

Sermon Notes – October 12, 2025

## **Faith That Moves – Week 5: Don't Fail the Test**

### **"One Step of Faith Can Change Everything!"**

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**SCRIPTURE:** Luke 17:14-19 NLT

<sup>14</sup>He looked at them and said, "Go show yourselves to the priests."<sup>15</sup>And as they went, they were cleansed of their leprosy. <sup>15</sup>One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, "Praise God!" <sup>16</sup>He fell to the ground at Jesus' feet, thanking him for what he had done. This man was a Samaritan. <sup>17</sup>Jesus asked, "Didn't I heal ten men? Where are the other nine?" <sup>18</sup>Has no one returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?" <sup>19</sup>And Jesus said to the man, "Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you."<sup>19</sup>

#### **1) You're Not Excluded**

- Jesus' response to the lepers, shows us that His love, healing, and attention is not just for a chosen few but for all.
- Your past, background, and your condition doesn't exclude you from the reach of God's love and power.
- God never writes off anyone!
- Jesus shows us, that the expression of love, care, power, and thanksgiving that we express shouldn't be about if others deserve it, instead about His love and character and properly displaying it!

#### **2) The Faith Challenge**

- Jesus challenges us to exercise our faith with courageous action; In obedience to take the step!
- Jesus places a high priority on bringing us to wholeness and growing us in maturity!
- When you move, He moves! Their healing happened on the journey, not before the journey! Sometimes it feels like nothing is changing, nothing is different, but we need to keep trusting, keep stepping one foot in front of the other...
- We can't wait for our problems to be over, before we start walking in faith.
- Be convinced of this: God is always at work, and He is always with us; God wants to receive glory through our lives.
- In your life what is God challenging you to exercise your faith in?
- Many times, we miss what God desires to do because we are too scared to take the first, or next step!

### 3) Don't Fail the Test

- There is a test that we all face daily – The Thanksgiving Test.
- All 10 passed the Faith Test, but only 1 was ready to turn their focus to the God of their faith and have a heart of gratitude. How many of us are passing the Faith Test, but have stopped there?
- If we want to pass the Thanksgiving Test, we need to avoid the pitfalls that steal our joy, our rejoicing hearts, and our attitude of gratitude. These pitfalls include busyness, wrong priorities or focus, pride/entitlement (we deserve it). These can lead to us failing the test and wrecking our Thanksgiving.
- To daily pass the test: We must aim to be people who rejoice always, and who are filled with an attitude of gratitude – First to God and then to others.
- We must realize that the Thanksgiving Test is not just an attitude test, but a practical one! Likely all the ten were grateful in their hearts, but only one let that move Him to action!

#### **- Practical ways to turn our understanding into action, and live a life of Thanksgiving:**

- **Heart:** Hide His Word in your heart. Memorize and think on 1 Thess. 5:16-18 – “Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances...”. We need to change our inside before we can truly transform the outside. Choose Thanksgiving; You have something to rejoice about – focusing on it will change our perspective and brings blessing.
- **Mind:** Start a thankful journal or note – write 1-3 things that you are grateful to God for, or in general. Focus on what you are blessed with, vs. what you feel you deserve or don't have.
- **Actions:** Commit to regularly say thank you to people in your life – say thanks, and that you appreciate them. Give someone recognition for a job well done (bus drivers, teachers, police, servers...). Send at least one text this week thanking someone for their impact in your life. This blesses you, and lifts others up.
- Rick Warren once said, “To appreciate means to raise in value. That's not only true of things, but it's also true of people. When you appreciate somebody, you literally raise their value. We ought to appreciate people because it increases their self-worth.”