MEN'S STUDY · THURSDAYS, OCT 29 – DEC 3

Let Thanksgiving Rise

Five times Jesus gave thanks before the answer came

THE SERIES

Five weeks of thanks for the Thanksgiving season: four Thursdays leading up to Thanksgiving Day, and a fifth the week after.

Week 1	Oct 29	**He Gave Thanks over Five Small Loaves** John 6:1–14 · thanks in the not-enough ♪ *Song: Country*
Week 2	Nov 5	**He Gave Thanks Through His Tears** John 11:1–44 · thanks at the grave ♪ *Song: Reggae*
Week 3	Nov 12	**He Received Thanks from the One** Luke 17:11–19 · the leper who came back ♪ *Song: Folk*
Week 4	Nov 19	**He Gave Thanks When the Cities Rejected Him** Matthew 11:20–26 · thanks in rejection ♪ *Song: Gospel*
		No study Nov 26 · Happy Thanksgiving
Week 5	Dec 3	**He Gave Thanks with the Traitor at the Table** Luke 22:14–23 · thanks with betrayal at His side ♪ *Song: Rock*

Each week follows the same pattern: a key verse, the passage from *The One*, a short devotional, questions to talk through together, and a closing prayer.

THE SONG

We'll sing **"Let Thanksgiving Rise"** every week, in a different style each time: Country, Reggae, Folk, Gospel, and Rock. Same words, a new sound. Each verse is one of these moments, in the same order as the studies: the five loaves, Lazarus, the ten lepers, and the Last Supper. The chorus is our answer: our own thanks.

> *I'll always give thanks for who You are and what You've done*
> *Incense rising through the night*
> *Let thanksgiving rise*
> *Let thanksgiving rise*
> *Let thanksgiving rise*
> *Before the dawn*

LINES YOU MIGHT MISS

"Incense rising through the night": Scripture pictures prayer as incense (Psalm 141:2; Revelation 5:8).

"Before the dawn": thanks given in the dark, before you can see the answer. That's the thread through all five weeks.

Bread at both ends: the song begins and ends with Jesus holding bread and giving thanks: on a hillside with five loaves, then at the Last Supper. The Bible uses the same word for His thanks both times, *eucharisteō*, which is where the word Eucharist comes from.

He Received Thanks from the One

You may not know this about Jesus: He heals again when we return

KEY VERSE

> *"One of them, when he saw he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks. The man was a Samaritan."* — Luke 17:15–16

PASSAGE · LUKE 17:11–19 · FROM *THE ONE*

> 11 *As He journeyed to Jerusalem, Jesus passed along*
> *the borders of Samaria and Galilee.* 12 *When He*
> *entered a village, ten lepers met Him. Standing at a*
> *distance* 13 *they raised their voices and said, "Jesus,*
> *Master, have mercy on us!"*
>
> 14 *When He saw them, He said to them, "Go at once*
> *and show yourselves to the priests." And while they*
> *were going, they were cured.* 15 *One of them, when*
> *he saw he was healed, turned back, praising God*
> *with a loud voice.* 16 *He fell on his face at Jesus' feet,*
> *giving Him thanks. The man was a Samaritan.*
>
> 17 *Jesus asked him, "Weren't ten cleansed? Where*
> *are the other nine?* 18 *Were none found who returned*
> *to praise God, except this foreigner?"* 19 *Then He*
> *said to him, "Get up, and go your way. Your faith*
> *has healed you."*

DEVOTIONAL

"One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan." — Luke 17:15-16

Looking again at Luke 17:11–19,
we find a fresh insight.

Ten men with leprosy
stand at a distance,
calling out:
"Jesus, Master,
have mercy on us!"

Jesus doesn't touch them.
He doesn't heal them on the spot.
He tells them,
"Go, show yourselves
to the priests."

It's a clear command
rooted in religious law—
only a priest could declare them clean
and restore their place
in the community. — Leviticus 14

So they go.
All ten obey.
And as they walk,
they're healed.

But one man stops.
A Samaritan.
He turns around,
shouting praise,
and falls at Jesus' feet.

Jesus never told them to come back.
He simply gave them
a path to restoration.
Yet one man, once healed,
realized ritual wasn't enough.
He returned
not just cleansed—
but compelled.

Then Jesus asked,
"Were not ten cleansed?
Where are the other nine?"
And to the man who came back,
He said, "Rise and go;
your faith has made you well."

Ten were healed.
One received something more.
That phrase—"made you well"—
suggests more than physical recovery.
It signals a deeper restoration:
a second healing of heart and soul.

You may not know this about Jesus:
He honors obedience,
but He elevates worship.
The nine followed the instructions.
The one saw the source—
and returned for something deeper.

Obedience gets you to the temple.
Gratitude brings you
to the feet of Jesus.
Healing begins on the road.
Wholeness happens at His feet.

Reflection Question

What has God already done for me
that I haven't come back to thank Him for?

What It Means to Me

I don't have to stop at obedience.
I can turn around,
go back to His feet,
and find the deeper healing
that only gratitude opens.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The ten men stood at a distance and called out for mercy (17:12–13). Leprosy kept them outside the town and away from everyone they loved. What keeps men today at a distance, from Jesus or from each other?

2. Jesus didn't touch them or heal them on the spot. He sent them to the priests, and they were cured as they went (17:14). When has God asked you to start walking before you saw the answer?

3. All ten obeyed, and all ten were healed. What does that tell you about how Jesus honors simple obedience?

4. One of them saw he was healed and turned back, praising God with a loud voice (17:15). What helps you stop and notice what God has done before you move on to the next thing?

5. The one who came back was a Samaritan, an outsider (17:16). His is the only place in the Gospels where someone is said to thank Jesus. Why might the outsider be the one who came back?

6. Jesus asked, "Where are the other nine?" (17:17). What does His question tell you about what matters to Him?

7. All ten were cleansed, but Jesus told the one who returned, "Your faith has healed you" (17:19). What's the difference between being healed and being made whole? Where do you need that second healing?

PRAYER

Jesus, bring me back to Your feet.
Let gratitude
open the door
to the deeper healing
You still have for me.
Amen.

THE SONG THIS WEEK · LET THANKSGIVING RISE · FOLK

Chorus
I'll always give thanks for who You are and what You've done
Incense rising through the night
Let thanksgiving rise
Let thanksgiving rise
Let thanksgiving rise
Before the dawn

Verse 1
A boy held five loaves in his hand
Five thousand hungry on the hill
You gave thanks before the baskets filled
I'll thank You now with empty hands

Verse 2
They rolled the stone where Lazarus lay
You lifted Your eyes, tears on Your face
You gave thanks before the dead man stirred
Lazarus walked out at Your word

Chorus
I'll always give thanks for who You are and what You've done
Incense rising through the night
Let thanksgiving rise
Let thanksgiving rise
Let thanksgiving rise
Before the dawn

Verse 3 · this week
Ten lepers walked in faith that day
Their scales like snow fell to the ground
One turned back with a shout of praise
Fell at His feet where grace is found

Chorus
I'll always give thanks for who You are and what You've done
Incense rising through the night
Let thanksgiving rise
Let thanksgiving rise
Let thanksgiving rise
Before the dawn

Verse 4
Whole towns that watched Your wonders done
Turned their backs and walked away
Still You thanked the Father as You prayed
And showed His children the loving way

Bridge
Judas sat close enough to touch
The cross cast shadows on the wall
Yet You took the bread and gave thanks through it all
When the road is hard, I'll thank You still

Verse 5
You held the bread and knew the cost
Your body broken, Your blood poured out
Turning sorrow to a song of thanks
For the joy set before the cross

Final chorus · up one step
I'll always give thanks for who You are and what You've done
Incense rising through the night
Let thanksgiving rise
Let thanksgiving rise
Let thanksgiving rise
Before the dawn

Ending
Let thanksgiving rise
Before the dawn
Let thanksgiving rise