



Westminster Presbyterian Church
Sermon Based Small Group Plan
October 29, 2017
Sermon Title: "Saying So"
Preaching: Pastor Charles Svendsen
Scripture: Psalm 107:1-9 & Luke 17:11-19

Psalm 107:1 "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

Luke 17:17-19 "Jesus asked, 'were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' Then he said to him, 'rise and go; your faith has made you well.'"

Theme: It is so important to say "thank you" to God, family, friends and even strangers. The psalmist gives thanks to the Lord because God is good. Even under the harsh conditions of exile, loneliness and destroyed homelands, the people of God gave thanks. When Jesus cleansed the ten lepers one (and only one) returned to give thanks. It has been said that all ten lepers were grateful, but only one "said so."

I wish to thank you, the beloved people of WPC, for these past two years of transitional ministry. You have been kind and gracious to me amid the challenges of change. Blessings to you as you begin this next chapter of your ministry in Christ's name.

Study Questions for the Sermon and Text: (choose as needed)

Psalm 107: 1-9

1. Have you attended some kind of reunion? What was it like seeing old friends? Do you avoid reunions? Why?
2. Who is invited to thank God (vs 1-3)? What four groups of "redeemed" people are mentioned? How should each group respond to God's unfailing love (vs 8, 15, 21, 31)?
3. Of what time in Israel's history do the lost travelers remind you (vs 4-9)? What do they symbolize? What is their basic problem (v5)?

Luke 17:11-19

1. When writing "thank you" notes, are you: (a) Preparing a card before opening the gift? (b) Getting to it "soon"? (c) Feeling guilty!?
2. What was it like to be a leper? What would their healing mean for them?
3. As one of the nine, how would you rationalize not going back to Jesus to say "thanks"?
4. What is significant about the one being a Samaritan?
5. How has Jesus healed you spiritually? Physically? Emotionally?

Prayer Options: (choose as needed for your group)

- Pray for Pastor Charles as he moves to his next interim opportunity in Costa Mesa, CA.
- Pray for Pastor Dave and his family as they get ready to join us on November 27.
- Pray for Darv Howell, Gary Pate and Elmer Orloff.
- Pray for the victims of earthquakes, hurricanes and wildfires.

Leader notes:

- Moment for Stewardship on October 29 and November 5. Our Stewardship Theme this year is "New Beginnings." Commitment Sunday is November 12.
- Charles' farewell luncheon is this Sunday at 12:30pm.
- One service, November 19 at 10am. Thanksgiving baskets will be assembled and dedicated.
- November 27 – Pastor Dave starts!