



friendship  
community church

Cleansing and Healing the Lepers

Luke 17:11-19

Week of March 22-28, 2020

Hosts - You are an important part of the discipleship ministry of FCC. I am grateful for you and am praying for you as you prepare to host your group. It is safe to say that things are different than probably any of us have ever imagined. If you are in need of anything, please let me know (615.403.3138; [paul@churchforyou.com](mailto:paul@churchforyou.com)). All of the staff and elder body are available as we have always been. Please do not allow yourself not to contact us if you are feeling anxious, overwhelmed or just want to talk. If you know of any needs within your group that we can help with, please contact us directly or via this email address <http://achurchforyou.com/contact/>

**If you are using zoom to host your meeting, let me remind you that you have 40 minutes of meeting time with the free account. Be careful to keep the group focused and moving along. Forty minutes will go quickly.**

**Please read the entire passage out loud in your group – Luke 17:11-19**

*<sup>11</sup>On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. <sup>12</sup>And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance <sup>13</sup>and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." <sup>14</sup>When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. <sup>15</sup>Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; <sup>16</sup>and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. <sup>17</sup>Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? <sup>18</sup>Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" <sup>19</sup>And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."*

**Here are Michael's main points from the sermon this week –**

**Social distancing is biblical**

- Lepers were not allowed to be around those who were "clean"
- There is no record in the OT of a leper being healed by a priest - Leviticus 13-14 shares the process ordained by God regarding cleansing by the priest. For individual study, you might want to spend some time in Leviticus 13-14.

**As they went**, they were cleansed. Interestingly enough, Jesus sends them to the priests for cleansing but before they ever made their desired destination, they were healed.

Nine of them kept going to the priest (even though they were already cleansed) but one of them, a Samaritan, turned back praising God with a loud voice. And he went back to Jesus and fell at His feet and thanks Him for healing him.

Jesus asks, Where are the other nine? A question Jesus already knew answer to.

**Ask, What is something that God has done in the last few days that you need to praise Him?**

### **“your faith has made you well”**

The other nine should have known what to do (they were religiously trained) but a Samaritan is the one who supernaturally knew what to do in the moment. Go live a new normal!

### **Cleansed or well?**

We want our world cleansed but as believers we are called to live well – differently.

Read 2 Cor. 5:17 -

### **Living well in unclean times**

1. Respect your leaders – the lepers kept their distance. God has ordained earthly leadership for a reason. Jesus even worked within the law on cleansing the lepers.
2. We can ask God for cleansing for our world, community and country. Cleansing of our community from the ravages of a tornado, in our family, in our spiritual lives, addictions, unemployment, etc.
3. Praise God for His earthly provision as it is provided. Not trite and superficial but we become a source of encouragement, calm and perspective.
4. Thank Jesus for your soul’s wellness. This helps us to have an eternal perspective on who we are and Who God is.

You may need to share prayer requests via email.

As time allows –

**Ask,**

**- What are some things that you are doing differently to occupy your time during the last couple of weeks?**

**- What is one thing you have learned that you think the rest of the group can learn from?**

Here are few take-aways (you know we can’t dine in right now) that Michael shared Moving Forward –

- The food bank is open for now. The office is limited. Please let your group know that the staff and elders are available.
- We will remain a diverse church
- Our Community groups and students will meet online
- [achurchforyou.com](http://achurchforyou.com) and FB is our hub