

Sermon Discussion Guide

Cleansing for the Outcast

Mark 1:40-45

Jesus has the power to make us clean (40)

Ex 4:6-8; Num 5:2-4; 12:9-15; Lev 13-14; 2 Ki 5:1-14; 2 Ch 26:16-21

- What were some of the difficulties of being a leper in Jesus' day?
- What do the leper's words reveal about his understanding of Jesus?
- What are ways that people can feel like outcasts?
- How do the leper's words and actions challenge us in our faith?
- What are ways we can battle the shame we feel because of sin?

Jesus is willing to make us clean (41-45)

Rom 8:3-4; 2 Cor 5:21; Gal 3:13; Heb 10:19-25; 13:11

- How does Jesus' response to this leper help us understand his view of human suffering?
- Why would Jesus tell this man not to tell anyone?
- How does this passage foreshadow how Jesus will bring true cleansing?
- How can we reassure ourselves when we doubt our cleansing in Christ?
- In what ways can we proclaim a message of cleansing?
- How would thinking about the church as a leprosarium change how we interact with one another?