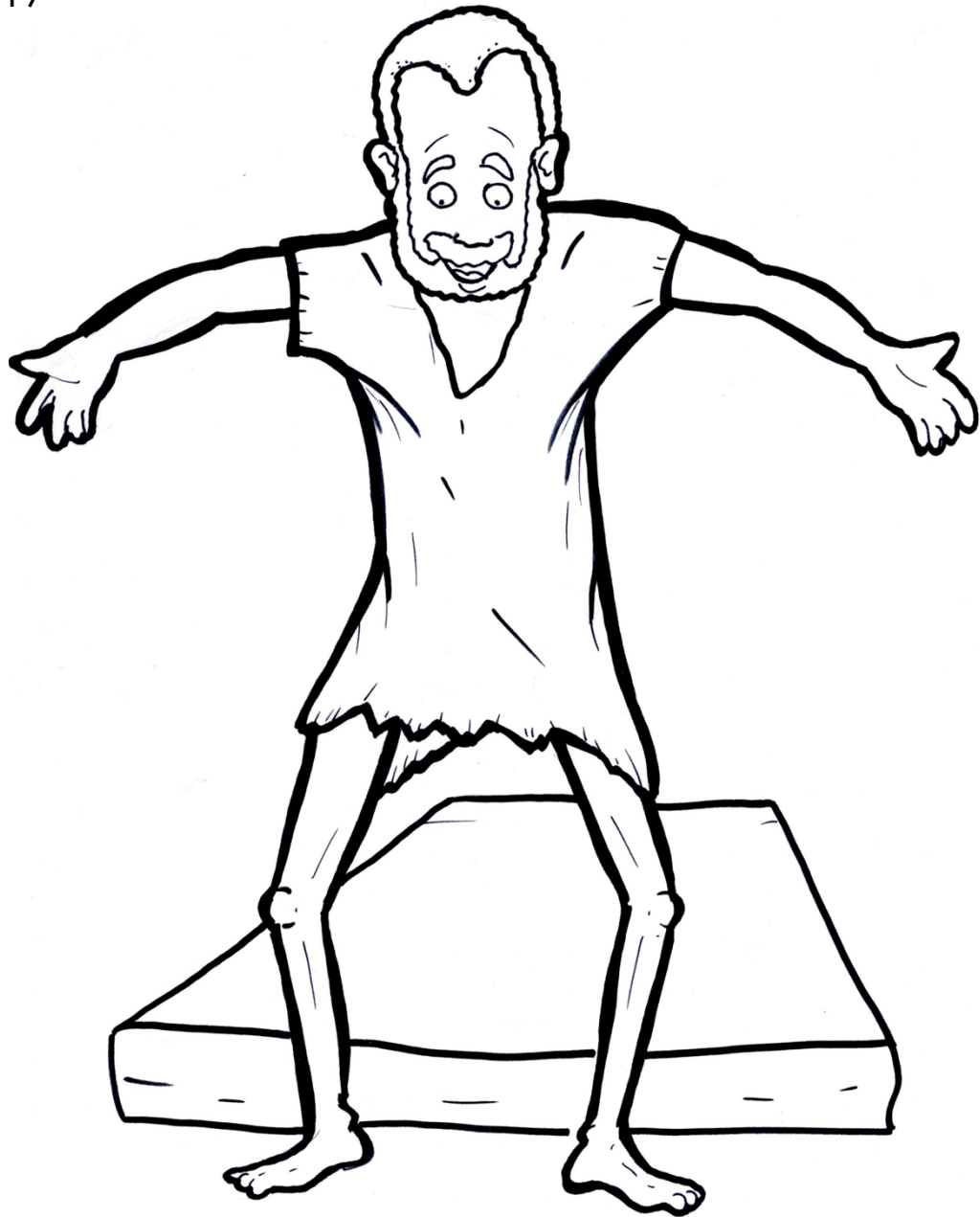


Bible Lesson

32. Jesus Heals Ten Men

Luke 17



Jesus said, “Didn’t I heal ten men? Where are the other nine?”

Luke 17:17

Jesus Heals Ten Men

Jesus saw ten men who were sick. These poor men had leprosy. Leprosy eats away the skin. A leper can lose fingers, toes, and hair. The person can go blind.

Lepers had to live together, away from everyone else. It was a sad and painful life.

The ten lepers saw Jesus. They begged and yelled, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

Jesus stopped. He said, "Go show the priests that you are well."

As the men went on their way, they were healed! One of the lepers ran back. He fell on his face at Jesus' feet. In a loud voice, he praised God.

Jesus said, "Didn't I heal ten men? Where are the other nine? Why have they not returned to give glory to God?"

Then Jesus said to the man, "Get up, and go your way. Your faith has made you well."

Questions

1. Can you describe the men's sickness?
2. Most people stayed far away from lepers. Not Jesus. What does this story tell you about Jesus?
3. After Jesus healed all ten men, what was he hoping would happen?
4. What does Jesus hope for when he heals you?

Pray this Prayer:

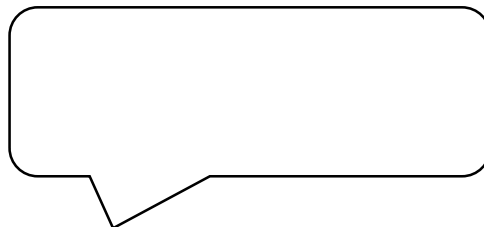
Dear Jesus,

Thank you for all the times you healed me. I am sorry when I forget to give you the praise and glory. Thank you for healing me from _____.

Amen

Think about a time when Jesus healed you. Follow the steps that the leper took when he was healed. Write a prayer in step 3.

1. Run to Jesus
2. Fall before him.
3. Praise him.



Story S-t-r-e-tch-ing

32. Jesus Heals Ten Men

Show students where the story is in the Bible. Use the Bible references above the illustration.

Before you read:

Activate Prior Knowledge

- a) Have you ever had a really itchy mosquito bite? How many did you ever have at one time?
- b) Have you ever had to live away from your home for a long time? Did you miss your family?
- c) The men in this Bible story had such a bad skin problem that they had to go and live in camps away from their families. What do you think Jesus did for them?

After you read:

Remembering the Forgotten

Think about the lepers who were forced to leave their home and families and go live in leper colonies. Wouldn't those be horrific places full of misery? Jesus always went to the least of these. He remembered the forgotten and asks us to do the same. Most nursing homes and assisted living centers welcome visitors. Some who live there never get company. First, call the activities coordinator and ask for suggestions and guidelines. You might sing a few songs, bring some cookies, prepare a craft, or simply hold hands with the residents and pray for them.

"Fall" of Thanks

When God heals you from a cold or other illnesses, do you remember to say thank you? Do you toss a little, "Thanks, God" at him and hope it is enough? When the leper was healed, he ran back to Jesus, fell on his face at the feet of Jesus, and loudly praised God. The Bible tells us to pour out our hearts to him. Make a special time of thanksgiving. Put some pillows on the floor to kneel on, add soft music and candle light. Give him genuine thanks for healing your body, mind, soul, or spirit.

Lift your Voice to the Lord

Some versions of the story say that the lepers "lifted up their voices" to beg Jesus for his mercy. The early church also "lifted up their voices together to God (Acts 4:24)." God answered in powerful ways. Lift up your voices together to the Lord on behalf of friends who need a touch from God. Each person can write these five words on paper: "Jesus, Master, have mercy on..." Write the name of a person in need. In a circle, lift up your paper while you are lifting up your voices and beg God to have mercy on your friends. Pass around the papers and keep praying.

YOU be the ONE

You can tell from the story how hurt Jesus was that nine men ran away healed and never stopped to thank him. YOU be the one who comes back and remembers to give thanks. Create a border on the other three sides of this poem, writing "Thank You" in fancy and varying fonts. Say this poem often asking God to help you please him with your thanks and praise.

Thank you **Thank you** *Thank you* Thank you

Only One

Jesus cured all ten
but where were those men?

When the healing was done,
there was only one.

One who fell on his face
so touched by God's grace.

He was not too proud
to praise God aloud.

I will make the choice
to use my voice.

O Lord, please let
me not forget

To always thank you
for all that you do.

Amen

The Woe Behind the Words

This story on Luke 17 is only nine verses long and doesn't share details about leprosy. In the days of Jesus, everyone knew how horrible leprosy was so the Bible does not expound on it. Give the students a rectangle and time to look at the story to see where they can interject their fact to make the Bible leap to life and magnify the mercy of Jesus. Thank God that leprosy (now called Hansen's disease) is mostly eradicated worldwide.

Leprosy is contagious from very close contact.	The eyelids stop blinking and this can result in blindness.
Lepers have damage to their nerves and can't feel with their limbs.	The fingers and toes can shrivel up.
The muscles become weak.	Some lepers become crippled.
The tissue gets eaten up.	The feet cannot feel cuts and so they get infected.
The skin gets a red rash and starts to peel off.	The bones become shorter.
The feet or hands can become paralyzed and not move.	It starts with red spots on the skin.
The nose collapses.	The skin gets dry and cracked.
The throat gets scarred.	Speech becomes rough and difficult.
The hair falls out.	Eyebrows get full of scabs and turn white.
Lepers had to shout out, "Unclean!" wherever they went.	They had to live in leper colonies away from their families.
Lepers had to identify themselves by ripping their clothes.	Not one healthy person wanted to get near a leper or the leper camp.

Thanks, God!

Send God a thank-you note each time he heals you. Using the letters below as a pattern, create a mobile to form the words, "Thanks, God." Print on card stock. Write a short thank-you note to God inside the letters for the times God has healed you from a cold, bruise, broken wrist, or even a broken heart. Cut out the letters and hang them from a hanger with yarn. Or create your own larger letters from construction paper.

THA

NKS

GOD!