

“He looked at them and said, “Go show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed of their leprosy.

And Jesus said to the man, “Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you.”  
Luke 17:14, 19 NLT

## [lectio] // LUKE 17:11-19

I see patterns where there may not be patterns at all. I find the same interesting not here in Luke that I find in a few other healings by Jesus. A physical healing takes place (man by pool, woman with non-stop bleeding) and here with lepers. Then Jesus makes a comment as the story comes to a close. He says it here to the thankful former leper - “your faith has healed you.” But, wasn’t he ALREADY healed (cleansed) in vs 14? It’s not a big deal, but I wonder, 1. Were the others not “really” healed? Some even ask if Jesus had the skin disease come back because they weren’t thankful! That just does not sound like anything that Jesus would do to me. 2. The nine were healed but the thankful guy got extra time with Jesus when he explained WHY he was healed. Ok, I could see that. or 3. Something completely different from physical healing took place in the one, that didn’t happen in the nine, namely he was restored, made whole in that momentary time with Christ. His mind and soul was touched and changed, but just his body. He came back to say thanks and Christ recognized the marks of genuine recognition of what was happening. The healing was a God moment, a real life transformation. The beginning of true relationship with Christ, all because he was willing to submit to the “more” work that God wanted to do. The other nine missed out on that, maybe not permanently, but certainly not right then. I think the paralyzed man at the pool also missed out because Jesus was trying to do MORE for his whole being than just restore his legs. The man resisted and turned Jesus into the religious leaders (which was the final straw for the leaders and Luke writes, “from that point they plotted to kill him”). God deeply cares for and about our physical needs and suffering, but we are MORE than just physical beings. He wants to give us MORE to restore, complete and heal every part of our mind, soul and body. What does one do AFTER God physically heals them? Do they come back to say thanks, do they lean into God to have him heal all?

## [oratio]

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

We are so complicated with our understanding of who we are and how we are made. Then, we try to figure out who YOU are! I am finding out more about myself through my understanding of you than I ever would have figured out through a quest to “know thyself.”

Instead of navel knowledge, I wanted to know you, our creator, our God. I am so thankful. I see Jesus doing far MORE than just physical healings like a flashy magician. NO! He deep dives into doing the soul work, loving and restoring us back to you. How can I be a restorative person in others? To bring the powerful and demonstration of a physical healing would be great, but to offer a clearer view of wholeness through Jesus. By bringing people to a place of true hope, peace, joy and love because of Christ. I want those moments with people to be God moments that are eternal.

## [contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root