

# SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of February 13-19, 2022

## “TOUCH OF GRACE”

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### GETTING STARTED

*To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.*

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

What, in your opinion, has been the most “fruitful” use of your time?

### GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Skim over Leviticus 13-14. What are some regulations about leprosy that you read about in these chapters in relation to the Jews? If someone had leprosy at that time, how would this affect the person, his loved ones, and society?
2. Read Matthew 8:1-4, Mark 1:40-45, Luke 5:12-16. List down as many observations that you can about this story of the leprous man in his encounter with Jesus. What actions did Jesus take upon the man’s request? From your understanding of leprosy, why would Jesus’ actions be surprising?
3. What would be the impact of Jesus’ touch and his words “I am willing; be clean!” to the leper? In this story, the leper reveals astonishing confidence in Jesus but at the same time, he defers to Jesus’ sovereignty (“If you are willing.”) What lesson does this teach us about all Christian prayers for healing?
4. In Matthew 8:4, after Jesus cleansed the leper, what instructions did he give to the leper? Why? Is there any significance that Jesus wanted the priests to know that he had performed this miracle? What do the other gospels say about the leper’s response?
5. In Matthew 11:1-6, John the Baptist is in prison. Jesus sends a report to John. He mentions that lepers are being cleansed. What question of John was Jesus answering? Why do you think is this significant?
6. Who do you see are the “untouchables” of today? Why do you consider them as such? How does Matthew 25:40 apply to you personally?

7. The crowd probably gasped when Jesus graciously extended his hand and touched the unclean leper. What does this say about Jesus’ compassion? How have you experienced Christ’s compassion?

### 8. NEXT STEPS

- I will praise God for his compassion in my life.
- I will seek to be sensitive to the “untouchables” around me.
- I will reach out and pray for (name of person) everyday this week.

*Don’t forget to:*

- Go through the devotionals everyday this week.
- Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God’s Word.
- Commit 30 minutes a day for God’s intervention in this fight against the COVID virus.

### CLOSING THE SESSION.

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray that you grow in your compassion, just as Christ had compassion on you.
- Take the time to pray for our nation, for peace and for the gospel to prosper during this time of the pandemic.
- Pray for those who are hurting, going through fear, worry and anxiety in the group.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends and loved ones.

### BIBLE READING SCHEDULE.

February 14	Matthew 15
February 15	Matthew 16
February 16	Matthew 17
February 17	Matthew 18
February 18	Matthew 19
February 19	Matthew 20
February 20	Matthew 21