

# NXTGEN

## PARENT'S GUIDE

# L1

AGES 4-5

# OVERFLOW

Living with a Grateful Heart

This November, our kids will dive into “Overflow: Living with a Grateful Heart.” Like a cup filled to the brim, our hearts can overflow when we remember God’s love and goodness. Each week, your child will learn that true gratitude isn’t just saying “thank You,” but living in a way that shares God’s goodness with others. May your family’s hearts overflow with thankfulness through L.E.A.P.:

### LEARN TOGETHER:

Explore God’s Word and discover how to follow Him beyond what’s easy or familiar.

### ENGAGE IN DISCUSSION:

Talk about what God is teaching. Every question and thought matters!

### APPLY IN DAILY LIFE:

Help your child live out their faith in simple, everyday ways.

### PRAY TOGETHER:

Stay connected to God as you pray for strength and guidance.

## THIS WEEK'S LESSON IS FOCUSED ON:

<b>Date:</b>	<b>November 23, 2025</b>
<b>Passage:</b>	<b>Luke 7:36-50</b>
<b>Big Idea:</b>	<b>Give Thanks to God Always</b>
<b>Memory Verse:</b>	<b>Psalm 107:1 NIRV Give thanks to the Lord, because He is good.</b>

# LEARN TOGETHER



## BACKGROUND OF THE LESSON

Welcome, kids! This month, we're learning how our hearts can overflow like a cup filled so full it spills out everywhere. When God fills us with His love and forgiveness, we can't help but let it overflow to others! Today's story comes from Luke 7:36–50, and it's all about a woman whose heart was overflowing with gratitude because Jesus forgave her.

At that time, Jesus was invited to dinner by a very important man named Simon, a Pharisee. Pharisees were teachers who knew a lot about God's laws, but sometimes they forgot about showing love and mercy. At this dinner, a woman came in—someone people didn't think was “good enough.” She had made many mistakes, and everyone in town knew it. But she came with a heart full of love and thankfulness. She carried a jar of sweet-smelling perfume—something very precious—and she used it to show how thankful she was to Jesus.

Perfume in those days was a symbol of love, honor, and great value. It showed her heart was full—overflowing—with gratitude for the forgiveness she found in Jesus. The guests didn't understand. They whispered and judged her. But Jesus saw her heart. He knew that when we remember how much God has forgiven us, we can't help but overflow with love and kindness.

As we read the story, listen carefully. What did Jesus say about forgiveness? How does this story help us live with overflowing hearts of gratitude? Let's find out together how forgiveness can fill our hearts and spill out as kindness.

## LOOK UP & READ

**Passage:** Luke 7:36-50

**Big Idea:** Give Thanks to God Always

**Memory Verse:** Psalm 107:1 NIRV  
Give thanks to the Lord, because He is good.

# ENGAGE IN DISCUSSION

## SUGGESTED DISCUSSION STARTERS

- What does Jesus' forgiveness show about His love for us?
- When is it hard to forgive? What can we do when it feels hard?
- How can we forgive others like Jesus forgives us?
- What can your family do together to show God's overflowing love to others?

## GOSPEL CONNECTION

The woman in our story knew her heart was full of sin, but she also believed that Jesus could forgive her. When she came to Jesus, she didn't hide her mistakes. Instead, she showed her love openly. Jesus didn't push her away. He forgave her completely. Her heart, once heavy with sin, became light and full of joy.

That's the Gospel! Jesus took our sin when He died on the cross. He gave His life so we could be forgiven. Then He rose again, proving that His love is stronger than sin and death. Because of what Jesus did, our hearts can be filled with His love. When we understand this amazing gift, our hearts can't help but overflow—with thankfulness, joy, and forgiveness for others.

Just like the woman's perfume spread a beautiful scent, forgiveness spreads the beautiful "smell" of God's love around us. Every time we forgive someone, we are showing the world a little picture of what Jesus did for us on the cross. So when someone hurts you or makes you angry, remember: Jesus forgave you first. Let that forgiveness fill your heart until it overflows—spilling out His love.

# APPLY IN DAILY LIFE



## LOVE GOD AND LOVE OTHERS

- We will show forgiveness by \_\_\_\_\_ when someone hurts us.

## OBEY GOD'S WORD AND AUTHORITIES

- We will read God's Word together and remember His love by \_\_\_\_\_.

## VOLUNTEER

- We will serve together as a family by \_\_\_\_\_ (helping at church, sharing food, visiting someone).

## ENGAGE THE FAMILIES

- We will let our hearts overflow by \_\_\_\_\_ (singing, sharing, or helping).

## SUGGESTED FAMILY ACTIVITY

**Overflow Jar** – Each family member writes on slips of paper people they forgive or thank God for and puts them in a jar labeled “Overflowing Forgiveness.”

**Clean Heart Craft** – Cut paper hearts, color half dark (sin) and half bright (forgiveness); discuss how Jesus makes hearts clean.

# PRAY TOGETHER

*Our Heavenly Father, You are full of love and mercy, and we praise You for forgiving us. Thank You for showing us through the story of the woman that Your love can change hearts. Help us forgive others the same way You forgive us—freely and completely. Fill our hearts so full of Your love that it overflows in our words, actions, and kindness this week. We want to live thankful, forgiving lives that please You. In Jesus' Name. Amen.*

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