



SERMON NOTES

DEAR THEO

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE // PART 6 (Ch. 5-6)

Rajendra Pillai | Damascus Road Community Church

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SERMON NOTES:

While Jesus was in one of the towns,
a man came along who was covered with leprosy.

~ Luke 5:12

Physical aspects of leprosy:

Notes:

Social impact of leprosy:

Notes:

The person who has the leprous disease shall wear torn clothes
and let the hair of his head be disheveled; and he shall cover his upper lip
and cry out, "Unclean, unclean." He shall remain unclean as long as
he has the disease; he is unclean. He shall live alone;
his dwelling shall be outside the camp.

~ Leviticus 13:45-46

Imagine if this were you. Imagine waking up and seeing something happening to you that you know will drive you away from your home, your family, your children, your friends, your community. Imagine, living the rest of your life and not experiencing the touch of another human being. You are to live alone away from the town you lived in, in isolation, scavenging for food, never again experiencing the hug of a child or the embrace of a spouse. That's this man in our story.

When he saw Jesus, he fell with his face to the ground and begged him,
"Lord, if you are **willing**, you can make me **clean**."

~ Luke 5:12

Notes:

Jesus reached out his hand and **touched** the man. "I am willing," he said.
"Be clean!" And immediately the leprosy left him.

~ Luke 5:13

Notes:

The Good News is this: In Jesus, God entered our polluted and sin-stained world and on the cross, Jesus took our sin, our shame, our guilt and the punishment for our sins.

Jesus touched the leper and instead of the leper infecting Jesus with his disease, Jesus infected the leper with life! He will do for you what he did for the leper. He can make you clean. He will forgive you and cleanse you from all unrighteousness. If you ask Him, His answer to you will be, "I am willing, be clean."

Then Jesus ordered him, “Don’t tell anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them.”
~ Luke 5:14

You can find instructions on next steps for anyone who was healed of leprosy in Leviticus 14 (see if you trace the foreshadowing of Jesus).

Notes:

Yet the news about him spread all the more, so that crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses.
~ Luke 5:15

We are to enter into the suffering of the world and infect others with the grace and touch of God!

Link to register for Alpha - <https://www.damascus.com/alpha>

But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.
~ Luke 5:16

Notes:

SMALL GROUP RESOURCE PAGE

Each small group is different.
Feel free to adjust and use what best fits your group.

WARM UP:

- Mother Teresa on the poverty of loneliness - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6gC5wOyF88A>
- Is there such a thing as a poverty of loneliness?

ENGAGE:

- What was most impactful to you from this weekend's service?
- Read through Luke 5:12-16.

APPLY:

- Jesus touched the leper before he healed him. What does that mean?
- Rajendra said our region is teeming with people in desperate situations who need Jesus. What might those situations be? How can we invite them to experience a life with Christ?
- How are you doing in the area of building regular rhythms of rest?

PRAY:

- Spend some time individually before the Lord, seeking to hear what God is saying about what we are studying these days. Close with Isaiah 53:5 as a benediction.

GOING DEEPER:

- Suggested resource – *Luke for Everyone* by N.T. Wright
- If you are not in a Small Group, there's at least one that needs you! Get started at damascus.com/groups
- Still have questions about Jesus and what it means to be a Christ follower? Join Alpha starting in January. Info at damascus.com/alpha

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