

THANKS

UNLEASHING GOD'S BLESSING
THROUGH GRATITUDE

PART 2

Give Thanks—It'll Change Your Life

LUKE 17:11-19

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus passed between Samaria and Galilee. Entering a village, ten lepers stood afar off and shouted, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." Seeing them, he said, "Go show yourselves to the priests." As they went they were cleansed. Then one, realizing he was healed, returned, loudly praising God, and fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving thanks.

LUKE 17:11-19

Now he was a Samaritan. Jesus said, "Weren't ten cleansed? Why aren't the nine here to praise God except this foreigner?" And he told him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

THE HEALED LEPERS

All the lepers were physically healed, but **only one was truly transformed.**

Intentional Gratitude

unleashed God's transforming power — physically, emotionally, spiritually.



The secret of dying with a smile on your face — and living with one, too:

Give thanks!
It'll change your life.

The Second Person of the Holy Trinity **was fundamentally a thankful being.**

16 times in the 4 Gospels
Jesus gave thanks as he prayed
— even before meals.

If Jesus, who didn't have to give thanks, did, then we most definitely should, too!

“Gratitude is an offering precious in the sight of God, and it is one that the poorest of us can make and be not poorer but richer for having made it.”

A.W. TOZER

“Gratitude is not only the greatest of the virtues, but the parent of all others, opening the heart to deeper appreciation, compassion, repentance, forgiveness, generosity and wisdom. Cultivate it as a habit; it’s a kind of therapy for the spirit.”

BRUCE CHAPMAN

THANKS THERAPY

1. Practice Noticing

Life is full of gifts we cannot see because we are so focused on what we do not have.



THANKS THERAPY

2. Pray Gratefully

"Pray...with thanksgiving."
PHILIPPIANS 4:6



OPEN YOUR EYES

You have fine friends, fine food,
fine things, and a fine life.

Praying gratefully will open
your eyes to it.

THE TEN LEPERS

"They stood afar off."

- Completely cut off from their community
- Required to stand 50 yards off if they were upwind
- Isolation turned physical horror into unbearable emotional torture

THE UNGRATEFUL NINE

The lepers are physically, fully, instantly set free—and put back into community—yet they were so caught up in what they wanted they didn't even stop to say thanks!

THE POINT OF THE STORY

When children forget to be grateful to a parent when they have gotten what they want, their ingratitude is especially painful.

THE POINT OF THE STORY

If ingratitude is painful to an earthly parent, how much more painful to our Heavenly Father!

*"How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is
To have a thankless child!"*

KING LEAR

The secret to living and dying with a smile on your face:

Give thanks!
It'll change your life.

THE THANKS CHALLENGE

Let no "thank you" go
unspoken to those you
love—especially to your
Heavenly Father.


