



Individual Responsibility Regarding Appreciation

Living in the Image of God
Module 04 Session 04

Banking Blessings Ministry
San Antonio, Texas
USA



Living in the Image of God

- God creates every person to represent him in interactions with others
- Be for others what God would be for them if he lived with us in human form
- He provides resources for people to perform the responsibilities
- He blesses those that do

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Living in the Image of God

- Program seeks to understand
- Meaning of *Living in the Image of God*
- Resources God has provided to guide us
- Human responsibilities
- Benefits of *Living in the Image of God*

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What We Will Learn

- Beneficiary responsibility in call to compassion
- Beneficiary is the receiver of goods and service provided by others
- Beneficiary responsibility
 - Appreciate the goods and service
 - Appreciate the human providers
 - Appreciate God for empowering the providers
- Responsibility to appreciate others because of their intrinsic value as potential God's representative in human interactions

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What We Will Learn cont'd

- Meaning and value of appreciation
- Christ teaching regarding appreciation based on his interactions with healing recipients
 - Woman healed of persistent bleeding
 - Man healed of leprosy
 - Man freed from demons
- Appreciation and public testimony regarding appreciation are important to God

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Call to Compassion and Appreciation

- When God calls a person to provide goods or service to benefit another
- He also calls the beneficiary to appreciate the act of compassion
- Establishes provider-receiver relationship
- Provider responsibility: recognize, care, commit, and persevere in providing to alleviate the need
- Beneficiary responsibility: receive provided goods and service with appreciation

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Meaning of Appreciation

- “Thankful recognition” (Dictionary.com)
- Three ordered steps for appreciation
 1. Benefits (goods or service) received
 2. Benefactor (human provider)
 3. God positioned and empowered the benefactor to provide the goods or service
- Appreciation follows the sequence: benefits → benefactor → God

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Value of Appreciation

- Initiates long-term benefits of human service
- Appreciating beneficiary is motivated to “hunger and thirst for righteousness”
- Future interactions with others motivates them to “hunger and thirst for righteousness”
- Others motivate others and chains of more others
- Network of provider-receiver interactions growing in time and space

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Value of Appreciation cont'd

- If you appreciate a person...
- You would be polite to them
- Respectful of them
- Attentive to their needs and communication
- Appreciate God for connecting you with them and empowering them to assist you
- Motivated to be good to others and chains of more others
- Important link in propagating positive interactions among people

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Individual Responsibility for Appreciation

- Beneficiary in an act of compassion is individually responsible for appreciation
- Appreciation of others in anticipation of potential future interactions with them
- For their intrinsic human value: every person is potentially God's representative in a future interaction with you
- Appreciation for others and appreciation for God that empowers positive interactions with them

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Christ Teaching Regarding Appreciation

- Christ taught appreciation through interactions with healing recipients
- Woman healed of persistent long-term bleeding
- Man healed of leprosy
- Man freed from demons

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Christ Teaching Regarding Appreciation

- Woman healed of persistent long-term bleeding
- Woman healed privately by touching Jesus
- Jesus stopped activities until she testified publicly to her appreciation
- He confirmed her faith had healed her and released her to “go in peace and be freed from your suffering”
- Christ interactions indicate her appreciation and testimony were essential for her healing
- Mark 5:27–34

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Mark 5 (NIV)

27 When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak,

28 because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed."

29 Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

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Mark 5 (NIV)

30 At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

31 "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'"

32 But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it.

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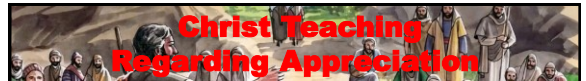
Mark 5 (NIV)

33 Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth.

34 He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

- Jesus declared her healing complete after she testified publicly regarding the healing and her appreciation

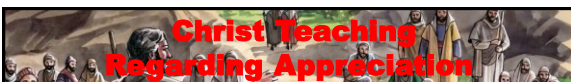
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Christ Teaching Regarding Appreciation

- Man healed of leprosy
- Ten men asked for healing → Jesus instructed them to go show themselves to priests → they were healed on the way
- One of them returned
- Testified publicly to his appreciation
- Jesus welcomed him but criticized the nine
- Luke 17:11–19
- Conveys message that man's appreciation and public testimony were essential for his healing

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Christ Teaching Regarding Appreciation

- Man freed from demons
- Under complete control by demons, the man was powerful and defied every restraint
- Jesus expelled the demons
- The man wanted to follow Jesus
- But Jesus sent him home: "Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." [Mark 5:19]
- Appreciation and public testimony regarding appreciation are important to God

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What We Learned

- As beneficiary in call to compassion
 - Appreciate the benefit
 - Appreciate the benefactor
 - Appreciate God
- An appreciating beneficiary motivates others that in turn motivate chains of more others.
- Generates network of provider-receiver interactions growing in time and space.
- Also, appreciate others for their intrinsic value as potentially God's representative in a future interaction with you

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What We Learned

- If you appreciate a person...
- You would be polite to them
- Respectful of them
- Attentive to their needs and communication
- In general, you would appreciate God for connecting you with them and empowering them to interact with you
- You would be motivated to be good to them and chains of more others
- Christ teaching: appreciation and public testimony are important to God

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Individual Responsibility Regarding Appreciation

Living in the Image of God M04S04

Christ teaching, based on his interactions with healing recipients, conveys a message that appreciation and public testimony regarding appreciation are important in human interactions and relationships. When God calls a person to provide goods or service to benefit another in need, he also calls the beneficiary to receive the goods and service with appreciation. He calls the beneficiary to appreciate the human provider and appreciate God in thankful recognition that he positioned and empowered others to assist as they can. An appreciating beneficiary could motivate others that in turn motivate chains of more others; thus, generating a network of provider-receiver interactions growing in time and space.

This study focuses on understanding the responsibility of the beneficiary in a call to compassion. Recall that the beneficiary is the receiver of goods and service provided by others to alleviate his or her need. The beneficiary has a responsibility to appreciate the goods and service, appreciate the human provider, and appreciate God for empowering the provider. Further, every person has a responsibility to appreciate others for their intrinsic value as potentially God's representative in a future human interaction.

We discuss Christ teaching regarding appreciation, based on his interactions with healing recipients. The bible provides accounts of his interactions with the woman healed of persistent bleeding, a man healed of leprosy, and another man freed from demons. His interactions regarding their healing convey a message that appreciation and public testimony regarding appreciation are important in human interactions and relationships. His teaching leads to an understanding that when God calls a person to provide goods or service to benefit another in need, he also calls the beneficiary to receive the goods and service with appreciation. He calls the beneficiary to appreciate the benefactor (that is, the human provider) and appreciate God in thankful recognition that he positioned and empowered the benefactor to provide goods or service to benefit the needy.

An appreciating beneficiary could motivate others that in turn motivate chains of more others. If you appreciate a person, you would be polite to them; respectful of them; and attentive to their needs and communication. Also, you would appreciate God for connecting you with them and empowering them to interact with you. You would be motivated to be good to them and others and, as a result, motivate others that motivate chains of more others. Thus, appreciation of a single act of compassion could generate a network of provider-receiver interactions growing in time and space.

Furthermore, God calls every person to appreciate others for their intrinsic value as potentially his representative in future human interactions. Therefore, every person has an individual responsibility to appreciate others for their intrinsic human value; appreciate goods or service received from others; appreciate the human provider of such goods or service; and appreciate God for empowering others to participate in positive human interactions and relationships.

Call to Compassion and Appreciation

When God calls a person to provide goods or service to benefit another, he also calls the beneficiary to appreciate the act of compassion. Recall that the beneficiary is the receiver of goods and service provided by others to alleviate his or her need. Therefore, a call to

compassion also is a call to appreciation, and as such establishes a provider-receiver relationship among the people. As we discuss previously under [Individual Responsibility in Call to Compassion](#), the person called as provider has a responsibility to recognize, care, commit, and persevere; in providing goods or service to alleviate the need. Additionally, God calls the beneficiary to receive the provided goods and service with appreciation.

Meaning of Appreciation

Appreciation means “thankful recognition” (based on dictionary definition) and consists of three steps in the following order. First, there has to be an appreciation of the benefits, that is, goods or service received. Then, appreciation of the benefits leads to appreciation of the benefactor, that is, the human provider of the goods or service. Finally, the appreciation of the benefactor leads to appreciation of God in thankful recognition that he positioned and empowered the benefactor to provide the goods or service. Appreciation begins with the benefits, flows to the benefactor, and then to God. Genuine appreciation does not jump any step or change their order.

Value of Appreciation

Appreciation is important as the initiator of the long-term benefits of human service. An appreciating beneficiary of an act of compassion will be motivated to seek to do likewise for others. His or her “hunger and thirst for righteousness” will likely lead to future interactions that motivate others to do likewise for several others. Thus, the appreciating beneficiary could motivate others that in turn motivate chains of more others to “hunger and thirst for righteousness.” In this way, appreciation of a single act of compassion could generate a network of provider-receiver interactions growing in time and space.

If you appreciate a person, you would be polite to them, respectful of them, and attentive to their needs and communication. Furthermore, you would appreciate God for connecting you with them and empowering positive interactions with them. You would be motivated to be good to them and others that, in turn, would be motivated to be good to chains of more others. That is, your appreciation of others is an important link in a chain of propagating positive interactions among people.

Individual Responsibility for Appreciation

The beneficiary of an act of compassion is individually responsible for appreciation of the goods and service received, appreciation of the human provider, and appreciation of God. Also, every person is individually responsible for appreciation of others for their intrinsic human value as God’s representative in potential future interactions. You are individually responsible for thankful recognition that every other person is potentially God’s representative in a future interaction with you. Every person is individually responsible for the appreciation of others and appreciation of God that empowers positive interactions with them.

Christ Teaching Regarding Appreciation

Christ teaching conveys a message that appreciation is important in human interactions and relationships. He taught appreciation through interactions with healing recipients. We discuss examples regarding the woman healed of persistent long-term bleeding, a man healed of leprosy, and another man he freed from demons.

Woman Healed of Long-Term Bleeding

We discuss the account of the woman Jesus healed of persistent long-term bleeding, focusing on Jesus' interactions with his disciples and others regarding the healing. The account shows the woman was healed privately when she touched the garment of Jesus. However, Jesus stopped activities thereafter until the woman stepped forward and testified publicly to her appreciation. Then Jesus confirmed that her faith had healed her and released her to "go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

The woman was healed privately when she touched the garment of Jesus [Mark 5:27–29]: "When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, because she thought, 'If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.' Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering."

Thereafter, Jesus paused other activities to inquire who touched him. But his disciples were astonished and wondered why he would care about who touched him [Mark 5:30–31]: "At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, 'Who touched my clothes?' 'You see the people crowding against you,' his disciples answered, 'and yet you can ask, "Who touched me?"'" However, Jesus continued to ask until the woman stepped forward and testified publicly in a show of appreciation [Mark 5:32–34]: "But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. He said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.'"

The interactions convey a message that Jesus wanted her to testify publicly regarding her appreciation and declared her healed after she testified. The interactions indicate that her appreciation and testimony were essential to complete the public experience regarding her healing.

Man (One of Ten) Healed of Leprosy

The account of the man healed of leprosy is really an account regarding ten men that Jesus healed of leprosy in one event. The ten men had asked for healing as Jesus was passing. In response, he instructed them to go and show themselves to the priests: so that the priests could examine them to determine if they still had leprosy. They went by faith and while on their way realized they had been healed. One of them returned to thank Jesus for the healing.

Jesus welcomed the man that returned but criticized the nine that did not return [Luke 17:17-18]: "Jesus asked, 'Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?'" Thereafter, he confirmed the man's healing and released him: "Then he said to him, 'Rise and go; your faith has made you well'" [Luke 17:19].

The man had been healed before he turned around to return to thank Jesus. However, Jesus declared him healed after he testified publicly regarding his appreciation. Again, Jesus' interactions convey a message that the man's appreciation and public testimony were essential to complete the public experience regarding his healing.

Man Freed from Demons

Christ message regarding appreciation and public testimony was a clear directive in the account of a man freed from demons. Prior to the healing, the man was under complete control by the demons. He had defied every attempt by the people to control him in any way. Jesus expelled the demons and the man regained control of himself.

Thereafter, he wanted to follow Jesus. However, Jesus sent him home to testify among his people [Mark 5:18-19]: "As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. Jesus did not let him, but said, 'Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.'"

Again, like in the other two examples, Christ interactions regarding a healing conveys a message that the recipient's appreciation and public testimony are essential to complete the public experience regarding the healing.

Summary of What We Learned

Christ teaching, based on his interactions with healing recipients, conveys a message that appreciation and public testimony regarding appreciation are important in human interactions and relationships.

When God calls a person to provide goods or service to benefit another in need, he also calls the beneficiary to receive the goods and service with appreciation. He calls the beneficiary to appreciate the human provider and appreciate God in thankful recognition that he positioned and empowered others to assist as they can.

An appreciating beneficiary could motivate others that in turn motivate chains of more others; thus, generating a network of provider-receiver interactions growing in time and space.

Key Words: Appreciation, Benefactor, Beneficiary, Compassion, Demon Possessed, Human Provider, Leprosy, Woman with Persistent Bleeding