

Bible Story

10 Healed of Leprosy

Scripture

Luke 17:11-19

The Scene: a village

The Simple Setup: Set some chairs along a road at the edge of the village where people might gather to visit.

For Extra Impact: Draw Bible-time homes on cardboard; hang them on the wall to make a backdrop of a village.

The Characters

Narrator: a friendly storyteller

Jesus: a guy

Matthew: a guy or girl

Lepers: kids willing to follow the Narrator's instructions

Disciples: children willing to act out

the instructions given by the Narrator

Village People: children willing to act out instructions given by the Narrator

Lepers: kids willing to follow the Narrator's instructions

The Skit

After you've assigned the roles of Jesus, Matthew, and Leper 1, form the rest of your children into three groups: the Lepers, the Village People, and the Disciples.

As the skit begins, Jesus and the Disciples are center stage. At stage left are the Village People—no, not THOSE Village People! The Lepers are off stage right.



Start the "10 Healed of Leprosy" track on *The Humongous Book of Bible Skits for Children's Ministry* CD (track 31). Set your CD player on "repeat" so the track repeats.

Narrator: Jesus and his Disciples were traveling to Jerusalem...

Matthew: Are we there yet?

Jesus: No, not yet. We still have a ways to go.

Matthew: Are we there YET?

Matthew:

And a bathroom?

Jesus:

AND a bathroom.

Matthew:

Whew! Good thing! I'll be back in a couple of minutes.

(Matthew quickly exits stage left; the other Disciples sit down to relax.)

Narrator:

It didn't take long for people in the village to see that Jesus was nearby. Jesus was already famous because of the miracles he'd done—and word spread FAST about him. Look at the Village People—how they're walking over to Jesus. See how they want to shake his HAND? How they want to give him HIGH FIVES? See how they're SMILING? Boy, they're DELIGHTED to see Jesus!

(Lepers enter from stage right.)

Narrator:

Wait...now they're BACKING AWAY. The Village People are putting their hands over their mouths like they're afraid of catching a disease.

(Matthew enters from stage left.)

Matthew:

Sorry...did anything happen while...AGH! LEPERS! TEN of them! Look at their sores!

Narrator:

That's why the Village People were backing away. TEN MEN who had leprosy heard Jesus was outside the village, and they'd come to see Jesus. Leprosy was a terrible disease, and in Jesus' day there was no cure. People with leprosy had to live outside the village, away from their families and friends. It was a VERY sad thing to have leprosy.

Matthew:

Jesus, don't let those guys get too CLOSE to you!

Lepers:

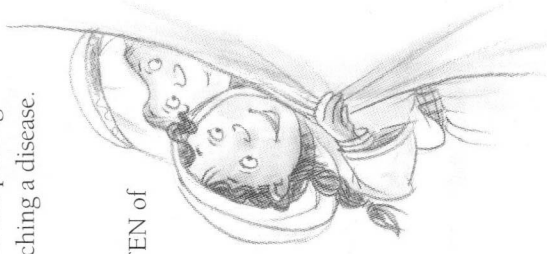
Jesus, Master, have PITY on us!

Narrator:

The Disciples watched as the Lepers called out to Jesus. What would Jesus do? OTHER people had asked Jesus for healing, and Jesus had helped. But 10 lepers? That was asking a LOT.

Matthew:

Uh, Jesus, you could always heal them from over HERE. You know, without MAKING CONTACT?



Narrator: Faith! Jesus said the man's faith let him be healed of leprosy! The Village People knew they'd seen a miracle. See how they're standing and applauding? The Disciples knew it was time for them to continue on their journey to Jerusalem. See how they're getting up, dusting off their robes, and gathering around Jesus? And now they're starting to walk again.

Matthew: Are we there yet?



To Talk About

- ◆ The 10 lepers needed Jesus' help. In what ways do you need Jesus' help?
- ◆ Jesus healed all 10 lepers, but only one thanked Jesus. How have you felt when you helped someone who didn't thank you?
- ◆ How can you show your thankfulness to Jesus this week? to others who help you?

Topical Tie-Ins: Fear, Thankfulness, Miracles

Narrator: The Lepers called out again.
Lepers: Jesus, Master, have pity on us!
Narrator: When Jesus heard the men, he stopped and looked at them. Everyone was waiting to see what Jesus would do. The Village People didn't want the Lepers coming into their village—then OTHER people could get sick. But each of the lepers was someone's husband, son, or father. If Jesus HEALED the lepers, 10 families would be made whole again. Jesus spoke to the Lepers.

Jesus: Go and show yourselves to the priests.

Narrator: That may seem like a STRANGE thing to say, but the law required anyone who had leprosy and then got better to go to the Temple. The PRIESTS checked out healed lepers and OK'd them. Better safe than sorry, you know.

(The lepers exit stage left, walking past the Village People.)

Matthew: Jesus, I know you're in charge and everything, but I've got a SUGGESTION for you. I'm sure you healed those guys. I mean, you've healed all SORTS of people. But in THIS situation—where there's a big AUDIENCE and everything—maybe you should do something FLASHY.

Jesus: Flashy?

Matthew: You know, some LIGHTNING or FIRE or something. Just sending them to see priests is sort of... BORING. At the VERY least, you could wave your arms and say, "I COMMAND YOU TO BE HEALED."

Jesus: Thanks for the advice, Matthew.

Matthew: No problem. Just trying to HELP. What's a Disciple FOR?

(Leper 1 enters stage left and walks over to Jesus. Leper 1 kneels.)

Matthew: Warning! Warning! Leper on deck!

Leper 1: Master, I'm healed! The priest told all 10 of us that we're healed! I've come to thank you. THANK YOU, Jesus! THANK YOU!

Jesus: Weren't there 10 of you healed? Where are the OTHER nine? Was there only one to praise God? Get up and go; your FAITH has made you well!