



A Thankful Heart

God's Plan for Me



"In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus."
1 Thess. 5:18



Written & Illustrated by Anita Brandon

"Teachable Moments"

- ✦ Even in the storms of life it is important to have a **thankful heart**, because God commands it. Discover in God's Word the benefits of obeying Him.
- ✦ Memorize together: 1 Thess. 5:18
- ✦ Parents: The scriptures and questions in the **Simple Truths** will provide you with things to discuss with your children as they are doing these learning activities.
- ✦ **ACTIVITIES:**
 - Truth Search** is an opportunity to start "digging for treasures" of truth in God's Word.
 - Path of Life** will provide application of the truth that God is with us always. Doing this together with your child can stimulate discussion, too.
 - Thankful & Praising Hearts** is an activity that can extend over a few days; the review will also help to establish a habit of being more thankful.
- ✦ Enjoy singing together: This lesson has three songs for you to sing (music and accompaniment is also provided).
- ✦ Prayer Time: Encourage your children to talk about the things for which they are thankful. Help them learn to praise and thank God for His goodness by modeling it for them in your prayers.

(Permission granted to make extra copies of coloring or game page for other children in the family as needed.)

Simple Truths

1 GOD is Good.

What does that word mean?

The character of GOD (who He is) determines how He will relate to us human beings. Because He is **Good**, everything He does is good, even if we don't think so. Studying the Bible will help us understand this better.

"Taste and see that the LORD is **good**; blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him." Psalm 34:8

2 Everything GOD gives is Good.

Is GOD's plan always best for me?

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

3 Be thankful in everything.

What about "bad" things?

God tells us to give thanks **in** all things, not **for** all things. Bad or difficult times (storms of life) are not always easy or fun, but GOD is our ROCK and REFUGE, remember. He is always with us.

"**In everything** give thanks: for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thess. 5:18

It's easier to say "thankyou" for all the "good" things in life, but sometimes we don't because we are having so much fun that we forget who gives it to us.

4 Be sure to give GOD Glory and Praise.

How do I praise Him? SING it . . . SAY it . . . PRAY it!

What happens when I praise Him?

You will feel the comfort of His presence.

"He who sacrifices **thank offerings** honors me, and he prepares the way so that I may show him the salvation of God." (Psalm 50:23)

Idea: Make this song a part of your prayer time.



A Thankyou Prayer

Words & Music
by Anita Brandon



I thank You, dear Heav'n - ly Fath - er for
You know what I need; You're faith - ful to
Some - times bad things make me fear - ful, but



all the good things You do. My heart is
guide me and show the way. Your plan is
You pro - mised to be near. I know You're

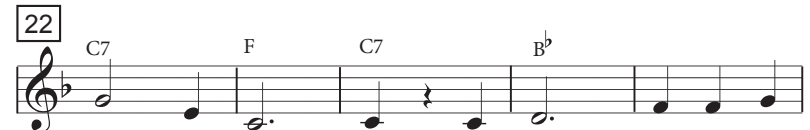


filled with thanks - giv - ing and praise - Just for You
per - fect and just right for me. So I say
with me, I'll trust You and say - I will pray



Chorus:

I love You and I thank You for the wond - er - ful

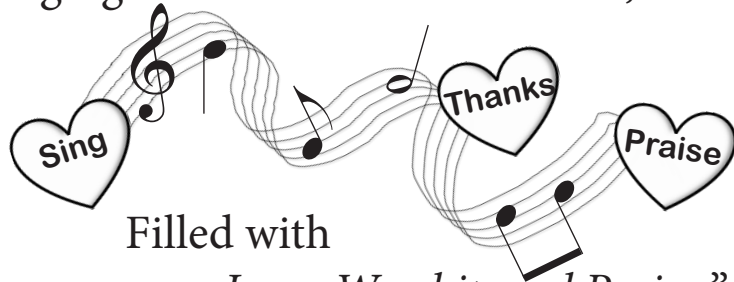


God You are. I love You and I



thank You for the wond - er - ful God You are.

“A Singing Heart is a Thankful Heart,



Filled with
Love, Worship and Praise.”

Song List

Thank Him-Praise Him
GOD is So Good
A Thankyou Prayer

This song can encourage *anytime* thanks and praise.

Thank Him - Praise Him

Words & Music
by Anita Brandon

Thank ___ Him, thank ___ Him; Thank Him in the good times,
 Praise ___ Him, praise ___ Him; Praise Him in the good times,

Ev - en in the bad times. Thank ___ Him, yes ___ thank ___ Him just be -
 Ev - en in the bad times. Praise ___ Him, yes ___ praise ___ Him just be -

cause He is so good. _____

This song can help us focus on
GOD’S CHARACTER: He is GOOD.

Love
Thanks

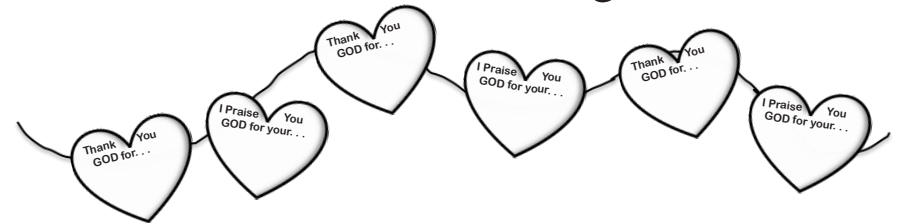
God is So Good

Composer Unknown

God is so good, ___ God is so good.
 I love Him so, ___ I love Him so.

God is so good; ___ He's so good to me.
 I love Him so; ___ He's so good to me.

Thankful & Praising Hearts



This activity will provide an opportunity to encourage being thankful. This could be done as a family project, parents included, or each child can make their own. Here are some suggestions, but perhaps your children will have other ideas. (Instructions to follow.)

A Garland of **Thanks & Praise**

A Poster/Collage of **Thanks & Praise**

A Mobile of **Thanks & Praise**

A little Book of **Thanks & Praise**

Thankful & Praising Hearts Activity #1

Photocopy as many of these hearts as you need.

Have each child write something for which they are thankful.

Color them, if desired.

Cut them out and make a garland/ mobile to hang, or display on a poster .



Thankful & Praising Hearts Activity #2

Photocopy as many of these hearts as you need.

Have each child write something for which they are thankful.

Color them, if desired.

Cut them out and make a garland / mobile to hang, or display on a poster.

