

PURPLE COW: Dare to Be Different
PART 5: EXPRESSING GRATITUDE

We will look at a passage of Scripture where Jesus addresses the importance of expressing gratitude.

Luke 17:11-18

11 While He was on the way to Jerusalem, He was passing between Samaria and Galilee. 12 As He entered a village, ten leprous men who stood at a distance met Him; 13 and they raised their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" 14 When He saw them, He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they were going, they were cleansed. 15 Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, 16 and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan. 17 Then Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine-where are they? 18 Was no one found who returned to give glory to God, except this foreigner?" 19 And He said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has made you well."

1. Ten men were said to possess leprosy
2. The ten lepers requested to be healed.
 - **Luke 7:13 and they raised their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"**
3. Instead of healing touching them and granted immediate healing, Jesus sent them to the priest to be cleansed and healed them as they were going.
 - **Luke 7:14 When He saw them, He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they were going, they were cleansed.**
4. Only one of the lepers returned to thank Jesus for his healing.
 - **Luke 7:15 Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, 16 and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan. 17 Then Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine-where are they? 18 Was no one found who returned to give glory to God, except this foreigner?"**
5. If the lepers were healed of a disease as severe as leprosy, why didn't they turn back?
 - In actuality, there response is more common than we may realize.

FIVE FACTORS THAT IMPACT SHOWING GRATITUDE

1. Expectations

- They didn't ask Jesus if He had the ability to heal, they requested because they knew.
- "Jesus has to heal! That's his job!"
- We may not show gratitude when we feel a person is simply doing their job; their performance is as expected.
- *Expectations is a gratitude killer.*

2. Emotion of Gratitude

- It's hard to imagine being healed of leprosy and feeling a sense of gratitude.
- We become satisfied with simply feeling grateful and fail to show it.
- When we don't show gratitude, it leaves a situation open-ended.
- Showing gratitude connects my feeling of gratitude to someone's feeling of appreciation.

3. Proximity of the Giver

- Easier to show gratitude when the giver is present, but this is not always the case.
- Jesus was not present when the lepers were healed.
- Therefore they had to **turn around** to thank Him, of which the majority didn't.
- Sometimes, we have to turn around to show gratitude. In other words, go out of our way, stop what we are doing, veer of the path.
- **Expressing gratitude is subject to our discipline.**

4. Familiarity

- Emphasis is placed on leper that returned as being a Samaritan and foreigner.
- **Luke 7:15 Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, 16 and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan. 17 Then Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine-where are they? 18 Was no one found who returned to give glory to God, except this foreigner?"**

5. Self-centeredness

- After being healed, the men had to finish the process by going to the priest to be reinstated back into the community.
- Maybe they were more focused on getting back to life as normal than taking time to say "thank you" to Jesus.

HERE IS THE PURPLE COW MOMENT!

1. When we return to show gratitude, it allows us to stand out from the status quo.
2. As a matter of fact, Jesus commended this man for his faith!
3. In verse 19, Jesus said, "Your faith has made you whole."
4. Showing gratitude is an extension of our faith in Christ.
5. **EXPRESSING GRATITUDE SAYS YOU CARE AND THEY MATTER.**

Homework Assignment

Who do I need to turn around and show gratitude towards?

- Who's that person I need to stop and thank?
- Has someone been generous to me?
- Is there someone who has constantly be sacrificial?
- Is there someone who impacted my life?
- Five Love Languages: gift, word of affirmation, service, spending time, physical touch
- Like Jesus, was there someone that was part of your healing process? Spiritual healing, emotional healing, financial healing?
- ***WHAT DO I NEED TO THANK GOD FOR?***

Purple cows show gratitude when many won't.

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