



NORTHVIEW  
**STUDENTS**  
5th/6th grade

DATE(S)

November 6-7, 2021

SERIES AND LESSON TITLE

Stuffed – Week 1

TAKE-HOME POINT (THP)

Don't be **STUFFED** full of yourself!

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Galatians 5:22-23; Luke 6:43-45  
Proverbs 11:2; James 4:10  
Philippians 2:3-4

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Give any Campus-Specific Announcements



THE OVERVIEW

# OPENING GAME / GROUP TIME

## LARGE-GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

### "Pollsters - Thanksgiving Edition"

A great percentage/numbers based game that everyone can play! Choose one student to come up front and answer each question with a percentage answer. Then, have everyone else decide if the correct person is LOWER or HIGHER than the answer given by the student up front. They stand on the chair if they think the answer is higher and they sit down on the ground if they think the answer is lower. Process-of-elimination each round and give the winner a prize (and give the kid who answered all the questions a prize, too!)

\*\*\*Make sure to test the technology before playing the game!!

## OPENING SMALL GROUP

### QUESTIONS

### ACTIVITIES

Take attendance and make sure to welcome anyone who is a first-time guest!

What was the highlight of your week?

What is the most full or "stuffed" you have ever been after eating a meal? Have you ever heard of the "meat sweats"?!

When you're finished (and there's time), pray for our time of worship.

STUFF TO ASK TO UNIQUELY CONNECT THE LESSON TO KIDS' LIVES

STUFF TO DO SO THINGS AREN'T BORING



# LARGE-GROUP SCRIPT

## THE MESSAGE

**"Stuffed" Week 1 – Don't Be STUFFED With Yourself!**

**November 6-7, 2021**

Hey guys! I'm so glad that you are here today! We are starting a new Thanksgiving series called Stuffed. We're going to be talking about being stuffed with the right things and how NOT to be stuffed with the wrong things. I may not be 100% sure, but I'm sure you and I have had plenty of situations where we've gotten a LITTLE too STUFFED after eating a good meal. However, I bet there are other times where you were STUFFED full of something else – yourself.

**(Leaders Note: Tell a story where you got a little too full of yourself and immediately got humbled!)**

For this Thanksgiving season, I want us to talk about some things we need to be STUFFED with as Christians. When we live these things out in our own life, and not just believe them, we can actually become better versions of ourselves. Just like a turkey is much better when it's stuffed or when Mom or Grandma makes Thanksgiving stuffing...oh man, can't you just taste all of that awesome Thanksgiving food right now?!

**So here we go...our first THP of the series! THP: Don't be STUFFED full of yourself!**

One passage of Scripture that we are going to look at each week is going to help us better understand what godly qualities we can be STUFFED with so we can begin to live a life God's way rather than our own. It comes from the New Testament in Galatians 5:22-23:

*"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law."*

You'll notice the word "fruit" was used there. Obviously, we're probably going to be talking a lot about food over the next few weeks with Thanksgiving right around the corner, but this verse isn't talking about literal fruit. In this context, fruit is referring to characteristics of one's lifestyle. Jesus actually talks about this in the New Testament. Check out this verse from Luke 6:43-45: *"No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of."*

# THE MESSAGE

Jesus says the “fruit” of your life will reflect what’s in your heart. Our heart reveals what we really want. So, let’s look at that first verse again from Galatians knowing the context a little better: *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”*

We are going to focus on the last “fruit” listed there: self-control. Living life for God comes down to this one question: would we rather live life our own way or God’s way? A selfish or self-centered person lives how they want; a God-centered person sacrifices what he or she wants to obey God. There’s a big difference there, guys, and the Bible has a lot of passages to help us realize why it’s important to live a life that pleases God instead of pleasing ourselves.

Look at what Proverbs 11:2 says: *“When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.”* Here’s another one; James 4:10: *“Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.”* These verses say, rather bluntly, it’s MUCH better to be humble than a prideful know-it-all! However, the reality is that it is much easier to do what we want rather than what somebody else wants...even if that somebody is God.

Guys, there are situations in our life where we can start to feel pretty good about ourselves. Maybe you’re a good athlete or musician...or you get straight A’s. Maybe you’re really good at video games, drawing, boy/girl scouts, whatever. There are some in here that might be good at all of those things at the same time! I think it’s awesome to get involved, give our 100% effort, and excel in certain areas more than others. However, it can be easy for us to get a big head! God is there to remind us that we need to be STUFFED with humility and focus on God and others before ourselves!

Check out this last verse from Philippians 2:3-4: *“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”*

The Christian life is completely about serving God and serving others. If we serve ourselves, then WE become God. It’s all about what makes us happy and satisfied in life. We can actually begin to worship ourselves at that point! I’m sure that if some of us were honest, we would admit that we can be selfish sometimes...maybe even most of the time.

# THE MESSAGE

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It feels good when people praise us and tell us how awesome we are! Sometimes it can be the encouragement that we need. Every week, we tell you guys how awesome we think you are and how much we love you...in fact, we probably don't say it enough. However, if our entire focus is only on ourselves, we will miss out on the best way to live life...GOD'S WAY!

**(Teacher's Note: Give an example of how living God's way was more beneficial in your life than living life the way you wanted to)**

Here are some questions I want you to think about as we finish: Do you tend to be FULL OF or STUFFED with yourself? Are you living life your own way or God's way? It might be hard to answer that question and you may need to ask a family member or trusted friend who is willing to tell you the truth about that! No matter your answers to those questions, here's the most exciting part: **if you live life God's way...by putting Him and others first above yourself...you will actually find that type of lifestyle is more fulfilling. It will be much harder at times, but so much more rewarding.**

Let's allow this week's THP to challenge us this Thanksgiving season – as we're getting stuffed with tasty food – to NOT be STUFFED full of ourselves and to live our lives God's way. Let's pray!

# CLOSING SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

## CLOSING SMALL GROUP

### QUESTIONS

What was the THP today and why was it important during the message?

Today, we talked about living God's way versus living our own way. The Scripture we read in Galatians 5:22-23 talked about how we need to live by "the fruit of the Spirit." What was the word "fruit" referring to in that verse?

Let's re-read one of the passages from the message again: James 4:10. Can I have someone read that for us?

*"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up."*

What do you think it means to "humble yourself before the Lord"? Why would that be a big deal as a Christian?

If you were being honest, when do you tend to be the most selfish and focused on having things your own way? What is something you can do to change that?

How will the THP help you to live differently this week? Try to think of a specific example.

How can this group pray for you this week?

### FINAL THOUGHTS

**Breaksgiving Weekend is in two weeks! Wear your pajamas to church and enjoy endless amounts of breakfast food! Start thinking about who you want to invite to come with you.**

**After your group is finished with your discussion questions, close in prayer!**

Encourage those students in your group who made first-time decisions or who made re-commitments to follow Jesus today! Tell them that this group is a support system for them and they don't have to do this life alone. If there is a student who makes a first-time commitment to Christ, have them text NVSNEXT to 85379 or fill out a response card so you can capture their information and our staff can follow up with them. Once your group discussion is over, close your group in prayer!



# PREP NEEDS

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## SMALL-GROUP SUPPLIES

- Some Bibles for students to share during group discussion
- Pen/paper for SOAP study (optional)
- Playlister material

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## LARGE-GROUP SUPPLIES

- Stupid Video of the Week
- Message script
- Message slides

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## AUDIO/VISUAL NEEDS

- Pro Presenter or Playlister

