

# BACKGROUND NOTES FOR TEACHERS

## LESSON 26: THE MAN WHO SAID "THANK YOU"

Main  
focus of  
the lesson



### Teaching Focus

- ◆ There are many times when we can say 'thank you' to express gratitude for a person's actions or words.
- ◆ God loves all people.
- ◆ We should always show genuine gratitude for the blessings God bestows upon us.

### Learning Outcomes

In this lesson students will:

- ◆ listen and respond to the story of *The Man Who Said Thank You*;
- ◆ consider and discuss times they have said thank you to others;
- ◆ name some of the many gifts God has given them and suggest how they can thank God for these gifts.



### Catechism of the Catholic Church

- ◆ **2638:** As in the prayer of petition, every event and need can become an offering of thanksgiving. The letters of St Paul often begin and end with thanksgiving, and the Lord Jesus is always present in it: "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you"; "Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving."

### Scripture

- ◆ **Luke 17:12-19:**

As he entered one of the villages, ten lepers came to meet him. They stood some way off and called to him, 'Jesus! Master! Take pity on us.' When he saw them he said, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' Now as they were going away they were cleansed. Finding himself cured, one of them turned back, praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. This made Jesus say, 'Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God except this foreigner.' And he said to the man, 'Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you.'



### Resources

The following resources are highly recommended for the effective teaching of this lesson:

- ◆ Visuals: Thank you card (see resource sheet);
- ◆ Literature: *Jesus Cares for People*, *'The Ten Lepers'*, KWL Big Book;
- ◆ Literature: *Only One Said Thank You*, KWL Year 1 Children's Book;
- ◆ Music: *I Thank You Jesus*, *Christ our Light and Life*, Natalie Konakov;
- ◆ Music: *Ten Lepers*, *Seeds of Sonshine*, Jim Cosgrove.



## LESSON 26: THE MAN WHO SAID "THANK YOU"

## Lesson Plan

Opening Prayer: Our Father or other suitable prayer



10 Minutes

guide only.

## STEP 1:

## Telling the Story

Settle the students so that they are seated close by you and review the previous lesson, *Buried Treasure*, by asking "What did Jesus say the Kingdom of God was like?" "What was the greatest treasure?" After listening to student responses introduce the theme of being thankful.

Show the students a "Thank you" card and ask, "Why do you think I brought this card? Who do you think I will give it to?" Tell them you brought it to thank someone for something special that they did for you. Invite the students to share some of the reasons they have said "Thank you." Responses may include a birthday gift, for being helped, for being looked after, for being allowed to play.

Tell the students they are going to hear a story about Jesus and someone who said thank you. This story comes from the Bible. Then present the story of the Ten Lepers using one of the following options.

- A Read the *Only One Said Thank You* from the *KWL Big Book, Jesus Cares for People* or *KWL Year 1 Children's Book* pp. 138-143.

OR

- B Tell the following story.

*Jesus knew there were people with leprosy who needed help. These people had a terrible skin disease. They were called lepers. They were not allowed to live with other people because they could pass on the skin disease. If anyone approached a leper, they had to warn that person to go away. No one was allowed to touch lepers. Lepers had a terrible life because no one knew how to heal them.*

*One day ten lepers called out to Jesus and asked for help. Jesus told them to go and show themselves to the priests. The priests were the people who had to say whether they were really healed.*

*On the way to the priests the lepers saw that they were healed. Jesus had healed them. One of them came back to say "Thank you" to Jesus. Jesus was surprised, because even though ten were cured only one had come back to say "Thank you."*

## STEP 2:

## Reflecting on the story "I wonder ..."



4 Minutes

Help the students reflect on the previous activity and relate it to their lives. The following questions are intended to help the

students explore the theme, evoke wonder and stimulate their religious imaginations. Generally, a variety of responses to the "I wonder ..." reflections should be encouraged.

I wonder ...

- why people would be afraid to go near a leper
- why the lepers asked Jesus to help them
- how the lepers felt when they were healed
- why only one of them came back to Jesus
- what you think he said to Jesus
- what you would say

### STEP 3:

#### Proclaiming the Word



5 Minutes

Settle the students around the Prayer Place. You could use a *Thank You* card as a focus point. Then read Luke 17:16-17:

*Finding himself cured, one of the lepers turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him.*

### STEP 4:

#### Response



11 Minutes

Invite the students to name some of the things they would like to thank God for. Responses may include eyes to see with, ears to hear with, then family, food and water. You may wish to write their responses on the board and use as a part of the prayer.

- A** Direct the students to their **Activity Books** and invite them to complete the words 'Thank you' and colour the lepers who were healed by Jesus. Afterwards, help the students choose the correct numbers to fill the spaces to complete the story of the lepers.

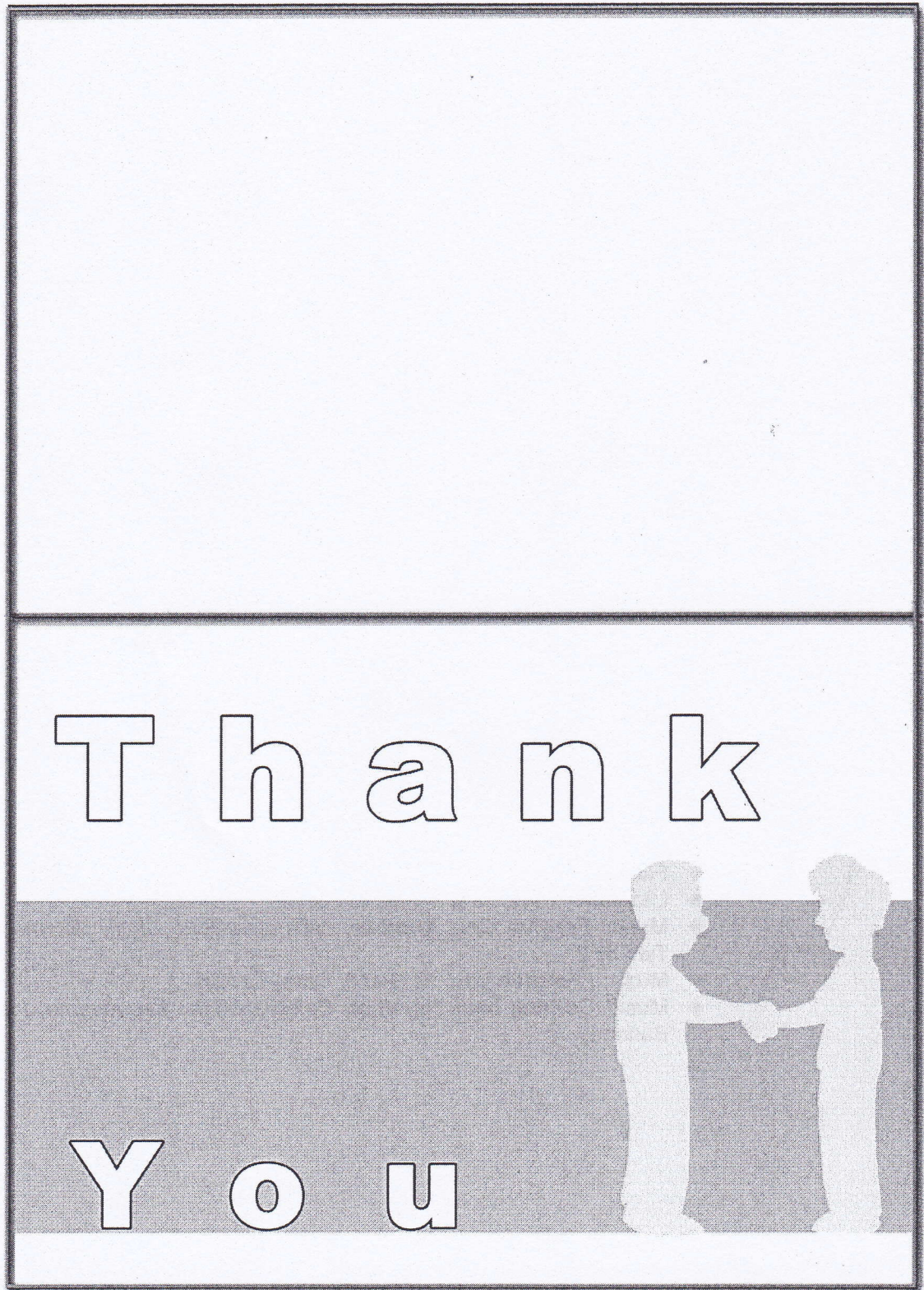
**OR**

- B** Distribute a copy of the **Lesson Worksheet** and invite students to complete the *Thank You* card. Students could select some of the things they would like to thank God for and write or draw them in the space provided.

Towards the end of the lesson invite the students to make the Sign of the Cross and pray with you.

*Dear God,  
thank you for my family and friends.  
Thank you for the food I eat.  
Thank you for the water I drink.  
Thank you for the air I breathe.  
Thank you for the bed I sleep in.  
Thank you for the clothes I wear.  
Thank you for anything I have forgotten.  
Thank you God for everything!  
Amen.*

**To Remember:**  
**We should always thank God for his gifts.**



# The man who said "Thank you."

Complete the words that the leper said to Jesus.

Thank you



Colour the lepers who were healed.



To Remember:

We should always thank God for his gifts.

## Jesus heals the lepers

Choose one of the large circled numbers to fill in the blanks in the sentences that tell the story of the lepers.

1

9

10

1. \_\_\_ lepers lived outside the town.
2. \_\_\_ lepers could not go into town.
3. Jesus passed by. \_\_\_ lepers called, "Jesus, have pity on us!"
4. Jesus told the \_\_\_ lepers, "Go show yourselves to the priest."
5. \_\_\_ lepers started to go.
6. As they went, \_\_\_ lepers were healed.
7. \_\_\_ of the lepers came back and thanked Jesus.
8. \_\_\_ did not come back to thank Jesus.
9. Jesus asked, "Were not all cleansed? Where are the other \_\_\_?"
10. Jesus was glad that \_\_\_ man thanked him. He was sorry that \_\_\_ men did not.



Dear God,

thank you for my family and friends. Thank you for the food I eat.  
Thank you for the water I drink. Thank you for the air I breathe.  
Thank you for the bed I sleep in. Thank you for the clothes I wear.  
Thank you for anything I have forgotten. Thank you God for everything! Amen.