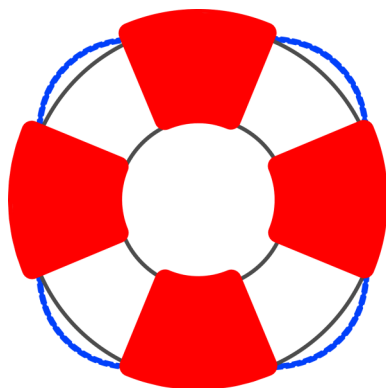




Living in Faith Together

May 2023

New Beginnings



Theme and Scripture

Jesus gave ten lepers a new lease on life,
and he does that for us every day.

Luke 17:11-19



Also available online at www.hosannatogether.org/lift

LiFT with Children...

Read this story together in a Bible:

Spark Story Bible:

Ten Men Healed - pages 390-393

The Action Bible:

Ten Sick Men - pages 665-666

*The Action Bible was updated,
so check the provided page
numbers to make sure the
title matches your Bible*

Ask each other some questions:

- What does it feel like when you're sick and miss out on fun stuff others get to do? What do you feel when you're finally better and get to do it again?
- How does God lift you up when you're feeling sick or left out?
- What does it mean to be thankful? How do you show thankfulness?
- Why do you think some of the sick men came back and some didn't?
- Lepers had to live in quarantine all the time. Why do you think people were afraid of them? How did it make them feel?

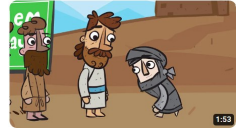
Check out these videos:

- **The Thankful Leper (Luke 17: 11-19)**

<https://youtu.be/LzZUDRrKgl8>

- **Jesus Heals a Leper - Explained**

<https://youtu.be/OlorvwGAX04>



Do a few activities that fit you:

- With an adult, research leprosy on the internet. See if you can find out what it was like to live in a leper colony.
- If you know someone who is in quarantine right now because of COVID or home sick for another reason, make a card to drop off at their house or a video to send them.
- Make thank you notes. Use craft supplies or computer templates to create your own thank you notes to use as the occasion presents itself. Place them in a box or drawer with pens and your address book so that things are all ready when you need to use them.
- Practice saying thank you with American Sign Language. Place the fingertips of an open hand to your lips, then move the hand out and down. See if you can find out how to say "Thank you" in other languages. Then practice saying thank you as much as you can!

- Go on a gratitude walk. Take a walk together and stop to give God thanks for each wonderful thing you observe. Include people as well as things. Say a prayer of thanksgiving together at the end.

See the Pray Together and Keep Thinking on the back...

LiFT with Teens/Adults...

Read and discuss: Luke 17:11-19 - Lepers Healed

- All ten of the lepers were healed. However, Jesus says that the faith of the one has “made him well.” What’s the difference between being healed and being made well or whole?
- How does God provide wholeness, even when healing doesn’t come?
- We ask God for a lot of things, but often forget to thank God when our prayers are answered. Why is that? How can we be better about identifying and thanking God for answered prayers?
- When have you felt like others went on living while you were left hurting or sick? What helps bring you back to life?

Read and discuss: Luke 13:10-17 - Healing on the Sabbath

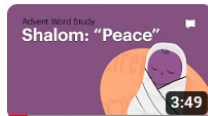
- Why do you think Jesus heals the woman? Does God care about the things that are weighing us down? How do you know?
- Instead of saying he healed her, Jesus said that she is “set free.” What difference does this language make? What is she set free *from*? What is she set free *to do*?
- How has God set you free? What were you set free *from*? What were you set free *to do*?

Check out these videos:

- **Bible Project -- God is Compassionate**
<https://youtu.be/qJEtyAiAQik>



- **Bible Project -- Shalom - Peace**
<https://youtu.be/oLYORLZOaZE>



- **Pastor Mike's Telling -- Jesus the Healer**
<https://youtu.be/3hA2HmWoHoY>



Choose a few activities that fit you:

- Look through the activity options for kids. There are some that are suitable for any age.
- Learn about the effect loneliness has on our health by reading about the Surgeon General's recent advisory about it, and what we can do to combat it: <https://tinyurl.com/generalloneliness>
- Think of someone who is lonely, isolated, sick, or in quarantine right now. Connect with them and connect them with others. Visit if you can. Bring signs of life to them.
- If you are struggling with loneliness, consider who you can connect with. It might be a friend, neighbor, church member, family member, or a professional counselor. Don't go it alone. Although you might not feel like you deserve love or attention, you do!



Pray Together--this or a prayer you make up:

Thank you, God, for all of the wonderful things in our lives. Thank you for:

- Name 5 people - Name 4 objects - Name 3 events in your life
- Name 2 good things about yourself - Name 1 food
- Finish thanking God for a new tomorrow.

Keep Thinking:

Go overboard with the “thanks” for the next week. Thank the cat, the dog, and the people in your family. Thank every shop employee and wave to the person who let you merge while driving. Don't forget to thank God for all the many blessings in your life!

What is LiFT?

Living **i**n **F**aith **T**ogether is a monthly series of conversations and activities to grow your connection with God and others. We encourage you to LiFT the second Sunday of each month, but you can choose *any* day. Just be intentional

Who do I LiFT with?

Anyone and everyone! LiFT at home with kids, grandkids, or a spouse (or all of them!). Invite grown kids over or talk on the phone/online. Gather friends or neighbors over for a snack.