

# Centered in Jesus

## ***Jesus Gives Catharsis***

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Luke 5:12-16

March 1, 2026

**Introduction:** In Ephesians 2:19 the apostle Paul writes: "...you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone; in him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God." (NRSV) As we begin a new calendar year and a new era at UPC it is time to ask ourselves the question "What does it mean to live my life with Christ at the center?" In this series, we will look into scripture for pictures of what that looked like for the people of Jesus' time and the early church. The clues we find will help us construct an actionable answer to this question so that we can take stock of where we are and take steps to make Jesus the center of our lives.

**Review:** How did the sermon use/emphasize the term "nevertheless"?

**Read:** Luke 5:12-16

**Prayer:** Father, we are grateful that Jesus reached out his hand and touched the leper. Amen

### **Discussion:**

1. What did the man do when he saw Jesus? What did he ask?
2. How did Jesus respond? Two-fold!
3. Explain what Jesus ordered the man to do. Why was this important? What did Jesus mean by "a testimony to them"? See Jesus's statements on the law of Moses.
4. Why did Jesus often withdraw to lonely places? Was this critical to Jesus's ministry? Explain.

**Application:** This week remember the act of Jesus in actually touching the leper.

**Prayer:** Father, thank you for this reminder of the awesome compassion of Jesus. Amen