While he was in one of the cities, there came a man full of leprosy. And when he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and begged him, "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean." ¹³ And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I will; be clean." And immediately the leprosy left him. ¹⁴ And he charged him to tell no one, but "go and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering for your cleansing, as Moses commanded, for a proof to them." ¹⁵ But now even more the report about him went abroad, and great crowds gathered to hear him and to be healed of their infirmities. ¹⁶ But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray. Luke 5:12-16

7 things happening in Jesus healing this man full of leprosy:

- 1) Exposing the power of faith
 - a. *The power isn't the faith itself but where the faith is placed
 - b. *Need + desire + faith, is a powerful equation
- 2) Alleviating pain
 - a. *The realities of pain meeting the promise of renewal
- 3) Restoring this man in profound & comprehensive ways
 - a. *Materially, Spiritually, & Relationally
 - b. *Foundational relationships of God, Self, Others
- 4) Revealing the tenderness of God's heart as well the power of God's hand
 - a. *The Power of God's hand in this case is the power of God's words
 - **b.** *The power was primarily in the word so the touch served a different purpose
- 5) Reinforcing the purpose of which he came
 - a. *Luke 4 is in full view; The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...He has anointed me to...
- 6) Redefining a paradigm around clean and unclean.
 - a. *Jesus doesn't become contaminated by coming in contact with the unclean, but what's unclean can be cleansed and changed when it comes into contact with Jesus
- 7) Forming His disciples
 - a. *His disciples are with Him as this is happening, so He's developing them from the ground up as they are in relationship with him

Be faithful with what's right in front of you, let God handle the rest

Spend time this week sitting with one of the seven or one of your own

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there came a man full of leprosy. And when he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and begged him, "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean."

The word & the touch paint a picture of a Jesus who is powerful & merciful

And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I will; be clean." And immediately the leprosy left him

And immediately the leprosy left him

The restorative work of Jesus is material, spiritual, & relational

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Luke 4:18-19

And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, *lepers are cleansed*, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. ²³ And blessed is the one who is not offended by me." Luke 7:22-23

The restorative work of Jesus is forward facing.

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, <u>"Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe."</u> John 20:26-27

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷ *Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him,* and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen. Revelation 1:5b-7

Jesus is a scarred savior.

And he charged him to tell no one, but "go and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering for your cleansing, as Moses commanded, for a proof to them."

The restorative work of Jesus deals with sin & its effects

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ² "This shall be the law of the leprous person for the day of his cleansing. *He shall be brought to the priest*, ³*and the priest shall go out of the camp*, and the priest shall look. Then, if the case of leprous disease is healed in the leprous person, ⁴ the priest shall command them to take for him who is to be cleansed two live clean birds and cedarwood and scarlet yarn and hyssop. ⁵*And the priest shall command them to kill one of the birds* in an earthenware vessel over fresh water. Leviticus 14:1-5

The restorative work of Jesus reestablishes the relationship God intends to have with us & we were meant to have with Him.

And the rest of the oil that is in the priest's hand he shall put on the head of him who is to be cleansed. Then the priest shall make atonement for him before the Lord. ¹⁹ *The priest shall offer the sin offering, to make atonement for him who is to be cleansed from his uncleanness*. And afterward he shall kill the burnt offering. Leviticus 14:18-19

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office,²⁴ but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. ²⁵ Consequently, <u>he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to</u> <u>God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them</u>. Hebrews 7:23-25

The restored relationship with God is seeing & responding to Him rightly.

Trust God in the no or the not yet

The restorative work of Jesus reestablishes the relationship God intends for us to have with ourselves.

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ² "This shall be the law of the leprous person for the day of his cleansing. *He shall be brought to the priest, ³ and the priest shall go out of the camp*

The restored relationship with ourselves is allowing how God sees us & what God says about us to be the foundation for how we see ourselves & what we say about ourselves.

Reclaim the gaze of God

The restorative work of Jesus reestablishes the relationship God intends for us to have with others.

Then he shall *pronounce him clean* and shall let the living bird go into the open field Leviticus 14:7b

And after that *<u>he may come into the camp</u>*, but live outside his tent seven days Leviticus 14:8

The restored relationship with others is being connected & experiencing closeness

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. ²Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:1-2

Jesus restores people to & in community

¹⁵But now <u>even more the report about him went abroad</u>, and great crowds gathered to hear him and to be healed of their infirmities.

Participate in the restorative work of Jesus with your life.

Consideration:

Think about your life, where does the restorative work of Jesus need to work?

Action: Let the restorative work of Jesus work where it needs to

Consideration:

Think about the people in your life, how can you bring the presence of God. (Prayer, touch, words)