

The Gospel of Luke

the Humble Leper Meets the Willing Healer

Luke 5:12-16

Suggested Memory Verse: Psalm 20:6-8

1. **The Humble Leper** (Luke 5:12)

Leprosy was a terrible disease. Lepers were to keep themselves away from others so as to not infect them. To have Leprosy was to be an outcast from society and to endure a type of living death in Israel. This leper showed his earnest belief that Jesus could heal him by entering a city and pleading for healing mercy.

2. **The Willing Healer** (Luke 5:13-14)

Jesus shows His compassion for the leper (cf. Mark 1:40) in His response. Not only does Jesus command the leprosy to be gone, but He does the unthinkable by reaching out and touching this leper. As with all of Jesus' miracles, the healing was instantaneous and complete. The command for this ex-leper to show himself to the priest was to fulfill the commands of God (cf. Lev 14:2ff) as well as to be a testimony to the religious leaders of Jesus' power and authority.

3. **The Amazed Multitudes** (Luke 5:15-16)

The healed ex-leper does not make it to the priests, but he began to spread the news to everyone who he could tell (cf. Mark 1:45). The result was that the crowds seeking to be healed or merely to witness a healing became so massive that Jesus could no longer publically go into cities and towns.

4. **Our God is Willing to Save**

Jesus' willingness and ability to heal this leper is an example of how He is both willing and able to forgive sins (cf. Luke 5:24). This is the consistent testimony of God throughout the pages of the Bible; He is willing to save those who come to Him and seek His salvation (cf. Num 21:8-9; Mic 7:7-8; Isa 45:22; John 3:14-17).