

The Rarity of Gratitude

Pastor Ken Sistrunk

Luke 17:11-19 ¹¹While Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem, He was passing between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As He entered one of the villages, He was met by ten lepers. They stood at a distance ¹³and raised their voices, shouting, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” ¹⁴When Jesus saw them, He said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they were on their way, they were cleansed. ¹⁵When one of them saw that he was healed, he came back, praising God in a loud voice. ¹⁶He fell facedown at Jesus’ feet in thanksgiving to Him—and he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷“Were not all ten cleansed?” Jesus asked. “Where then are the other nine? ¹⁸Was no one found except this foreigner to return and give glory to God?” ¹⁹Then Jesus said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well!” (BSB)

I. Here are the details of this passage.

- A.** Jesus was **on His way** to Jerusalem and was passing between Samaria and Galilee. V. 11
- B.** He was met by ten **lepers** who were of mixed heritage. V. 12, 18.
- C.** They pleaded for **mercy** from the master. V. 13
- D.** Jesus sent them to the priests and while they were **obeying** this command, they were all healed. V. 14
- E.** Only the Samaritan returned to give **thanks** for the miracle. V. 15-16
- F.** Jesus **praised** the man for his faith. V. 19

II. What can we learn from this?

- A.** Opportunities to minister come to us **randomly**. They were on their way to the temple to worship.
- B.** Difficult times tend to bring everyone **together**. The lepers did not care what each of their ethnicity was.
- C.** We must learn **humility**. We all are in need for mercy. Mercy is not getting something that you deserve. None of us have earned the favor of God.
- D.** Obedience is often **required** of us. We must obey what we already know to be true.
- E.** It is important to stop and give thanks for what we **already** have.
- F.** Obedience, humility and thankfulness show our true **faith**.

III. What can we do with this message.

- A.** We must be ready **at all times** to take full advantage of opportunities that come our way to show Christ to others.
- B.** Our thinking in regards to the appearance of others must conform to how **God** sees people.
- C.** We must become thankful for what we already have. This thankfulness should be **expressed**.
- D.** Paying it **forward** shows our true faith.