

Scene Eleven The Healing of a Leper

Taken from [Matthew 8:1-4](#), [Luke 5:12-16](#)

CAST	
The Leper	Leprosy is a horrible disease. In Jesus' time, people were thrown out of their villages and had to live away from their communities and family. Often Lepers had to ring a bell to warn people they were coming into a public space. As the disease gets worse, and the skin becomes more infected, a leper would wear bandages to cover their sores. It would become painful to walk, and shameful to be seen in public. We do not know much about this person with leprosy, other than they showed great courage in approaching Jesus in public.
Jesus	We are largely dependent upon the four Gospels for what we know about Jesus and his life. After his baptism, Jesus gathered friends around him as he preached, taught and healed people and ministered to individuals. Jesus met growing opposition from the Pharisees and others who regarded him as an unorthodox rabbi. He travelled to Jerusalem for the pilgrim festival of Passover, aware he was going to die.
Crowd	Everywhere Jesus went, people heard about him and began to follow him, wanting to see and hear more from this special person. Some of the crowd might be market traders, or shop owners, others could be going about their daily lives and witness Jesus' amazing miracles.
Disciples	Jesus gathered friends around him, followers often called disciples. They travelled together, and accompanied Jesus, listening and watching as he healed many people. Like all of us, these disciples were only human, so they too would have worries and doubts, hopes and fears about Jesus' actions.

*For more information on the people that encountered Jesus, see the '**people**' area of the website*

Jesus, followed by his disciples and a crowd of people, walks past a bundle of rags. The rags move. It is a leper. The disciples and crowd all back away, some in fear, others in disgust.

LEPER: Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean

Jesus reaches out the Leper's hand,

JESUS: I am willing. Be clean

It is as if a stocking has been removed from the Leper's arm and face. The Leper is healed.

LEPER: I'm healed! I'm Cured!

The leper runs off to tell everyone but is stopped by Jesus. The crowd and disciples react to this miracle.

JESUS: Remember. Tell no-one of this but go on your way and see that the priests offer you the certificate of cleansing that Moses commanded then return and live amongst others again – your faith has made you whole.

LEPER: (ecstatic) Look I am healed – look at me – I'm cured!!!

The Leper runs off without thanks. Jesus stands and watches

