

Lesson Aim: To learn more about what the love of Jesus means in our lives and in reaching out to serve others.

Bridge LifeGroups are **currently on winter break**. We will continue to offer study questions each week in this **simplified format**, which can be useful for personal devotions and/or discussion starters for LifeGroups that choose to meet for a portion of the winter break.

Prayer: Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your personal study time and/or discussion.

1. **READ Luke 5:12-16.** Unlike many of us, this leper had no way to hide his burdens and struggles. Why do you think people often find it difficult to be more open and real about their burdens and struggles?
2. What benefits do you think people get by being more open and real about their lives?
3. By touching the leper before He heals him, what is Jesus demonstrating?
4. Jesus' love and compassion compelled Him to reach out and touch a man that everyone in his society had labeled and treated as an outcast. How can the following verses help us understand the attitudes and actions God wants us to have towards the people our society considers to be outcasts?

Psalm 82:2-4:

Proverbs 14:31:

Isaiah 10:1-2:

Zechariah 7:9-10:

5. Can you think of any people you come in contact with on a regular basis (or avoid on a regular basis) that our society would consider as social outcasts?
6. How could you better relate to them in ways that are reflected in the verses you just read?

Close in prayer as the Lord leads you.

Luke 5:12 - 16

FACT CHECK ON LEPROSY

- ▶ PRINCIPLE #1: Bad things can happen to good people.
- ▶ PRINCIPLE #2: Every human being is made in the image of God & therefore has infinite value.

UNPACKING THE TEXT

- ❶ Surprise Appearance (v.12a)

- ▶ PRINCIPLE #3: If you have a problem, take it to Jesus.

- ❷ Extent of the Condition (v.12b)
- ❸ Outrageous Request (v.12c)
- ❹ Jesus' Response (v.13a)
- ❺ Healing – Cleansing (v.13b)
- ❻ Negative & Positive Commands (v.14)
 - A. Don't spread the news
 - B. Follow the laws for cleansing
- ❼ Jesus Became a Human Magnet (v.15)
- ❽ Jesus Still Sought Solitude for Prayer (v.16)

- ▶ PRINCIPLE #4: There is no power in a prayerless life.