

We just heard the story of Jesus healing lepers. In Jesus' day, lepers were required by law to separate themselves from others. Given their condition, lepers could not live in normal society.

Sometimes we make ourselves like lepers. How? Reflect and ponder if any of these resonate or echo within us.

Our attitude can be a starting place. We carry an air of being uppity....being better than others...a know it all...or better looking or smarter than others. Also, we can have a negative attitude about us. Someone says, "Isn't it great that the sun is shining today?" We reply, "Yah! But it's too windy, it's too this, that or another thing."

We can make ourselves lepers whom others want to avoid by needing to have the last word; constantly interrupting another.

Other behaviors can include: we talk too much; we don't listen; we can't be trusted; we don't have an unexpressed opinion; or we have a poisonous presence. We say or do something that consistently upsets people having a good time.

All of us are hurt and hurting and in need of healing. We want to be in union with our family, friends, and community members.

Jesus saw beyond the leprosy of the lepers. He saw them as beloved of God....worthy of respect, value and healing. He restored them so they could once again be with their families and the rest of society.

My sisters and brothers: Pray to the Divine Physician to heal us. Ask for the grace to act like Jesus and be a healing presence.