

Where are the Nine?

CULTIVATING AN
ATMOSPHERE OF GOSPEL
GRATITUDE
LUKE 17:11-19




“It is not only the nine ex-lepers who are shown up. It is all of us who fail to thank God ‘always and for everything’, as Paul puts it (Ephesians 5.20). We know with our heads, if we have any Christian faith at all, that our God is the giver of all things: every mouthful of food we take, every breath of air we inhale, every note of music we hear, every smile on the face of a friend, a child, a spouse – all that, and a million things more, are good gifts from his generosity.”

NT WRIGHT

Gratitude ought to be the atmosphere out of which we as disciples of Christ live our lives and fulfill our mission together.

Are you one of the nine?



**Gospel Gratitude
Fosters an
Environment of
Expectancy**

LUKE 17:11-13

“On the way to Jerusalem, he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices saying, ‘Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.’”

LUKE 17:11-13

The Mission of Jesus – To Bring
the Lepers Back from Exile.

DAVID GARLAND

“The common affliction of these men has
erased their ethnic differences, and, like
the homeless today, they probably lived
together to help support one another.”

Spiritual Leprosy: This is the
common condition of all
humanity. Sin and uncleanness
is our common condition.

Here is the good news – Jesus has come to bring exiles back to God.

Gratitude creates an expectancy that if He did it for others, he might do it for me.



Gospel Gratitude Fosters the Hope of Deep Acceptance and Community

(LUKE 17:14-15B)

“When he saw them he said to them, ‘Go and show yourselves to the priests.’ And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice.”

LUKE 17:14-15

Jesus' superiority to the priests.

Jesus' superiority to the law.

Only Jesus can reconcile us to God and make us one.

“For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.”

EPHESIANS 2:14-17

Do you believe that you are truly welcome and accepted because of Jesus?



Gospel Gratitude fosters a culture of authentic worshipful spontaneity.

(LUKE 17:15-16)

“Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus’ feet, giving him thanks. Now, he was a Samaritan.”

LUKE 17:15-16

The mission of Jesus is to make true worshippers who joyfully and freely worship God in spirit and truth.

“What would make you shout for joy at the top of your voice? What would make you fall on the ground – yes, flat on your face! – in front of someone?”

NT WRIGHT

Are you regularly rejoicing in Christ and hearing of the great things that He has done in the lives of others?



Gospel Gratitude Creates a Movement of Missional Intentionality

(LUKE 17:17-19)

“Then Jesus answered, ‘Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner? And he said to him, ‘**Rise** and go your way; your faith has made you well.’”

LUKE 17:17-19

The Mission of Jesus – To send us back out in the power of the resurrection with a song of praise in our hearts declaring the love of God in Christ.

Are you regularly rejoicing in Christ and hearing of the great things that He has done in the lives of others?

