

Bridgeway Community Church
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Otherwise

The Other Nine

Question: What do you do after you have been healed?

Question: Why do you think the other 9 lepers did not come back to thank Jesus?

Luke 17:11-19 NIV84

Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance ¹³and called out in a loud voice, 'Jesus, Master, have pity on us.' ¹⁴When he saw them he said, 'Go, show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were cleansed. ¹⁵One of them when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. ¹⁶He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him--and he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Jesus asked, 'Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? ¹⁸Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' ¹⁹Then he said to him, 'Rise and go; your faith has made you well.'

10 were healed but only 1 was made **WHOLE**

10 were healed but only 1 was made **WELL**

10 were cleansed but only 1 was **CURED**

"You can be in close proximity to Jesus and receive a blessing without truly being completely whole."

- close proximity TO Jesus does not equal a relationship with Jesus
- 2 thieves during the crucifixion, 1 in eternity with Jesus, the other would not

"It's important to be close, but it's more important to be connected."

Question: Have I really connected to Jesus or am I simply in the vicinity?

You can even be healed physically, and still be dead spiritually.

NINE REASONS THE OTHER NINE DIDN'T RETURN TO GIVE THANKS

- 1. UNCONVINCED VINNY** - *Thankful, but not convinced it was Jesus*
- 2. SHYFUL SHARON** - *Too shy to return to thank Jesus*
- 3. SHAMEFUL SUSAN** - *Too ashamed to return to thank Jesus*
- 4. LAZY LENNY** - *Thankful, but too lazy to return to thank Jesus*
- 5. BUSY BOBBY** - *Thankful, but too busy to return to thank Jesus*
- 6. DISTRACTED DAISY** - *Thankful, but too distracted to return to thank Jesus*
- 7. SKIP THE SKEPTIC** - *Thankful, but skeptical about returning to thank Jesus*
- 8. SILENT SYLVIA** - *Thankful, but not expressive enough to return to Jesus*
- 9. PROUD PETE** - *Thankful, but too proud to give credit to anyone else but himself*

Question: Do you see yourself in any of these nine?

OBSERVATIONS From the Story

1. JESUS RECEIVES ANYONE WHO CALLS ON HIM

- (any condition, color, class, or culture)

Luke 17:12-16 NIV84

They stood at a distance ¹³and **called** out in a loud voice, 'Jesus, Master, have pity on us.' ¹⁴When he saw them he said, 'Go, show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were cleansed. ¹⁵One of them when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. ¹⁶He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him--and **he was a Samaritan**.

The Samaritan was the hero of the story. Similar to:

The Good Samaritan - Luke 10

The Woman at the Well - John 4

"This is, my friends, what Gracism looks like. Reaching out to those who are on the margins and including them into the circle of honor and healing and wholeness."

- You can be a **diseased leper** who is culturally marginalized.
- You can be a **mixed race**, socially unwelcomed outcast.
- You can be from the "**wrong side of the tracks**"
- You can be a **poor beggar** with nothing to offer

You might not have a degree, a home, nice clothes, good social status, or a good reputation, but if you have a mouth...if you have a desire to be healed...**if you have a will to cry out to God for your deliverance, you have all you need to qualify!!**

Romans 10:13 NIV84

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

2. JESUS WELCOMES A 10% RETURN AS PRAISEWORTHY

All Jesus needs is a tithe.
All Jesus needs is a remnant!

“God can do a lot with a little!”

2 Chronicles 16:9 NIV84

For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.

One of the most practical ways you can thank God for what He has done is by giving back to Him.

When you give a tithe, think of it as a **“thanksgiving”** offering!

“Jesus receives praiseworthy gifts from people who are grateful to him regardless of their background.”

The widow with 2 mites story - Mark 12:41-44

Don't think of giving as an obligation that you owe, but **a privilege that you have the ability to give back to him!**

2 Corinthians 9:7-8 NIV84

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

⁸And God is able to make **ALL** grace abound to you so that in **ALL** things at **ALL** times, having **ALL** that you need, you will abound in every good work.

“Offerings are a thanksgiving moment with almighty God.”

10% of: your TIME, your TALENTS, your TREASURE, your TONGUE

Question: What would it be like if you said 10% of your speech today was going to be praise and worship to God?

Question: What if you gave 10% of your time to the advancement of God's kingdom?

3. JESUS RETURNS FOR THOSE WHO (RE)TURNED TO HIM

Luke 17:20-37: The chapter ends with the return of Christ. What a twist!

People **TURN** to Jesus for help & healing, but they don't **RETURN** to him for worship & praise!

Luke 17:15 NIV84

One of them [the 10 healed lepers] when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice.

In the Greek words here "loud voice" could be translated "mega-phone"

Luke 17:15 paraphrase: With a megaphone he glorified God

Jesus told the Samaritan woman in John 4 that The Father is looking for true worshipers!

John 4:23-24 NIV84

Yet a time is coming when and has now come when the **true worshipers** will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.

Not those people who turn to God for a quick fix, a bail out, or a healing, but those who worship him in spirit and in truth. Those return and say **"thank you, Jesus"**.

Question: Are you thank Jesus with your time, your talents and your treasures and your tongue?

Chose to be the 1

Chose to learn from the mistake of the other 9: "Wisdom is gained by learning what NOT to do from others who have messed up."

These verses are about the 2nd coming, the return of Christ

Luke 17:34-35 NIV84

I tell you, on that night two people will be in one bed; one will be taken and the **OTHER** left. ³⁵Two women will be grinding grain together, one will be taken and the **OTHER** left.

“If you don’t turn to him, he will not return for you!”

“What does it profit a man to be physically healed and spiritual dead!?”

“Make the decision right now to be the one.”