

WORK FOR PARENTS TO DO WITH CHILDREN AGED 7-9 YEARS OLD

OPENING PRAYER

When including prayer request and praises, always consider the following:

1. Ensure everyone has a chance to contribute.
2. Rather than trusting your memory, be prepared to jot down what is said.
3. Be sure to touch on each child's requests. It is important to them to know that you care about them and that their prayers are important.
4. Make sure special needs of your church or church members are also mentioned.

MEMORY WORK (12 minutes)

"All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God." Deuteronomy 28:2 NIV

Have the children look up this verse in their Bibles, then practice saying it several times. Then have them close their Bibles and answer who, what, why and when.

SCRIPTURE READING AND DISCUSSION (15 minutes)

Introduction:

"Count Your Blessings" is a phrase we hear quite often. But what exactly are these blessings we should be counting? Why should we count them? It wouldn't take very long to count one or two, so there must be many. There are three things we must know before we can count blessings. The first is how do you get them? The second is what are they? And the third is why do we have so many? In our scripture passage today, we should be able to answer all three questions.

Read Deuteronomy 28:1-13 (Blessings from Obedience)

Read this passage as the kids follow along in their Bibles. Next, have the kids go back through the verses and count the number of times they see the word blessing, blessed, or bless. (In the NIV these words appear 10 times.)

Discussion Questions:

1. The very first verse of this passage tells us what we must do to be blessed by God, what is it? (*Fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all His commands.*)
2. According to verses 3 and 6, where will we be blessed? (*City, country, in or out – everywhere.*)
3. What are some examples of blessings in these verses? (*You can list these on the board: Children, crops, animals, food, protection from enemies, full barns, whatever you do, abundant prosperity, and rain in the land.*)
4. What does it mean in verse 4, that God will open the Heavens, the storehouse of His bounty? (*Heaven is full of blessings and God wants to give them to us.*)

WHAT CROWNS THE HEAD OF THE RIGHTEOUS?



Draw an "X" over the letters in odd numbered boxes
 Draw an "X" over the letters in boxes with numbers ending in 0
 Draw an "X" over the letters in boxes with numbers ending in 2

	3 P	20 F	16 B	7 T	1 Y	21 M	30 S	13 L	
	9 N	29 W	2 Q	17 U	5 R	11 K	26 L	15 O	
	17 A	24 E	19 P	25 O	2 W	22 R	10 A	30 J	
	5 V	28 S	19 Y	22 J	14 S	1 O	10 C	21 E	
	11 D	7 X	13 T	18 I	13 E	20 B	12 I	29 T	
	25 B	3 A	15 U	23 B	6 N	23 G	27 H	2 Z	
	4 G	5 B	12 E	10 F	27 B	8 S	21 B	9 M	

Write down in order the letters that are left, from left to right and top to bottom to find the answer to the question. See also, Proverbs 10:6a

What crowns the head of righteous people? _____

BURSTING WITH BLESSINGS

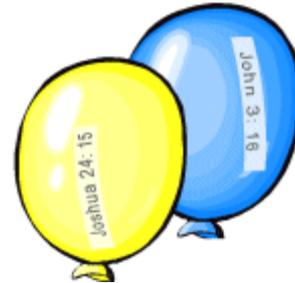
This activity uses our "[Bursting For a Verse](#)" teaching aid to assign various verses for the children to look up to learn about blessings from God.

TOPICS:

Blessings, Thankfulness

MATERIALS:

Party balloons (one for each child)
Slips of paper with verse references



DURATION:

Approximately 15 minutes

PREPARATION

Before class, write the verse references below on small slips of paper. Insert each slip into an empty balloon. Then blow up and tie each balloon. (If needed, repeat some verses, to have enough for each child.)

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

At the appropriate time, release all the balloons onto the floor and have each child pick one. Then have them pop the balloon (in their own special way) and look up the verse indicated on the slip of paper inside. Once the kids have all located their verse, have each in turn read the verse aloud, and as a class discuss the meaning. You may want to use the questions shown after each verse.

VERSES:

Exodus 23:25 Worship the Lord your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you, God blesses us with two things we need every day, what are they? (food and water)

Leviticus 26:4 I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees of the field their fruit. What blessing falls from the sky? (rain)

Deuteronomy 28:2 All these blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God: What must we do to receive abundant blessings? (obey God)

Deuteronomy 28:12 The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. From where does God send all these blessing? (storehouse in heaven)

Psalms 128:1-2 Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways. You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours. What will be given to those who fear the Lord? (blessings and prosperity)

Proverbs 10:22 The blessing of the Lord brings wealth, and he adds no trouble to it. What blessing can we have along with great wealth? (that it doesn't cause any trouble for us)

Proverbs 11:26 People curse the man who hoards grain, but blessing crowns him who is willing to sell. Blessings won't crown the heads of people who do what? (hoard their possessions)

Ezekiel 34:26 I will bless them and the places surrounding my hill. I will send down showers in season; there will be showers of blessing. What can fall freely from the sky like rain? (blessings)

John 1:16 From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. How many blessings from God can we have? (one after another)

Hebrews 6:7 Land that drinks in the rain often falling on it and that produces a crop useful to those for whom it is farmed receives the blessing of God. Like the land in this verse, what should we do with blessings from God? (drink them in and use them)