



IN THE LOOP

God is so good to us. Whether you think you are blessed or you feel that you struggle month after month, we are all so blessed to have what we have. The things that this world has to offer REALLY DON'T MATTER compared to the love and forgiveness that Jesus offers us everyday. He is a gracious and merciful God who gives us all far more than we ever deserve. We are all moms and that alone is a huge gift. Children are a blessing from the Lord. Slow down and play with your children, hold them, walk with them (at their speed), appreciate all there is to see. Play with play dough, Legos, tag, whatever your kids enjoy. Get into their world. We won't always be able to hold these precious little gifts. They're going to grow up one day. Enjoy them now, while you can. I know parenting isn't always easy. That's why we're in MOPS. Take the time to get to know each other. Make some new friendships. It helps to know you're not the only one experiencing some of the trials that we go through as moms. So...make some new friends, thank God for your wonderful children, and thank Him for all the love and blessings that he so graciously gives.

Turkey Placemats

Help your kids make handmade Thanksgiving, personalized placemats. Select a color of textured construction paper that goes with your Thanksgiving décor (tan, olive, green, gold, orange) and buy enough to cut placemats for every person at the table. Have the children place their hand on the placemats and outline their hand with a pen or pencil to make a turkey shape. Dress up each turkey with torn paper feathers in harvest colors and add the name of the person who will be using that placemat for dinner. If you want to make these placemats really special, ask the children to write what they are grateful for about each person on that person's placemat. Make it a surprise for the adults. Not only will everyone know where to sit, but they will have a memorable Thanksgiving keepsake to take home.

Idea provided by "Once upon a family".

Tami

Winward's family tradition



The boys and I make a life size "tree of thanks" in the corner of our living room out of paper. We use brown paper from a 3 foot roll for the trunk and the branches. We twist and wrinkle up the paper to give it more texture. Then we tape it to the wall. After that we tear or cut out fall colored leaves for the tree and write on each leaf something that we are thankful for.

Pour out your heart like water before the face of the Lord. Lift your hands toward Him for the life of your young children.
Lamentations 2:19

God tells us to pray for our children. It doesn't have to be long and drawn out or formal or fancy in anyway. But it does need to be specific. It's ok to be short and simple. Here's a few ideas.

Joy: May my children be filled "with the joy of the Holy Spirit." I Thessalonians 1:6

Generosity: Grant that my children may be generous and willing to share laying up treasure for themselves as a good foundation against the time to come. I Timothy 6:18-19

Faith: I pray that faith will find root and grow in my children's hearts, that by faith they may gain what has been promised to them. Luke 17:5-6, Hebrews 11:1-40