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Daily Reflections



GRATITUDE BEYOND BOUNDARIES

By Lucy Dominguez

Today's Gospel

*As Jesus continued his journey to Jerusalem,
he traveled through Samaria and Galilee.
As he was entering a village, ten lepers met him.
They stood at a distance from him and raised their voice, saying,
“Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!”
And when he saw them, he said,
“Go show yourselves to the priests.”
As they were going they were cleansed.
And one of them, realizing he had been healed,
returned, glorifying God in a loud voice;
and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked him.
He was a Samaritan.
Jesus said in reply,
“Ten were cleansed, were they not?
Where are the other nine?”*

*Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?"
Then he said to him, "Stand up and go;
your faith has saved you."*

LUKE 17:11-19

Reflection

As Jesus travels toward Jerusalem, ten lepers call out to him from far away. Because of their illness, they have been separated from others and left feeling invisible. But Jesus notices them. He hears their plea and responds with kindness, welcoming them back into the community and restoring their dignity.

This Gospel shows us how much God cares for people who are often left out or misunderstood. For example, we can think of children on the autism spectrum. Like the lepers, they sometimes move through a world that struggles to connect with them. But Jesus understands. He sees everyone clearly, without judging or rushing. His attention helps people feel like they belong.

When the Samaritan comes back to thank Jesus, Jesus sees how deeply he understands what has happened. For him, gratitude comes from feeling seen and loved. Similarly, children on the spectrum often show thanks and love in ways that might look different, but are just as real and meaningful. Their unique ways can remind us that faith and gratitude are about authentic connection, not about being perfect.

When Jesus asks, "Where are the other nine?" he is not disappointed. Instead, he is inviting us to look at others the way he does, and to notice God's grace in everyone, no matter how different they are. Being grateful helps us see the goodness and holiness in each person, even if their gifts are quiet or unusual.

Maybe this Gospel is asking us to be like the one who came back, paying attention, being thankful, and taking time to notice others. It encourages us to create environments where every child, including those on the spectrum, feels safe to be themselves and to express love in their own way. When we really see each other as Jesus sees us, healing and hope can appear in unexpected ways.





WERE • THERE • NOT • TEN • CLEANSED •
• BUT • WHERE • ARE • THE • NINE •

For Pondering

Ask yourself:

- Who in my life might feel unseen or left at a distance—and how is Jesus inviting me to notice and draw closer to them with compassion?
 - How do I recognize and express gratitude for the quiet or unconventional ways God's love shows up in my life and in others?
 - What can children on the spectrum teach me about faith, presence, and the many beautiful ways we can connect with God and one another?
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For Prayer

Desire to fill your daily actions with great love as did God's dearest friends.

MAXIM 33

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