

Give each person a mimeographed copy of Luke 17:11–19, the account of Jesus healing the ten lepers. A modern translation of the passage is the most effective. Another sheet with the following questions and instructions should then be handed to each person.

Read carefully the account of Jesus healing the ten lepers. As you read, attempt to identify with the feelings of the lepers who did not return to thank Jesus, of the leper who did, and of Jesus in this situation. Then answer the following questions:

1. How do you think Christ felt when only one individual out of ten returned to give thanks?
2. Describe what you think the grateful leper must have felt and thought during his healing encounter with Christ.
3. What excuses can you think of for the nine healed lepers who did not return to give thanks to Christ?

Now attempt to apply this passage of Scripture to your life by reacting to the following:

1. With whom in this story do you most identify, the nine who did not return or the one who came back?
2. What excuses do you usually think of for not thanking Christ for what he has done in your life?
3. What was the last thing Christ did for you or provided for you that you wish to thank him for?
4. Using the paper and colors provided for you, construct a colorful thank-you card addressed to Christ. The outside of the card should express through symbolic colors and expressive symbols the event or object for which you are thankful. In the inside of the card, write a short letter, poem, or prayer that expresses your thankfulness.

After completing this assignment, divide the kids into small groups to share their answers and explain the meanings of the cards they made. Close the meeting with prayer, emphasizing thanksgiving.