

# Ridin' High Cowboy Church

8771 FM 35

Union Valley/Royse City, TX

Pastor: Steve Bishop

## November 20, 2016 – Why Didn't You Say Something

Everyone has had a time when you wondered why someone didn't tell you something (you thought it was important, but they didn't say it)...the usual answer is "I thought you knew."

Ungrateful ~ the horses snubbing the Coastal hay they got instead of the Alfalfa, but I went up to the house and fussed about what we were having for supper. This is something that is almost impossible to see in ourselves, but is easy to see in someone else. We get real defensive when people say we are ungrateful. Inside, we feel really grateful (we THINK about all the things we are thankful for)

Thankfulness generates generosity – people come by for food and they have no job, no money ... if they are appreciative, we want to give them more.

It goes even further: Ungratefulness over time can shut down an entire relationship ... this may be the center of your relational problems.

***Luke 17:11-19 11 Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee (Jesus was trying to stay out of the limelight) 12 As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance (lepers had to keep a certain distance from other people, it was believed to be contagious; they had to live together and ring a bell or shout "LEPER" if someone came near. No jobs, no church to contact with anyone but lepers)...13 and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" 14 When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed.*** (from a distance Jesus says to them go show yourselves to the priest because that's what the Old Testament law said you had to do, if you were miraculously healed, the priest would say you could go back to society. Jesus knew somethings...1) the priest is going to be surprised 10 men at once were healed and the priest would ask why; 2) he was asking them to walk in faith [faith=believing God is who he says he is and will do everything he promise to do], when they left all they had to show the priest was leprosy.)

***15 One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, (all the sores are gone and he can feel his feet and hands for the first time in a long time) praising God in a loud voice. 16 He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him – and he was a Samaritan.***

***17 Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? (here is the tension we all live with. Jesus points out that something is wrong here, weren't there ten? 18 Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.”***

When you first here this story, you feel like the other nine were so ungrateful, they just got their life back and didn't even say thanks. An interesting note: In Jesus other miracles very few get recorded as coming back and thanking him, we would not even know about the other nine being ungrateful if this one guy had not returned.

If we could ask the other nine, don't you think they would say they are grateful, they just count not wait to see their families some maybe for the first time.

The other nine had the same problem we have “They felt it, they just did not say it” You brag about your mom being the best cook, but have you told her? Your brother or sister, teachers or coaches, but have you told them?

Principle: Unexpressed thankfulness communicates un-thankfulness. YOU HAVE TO SAY IT TO CONVEY IT.

Unexpressed Thankfulness is a form of rejection

A fact about people: God made us as acceptance magnets, we gravitate to areas of life where we feel accepted. Men don't compete in things we don't think we can win at, because winning feels like acceptance and losing feels like rejection.

Gratitude completes the loop when we are given something. Every mom knows what Jesus knew, at Christmas when kids get a gift, after every gift, Mom says, “What do you say?” because she knows that without saying thanks, the loop is left open.

You've never met an arrogant person who showed others how thankful they were; you've never met a humble person who did not communicate their thankfulness. I'm not sure which comes first, but they go together.

A thankful person is willing to go back to the people who enabled them to move forward.

We live in a culture that communicates to you that you are entitled to so much.

Two applications...

1. Who is coming to your mind right now you need to express thankfulness too, who do I owe gratitude to at work, home, in the community?
2. Our Heavenly Father sent his son to die on a cross for our salvation and abundant life we experience right now.