

**Ron Armstrong • November 23 & 24, 2019**  
**Thanksgiving: Celebration, Worship, Thankfulness**

Luke 17:11 Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. <sup>12</sup> As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance <sup>13</sup> and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"

<sup>14</sup> When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed.

<sup>15</sup> One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. <sup>16</sup> He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.

<sup>17</sup> Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? <sup>18</sup> Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" <sup>19</sup> Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

2 Corinthians 9:11 You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

**A. Some celebrations should be more than just celebrations.**

1. In the OT there was an intersection between celebration and worship/prayer.

2. Here are few examples:

a. Passover celebration commemorated God delivering Israel out of bondage in Egypt. Let's draw the overlap.

b. Feast of Weeks (Pentecost) celebrates the giving of the law at Mount Sinai. It's a celebration and worship event.

3. How can we be sure of the intentional overlap? These are both pilgrimage feasts.

4. In our culture, some celebrations aren't expected to include worship. Circle the worship ones and underline the non-worship ones.

Labor Day	MLK Day	President's Day
Good Friday	Labor Day	Easter
Veteran's Day	Christmas	Thanksgiving

5. What did you do with Thanksgiving? And are you really doing it? Or is it just a celebration?

**B. Thankfulness to God is an act of worship.**

1. The key to thankfulness is choosing where to focus. Will it be on your blessings or hurts?

2. Our church has a lot to celebrate and be thankful for.

3. You do too, if you can see past the turmoil, hurts, and distractions and see the blessings.