

**What do you think about when you think about thanksgiving?**

**Lets look at a story that helps us understand why thanksgiving is important?**

**Luke 17:11-19**

**Let’s talk a little about leprosy:**

*Leprosy was the scourge of the ancient world. Nothing evoked more fear, more dread, or more revulsion than the sight of these walking dead. That is what a leper was called, a walking dead man. The smell of his decaying flesh would announce his coming long before the tattered scraps of his clothing would be seen, or his raspy "Unclean! Unclean!" announcement he was required to declare, could be heard. The stumbling shuffle of toeless feet, the wandering of sightless eyes and the moan of a cheek less mouth, all pointed to Leprosy, this unseen attacker that slowly destroyed human bodies, and made the individual an untouchable to society.*

**Based on what we know about leprosy, why did these men “stand at a distance”?**

**What was their request? What were they asking for?**

**Did they get what they were asking for?**

**Ask the youngest person in the group to describe what happened after they were all cleansed.**

**What do we know about this particular man?**

**How did Jesus respond to this? Do you think this bothered Jesus? Why/why not?**

**Does it bother you that only one came back to give thanks? Why?**

**Read this comparison of leprosy to sin.**

*Leprosy is a vivid and graphic physical picture of the spiritual defilement of sin. Sin is ugly, loathsome, incurable, and contaminating; it separates men from God and makes them outcasts. The instructions given to the priests in Leviticus 13 help us understand the nature of sin: Sin is inside us, deeper than the skin (Leviticus 13:3); sin also spreads (Leviticus 13:8); sin always defiles and isolates (Leviticus 13:45-46); and just as leprous garments are fit only for the fire (Leviticus 13:52-57), so those who die clothed in sin will burn forever.*

**What is sin?**

**Who is immune to sin? Romans 3:23**

**How would you feel if, because you have sinned, you were required to declare, unclean, unclean?**

**Read Ephesians 2:1-10**

**Vs 1-3 says what about us?**

**Vs 4-7 says what about God?**

**Vs 8-10 says what about us in Christ?**

**Based on this what should we do in response to what God has done?**

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