

**Jesus Heals the Lepers** - January 17

**Parents:** Do you remember baby sign language? Before my little one learned to talk she learned the sign for thanks. When she was in grade school she occasionally forgot to say thank you. Instead of telling my child, a simple motion of the hand reminded her to thank the person.

Our Bible story today highlights the power Jesus has to heal as well as the importance of giving Him thanks and praise. While we're raising our children we model and teach this heart attitude each and everyday.



**Read:** Luke 17:11-19

Jesus Heals Ten Men With Leprosy

11 Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. 12 As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance 13 and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" 14 When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. 15 One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. 16 He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. 17 Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? 18 Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" 19 Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

**Discuss:** As Jesus traveled to Jerusalem he stopped by a village. Do you remember how many men with leprosy met him? *Yes, 10, that's right. The 10 men had leprosy which means they had a horrible disease that caused skin sores. They had to be separated from their friends and family because it was easy to pass to another person.*

*What did the men say to Jesus? They said, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" What did Jesus tell them to do? He told them to show themselves to the priests. The priests could pronounce them clean because Jesus had healed them as they went.*

*How many men came back to praise and thank Jesus for healing them? Only one foreigner came back. Do you think it was okay that the other nine didn't thank Jesus? No, it wasn't. It's important to give praise and thanks to God for everything.*

**Key Point: Give Thanks to the Lord**

Give Thanks (Take flat hands with the palms facing chin and make a motion like blowing a kiss and extend hands out palms up)

To the Lord (Make an "L" with one hand and make a sash from one shoulder to opposite hip)

**Family Activity:** As we know, children need to be taught to say thanks because it doesn't come to mind sometimes. Let's put this lesson in action by writing a thank you note to someone that has been kind or generous to your family. Use the card attached or create your own.

**Prayer:** Dear God, We praise You for being so generous. Forgive us when we forget to give You credit for the blessings You give. Help us show our gratitude and praise. We thank and love You. Amen.

**Next Steps:** Memorize Luke 17:15 - "One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice."



Color, cut out the cards, and write messages of thanks inside. Deliver each one to a friend, family member, or neighbor.