

Alley Rundown - November 18 & 19, 2017

Bible Story: A Thank You Leper (Jesus Heals 10 Men) • *Luke 17:11-19*

Key Question: What are creative ways you can say thank you?

Bottom Line: Say thank you.

Memory Verse: "Give thanks no matter what happens. God wants you to thank him because you believe in Christ Jesus." *1 Thessalonians 5:18 NIRV*

Pre-Service Preparation:

Supplies for Worship Experience – Card/Envelope and Pen – writing surface

Supplies for Large Group Leader – Flip board paper, Marker

WELCOME:

"This might come as a shock to some of you, but did you know I have a life that exists outside the walls of this church? (*Allow response.*) Shocking, I know! When I'm not here with you guys on Sunday mornings, I'm taking care of business (*modify the following to fit communicator*) Monday through Friday. I have a daily routine that gets me out of bed and into the work-week. Every morning, I wake up, and make some coffee. And it is always, ALWAYS the best cup of coffee I'll have all day!"

Write "Wake Up, Makes Coffee" on a large pad of paper.

"As I scramble to get out the door on time, I make myself some lunch to eat later."

Write "Make Lunch" on a large pad of paper.

"I high tail it to the bus stop where I flag down the bus driver to take me to work."

Write "Drive to work" on a large pad of paper.

"When I get to work, it is already warm because someone has turned on the heat before I arrived."

Write "Someone turned on the heat" on a large pad of paper.

"My co-worker tells me it's nice to see me and catches me up on the scores of the latest games."

Write "Coworker welcomes me and talks sports" on a large pad of paper.

"Pretty much, every morning goes like this, and you know what? Out of all the people I interact with on a daily basis, the only one I take the time to say "thank you" to . . ."

Draw a line through all of the written statements.

". . . is, well, no one. "Why?" you ask. I didn't thank God for another day, didn't thank Folgers for making delicious coffee, didn't thank Lunchables for making me a delicious lunch option, I didn't

thank Jeep for making a wonderful car for me to drive to work, I didn't thank God that I have a job to even drive to, I didn't thank my coworkers for brightening my morning with either heat or conversation. Why didn't I thank them?"

"Now what about you? Think about your morning. Maybe you've noticed the same thing. All day, all around you, people doing little things to enrich your day. Maybe your mom laid out clothes for you to wear or your dad made breakfast. Maybe someone gave you a compliment on your new shoes or someone held the door for you on your way into church."

"It's easy to show gratitude to someone else for little gestures like that, but a lot of time we just . . . don't. Why can't we just take the time to say 'Thank you'?"

"This has been happening for thousands of years. In fact, there was a moment recorded in the book of Luke in the New Testament of the Bible when Jesus came across a group of people who acted the same way. See, Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem when He crossed paths with ten lepers. Leper is a term for someone who had a very serious illness that no one knew the cure for. Let's take a look at what Jesus did for them in this week's episode..."

CG: Week 3 Lesson Video (Runtime: 12:04)

What a wild story! Out of ten dudes, nine of the them didn't take the time to say thank you when Jesus completely changed their lives. NINE!"

"But we can't judge those nine who never returned because isn't that our story, too? As we've pointed out, there are so many times in our lives when we forget to show gratitude. Maybe we are too excited about the outcome. Maybe we feel like we are too busy. Or maybe we're so focused on ourselves that we don't even notice when there's someone we should thank. In the moment from the Bible we looked at today, only one guy came back to thank Jesus, and Jesus praised him for it. What if YOU chose to be THAT guy? What if you said thanks in a special way when someone does something for you . . . even when others don't say anything? You should show others you've noticed what they've done for you and you care about the sacrifices they've made for you—no matter how big or small."

WORSHIP EXPERIENCE: "Thank You Cards"

Supplies Needed: "Thank You" Cards w/ Envelopes and Pens (one per child), clipboards or hard surface for each child

"Before you head to small group today, it's time to worship God. We are going to answer this question."

CG: What are creative ways to say thank you?

"One of the easiest ways to show gratitude to someone is by writing them a 'Thank You' Card. That's what we're going to do now. We can worship God with a grateful heart. Your card can be to anyone. To God, your parents, your Large Group Leader (wink wink), your friends, anyone. Let's take a few minutes right now..."

CG: Worship Countdown (Runtime: 3:30)

(PRAY AND DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS)