



WALKING ON WATER  
BIBLE CHURCH

*The* **Leper**  
*Meets*  
**The Lord**

**Luke 5:12-16**



**Pastor Mike Holloway**

## Luke 5:12-16

- 12 And it happened when He was in a certain city, that behold, a man who was full of leprosy saw Jesus; and he fell on his face and implored Him, saying, “Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.”
- 13 Then He put out His hand and touched him, saying, “I am willing; be cleansed.” Immediately the leprosy left him.

# Luke 5:12-16

- 14 And He charged him to tell no one, “But go and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering for your cleansing, as a testimony to them, just as Moses commanded.”
- 15 However, the report went around concerning Him all the more; and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by Him of their infirmities.
- 16 So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed.

# Introduction

- This is not just a healing story.
- This is a revelation of:
  - The seriousness of sin
  - The compassion of Christ
  - The power of divine cleansing
- In this text, we will see a man who is physically consumed...
- But spiritually represents every sinner apart from Christ.

# This man was “FULL of leprosy”

## Advanced stage:

- Entire body affected
- No human cure
- **Leprosy was:**
- Progressive; Degenerative; Life-threatening
- It attacked:
- Skin; Nerves; Limbs; Facial features
- It was literally a living death

# Leprosy caused:

- Disfigurement
- Loss of sensation
- Open wounds
- Decay of the body
- **The disease could progress until the body:**
  - Became unrecognizable
  - Began to deteriorate
- Fell apart over time. This is why leprosy was feared more than almost any disease.

# Leviticus 13–14 teaches:

- The leper was declared “UNCLEAN”
- The leper had to live OUTSIDE the camp
- The leper had to cry out: “UNCLEAN! UNCLEAN!”
- **This means:**
  - Social separation
  - Religious exclusion
  - Emotional devastation

# Sin behaves like leprosy

- It starts small
- It spreads gradually
- It numbs sensitivity
- It destroys over time
- **Sin separates us from:**
  - God
  - Fellowship
  - Spiritual life
- You cannot play with sin—it will consume you.

# “He fell on his face...”

This shows:

- Humility
  - Urgency
  - Surrender
- 
- He breaks social boundaries to get to Jesus.

# Life Application

- You will never come to Jesus properly until you become desperate.
- Some people are held back by:
  - **Pride; Image; Fear of people**
- But healing comes when you say:
- “I don’t care what people think—I need Jesus.”

**“Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.”**

- **He believes:**
  - Jesus CAN heal
- **But questions:**
  - Is Jesus WILLING?

**Many believers struggle here:**

“I know God can...”

- “But will He for me?”
- This text answers that fear.

# Jesus did the unthinkable...

- He touched the leper...
- Under the Law:
- Touch = uncleanness
- But Jesus reverses it.

# The Gospel of Matthew says He was moved with Compassion

- Compassion: σπλαγχνίζομαι  
(splagchnizomai)

## Meaning:

- Deep inner compassion
- Gut-level mercy
- Emotional movement from within
- This is not surface sympathy—this is deep divine compassion.

# Jesus is not repelled by your condition.

He is moved by it.

Others may:

- Reject you, Avoid you and Label you
- **But Jesus:**
- Draws near
- Touches
- Restores

# Complete Deliverance

- καθαρίζω (katharizō)

Meaning:

- To cleanse
- To purify
- To make ceremonially clean
- **This is more than healing:**
- It is FULL RESTORATION

# **“I WILL; be clean.”**

This shows:

- Authority
- Willingness
- Divine power
  
- Jesus is not reluctant.

## Isaiah 1:18

- “Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow...”
- Just like the leper was cleansed; God cleanses sin completely
- **When Jesus cleanses:**
- You are fully forgiven; You are fully restored; You are fully accepted
- Not partial’ Not temporary; COMPLETE.

# “Tell no one... go show yourself to the priest...”

- Jesus emphasizes:
  - Obedience
  - Proper testimony

After God moves in your life:

Your next step is not hype—it’s obedience.

- Obedience in your walk
- Obedience in your lifestyle
- Obedience in your witness

# Ministry Became Difficult

- **Mark 1:45 shows:**
- Jesus could no longer publicly enter a city, but stayed out in unpopulated areas; and they were coming to Him from everywhere.
- The man Spread the news widely
- Crowds increased
- Ministry became more difficult

# The Importance of Obedience

- Not all excitement equals obedience.
- **You can be:**
- Passionate, Vocal, Excited
- **And still be:**
- Disobedient

# The Importance of Right Motives

- **Multitudes came to:**
- Hear
- Be healed
- **But not necessarily:**
- Repent
- Submit
- Follow

# The Importance of Right Motives

- Many people want what Jesus can do
- **But not:** Who Jesus is
  
- **They want:**
- Blessing without surrender
- Help without holiness

# The Importance of Prayer

- “He withdrew... and prayed.”
- Even Jesus: Stepped away and Sought the Father
- Without Prayer, You cannot:
- Sustain ministry
- Sustain life
- Sustain spiritual strength