Date: March 15, 2026
Series: The Gospel According to Mark
Title: “Christ’s Compassionate Touch & Gracious Exchange”
Text: Mark 1:40-45

HARBOUR SHORES CHURCH

Introduction:

A leper wasn’t just a person with a medical condition; he was a person with a social and spiritual _____ _____.

I. The leper demonstrates a boldness of desperate _____ in the only One who can heal & cleanse. *(Mark 1:40)*

- The leper breaks the Law of exclusion because his desperation and faith _____ his fear of rejection. *(Numbers 5:2-3)*

- Whether leper or sinner, in faith we bring nothing and _____ _____ the Savior can give. *(Matthew 7:11)*

II. Jesus’ healing touch was born of _____ and accomplished what only the Messiah could do. *(Mark 1:41-42)*

- Jesus doesn't just pity the leper; he _____ the man’s isolation in his own bones. *(Mark 6:34, 8:2)*

- When the Holy One touches the leper, the uncleanness doesn't spread to Jesus; _____ spreads to the leper. *(1 Corinthians 6:11)*

“God does not heal every illness immediately, because He uses suffering to magnify His glory, deepen our reliance on His grace, and sanctify believers.”

III. Jesus’ call for silence was given that the authorities would unwittingly _____ His identity. *(Mark 1:43-44)*

- Jesus wanted the priests to realize: The _____ is here and I am He. (Matthew 11:4-5)

IV. The leper's disobedience ironically led to a gracious _____.
(Mark 1:45)

- The leper, who was 'outside,' is now 'inside' the city. Jesus, who was 'inside,' was forced '_____' in the wilderness."

- Jesus also _____ outside the gate in order to sanctify us through his own blood. *(Hebrews 13:11–13; 2 Corinthians 5:21).*

Conclusion

- The _____ Christ calls each of us to a desperate, active faith.
- The _____ of Christ purifies us from sin's death sentence.

"The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."
(Psalm 34:18)

Discussion & Application Questions

- After all the healing recorded in Mark 1:29-34, why would Mark highlight Jesus' healing the leper in vs. 40-45?

- Has your sin made you desperate? What does bold faith look like when dealing with the deadly sin in our lives?

- How can we biblically encourage each other when God doesn't heal our "leprosy"?

- How does the truth that "Jesus' righteousness is more contagious than our brokenness" give you confidence to bring your "hidden" sins or "unclean" areas to Him?

- How did the man's *disobedience*, though born of excitement, actually hinder Jesus' ministry. Can good intentions ever be a substitute for exact obedience in our lives?

- In what way does Christ's physical exchange with the leper help you better understand the spiritual exchange that happened at the Cross *(2 Corinthians 5:21)*?