

2011 CHRISTIAN HERITAGE Thanksgiving Suggestions & Resources

Greetings from CHRISTIAN HERITAGE!

We hope these resources will be a blessing to your family and guests as you celebrate Thanksgiving together!



Some Thanksgiving Suggestions:

1. During the days surrounding Thanksgiving, read or listen to several new resources about our first Thanksgiving.
2. During Thanksgiving Dinner, read one or two Bible passages about giving thanks to the Lord and have each person tell two or three things he/she is most thankful for this year.
3. Read a thanksgiving poem or selection from a historical work (presidential Thanksgiving Proclamations, quotes from the first Pilgrims, etc.) on Thanksgiving after dinner or during dessert.
4. Have family members—just children or adults & children—dress in costume and act out parts of the Thanksgiving story based on their study of it. There are many benefits of such a re-enactment:
 - a. Incentive to study the history, clothing, speech patterns, etc. of the time.
 - b. Opportunity to practice writing skills (one or a group together)
 - c. Opportunity to practice public speaking/acting skills
5. Sing a Thanksgiving hymns or general hymn of thanks and praise before and after dinner. And/or have a singing time when many of the great hymns of the faith can be sung together as a group.
6. Invite Thanksgiving guests and family members to recite or read scriptures, poems, or segments of books/historical works about Thanksgiving.
7. Conduct family discussions to come up with your own ideas for focusing on thanking God for His mercies and for studying the American Colonies' "First Thanksgiving."

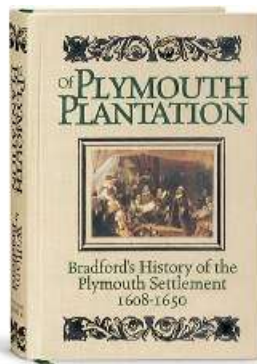
Some Thanksgiving Resources:

Please note, there may be many other sources for these historically accurate and reliable works, but these are ones we are familiar with and ones you can obtain easily. Enjoy!

- *The Bible:* Do a study on words related to *thanksgiving*. If you don't have Bible software on your computer to help with your word study, we recommend the excellent, free program [e-Sword](#).
 - Consider the following: *thank, thanks, thanksgiving, praise, extol, and exalt*.
 - Make a list of all the verses/passages that use these words regarding our great Triune God.
 - Read two or three at each morning and evening meal until you have exhausted your list and discuss what we learn about giving thanks in these verses.

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- [Five Kernels of Corn, by Hezekiah Butterworth](#): Download, read, and discuss this poem.
- [The Mayflower Compact-1620](#): Download, read, and discuss this historical document and do further research on some of the men who signed it.
- [The Life of William Bradford, Esq., Governor of Plymouth Colony by Cotton Mather](#) (1663-1728): Download. Read and discuss. Research the author, Cotton Mather.
- [Wallbuilders](#) – many historically and spiritually accurate articles & documents available as free downloads; also as books & CD's for sale
 - Free Thanksgiving downloads: [Resource Page 1](#) (including Thanksgiving Proclamations by George Washington and other U.S. presidents), [Resource Page 2](#)
 - [Books and resources](#)
- [Vision Forum](#) and [Vision Forum Ministries](#) – many books, CD's, & DVD's to order related to early American history & Thanksgiving; articles to download; and more ... including:
 - *The Thanksgiving Primer*
 - *Of Plymouth Plantation* by William Bradford, Governor of Plymouth Colony



- [Plymouth Rock Foundation](#) –
 - *Plymouth in the Words of the Founders* by Paul Jehle & many other excellent resources
- [Christian Liberty Press](#) – *Stories of the Pilgrims* and related resources
- [KnowledgeQuest](#) – Free article: "Host an Authentic Thanksgiving"



Thanksgiving Blessings from CHRISTIAN HERITAGE !