

Week 2

Sermon Series: Lessons from the Sinless Savior

Sermon Text: Luke 5:12-16

Group Week of: July 23, 2023

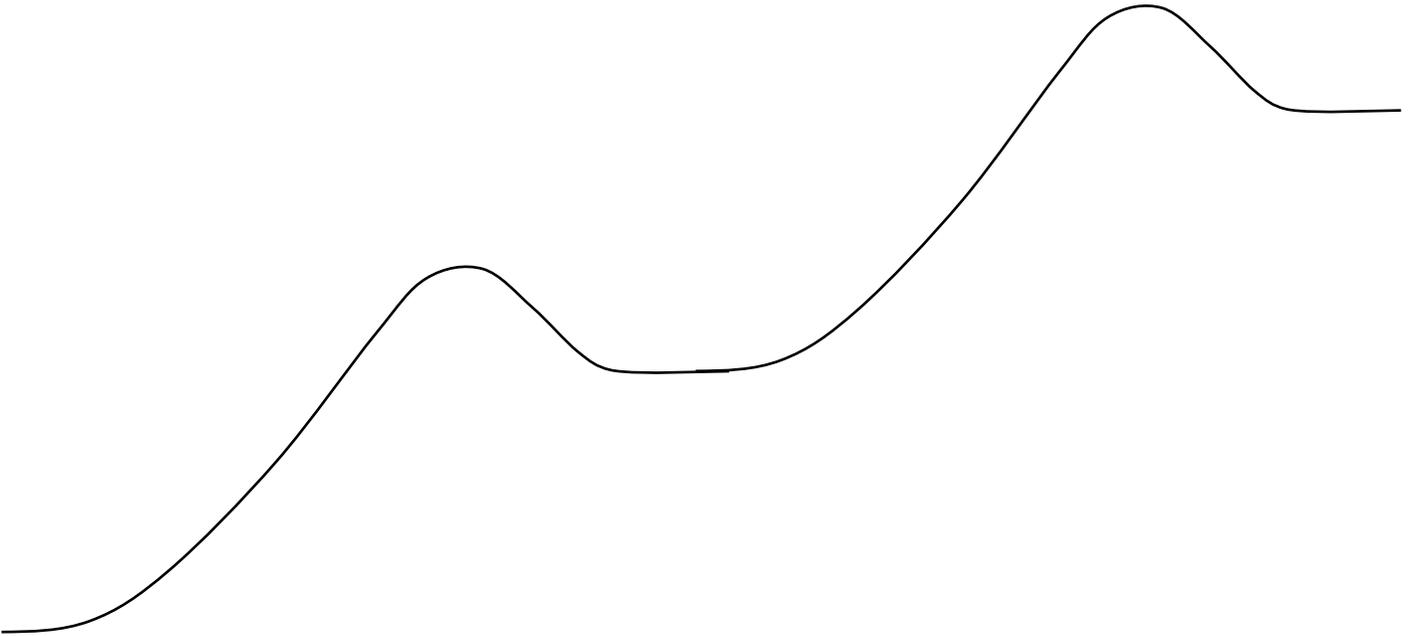
Sermon Date: July 30, 2023

Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies

Day 1	Mark's Account – Mark 1:40-45
Day 2	Leprosy Laws Pt 1 – Leviticus 13:1-46
Day 3	Leprosy Laws Pt 2 – Leviticus 14:1-32
Day 4	Praying in Secret – Matthew 6:5-14
Day 5	Salvation – 1 Peter 3:15-18

The Text: Luke 5:12-16

- 1) **Read** the text slowly and carefully.
- 2) **Pray** for understanding, insight, and transformation.
- 3) **Fill in the plot arch** by writing down verses in the story as points on the plot line to help show you where the main lessons in the story are.
- 4) **Answer** the interpretive questions at the bottom.



Textual Questions

- 1) What is (are) the main lesson (lessons) that you see God teaching through Luke in this passage?
- 2) When the leper says, "if you are willing," does he believe Jesus *wants* to heal him? Why or why not?
- 3) What is the significance of Jesus *touching* the man as He cleanses him?

Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) It is hard to describe how much the people of Israel hated lepers at this time. For more information, you can read Leviticus 13 and see how the laws dealt with lepers. Even if there isn't a perfect corollary in American society, who are the people that we look upon with disdain? Think of your particular "group" but also of our society as a whole.

- 2) Leviticus 13:45-46 commands, *"Anyone with such a defiling disease must wear torn clothes, let their hair be unkempt, cover the lower part of their face and cry out, 'Unclean! Unclean!'"* ⁴⁶*As long as they have the disease they remain unclean. They must live alone; they must live outside the camp."* If this was how you lived, how would you view yourself? How would others view you?

- 3) The leper says to Jesus, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." Mark 1:41 tells that Jesus was "indignant" at the leper's request. Looking at the leper's question, we see that the leper doesn't doubt Jesus' power to heal, but he does question whether or not Jesus *wants* to heal him. What about that doubt do you think was offensive to Jesus?

- 4) What is the difference between praying for God's will (as in Matthew 6:10 or James 4:15) and saying to God, "If you are willing, you can make me clean?" Why would Jesus command one but be offended by the other?

- 5) When Jesus heals the leper, He does so by touching him. What does this teach us about the love of Jesus and of Jesus' willingness to heal those who come to Him for help?

- 6) What is the most unthinkable sin in your mind? Does Jesus desire to save people from that sin? What does this teach you about God's love?

- 7) Jesus is overwhelmed by the number of people coming to Him after the miracle and once again gets away to pray. What things in your life are relentlessly seeking your attention? How can you get away from those things and get to a lonely place to be with God?