

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 you 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

Choose a version of the passage to read. The first is the ROOTS version for children, the second is the NRSV text which may be suitable for older children, young people and adults.

Jesus was travelling to Jerusalem. As he passed through a village between Samaria and Galilee on the way, ten men with leprosy came to meet him. Ten people with a serious skin disease. The ten men with leprosy stopped a little way from Jesus. They didn't come too near because of their disease.

'Jesus,' they shouted out, 'have mercy on us!'

Jesus looked over and saw the ten standing there. 'Go,' he said to them. 'Go and show the priests that you are healed.'

So the ten men set off to see the priests and, as they walked, their skin was healed. They looked at each other in amazement. Overjoyed, one man turned and ran all the way back to Jesus. He threw himself at Jesus' feet.

'Thank you!' he said. 'Praise God!' This man was an outsider because he was a Samaritan.



'Wait,' Jesus said. 'Ten men were healed. Where are the other nine? Have they not come to praise and thank God, too? Only you, the outsider, have come back. Get up. Go. You have been healed because you believed.'

Luke 17.11-19

Did you know?

- Leprosy is a serious skin disease. People with leprosy had to stay away from everyone so that they wouldn't spread the disease.
- The man who said thank you 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.

Luke 17.11-19 (NRSV)

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!' When he saw them, he said to them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a

loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, 'Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' Then he said to him, 'Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.'