

“Where Are the Nine?”

Sermon Notes

- **There are countless reasons to worship Jesus in humble gratitude, but topping the list is that he's the Great Physician**

**At Mound Evangelical Free Church we believe that...*

1. Jesus can (and – if you're a believer – one day *will*) _____
your _____ (vv.11-14; James 5:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:35-58;
Revelation 21:4)

2. More _____, Jesus can _____ your _____ *today*
(vv.15-19; Matthew 1:21; Hebrews 3:7-19)

Next Week: Luke 17:20-37 - “When the Son of Man is Revealed”

MEFC Community Group Study Questions

For the week of August 26th – September 1st

Getting Started

1. Who is the most grateful person you know? Why? Take a moment to share about them with the group.

Digging Deeper

2. Psalm 136 is sometimes known as “The Great Thanksgiving”, so-called because it furnishes us with no less than 26 reasons for Godward gratitude. Can you spot all 26? Try it!

Open Your Bible to Luke 17:11-19...

3. Luke begins verse 11 with the phrase “On the way to Jerusalem...”. As an author, Luke marks Jesus' journey toward this city eight separate times (9:51, 53; 13:22, 34; 19:11, 28, 41). Why does he do this? If Jerusalem was such an important city to Christ in the 1st century, should it be an important city to Christians in the 21st century? Explain.

4. There is deep Old Testament background to both the distance the lepers kept from Jesus (v.12; Leviticus 13:45-46) as well as Jesus' instruction for them (v.14; Leviticus 14:1-9). Read and discuss these passages with your group. What observations can you make? What questions do you have?

5. Verse 14 is careful to say “...*as they went* they were cleansed.” What's the point that Luke appears to be making? 2 Kings 5:1-19 contains a strikingly parallel passage. What sorts of echoes do you hear of Naaman's story in the account of the ten lepers?

6. Verse 16 is clear to point out that the one grateful leper was a Samaritan. Why? Though we don't know with certainty, what was the likely ethnicity of “the nine” (v.17)? Why does this matter? What point is being made in the text? The word “Samaritan” appears in the Bible only 12 times but one quarter of those instances are in Luke's Gospel (9:52; 10:33; 17:16). Based on these texts, how would you characterize Jesus' relationship with these neighbors (both in terms of his interactions with them and the one parable he told featuring a Samaritan)?

7. Though the ESV has Jesus saying “your faith has made you well” to the Samaritan (v.19), the original Greek says: “your faith has saved you.” What's the difference in meaning? This phrase appears three other times in the Gospel of Luke (7:50; 8:48; 18:42). Why does a literal translation help us a great deal in this instance?

8. Jesus is the Great Physician. He is able to heal us both physically (17:11-14) and spiritually (17:15-19). If we pray for the physical healing of a brother or a sister in Christ – but don't see that prayer granted in this lifetime - what is our ultimate comfort? Close your time together reflecting on the words of the Apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10.