

THE POWER OF GRATITUDE

#weseeyou

May 23, 2021 | Pastor Brian

Luke 17:11–19 (NIV)

¹¹ Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance ¹³ and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have [mercy] on us!”

¹⁴ When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed.

¹⁵ One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. ¹⁶ He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.

¹⁷ Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? ¹⁸ Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹ Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.”

Observations of a Transformation

1. Their sickness **SEPARATED** them.

...along the border between Samaria and Galilee.

2. Their illness became their **IDENTITY**.

...ten men who had leprosy met him.

3. The **UNSEEN** became the **SEEN**.

*They stood **at a distance** and called out in a loud voice...he saw them...*

*“Thereafter, Hagar used another name to refer to the LORD, who had spoken to her. She said, **“You are the God who sees me.”** (Genesis 16:13, NLT)*

4. They asked for **CARE** over a **CURE**.

*Jesus, Master, have **[mercy]** on us!*

5. They had to **BELIEVE IN ORDER TO RECEIVE**.

Go, show yourselves to the priests.

6. Nine had their skin cleansed but only one had his **HEART CLEANSED**.

*“Then he said to him, “Get up. **GO! Your faith has healed and saved you.**”” (Luke 17:19, The Message)*

One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, *“Were not all ten cleansed? **Where are the other nine?**”*

Why We Don't Show Gratitude

1. We have short a MEMORY.

*“Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything; tell God your needs, and **don't forget to thank him** for his answers.” (Philippians 4:6, The Living Bible)*

2. We are SELF-ABSORBED.

“People will be selfish, greedy, boastful, and conceited; they will be insulting, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, and irreligious;” (2 Timothy 3:2, GNB)

3. We are NEXT PROBLEM focused.

“...in spite of his miracles they did not trust him.” (Psalm 78:32, GNB)

4. We underestimate the IMPORTANCE of appreciation.

Why We Should Be Grateful

1. Because gratitude is GOD'S WILL for believers.

“Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18, NLT)

*“Even though the fig trees have no blossoms, and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; even though the flocks die in the fields, and the cattle barns are empty, **yet I will rejoice in the LORD!** I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!” (Habakkuk 3:17–18, NLT)*

2. Because gratitude elevates WORTH.

“You must show your appreciation to all who serve so well.” (1 Corinthians 16:18b, NLT)

3. Because gratitude is a powerful WITNESS.

“Do everything without complaining and arguing...shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people.” (Philippians 2:14–15, NLT)

“Good people bless and build up their city, but the wicked can destroy it with their words.” (Proverbs 11:11, NCV)

ACTION STEP:

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*“Brothers and sisters, we ask you to appreciate those who work hard among you...” (1
Thessalonians 5:12, NCV)*