Been There When They Take You for Granted

Key Scriptures

As [Jesus] entered a village there, ten men with leprosy stood at a distance, crying out, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" [Jesus] looked at them and said, "Go show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed of their leprosy. One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, "Praise God!" He fell to the ground at Jesus' feet, thanking him for what he had done. This man was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, "Didn't I heal ten men? Where are the other nine?" Luke 17:12-17 NLT

[Jesus] was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him. Luke 4:15 NIV

All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. Luke 4:28-29 NIV

"And please remember me and do me a favor when things go well for you. Mention me to Pharaoh, so he might let me out of this place. For I was kidnapped from my homeland, the land of the Hebrews, and now I'm here in prison, but I did nothing to deserve it." Genesis 40:14-15 NLT

Pharaoh's chief cup-bearer, however, forgot all about Joseph, never giving him another thought. Genesis 40:23 NLT

"Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. ... Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." Matthew 6:1-2, 4 NIV

God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, so that what you hope for may be fully realized. Hebrews 6:10-11 NIV

TALK IT OVER

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

• What are some ways you enjoy being appreciated?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Which part of this message was most impactful for you and why?
- What are some things you do consistently for the people around you? How appreciated do you feel for what you do?
- Read **Hebrews 6:10-11**. What stands out to you from this passage? How does it feel to know that God sees the valuable work you're doing, even if you feel underappreciated?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Talk about some ways you find your worth and value. Who does God say you are, and how does this impact the way you view yourself?
- Share about a time when you felt truly appreciated. What was that experience like, and what did you learn about the value of appreciating others?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Father, thank You for the work You're doing in our lives, even if we don't fully see or understand. Please show us ways we can appreciate the people in our lives this week. We thank You that You see us and the significant work we're doing. Remind us to do it all for Your glory. In Jesus' name, amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Is there someone in your life who you need to appreciate? Do something for them this week.
- Start the *Jesus Can Relate* Bible Plan using Plans With Friends from LifeChurch: <u>www.go2.lc/beenthere</u>
- Consider how you could love others by serving on the weekend or with a Local Mission Partner.