

Doing Gratitude

Living the Liturgical Year

Luke 17:11-19

EXPLORING THE SERMON

- * What did you hear?
- * What did you think or feel about what you heard?
- * What is one thing you can take away from the sermon this week?

KEY VERSES

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease 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's feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? So where are the other nine? Did none of them return to give glory to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

REFLECTION

Our text today reminds us of the danger that can exist when things are too familiar to us. We tend to create a narrative that we choose to believe and reinforce, and consequently miss the most obvious point. Two miracles in this story are important to note: 1) 10 lepers are cleansed and healed of leprosy; and 2) Jesus doesn't run from them but acknowledges them and meets them in their need.

How has God done this for you? How quickly have you moved on from miracles God has done in your life?

It's amazing that we don't sit in God's blessings more readily, given that He is the One who set the stars in the sky and trusting that He actually listens to you and me. Unlike the one leper who returned to give thanks to Jesus, we have a hard time staying in the blessings we receive. **Can you relate to the one who returned to give thanks? What has been the result when you have remembered to acknowledge God for a way that you have been blessed?**

Jesus says to the one leper who returned that it was "his faith that made him well." By expressing gratitude to Jesus, the leper was made well, or "whole." Something changes inside us when we take the time to acknowledge the miracles that God produces in our lives. **What does "being made whole" mean to you? This week, what are some ways you can turn love and gratitude into actions, rather than just feelings?**