

PECULIAR TREASURES LESSON

THANKSGIVING

TEXT Psalm 147:1-20

MEMORY VERSE 1 Chronicles 16:9 NIV "Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts."

OR

1 Chronicles 16:9b NIV "tell of all his wonderful acts."

TESTIFY

"I want to testify," Biodun heard someone say behind him. The voice was quite soft but his teacher heard it as well. It was Mercy. She rarely spoke in class so it was a surprise that she volunteered to share a testimony.

"Go ahead," Mrs Afolabi said gently.

"Actually it is in the form of a poem I wrote," Mercy said as she stood up.

"That's interesting," Mrs Afolabi said with a smile. "Let's hear it."

Mercy could not look at the students even though she had memorized her poem. It hadn't been easy for her to come forward, but she had promised God that she would do it.

*Bless the Lord, oh my soul
For he has protected me,
For he has kept me strong,
For he has kept me whole.*

*Bless the Lord, oh my soul
For I have clothes to wear
I have good food to eat
I have a good place to stay.*

*Bless the Lord, oh my soul
For I have friends who care
Classmates who are here
And a church family who is there.*

"Thank you." Mercy curtsied and then went back to her seat. At first there was silence as her classmates and teachers thought about what she had said and then everyone clapped. A few of her classmates even gave her a standing ovation. Mercy felt good and she smiled.

The following week, Biodun raised his hand to testify and Mrs Afolabi called him out.

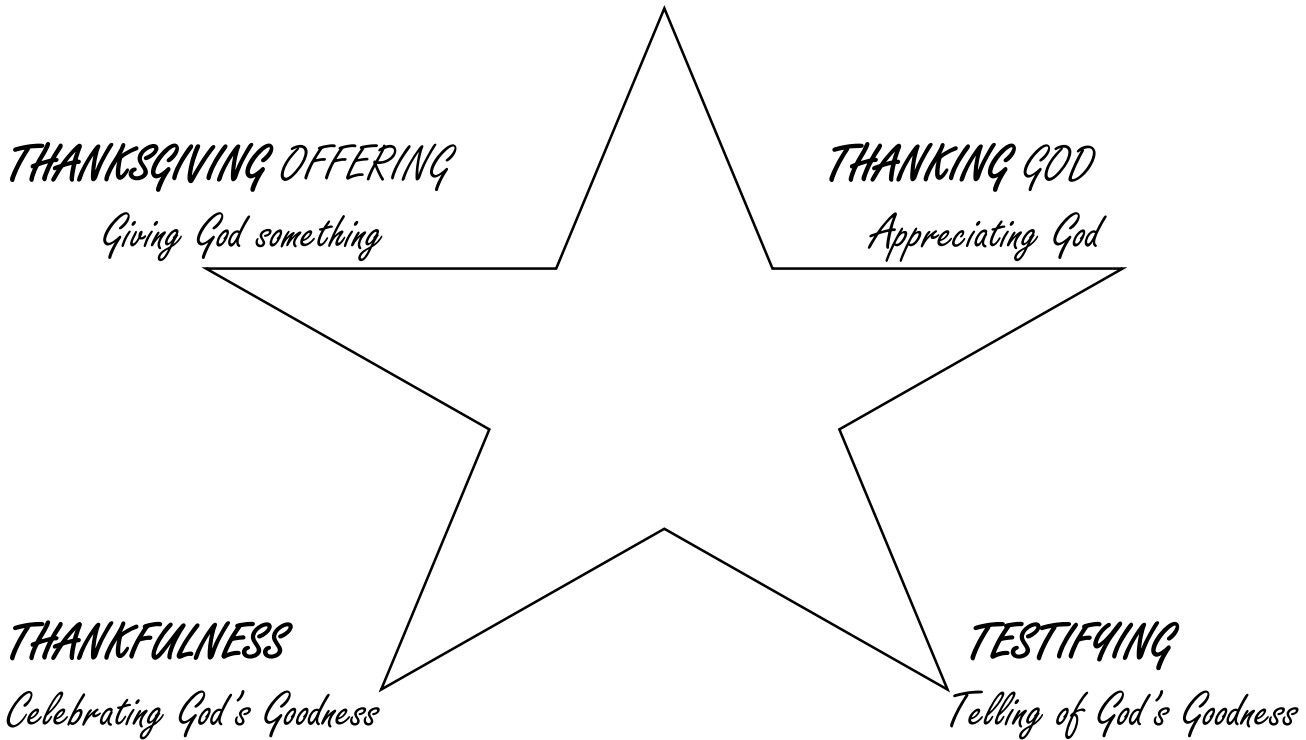
"First I would like to thank Mercy for sharing her testimony last week," Biodun said as he looked at Mercy. Mercy was embarrassed and she looked down. "She didn't know it, but she encouraged me last week. I sometimes had a different way of summarizing what we are taught in children church, but I felt that my teacher wouldn't like it so I didn't. However, this Sunday I decided to give it a try and my teacher loved what I did. She commended me in front of the whole class and after church I heard

her sharing it with some of the other teachers. I was encouraged because I love drawing."

Mercy silently thanked God for Biodun's testimony. She was encouraged that she had obeyed God and shared her poem. Before he sat down, Biodun drew the summary for his classmates to see and they too appreciated his work.

TOPIC: WHAT ARE THE PARTS OF TRUE THANKSGIVING

THINKING ABOUT WHAT GOD HAS DONE



QUESTIONS

1. Who shared a poem as her testimony?
2. Mention three – five things that Mercy was grateful for.
3. What did Biodun share at end of his testimony?
4. Who is Mrs. Afolabi?
5. What are the five parts of true thanksgiving?

CONFESSION

I am a blessed child of the Almighty God. I am grateful for his love and mercy. Nothing good will he keep for me. He provides for all my needs. I don't know lack because God is my provider. I am kept safe for God is my protector. I am kept whole for God is my physician. I thank God that I am a new person in him.

ACTIVITIES

1. **With younger children** – a) Colour the star b) Touch several things or people and get the children to thank God for the thing your touched.
2. **With older children** – a) Make a nice design with the star b) They should mention several things they are grateful to God for and why they are grateful.