

CORNERSTONE

DISCIPLESHIP

GROUPS

THE TEN LEPERS
DR. BARRY BURNS | SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2026

Opening

Icebreaker Question: Share about a time when someone did something significant for you. Did you thank them? How did expressing gratitude (or not expressing it) affect that relationship?.

Sermon Overview

This sermon explores the story of ten lepers healed by Jesus, with special attention to the one who returned to give thanks. The message reveals the power of gratitude, the connection between humility and thanksgiving, and how praise positions us for greater blessings.

Key Scripture

Luke 17:11-19 (Read aloud together)

Discussion Questions

Understanding the Text

1. The Context of Leprosy

- What made leprosy such a devastating disease beyond just the physical symptoms?
- How does understanding the social isolation of lepers help us appreciate the miracle more deeply?

2. Faith in Action

- The lepers were healed "as they went" (v. 14). What does this teach us about acting on God's word before we see results?
- Can you share a time when you had to step out in faith before seeing God's provision?

Digging Deeper

3. The Nine vs. The One

- Why do you think nine out of ten didn't return to thank Jesus?
- What distractions or priorities might have kept them from returning?
- How might we be guilty of the same thing in our own lives?

4. The Samaritan Connection

- Why is it significant that the one who returned was a Samaritan—someone the Jews despised?
- What does this teach us about who God honors and blesses?

5. Three Levels of Blessing

- The sermon highlighted three Greek words: healed (mended), cleansed (impurities removed), and whole/sozo (complete restoration).
- What's the difference between being "healed" and being made "whole"?
- How does thanksgiving and praise open the door to deeper levels of God's blessing?

Personal Application

6. **Gratitude as Spiritual Discipline**

- Pastor Barry said, "Pride and being ungrateful go together. Humility and being thankful also go together." Do you agree? Why or why not?
- How can we cultivate a consistent attitude of gratitude in our daily lives?

7. **Praise in Adversity**

- The message emphasized: "Never let adverse circumstances steal your joy."
- How can we practically praise God when we're facing difficult circumstances?
- Has anyone experienced breakthrough through praise during a hard time?

Key Takeaways

- ✓ **Gratitude matters to God** – Jesus noticed who returned and who didn't
- ✓ **Praise is faith in action** – It positions us for greater blessings
- ✓ **Humility and thanksgiving go hand-in-hand** – A grateful heart is a humble heart
- ✓ **We must act on God's word before we see results** – The lepers were healed "as they went"
- ✓ **Thanksgiving brings complete restoration** – Nine were cleansed; one was made whole

Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge:

Daily Gratitude Practice

- Each day this week, write down three specific things you're thankful for
- Share at least one "thank you" with God in prayer each morning
- Express verbal gratitude to at least one person each day

Praise in Difficulty

- Identify one challenging circumstance you're currently facing
- Commit to praising God about it (not just for a solution, but for His goodness) at least once daily
- Share with the group next week what happened

The Gratitude Return

- Think of someone who has blessed you recently whom you haven't properly thanked
- This week, contact them and express genuine gratitude

Prayer Focus

- Pray for group members who need physical healing
- Pray for cultivating grateful hearts in the group
- Pray for the Wednesday night communion service mentioned in the sermon
- Pray that we would be the "one" who returns to give thanks, not the "nine" who forget

Closing Prayer

"Father, thank you for your mercy toward us. Help us to be like the tenth leper—quick to recognize your goodness, eager to return with thanksgiving, and bold in our praise. May our gratitude position us for greater measures of your presence and power. We glorify you with loud voices and humble hearts. In Jesus' name, Amen."

For Next Week

- Continue daily gratitude journaling
- Be prepared to share how praising God in difficulty affected your week
- Read Luke 18:1-8 (The Persistent Widow)

News & Events

Scan QR code for Upcoming Events, News, Giving and more! <https://linktr.ee/cornerstonejc>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- July 19 - Summer Fun Night at Kingsport Aquatic Center - Registration Open



Notes