

Thanking God for

All His Blessings

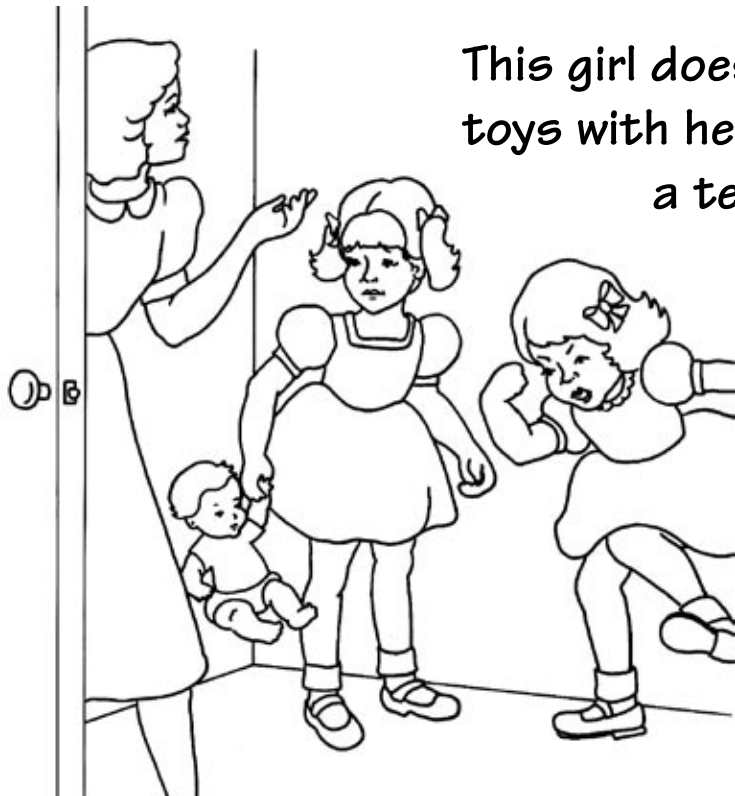


For Ages 3 through 11

How do we thank God for all of His blessings to us? One way is to show Him by our actions. Jesus said, "My Father is glorified when you bear much fruit." (John 15:8) To "bear fruit" means to be a good person by being loving, kind, helpful and honest. We thank God by our good characters and actions.



Which action below do you think shows that we love God and that we thank Him for all of the blessings He has given us?



This girl does not want to share her toys with her sister and is throwing a temper tantrum.



This boy is sharing his book with his sister and even helping her work on the project.



The "fruits of the spirit" of God are joy, love, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control.



All true Christians are like trees of righteousness. Their characters are full of the good "fruits of the spirit."

Which boy in these pictures below shows the fruits of the spirit joy, love, peace, kindness, and goodness?

This boy is always angry with everyone! He is mean and never says anything nice. He always has to have things his way or he isn't happy.



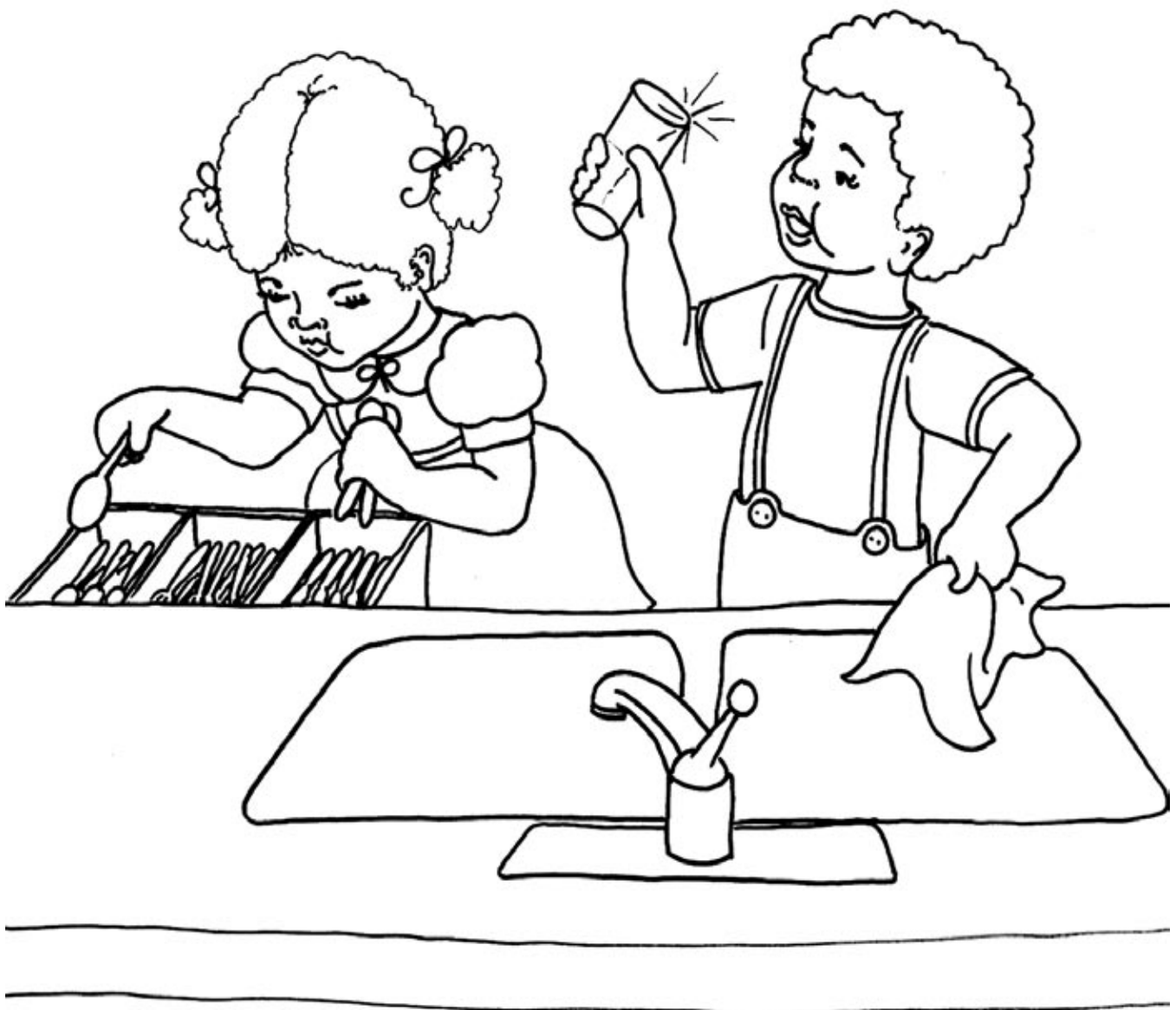
This boy is very cheerful. He does nice things for others and says nice things to them to cheer them up. He tries very hard not to hurt anyone's feelings by being selfish or by being angry when things don't go his way.

There are so many more ways to thank God for all of His blessings. One way is to learn obedience. God is happy to see when we are obedient to our parents, because this is a very good way to show Him that we would like to be obedient to Him.



When our parents ask us to do something, do we say,
"No! I am busy!" or "Do I have to?"

Would we say that to God if He asked us to do something?
Of course not. God says, "Honor thy Father and thy Mother."
(Exodus 20:12) So, we should honor them, and be happy to
do the things they ask. In this way, we show God that we are
thankful for His many blessings.



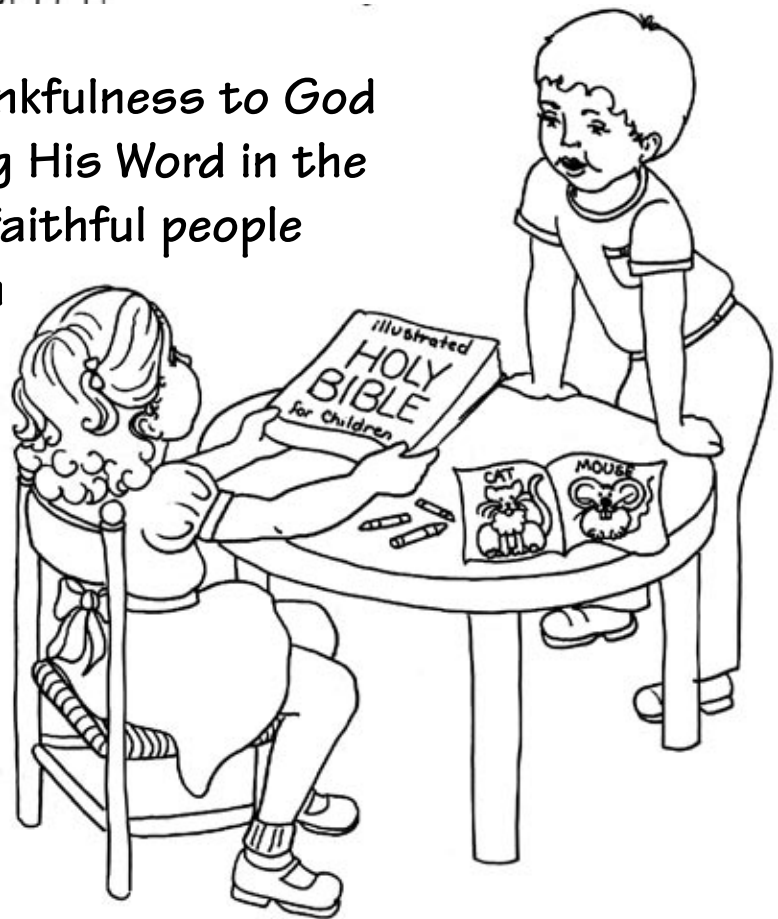
When we have any job to do, God wants us to do all as if we are happily doing it for Him. *“God loveth a cheerful giver.”* (2 Corinthians 9:7) Are we cheerful when we are doing things for others? If we are cheerful in what we are doing, it is easier for others to see that we are thankful to God. In this way, we will glorify Him. *“Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”* (1 Corinthians 10:31)



We also show our thankfulness to God for His many blessings by meeting together with the Bible family He has given to us.



Another way we show thankfulness to God is by reading and studying His Word in the Bible. He has used many faithful people to bring us His loving plan for man through His Holy Word. God sees that we are thankful in our hearts when we have a love of His truth.

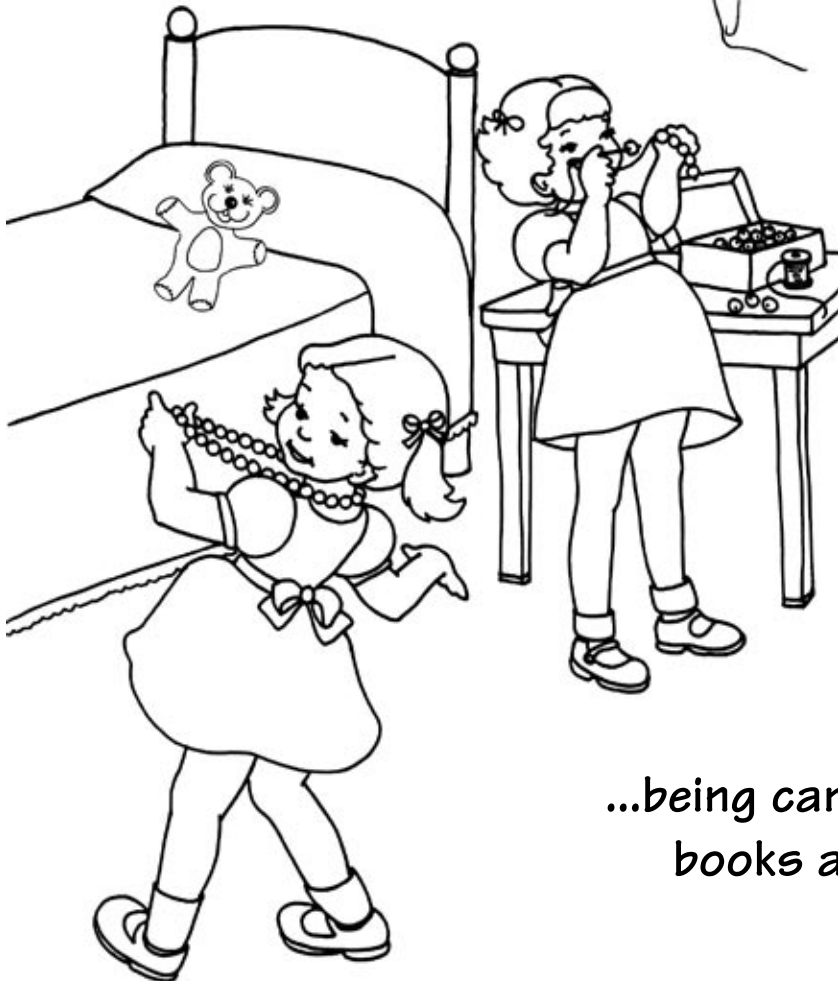


We show God we are thankful for His truth when we share His beautiful plan with others. When we hear our parents talk about “*witnessing the truth to others*,” they are showing God that they are thankful for the blessing of knowing His loving plan for all mankind.



We show God that we are thankful for all He has done by taking good care of His gifts...

...being kind and gentle to animals...



...being careful with our books and toys...



...and helping to keep our
bedrooms clean and
our clothes put away neatly...

...and even being kind to
the earth by keeping it
clean and not throwing
trash all over it.



There will be times in our lives when we won't feel like being thankful to God. Sometimes our experiences will make us feel very sad.



This little boy is sad, because his grandfather just died.

This little boy is sad, because his best friend is moving away.



When we are sad, this is the best time to ask God for His help so that we might learn important lessons and feel His loving watch care in our lives.



Another thing that will help us when we are sad is to count our many blessings, and thank God for each one. This poem names many things to be thankful for. Can you find them?

GOD LOVES US ONE AND ALL

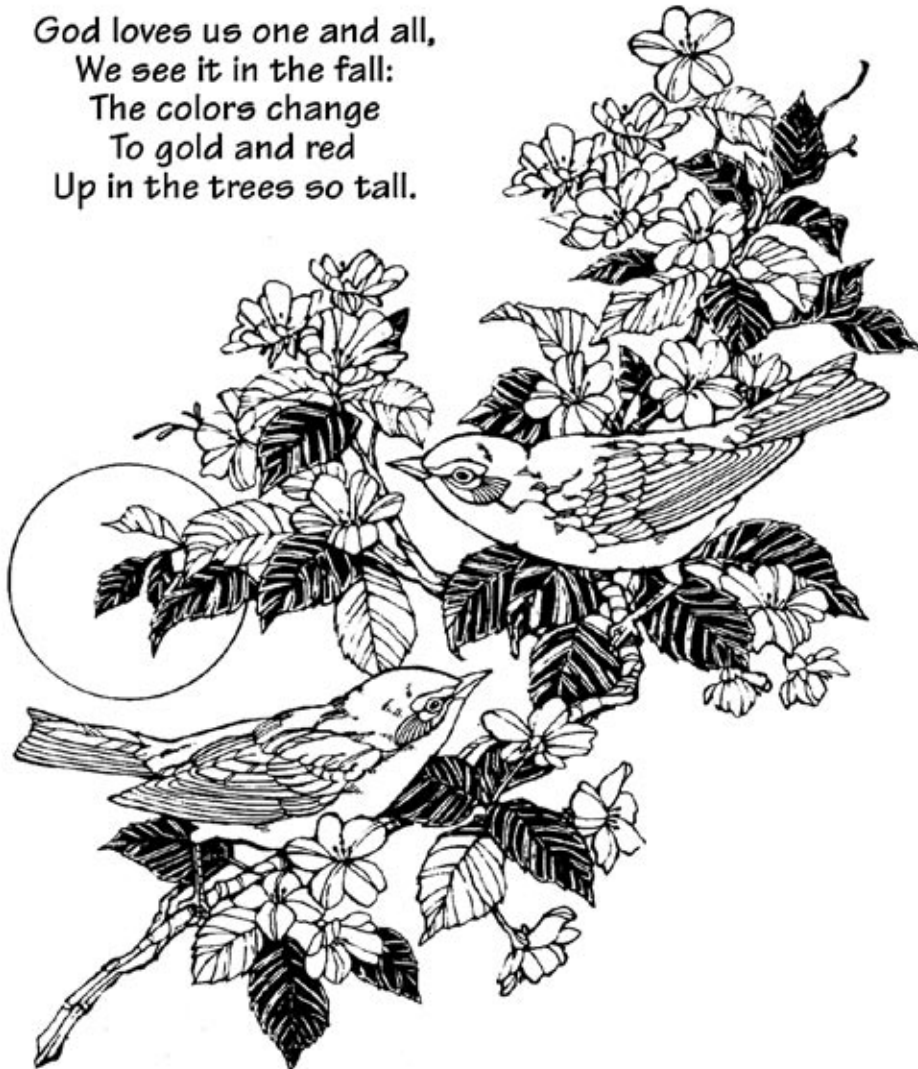
God loves us one and all,
We see it every spring:
The little flowers
That lift their heads
And pretty birds that sing.

God loves us one and all,
The summer shows His love:
The fruit that grows,
The sun that glows
And fills the sky above.

God loves us one and all,
We see it in the fall:
The colors change
To gold and red
Up in the trees so tall.

God loves us one and all,
In winter all around:
The fresh white snow
That sparkles so –
A blanket for the ground.

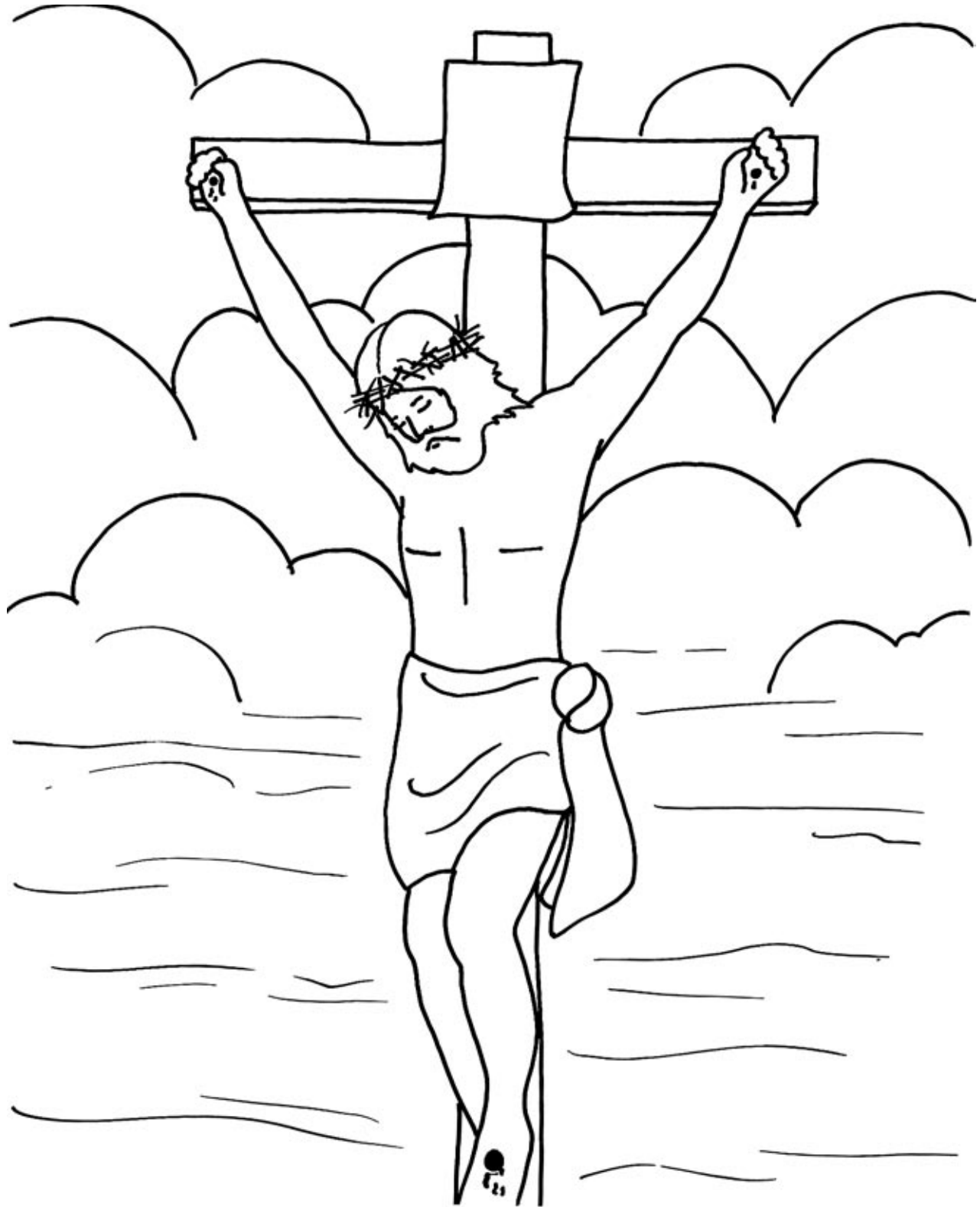
God loves us one and all,
He shows us all the year,
And of the gifts
We love the best
Is His own Son so dear.



We show God that we are thankful to Him by loving Jesus, His Son, and by loving the gift of Jesus' sacrifice for us.



“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.” John 3:16



One of the most important ways to show God that we are thankful is by praying to Him and saying *“Thank you Heavenly Father, for all you have done and all you have provided for me and my family.”*

