

A THANKFUL FOREIGNER

Luke 17:11-19

11 Jesus went from Galilee [in northern Israel] to Jerusalem [in southern Israel]. He went along the border between Galilee and Samaria [a foreign area].

12 Jesus went into a small town – and ten men met Jesus. The men had leprosy [a contagious skin sickness]. The ten men stood far from Jesus [because they had leprosy].

13 The ten men called loudly to Jesus, "Jesus, help us!" 14 Jesus said to them, "Go to the priests. Show the priests that your skin is healed." So the ten men started to go – and their skin became healed!

15 One man looked – and his skin was healed. So he came back to Jesus. He loudly praised God. 16 He bowed down at Jesus' feet – and he thanked Jesus.

He was a Samaritan.

17 Jesus asked, "I healed ten men. Where are the nine men? 18 Why did nine [Jewish] men not come back? Why did nine men not praise God? Only this foreigner praised God.

19 Then Jesus said to the Samaritan, "You can go. Your faith saved you."

CONTENT QUESTIONS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What foreign area did Jesus go by? (verse 11)
- Who met Jesus near Samaria? (verse 12)
- How many men met Jesus? (verse 12)
- What was the men's problem? (verse 12)
- What did Jesus tell the men to do? (verse 14)

This was a safety rule in the Old Testament:

The 10 men had leprosy. Leprosy was dangerous for other people – like coronavirus was dangerous for other people. So the priests needed to check: Were the men safe to meet other people?

- What happened when the men were going to the priests? (verse 14)
- Who did not come back to thank Jesus? (verse 18)
 - What nationality were they? (verse 18)

Why did the nine men not thank Jesus? What do you think?

Who do you think should thank Creator God?

- Who came back to thank Jesus? (verse 16)
 - Why did he come back? (verses 15-16)

Japanese often thank people.

For example: “Thank you for the other day.”

What do Japanese think about thanking people?

Is thanking people important?

- What nationality was the man who thanked Jesus? (verse 16)

Does Jesus only love Jews?

How does Jesus feel about other people?

How do you think Jesus feels about Japanese and Americans – and people from other countries?

- What questions did Jesus ask? (verses 17-18)
 - Who does Jesus think we should thank? (verse 18)

Creator God is very generous – God gives us everything to enjoy.

1 Timothy 6:17

Every good gift comes from God the Father.

James 1:17

- What very good news did Jesus say to the Samaritan foreigner? (verse 19)

What is faith?

What feelings do you have from this story?