

## Series: Gospel Of Luke

**Sunday, March 22.** Read our daily sermon reflections on GCC's app (under Devotionals) or at [gardiner.church/devotions](http://gardiner.church/devotions)

### 1. THE DISEASE THAT E .....

(Luke 17:11-13; See also Leviticus 13:45-46; Isaiah 53:3)

- Leprosy in the ancient world was not just physical — it was a social and religious sentence. Leviticus 13:45–46 required lepers to live apart, to cry "Unclean! Unclean!" to all who came near. They stood at a distance because the Law demanded it.
- Sin does the same to us. It creates distance, makes us unclean, and bars us from the presence of God. Like those ten men, we stand far off and cry for mercy, and that is exactly where the gospel begins. Is there any place in your life where you sense distance from God — and are you crying out, or suffering in silence?

**NOTES:** .....

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### 2. THE WORD THAT H.....

(Luke 17:14; see also Leviticus 14:1-7; Ephesians 2:8; Isaiah 53:5)

- Jesus speaks a single sentence and ten bodies are restored. But notice that the healing came as they went, not before. They obeyed in faith before the promise was visible. Levitical law required the healed leper to present themselves to the priest; Jesus sends them before there is anything to show.
- With a word he healed leprosy. With his wounds he heals sin. Isaiah 53:5 says: "by his wounds we are healed." The road to Jerusalem was always the road to the cross — and it is the cross that closes the distance sin creates.
- Is there an area where God has spoken clearly but you are waiting for visible confirmation before you move in obedience?

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### 3. THE RETURN THAT T .....

(Luke 17:15-19; see also Deuteronomy 8:10-14; Psalm 100:4; 50:9-10,14-15)

- One came back, and Luke makes sure we notice who it is – a Samaritan, an outsider by birth, background, and religious tradition. The word Jesus uses, *allogēnēs* (v18), appears nowhere else in the New Testament. He is the least likely, and the only one who returns.
- The nine were not without faith. It took real faith to go to the priest before the healing came. The difference is the direction of their faith. The nine's faith was oriented toward the outcome: healing, restoration, normal life. The Samaritan's faith turned toward the Person. He returned back to Jesus simply to fall at his feet. Jesus speaks wholeness over him, not just physical healing, but salvation. All ten left healed, but this man left whole. There is a difference between leaving with the gift and staying with the Giver.
- What is the difference in your own experience between receiving blessings from Jesus and actually encountering Jesus himself?

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**Application For This Week:** The return rate on grace in this story is 1 in 10. Once a day this week, pause and name three things God has given you, and bring them back to him in thanks. Not to feel better, but because he is worthy, and because you have been made whole.

**Prayer:** *Lord Jesus, forgive us for moving on too quickly from your grace. Teach us to be people who notice, who remember, and who turn back to you. You went all the way to the cross for us. By your wounds we are healed. We fall at your feet with grateful hearts. To you be all glory, now and forever. Amen.*

**Verses To Meditate On This Week:** *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? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."  
– Luke 17:15-19*

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