

### **Supplies**

- Bibles
- red dot stickers
- ball

### **Show Thankful Actions**

Say: **Jesus loves us so much, and he does so much for us. We can thank him. He deserves our thanks! Today we'll hear about a man who was thankful to Jesus, and he made sure that Jesus knew. Before we hear more about that man, let's think about being thankful.**

Share a couple of things you thank people for, such as a gift, a special treat, or help when you can't do something by yourself.

Ask: • **What are some things you thank people for?** Help children think of ideas. They might say that they're thankful when people give them gifts on their birthdays or at Christmas, they're thankful when friends do nice things for them, or they're thankful when friends or family members help them do something they can't do.

Say: **Those are all things we can be thankful for! And when we're thankful, people can see it on our faces. Let's practice doing some of the things that show we're thankful—try to be creative and act out a unique way you're thankful for each example I share.**

**When you get a really great gift!** Allow time for kids to show how they'd act thankful, and point out a few that you see kids doing.

**When you get hurt, but someone picks you up.** Allow time for kids to show how they'd act thankful, and point out a few that you see kids doing.

**When someone holds a door open for us!** Allow time for kids to show how they'd act thankful, and point out a few that you see kids doing.

**When your friend invites you over to play.** Allow time for kids to show how they'd act thankful, and point out a few that you see kids doing.

**When your teacher says he's going to give you a delicious treat!** Allow time for kids to show how they'd act thankful, and point out a few that you see kids doing.

Say: **You all thought of some creative ways to show you're thankful, and we can say thank you to Jesus by doing things like that too.**

## Clean Skin

Say: **One of the men in today's Bible story knew how to show Jesus that he was thankful. Let's hear what happened.**

Show the Bible. Say: **Jesus was walking to a city called Jerusalem, and he saw 10 very sick men. The men had sores all over their skin.** Give each child a red dot to place on his or her own hand.

Say: **Their skin hurt so bad. It was itchy and achy, and some of the men even had skin that was falling off!** Invite the children to show how they might act if their skin was like that.

Say: **The men said to Jesus, "Have mercy on us!" They wanted Jesus' help. They knew that Jesus is amazing. They knew he could do something for them. So when the 10 men asked Jesus for help, Jesus told them to go to a place like our church. And the men went. And all of a sudden they were better! They weren't sick anymore. Think of a time you were really sick and someone helped you feel better. Pause. That's a time we can be thankful. What was the favorite way you showed thankfulness earlier when we talked about the examples? Show that now.**

**These men definitely had something to thank Jesus for. And so do we!** Point to a red dot sticker. **Remember, these red dots helped us think about the sores on the men's skin. Let's take off our red dots while we thank Jesus for something.** Lead children in taking off their red dots. As they do, allow about a minute for kids to privately thank Jesus for something he's done for each of them.

Collect the stickers, and throw them away.

## Take Turns Being the One

Say: **Jesus has done a lot that we can thank him for. Jesus deserves our thanks. Jesus deserved a thank you from all 10 of the men he helped.**

**The Bible says that only one of the 10 men went back to thank Jesus. That man was so excited that he shouted to Jesus. He said, "Praise God!" and he fell to the ground by Jesus' feet. Let's take turns being the one thankful man.**

Lead children in making a circle, and then toss the ball to various kids. When children catch the ball, have them show thanks to Jesus in the most enthusiastic way they can think of. If they want, they can instead imitate the man in the Bible by falling to the ground and then jumping back up and saying, "Thank you, Jesus!"

## Sing to Thank Jesus

Say: Like the man thanked Jesus, we can thank him, too. Jesus deserves our thanks. We've practiced a lot of ways to say thank you today. Another great way we can thank Jesus is to sing to him. Let's sing a thankful song now.

Lead the children in doing the motions and singing this song to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It."

If you're thankful and you know it, clap your hands!  
If you're thankful and you know it, clap your hands!  
If you're thankful and you know it, then Jesus wants your life to show it!  
If you're thankful and you know it, clap your hands!

If you're thankful and you know it, smile big!  
If you're thankful and you know it, smile big!  
If you're thankful and you know it, then Jesus wants your life to show it!  
If you're thankful and you know it, smile big!

If you're thankful and you know it, jump around!  
If you're thankful and you know it, jump around!  
If you're thankful and you know it, then Jesus wants your life to show it!  
If you're thankful and you know it, jump around!

If you're thankful and you know it, give a hug!  
If you're thankful and you know it, give a hug!  
If you're thankful and you know it, then Jesus wants your life to show it!  
If you're thankful and you know it, give a hug!

If you're thankful and you know it, shout "thank you!"  
If you're thankful and you know it, shout "thank you!"  
If you're thankful and you know it, then Jesus wants your life to show it!  
If you're thankful and you know it, shout "thank you!"

Let the children think of other things to do as time allows.

Say: We sing like this because Jesus deserves our thanks. He loves us and cares for us, and he's always with us! Thank you, Jesus!