**Sermon Sparkler for the 18th Sunday after Pentecost**

I think this is a cool scene! Jesus comes across this multiethnic interfaith village. They came together Jew and Samaritan, based on their common plight, their mutual ailment. They come out of the village to see Jesus, but not too close, because they don’t want to make their guest impure.

He heals them and they rush off glorifying God. Only one, the man of a different race and religion from Jesus, turns and says thanks.

Like the “sinner woman” who responded to Jesus’ act of forgiveness with joy, so too this Samaritan reacts with joy. That joy is the fruit of his faith. All ten were healed, but only one is reminded of his faith. Strangely enough it is the one of a different faith!

Outsiders continually are the focus of Jesus’ ministry, and also examples of faith. The joy and surprise of God’s rule in Jesus’ presence is experienced uniquely for those on the outs with the Kingdoms of this World.

* These days, where do you see people united in grief, pain, plight, or ailment?
* Who would be uniquely overjoyed by Jesus’ presence today?