

“Jesus Responds to Faith”

New Hope Community Church

April 28th, 2019 / Luke 5:12-16

A. Noteworthy Details Found In This Story

1. The man was **full** of leprosy
2. Jesus did that which was forbidden - He **touch**ed the leper
 - Lepers were isolated and considered **unclean**
 - The **letter** of the Law gave protection to society
 - The **spirit** of the Law gave provision for healing
 - As the great **High Priest**, Jesus declared the leper clean
3. Jesus gave the man two clear instructions
 - Do not make **public** declaration that Jesus had healed him
 - Do what the Law commands for a **cleansed** leper (Lv 14)
4. As the crowds increased, Jesus would often **withdraw** to pray

► CONSIDER: Where is my place to withdraw for prayer? _____

B. Noteworthy Lessons Learned From the Leper

1. In this man we have a model for our **faith**
 - Notice his **bold** submission
 - Notice his **humble** request
 - Notice his **complete** trust
- CONSIDER: Is this the manner in which we come to God in prayer?
This has everything to do with what our greatest purpose is when we come to God in prayer — my **will** or His **glory**?
2. In these three ingredients we find the perfect **balance** that brings glory to God. In this kind of prayer we are by faith confessing —
 - He is my **sovereign** King: I yield!
 - He is my **gracious** Father: I ask!
 - He is my **infinite** Lord: I believe!

Personal Reflection How healthy and pure is my faith? (circle one)

(1) Are there areas in my life I resist yielding full control to Jesus?

YES NO UNCERTAIN

(2) Does pride often get in my way of humbly coming to God?

ALMOST ALWAYS 50/50 ALMOST NEVER

(3) Am I more likely to fully trust God than take matters into my own hands?

ALMOST ALWAYS 50/50 ALMOST NEVER

(4) Are my prayers plagued with doubts?

ALMOST ALWAYS 50/50 ALMOST NEVER

(5) What is the overriding motivation of my prayers?

MY WILL GOD'S GLORY

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Life Group Discussion Questions

Luke 5:12-16

Read Luke 5:12-16.

1. Mike speaks about the Law given in the Old Testament in relation to Jesus' action in this passage. How should Christians today view the Law and what role should the Law have in the life of a Christian?
2. Why did Jesus tell the healed man not to publicly declare this miracle?
3. Where is your place to withdraw to pray?
4. Is it a struggle to find time to step away and pray as Jesus did and if so, why do you think that is?
5. How can you follow the leper's example and be more bold in submitting to God, more humble, and more trusting in your prayer life?
6. Mike notes that our faith affects our prayer life. Are there aspects of your faith that you are struggling with this week?

How can we pray for you?