



# Everyday FAITH Family Page

New Testament 3

## Law/Gospel

Sin brought sickness and death into the world. **In His death and resurrection, Jesus heals me from the sickness of sin and overcomes death for me.**

## Bible Words

Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved.

Jeremiah 17:14

## How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter 3: "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying." (Titus 3:5-8)

Luther's Small Catechism

## Jesus Heals Ten Lepers

Luke 17:11-19

**A** ceremonial cleansing or washing was required when a person broke certain Jewish laws. Some situations require cleansing by immersing the body completely in water to atone for a sin.

A person healed from leprosy had to present his or her cured body to a priest for examination. If the priest confirmed the healing, the person washed in a cleansing ritual prescribed by the priest.

One day, Jesus encountered ten lepers who asked for His mercy. Jesus told them to go and show themselves to a priest. Healed on the way, nine hurried to the priest to receive cleansing. The tenth, a Samaritan, returned and thanked Jesus. Samaritans, enemies of the Jews, did not usually worship the true God, but this man received the gift of faith. Jesus said, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well" (v. 19).

Today, Christians practice a ceremonial cleansing in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Unlike previous washings that were repeated often, we celebrate Holy Baptism only once in a person's life. Born in sin, we cannot save ourselves. Baptized into Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection, we die, are buried, and rise with Him (Romans 6:1-14).

Baptism washes away our sins and gives us the Holy Spirit, who kindles faith in Jesus. With this faith, God gifts us with forgiveness of sin, new life, and salvation in Christ, our Savior.

## Medical Care in Bible Times

People in Bible times suffered with tumors, fevers, seizures, paralysis, blindness, and a wide variety of skin diseases, including leprosy.

Doctors or physicians offered care, but they were unable to help many people. Some of their practices actually increased suffering.

Antibiotics for infections did not exist. Instead, people used certain plants, oils, wine, and other natural substances as medicine. People with arthritis, rheumatism, or other aches and pains found relief in warm springs near the Dead Sea.

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