

# The Thanksgiving Story

The Mayflower's  
Journey to the New  
World!

Retold by Andrew L.



# Setting Sail

In 1620, two boats took off for a new land: America. Some were leaving to go on an adventure. Some were leaving because England was too crowded. Most were leaving to worship God in their own way. They were called Pilgrims. The people went on the Mayflower and Speedwell. But they did *not* get far! The Speedwell had a leak and they had to go back to land. Many from the Speedwell boarded the Mayflower. One hundred two people were now on the Mayflower. Then, they set sail.



# A Harsh Journey Over

The journey across the harsh Atlantic was not a fun one. They were on the water for two long months. The boat had nearly everybody crowded, but few lucky people had small cabins. In addition to the dreadful ride, there *had* to be a storm, too. A person even got swept overboard, but grabbed a rope and climbed back up. After a while, the storm ended. But, they did *not* know it put them off course from Virginia. Then, after all the *horror*, a lovely baby was born to the Hopkins family: Oceanus.

## 'LAND HO!'

On Nov. 9, 1620, a sailor called 'Land Ho!' He saw land but it wasn't warm Virginia. It was Cape Cod, Massachusetts. So the storm *had* put them off course! This place was *not* happy. There were no friends to welcome them, but they did have sightings of Indians. Since it was cold, many were sick in New Plymouth. And, everybody needed food. Then, One day, they found corn. They were lucky, because that helped them through winter!

# The First Winter


The first winter was hard for the Pilgrims. Many were ill, so they had to build houses to keep the sick away. More houses were built for un-sick people. But one of the sickly houses caught fire. People put it out as quickly as they could. They didn't have much food, and only half (51) survived.



# The Indians

At the end of the winter, an Indian named Samoset came right into their village and spoke English. Then Squanto returned and taught them how to plant corn the “Indian way”. He really spoke amazing English! Then, even chief Massasoit came. Soon, a friendship that lasted fifty years formed!

# The Great Feast



Because of the friendship, They decided to have a feast. It was harvest time and it was a chance to share with their new friends. They invited the Indians to their village. Every one cooked or baked. Ninety Indians came, and there was enough food for everybody. The feast lasted 3 whole days and celebrated a new life in America!