



Lewiston Church of Christ

September 13, 2020



Weekly Services

Sun. Bible Study 9:45 AM

Sun. Worship 10:45 AM

Sun. Day/Evening Groups

Wed Bible Study 7:00 PM

MINISTER

Joel Solliday: 208-743-2711

ELDERS

Joe Bieren: 208-305-1136

Jerry Bolm: 208-360-9186

Doyle Dawes: 208-836-5718

DEACONS

Education – Rick Richardson

Finance – Tom Hill

Outreach – Mark Whittaker

AREAS OF SERVICE

Building – Ken Vogtman

Custodian – Ron & Cindy Roberson

Fellowship – Joe & Carrie Bieren

Grounds – Cody & Doyle Dawes

Music Ministry – Ron Roberson

Secretary – Renee' Hill

Technology – Eric Kjorness

Technology – Cody Dawes

Only One Came Back!

One day, Jesus encountered ten men suffering from leprosy. Seeing Jesus, they shouted from a distance, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” (Luke 17:13). All ten equally wanted to be cured.

They didn’t just want sympathy, they wanted Jesus to take merciful action. And He did! He equally healed them. All ten benefited equally from the power and mercy of Jesus.

Equality has its merits and Jesus practiced it that day. But equality is not the point of the story. Gratitude is. Each of those lepers were blessed equally, but only one came back to thank Jesus. And he was a “foreigner.” (Luke 17:18). Foreigners, we know, did not enjoy full equality in ancient Israel. Yet, it was the foreigner who was grateful.

Gratitude is more important in life than equality. It’s not so much equality that brings joy, but a thankful heart. Even when benefits are distributed equally, gratitude remains exceptional. Deep gratitude can be found in the humble hearts of people who are greatly afflicted. They are grateful to the nurses who care for them and for the resources they have without envying those who have more. Sometimes, it seems that those who have the most are the least grateful. They want more and griping, they think, will get them more than gratitude.

You can spend your life pursuing equality and even make gains in that endeavor. But it’s something else entirely to make gains against an unhappy and angry world. Grievance-grinding score-keepers will always find reasons to keep people upset and dissatisfied. Americans today live at a level of luxury and blessing that few humans in history could imagine. Yet many of us are profoundly ungrateful and angry.

Here’s why—it is the rule of Jesus in your heart and not the circumstances around you that cultivates gratitude. The apostle Paul wrote, “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.” (Colossians 3:15). The problem is that most people choose to rule their own hearts.

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