

## **Topic: God is to be Thanked (Lesson 13)**

Note: The practical applications provided in the lesson are offered as suggestions to help the saints in their preparation. They are not meant to direct or limit the ways in which the focus of the lesson can be applied. The saints are encouraged to pray and contact the Lord to receive His burden and guidance in teaching and applying the lesson. Fellowship with other saints, and inquiring of the children themselves, may also bring out many helpful applications.

### **Elementary:**

Verse: “It is good to give thanks to Jehovah, And to sing psalms to Your name, O Most High;” (Psalm 92:1).

Focus: We should have a thankful and appreciative heart towards God because everything and everyone around us is given to us from God. Every day we can thank God for the things He gives us.

Practical Application: Give examples of things or persons we love and for which we should be thankful to Him (e.g., strawberries, sunshine, our friends, our parents, etc.). Ask the children to name particular things or persons for which they can thank God.

### **Intermediate:**

Verses: “In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

Focus: Being thankful to God involves our heart. We should thank Him and the people around us who provide for us.

Practical Application: Consider asking the children, "When you receive a gift from someone, are you thankful in your heart or do you complain or despise the gift? Are you thankful in your heart for your parents who take you to school every day and provide you with a safe and happy home?" Remind the children to be thankful in their heart to God every day (not just for the food on the table, but for so many other things that He gives/provides).

### **Advanced:**

Verse: “Giving thanks at all times for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to our God and Father” (Ephesians 5:20).

Focus: Being thankful to God involves our heart. We may not always get what we want but we should still thank God for His arrangement. He knows what is best for us. We should even be thankful for restrictions in our environment as they are meant to preserve us and keep our heart soft toward God.

Practical Application: Consider asking the children, "When your parents ask you to finish your homework and go to bed at a certain time every night, do you get upset or are you thankful in your heart for your parents who care for you? When you have a strict teacher/coach and/or are not assigned to the class/team that you want, can you still be thankful for God's arrangements?" Remind the children that they should thank God for something every day.