

Faith Component

Relevant Scripture

- Galatians 5:13
- 1 Peter 2:16
- 1 Timothy 2:1-2

Instructional Goals

- Guide students to understand the biblical perspective on freedom and responsibility.
 - Teach gratitude for the freedoms they enjoy and recognize the importance of praying for our country and its leaders.
 - The Gratitude Tree will serve as a visual reminder of the collective thankfulness and prayers of the class, reinforcing the lesson's themes.
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Thankful for Freedom

Objective

This mini-lesson aims to teach fourth graders about Celebrate Freedom Week by connecting it with biblical principles, focusing on freedom, responsibility, and gratitude.

Materials

- Bible verse cards featuring verses about freedom, responsibility, and praying for leaders.
- Art and craft supplies: construction paper, markers, glue, and scissors.
- "Thankful for Freedom" [leaf templates](#) for a [freedom and gratitude tree](#).

Introduction

- Briefly reintroduce Celebrate Freedom Week, explaining its significance in recognizing the freedoms we enjoy and the importance of using our freedoms responsibly as guided by biblical teachings.

Bible Verse Discovery

- Distribute Bible verse cards to each student. Ask them to read their verse quietly and think about what it means.
- Create small groups where students share their verses and discuss how these might relate to the idea of freedom in their lives and in our country.

“Thankful for Freedom” Activity

- Hand out “Thankful for Freedom” leaf templates. Instruct students to write or draw something they are thankful for that represents freedom, inspired by the Bible verses discussed.
- On the back of the leaf, they can write a prayer or a message of hope for our country, asking for guidance, peace, and the strength to be responsible citizens.

Gratitude Tree Assembly

- Invite students to come up one by one to attach their leaves to a large poster or bulletin board shaped like a tree, creating a Gratitude Tree.
- As each student adds their leaf, they can share what they wrote or drew if they feel comfortable.

Reflection and Prayer

- Lead a reflection on what was learned about freedom and responsibility from the Bible verses and the importance of being thankful for the freedoms we have.
- Conclude the lesson with a group prayer, incorporating themes of gratitude for freedom, prayers for our leaders, and requests for guidance on how to use our freedoms to serve others and honor God.