



# LESSON 11: JESUS HEALS TEN MEN OF LEPROSY

## CORE BIBLE: JESUS HEALS TEN MEN OF LEPROSY

### Supplies

- Bibles
- Paper
- Pens
- 5 – 10 Plain small circle stickers

### Give Gifts

We're going to start off our Core Bible Discovery time with a gift exchange! Here's how it will work: You're going to write down a gift on separate pieces of paper. Since you don't actually have to **buy** it, it can be something really expensive. But you could also write a silly or funny gift, like a pair of dirty socks. Just don't make it anything really **disgusting**. So decide what to give as a gift, and don't show what you write. When you're done, crumple up your paper and set them down.

Now pick up a paper wad near you and open it. That's your gift! Explain whether you're thankful for your gift. If your gift was a million dollars, I bet you're pretty thankful! But if it was an already-been-chewed piece of gum, maybe you're not so thankful. Today we're going to learn about some guys in the Bible who got an **awesome** gift from Jesus. We'll see how thankful they were as we discover why Jesus deserves our thanks.

### Get Leprosy

The men in our story had a disease called *leprosy*. Leprosy causes a person's skin to be covered with sores. Gross! And once you have leprosy, it doesn't go away. It's not like a cold or cough that you have for just a week or two. Let's use circle stickers and cover our arms with some leprosy sores.

Okay, now you all have leprosy! Here's the other thing about leprosy. In Bible times, people with leprosy weren't supposed to go near other people. So they couldn't have normal jobs or hang out with anyone except for other people with leprosy. They were left out of a lot of things.

What would you miss most if you weren't allowed to live with your family or play with your friends?

So if you had leprosy, you'd love to be cured, right? No more sores, and no more being kept away from your family and friends. That's what the 10 guys in our Bible story wanted!

*Luke 17:11-13*

*<sup>11</sup> As Jesus continued on toward Jerusalem, he reached the border between Galilee and Samaria. <sup>12</sup> As he entered a village there, ten men with leprosy stood at a distance, <sup>13</sup> crying out, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"*

Let's see what these men did when Jesus passed by. First, they had to stand off by themselves. Then they had to call to Jesus. Cry out as loud as you can, "Jesus, have mercy on us!" Jesus heard the men. Let's find out what happened.

*Luke 17:14*

*<sup>14</sup> He looked at them and said, "Go show yourselves to the priests."<sup>14</sup> And as they went, they were cleansed of their leprosy.*

Jesus healed them! They discovered that Jesus deserves our thanks.

### **Get Healed**

Sometimes when Jesus healed people, he just touched them or said something and they got better right away. This time, though, Jesus told the 10 men with leprosy to go show themselves to the priests so the priests could verify that they were cured. But they still had leprosy when they left Jesus! What would you be thinking if Jesus said to go to the priests although you still had spots?

All 10 men started off to see the priests. And as they went, their spots fell off! Their leprosy was cured! How do you think the men felt when they were suddenly healed? I bet they were so excited! Think about a time *you* were really excited about something.

### **Say Thank You**

We don't know if the men were just so excited they forgot to say thank you or if there was another reason. But only **one** of the 10 men came back to thank Jesus. He knew Jesus deserves our thanks.

*Luke 17:15-16*

*<sup>15</sup> One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, "Praise God!" <sup>16</sup> He fell to the ground at Jesus' feet, thanking him for what he had done. This man was a Samaritan.*

Only one out of 10 men said thank you. Think about a time someone thanked you and how that made you feel. Jesus was probably happy that the man came back to thank him. But he wondered what had happened to the other nine guys.

*Luke 17:17-19*

*<sup>17</sup> Jesus asked, "Didn't I heal ten men? Where are the other nine?" <sup>18</sup> Has no one returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?" <sup>19</sup> And Jesus said to the man, "Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you."*

The other nine men didn't seem to be very thankful for what Jesus did. What's it like to be around someone who's ungrateful?

## Be Thankful

We can all be a little ungrateful at times. Think about something you've complained about in the last week. Brainstorm a reason to thank Jesus for the very thing you complained about. For example, maybe you complained about having to do laundry. You could thank Jesus that you have so many clothes to wear. Or if you complained about your little brother bugging you, you could thank Jesus for all the good things about your brother.

What were some ideas you had to turn complaining into thanks?

Jesus deserves our thanks. When we complain or forget to thank him, we're like those nine men who never came back. Instead, let's focus on ways we can thank Jesus all the time!