

“An Attitude of Gratitude”



Introduction

Do you show appreciation when you receive mercy? How do you feel when God blesses a person you don't think deserves it? As we go about our daily lives, we may forget about the many blessings that God bestows upon us. As God continues to bless you, have a grateful heart and praise Him with a loud voice!

Today's Lesson Objectives

- **Explore** reasons only one of ten healed lepers turned back to Jesus in thanksgiving
- **Sense** the need in our lives for increased expressions of gratitude to God
- **Develop** a plan for showing thanksgiving to God and others on a daily basis

Scripture

Leviticus 13:45-46; Luke 17:11-19 (KJV)

Devotional Reading:

Isaiah 56:1-8

About Today's Lesson...

As Americans look to celebrate the upcoming fourth of July holiday, people of color need not be reminded that this country still has a long way to go toward living up to its creed. A creed (as stated in the Declaration of Independence) that includes “a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence”. America's founders wisely recognized that without God's hedge of protection and without His provision, the newly formed nation would likely face trying times. But even in the midst of trying times, America has a lot to be thankful for. We too, as God's beloved children, also have a lot to be thankful for. God has done great things for us and we should praise Him with an attitude of gratitude.

In this lesson, Jesus continues to show his compassion and care for the faithful. Ten lepers lifted up their voices and asked Jesus to have mercy on them. In response to their request, Jesus instructed them to go and show themselves to the priests. While on their way to see the priests, they found themselves healed. One of the men, a Samaritan, after noticing his healing, turned back and loudly glorified God. The Samaritan then fell on his face and worshipped Jesus. And because of the man's faithful actions and his great display of gratitude, he was not only healed - he was also saved.

Just as Jesus did, we should minister to the outcasts too. Just as Jesus did, we should help those we don't typically get along with (Jews and Samaritans didn't typically get along). Only one leper did the right thing. But it's more important that we focus on the proper response to God's grace. Have an attitude of gratitude. Don't take God's blessings for granted!

Join Mt. Zion's Virtual Sunday School via Zoom:

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