

The Alpaca in the Manger

by Dana Bowman, p. 40

Misapplied lessons on Christmas and the roots of family traditions

1. What experience have you had volunteering during the Christmas season? In what ways do you intend to volunteer this year?
2. How would you answer Dana Bowman's son Charlie when he asked why they should volunteer to serve others each December?
3. Dana Bowman calls grace gratitude's "big sister." How do you think grace and gratitude are related to each other?
4. Bowman finds grace and gratitude in the middle of her messy family. What situations in your own life are you really thankful for even though they don't look pretty on the outside?
5. Bowman writes, "Gratitude does not bludgeon. It alights." What thoughts would you add to this statement?