts and to receive gifts. Remember to be grateful in both circumstances. This means to be thankful for every gift you receive, every day of life, every moment of fun, every beautiful thing in your surroundings. And also be thankful when you have the ability to give gifts and bring joy to someones life. All good and perfect things come from God.

#### GAME OPTIONS

- *Instead of balloons wrap the prizes in wads of paper*
- *End with a simple relay race to work out the extra energy.*





RECONNAISSANT  
AGRADECIDO  
DANKBAAR  
THANKFUL

---

---

---

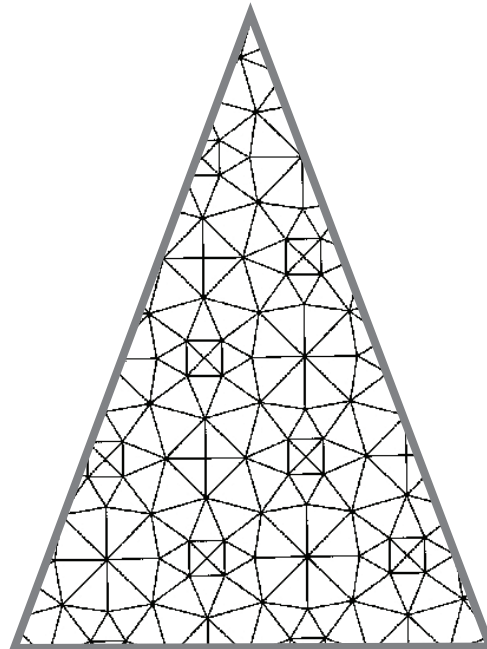


RECONNAISSANT  
AGRADECIDO  
DANKBAAR  
THANKFUL

---

---

---



RECONNAISSANT  
AGRADECIDO  
DANKBAAR  
THANKFUL

---

---

---



RECONNAISSANT  
AGRADECIDO  
DANKBAAR  
THANKFUL

---

---

---

