



## WEEKLY STUDY

### ***Stepping Into Increase* - Week Three**

In this third week of 2025, we looked at a short episode from Jesus' travels towards Jerusalem. In this passage, he encountered 10 men with leprosy. These men were outcasts from society, yet they cried out to Jesus and he risked engaging with them to offer them healing. After healing took place, only one of them, a Samaritan, returned to offer thanks. My prayer is that you will see yourself in this story and that through prayer and study this week, you will find yourself returning to Jesus over and over again with a heart of gratitude.

Peace of Christ,  
Pastor Mark Youngman

If you are studying with your Providence Small Group or Discipleship Group, you can share from your own daily reflections and consider the Group Discussion questions below. If you would like to get connected visit [prov.church/smallgroups](http://prov.church/smallgroups).

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## DAILY STUDY

### **MONDAY: LUKE 17:11-19 (ESV)**

On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. <sup>12</sup> And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance <sup>13</sup> and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." <sup>14</sup> When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. <sup>15</sup> Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; <sup>16</sup> and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. <sup>17</sup> Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? <sup>18</sup> Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" <sup>19</sup> And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

- One of the fascinating parts of this story is that Jesus found himself walking between two regions of people who didn't like each other. He seemed comfortable to exist in a space in between the enemies. In fact, Jesus created the space in between. By walking with one foot in Samaria and one foot in Galilee, he was creating a new space—a Kingdom space where the common need for and

proclamation of healing becomes the most important thing. When have you seen a common need for healing seem to tear down divisions?

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- **Prayer Prompt: For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility,<sup>15</sup> by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, (Ephesians 2.14-15)**
- *God, As I consider the deep divisions that exist around the world and even in my own community, I look for the new humanity in Jesus. Amen.*

## TUESDAY: LUKE 17.11-19 (ESV)

- The one who demonstrated gratitude is the one who likely felt least worthy of the healing. As a Samaritan, it would have been made clear in other moments of his life that he was on the outside. And yet, he is the only one to return to give thanks for the miraculous healing. Perhaps this shouldn't be such a surprise. Those among us who have been shoved aside are most keenly aware of the gift of grace. We could imagine the Samaritan's internal dialogue. *"He knows that I am a leper, does he not also know that I am a Samaritan? Maybe the healing was not meant for me. But I find myself healed anyway, and all I know is that I have a new life!"* Have you found yourself unworthy of some gift from God? How do you show gratitude?

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- **Prayer Prompt: Rejoice always,<sup>17</sup> pray continually,<sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5.16-18)**
- *Jesus, forgive me for the times I have neglected to offer thanksgiving in response to your grace and mercy. Teach me to fall at your feet when I see your healing in my life. Amen.*

## WEDNESDAY: LUKE 17.11-19 (ESV)

- The fact that Jesus seemed to be seeking opportunities for healing and teaching while he was on this journey seems all the more amazing when you consider his ultimate destination—the cross and the empty tomb. No matter where he was, he was demonstrating the love and power of God to bring hope and healing to our broken world. Jesus meets our need on the universal *and* personal level. How does your heart respond to that fact?

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- **Prayer Prompt: *For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.*” (Luke 19.10)**
  - *Jesus, your seeking after the lost led you to some interesting places. I return with praise for the fact that it led you to me. Amen.*

#### **THURSDAY: LUKE 17.11-19 (ESV)**

- Jesus invited the men with leprosy to walk towards their healing. The first steps were 100% based on his promise for them. Their skin did not heal until they were on their way to the priest. Have you ever felt so stuck in sickness that you couldn't take one more step? Where have you experienced or witnessed the healing power of Jesus? What impact does that have on your faith today, and on your belief that he can do it again?
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- **Prayer Prompt: So do not fear, for I am with you;  
do not be dismayed, for I am your God.  
I will strengthen you and help you;  
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. (Isaiah 41.10)**
- *God of miraculous healing, I want to walk in faith that all things are possible with you. Send me in the Way of life and I will take the first step. Amen.*

#### **FRIDAY: LUKE 17.11-19 (ESV)**

- The physical healing took place for all 10, but only one received a spiritual healing. 10 were changed on the outside. You can imagine that all of them had some sense of returning to a full life (whatever that was). But only the one who returned experienced a heart change. In what sense do you need a spiritual healing right now? Is there someone else in your life who needs to experience such a healing?
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- **Prayer Prompt: Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. (James 5.14-15)**
  - *God, there are parts of my soul and mind that feel sick. It may be that no one else can see those things, but I need your healing. I need transformation in Jesus Christ. Amen.*

### **SATURDAY: LUKE 17.11-19 (ESV)**

- Jesus identifies the one who has returned as a “foreigner”. It was a term used on the steps leading up to the temple in Jerusalem making it clear that foreigners were not allowed in that space. It was a negative term then as much as it can be now. Who are the foreigners whom, if you saw bowed at the feet of Jesus, would surprise you most?
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- **Prayer Prompt: “When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. <sup>34</sup> The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the LORD your God. (Leviticus 19.33-34)**
- *God, I am aware that I was a foreigner to You. I was not among your chosen people. Yet you treated me as a native-born. Through Jesus, I am a part of your family, and through him I am made clean. Amen.*

### **GROUP DISCUSSION**

Pastor Jacob tracked the progression of the Samaritan man who had leprosy:

The voice of the leper goes from—

**“Unclean!”** to

**“Jesus!”** to

**“Thank You!”**

Can you identify with this progression? Have you ever felt unclean or unworthy?

Have you ever experienced a sickness (physically or spiritually) that led you to cry out as the Samaritan?

Have you been desperate enough to cry out to Jesus?

How do you show gratitude for all that God has done?