

# Thanksgiving Stories

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When families gather for holiday celebrations, treasured family stories are often told. This activity highlights the ritual and tradition of family storytelling and captures it for generations to come.

**For**  
Teen Family

## Season

Fall

## Needed

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 worksheet (see last page), scissors, tape or glue stick, small spiral notebook or plain paper folded in half and stapled together to form a booklet, pen

## Prepare in Advance

Make a copy of the Deuteronomy 6:4-5 worksheet and cut out the verse box.

Glue or tape the verse box to the cover or first page of the spiral notebook or folded paper booklet.

## Activity Plan

1. As your family gathers for Thanksgiving, pray this prayer aloud:

*God, we know the power of a story. In Scripture we read the stories of your faithfulness, grace, and love. Today, as we gather as a family, we give thanks for being a part of your story as we live our lives for you. Be with us as we celebrate the stories we share as a family and helps us to recognize these stories as signs of your blessings in our lives. Amen.*

2. Show the notebook or booklet you've prepared and read the verse aloud. Explain that you will pass it around among yourselves for the rest of the day. Encourage everyone to think of one family story that is an example of God's love at work in your family and to write it in the booklet when it is passed to them. Explain you will gather later in the day to read the stories.
3. Take some time at the end of Thanksgiving Day to read the stories written in the booklet. Talk about ways to share them among yourselves and with any family members who could not join you for Thanksgiving. For example:
  - Photocopy the booklet for each family member.
  - Scan the booklet and post it on a private family blog.
  - Scan the booklet and send it as an email attachment to family members.
  - Make a recording of a family member reading the stories and send copies of the recording to family members.

## Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Glue or tape this verse to the cover or first page of your spiral notebook or folded paper booklet:

**The LORD our God, the LORD is one.  
You shall love the LORD your God  
with all your heart and with all your  
soul and with all your might.**

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

