



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: Thanksgiving Sunday: Stories of Gratitude and Hope

Speaker: Richard Villodas, Lead Pastor

Scripture: Luke 17:11-19

Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!”

When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed.

One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.

Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.”

Luke 17-11-19 (NIV)

Sermon Outline:

In this passage of scripture, we see the story of ten men suffering from leprosy. They cried out to Jesus, who then tells the men to go cry out to the village priests. The men started to go to the village priests and because they are obedient to Jesus, all were healed of their leprosy. After being healed, one of them decided to turn around and headed back in the direction of Jesus. He headed back to Jesus because this one man was aware that there was one (Jesus) who saw him, who knew him and who cared about him.

Gratitude is a knowing awareness that we are recipients of God’s goodness, which leads us to the source of this goodness. Jesus Christ knows you and loves you with an everlasting love. Unfortunately, we live in a self-absorbed culture. The reality of our lives is that we can say thank you on a regular basis, but not live a life marked by gratitude.

Thanksgiving is not about something that we do its about becoming a person shaped by God. Gratitude will not save you, only Jesus Christ can save you.

In order to test your level of gratitude, ask yourself the answers to the following question. How much time do you give to: **comparing, complaining and/or coveting?**

God’s words to us are I love you, I am with you, don’t be afraid and return to me.

Sermon Summary:

This Sunday Lead Pastor Richard Villodas leads our sermon on Thanksgiving Sunday. Today Pastor Rich discusses how we are to be a people of gratitude, as well as hearing from some of the New Life Pastors and New Lifers share their stories of hope and gratitude.

Sermon Questions:

1. How does this scripture connect for you the topic that was discussed today? What words resonate with you? Why?
2. In your family of origin, were you taught to offer gratitude to others and was gratitude offered to you? How does what you were taught, or did not learn about gratitude, form how you interact with others today?
3. How much time do you give to comparing, living a thankless life? Comparing is the enemy of gratitude. Find time this week to be still with God, asking for forgiveness in this area of your life.
4. How much time do you give to complaining, noticing that you are complaining throughout the day? Sit with God this week, asking for His help so that you can begin to stop complaining.

5. Where do you see yourself coveting what other people have, feeling that you don't have enough? Find time this week to be with God and ask for help so that you stop coveting what you see, knowing that what you have is enough.
6. How do you feel when you hear God speaking the following words to you: I love you, I am with you, don't be afraid and return to me?