

In today's Gospel, Luke 17:12-19, Jesus Christ heals ten lepers who called upon Him for help. In this parable, there were ten cleansed, but only one returned to Him, a foreigner it is written—a Samaritan in order to thank him, who praised God, and fell on his face at Christ Jesus' feet. Only one returned to give thanks, and Jesus Christ questioned, where were the other nine?

Dearest ones, what is the significance of the Samaritan being the only one to return to thank Jesus Christ? Among the ten, only he was a foreigner, despised by the Jews, and yet it is he who sets the example of being thankful. In this parable we find that God's blessings are easily taken for granted or forgotten.

Are we grateful? Do we show thanks to the Lord for He is good? Giving thanks means that we have to focus our attention on Someone larger than us. To give thanks is a prayer, a state of being and a way of life for us. Being thankful is vital in our lives as Christians for God loved us so much he destroyed death by death on the Cross granting us eternal life.

Let us remember to be thankful even for the simple things that we may take for granted like the sun that rises and sets each day. It is this thanksgiving which is given and due to Him in the highest, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever, amen.