

BELPRES CHURCH

Sermon Title: We Shall Overcome

Scripture:

Luke 9:51-55

As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; ⁵³ but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?" ⁵⁵ But Jesus turned and rebuked them.

Discussion Questions:

Read this week's scripture(s) & answer the below questions with your friends, family, or All In small group.

Icebreaker Question: What is your favorite outdoor winter activity in the pacific northwest?

Opening Question: Looking back to last week's sermon and scripture... How did you live differently or practice what we talked about in your life this week? What did you do and how did it go?

Scripture Reflection Questions: Read this week's scripture together and discuss the following:

- What do we learn about God (e.g., traits, personality, what matters, priorities) in this passage?
- What do we learn about people, and ourselves in particular, this week?

Sermon Reflection Questions: Reflecting on this week's sermon, discuss the following:

- The tribalism, or racism, we see throughout the Bible is still very much present today. Jesus's desire is that the gospel be for all people, not just one tribe or race. If you were to replace the animosity between the Jews and Samaritans with a group you belong to and another one today, who would they be? What steps can we take individually and/or collectively to build bridges between tribal or racial divides?
- Have you experienced a racial issue, where kingdom work could have been done, through a relationship and advocacy in the past? How did you react to the situation and

did you feel God had prepared you to handle it? If not, how do you think God prepares us or how do we prepare ourselves through our faith for these situations?

- Has someone's testimony surrounding prejudice ever made you uncomfortable? Why is it hard to hear?

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Closing Question and Application: Given what we've discussed together today, how might God want you to apply these learnings to your life or in the life of your community this next week? Who might you share this with?

Closing group prayer: Spend a few minutes together in your group sharing prayer requests and then praying together for each other. Thank God for the time together, the conversation shared, the other people in the group, and for encouragement in the week ahead.