

CHRISTIAN LIBERTY HOMESCHOOLS

2026 Edition

Thanksgiving Homeschool Activity Guide

A Thanksgiving Gift from C.L.H.

"I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30

Welcome to Your CLH Thanksgiving Guide

10 Interactive, Heart-Connecting Activities
for a Meaningful Holiday Week

How to Use This Guide

Enjoy 10 hands-on, low-prep Thanksgiving activities designed for multi-age homeschool families.

Each section includes:

- A simple explanation
- Ideas for completing the challenge
- Hints and tips



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1. 🦃 7 Days of Thanksgiving Gratitude

📅 Day 1 — Grateful for God's Creation

Scripture: *Psalm 24:1*

Focus: Noticing God's beauty in the world around us.

Activities:

- Nature walk + scavenger hunt
- Draw or photograph one thing in creation you're thankful for

Gratitude Challenge: Thank God for 5 things you see outdoors today.



📅 Day 2 — Grateful for God's Provision

Scripture: *Philippians 4:19*

Focus: Recognizing God as the giver of every good gift.

Activities:

- Make a list of foods or items God has provided
- Cook or bake something simple together

Gratitude Challenge: Say "thank you" every time someone serves you today.

📅 Day 3 — Grateful for Family & Home

Scripture: *Joshua 24:15*

Focus: Appreciating our families and the blessing of home.

- **Activities:**
- Interview an older family member
- Create a "Family Tree of Thankfulness"

Gratitude Challenge: Write or draw a note to someone in your family.

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Day 4 — Grateful for Community

Scripture: *Hebrews 10:24–25*

Focus: Celebrating church, friends, teachers, and helpers.

Activities:

- Make cards for church leaders, neighbors, or teachers
- Pray for people who serve your community

Gratitude Challenge: Encourage one person today with kind words.



Day 5 — Grateful for God's Word

Scripture: *Psalm 119:105*

Focus: Remembering Scripture as God's guide for our lives.

Activities:

- Memorize a short verse about thankfulness
- Decorate a verse card for the week

Gratitude Challenge: Share a Bible verse with someone in your family.

Day 6 — Grateful for God's Protection & Care

Scripture: *Psalm 91:1–2*

Focus: Reflecting on God's safety, comfort, and peace.

Activities:

- List 3 ways God has cared for your family this year
- Build a "blessing shelter" fort for younger kids

Gratitude Challenge: Thank God for one hard thing He helped you through.



Day 7 — A Day of Praise & Thanksgiving

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Focus: Giving thanks in all things.

Activities:

- Family worship time with thanksgiving songs
- Create a "Week of Gratitude" poster
- Share everyone's favorite thankful moments

Gratitude Challenge: Pray a prayer of thanksgiving for the entire week.

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2. Thanksgiving Nature Scavenger Hunt

Thanksgiving Nature Scavenger Hunt Devotional

Theme: "Give Thanks for God's Creation"
Scripture: *"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it." — Psalm 24:1*
Devotional Thought: As you search for leaves, acorns, birds, pinecones, and all the little treasures outdoors, remember this: every part of creation is a reminder of God's goodness.

- The colors of the leaves show His creativity.
- The sturdy trees show His strength.
- The tiny details—like the pattern on a feather or the shape of a seed—show His care for even the smallest things.
- And if God cares so much about every leaf and creature, how much more does He care about you?
- Today as you explore nature, pause to thank God for each item you find.
- Let every discovery be a reminder to say: "Thank You, Lord, for the world You made—and for loving us so much."

Prayer:
"Father, thank You for Your beautiful creation.
Help us see Your goodness in every part of nature today.
Fill our hearts with gratitude for Your love and care.
Amen."

Hunt Cards →

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Thanksgiving Nature Scavenger Hunt Cards

NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT



☐ Leaf ☐ Acorn ☐ Bird



☐ Pinecone ☐ Twig ☐ Rock



☐ Flower ☐ Feather ☐ Mushroom

NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT



☐ Leaf ☐ Acorn ☐ Bird

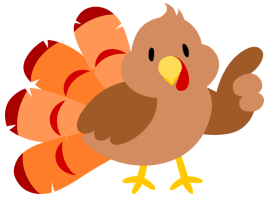


☐ Pinecone ☐ Twig ☐ Rock



☐ Flower ☐ Feather ☐ Mushroom

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3. Thanksgiving Family Interviews



Capture stories from older relatives or church members.

🧡 *Thanksgiving Story Interview: Sample Questions for Kids to Ask*

1. "What was Thanksgiving like when you were my age?"
This helps kids hear traditions, foods, and memories from another generation.

2. "Who cooked the meal in your family, and what dish did you always look forward to?"
Encourages storytelling about family roles, special recipes, and meaningful foods.

3. "Can you tell me about a time when you were especially thankful for something God did?"
Connects gratitude to faith and God's provision.

4. "What is one lesson or piece of wisdom you want kids today to remember?"
Gives kids a chance to learn life wisdom from older believers.

5. "Who in your life has been a blessing to you, and why?"
Opens the door for personal stories, relationships, and God's faithfulness through people.

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4. Thanksgiving Escape Room

Parent Instruction Sheet | Christian Liberty Homeschools The Freedom Feast Key:

A Bible-based Thanksgiving clue hunt Children follow nine clues around your home, then solve a final challenge celebrating gratitude and God's provision. This is a printable scavenger-style escape room, not a locked-room activity. Preparation (10–15 minutes)

1. Print pages 2–3 on paper or cardstock and cut along the card borders.
2. Keep this instruction sheet as your answer key.
3. Place card 1 in your child's hand. Hide card 2 at the Bible, card 3 near the bread/pantry, and so on using the locations below.
4. Place the final card (10) in or near a cup. Optionally prepare a small "Freedom Feast Key" paper award or family treat for the finish.

How to play

Read card 1 aloud. Players solve its riddle, find the location, and discover the next card. Continue through card 9. On card 10, the final answer is "Give Thanks." Celebrate by reading 1 Thessalonians 5:18 and sharing one blessing each.

Parent tip: Adjust hiding spots for your home, supervise young children, and keep cards away from heat, sharp objects, and food-preparation hazards. The Scripture references follow the original CLH guide; families can read each verse from their preferred Bible translation

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Where to hide the cards

Card to hide	Place it at / near
1	Hand to players to start
2	Bible
3	Bread, breadbox, or pantry
4	Heart symbol or decoration
5	Lamp or candle
6	Pumpkin
7	Pillow
8	Hymnal, speaker, or music area
9	Dining table
10	Cup or mug



The Freedom Feast Key | Printable Clue Cards



Cut along the borders. Give card 1 to players; hide the remaining cards using the parent sheet.

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CLUE 1 • Gratitude Starts Here

You read me to remember God's goodness.
My pages tell you why we always give thanks.

Read: Psalm 107:1

CLUE 2 • Daily Bread

Warm and brown, I'm often passed around.
I'm sliced and shared at the Thanksgiving feast.

Read: John 6:35

CLUE 3 • A Thankful Heart

I beat without stopping, though you never hear me.
I remind you to give thanks every day.

Read: Colossians 3:15

CLUE 4 • Light of the World

I shine in darkness and glow in the night.
People gather around my warmth and light.

Read: Psalm 119:105

CLUE 5 • From the Fields to Your Table

Orange and round, grown from the ground,
I show up in pies when Thanksgiving comes around.

Read: Psalm 67:6

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CLUE 6 • A Place of Rest

When your day is done and thanks have been said,
You lay your thoughts upon my head.

Read: Psalm 4:8

CLUE 7 • Thankful Songs

You hear me when you worship,
You hear me when you sing.
I help your voice give praises
To Christ, our risen King.

Read: Psalm 100:2

CLUE 8 • A Feast to Remember

I hold the food; I hold the feast.
Without me, the meal would be quite the beast!

Read: Acts 2:46

CLUE 9 • Overflowing Cups

You fill me up when you're thirsty.
I spill if I'm too full.
What am I, mentioned in a Psalm about blessings?

Read: Psalm 23:5

CLUE 10 • The Freedom Feast Key

To finish your mission, your answer must say
What we celebrate on this holiday.

Read: 1 Thessalonians 5:18



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5. STEM TURKEY CHALLENGES

Hands-on engineering + Thanksgiving fun!

1. Mayflower Rescue: Turkey Boat Challenge



STEM Focus: Buoyancy, design, experimentation
The Challenge: Build a boat that can carry the greatest number of pennies without sinking.
Materials: Aluminum foil, shallow container of water, pennies, and a towel.
Instructions:

1. Design and build your boat.
2. Place it carefully in the water.
3. Add pennies one at a time.
4. Count how many it holds before sinking.
5. Change your design and try again.



Think About It: What changes helped your boat carry more weight?
Faith Connection: Discuss the challenges the Pilgrims faced during their voyage and the importance of trusting God's providence through difficult circumstances.

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2. Cranberry Bridge Challenge

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STEM Focus: Engineering • Structural Strength • Problem-Solving

The Challenge: Can you build a bridge using cranberries and toothpicks that is strong enough to support weight without collapsing?



Materials

- Fresh cranberries
- Toothpicks
- Two sturdy books or small boxes
- Small lightweight objects for testing
- Ruler (optional)

Instructions

1. Place two books or boxes several inches apart to create a gap.
2. Use cranberries as connectors and toothpicks as building supports.
3. Design and build a bridge that spans the gap without additional support underneath.
4. Carefully place a small object on your bridge to test its strength.
5. Add weight gradually and observe what happens.
6. Make changes to your design and try again!



Think About It

- Which shapes made your bridge stronger?
- What happened when you added more weight?
- How could you improve your design?

Young Learners: Build simple squares and triangles using cranberries and toothpicks. Discover which shapes hold their form better.

Older Students: Build two different bridge designs. Test how much weight each can support and compare your results.

Faith Connection: Psalm 18:2: "The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer."
Just as a bridge needs a strong foundation and dependable supports, we need a firm foundation for our lives. Talk about what it means to trust God as our source of strength.

3. Turkey Towers

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STEM Focus: Engineering • Balance • Structural Stability

The Challenge: How tall can you build a freestanding tower that can support a paper turkey on top without falling over?

Materials:

- Toothpicks
- Mini marshmallows or modeling clay
- Paper
- Crayons or markers
- Scissors

Parent Note: Supervise children when using sharp toothpicks and small materials. For younger children, substitute blunt craft sticks and larger connectors when appropriate.

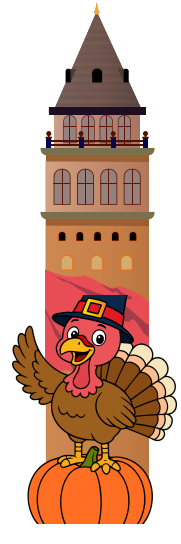


Instructions

1. Draw and cut out a small paper turkey.
2. Use toothpicks and marshmallows or clay to build the base of your tower.
3. Continue adding supports to make your tower taller.
4. Place your paper turkey carefully on top.
5. Measure the height of your tower.
6. If it falls, redesign your structure and try again!

Think About It

- What helped your tower stay balanced?
- Did a wider base make your tower stronger?
- Which shapes worked best?
- What would you change if you built it again?



Young Learners: Build a short tower using simple shapes. See how many levels you can add before it becomes unstable.

Older Students: Build the tallest tower possible using a limited number of toothpicks and marshmallows. Measure its height and experiment with ways to strengthen it.

Faith Connection:

Matthew 7:24–25: Jesus describes a wise man who built his house upon a rock.

A strong structure needs a solid foundation. Jesus teaches us that building our lives upon His Word gives us a foundation that can withstand life's challenges.

Family Discussion: What are some ways we can build our lives on God's Word every day?



6. Real-Life Learning Day: Thanksgiving Meal Planning & Budgeting

Page 1: Plan the Thanksgiving Meal

- **Choose a family menu.**
- **Set a realistic budget.**
- **Compare grocery prices.**
- **Calculate estimated and actual costs.**
- **Prepare a shopping list.**



Page 2: Cook, Serve & Give Thanks

- **Create a cooking schedule.**
- **Assign responsibilities to family members.**
- **Practice hospitality.**
- **Reflect on what the children learned.**
- **Express gratitude for God's provision.**

Print the following two pages, gather your children around the kitchen table, and begin planning.



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Plan the Thanksgiving Meal

Real-life learning: math, organization, teamwork, and hospitality

1 Plan together

Choose your menu as a family. Include a main dish, two sides, a dessert, and a drink.

Main dish: _____

Sides: _____

Dessert: _____ Drink: _____

Dietary needs or family preferences: _____

2 Set a budget and compare prices

Our meal budget: $ _____ Number of guests: _____

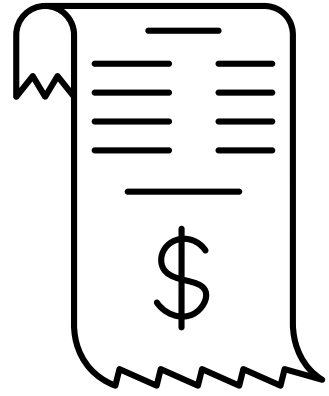
Check store flyers, online prices, or past receipts. Estimate what each item will cost.

Food / ingredient	Quantity	Unit price	Estimated	Actual

Estimated total: $ _____ Actual total: $ _____

Budget check: Estimated total - budget = $ _____

If over budget, what could you change? _____



3 Make a shopping list

Group ingredients by store or aisle. Mark each item as must-have or optional.

Item: _____ Store / aisle: _____

Item: _____ Store / aisle: _____

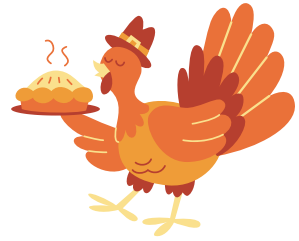
Item: _____ Store / aisle: _____

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Cook, Serve & Give Thanks

Put your plan into action, then reflect on what you learned





4 Create your cooking schedule

What can be prepared the day before? What needs to cook first?

Day before: _____

Morning of: _____

Before serving: _____

5 Assign family roles

Give each child a real responsibility. Work together and practice kitchen safety.

Junior chef	Name: _____
Recipe manager	Name: _____
Kitchen safety helper	Name: _____
Table designer	Name: _____
Cleanup helper	Name: _____

6 Practice hospitality

Before guests arrive, practice setting the table, greeting guests kindly, serving others, and giving thanks before the meal.

7 Reflect and give thanks

What was harder than you expected?

_____

What helped your family stay organized?

_____

What are you most thankful for this Thanksgiving?

_____

7. Teach-the-Teacher: A Lesson in Gratitude

Ages: All ages | Time: 15–20 minutes | Supplies: Paper and pencils

This Thanksgiving, let your children become the teachers!

Ask each child to choose something God has given them that they are especially thankful for. It might be a favorite animal, a special family tradition, or something beautiful in nature.
Have them prepare a short, three-minute lesson explaining what they chose and why it matters.
Choose one way to share:

- Draw a picture and explain it.
- Demonstrate how something works.
- Share three interesting facts.



Faith Connection: Read James 1:17 together and discuss how every good gift ultimately comes from God.

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8. Gratitude Quilt Wall



Create Beautiful Paper Quilt Squares That Express Your Gratitude!
Take a look at these examples of wall quilts that people have crafted:





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9. Thanksgiving Debate Circle



Debate fun holiday-themed questions

🍂 Holiday-Themed Sample Debate Questions

1. Is turkey overrated, or is it the true star of Thanksgiving dinner?
2. Which is better: homemade pie or store-bought pie?
3. Should Christmas music be allowed before Thanksgiving?
4. Is the best part of Thanksgiving the food, the traditions, or the people?
5. Would you rather have a second Thanksgiving feast… or skip straight to Christmas cookies?

🗣️ Debate Rules

1. *Listen first.* Let the other person finish before you talk.
2. *Be kind.* Speak with respect—even when you disagree.
3. *Use reasons.* Give at least one reason for your opinion.
4. *Stay on topic.* Talk about the question, not the person.
5. *Take turns.* Everyone gets a chance to share.
6. *End with thanks.* Thank your partner or team for the discussion.

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10. Pine Cone Craft



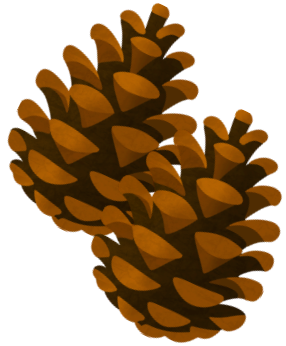
Pine Cone Bird Feeders

This is a classic, easy, and beneficial craft for nature!

Materials: Pine cones, peanut butter (or sun butter/vegetable shortening), bird seed, string or wire.

Instructions:

- Tie a piece of string or wire around the top of the pine cone (the narrow end) to create a hanger.
- Spread peanut butter all over the pine cone, pushing it into the crevices.
- Roll the peanut-buttered cone in bird seed until it's completely covered.
- Hang it from a tree branch and watch the birds enjoy!



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There’s No Place Like Home

For more than 50 years, Christian Liberty Homeschools has had the privilege of helping families provide a Christ-centered education. We believe that some of life's most meaningful lessons take place right at home, where faith, family, and learning come together. Whether you're just beginning your homeschooling journey or have been teaching your children for years, we're here to encourage and support you.

Discover Christian Liberty Homeschools
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Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" 1 Thessalonians 5:18: "



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