

**Introduction:**

No matter what your story is, you have probably experienced pain or discomfort. For some of us, that pain can lead us to complain. Pain & an attitude of complaining has the potential to hold us captive, to keep us distracted, and to render us ineffective. Freedom can be found in the antidote: gratitude.

Scripture:

Luke 17:11-19 - As Jesus continued on toward Jerusalem, he reached the border between Galilee and Samaria. As he entered a village there, ten men with leprosy stood at a distance, crying out, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" He looked at them and said, "Go show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed of their leprosy. One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, "Praise God!" He fell to the ground at Jesus' feet, thanking him for what he had done. This man was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, "Didn't I heal ten men? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?" And Jesus said to the man, "Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you."

Discussion Questions:

1. What are you most grateful for this week in your personal life? Work life? Spiritual life?
2. In Luke 17, there are ten men who want to be healed of their skin disease. If you were to ask them what they really want, even more than health, what do you think they would say?
3. There is a clear difference in these men's lives before & after they encounter Jesus. What was your life like before you met Jesus?
4. Each of these men responded in faith to Jesus' instructions, but the results affected them differently. What is your life like after you met Jesus?
5. Although Jesus heals ten men, only one returns to thank him. What would you say to the people who helped you meet Jesus?
6. After the man returns to thank Jesus, Jesus charges him to "Stand up and go." What do you think this man, healed by Jesus and filled with gratitude, did next?

Take the Next Step:

When we encounter Jesus, we are changed. Among other things, that change should bring about gratitude. If we are going to take a step forward, a step closer to Jesus, that gratitude should move us to action. How can you express your gratitude to those who have helped bring you closer to Jesus? How can you serve someone else this week? What step can you take to better show your gratitude in your financial service to Jesus?