

Gratitude Treasure Hunt

by Dawn Magee

For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with gratitude; for it is sanctified by means of the word of God and prayer.

1 Timothy 4:4-5 NASB

Objective

To teach thankfulness and remind each of us how much we have to be thankful for.

Supplies

- Colourful, plastic Easter eggs (see instructions for amount and other details)
- Strips of paper to write notes on (will be folded and placed inside the eggs)
- A supply of your family's favourite treats (one for each egg; must be small enough to fit inside the eggs)



Instructions

- Plastic Easter eggs can be found at dollar stores or craft stores. Obtain enough of these so that each member of your family can have a *minimum* of five eggs. The maximum number of eggs per person is up to you. Just remember that you will be sitting down as a family to read *all* of the notes contained within the eggs.
 - **Special note for large families:** If you are playing this game with more than five people, each family member should have at least as many eggs as there are people in your family. For example, if there are six people in your family, each person should have a minimum of six eggs.

- Each family member should have a different colour of egg. If you can't get enough colours, use stickers or some other way of marking the eggs that is different for each person.
- Schedule a day and time for your treasure hunt to take place. One week before your scheduled "Hunt Day," hold a family meeting to discuss the objective (above) and go over the rules of the game (below). This is also a good time to get everybody set up with supplies.

Rules

1. Each family member will receive a certain number of eggs. For each of your eggs, write a note about something you are thankful for. Use the following guidelines:
 - a. Write one note about each family member, telling why you are thankful for them.
 - b. Write one note about why you are thankful that God is in your life.
 - c. For any remaining eggs, write about anything else you are thankful for.
2. Place one note and a small treat inside each of your eggs.
3. During the week before Hunt Day (when no one is watching), hide all of your eggs around the house (or a designated area within the house). Since it might be hard to remember after a few days, you might want to make a note of where you hid your eggs.
4. If you find an egg before Hunt Day, you must leave it where it is (but you'll get a head start when it comes time to find the eggs).
5. When Hunt Day arrives, get together as a family and find all of the eggs! (You are not allowed to find your own eggs.)
6. Once all of the eggs have been found, sit down together and open them up. Read all of the notes out loud and enjoy the treats!

Adjust the rules as necessary to accommodate smaller children who might need extra help. You may wish to team smaller children up with an older child or a parent.