# **Disposition:** Being Thankful

## **Lesson:** Three

### Question/LO: What different ways do Christian and Jewish believers have to say thank you?

| **Dimension of learning** | **Activities** | **Resources** |
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| Learning about religious traditions and non-religious world-views | Just as Muslims have many different ways to show thankfulness in their lives, so people in the Bible and Christians have found a variety of ways to say thank you to God.  Relate these stories back to the previous lesson about Muslim thanksgiving. Can pupils subsequently identify thanksgiving through action, words, worship or money?  1.The gospel of John includes a story about Jesus visiting a family of friends. Living in the land of Israel, this family was Jewish, as Jesus was. The gospel records that, as few days earlier Jesus had raised Lazarus, the brother from death. Mary and Martha, the sisters, then gave a meal in Jesus’ honour. Read what happened in John 12 1-3\*  (Through action)  2. In a story from the older part of the Bible, that is important to Jewish people and Christians, a woman named Hannah was very sad because she and her husband had not been able to have a child. Hannah prayed very hard that God would change this situation. Then she found out that she was expecting a baby. Read the first part of her words in I Samuel 2 1-2\*.  (Through words)  \* pupils could read out the words.  3a. Becky Drake and her husband, Nick, are Christians who worship at a church in Birmingham and write songs for families and children to sing to worship God. Play some verses and the chorus of ‘All through history’. This song recounts different stories in the Bible when people believe that God was faithful to them. The song’s composers sing Thank you.  (Singing a song of thanks)  3b. You may want to add another example. This is optional. Hannah Dunnett is a Christian artist. She uses her artistic skill to create pictures to give thanks to God. One example is His Love endures for ever. Show pupils a picture such as this where Hannah creates a scene and then uses words within it.  Now that the pupils have heard some examples of thanks, which match up to the 4 types of thanks: action, words, worship or money?  Also, which examples fit into words, something physical, or doing something to create or keep a relationship? | John 12 1-3  <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+12&version=ICB>  or “A woman’s love for Jesus” in Children of God Storyteller Bible  I Samuel 2 1-2  <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Samuel%202&version=ICB>  You might want to find an image on a web browser to show. Eg <https://worshipforeveryone.com/about>  [All Through History (Official Lyric Video) - Nick & Becky Drake // Worship For Everyone - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQS2HHayr38)  [His Love Endures Forever Prints - Ben and Hannah Dunnett](https://www.benandhannahdunnett.com/shop/art-prints/bible-verses/his-love-endures-forever-prints/)  Further information about creating similar pictures can be found here:  <https://www.benandhannahdunnett.com/week-two-painting-a-patchwork/> |
| Learning to discern | Here is a fourth way that people show thanks.  4. In the gospel of Mark, Jesus had just been talking about the rich people who like people to look up to them. He then observed a widow giving a tiny amount of money to God. Read the story from the Bible or use a Free Bible images version.  All of the people in the story were giving thanks to God for what they had – by giving money. Often people make the point about this story that the amount that the widow gave was very small in comparison to the large sums of the other people in the Temple: she was comparatively generous. But this gives less prominence to the other people in the story. They were giving money to God as a way of saying thank you. I wonder if this is a good action. If they were just showing their thanks by giving money in the Temple, but ignoring poor people around them, is this, OK?  If I am just thankful for what I have, and ignore others who don’t have as much is that OK? What do pupils think? | Mark 12 41-44  <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+12&version=ICB>  OR  <https://freebibleimages.org/photos/lumo-widow-mite/> Remember to download the story planner |
| Learning from faith and non-religious world-views | How and to whom do I show gratitude?  Pupils can choose a form of expression, such as words, a song, a rap, a short video clip, a picture, or a another form altogether to express their thankfulness to someone, for something. |  |