BIG IDEA: Jesus helps me to be thankful.

Week 6

One Thankful Man



This lesson is based on Luke 17:11-19 and *The Desire of Ages,* p. 348.

Pat, pat went their sandals on the grass. Jesus and His friends smiled and talked as they walked. The warm sun shone brightly as they talked about the amazing things Jesus had said and done. Jesus was amazing. He was God's Son.

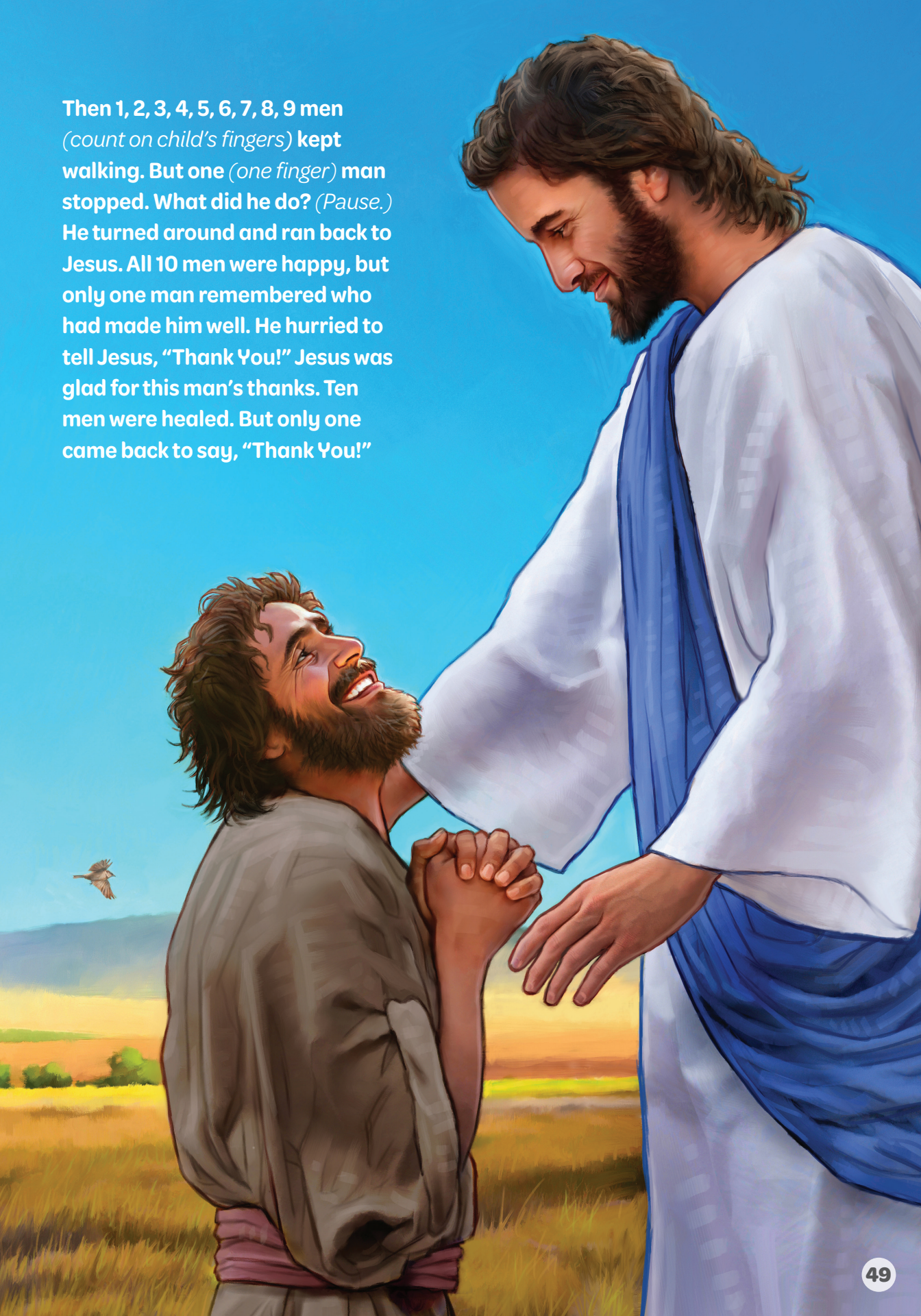


One day *(count to 10 on child's fingers)* **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 men called out to Jesus, "Jesus! . . . Please help us!"** (Luke 17:13, ICB)**. These 10 men were very sick. White spots were on their skin, and bandages covered their awful sores. They had a terrible sickness called leprosy. The 10 men couldn't live with their families, or their families might get sick too. No one wanted to be near them.**



Jesus loved the 10 men. He was glad they asked for His help. Jesus came close to them. He wasn't afraid of their sickness. Jesus told them to go see the leaders of the temple. Yes, they would! The 10 men turned and rushed to the temple. As they walked, their white spots disappeared! Jesus had made them well! Ten happy men cheered and clapped with joy *(clap)*.





Then 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 men *(count on child's fingers)* **kept walking. But one** *(one finger)* **man stopped. What did he do?** *(Pause.)* **He turned around and ran back to Jesus. All 10 men were happy, but only one man remembered who had made him well. He hurried to tell Jesus, "Thank You!" Jesus was glad for this man's thanks. Ten men were healed. But only one came back to say, "Thank You!"**



Jesus loves you. He likes doing good things for you. He loves to hear you say, "Thank You." When you tell Jesus "Thank You" for the warm sunshine, or the frog that jumps, it makes Him glad. When you say "Thank you" to someone who is kind, they will smile too. And when you say, "Thank you," your happiness grows even bigger! *(Smile and stretch arms wide.)* **Being thankful every day makes us happy.**

(Say together) **Dear Jesus, help me to be thankful. Thank You, Jesus, for the good things You do!**

play throughout the Day

Bring the Story Alive

Use flour to make white marks on your child's arms and hands, then wrap with a white strip of cloth. Tell the story. When the spots suddenly disappear, unwrap the white cloths by rubbing gently to take the flour off their skin. Clap for joy with your child! Thank Jesus for healing the 10 men of leprosy.

Create

Create "Thankful" place mats together. Use a large blank 11" x 17" (A3) piece of paper to draw things for which you are thankful. Laminate, if possible, and use at your table for meals this week. As you say grace, thank God for some of the things drawn on the place mats. Alternatively, add a new drawing each day about something you are thankful for and display it as a picture in your home.

Explore

Go for a "Thankful" walk in nature at a local park or around the neighborhood. Take turns saying, "Thank You, God, for the _____."

Learn

Create a little cue as a visual reminder for times when your child could say "Thank you" for something (for example, you could wink, pull on your ear, tap your shoulder, etc.). Turn it into a little game and practice it throughout the day. Watch for opportunities to gently encourage your child to remember to say "Please" and "Thank you" appropriately.

Connect

Spend time making thank-you cards for people who serve the community (for example, Sabbath School teachers, pastors, firefighters, nurses, or doctors). Deliver them during the week.

Pray

Bedtime Routine of Thanks: At bedtime, ask your child what made them smile that day. Say this prayer of thankfulness with your child:

Help me to remember and say,
"Thank You, dear Jesus!" every day.
Thank You for my smile today.
Thank You for: (*name three things with your child*).
Amen.



Extension weekly memory verse: ". . . in everything give thanks" *(1 Thessalonians 5:18)*.

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

For You, Parents

Being thankful is good for you! It makes you happy and well. In this story 10 men were healed physically, but Jesus said to the one who said thank You, *"Your faith has made you well"* (Luke 17:19). What a wonderful response! Jesus wants us to give thanks so we can be ***whole*** too!

When the leper gave thanks to Jesus, he was recognizing Jesus' greatness. When we give thanks to God for the things He has done, we recognize that He is Lord over our lives. God does not need our thanks, but as we notice the blessings He gives us, we become more aware of our need for Him and His constant goodness.

As you reflect on giving thanks, think about how you can create a culture of gratitude in your home. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- In your daily devotions, start a thankfulness list and add to it each day. Pause and reflect on where you saw God working in your life today. Thank God for His blessings, both big and small.
- Model gratitude in your prayers and in your conversations. "I'm so grateful that you helped Mommy clear the table. Thank you!"
- Make thankfulness a mealtime conversation topic.
- Create a family "Thankfulness" journal. In worships, ask each family member to list what they are thankful for and keep a record. Return to this list often and look at God's wonderful guidance and provision.

Jesus wants us to have an abundant, flourishing, ***whole*** life. When we give thanks to Him, we open our eyes to the many blessings He has poured into our lives.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).