

EXPLORING GOD'S WORD

GRATITUDE

THE STORY OF THE TEN LEpers

BIBLE LESSONS FOR KIDS



Poet Prints TEACHING



GRATITUDE: THE TEN LEPERS

This packet was designed to be an easy way to teach foundational Bible stories to kids in first, second, and third grades. Each lesson in this series is structured the same and can be taught in about 40 minutes!

Step One: Read or watch the Bible story.

Gather your group together and read the story of The Ten Lepers from your children's Bible. You can also read it directly from Luke 17:11-19 in your preferred translation of the Bible.

Would you rather watch it? Many animated Bible stories are available for free on YouTube. Search "The Ten Lepers Bible Story for Kids" in the YouTube search bar. Be sure to watch it fully before showing it to your class to ensure it's appropriate.

Background Information:

What is leprosy?

Leprosy is a very contagious disease. Today, there are medicines to cure leprosy. In Biblical times, there was no cure for the disease. If someone got leprosy, they were cast out of society and could not participate in the community. This meant they couldn't go to the market, the temple, or (in many cases) be with their families. Often, lepers would have to ring a bell and announce that they were 'unclean' so other people would know to stay away.

What is gratitude? Why is gratitude important?

Gratitude is feeling thankful and appreciative of the good things in your life. It is taking time to stop and think about things that you can be thankful for, such as physical items, people, circumstances, and more.

The Bible clearly outlines that gratitude is important. Here are just a few verses about gratitude:

- "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
- "Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song." Psalm 95:1-2
- "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." James 1:17 NIV.
 - God gives good gifts, and He is worthy of our thanks!

Where can we see gratitude in practice in the New Testament?

- Mary praised God when she was told she would give birth to God's son, Jesus. (Luke 1:46-55)
- Paul gave thanks on a ship in the middle of a storm (Acts 27:35)
- Even Jesus gave thanks. For example, he gave thanks for the food before feeding 5000 people. (John 6:11).

Step Two: Explore the story.

After reading or watching the story, use the retell the story worksheet to retell the main parts of today's story. This can be done individually or in small groups. Don't want to print it out? Try mapping out the story together on a piece of large paper or a whiteboard.

The Ten Lepers: Quickly map out the 4 main parts of the Story.

- The lepers come to Jesus to be healed
- Jesus says to go show themselves to the priest
- The lepers are healed as they walk away
- One healed leper returns to thank Jesus

Then, talk through the discussion questions as a group.

THE TEN LEPERS	
1	2
3	4

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS	
QUESTION #1 How did Jesus help the lepers?	QUESTION #2 How did the lepers respond?
QUESTION #3 Why is it important to show gratitude?	QUESTION #4 What are some things you are thankful for?

GRATITUDE: THE TEN LEPERS

Step Three: Do the craft/activity.

Activity: Thankful Tree

Before the lesson: Print tree templates and gather writing materials.

Either as a large group, smaller groups, or individually, have kids brainstorm different things they are thankful for. As they brainstorm, they will write or draw their ideas next to the empty branches of the Thankful Tree.

It can sometimes be difficult for kids to think of things to be thankful for. Asking "What are you thankful for?" may be too broad. You may want to try asking kids to brainstorm things they are thankful for in a variety of smaller subcategories like these:

- Things in nature you are thankful for
- People you are thankful for
- Food you are thankful for
- Things in your home that you are thankful for
- Things in the community you are thankful for

You can also complete this activity as a whole group. Try recreating the tree on a whiteboard or large piece of paper.

Craft: Thankful Flower

Before the lesson, Print stem, middle, and petal templates (one of each per kid). Gather scissors, glue, pencils, and coloring materials. For younger children, you may want to cut the petals ahead of time.

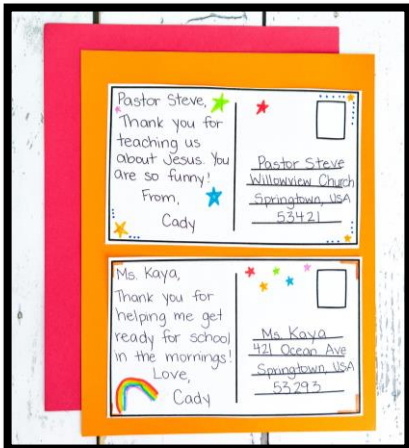
Instruct kids to cut out the middle of the flower and 5-6 petals. Next, they can write or draw a picture of something they are thankful for on each flower petal and glue each flower petal to the middle piece. Kids can color and decorate as they would like.

When they're done, the flower can be glued to the stem. This is a great place to add their name.

Bonus Activity: Thankful Postcards

Before the lesson: Print at least one postcard for each child in your group.

In this activity, students will write a 'thank you' postcard to someone they are grateful for. Before beginning this activity, ask your kids to brainstorm people that they are thankful for and explain why.



Step Four: Finish with the take-home worksheet.

The 'Gratitude: The Ten Lepers' coloring page is the perfect way to wrap up the lesson and create a take-home page that includes caregivers in what you have learned. Kids will color a picture, write down their memory verse, and add the key takeaway (a "big idea") from the story.

Memory verse suggestion from the story:

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. 1 Chronicles 16:34 NIV

Big idea suggestion: It is good to give thanks to God.

THE TEN LEPERS

Name: _____

1

2

3

4

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

QUESTION #1

How did Jesus help the lepers?

QUESTION #2

How did the lepers respond?

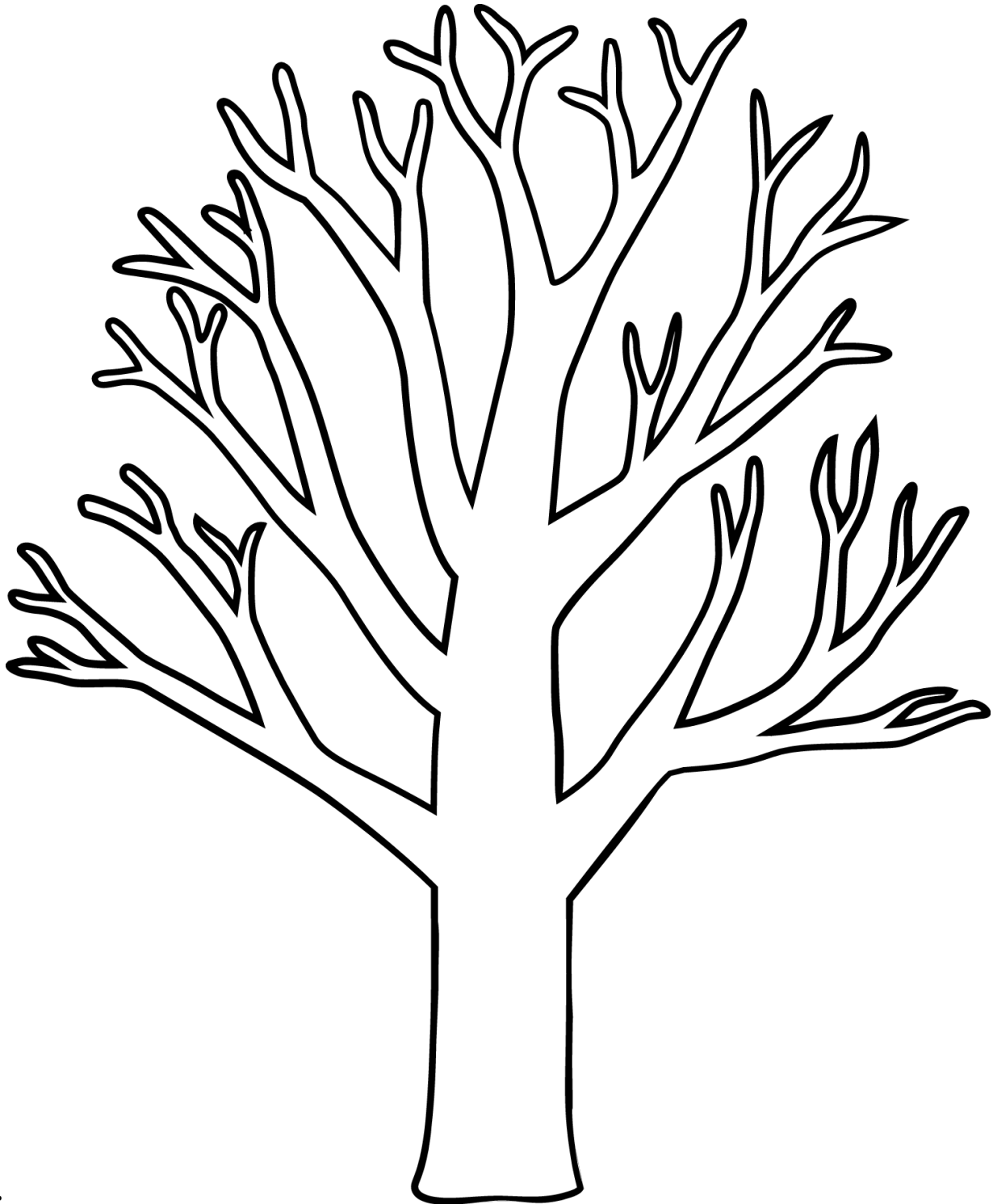
QUESTION #3

Why is it important to show gratitude?

QUESTION #4

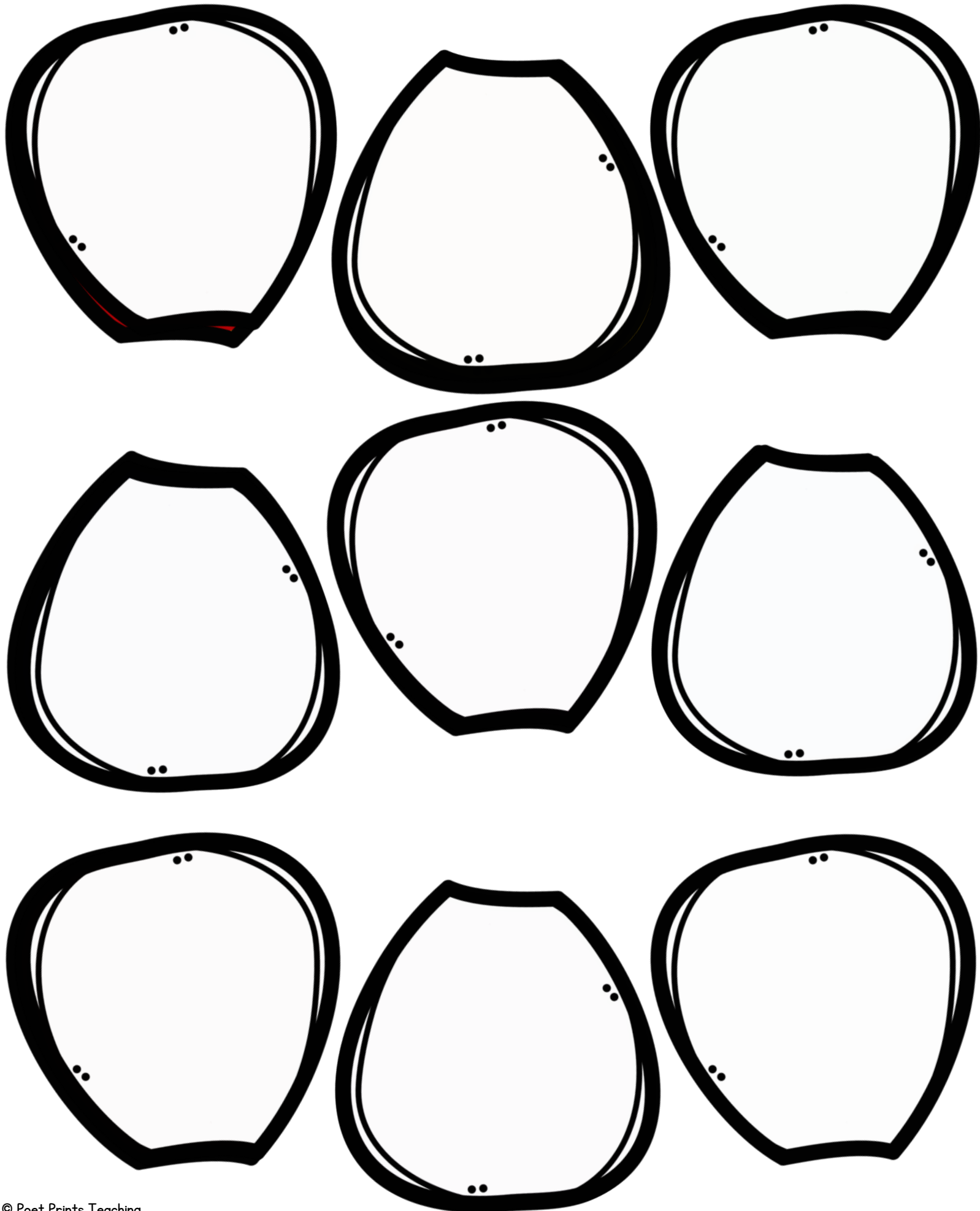
What are some things you are thankful for?

THANKFUL TREE



Name: _____

Flower Petals - 5/6 per child



Flower Centers, Stem - One per child



Thank You,
God for...



Thank You,
God for...



Thank You,
God for...



Thank You,
God for...



Thank You,
God for...



Thank You,
God for...



Thank You,
God for...



Thank You,
God for...



Thank You,
God for...



Thank You,
God for...

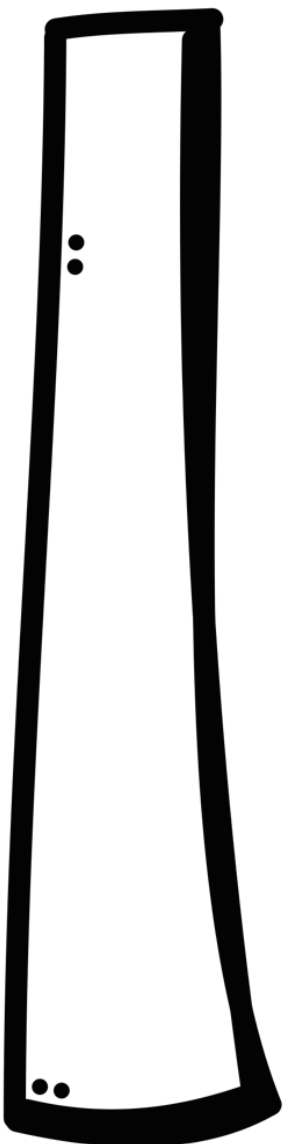


Thank You,
God for...



Thank You,
God for...

Flower Stem - One per child



A blank postcard template. It features a vertical line on the left side, a rectangular box in the top right corner, and four horizontal lines on the right side, all within a rectangular border.

A blank postcard template, identical to the one above. It features a vertical line on the left side, a rectangular box in the top right corner, and four horizontal lines on the right side, all within a rectangular border.

GRATITUDE: THE TEN LEPERS



THANK
YOU!

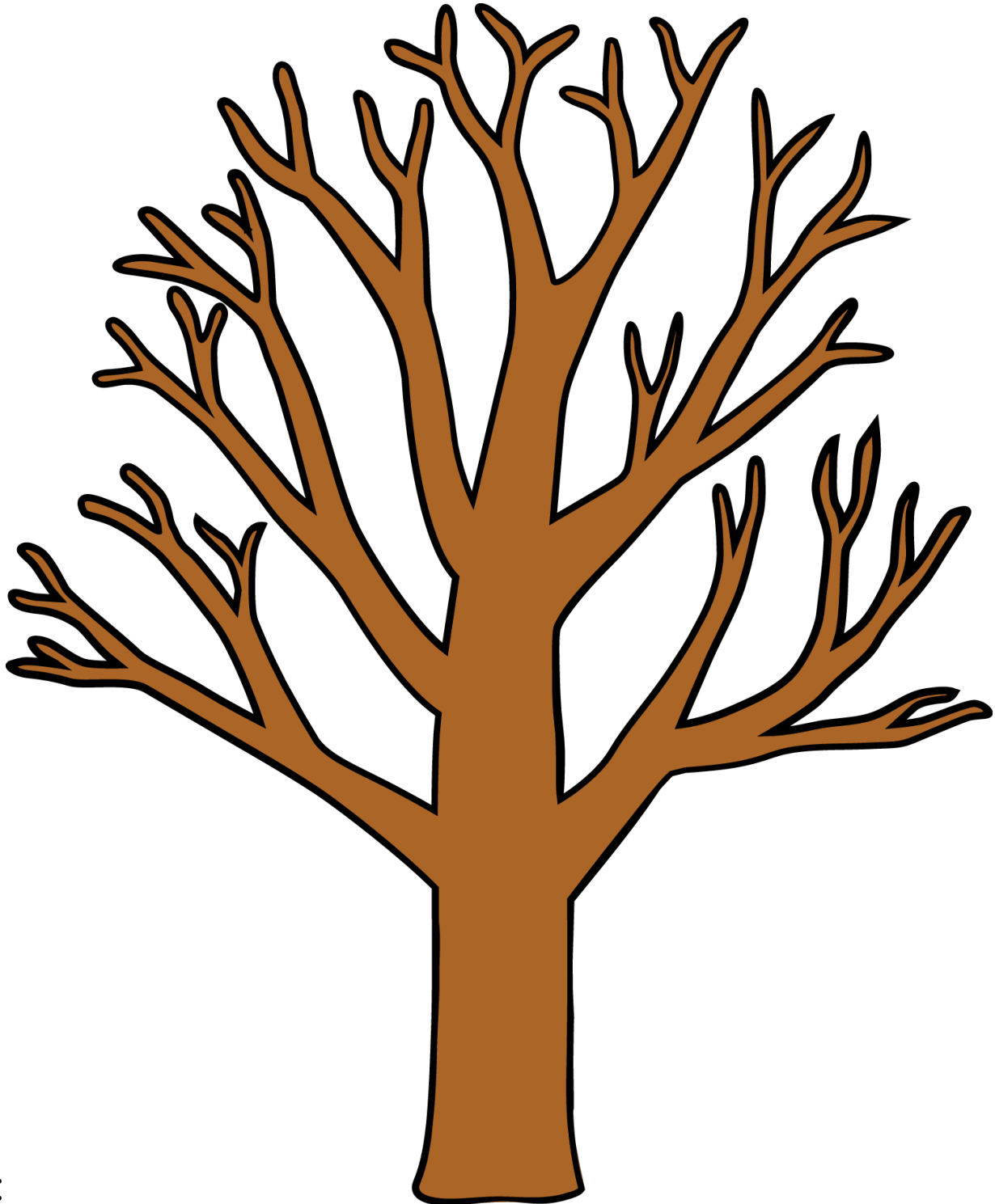
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MEMORIZE THIS:

THE BIG IDEA

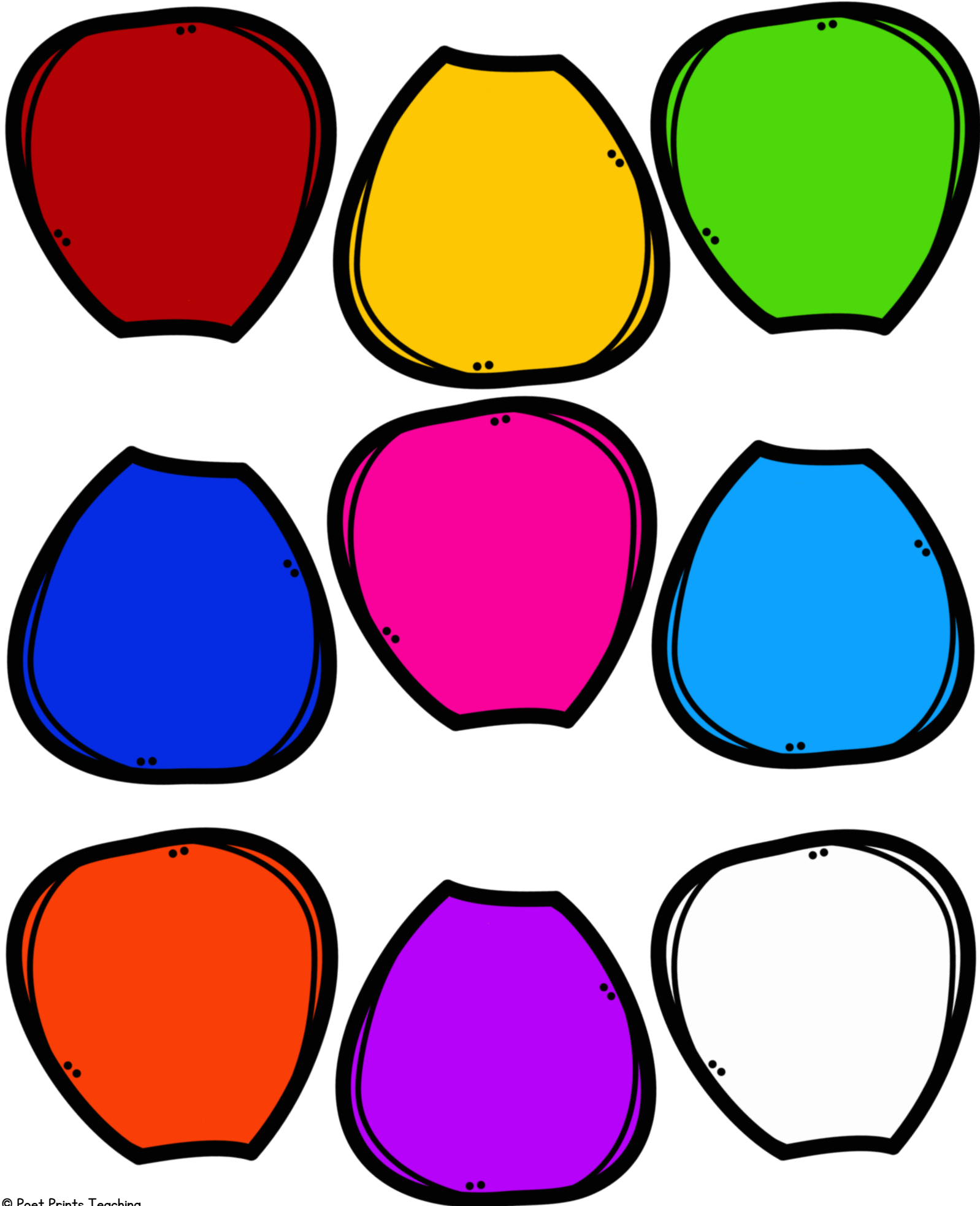
What does this story teach us about God?

THANKFUL TREE



Name: _____

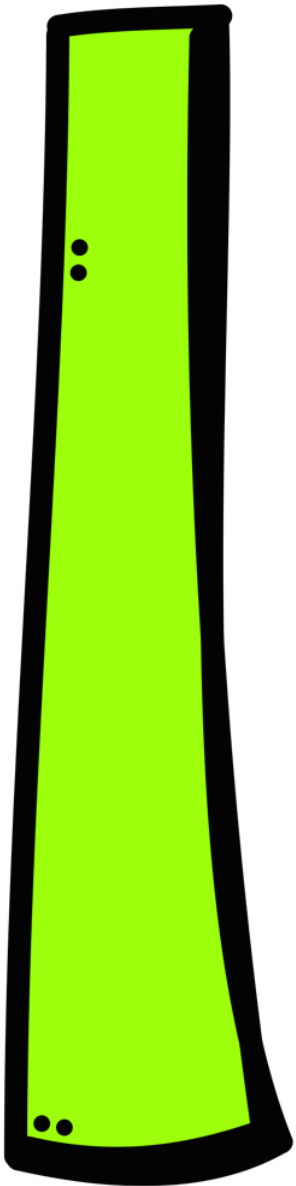
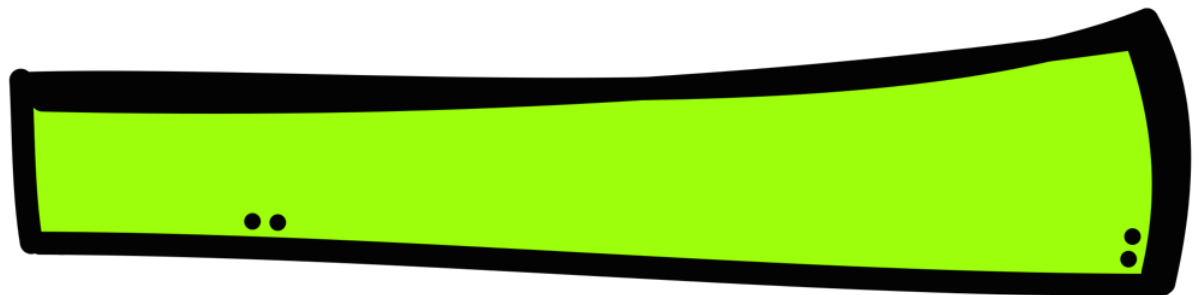
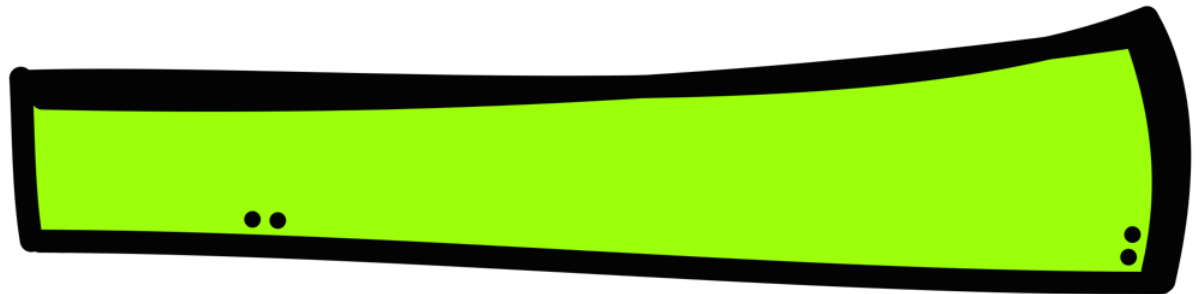
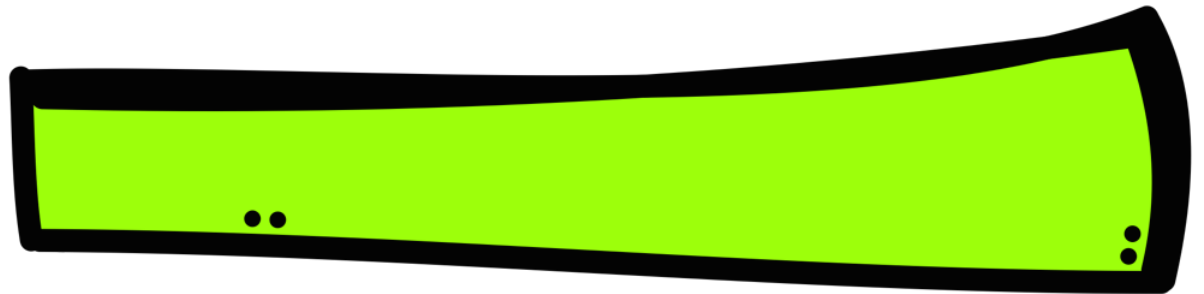
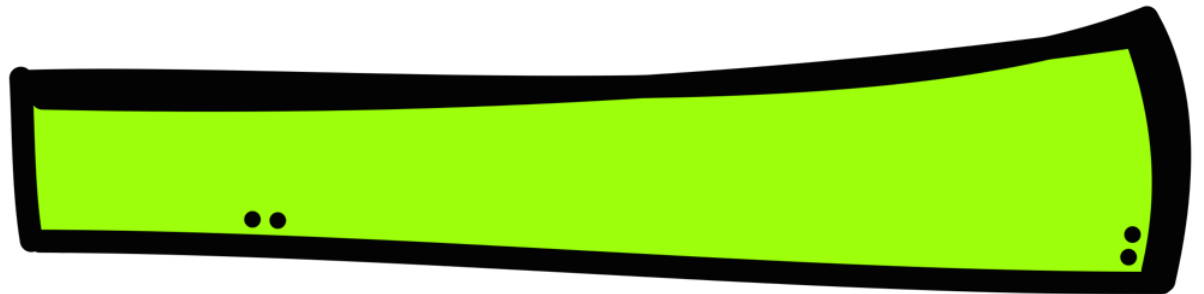
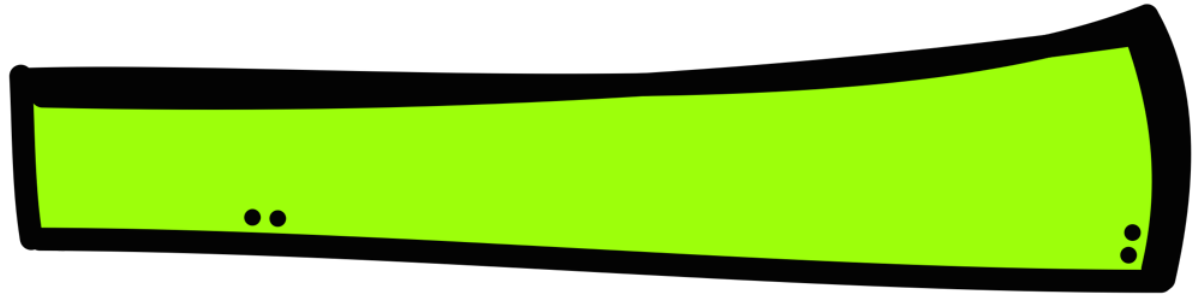
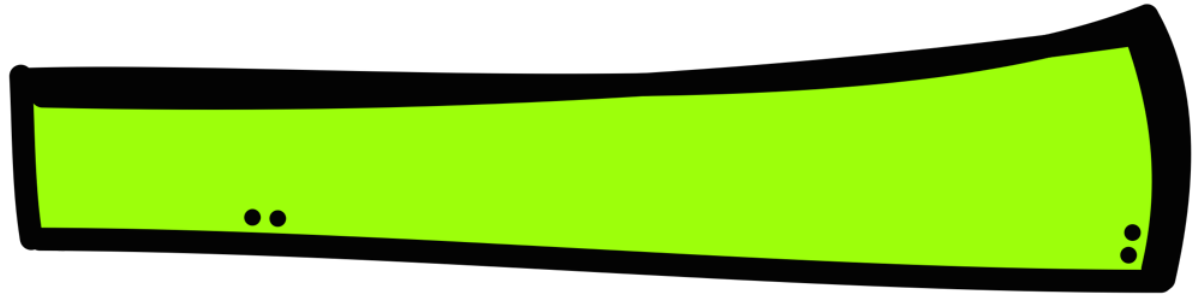
Flower Petals - 5/6 per child



Flower Centers, Stem - One per child



Flower Stem - One per child



GRATITUDE: THE TEN LEPERS



THANK
YOU!

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MEMORIZE THIS:

Give thanks to
the Lord, for he
is good; his love
endures forever.

1 Chronicles 16:34 NIV

THE BIG IDEA

What does this story teach us about God?

It is good
to give
thanks to
God.

GRATITUDE: THE TEN LEPERS



THANK
YOU!

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MEMORIZE THIS:

O give thanks unto
the LORD; for he is
good; for his mercy
endureth for ever.

1 Chronicles 16:34 KJV

THE BIG IDEA

What does this story teach us about God?

It is good
to give
thanks to
God.