

**July 25 – 31, 2009**

**WORSHIP WITH A THANKFUL HEART**

In this lesson you will learn what it means to worship with a thankful heart. You will see examples of worshipping with a thankful heart in a leper who was made whole and a woman who was forgiven.

- I. You were created to worship.
  - A. Every civilization has worshipped something. Some worship God, some themselves, some worship family members; some worship things, ideas, or concepts; some worship their education, job, or belongings.
  - B. God didn't make us to worship creation but to worship the Creator. God is very interested in what we worship because He made us to worship Him.
  - C. Worship is what you honor, give your life for, surrender to, lift up, and exalt above everything else.
  - D. Hebrew words for "worship" mean bowing down, showing reverence, honor, respect, surrender, exalt, lift up, give honor and glory, adoration, glorification, and serve with all your heart.
  
- II. Ten lepers were healed but only one was made whole – Luke 17:11-19.
  - A. Jesus healed ten lepers, but only one of the lepers glorified God and fell down on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks.
  - B. Jesus then told him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well (whole)" – v. 19.
  - C. Several reasons why the leper worshipped.
    1. He realized what God had done for him.
    2. He was thankful that God did what no one else could do.
    3. He knew God was worthy to be praised.
    4. His heart overflowed with gratitude and love spilled out of him.
  
- III. Acts of worship can be a redeeming action – Luke 7:36-50.
  - A. Verse 38 – A woman who was forgiven of her sins washed Jesus' feet with her tears, and anointed His feet with fragrant oil.
  - B. Verses 39-47 – When Jesus was questioned about this He said, "Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little" – v. 47. He told her, "Your sins are forgiven ... Your faith has saved you. Go in peace" – vv. 48,50.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- What has God done for you that no one else could do?
- Share a time your heart overflowed with gratitude and love for the Lord.
- Share how you worship with a thankful heart.

**BE A DOER OF THE WORD**

This week begin to worship with a thankful heart. Begin to do this at home, at the job, or at school, wherever you go on a regular basis. Let worship be spontaneous from your heart and not be locked into a traditional understanding and form of worship. Worship can be a redeeming action.

**SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE:** Luke 17:19 – "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well (whole)."