**Wednesday Night Bible Study**

**Wednesday 13 September 2022 – Fall Semester**

**Queens Chapel UMC \* 7410 Muirkirk Road \* Beltsville, MD 20705**

**Instructor: Rev. Dr. Will Butler**

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**The Gospel of Luke**

**Luke** **5:12-16**

**(NIV)**

**Jesus Heals a Man with Leprosy**

 **12 While Jesus was in one of the towns, a man came along who was covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he fell with his face to the ground and begged him, “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.”**

 **13 Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!” And immediately the leprosy left him.**

 **14 Then Jesus ordered him, “Don’t tell anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them.”**

 **15 Yet the news about him spread all the more, so that crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses.**

 **16 But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.**

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**Scripture Lesson**

**Luke 5:12-16**

 **12 While Jesus was in one of the towns, a man came along who was covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he fell with his face to the ground and begged him, “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.”**

1. *“Lord, if you are willing…”*
2. He approached Jesus with a suppliant attitude.

1. “*Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.”*
2. The man had faith and confidence in the power of Jesus Christ

 **13 Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!” And immediately the leprosy left him.**

1. *“Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man.* *‘I am willing,’ he said. “Be clean!””*
2. Jesus is willing to touch the untouchable, the hopeless, the marginalized
3. *“And immediately the leprosy left him.”*
4. This man was hopeless but now he’s optimistic about the future

**What is the untouchable to you?**

**Should the Church touch the untouchable?**

 **14****Then Jesus ordered him, “Don’t tell anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them.”**

1. *“Then Jesus ordered him, “Don’t tell anyone”*
2. Jesus didn’t want non-curious-seekers following Him
3. Political popular movement to make him a King

**Why was this order important to Jesus at this time in His ministry?**

**Read Luke 19:10**

1. *“but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that* *Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them.”*
2. **Read Leviticus 14:1-4**

 **1 The Lord said to Moses, 2 “These are the regulations for any diseased person at the time of their ceremonial cleansing, when they are brought to the priest: 3 The priest is to go outside the camp and examine them. If they have been healed of their defiling skin disease, 4 the priest shall order that two live clean birds and some cedar wood, scarlet yarn and hyssop be brought for the person to be cleansed.**

1. The duty of the priest was to examine the leper to determine his physical heal
2. The priest didn’t have power to heal but to pronounce one was healed
3. *Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them.”*
4. The animal sacrificed symbolized the death of Jesus Christ. His blood cleanses one from the leprosy of sin in one’s life
5. One’s spiritual cleansing and/or physical healing should never be kept quiet. We’re to testify of His goodness

**Why?**

1. **We’re giving Thanks and Praise to God—Psalms 34:1-3 (The Living Bible)**

 1 I will praise the Lord no matter what happens. I will constantly speak of his glories and grace. 2 I will boast of all his kindness to me. Let all who are discouraged take heart. 3 Let us praise the Lord together and exalt his name.

1. **It educates the listener—Psalms 34:4-10**

 4 For I cried to him and he answered me! He freed me from all my fears. 5 Others too were radiant at what he did for them. Theirs was no downcast look of rejection! 6 This poor man cried to the Lord—and the Lord heard him and saved him out of his troubles. 7 For the Angel of the Lord guards and rescues all who reverence him.

 8 Oh, put God to the test and see how kind he is! See for yourself the way his mercies shower down on all who trust in him. 9 If you belong to the Lord, reverence him; for everyone who does this has everything he needs. 10 Even strong young lions sometimes go hungry, but those of us who reverence the Lord will never lack any good thing.

**What have you learned from David’s testimony in verses 4-10?**

1. **Your Testimony opens the way for others to be blessed**

 “Only God can turn mess into a message, a test into a testimony, a trial into a triumph, a victim into a victory.”

 “Your story is the key that can unlock someone else’s prison.”

**Biblereasons.com**

Psalms 66:16-19 (The Living Bible)

 16 Come and hear, all of you who reverence the Lord, and I will tell you what he did for me: 17 For I cried to him for help with praises ready on my tongue.

 18 He would not have listened if I had not confessed my sins. 19 But he listened! He heard my prayer! He paid attention to it!

1. The Devil is defeated and his plans frustrated—**Psalms 71:14-21**

 14 I will keep on expecting you to help me. I praise you more and more. 15 I cannot count the times when you have faithfully rescued me from danger. I will tell everyone how good you are, and of your constant, daily care. 16 I walk in the strength of the Lord God. I tell everyone that you alone are just and good.

 17 O God, you have helped me from my earliest childhood—and I have constantly testified to others of the wonderful things you do. 18 And now that I am old and gray, don’t forsake me. Give me time to tell this new generation (and their children too) about all your mighty miracles. 19 Your power and goodness, Lord, reach to the highest heavens. You have done such wonderful things. Where is there another God like you?

 20 You have let me sink down deep in desperate problems. But you will bring me back to life again, up from the depths of the earth. 21 You will give me greater honor than before and turn again and comfort me.

 **15****Yet the news about him spread all the more,****so that crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses.**

 **16****But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.**

1. *“Yet the news about him spread all the more”*
2. The priest was amazed at what he saw and the man healed from leprosy could not keep it to himself
3. *“so that crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses.”*
4. Crowds or multitudes were unavoidable for Jesus

**Mark 2:2**

 1 Several days later he returned to Capernaum, and the news of his arrival spread quickly through the city. 2 Soon the house where he was staying was so packed with visitors that there wasn’t room for a single person more, not even outside the door. And he preached the Word to them.

**Mark 3:9-10**

 9 He instructed his disciples to bring around a boat and to have it standing ready to rescue him in case he was crowded off the beach. 10 For there had been many healings that day and as a result great numbers of sick people were crowding around him, trying to touch him.

1. *“But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.”*
2. The private devotion and prayer life of Christ impowered His humanity upon the earth

**Mark 6:46-51**

 46 And when He had sent them away, He departed to the mountain to pray.

 47 Now when evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea; and He was alone on the land.

 48 Then He saw them straining at rowing, for the wind was against them. Now about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea, and would have passed them by.

 49 And when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed it was a ghost, and cried out;

 50 for they all saw Him and were troubled. But immediately He talked with them and said to them, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid."

 51 Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled.

**Home Assignment:**

**Read Luke 5:16-26; Matthew 9:1-8; Mark 2:1-12**