

Thanks In Advance 3 – A Breakthrough For Your Disappointment

Chris Fluitt - November 16, 2025

Texts: Luke 17:11–19; Romans 1:21

Big Idea: Thankfulness is the key to breakthrough. Gratitude doesn't just heal you — it restores you.

Thanks in Advance BUMPER

Welcome to Redemption Church of Plano, Tx. My name is Chris Fluitt and I am thankful to be in the 3rd week of our series.

Thanks In Advance Title

Let's be honest.

Disappointment hits everybody.

You thought the relationship was going somewhere.

You thought the job was secure.

You thought the open door was going to stay open.

And then it didn't.

And when disappointment shows up, the first thing to leave is gratitude.

You can have blessings in one area and still be disappointed in another.

You can get a small victory and not even enjoy it because you are still hurting over what did not happen.

And disappointment starts whispering:
“God forgot you.

Nothing works out for you.

Why even try anymore?”

But what if the key to breakthrough is not complicated?

What if the thing that brings hope back is not money, opportunity, or talent?

What if the key to breakthrough is thankfulness?

We live in a world starving for gratitude.

Starving For Gratitude:

- **Only 22 % of employees feel recognized for their work.**

Source: Gallup and Workhuman.

(<https://www.gallup.com/workplace/650174/employee-retention-depends-getting-recognition-right.aspx>)

- **64% of people say appreciation is more important now than ever.**

Source: CoolLeaf Employee Recognition Statistics.

(<https://www.cooleaf.com/blog/20-employee-recognition-statistics-that-prove-the-power-of-appreciation>)

- **People who practice gratitude have about a 9% lower risk of early death.**

Source: Harvard Health reporting on the Nurses' Health Study.

(<https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/gratitude-enhances-health-brings-happiness-and-may-even-lengthen-lives-202409113071>)

- **In families/relationships, feeling appreciated predicts commitment, satisfaction, and long-term stability.**

Source: Gratitude in relationships meta-analysis, Frontiers in Psychology.

(<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/psychology/articles/10.3389/fpsyg.2023.1243598/full>)

People do not just want to be thanked.

People **HURT** without gratitude.

No wonder disappointment is everywhere.

- When we do not receive gratitude, we feel invisible.
- When we do not give gratitude, we become entitled.
- And when gratitude disappears, disappointment takes over.

Thanks In Advance 3 – A Breakthrough For Your Disappointment

So let me ask you:

Who wants breakthrough?

Who wants joy back?

Who wants hope back?

God shows us how in Luke 17.

...And it starts with thankfulness.

Luke 17 tells us about ten people with a dreaded disease.

Leprosy did not just make you sick.

It made you untouchable.

You had to live outside the community.

You had to shout “Unclean” so people would not get near you.

You lost your relationships, your reputation, and often parts of your body.

In that isolation, they see Jesus coming.

Luke 17:13

“Jesus, Master, have pity on us.”

They cry out with the last strength they have.

Jesus responds:

Luke 17:14

“Go, show yourselves to the priests.”

Why a priest?

Leviticus 14:2–3

“This is the law for the one who has been

healed. The priest must go outside the camp and examine them.”

Because of an obscure Old Testament law in Leviticus 14 where the priest had to examine a healed leper and confirm restoration.

Here is what makes this incredible:

We have no biblical or rabbinical record of a Jewish leper ever being healed like this. Nobody ever needed this law. Nobody even hoped for restoration. Until Jesus stepped into the story.

Isn't it great when Jesus steps into the story?

Luke 17:14

“As they went, they were cleansed.”

Healing happened on the way.

Sometimes healing happens as you obey

God... SO DON'T STOP! Keep going!

All Ten were cleansed.

But one of them does something different...

Luke 17:15-16 (NIV)

One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice.

He threw himself at Jesus's feet and thanked Him. He was a Samaritan.

Then Jesus asks:

Luke 17:17

"Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?"

Let's pause here.

Most people never return.

Most people never give thanks.

Most never come back to worship.

Most never pause to say thank you to God or to anyone else.

#REELthanks video

For Example... I asked you the last 3 weeks to make a simple short video thanking God in advance and to post it on your social media... Have you done this?

Thankfulness is the minority response.

This is why worship matters.

Worship is you returning to Jesus.

Reading Scripture during the week is not just a religious activity.

It is you returning to give thanks.

Praying is you returning.

Thanking God at work or at home is you returning.

Watch what Jesus says to the one who returned.

Luke 17:18-19

"Has no one returned to give praise to God

except this foreigner?"

Then He said, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

Now watch the language Luke uses for what happened:

katharizō – cleansed v14

Cleansed on the outside.

iaomai – healed v15

Physical healing - A real cure.

sozo - made well

Restored, made whole, saved.

Ten were cleansed.

Ten were healed.

And only one was restored.

Now think about what restoration means.

Leprosy destroyed the body.

People lost feeling, lost fingers, lost toes.

Skin broke open.

Scars covered them.

So when Jesus uses the word *sozo*, He is saying something bigger than healing.

He is saying,

“I am restoring what was lost.”

Could it be that the one who returned walked away with no scars?

No deformities?

Nothing missing?

Nothing broken?

Nothing that even looked like leprosy had ever touched him?

Ten got better.

One got whole.

Ten got the miracle.

One got the Miracle Worker.

Ten got their skin back.

One got his life back.

And the man who experienced sozo did not have to go show himself to a priest - because the One who restored him was his Priest – Jesus!

Gratitude brings restoration.

Gratitude brings wholeness.

Gratitude opens the door for God to do more than you expected.

Some of you have been cleansed.

Some have been healed.

But God wants to restore you.

UNTHANKFULNESS IS SERIOUS - ROMANS 1:21

If you think thankfulness is small, think again.

Romans 1 is known for a long list of sin issues that cause destruction... Check out what made the list.

Romans 1:21

“Although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him.”

A lack of thanks is a sin! A lack of thanks brings destruction.

The very first step away from God was unthankfulness.

Unthankfulness leads to darkness.

Thankfulness leads to breakthrough.

MUSICIANS

OUR TURN TO RETURN

You and I are that one leper.

We were far off.

We were unclean.

We were lost.

And Jesus came near.

He did not just forgive your sin.

He restored your relationship with God.

We have a choice today:

Will we keep moving?

Or will we return?

Breakthrough begins when you return.

Restoration begins when you give thanks.

Wholeness begins when you fall at the feet
of Jesus.

Today is our moment to return.

YOUR TURN TO RETURN **PROGRESSIVE**
CLICK

1. Speak Gratitude Out Loud

- Say thank you to someone today - let your gratitude be heard.

2. Honor Someone Who Helped You

- Return to someone who invested in you and thank them.

3. Take a Moment to Return to Jesus

- Thank Him for what He has done, what He is doing, and in advance for the restoration that is on the way.