Discussion Ideas

Choose strategies from the list below to facilitate group discussion.

Connecting Activity

Ask each group member to answer this question: Who or what are you thankful for today?

Discussion Questions

1. Who played important roles in stopping the fire?
   - *Riziki and the children; the small, the weak; everyone played a role.*

2. Was Grandma right? Was this a good day? Explain your answer.
   - *Yes. In the face of danger, the community came together and stopped the fire.*

3. How do the villagers express their gratitude?
   - *They plan to celebrate together.*

4. ▶Discuss some of the characters in the story. How did they show courage? What character traits do you see in their lives?
   - *They faced danger, risked their lives; traits may include gratitude, humility, kindness, loyalty, responsibility, service.*

5. ▶Think about a community you have been a part of—maybe a sports team, your class at school, your church, your family. What did this community accomplish or learn together? What was your role? What did you learn from the experience?
   - *Answers will vary.*

6. ▶Think about your own unique strengths and abilities. What can you contribute to your community to make it stronger?
   - *Be accepting of all answers.*

Personal Growth Activity

Begin your own gratitude journal. Write at least one thing you are thankful for each day for the next week.

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Spiritual Application

Read Ephesians 4:15-17. Then ask: According to this verse, how do we grow spiritually? How is our individual growth connected to the growth of the whole body of believers?

Prayer Point

Lead the group in a prayer of thanksgiving. Invite everyone to offer brief prayers of thanks to God. Pray that God would strengthen the community and help everyone to grow together in love, as each part does its work.

Encouragement

Express your thankfulness for each group member. Encourage participants that they have the power to take action and help face the challenges of their communities. Consider reading part of Grandma's Wisdom to close the group time.

Grandma's Wisdom

That was one of the scariest days I can remember in my life. But that wildfire showed us what we can do when everybody pulls together. It takes courage to face danger.