

## Four Lepers in Samaria Discussion

*Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.*

*If a person is referred to by a label or diagnosis, is it automatically demeaning?*

*Does calling a person an alcoholic carry more negative baggage than calling a person a diabetic?*

*Jesus did have dealings with people who had leprosy. If He walked the earth today, would he visit people with AIDS?*

*What is wrong with the statement made by a public health official "AIDS is nobody's fault. No blaming or shaming."*

*Is it possible to have compassion for someone facing the consequences of their behaviors and still warn others of the risk of those behaviors?*

*Is there a bond with people who share an affliction?*

*Might a starving leper eat another leper?*

*Imagine the surprise of the lepers when they find the enemy camp deserted and supplied with food?*

*If you were there, how long would it have taken you to realize that the facts should be shared with the city?*

*Is it understandable that the guards at the gate would have trouble believing the lepers and that the government of the city would suspect a deception and a trap?*

*Is it surprising that the LORD was offering a chance to repent both to the paganized king of Samaria and the thoroughly pagan Ben Hadad?*

*Why did the LORD give miraculous powers to Elisha?*

*Would the healing of Naaman's leprosy by Elisha have been known by his king, Ben Hadad?*

*If the lepers recognized the hand of God in the provision of food and breaking the siege, might they want to ask God to just heal their leprosy?*

*Should they have?*

*Why didn't God just heal them?*

*Are we in a story bigger than our own problems?*

*Are you?*