

NOVEMBER WEEK THREE: LEPER

Friday

Luke 17:11–19

We'll end this week with the same story we started with this week. It's the Gospel story for Thanksgiving.

Once there were ten sick men. They had a skin sickness called leprosy. It was terrible. Other people did not want to be near them. The people were afraid they would catch the sickness too. People with leprosy lived by themselves out of town and had to stay far away from healthy people.

Jesus was not afraid of people with leprosy. He loved them, just as he loved healthy people. Jesus was walking along a road one day. The ten men with leprosy shouted, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" Jesus felt sorry for them. Jesus told the sick men to go and show themselves to a priest. The priest was the one who decided whether sick people were healthy enough again to return to their homes in town near all the other people. While the men were on their way to see the priest, Jesus took away their sickness. Their skin became healthy. How happy they were to know that they could be with their families and friends again!

One of the men stopped running. He did not continue on his way to the priest. He turned back around and ran to Jesus. He thanked Jesus for taking away his leprosy. Even though Jesus loved, and blessed, and helped all ten men, only one of them said, "Thank you," to Jesus.

- **Make a list of ten things you would like to thank God for.**

Thank you for your many blessings, Lord. Make my heart ready to receive your love and blessings and to reflect your generosity with thanksgiving. Amen.