



Big Idea: Humility is the attitude that awakens gratitude.

1.) DESTITUTION draws us together.

- The bitter hatred that marks the border upon which Jesus is traveling seems to find no place among the ten lepers.
- Because of their **COMMON** need, they came together to pursue a **COMMON** hope—to be healed by Jesus.
- The physical condition of these lepers provides a vivid picture of our spiritual condition apart from Christ (Romans 3:10-12. Isaiah 64:6).
- People who really understand human destitution should be drawn together by it.
- The better we understand our common destitution, the more thankful you and I will be for the fellowship of the local church.

2.) DESPERATION desires a Savior (Psalm 69:1-3).

- Just as **LEPROSY** separated people from society, so **SIN** separates people from God (Eph. 2:1-3, Acts 4:12).
- The extent to which we humbly understand our desperation is the extent to which we will be sincerely thankful people.

-- How could we fail to shower thanksgiving upon Him who mercifully rescues us from our most helpless desperation?

3.) **DEPRAVITY** demands grace.

-- In spite of our best efforts, the grace of God expressed in Jesus Christ remains our only release from the grip of sin.

-- Jesus was not in the habit of telling His hearers what they **EXPECTED** to hear.

-- Saying “thank you” in first-century Israel was viewed differently than it is today. Doing so didn’t mean, “I appreciate it” as much as it meant, “I can’t pay you back.”

-- They didn’t run off because they had no gratitude, but because they wanted to repay Christ’s kindness.

-- The tenth leper was praised because he alone recognized that his salvation demanded God’s **GRACE** not his good deeds.

-- Our separation from God will never be bridged by our good deeds (Ephesians 2:8-9).

-- Gratitude is grounded not in our goodness or our goodies, but in the grace of God (Psalm 118:14-24).

-- Only by **HUMBLE** surrender will our spirits will soar with thanksgiving to God.