

STUDY 2. QUESTIONS

1. Has there ever been a time in your life when you felt really lonely? What was it like?
2.
 - a. What do you know about leprosy? (Your group leader is an expert.)
 - b. What was the Old Testament teaching regarding leprosy?
(See Leviticus 12:1-14, 13:3 14:33-57, 15:1-33.)
3. **See Mark 1:40-45.**
What hints are there in the passage that leprosy was seen as “dirty” rather than being an illness?
4.
 - a. What is your attitude to the following illnesses?
 - i. Monkey Pox?
 - ii. AIDS
 - iii. Alcoholism.
 - iv. Schizophrenia
 - v. Sexual perversion.
 - vi. Pornographic addiction
 - vii. Other Sexually Transmitted Diseases.
 - b. Do you agree that all of the above are illnesses?
 - c. In the light of the story we have just read, how would Jesus treat victims of the above illnesses?
5. What do you think were the beliefs and opinions that the leper had towards Jesus?
6.
 - a. What does Mark tell us about the attitude of Jesus towards the leper?
 - b. What is so remarkable about this attitude?
 - c. What other times is this emotion stirred up in Jesus?
(See Mark 6:30-36, 8:1-3, Luke 7:11-15.)
7.
 - a. Some ancient texts tell us that Jesus was filled with ‘anger’ when the leper made his request. How could this be possible? What would have made Jesus angry?
 - b. Are there forms of illness that make you angry? What are they? Why?
8. Jesus tells the man to keep his cleansing and healing quiet? Why did he do that?
9. **See Mark 1:32-34, 3:11-12, 5:41-43, 8:27-30, 9:8-9**
 - a. What do all these passages in Mark’s Gospel have in common?
 - b. Can you explain why this is a feature of Mark’s Gospel?
10. Compare the religious, physical, emotional and social state of the man before and after he met Jesus?
11.
 - a. Is there any way that you can identify with the leper?
 - b. Are there people in our church who really need to understand this story?
12.
 - a. What is inspiring about Jesus in this story?
 - b. What is inspiring about the leper?
 - c. How could this story affect our lives?