Words for your Journey...

"We ought to give thanks for all fortune: if it is good, because it is good, if bad, because it works in us patience, humility and the contempt of this world and the hope of our eternal country."
- C.S. Lewis

BASECAMP

FIELD GUIDE

NOVEMBER 2020: GRATITUDE

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Prayer for October

Lord, we thank you for every individual, every family, every group, friend or neighbor who will participate in or be impacted by BaseCamp somehow this month. We praise you for the opportunity to refocus on gratitude. We pray that through the teachings, activities, challenges and prayers this month that we would be drawn closer to you. That we would be impacted personally by Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit and that we would respond in grateful peace toward others. We pray this is a unifying endeavor for the life of our church, a rhythm that we can continue to lean into as your people. Grow us together in new ways. We love you Lord, Amen.

Vision & Mission of BaseCamp

In response to God's love for us we love God by loving people. We do this by equipping, encouraging, supporting and challenging people into the mission God calls them to in every aspect of their lives -- this is what we call living out the Adventure of Faith.

Guideposts for your Journey:

Who: The options are endless. Do this with your family, with a friend, with a group of your peers, with your next door neighbors, with your Trek group, with a few families, or invite someone new to join you!

What: Participate in the way that works for you! Do any or all of the Adventures laid out in this Field Guide. Participate in the on-site and live on-line option the first Wednesday of the month, live on-line the last Wednesday of the month or participate completely from home with online replay options available. Work through each related two-page section or pick and choose your own adventure!

Challenge yourself and your people to get out of your comfort zones, try new things and further embrace this Adventure of Faith.

Choose Your Own Adventure:

BaseCamp: Participate on-site or online. Teaching on the Monthly Theme.

Embark: Participate off-site. Scripture Reading & Activity, Discussion Questions, Kid&Trek Specific Info.

Explore: Participate off-site. Prayer Activity, "Do" Activities, Kids&Trek Specific Info.

HomeBase: Participate online &/or off-site. Fun Challenge Activity, Gratitude & Celebration Prompts.

Adventure BASECAMP

Theme of the Month

Gratitude: Thanksgiving is at the heart of the Christian life. It is the natural expression in response to the blessings, protection, or love of God.

Scripture

"Give Thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." --1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God." —Philippians 4:6

"Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving." —Ephesians 5:4

Teaching Recap

Our attitude of gratitude should be our fundamental consciousness, that it is only by God's grace that we are able to do anything for the Kingdom in this world. While we live, our lives are to be dedicated to expressing gratitude to God as the things that are dead cannot praise Him (Ps. 30:9; Isa 38:18; Isa 42:8). In our lives, thanksgiving should take the place of obscenity, foolish talk, and coarse joking (Eph. 5:4). It should also take the place of anxiety and fear (Phil. 4:6). Every joy that we experience in this world should not be enjoyed without a spirit of thanksgiving for God (Babylonian Talmud) because pleasure is only made available through God's goodness and love.

Adventure:Kids & Trek Specific Tips

This month one of the things you can do as a family is to spend time writing in your gratitude journals each day and connect it to God, the provider of all things. Hopefully, this inspires us to pray differently, appreciating all that we have been given and all we have in our God. As you pray this month, spend time thanking God, not just requesting things of Him. Invite kids and teens to share things they are thankful for.

Live & Online Participation Info

Join us on Facebook Live at 6:00 pm at facebook.com/AdventureOfFaith to participate in the theme introduction and teaching night!
Or catch the replay on our YouTube channel at youtube.com/adventureoffaith
And while the kids teaching won't be live, you can catch the replay of it on our YouTube channel as well!

Adventure
EMBARK

Discussion Questions

"Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving." —Colossians 4:2
What are you thankful for today?
What aspects of God's character bring you the most joy?
Why is thankfulness such an essential aspect of the Christian life?
How can we practically go about being more thankful in our day-to-day lives?

Scripture

"You turned my lament into dancing; You removed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness, so that I can sing to You and not be silent. Lord MY God, I will praise You forever!"
Psalm 30:11-12

Dig Deeper

The thing we should be most thankful for is God Himself. In light of this reality, spend some time this month walking slowly through the attributes of God and expressing why you're grateful for each one. Surprisingly kids can participate in this as well as long as you speak in their language.

A great list of God's attributes can be found here: https://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-study/topical-studies/15-amazing-attributes-of-god-what-they-mean-and-why-they-matter.html.

Guided Scripture Activity

I absolutely love the part in the verse that says you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness! What an amazing God! For this activity start out by reading Psalm 30 in its entirety. After reading Psalm 30, go in a circle, sharing a couple ways you are grateful for what God has done. I would encourage you to think of something current, not a long time ago. For example, maybe you had a hard situation, that God did a huge work in, or maybe you noticed God protected you in something? Or maybe God helped you in some way this week?

Kids&Teens, find some supplemental activities in the box!

Adventure:Kids & Trek Specific Encouragement

Try not to be intimidated by the thought of including your kids in the Discussion and Dig Deeper section! Many of us learn by modeling, so by including kids, you are teaching them how to study scripture! Here are some things you can do to help get kids involved:
-Let the kids be in charge of reading the questions out loud to your family or group.
-Ask leading questions, especially if they aren't feeling confident or aren't understanding.
-Rephrase questions if they don't understand the vocabulary.
-Try to steer clear from just giving them an answer.
-If their answer isn't exactly correct, try not to say "no, that's not right." Encourage and praise their attempts to be involved, keep it positive.

Adventure EXPLORE

Prayer

God, we thank you that you are sovereign and over all, especially during these times when things have seemed so strange and uncertain.

We thank you for our ability to meet for BaseCamp in person or virtually, you have made a way for your church to stay connected.

We thank you for the good work that you have done and continue to do through your church at Adventure.

We ask that you continue to work in the hearts of each person in the church as we face upcoming seasons of change.

Prayer Activity

Prayers of gratitude and thanksgiving are nothing new to the Christian life! We see these types of prayers all throughout the Psalms, and ancient Jewish traditions included practicing gratitude in daily life. As we step toward making gratitude a rhythm in our day, we can practice prayers of thanksgiving like the one written above.

In the box you will find prayer sheets to fill in to write your own prayer of gratitude and thanksgiving. As a group, you can decide whether to do this activity individually and share with each other, or to work collectively to write a prayer together.

"DO" Activity: Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Our mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. We ship these simple gifts outside the Unitied States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease; and to children living on Native American reservations in the U.S. Adventure of Faith believes in this mission and is a local drop-off center for the shoeboxes. Out of our gratitude of the abundance we've been given, we hope you'll join us in giving back and spreading the love and joy of Jesus.

"DO" Activity Options

For November we will be participating in Operation Christmas Child! Below you will find some different options you or your group can do to participate!

- Collect new or gently used/clean stufed animals and donate them.
- Put useful hygiene items in a galon ziplock bag (bar of soap, washcloth, toothbrush & comb) and addit to your own shoebox or drop it off and Adventure will add it to boxes that ned it.
- Build a shoebox! There are OCC boxes available to pick up at the church and you can find suggested inscructions on our website.
- Build a shoebox online! Have Samaritan's Purse build your box. Adventure's goal is 250 online boxes. Find our link on the website.

Collection Week is Nov 16-23! For further ideas, instructions, and links please visit faithadventure.com/occ

Adventure:Kids & Trek Specific Prayer

Kids: In the box, you will find prayer sheets for kids that align with the prayer activity. These kid-specific sheets will have prompts that will help explain the activity to kids and some space to draw pictures for their prayer if they choose to draw instead of write. Have kids participate in the prayer activity with the adults and include them in the discussion.

Trek: Asking teens to be bold and share their prayers is a step toward getting to know one another, but may take some guidance. Leaders may need to do some modeling and explaining, or your group may choose to write a prayer together first for practice before asking everyone to write their own. Try to be ok with providing extra time for thinking, even though the silence can feel awkward!

Adventure HOMEBASE

Live & Online Participation Info

Join us on Facebook Live at 6:00 pm at facebook.com/AdventureOfFaith to participate in the Fun Activity together!
Or catch the replay on our YouTube channel at youtube.com/adventureoffaith

Celebration

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

At the end of each month we encourage you to push in on celebrating what God has done through this BaseCamp experience. What things are you grateful for in celebration and rejoicing of God's movement in your life? So, take a moment to talk through, rejoice and pray over everything that comes to mind! In your box you'll find a couple simple activities you can fill out as a visual reminder of this practice of gratitude.

Fun Activity

Throughout November we have been discussing gratitude. Inside your box you will find multiple activities inside a bag titled, "Fun Activity Kit." Inside are a bunch of activities to do throughout the month. With each activity there will be instructions on how to do the activity and suggestions on how to help all ages participate. Feel free to use them as an Introduction Activity each week or a fun way to end your time together or both. Join us on Facebook Live later in the month for some games and talk about some of these fun activities and what your groups did.

Gratitude

Our hope this month is that you have started to see God move more and more regularly in and around you and to be filled with a sense of gratitude over His deep love and longing for us. To further prompt our heart to be aware of God and our gratitude for Him, we've included a small journal for each of you in the box. These journals are gratitude journals. Take them with you throughout the week and write down, as the come to mind, things you are grateful for. And kids, if pictures are easier for you to draw those things you are grateful for, feel free to do that as well! May this activity make us more and more aware of God and fill us more and more with a deep, unbridled gratitude.

Dig Deeper: Pumpkin Activity Edition

As we will be doing the Fun Activity Kit before Thanksgiving, this is an opportunity that we can do this as a Basecamp family, and then, you could try doing some of these activities with your extended family and friends on Thanksgiving. Not only will it be fun to do, but it is an opening to discuss what God has taught you about joy and gratitude through Basecamp.

Notes of how it will work:
Each of the kits inside have everything you need to do an activity. The only activity that you will need additional items are the Turkey Talent. For that activity you will need a pen, a piece of paper, 3 same sized objects (balls, rolled up pair of socks, oranges…) and spoons. Each time you meet feel free to grab an activity or two and do them as a group. Have a great time together!