



August 20, 2023

Conversations Gratitude

Luke 17

11 On the way to Jerusalem He was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. 12 And as He entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance 13 and lifted up their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” 14 When He saw them He said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went they were cleansed. 15 Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; 16 and he fell on His face at Jesus’ feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. 17 Then Jesus answered, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? 18 Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” 19 And He said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

Thanks – to be grateful; feel thankful; to give thanks

Grateful – grace; good will; loving-kindness; one governed by the power of divine grace

Gleanings from the Samaritan Leper

1) What is gratitude really

Gratitude and thankfulness as they are used in scripture are a little more nuanced and complex than the way American culture understands them. As a Christian, it’s important to have a solid understanding of thankfulness and gratitude in the bible... gentlechristianparenting.com

Most contemporary scholars writing about gratitude do not define it as a virtue, and the scales that are most commonly used to measure this construct do not assess anything virtuous. By contrast, we think that gratitude is a virtue and that what most scholars define as “gratitude” would be better thought of as appreciation....**Adler & Fagley, 2005**

Gratitude is the expression of appreciation for what one has. It is a recognition of value independent of monetary worth. Spontaneously generated from within, it is an affirmation of goodness and warmth... **Psychology Today**

Luke 2

52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

2) Why is gratitude important to us?

1 Thessalonians 5

18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Let me be thankful, first, because he never robbed me before; second, because although he took my purse, he did not take my life. Third, because although he took all I possessed, it was not much; fourth, because it was I who was robbed, not I who robbed... **Matthew Henry**

Jonah 2

9 But I, with shouts of grateful praise, will sacrifice to you.

What I have vowed I will make good. I will say, 'Salvation comes from the Lord.'

Romans 16

4 They risked their lives for me. Not only I but all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them.

Acts 28

14 There we found brothers and were invited to stay with them for seven days. And so we came to Rome. 15 And the brothers there, when they heard about us, came as far as the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns to meet us. On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage.

Studies show that specific areas of the brain are involved in experiencing and expressing gratitude. The expression of gratitude show lasting changes in the prefrontal cortex that heighten sensitivity to future experiences of gratitude...**Psychology Today**

3) Why is gratitude important to God

Psalms 9

1 I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of Your wonderful deeds. 2 I will be glad and exult in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.

Revelation 19

6 Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. 7 Let us rejoice and exult and give Him the glory

NOTES
