

Caleb, The thank You Spy **Memory Verse I Thessalonians 5:18**

“In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”

Introduction: (Have children do a different gesture for each category, i.e. raise your hand, touch your nose, stand up and turn around, jump up and down) if you have ever thanked God for: your parents, (give time for children to respond after each one) the food you eat, your home, a gift you were given, someone you loved dying, a bad grade in math. Wait a minute, we are not supposed to thank God when something bad happens are we? Let's see what God says.

Presentation: (Have a child read 1 Thess. 5:18 or do a sword drill with all the children who bring Bibles and the first person standing should read the verse.) Ask: Which book in the Bible is this verse found in? (1 Thess.) What chapter? (Chapter 5) What verse? (Verse 18)

Explanation: Does God say we should only thank Him when good things happen? When should we thank God? (In every thing) What does the will of God mean? (It means what God wants you to do) According to this verse what is the will of God concerning you? (His will is that you thank Him in every situation even when it seems bad.) How can you thank God when someone you love dies? (If that person has trusted in Jesus as their Savior you can know that they are rejoicing in heaven with Jesus and you can thank God for that.) What does in Christ Jesus mean? It means that if you have trusted in Jesus as your Savior you can thank Him that He will never leave you or forsake you. (Hebrews 13:5b). He will be with you in every situation and you can thank Him for that. If someone you love dies, He will comfort you and be there for you through your grief, pain, and sorrow. No matter what, you can thank God in every situation because He is a good God and you can trust Him for this is what He wants you to do, this is His will

Application: Saved: If you have already trusted in Jesus as your Savior, you should want to please God and do His will by thanking Him always. Next time something seems good or bad, thank Him in that situation.

Unsaved: If you have never trusted in Jesus as your Savior you are separated from God and it will be impossible for you to thank Him in every situation. John 3:16 says, “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” You need to admit to God that you are a sinner, believe (trust) that He did die on the cross to pay the penalty for your sin and that He rose again. You need to choose Him as your Savior so you can have everlasting life. Then you can thank God in every situation because He will be with you, loving and helping no matter what.

Repetition: “Thank you Spy Scramble p. 8”