

SABBATH SCHOOL

Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

Level 3 • Unit 5 • Week 2

BEING THANKFUL—THE STORY OF THE 10 LEPERS

OBJECTIVE:

The student will learn the importance of being thankful for the blessings that are received through Jesus Christ.

ATTENTION GETTER:

Say: Today, we are going to learn of 10 men who were sick with a disease call leprosy.

Ask: Has anyone ever heard of leprosy? Does anyone know what leprosy is?

Ask: Has anyone ever had a blister?

Say: Sometimes when you wear new shoes or get burned you may get a blister. Leprosy is a disease that looks like you have blisters all over your body. If you had leprosy during the time Christ lived you were isolated from everyone else. Just the same way as if you had chicken pox or some other disease today. The sick person was separated from everyone else so the disease would not spread, making others sick. (Leviticus 13)

Say: Today we're going to act out a skit to learn about these 10 men who had leprosy.

Do: Hand each student a copy of the skit (see end of lesson). Assign each student a part. You, too, should take a part in the skit. If you don't have enough students, give each student two parts.

BIBLE LESSON:

Say: We are going to read through this skit first sitting in our seats. Then we will stand up and act it out. Does any one have a question? If you have a question while we are reading through the skit, please ask.

- Do: Have each student read his/her lines in the skit. Explain the directions stage right, stage left, etc. Answer any questions that the students may have.
- Say: Everyone did a great job reading his/her lines. Now, let's move our chairs out of the way and act out the skit.
- Do: Explain to the class where stage right, stage left, etc. will be. Have the class act out the skit.
- Say: Great job! Well done! Now let's talk about the skit a little bit so we make sure we understand exactly what happened.
- Ask: Why were these 10 men standing apart from everyone else?
- Do: Allow the students to answer.
- Say: When you are sick with a cold, the flu, or even something like chicken pox, does anyone want to get too close to you? Why?
- Do: Allow the students to give their responses.
- Say: Right, no one wants to be around someone who is sick because they don't want to become sick. There was no cure for leprosy. If a person became sick with leprosy that person would have to leave his family and friends.
- Ask: Why did Christ have the men go to the priests?
- Say: Christ sent these 10 men to the priests because the priests could pronounce them "clean," or healthy. In the book of Leviticus, God gave Moses instructions as to how certain illnesses were to be dealt with. If a person had leprosy God instructed that the priests were to declare that person "unclean." That person would then be isolated from the population until his/her body was healthy again. Only the priest had the authority to declare a person "clean" or "unclean."
- Ask: Why do you think that only one of the 10 men returned to thank Christ and glorify God's name?
- Do: Allow the students to give their answers.
- Say: How do you think Christ felt knowing that these nine men were unthankful and unappreciative for His blessing of healing?
- Do: Allow the students to answer.

- Ask: Have you ever done something special for someone and that person never even acknowledged that you did it? How did you feel?
- Do: Allow the student to give their answers.
- Say: Christ came to earth so all men can live again in God's Kingdom. Life in God's Kingdom is going to be truly unbelievable. There will be no more sickness or disease. No one will have to suffer pain anymore! Christ sacrificed His life not only for those 10 men, but also for you, me and everyone else that has lived or ever will live.
- Ask: Raise your hand if you have ever been anointed?
- Ask: After you have been healed, have you gone back in prayer to offer God your thanks and appreciation that you have been healed?
- Say: We need to make sure that we are not like the nine unthankful men in this story. God has given us a multitude of blessings through Christ and we need to make sure we glorify and honor God for those blessings. A lack of gratitude will only cause us to be separated from God and His blessings.
- Ask: What are some blessing that you have received from God?
- Do: Allow the students to answer.
- Ask: Have you offered up a prayer of thanksgiving to God for those blessings? How can we express our gratitude for God's blessings, blessings that we receive because Christ humbled Himself to come to earth and provide those blessings for each one of us?
- Do: Allow the students to give their responses.
- Say: The Samaritan was the only one who had faith in God's blessings. He trusted that God would take care of him and provide for his needs.

LESSON APPLICATION:

- Supplies: One tissue box for each student (4.5x 5.25x 4 inches)
White freezer paper
Tape/glue
Crayons, markers, colored pencils
Sequins, costume jewels, etc.
One small piece of paper for each student
One sheet of poster board

Prepare: 1. Wrap each tissue box in the white freezer paper.
2. Cut opening on top of each box. Tape around each opening so the paper is secure.
3. Write the memory scripture on the piece of poster board.

Say: We all can do better acknowledging the blessings and gifts that God gives to us. We are going to make a "Blessing Box" to help us do just that.

Do: 1. Give each student a tissue box wrapped in white freezer paper.
2. Give the students crayons, markers, colored pencils, and other items to decorate their boxes.
3. After the students have decorated their boxes, give each of them a small piece of blank paper.
4. Have each student write one blessing that he/she has received from God. Then have each student place that blessing in his/her box.

Say: Everyone can take his or her "Blessing Box" home with him or her. When you go home, your job is to write down on a piece of paper a blessing that God has given to you once a day. Put the piece of paper inside the "Blessing Box." Sometime during Sabbath read through the many blessings that God has given you that week. You may also invite other family members to add blessings to your box as well.

Read your blessings together as a family. You may read them as you are praying to God. Talk to your parents and decide how you can better glorify God for His blessings.

Say: Now let's read a poem together.

Do: Read the poem "The Ten Lepers" (see end of lesson) to the class. Then have the class read the poem together.

MEMORY VERSE:

Psalm 100:4 "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name."

Do: Display the memory scripture. Read the memory scripture and then have the students read it with you.

Say: This scripture tells us that we are to come before God's presence with thanksgiving and gratitude for all of His blessings.

Ask: When are we in God's presence, in His gates, in His courts?

Do: Allow the students to answer and guide them to understand the blessing of being able to come before God's presence.

family activity

THE POINT:

We have received many blessings from God through Jesus Christ, and we need to acknowledge those blessings with thanksgiving.

ASK ME...

To tell you about the story of the 10 lepers (Luke 17:11-19).

Why do we need to have gratitude for the blessings God has given to us?

To show you and tell you about my "Blessing Box."

FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:

Spend some time together sharing the wonderful blessings you have received from God. Then pray together thanking God for those blessings.

Help your child write down on a piece of paper daily at least one blessing that God has given him or her that day. During Sabbath read and thank God together for His generous blessings. Encourage other members in the family to contribute blessings to the "Blessing Box" as well.

MEMORY VERSE:

Psalm 100:4 "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name."

THE 10 LEPERS

(Based on Luke 17:11-19)

Characters: Jesus Christ
Nine unthankful lepers
One thankful leper
Narrator

(Narrator enters.)

Narrator: Listen and hear a story of 10 men who were lepers.

(The 10 lepers enter at stage right.)

Narrator: These are 10 men who have leprosy. They are standing apart from everyone else because they are considered unclean.

(Jesus Christ enters stage left.)

Narrator: This is Jesus Christ. He is traveling through the area of Samaria and Galilee, on His way to Jerusalem. The 10 lepers notice and recognize Him immediately.

Ten lepers: *(Together)* Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!

Jesus Christ: *(Looking at the 10 men)* Go, show yourselves to the priests.

(The ten lepers exit stage right.)

Narrator: So the 10 men went to the temple to see the priests. When the priest looked at each one of the 10 lepers they were pronounced cleaned. Each had been healed of his leprosy.

(The 10 lepers enter stage right, looking at their arms and bodies, happy to be healed. The nine unthankful lepers walk across stage, never looking at Christ and exit stage left.)

Thankful Leper: *(Returning to Jesus Christ and falling at His feet before Him)* Thank You, Master! Praise God for He is great! Bless His name always! In Your name Christ, all are healed!

Jesus Christ: *(Looking around)* Were there not 10 lepers? Where are the other nine? Will they not glorify the name of God? *(looking down at the thankful leper)* Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well.

(The thankful leper exits stage left. Jesus Christ exits stage right.)

Narrator: So only one of the 10 lepers who were healed return to thank Jesus Christ and praise God. Let's make sure we always return to thank the One who blesses and provides for us.

THE 10 LEPERS

Christ came to Samaria and Galilee
Far off were 10 men with leprosy.

They lifted their voices and called,
"Jesus, Master, have mercy on us all."

Christ answered them in peace.
"Go, show yourselves to the priests."

All 10 were healed by His name.
Who would return to declare His fame?

Nine happily went on their way.
Only one returned to glorify God that day.

Christ asked, "Were there not 10?"
Faith was only found in the Samaritan.

—Heather Martin
Based on Luke 17:11-19