Religious Education

CELEBRATING THANKSGIVING

How did Thanksgiving start?

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.

Thanksgiving Today

Every year, Thanksgiving is celebrated as a holiday in the United States during the fourth Thursday in November. Schools and most businesses are closed and many families meet for a thanksgiving meal. There is also a thanksgiving parade in some places. Although, not a holiday in The Bahamas, Bahamians also share in this tradition by celebrating Thanksgiving. It is a time to give thanks to God for all his blessings.

Signs of ingratitude

Sometimes we neglect to show thankfulness to God. 1st Thessalonians 5:18 states, "Be thankful in all circumstances. This is what God wants from you in your life in union with Christ Jesus."

Some signs of ingratitude include:

- Not acknowledging God for what we have
- Constant grumbling and complaining
- Littering and keeping neighbourhoods, communities and beaches unclean
- Food being wasted
- Not sharing even though some of us have plenty

We should always show gratefulness to God for all of His blessings. We should also show gratitude to those around us such as our family, teachers, and friends. Additionally, we should also try to encourage those around us to be grateful too.

Bible Story: The Ten Lepers (Luke 17:12-19)

As he entered a village, ten lepers approached Jesus. They called out, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"
When he saw them, he said, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean.
Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan.
Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

LIVEWORKSHEETS