



# Family Ministries Playlist With Loud Voices

## Focus scripture: Luke 17:11–19

The community of Jesus’ day considered people with leprosy ritually unclean, outcasts, and likely to be possessed by evil spirits. They were forbidden to enter the temple or participate in religious or communal life until a priest certified them as clean. On the final leg of his journey from Galilee to Jerusalem, Jesus responds to the appeal of ten to have mercy. All ten refer to Jesus as “Master,” recognizing him as a healer, and all respond immediately to his command to show themselves to the priest. As they follow Jesus’ direction and head to the temple, they become clean.

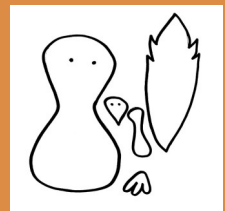
Only one, a Samaritan, turns back to thank Jesus and praise God. Many readers may find Jesus’ question, “But the other nine, where are they?” perplexing. Presumably, they are doing what Jesus told them to do: show themselves to the priest. What motivates the Samaritan to return? Of the ten with leprosy, the Samaritan (an outsider, a foreigner) returns. Perhaps he returns because he knows that boundaries have been put upon his participation in temple life as a Samaritan, a foreigner. Perhaps he returns because he alone comprehends the divine nature of the one who healed him. Like the story of Naaman, the leprous one in 2 Kings 5:1–19, Luke’s story illustrates the same surprising message: that God’s love extends to all, God’s mercy knows no bounds. Clearly, more has happened to the Samaritan than being healed. Jesus asserts that his faith, his ability to recognize and rejoice in God’s blessing of healing, makes him a full member of the faith community. In this way, Luke signals that the Samaritan’s experience functions as a sign of the coming of God’s reign.

Watch a video of our focus reading this week by clicking [here](#).



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To create your own Thankful Turkey, click [here](#) for a template and instructions.



To find a Bible Dictionary click [here](#).



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