

St. James Episcopal Church  
A Moment for Kids—of All Ages!  
OCTOBER 9, 2016—THE 21<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THANKFUL HEARTS



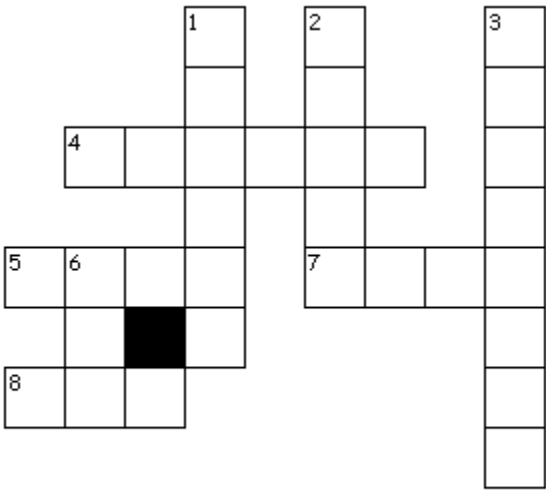
Ten people who were very sick asked Jesus to heal them. Jesus said to them, "Go on your way, you are healed." And as they went away they were all healed. Then one of them turned back and praised God with a loud voice, and thanked Jesus. Jesus said "Weren't ten people were healed? Why didn't the other nine come back to praise God and say thank you?" He said to the thankful man "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

*Paraphrase of Luke 17:11-19*

**BRINGING THE GOSPEL HOME:  
THOUGHTS FOR PARENTS**

In today’s Gospel story, ten people are healed but only one comes back to say thank you. Notice that all ten people are healed, that Jesus doesn’t “take back” the healing from the nine people who just walked away. Being grateful is not a “tit-for-tat” arrangement with God. We are called to be thankful because it is the best and most natural response to grace. Being thankful changes our world-view and reminds us of the active love of God in our lives. As parents, grandparents and other family members we teach our children to say “thank you”—as an important part of living as members of a family and a community. It’s also the basis for our Christian life--our gratitude to God for all of the blessings in our lives, large and small. Tell them of YOUR gratitude. What are you thankful for? How has God worked wonders in your life? Encourage your children, through your example to make gratitude a habit and share it with everyone you love, and every stranger you encounter.

**Thankful Hearts Crossword Puzzle**



Praise, love, sick, ten, healed, Jesus, thankful, one

- Across**
- 4. How we show that God is Great!
  - 5. What God gives to us, no matter what
  - 7. Having an illness
  - 8. How many people were healed in today's Gospel story
- Down**
- 1. What you are when you recover from an illness
  - 2. The Son of God
  - 3. What we should always be
  - 6. How many said "thank you" in today's Gospel story

***Dinner Table Conversation:***

- What happened today that was good? Tell us how grateful you are.*
- What happened today that wasn't so good? Was there anything good that came out of a bad thing?*
- Think about this for a minute if you have to.*
- How do you feel when you are grateful for something?*
- How do you think that other people feel when you say "thank you"?*
- What can you say "thank you" to God for right now?*