

FUN FISH – Every Toddler COUNTS

Session 9: Remember to Say 'Thanks' – NINE – Nine Forgot!

Memory Line: "You are precious to me." (Isaiah 43:4 NLT)

Welcome:

Theme Song: to the tune of Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

Twinkle, twinkle, little star. God loves you just as you are.

Up above the world so high. Like a diamond in the sky.

Twinkle, twinkle, little star. God loves you just as you are.

Number and Topic:

You can find the number NINE everywhere, but everyone just flies over it. When you count from 0 to 10, you always say 9, but it doesn't seem that important, because you're trying to get to 10. And there is something else that is very easy to forget, saying 'thanks.'

Bible Story: NINE Forgot! (Luke 17:11-19)

Dolls, puppets or dressed up wooden spoons:

Jesus

10 sick people (If you don't have 10 cuddly toys, use spoons or rolled-up socks)

Materials needed: (feel free to swap the materials with what you have)

A road (a dark towel or sheet works fine)

Reflective Time (interactive):

Ask the children – Saying 'thank you' is important. Can you remember a time when you said 'thanks'?

Bean Bag Prayer: "Dear God, help me always remember to say 'thanks.' Amen."

Sing a song:

"Every Toddler COUNTS" card for this session:



Story 9: NINE Forgot! (healing 10 lepers - Luke 17:11-19)

A long ago there were no hospitals. If someone got very sick, they had to move out of their house. And they couldn't come near anyone.

One day ten sick men saw Jesus walking down a country road. These men had huge spots on their faces, hands, and toes. And because they couldn't come near, they shouted as loud as they could, "JESUS, HELP US!"

Jesus stopped. He looked at those ten sick men. He called back, so they could hear, "GO TO THE PRIEST AND TALK WITH HIM!"

Those ten sick men got into a circle. They said, "We don't want to talk with a priest? We want to get well." But then they said, "Hmmm, this is Jesus. He always knows what is best. Maybe going is right."

So, they turned to Jesus and called back, "OKAY!"

They walked down the road all together. Then one of them lifted his hand to shoo a fly away. Suddenly he shouted, "LOOK!"

All the rest gathered around. "What is it?" they asked.

"LOOK at my hands! LOOK at your faces! LOOK at our feet and toes! Jesus did it! He made us well."

"YIPEE!" they shouted and ran to the priest. One. Two. Three. Four. Five. Six. Seven. Eight. NINE. But the tenth one stopped. He watched the NINE. He said, "I must go back and say thank you to Jesus."

He ran the other way. He found Jesus by the road. "Thank you!" he called." He fell on his knees

Jesus smiled. "You're welcome. But weren't there ten of you? Where are the other nine?" The man didn't know.

Jesus told him that now he could go home. That man jumped up. He called back, "THANKS again!". He ran down the road all the way home.