



The Much Ignored Path to Joy: _____.

Luke 17:11-19

Listen! Ninety percent of the people in America have ignored what may be the key path to joy.

Why? Gratitude is expected of us and gratitude delivers joy to us.

Big Idea: When God helps us...we must glorify Him by returning to Him to give thanks.

The spiritual reality of this event can be outlined in this way:

- First, we have an unfixable need with bitter consequences. (v 12)
- Second, we call out to Jesus in faith for His help. (v 13)
- Third, we obey in the mean time. (v 14)
- Fourth, we receive His help. (v 14)

Now, at this point the path divides and goes one of two directions:

- Fifth, for 90% of the people, we go on about your merry way. (vv 17, 18)
- Fifth, for 10% of the people, we go back to God and glorify Him by thanking Him. (vv 15, 16, 19)

For Instance:

Application:

Walking Papers

“Practical helps for walking the Christian walk this week—the Christian life is a daily thing.”

- **The Big Idea:** When God helps us...we must glorify Him by returning to Him to give thanks.

Please take some time each day this week to think through these questions and ideas:

- **Today.** Read Luke 17:11-19 and ask the question: What is my “gratitude quotient?” Am I almost always grateful or usually grateful or hardly ever grateful? Why? Is confession in order?
- **Monday.** Read Luke 17:11-19 and write a letter of gratitude to God, thanking Him for the many ways He has helped you in the past and in the present.
- **Tuesday.** Read Luke 17:11-19 and write a letter of gratitude to your parents for all the ways they have helped you. If your parents are living mail the letter. If your parents are not living frame the letter.
- **Wednesday.** Read Luke 17:11-19 and write a letter of gratitude to a friend or family member who has helped you in the past. Mail it.
- **Thursday.** Reflect on Luke 17:11-19 and ask God the Holy Spirit, “Am I obeying in the mean time while I wait for help in some critical area?” Or, “Have I taken the liberty of disobedience under the pretense that God owes me something first?”
- **Friday.** Reflect on Luke 17:11-19 and take some time in prayer to “cry out to Jesus in a loud voice and ask for His mercy.”
- **Saturday.** For tomorrow, as we kick off our new series in Acts, please read the following passages and search for any correlation between them: Luke 1:1-4 and Luke 24:50-53 and Acts 1:1-8 and Acts 28:31.

*“It may be rugby that separates the men from the boys.
But it is gratitude that separates the arrogant from the dependent.”*