

Name: _____ Date: _____



Religious Studies



The Purpose of Thanksgiving – The Bahamas

The Purpose of Thanksgiving

The history of Thanksgiving dates back to the Pilgrims who came to the United States from England. After experiencing a difficult winter in 1620, they celebrated a bountiful harvest the following year. They celebrated along with the Indians who helped them to survive.

Today, Thanksgiving is celebrated as a holiday in the United States. Bahamians also share in this tradition by celebrating Thanksgiving. It is a time to give thanks to God for all his blessings.

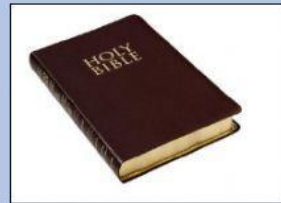
Even though Bahamians enjoy the blessings of God, many of them are very ungrateful. Signs of ingratitude include:

- Some neighborhoods are unclean.
- Food is often wasted.
- Some persons do not share even though they have plenty.
- Individuals grumble and complain.



Bahamians should be thankful because God has blessed this beautiful country called the Bahamas. Bahamians should be grateful for the following things:

- ✓ A democratic government
- ✓ A rich Christian heritage
- ✓ A generally strong economy
- ✓ A vibrant Tourism Industry
- ✓ Wonderful natural resources
- ✓ Close-knit communities



It is important that steps are taken to encourage Bahamians to be more grateful. Students could play a vital role in this process by using their creativity and powers of persuasion. Initiatives could begin in the schools and extend to the wider communities.

Write **true** or **false** to compare Thanksgiving in the United States and The Bahamas.

1. _____ Thanksgiving is a holiday in the United States
2. _____ Thanksgiving is a holiday in The Bahamas.
3. _____ Thanksgiving is observed in the United States.
4. _____ Thanksgiving is observed in The Bahamas.

Fill in the blanks

5. The two groups of people who celebrated the first Thanksgiving together were the _____ and the _____.
6. Where did the Pilgrims come from? They came from _____.
7. The first Thanksgiving celebrated a bountiful harvest in the year _____.

Answer each question.

8. Why do people celebrate Thanksgiving?

9. Give **two (2)** ways Bahamians show **ingratitude** to the blessings of God.

i. _____

ii. _____

10. Give **three (3)** reasons why Bahamians should be thankful to God.

a). _____

b). _____

c). _____

11. Give **one (1)** way student in the Bahamas can show that he or she is grateful to God for the many blessings He has given this country?

12. What is another name (synonym) for the following words:

a) ingratitude = _____ [1]

b) unclean = _____ [1]

c) grateful = _____ [1]