

SUNDAY OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup>

TRINITY 17

This week we explore who we belong to and how that affects what we do.



READINGS

2 TIMOTHY 2 VERSES 8 – 15

LUKE 17 VERSES 11 - 19

Dear God, help us to give thanks for what is good,  
face with courage what is hard, hold on in faith to what matters,  
and be blessed as the disciple we are today  
and as the one we will grow into. **Amen.**

## The Thankful Leper (Luke 17:11-19)

Have a 'thank you' card and ask what it is? That's right, I have a thank-you card. Can anyone share about a time when you have sent or received a thank-you card? We have lots to be thankful for every day, but sometimes we forget to say those two little words in response to someone doing something kind for us. In fact, that's what happened in our Bible passage today.

The story is about ten lepers. These people had a disease which caused sores all over the body. This was very common in Jesus' day, and people who had this disease were thought to be dirty and unclean. They were required to stay away from other people because of the fear that they might infect them with their disease. One day, Jesus was walking through a small village when He saw a group of ten lepers. They stood far away from Jesus and called to Him, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us." Obviously, they knew who Jesus was and that He had the power to heal them. When Jesus heard them, He called back to the lepers and said, "Go, show yourself to the priest." As the lepers went on their way to see the priest, they looked at their skin and the sores were gone. Jesus had healed their disease. They were so happy that they ran up and down the streets singing and dancing. Suddenly, one of them stopped and went back. Praising God with a loud voice, he threw himself at Jesus' feet and said, "Thank You." Jesus said to him, "Weren't there ten who were healed? Where are the other nine?" (Luke 17:11-19) Only one out of ten remembered to say, "Thank You."

God does so much for us! Every day He provides everything we need: food, clothing, and a place to live. Do we ever forget to say, "Thank You?" Let's stop right now and say, "Thank You," and ask God to help us remember to thank Him every day.

Dear Lord, You give us everything we need, but we often forget to say, "Thank you." We thank you now, and ask you to help us to remember to give thanks every day for all that you do for us. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Leprosy was a serious skin disease. People with leprosy had to stay away from everyone.

- This man was even more left out because he was a Samaritan as well as a leper. Jewish people did not like Samaritans.
- Jesus didn't mind that the man was a leper or a Samaritan. This man remembered what was important – to thank God.

### Talk together

- Have you ever forgotten something that was really important?
- What do you think is the most important bit of today's Bible passage? Why?
- What or who are you thankful to God for? Have you told God?

## Activities

*Make a Thank You card and give to someone you want to thank for something they have done for you.*

Think about what makes people who they are

**You will need:** sticky labels, with famous names written on, pens.

- Put a sticky label on each person's back. Get the group to ask each other questions to find out who they are.
- How many people identified themselves correctly? Were the questions asked about what the person did or their looks? Did anyone ask questions about what kind of qualities the person had (kindness, patience, positivity, being fun-loving)?
- We often identify people by what they can do, what they've achieved or how they look. But God looks much deeper than this.

Introduce the idea of Jesus changing our self-image

**You will need:** paper and pens.

- Divide the group into pairs. Give everyone five minutes to sketch a portrait of their partner. After five minutes, let everyone see their portrait.
- Discuss: How accurate do you think that portrait is? How does it relate to how you see yourself? What kinds of things affect how we see ourselves? Has Jesus done anything for you that has changed how you see yourself?

Play a game of 'Simon says' but, instead of following orders only when preceded by 'Simon says', children should follow orders when the person giving the orders says 'please'!

- Talk about the importance of saying please and thank you.

Encourage the children to put their faith into action

All this week, find something to say thank you to God for. **A**

## Go with God 24/7

Every day, record one thing that Jesus has done for you. Use this record to consider how your self-identity might be changing.



# Jesus Heals Ten Lepers

One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. Luke 17:15 (NIV)

Choose the word that best matches the definition.



- \_\_\_ 1. An infectious disease that damages a person's nerves and skin  
A. mumps B. influenza C. malaria D. leprosy
- \_\_\_ 2. A community smaller in than a city  
A. metropolis B. country C. village D. state
- \_\_\_ 3. A person ordained to perform religious duties in the church  
A. teacher B. priest C. leper D. usher
- \_\_\_ 4. To restore to health  
A. infect B. heal C. praise D. leprosy
- \_\_\_ 5. To rid of impurities by or as if by washing  
A. cleanse B. praise C. glorify D. priest
- \_\_\_ 6. To honor, worship, and express admiration to God  
A. heal B. cleanse C. praise D. thank
- \_\_\_ 7. To express gratitude to someone for something they have done  
A. cleanse B. heal C. faith D. thank
- \_\_\_ 8. The number equal to  $7 + 3$   
A. ten B. twelve C. nine D. eleven



# JESUS HEALS TEN LEPERS

Secret Message

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

23	8	5	14

10	5	19	21	19

19	1	23

20	8	5	13

8	5

19	1	9	4

7	15

19	8	15	23

25	15	21	18	19	5	12	22	5	19

20	15

20	8	5

16	18	9	5	19	20	19

1	14	4

1	19

20	8	5	25

23	5	14	20

20	8	5	25

23	5	18	5

3	12	5	1	14	19	5	4

15	14	5

15	6

20	8	5	13

3	1	13	5

2	1	3	11

20	8	18	5	23

8	9	13	19	5	12	6

1	20

10	5	19	21	19

6	5	5	20

1	14	4

20	8	1	14	11	5	4

8	9	13

The secret message is based on Luke 17:14-15.

## Who are you?

### Luke 17.11-19

Ten lepers call out to Jesus to be healed. Jesus heals them but only one of them turns back to thank Jesus, praising God loudly. This man was a Samaritan.

Now read Luke 17.11-19 see p.2 for text.

### A note on the passage

This story takes place in a borderland area between Samaria and Galilee. At the centre of the story is a Samaritan leper, someone who would be an outcast of society for being both contagious and a foreigner. But Jesus heals this man and nine other lepers. This one man stands out because he remembers to give thanks to God and Jesus for his healing. A reminder to us that everyone counts in God's sight.



What do think are the messages in this image? What images or symbols might you use to draw who you are?

# Sing



Choose your favourite praise song and sing it at home or in the car. Or, if you don't want to sing yourself, try listening to 'Big Family of God' by Nick and Becky Drake: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UEvJzOxm6zs> It's a reminder that we are all different but equally precious to God.

# Pray



Leprosy affects people's hands and feet. Use your hands each day this week to be thankful. Begin by holding your little finger and be thankful for one small thing, then with your ring finger say thank you for a friend or family member; next, hold your middle finger and think of the biggest thing to be thankful for today; then hold your index finger and give thanks for something you have heard in the news or at school or work, and finally, finish with your thumb by giving a 'thumbs up' for 'Amen'.

# DISCOVER



Find out how leprosy affected a young boy called Aboubacar, and how The Leprosy Mission helped him. <https://youtu.be/n8orFhaLmwk> Could you find a way to tell other people Aboubacar's story? Pray for him and others with leprosy and thank God for ways in which The Leprosy Mission helps people and teaches us about leprosy.



Make a card or write a note to a member of your family or community to which you belong (e.g. a friend, a teacher, an activity or sport leader), telling them why they matter to you.

At the end of each day this week, think of three things that you have seen or experienced – little things, things that normally might go unnoticed – and say 'thank you' to God for them. If you all do this within your household, you could share and say thank you together.

# Thank you