

Thanksgiving Lesson

Memory Verse: 1 Thessalonians 5:18 *"In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."*

Lesson Focus: We are getting into the holiday season with Thanksgiving break beginning and Christmas right around the corner. We will hit the pause button on our study through Ephesians and teach the kids about gratitude and contentedness utilizing a classic Veggie Tales video. This story is about a character, Madame Blueberry, who wants more and more stuff. While she has everything she needs, all she focuses on is what she does NOT have. Kids (and adults!) can often become grumpy and greedy when their minds are set on things they don't have. But a simple shift in perspective from what you don't have to what you do have is a simple cure especially when considering all of God's blessings we learned about last week (see last week's [Ephesians 1:1-14 lesson](#))!

Teachers: Please inform parents as they are dropping off their kids that they will be watching a Veggie Tales video. There is nothing objectionable in the video, but if they have any concerns, they may want to keep their kids with them in the main sanctuary.

If you would like to preview the video beforehand, you should be able to find it online [here](#).

Schedule:

- 1) Please bring kids into the main sanctuary as usual 10-15 minutes after service starts.
- 2) After our normal worship, I will introduce the video with some background information.
- 3) Sit down with the kids and watch the video with them (about 30 minutes). *
- 4) We will dismiss the kids back to their rooms where we will provide follow-up small group activities.

Room Time Afterwards:

1st-2nd graders: Feel at liberty to either lead a small group discussion afterward (using the discussion Q below or your own Qs) or leverage the craft or coloring page.

3rd-5th graders: Please process and digest the video with the kids in the classroom. You can use the discussion Qs below or feel free to come up with your own Qs.

Discussion Qs

Dig Into the Story

- 1) Why was Madame Blueberry always so upset and "blue"?
- 2) How did Madame Blueberry know there was a new "Stuff Mart" in town?
- 3) What situation caught Madame Blueberry's eye on the way to "Stuff Mart"?
- 4) After Madame Blueberry filled all those shopping carts with stuff, was she finally happy?
- 5) What did she realize she wanted and needed that she couldn't buy at "Stuff Mart"?
- 6) Why was Madame Blueberry still able to experience joy even after she lost all of her stuff?

Go Deeper

- 1) Our memory verse, **1 Thessalonians 5:18**, challenges us to be thankful in everything. What are some things that you can be thankful for?
- 2) Can you think of any times that you were "blue" like Madame Blueberry at the beginning of the story? (**Teachers:** Consider sharing some personal stories!) How does choosing to be thankful help cure you of being "blue"?
- 3) Read **Proverbs 15:27a** (which was referenced at the end of the video). Why do you think it is wrong to be greedy? See also **Luke 12:15**.
- 4) How did the little girl and the little boy in the story show that a "thankful heart is a happy heart"?
- 5) Read **Philippians 4:6**. How are we supposed to pray? Read **Philippians 4:7**. How will God answer our prayers when we pray in this way?
- 6) Our Thanksgiving holiday is coming up in just a few days. What are some ways that you can show that you are thankful during this season?
- 7) Our Christmas holiday is also right around the corner. There may be many things that you want for Christmas. If you do not get those things, how can you still have a "happy heart"?