

Faith Filled Holiday



Thanksgiving Tree of Thankfulness

Use this Thanksgiving tradition with immediate and/or extended family as a reminder of the many blessings the Lord gives us.

1. Place a small plant or arrangement as a centerpiece for your table.
2. Cut leaf shapes out of construction paper or trace/cut everyone's hand to make a special leaf.
3. Punch a hole in the paper and run ribbon through it. Place the papers in a basket with pencils/crayons.
4. As each family member arrives for your Thanksgiving meal time together, ask them to write out what they are thankful for. Younger children can draw a picture or cut/paste something out of a magazine.
5. Before you begin eating, place each of the leaves on the centerpiece "tree."
6. During the Thanksgiving meal, take turns allowing everyone at the table to share what they wrote on their leaf.

7. Read 1 Chronicles 29:13 together: "Now therefore, our God, we thank You, and praise Your glorious name."

8. End your time together by asking the oldest person to thank God for His abundance and the many blessings He has given your family.

Added Options:

- When the meal is over, take the thankful leaves and record the items of thanks that were written down in a Thankful Journal to update each Thanksgiving and review the prior years' blessings together. Take a picture of your entire family and add it in with your notes of thankfulness and gratitude for God's many blessings.
- When you are finished, have children draw on a poster a tree trunk, grass, flowers, etc. Take the leaves and attach them. Hang the poster during the next couple of weeks to remind you of the things you are thankful for.
- Start your Thanksgiving Tree at the beginning of the month or beginning of the week before Thanksgiving. At the end of each day, have each member of the family write one thing or one person that they are thankful for.
- Have everyone trace their hands to create your Thanksgiving leaves. After everyone has written down items to be thankful for, create a Thankful Wreath to put up in your house. It will be a great reminder of all God's blessings as it hangs for all to see.