# Too Messy

**Series: Loving and Loathing**
**Sermon: Are You Willing?**
**October 11, 2015**

1. What was your initial reaction to the story of Cody? Why?

2. What foods do you find disgusting?

3. What makes a person disgusting to you? Who is it hard for you to love? Why?

4. Read Matthew 8:1-5. What stands out to you about:

   A. The man with leprosy's request.
   B. The response of Jesus.

5. What do you think life was like for the man with leprosy? Who are the lepers in our society?

6. Read Matthew 5:7. Why do you think mercy is listed among the Beatitudes as a way to be happy?

7. In Matthew 5:3, we are told that Jesus touched the man and said, "'Be clean!' Immediately, he was cleansed of leprosy." What does this teach us about the touch of Jesus?

8. What has Jesus touched in your life to make you clean and bring healing into your life?

9. Read Acts 10:1-35. This is a pivotal passage in the early church. Why?

10. "Love one another…just as I have loved you", "Love your neighbor as yourself" and "Love your enemies". Which statement is most challenging to you?

11. Rate yourself on the Loving and Loathing continuum.

| Loathing | | | | | | | | | Loving |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |

12. What is one step you need to take to show a willingness to love the unlovable?