

Kids' Chronicle

THURSDAY, November 26, 1992

VOLUME 1, ISSUE NO. 22

BY CINDY BASSETT

The man who returned in Thanksgiving

"What's keeping them? It'll be light soon," Simeon complained to his companion.

"Stop worrying, they'll be along," Caleb said.

Every morning, just before dawn, the lepers took turns going into town to collect the food that had been left for them. It was against the law for a leper to enter any populated area without first shouting, "Unclean, unclean!" Such words always produced unkind reactions from those who heard them. Before dawn, the streets were always deserted.

"Tell me the story again about the miraculous healing," Caleb urged his friend.

"I don't even know if it's true. Besides, I must have told it a hundred times by now," Simeon said, not taking his eyes from the road. "Here they come!"

"Tell it again, Simeon!"

"Oh, all right," Simeon said. "Several months ago, Jesus Christ, a traveling preacher was here..."

Simeon stopped in mid-sentence, his attention on the others who joined them.

"You'd better control your appetite, Simeon," cautioned Benjamin, shaking his head. "Two or three people might receive their fill with the likes of this, but ten of us sharing it are certain to go hungry."

Simeon grabbed the sack from him and peered inside. "Do they think because our skin is rotting that we prefer our food the same? Dogs receive better treatment!"

"Come on, Simeon," Caleb said, interrupting his complaints. "Finish the story."

"What good are stories?" snapped Simeon. "Here we all are begging for a decent meal!" Seeing Caleb's downcast look, he softened his tone



Illustrations by Kathy Welsh

and added, "According to the story, Jesus touched a man with leprosy and healed him."

"The very fact that Jesus even dared to touch someone like us is a miracle," Benjamin added. "We saw that old farmer this morning, the one who gives us fruit. He said that Jesus is nearby. If we stay here today, we may see him passing by."

"If there are crowds, we won't be allowed to get near Jesus," Simeon added.

"Do you want to give up this chance?" Caleb asked.

They waited in the hot sun nearly all day before they caught a glimpse of Jesus. He was surrounded by a small group as he came toward them on the road.

Caleb was the first to shout, "Jesus, have mercy on us!"

As they came closer, all ten men cried out together. "Jesus, take pity on us! Jesus, help us!"

The man in the center of the group shouted back to them, "Go, now, and show yourselves to the priests!"

They hadn't even reached the gates of the town when the horrid scabs and other marks of the dreaded disease had vanished from their skin.

"Wait!" Caleb cried. "Let's go back and see Jesus!"

But the others hurried on and left him standing there alone.

As soon as he found Jesus, Caleb was on his knees before him. "Thank you, Jesus!"

"Where are the other nine who were cured?" Jesus asked him.

"I'm sorry," said Caleb. "I guess they were so excited that they just forgot their manners."

"Go on your way," Jesus told him. "It was your faith in me that made you well."

Read More About It: Luke, Chapter 17:11-19.

Q & A

1. Was Jesus hurt when the other lepers forgot to say, "Thank you?"
2. What things in your life should you remember to thank God for?

The Bible Times

A.D. 30

Samaria — A local man, known only as Caleb, claims to have been healed instantly of his leprosy yesterday.

According to Caleb, the spots, scabs and other deformities that characterize this skin disease disappeared after an encounter with Jesus Christ, a popular preacher from Nazareth.

Caleb told reporters that he and nine others who had leprosy waited on a roadside all day yesterday for a chance to speak to Jesus. When they finally saw him, Caleb said, Jesus told the men to go into a nearby town and show themselves to the priest.

Under Hebrew law, only a priest can certify lepers as clean and able to live again in society.

Prior to such certification, lepers by law must confine themselves to isolated locales outside of towns. Historically, lepers have been subjected to cruel treatment by those who fear catching the highly contagious disease.

Neither Jesus nor the nine others who Caleb said were also healed could be reached for comment.

Send a special letter

to God this Christmas!!!

Your letter can ask God a question, tell him something or be a prayer. You can also put your thoughts into an original drawing. (See sample letter below.)

The December 24th edition of the *Kids' Chronicle* will be entirely devoted to your letters and artwork.

Your letter should be no more than 20 words and artwork should be drawn in dark colors. Include your Name, Age and School. Send letters and art to: Cindy Bassett, c/o *Catholic Courier*, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, New York 14624. Deadline for letters is Monday, December 14.

Dear God,

Thank you for all of your gifts to me especially my new puppy, Bar-Sincerely,
Amy Jones, age 8, St. Helen's



Recipe for 'Thanksgiving'

Thanksgiving is a good time to remember your blessings. But thanking God should be something you do everyday by your actions. Look up the scripture references to see what the Bible says about "Thanksgiving".

INGREDIENTS

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

CHEERFULNESS

SHARING

LOVE — GOD, YOURSELF & OTHERS

PRAYER

PEACE

HARD WORK

REST

FORGIVENESS — YOURSELF & OTHERS

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Philippians 4:5-6

1 Peter 4:10

Matthew 22:37-39

Colossians 4:2

Titus 3:1-2

2 Thessalonians 3:11-13

Mark 6:31

Matthew 6:12

Mix well with a generous portion of faith in God.
Yield: Many delicious servings for you and others.



Talking to God

King Solomon's Wisdom

"O, my people, heed not for I am your God.
What I want from you is your love, thanksgiving, and a whole heart devotion to me."
I want you to love me as I love you, to love me with all your heart, mind, strength, and your neighbor as you love yourself.
Do not be afraid of me, for I am not a God who kills the body, but I will kill the soul that does not love me.

Our Kids' Chronicle is sponsored in part by the following Catholic High Schools

THE AQUINAS INSTITUTE
The Tradition Continues
(716) 254-2020
1127 Dewey Ave., Rochester 14613

BISHOP KEARNEY HIGH SCHOOL
"An Education For Life."
342-4000
125 Kings Hwy. S. Rochester, 14617

DeSales Regional High School
In our 80th year of providing quality Catholic Education to young adults in the Finger Lakes.
315-789-5111
90 Pultney Street, Geneva, 14456

MCQUAID HIGH JESUIT SCHOOL
Designated as an "Exemplary School" by the U.S. Dept. of Education
1800 S. Clinton Ave., Roch. 14618
(716) 473-1130

Nazareth Academy
Women's Education...
The Difference Means Success!
456-8383
1003 Lake Ave., Rochester 14613

Mercy
Educating Today's Young Women for Tomorrow's World
Our Lady of Mercy H.S.
1437 Blossom Rd., Roch. 14610
286-7120