



Dig Deeper Study Guide

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church - February 17, 2013

Sermon

Conversations with Jesus-
Who did Jesus talk with
and what does this teach
us?

The Leper

Luke 17:11-19

by Bob Shank

Things I want to remember
about this sermon...

Monday 2/18/13

Luke 17:11

Jesus was on a journey but we don't know exactly where this story takes place. It was somewhere between Samaria and Galilee. Jesus spent a lot of time in Galilee throughout his ministry, but the fact that Samaria is also mentioned is extremely important. Remember, the people of Samaria were hated by most of the people in Jesus' day. They were different and they were "other." How do you treat people who are different than you?

Tuesday 2/19/13

Luke 17:12

As Jesus enters the village ten lepers approach him. Well, they keep their safe distance as was the Old Testament custom. In fact, lepers were true outcasts. They were declared to be unclean and they had to shout "Unclean! Unclean!" as they walked about to warn everyone that they were in the area and they were unclean. If they could not speak, they had to wear a bell around their neck to give the warning. Can you imagine being treated this way? How do you think the homeless and poor feel in our community? Do you think they are ever perceived as outcasts? Do we try to stay away from them?

Wednesday 2/20/13

Luke 17:13

These ten lepers shout out to Jesus but then they ask him to have mercy on them. Their exact words were, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" We have a similar ancient prayer that goes, "Lord, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me a sinner." These lepers knew their lot in life. They knew they were outcasts and they were suffering from the effects of leprosy. I wonder which was more painful: the physical affects of leprosy or the emotional effects of being treated as unclean outcasts?



Dig Deeper Study Guide

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church - February 17, 2013

Things to do this week in response to the sermon...

Seek out someone who is an outcast in our society. Take a moment to pray for them, and if you can, talk to them even if for just a few moments.

Think about the kinds of people we normally avoid on any given day. Why do we avoid them? Do we focus on how they are different? Are there any ways they are similar to you?

Jesus said, "your faith as made you well." Is your faith strong enough to make you well?

Thursday 2/21/13
Luke 17:14

Jesus responds immediately to these ten lepers, which was technically not permitted in Jesus' time. No one was to associate with such outcasts. But Jesus responds by commanding them to go to the priests. Why would Jesus do this? Was he trying to avoid the lepers hoping to divert them to go to the priests instead of coming to him? No, the last part of this verse clears everything up: as they went, they were all made clean. It was a miracle! And they were to show this miracle to the priests so they could be declared clean!

Friday 2/22/13
Luke 17:15-16

One of the ten saw he was healed and turned back to thank Jesus. He laid down at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And oh, by the way, he was a Samaritan! Imagine that: only 1/10th of the lepers bothered to thank Jesus for healing them, and the one who did was one of the hated Samaritans! Everyone hearing this story for the first time would have seen the huge twist in the story here. Samaritans were to be hated not set up as an example for others to emulate. This was wrong! And yet of all the ones healed, only the Samaritan came back to thank Jesus. What does this mean to you?

Saturday 2/23/13
Luke 17:17-19

Jesus asks him where the other nine were since they were healed, too. Jesus points out that this foreigner was the one who was thankful and expressed his thankfulness. None of the others did. So, who should we be like in this story? Dare we be asked to be like the hated foreigner? Interestingly, Jesus said to him, "Your faith has made you well." What does this mean? How can faith make us well? Is it well with your soul?