

## Where are the Nine?

### Scripture reading: Psa 103:2-5

#### A lesson in gratitude:

**A. The “me” first generation** – a very negative characteristic of this “me-first” generation is the problem of ingratitude. It seems most are not thankful for anything. This is typical of entitlement mentality. You owe me is the sentiment of the day.

**1.** Jesus taught a very important lesson on the subject of gratitude in an account of his meeting and healing ten lepers – **Luke 17:11-19**.

a. He encountered the lepers on the road going to Jerusalem. They pleaded with him to have mercy on them.

b. Jesus told them to go and show themselves to the priests. As they went, they were cleansed. What a wonderful thing.

c. They were now free of a loathsome disease that was deadly and made them outcasts in society. If that had been you, would you have been thankful?

**2.** Only one person demonstrated gratitude and at that, he was not a Jew, he was a Samaritan.

a. What is ingratitude? It is a lack of appreciation or a failure to be thankful.

Ingratitude is characterized by selfishness and a complaining spirit.

b. It is sad to note that to some no matter how much they are given, or one may have sacrificed for them, they always want more.

c. Remember Pharaoh’s butler and Joseph’s interpretation of his dreams, **Gen 40:9-15, 20-23**? He did not remember Joseph before Pharaoh.

**3.** How often do we show ingratitude to our heavenly Father? We may pray for help in time of need but forget to pray and thank God for the good things and many blessings.

a. Gratitude is being thankful and appreciative. Some of the greatest attributes of gratitude are humility, thanksgiving and giving thanks to God in everything.

**4.** What characterizes our lives, gratitude or ingratitude, **Rom 1:20-22**?

a. Being thankful is listed among the Christian virtues, **Col 3:12-17**.

**Conclusion** - You would be surprised at the change in your life if we are but more grateful to God.