THINK THANKS

By Dolores Steger

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DEDICATION: To Betta

DESCRIPTION

Everyone is sure to THINK THANKS when you stage this easily produced Thanksgiving program that includes a narrator's part, musical suggestions, recitations, choral readings, audience participation, and two plays for performers, tots to teens. The play, "What Would Thanksgiving Be?" is for younger children who answer the question in the play's title with pictures and rhymes. "Come Ye Thankful People" is a play for teens that allows them to show a family with seemingly nothing to be thankful for, just how full of thanks their lives should be. As director, you, too, will give thanks that you selected a hassle-free program that conveys messages of the true meaning of Thanksgiving.

NOTE: This program may be presented in its entirety *(Reference #1 next to music and Emcee dialogue.)* or as separate programs, one for younger children *(Reference #2.),* one for teens *(Reference #3.).* MUSIC #1, #2, #3 *(Tape/choir/organ/piano.)* plays "His Name Is Wonderful." Emcee *(Teenager or adult.)* speaks when music ends.

(AT RISE: The EMCEE enters.)

EMCEE #1, #2, #3: We welcome all of you to our program, THINK THANKS. Thanksgiving is on everyone's mind at this time of the year. Some of us are thinking about turkeys and pumpkin pies. Others are thinking about pilgrims and feasts, and a few of us might be thinking about having a holiday off from work. When our program's over, we hope everyone will take the opportunity this season brings and THINK THANKS.

(MUSIC #1, #2, #3 plays "His Name Is Wonderful.")

EMCEE #1, #2, #3: Our program begins with recitations by our young children who have been thinking thanks as they've prepared for this day. *(YOUNG CHILDREN perform the recitations included in this program then all return to stage and sing "Jesus Loves Me.")*

EMCEE #1, #2, #3: *(As CHILDREN return to seats.)* Now that's thinking thanks! But they have more in store for us. Let's watch. *(YOUNG CHILDREN perform their play, "What Would Thanksgiving Be?" included in this program.)*

EMCEE #1 & #2: And what would Thanksgiving be if we didn't give thanks and show our thankfulness to our Father, God. *(If this concludes the program, go to the last EMCEE #1, #2, #3 dialogue below.)*

EMCEE #3: Our program begins with some thoughts about the meaning of Thanksgiving by our young people who have been thinking thanks as they've prepared for this day.

(TEENAGERS perform the recitations for older youth included in this program then all return to stage to sing "Let There Be Peace on Earth.")

EMCEE #1: Now it's time for our teenagers to take the stage with some of their thoughts on the meaning of Thanksgiving. *(TEENAGERS perform recitations for older youth included in this program then all return to stage and sing "Let There Be Peace on Earth.")*

EMCEE #1 & #3: Looks like everyone's thinking thanks, and more thanks are yet to come. Listen as our young people show the true meaning of Thanksgiving as they present their play, "Come Ye Thankful People." *(TEENAGERS perform their play, "Come Ye Thankful People," included in this program.)*

EMCEE #1, #2, #3: *(Speaking as ALL PARTICIPANTS return to stage.)* We hope you've enjoyed our program and we hope you'll continue to THINK THANKS all through the year. Please join us in singing "We Gather Together."

RECITATIONS AND READINGS FOR CHILDREN

HIS HARVEST

Look at all the seeds God's sown;
They've grown to me and you;
Give Him thanks and let Him know
We'll be His harvest, too.

A WONDERFUL DAY

Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving! A wonderful day
To think of our blessings and to the Lord say,
"We praise and adore You; hear us as we pray,
In our hearts may Thanksgiving with us ever stay!"

ONE BLESSING

One blessing, two blessings, three blessings, four,
God grants them so freely, it's hard to keep score,
So, let's thank Him now and then thank Him some more.

WHEN I PRAY

When I pray, I hear the voice of God;
When I pray, I feel the touch of God;
When I pray, I see the glory of God;
Thank you, God!

THANKFULNESS

Thankfulness is what I feel
When I see morning's sun;
Thankfulness is what I feel
At night, when day is done;
Thankfulness I give you, Lord,
For every day's delight;
Thankfulness I give you, Lord,
For making life so bright.

YOUR WORD

Thank you for the Bible;
Thank you for your Word;
It's the greatest story
That I've ever heard;
Even better, God, is
That it's really true,
So, I say right now, Lord,
Many thanks to you!

I LOVE THANKSGIVING

Wow! I love Thanksgiving!
The food is really good;
Our relatives from out of town
Come to our neighborhood;
Before we eat our dinner,
We'll say a thankful prayer
To God for all our blessings
And let Him know we care.

End of Freeview

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