



## STORY FOCUS:

Ruth helps provide food for Nabmi, and Boaz helps provide food for food.

Ruth 1-2

## MEMORY VERSE:

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart  
Psalm 111:1

## KEY QUESTION:

Who can you thank for everything?

## BOTTOM LINE:

I can thank God for everything!

## BASIC TRUTH: GOD MADE ME.

## CUDDLE TIME:

Cuddle up with your child and pray, "Dear God, I have so much to be thankful for, like getting to be (child's name) mom/dad. Thank you for this privilege. Please help me to teach him to love you and be thankful. I love you God, In Jesus' name, amen."

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OF ALL THE QUALITIES GOD TRIES TO BUILD INTO OUR CHARACTER, GRATITUDE SEEMS TO BE THE ONE MOST OBVIOUS. IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG TO TELL IF SOMEONE IS THANKFUL OR NOT. IT'S THE KIND OF QUALITY THAT SETS A PATTERN FOR THE REST OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S PERSONALITY. WHY DO YOU SUPPOSE GOD HAS SO MUCH TO SAY ABOUT GRATITUDE? WE HEAR "GIVE THANKS" REPEATED THROUGHOUT PSALMS AND JESUS HIMSELF PAUSES TO GIVE THANKS TO THE FATHER BEFORE SETTING A TABLE FOR FIVE THOUSAND HUNGRY GUESTS IN GALILEE. I GUESS GOD NOT ONLY KNOWS THAT GRATITUDE MAKES US MORE GRACIOUS, BUT HE ALSO KNOWS WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR CHILD'S HEART WHEN THEY LEARN TO SHOW GRATITUDE TO OTHERS AND EVEN TO GOD? OR WHAT GRADUALLY HAPPENS WHEN OUR CHILDREN NEGLECT TO DEMONSTRATE GRATITUDE? IF THEY DON'T LEARN TO BE INTENTIONALLY GRATEFUL, THEY DEVELOP SOME PRETTY UNHAPPY HABITS: AN UNHEALTHY EGO, BURNED-OUT FRIENDSHIPS, TAKEN-FOR-GRANTED FAMILY MEMBERS, A SENSE OF ENTITLEMENT, FRUSTRATION, ANGER... SOMETIMES PEOPLE TURN OVER AND OVER TRYING TO FIGURE OUT GOD'S MYSTERIOUS WILL FOR THEIR LIVES. THIS ONE IS NOT A MYSTERY. 1 THESSALONIANS 5:8 MAKES IT CLEAR. IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT GOD'S WILL IS, IT'S JESUS. "GIVE THANKS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES, FOR THIS IS GOD'S WILL FOR YOU IN CHRIST. LOOK FOR SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY WILL HAPPEN IN THE HEART OF A CHILD WHEN THEY LEARN TO WILL AFFECT EVERY RELATIONSHIP YOUR CHILD WILL HAVE. IT WILL AFFECT HOW THEY LEARN TO HOW THEY SEE OTHERS AND EVEN HOW THEY SEE THEMSELVES. SO TAKE A GRATITUDE CHECK IN YOUR FAMILY. IF TOGETHER YOU CAN MAKE A GRATITUDE ADJUSTMENT, THAT IS SOMETHING YOU CAN ALL BE THANKFUL FOR.

A GRATITUDE ADJUSTMENT  
BY REGGIE JOINER