

The Scarcest Virtue

Luke 17:11–19

For the Family— “Why do we go to church?”

This week’s story helps answer the question, “Why do we go to church?” This is a good week to talk about why your family goes to worship whenever you can.

Read together Luke 17:11–19

Explain that lepers were people who had a skin disease called leprosy. While it was not life threatening, it was contagious, and lepers were kept away from other people. One of the jobs of the priests was to determine whether someone had leprosy or not.

When the ten lepers called out to Jesus for mercy, he didn’t heal them right away. Instead he told them to show themselves to the priests. They wouldn’t do that unless they were healed of their leprosy. They had to trust Jesus that they would be healed on the way. They believed him, and left to see the priests.

As they went away, they were healed. One of the lepers went back to Jesus and did three things:

He praised God with a loud voice.

He fell on his face at Jesus’ feet.

He thanked Jesus.

When we go to worship, we are just like this man. We recognize that Jesus has healed us. We gather with others who have been healed, to praise God with a loud voice, and give him thanks.

Read together Psalm 95:1–7

Notice the same three things:

Thanksgiving

Joyful noise

Bowing down and kneeling before the Lord

Talk together about why it is important to be thankful to God, and why worship is a good place to express that. Talk about why we have music—sometimes *loud music*—in worship.

Pray together that you will always be thankful to God for what he has done. Tell him that you look forward to gathering with other disciples to praise him with a loud voice.