

Giving Thanks -Harvest

Harvest Festival is an annual, autumn Church service, thanking God for food, nature and provisions. It started during the Victorian era, when the local Church and community would come together to celebrate all that God had provided. In school, and during this term, we think about stewardship of the earth, environmental concerns and collecting for the FoodBank in Swanley.

Background Information

This term we will study Bible stories which demonstrate thankfulness. At the start of each worship, we will share together what we are thankful for this week (supporting good mental health and wellbeing); moving towards making a collection of donations for Harvest Festival, and demonstrating our thankfulness to God for all we have. We celebrate the harvest grown in farms and on land around the school (including our own allotment), and we look forward to coming together as a community to do this.



Let them give thanks to the Lord for his faithful love and his wondrous works for all humanity. For He has satisfied the thirsty and filled the hungry with good things.

Psalm 107: 8-9

In this unit the children will...

Study the story of Daniel, who was able to give thanks despite the risk to his life.

Look at the story of Jonah, who was able to repent and thank God for saving him and giving him another chance.

The story of the loaves and fish, where Jesus gave thanks to God and fed everyone who came to listen to his teaching (Matthew 15)

Study the story of Jesus healing the leper (Luke 17).

The story of Mary, and Mary's Magnificat, sharing that with God, all things are possible.

Hear Psalm 150.

By the end of this unit...

All children can:

Identify things to be grateful for—family, friends, pets, gifts.

Say thank you, and think about how we behave.

Retell Bible stories that show thankfulness in times of stress or hardship.

Most children will:

Understand that sometimes it is hard to do the right thing.

Understand that by being thankful, we are working towards greater happiness and satisfaction in our lives.

Link the story of Daniel to doing the right thing.

Know that Christians believe that God wants us to have 'life in all it's fullness' (John 10:10)

Some children will:

Be able to use the stories and Bible verse to reflect upon their own actions.

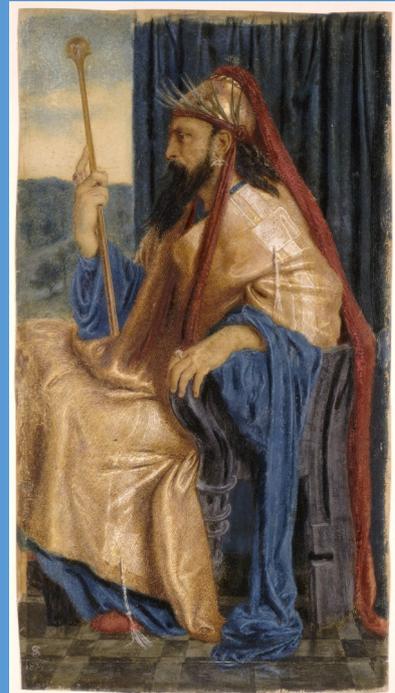
Consider how they can demonstrate generosity and thankfulness despite adversity.

Start to explore the Psalms, which were often written (in places) of adversity and war.

Know that they can use the Bible for advice and guidance.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.

Luke 1: 46-47



Useful Links

[https://www.google.com/search?](https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=578070544&rlz=1C1GCEA_enGB950GB950&q=the+story+of+Daniel+in+the+lions+den&tbm=vid&source=Inms&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwi197jNjKCCAxUGUEEAHfwAAvgQ0pQJegQICxAB&biw=1920&bih=919&dpr=1&safe=active&ssui=on#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:e619f445,vid:bEM_X25DWPk,st:0)

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