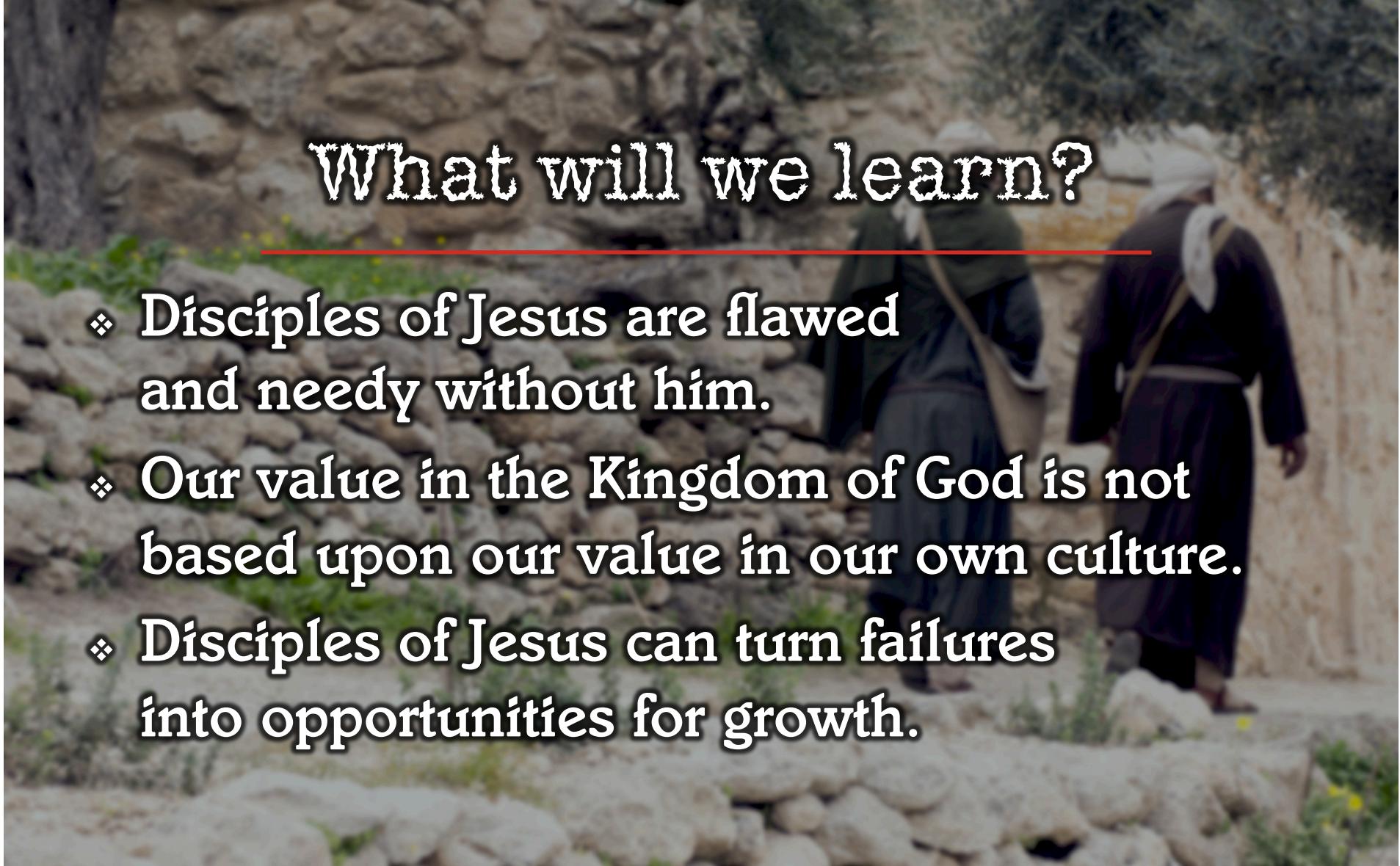




**“Whoever Welcomes ...”**  
**9:37-51**

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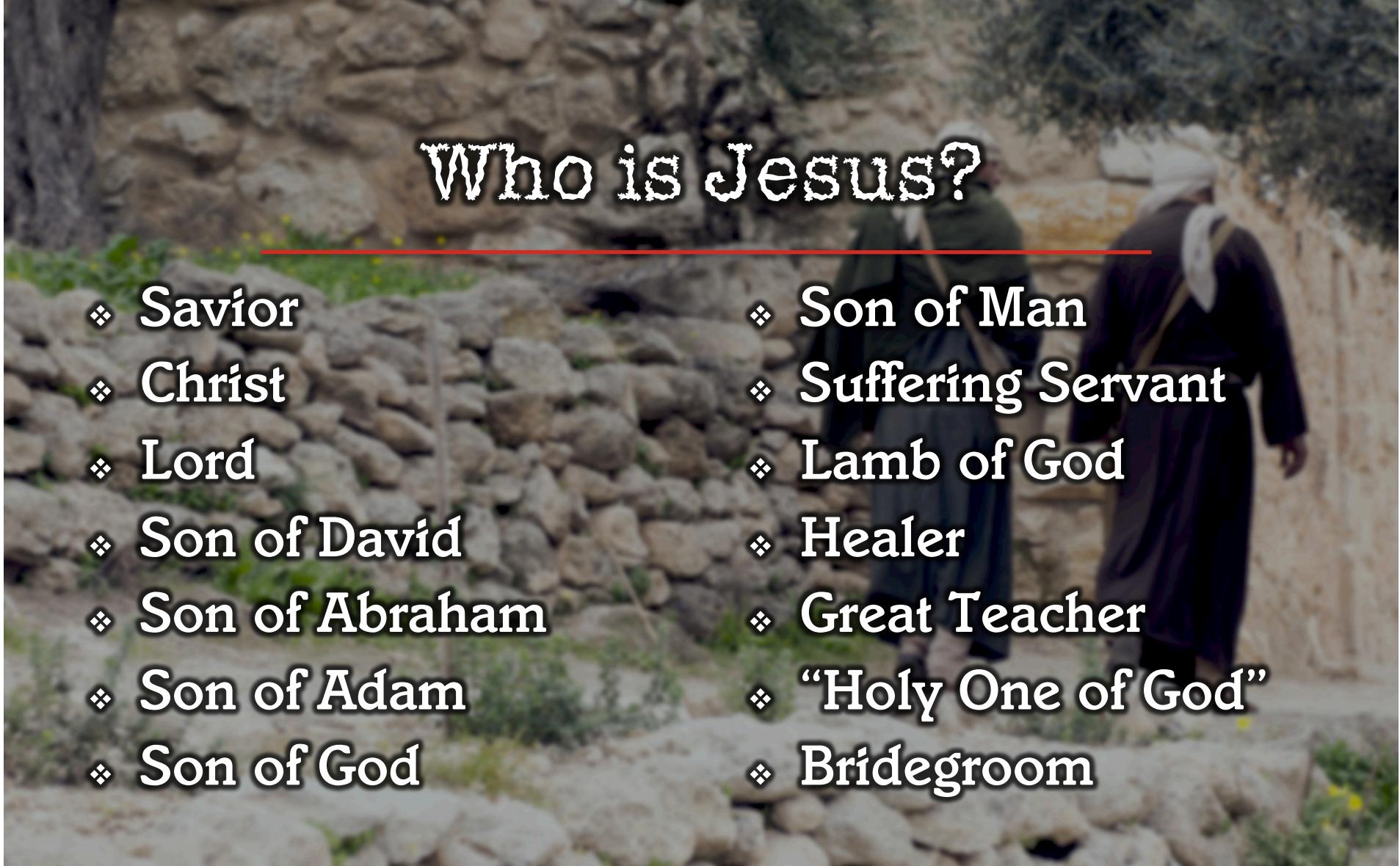
Curt Deming  
Melbourne Community Church  
June 2, 2019



## What will we learn?

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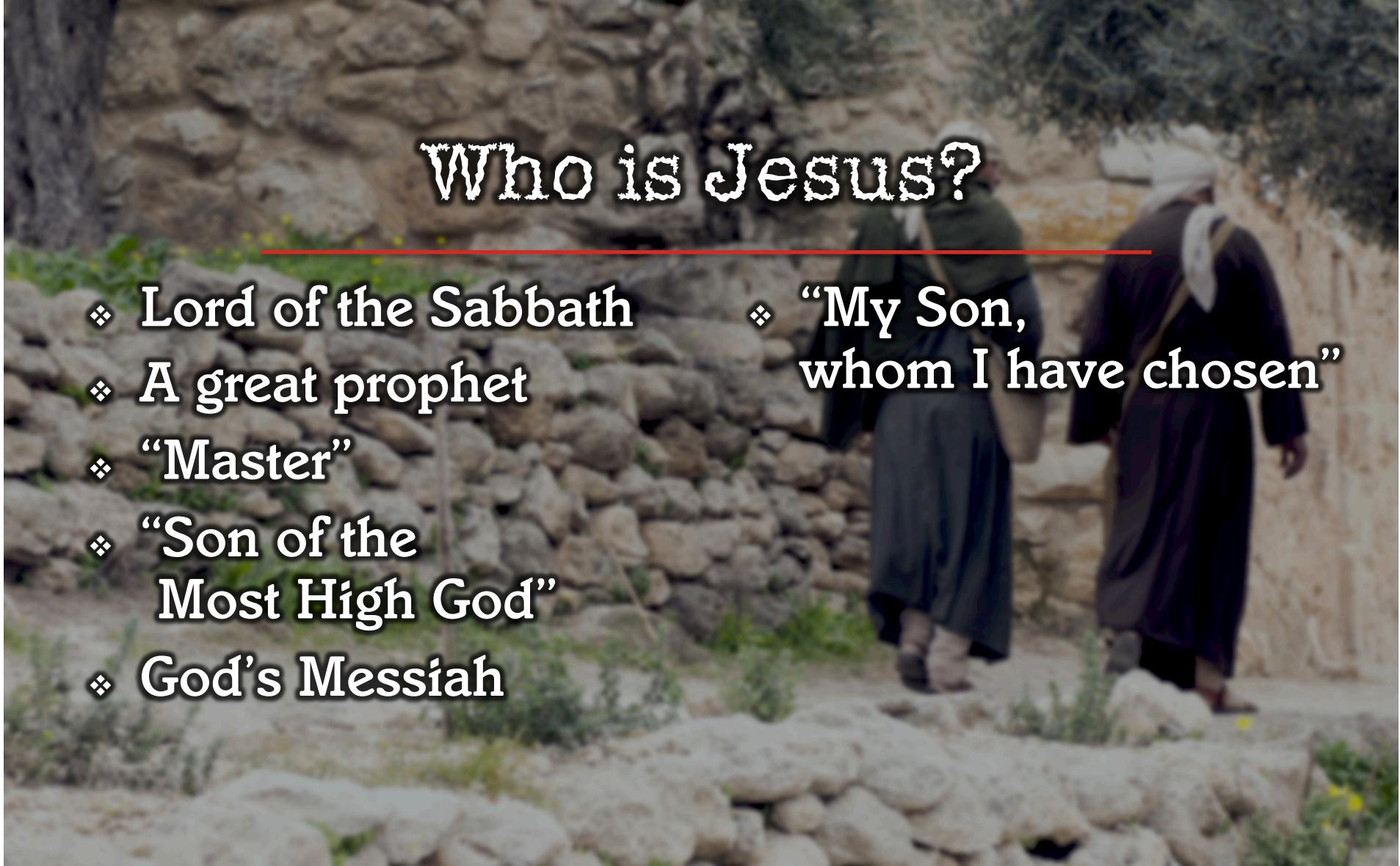
- ❖ Disciples of Jesus are flawed and needy without him.
- ❖ Our value in the Kingdom of God is not based upon our value in our own culture.
- ❖ Disciples of Jesus can turn failures into opportunities for growth.



# Who is Jesus?

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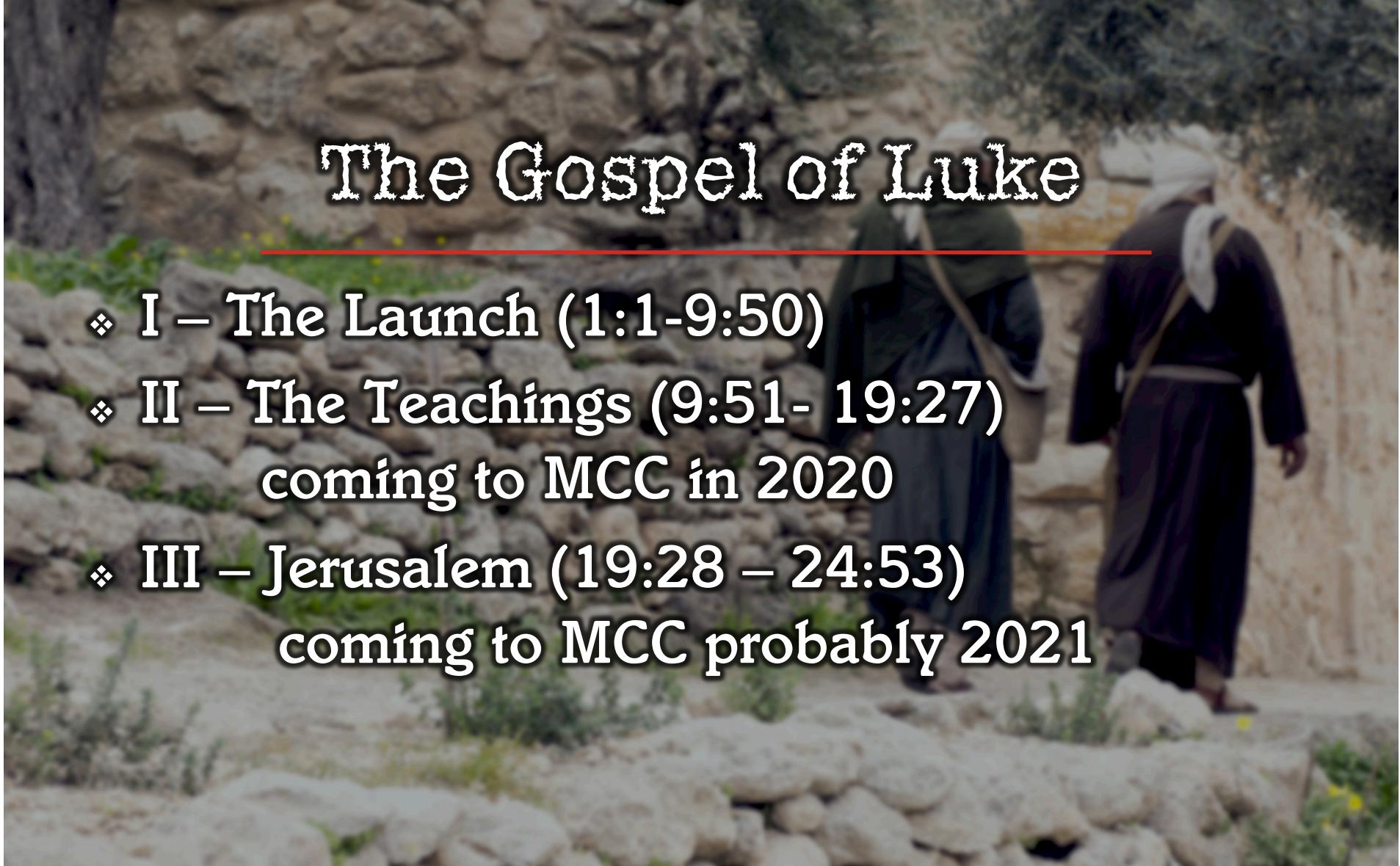
- ❖ Savior
- ❖ Christ
- ❖ Lord
- ❖ Son of David
- ❖ Son of Abraham
- ❖ Son of Adam
- ❖ Son of God
- ❖ Son of Man
- ❖ Suffering Servant
- ❖ Lamb of God
- ❖ Healer
- ❖ Great Teacher
- ❖ “Holy One of God”
- ❖ Bridegroom



# Who is Jesus?

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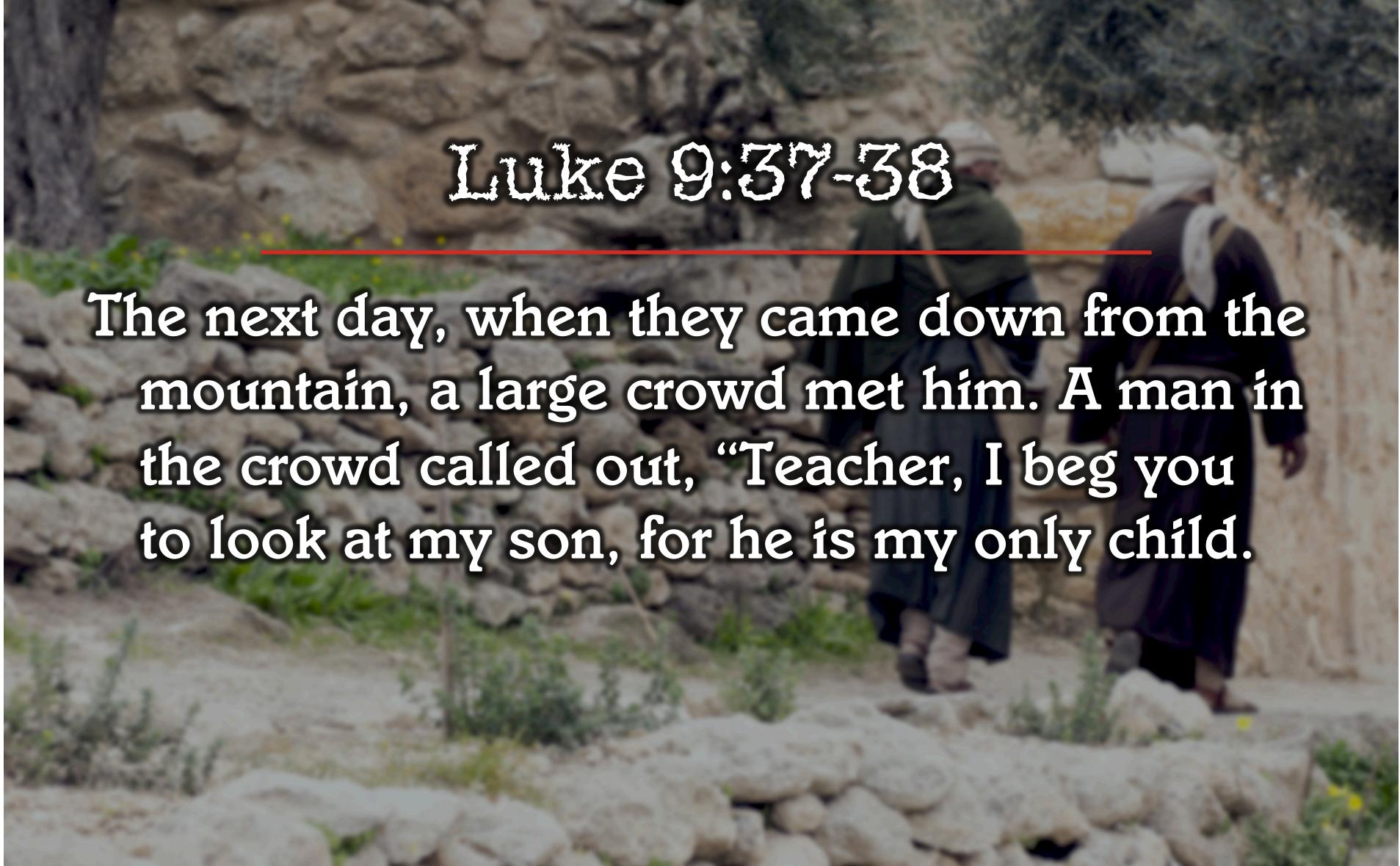
- ❖ Lord of the Sabbath
  - ❖ A great prophet
  - ❖ “Master”
  - ❖ “Son of the  
Most High God”
  - ❖ God’s Messiah
- ❖ “My Son,  
whom I have chosen”



# The Gospel of Luke

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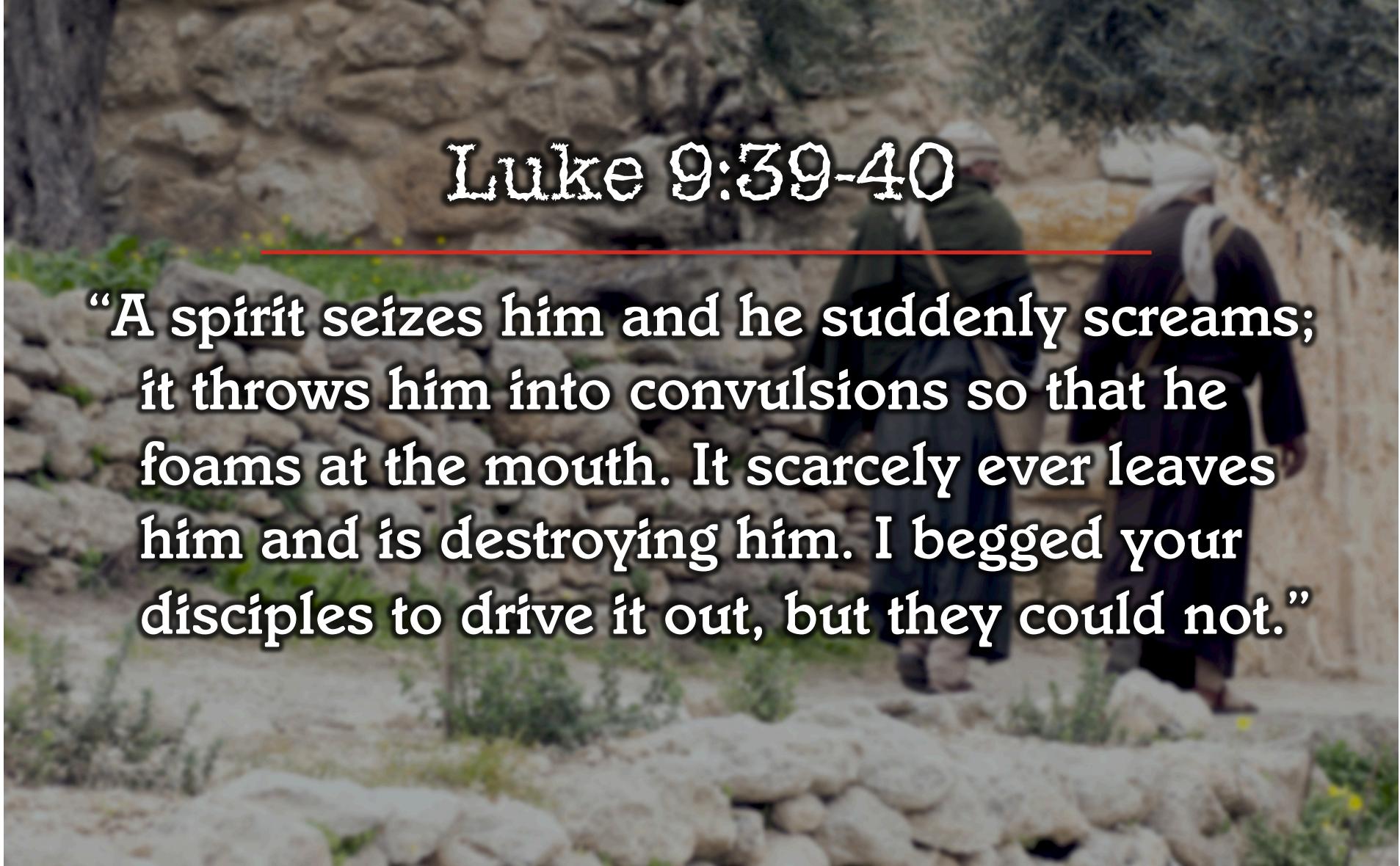
- ❖ I – The Launch (1:1-9:50)
- ❖ II – The Teachings (9:51- 19:27)  
coming to MCC in 2020
- ❖ III – Jerusalem (19:28 – 24:53)  
coming to MCC probably 2021



Luke 9:37-38

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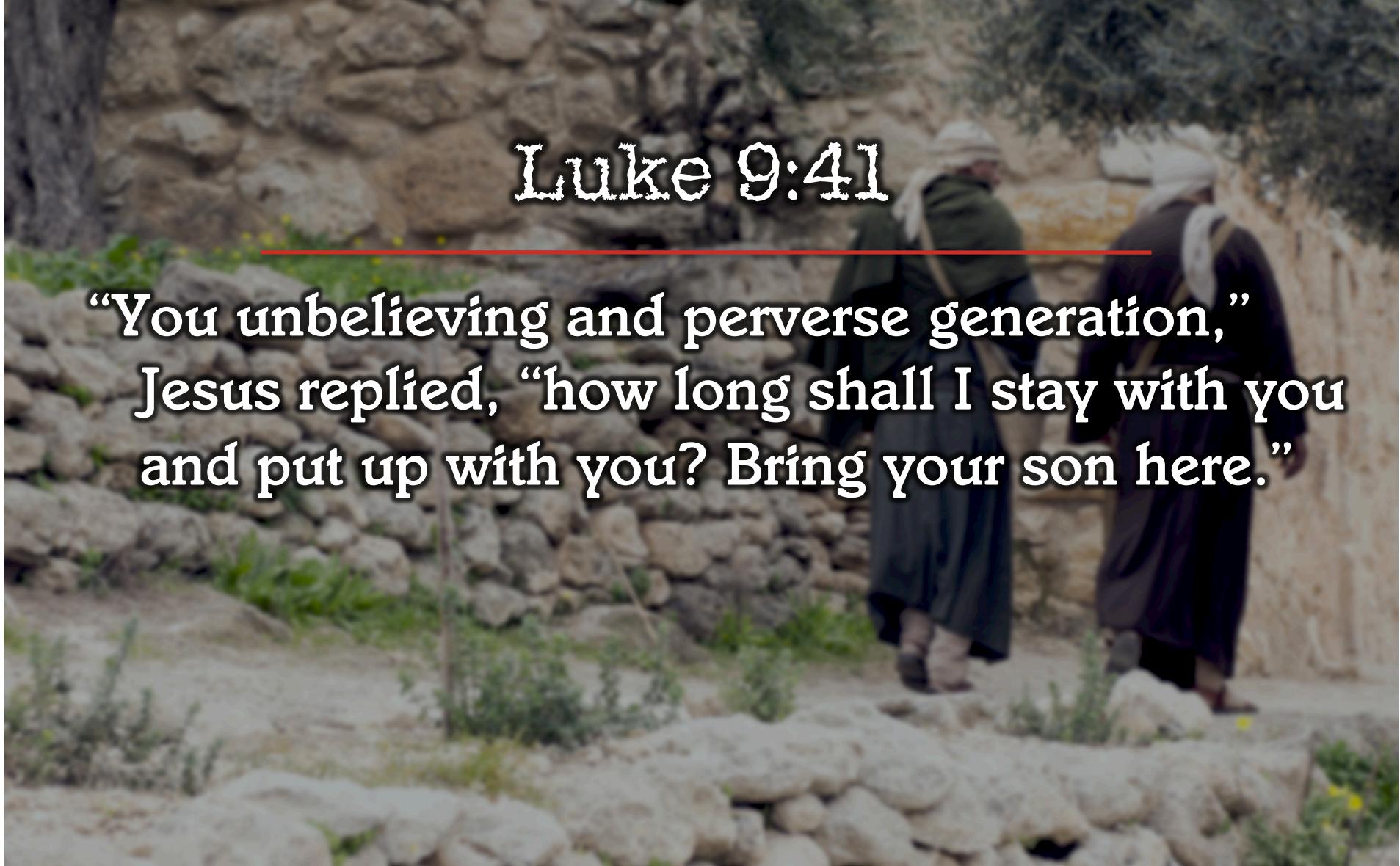
The next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met him. A man in the crowd called out, “Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child.



## Luke 9:39-40

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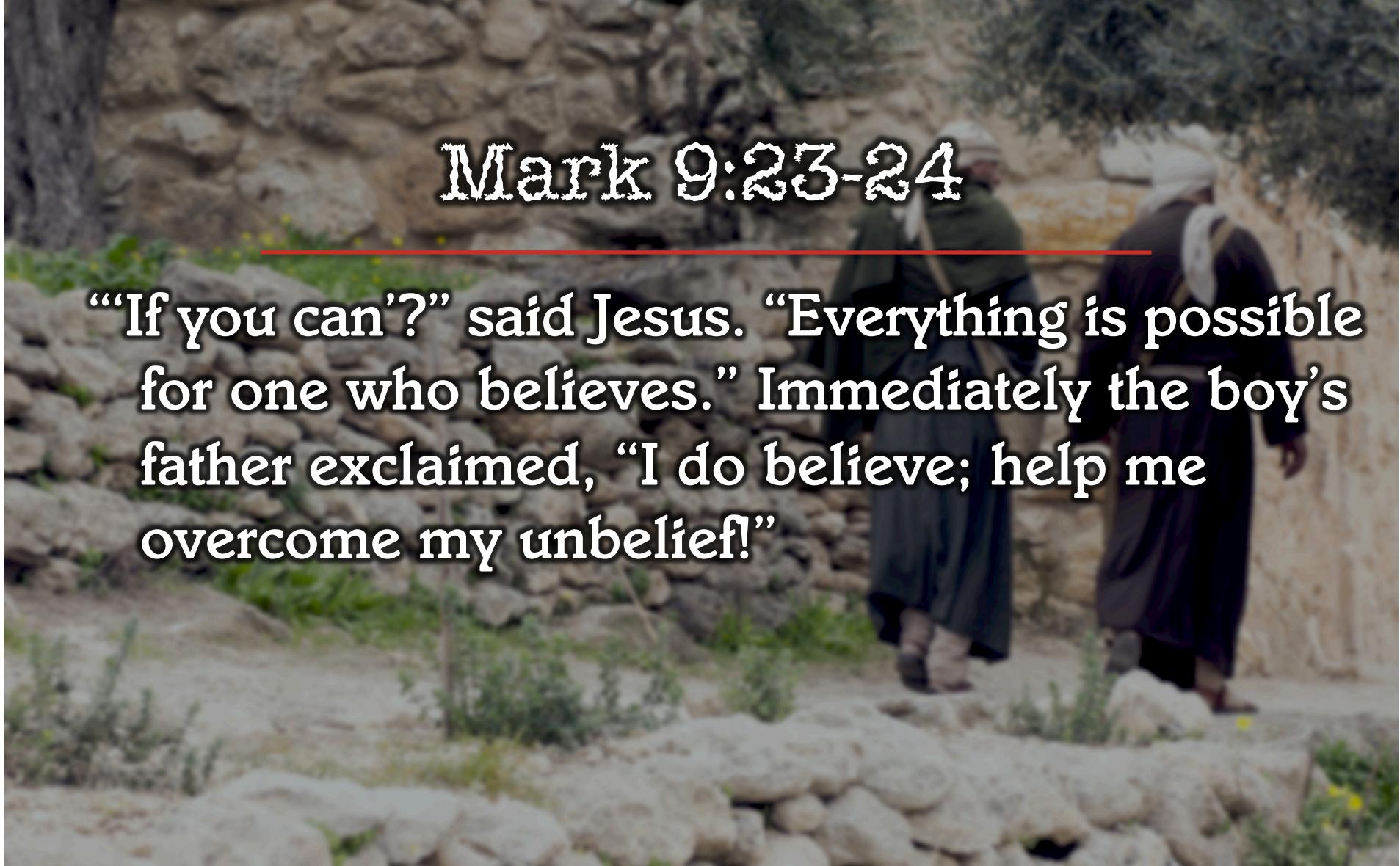
“A spirit seizes him and he suddenly screams; it throws him into convulsions so that he foams at the mouth. It scarcely ever leaves him and is destroying him. I begged your disciples to drive it out, but they could not.”



Luke 9:41

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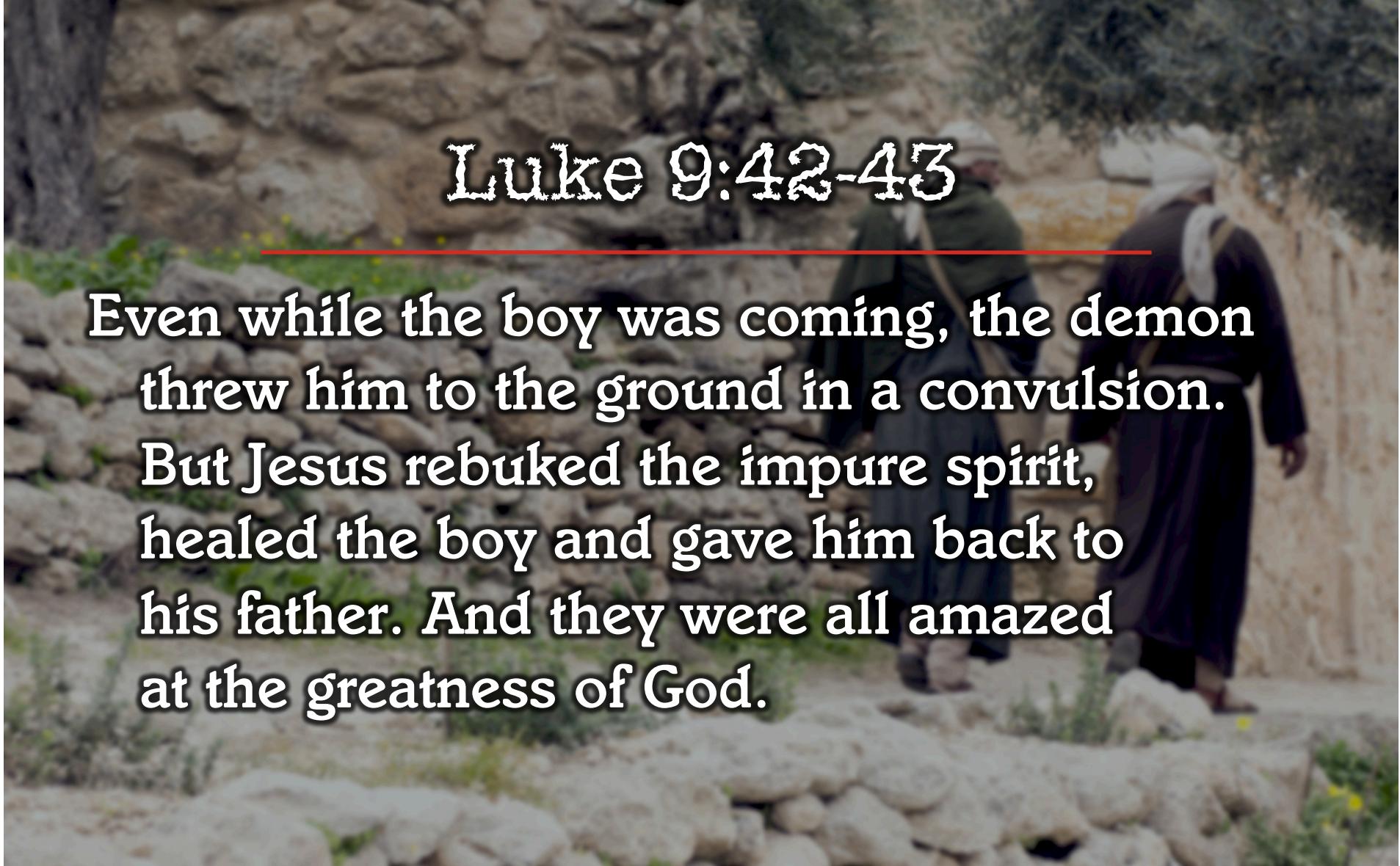
“You unbelieving and perverse generation,”  
Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you  
and put up with you? Bring your son here.”



## Mark 9:23-24

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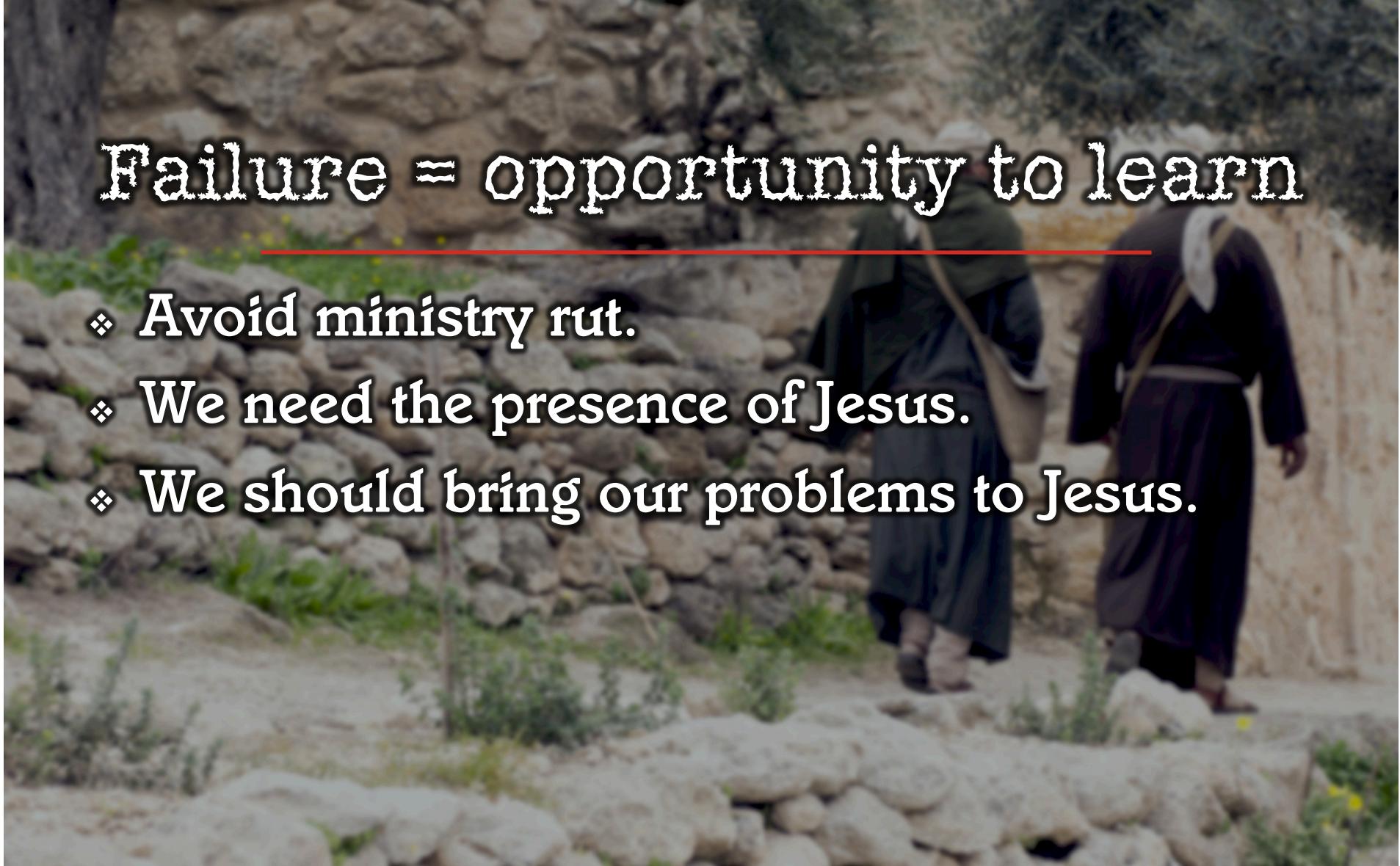
“If you can?” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for one who believes.” Immediately the boy’s father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!”



Luke 9:42-43

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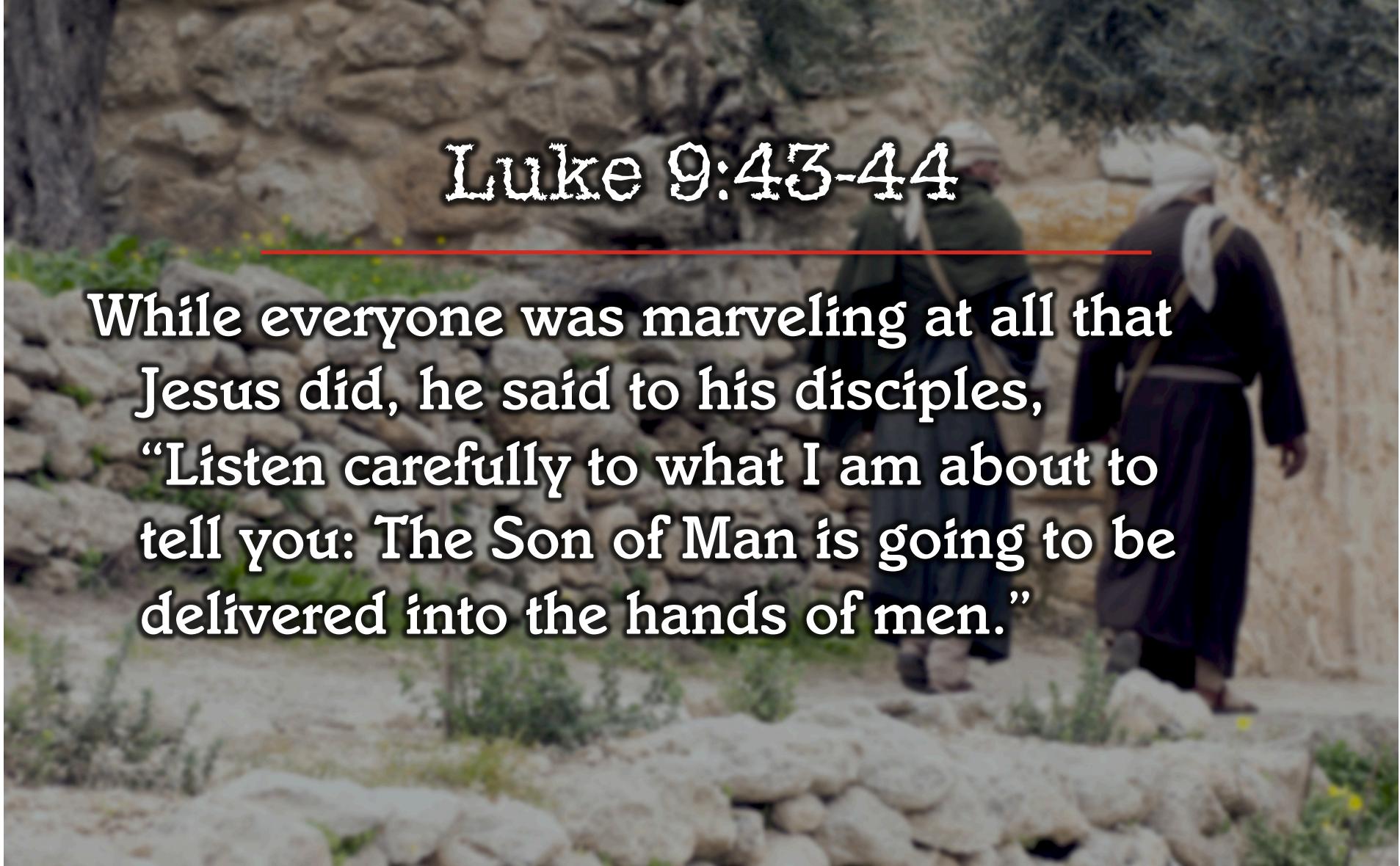
Even while the boy was coming, the demon threw him to the ground in a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the impure spirit, healed the boy and gave him back to his father. And they were all amazed at the greatness of God.



# Failure = opportunity to learn

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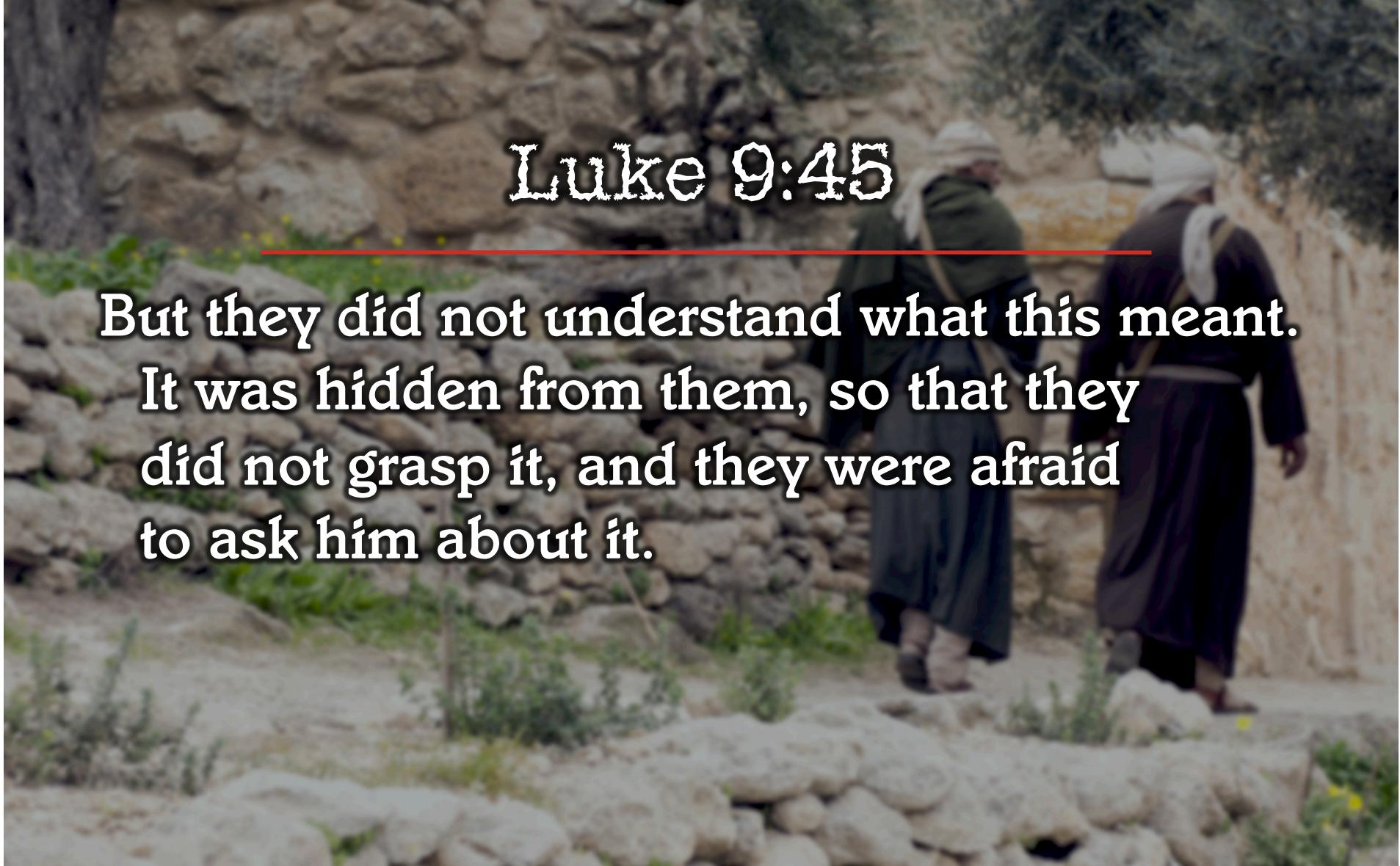
- ❖ Avoid ministry rut.
- ❖ We need the presence of Jesus.
- ❖ We should bring our problems to Jesus.



Luke 9:43-44

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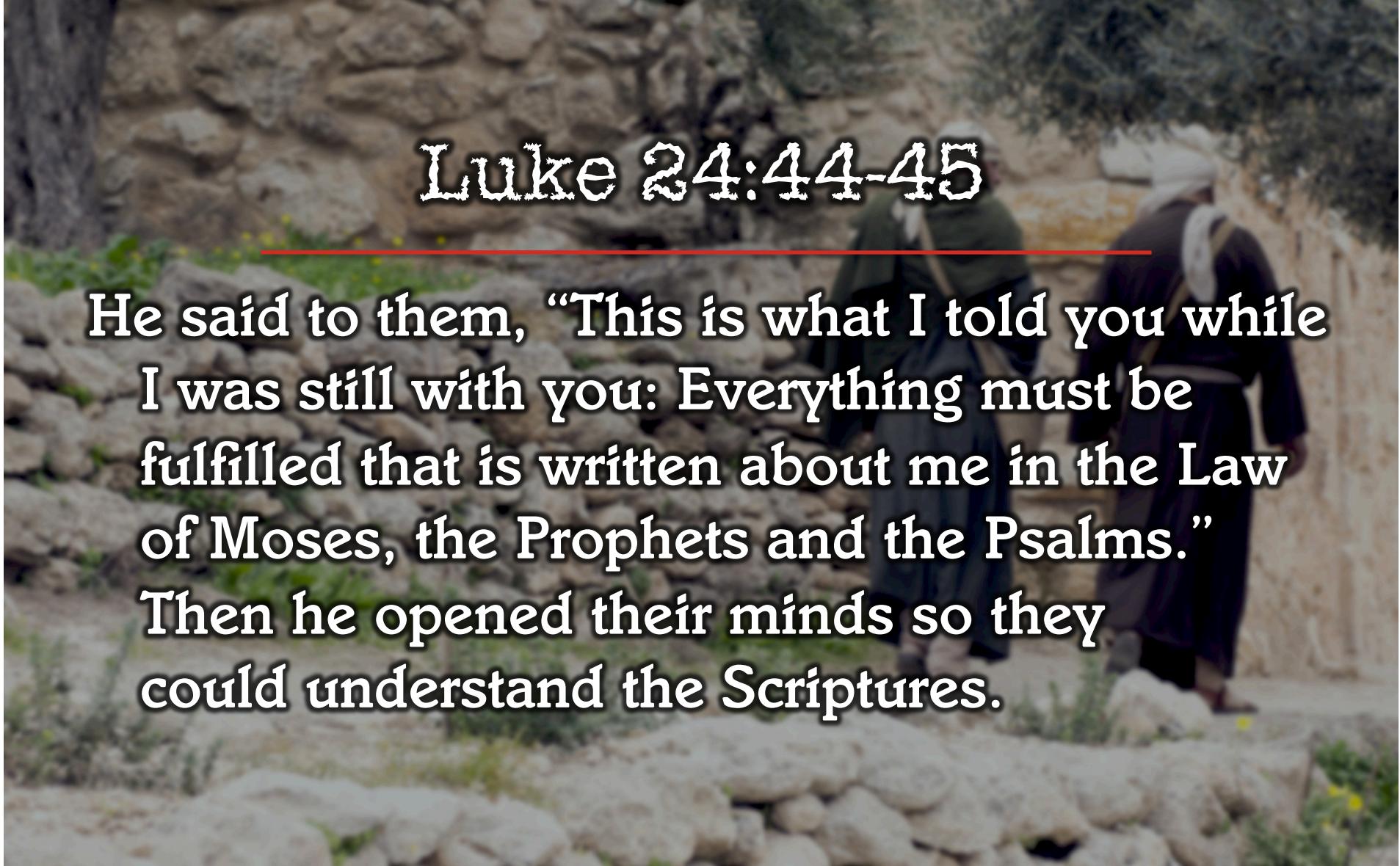
**While everyone was marveling at all that Jesus did, he said to his disciples, “Listen carefully to what I am about to tell you: The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men.”**



Luke 9:45

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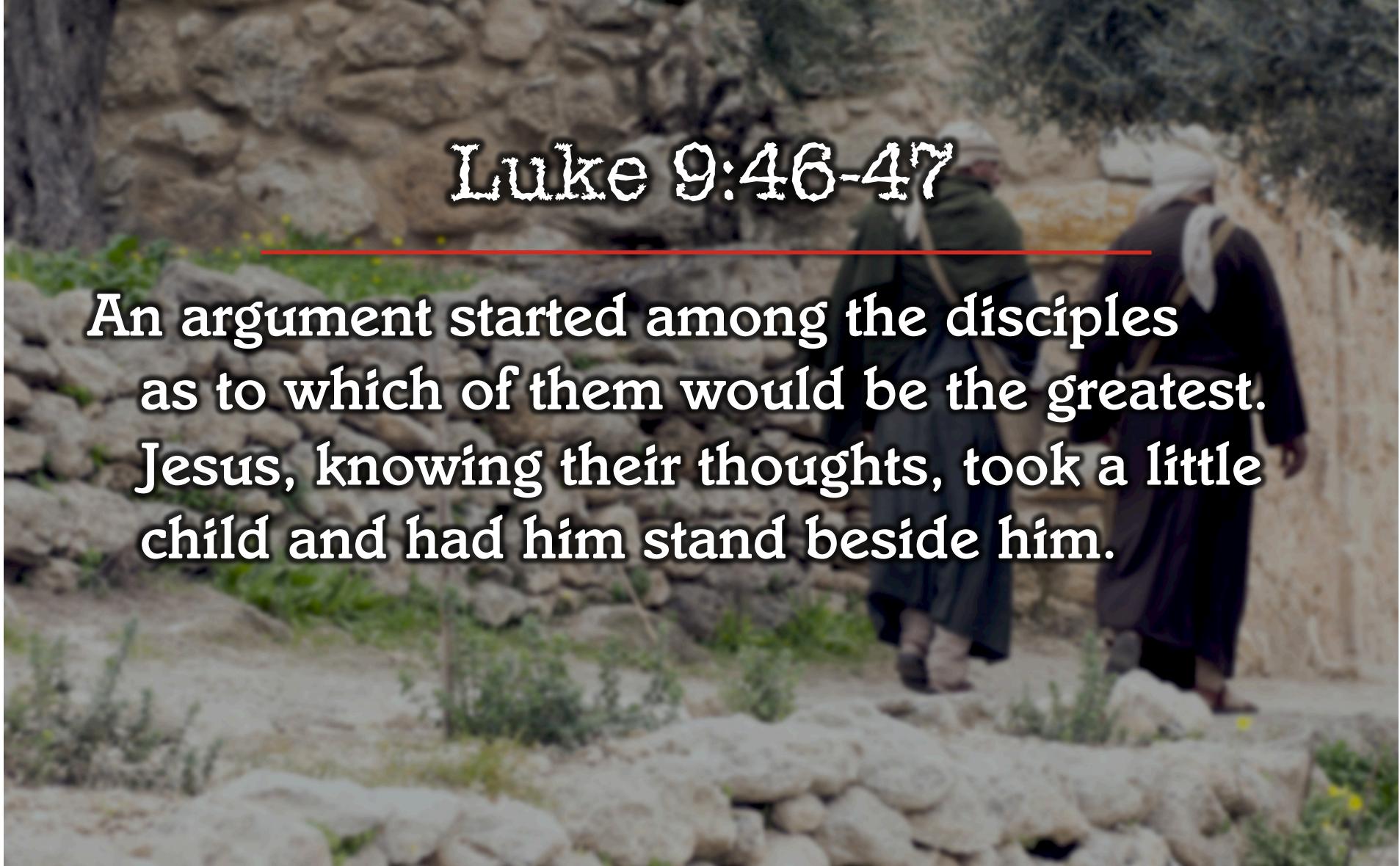
**But they did not understand what this meant.  
It was hidden from them, so that they  
did not grasp it, and they were afraid  
to ask him about it.**



Luke 24:44-45

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**He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.” Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.**



Luke 9:46-47

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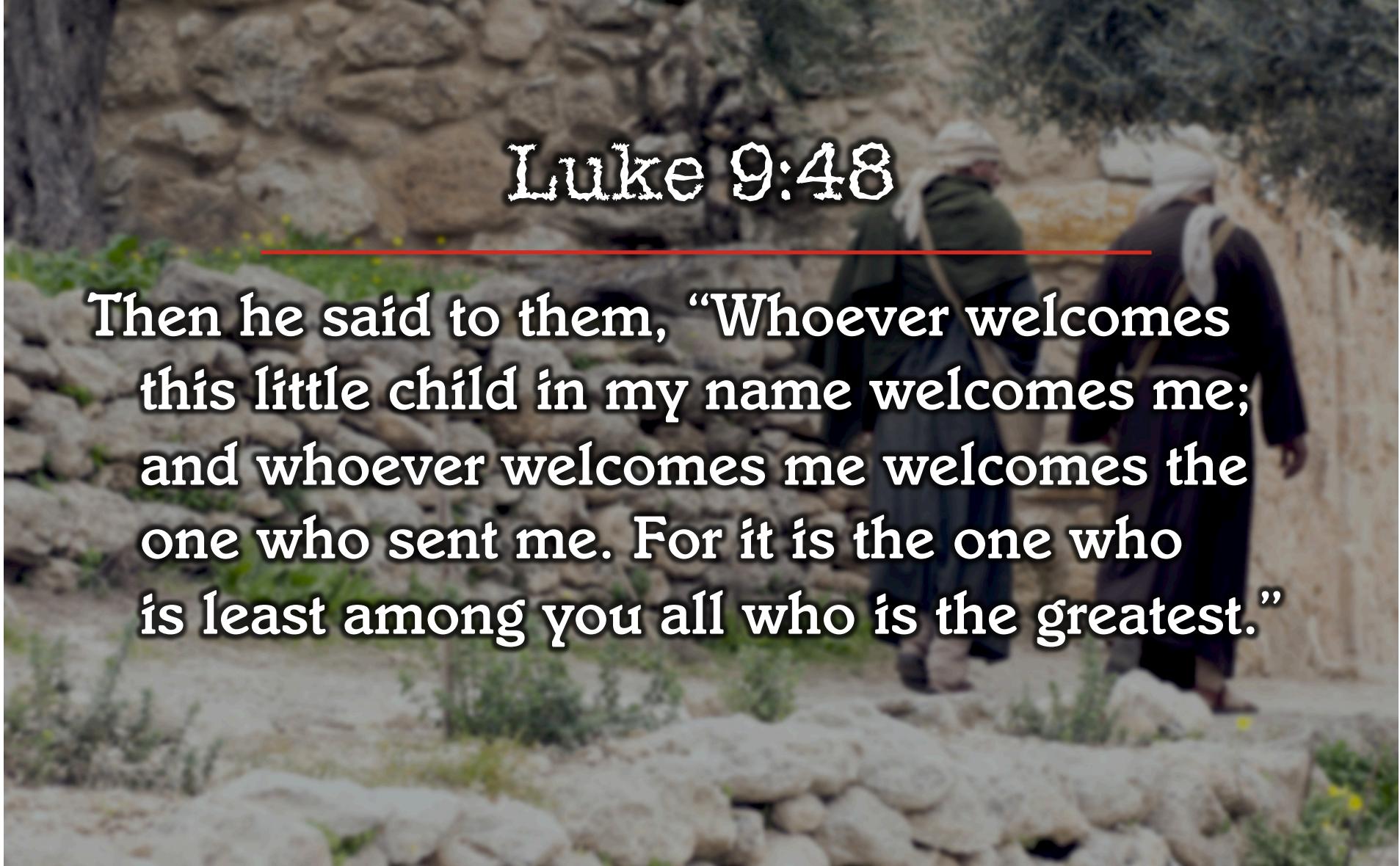
An argument started among the disciples  
as to which of them would be the greatest.  
Jesus, knowing their thoughts, took a little  
child and had him stand beside him.



Like a child:

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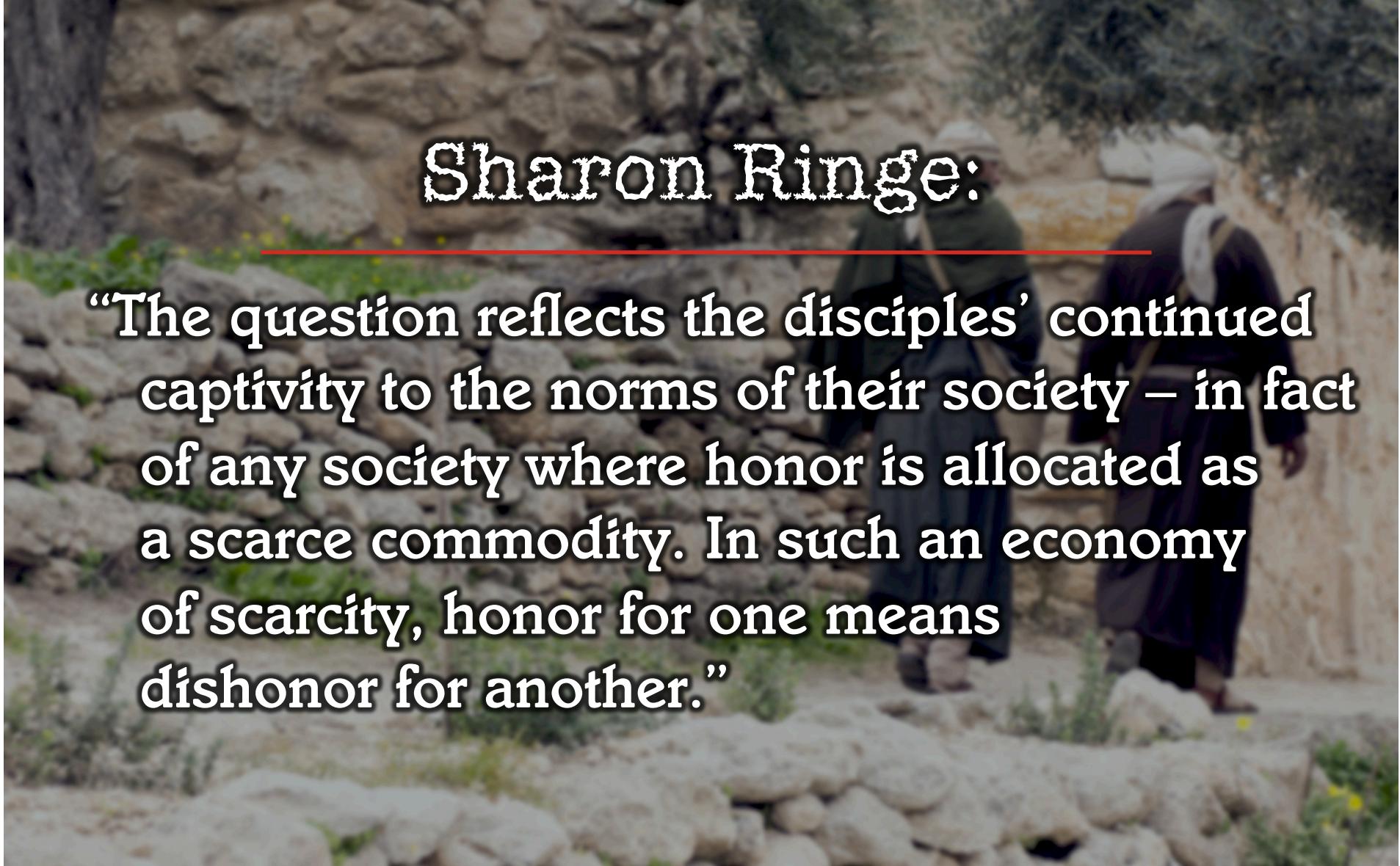
- ❖ Small
- ❖ Weak
- ❖ Dependent
- ❖ Insignificant



Luke 9:48

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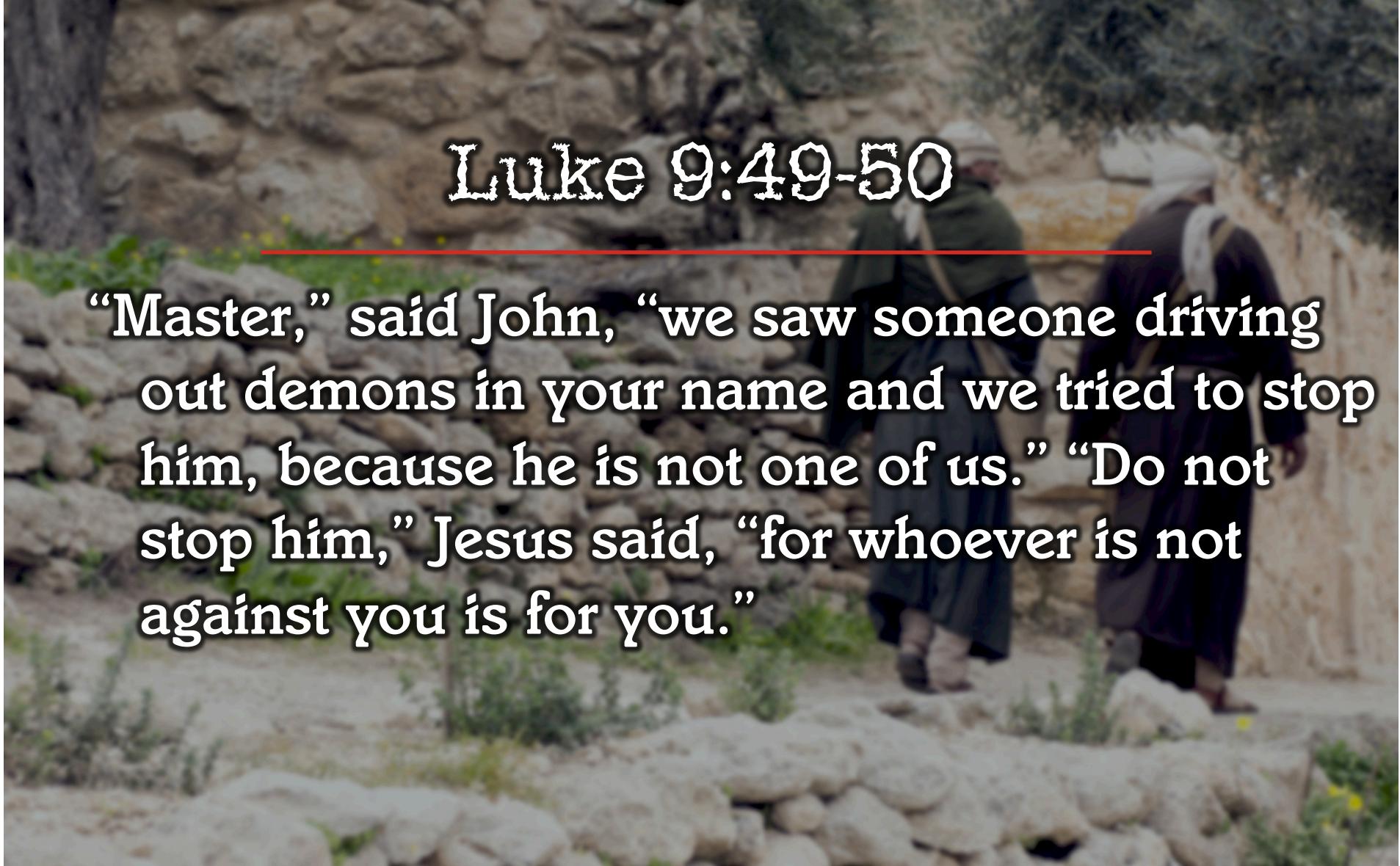
Then he said to them, “Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For it is the one who is least among you all who is the greatest.”



## Sharon Ringe:

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**“The question reflects the disciples’ continued captivity to the norms of their society – in fact of any society where honor is allocated as a scarce commodity. In such an economy of scarcity, honor for one means dishonor for another.”**



## Luke 9:49-50

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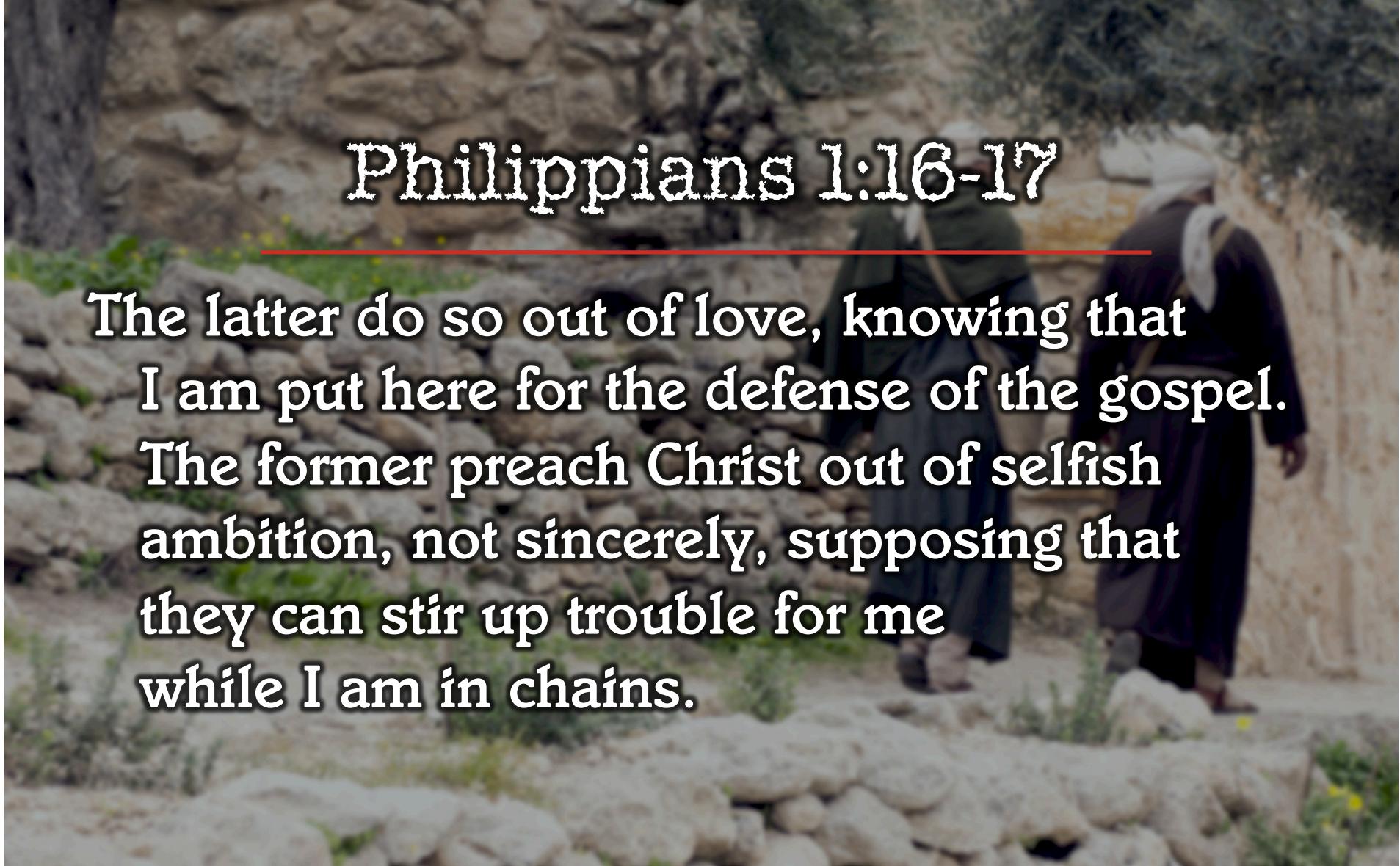
**“Master,” said John, “we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we tried to stop him, because he is not one of us.” “Do not stop him,” Jesus said, “for whoever is not against you is for you.”**



## Philippians 1:15

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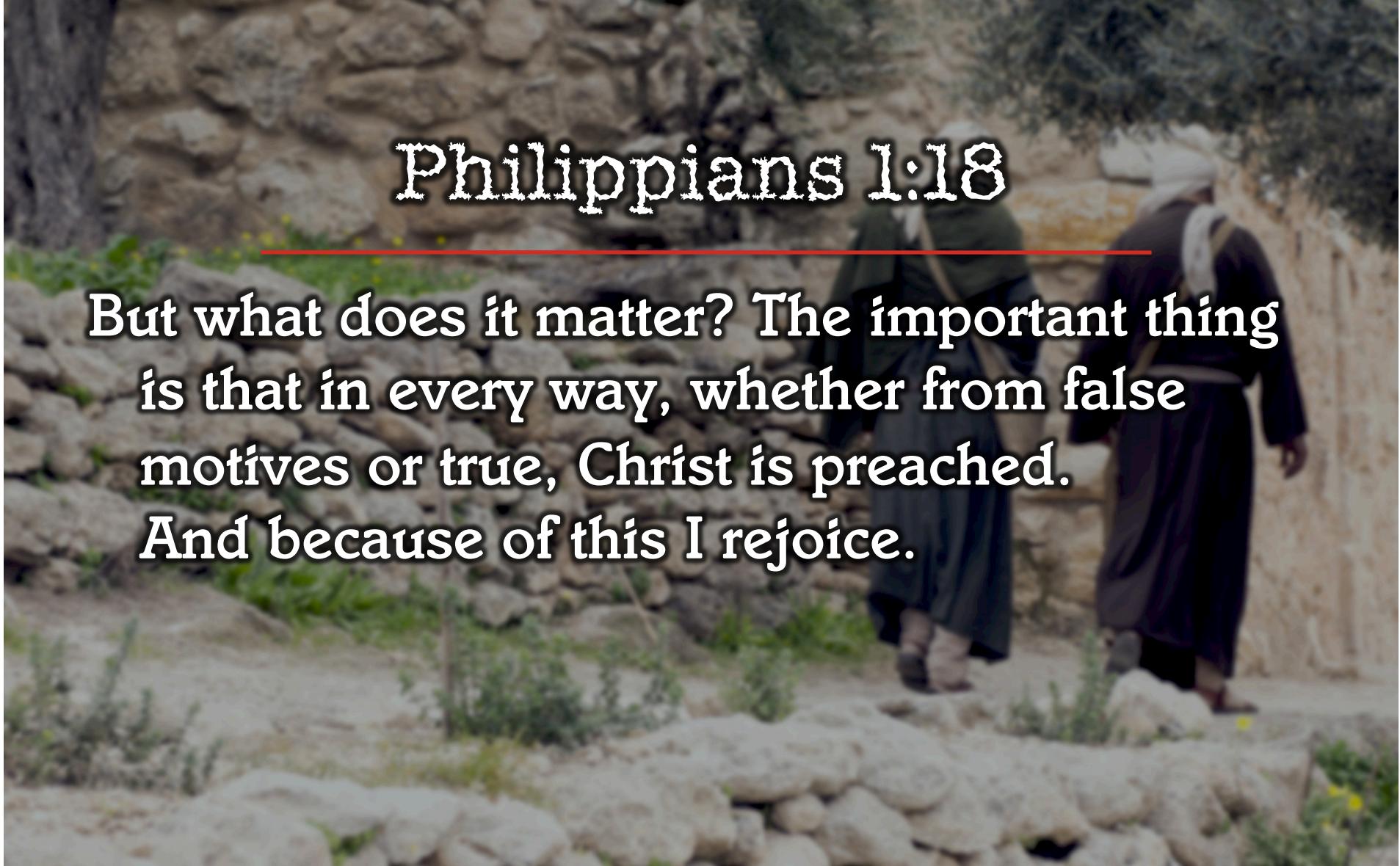
**It is true that some preach Christ out of envy  
and rivalry, but others out of goodwill.**



## Philippians 1:16-17

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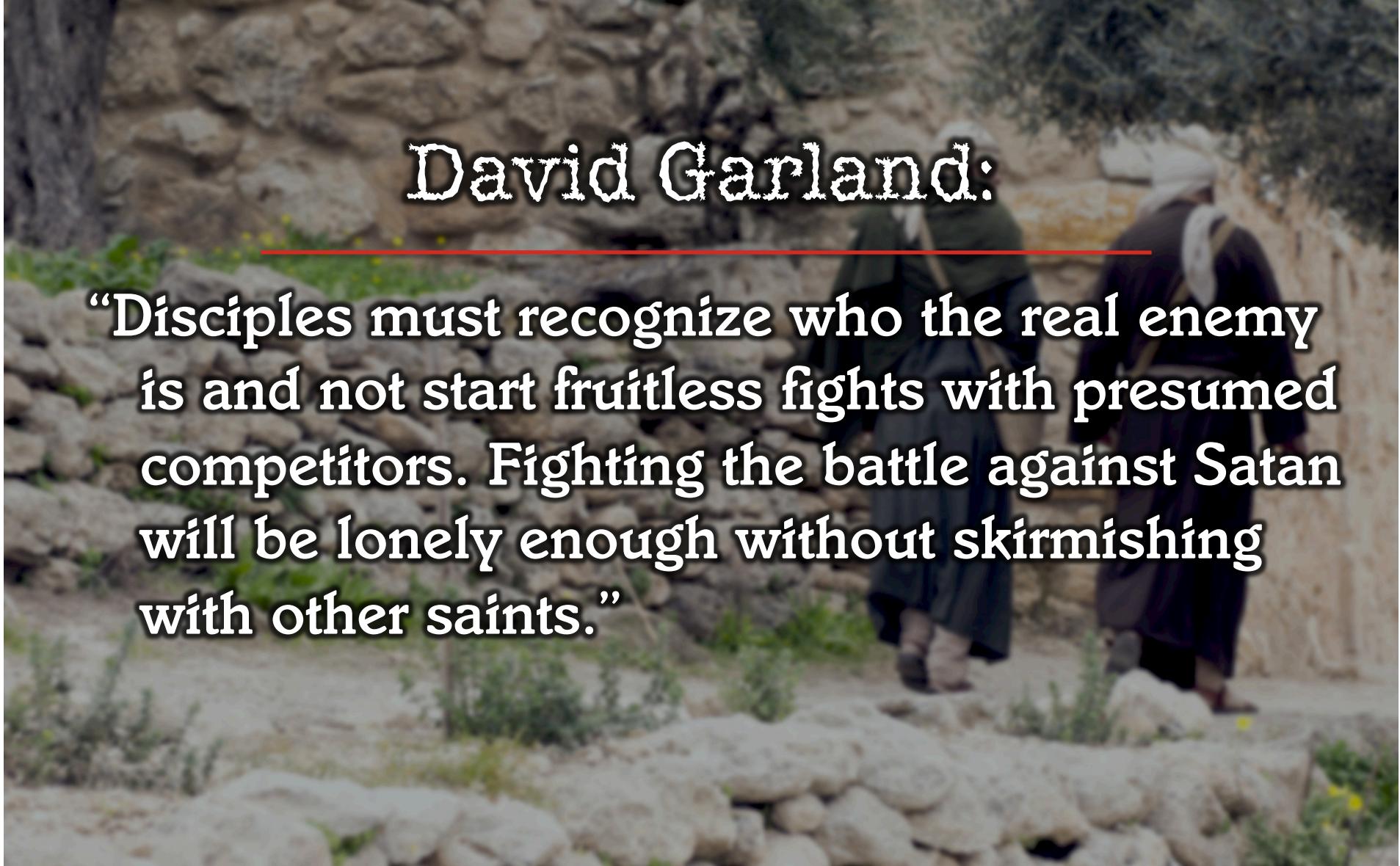
The latter do so out of love, knowing that  
I am put here for the defense of the gospel.  
The former preach Christ out of selfish  
ambition, not sincerely, supposing that  
they can stir up trouble for me  
while I am in chains.



## Philippians 1:18

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**But what does it matter? The important thing  
is that in every way, whether from false  
motives or true, Christ is preached.  
And because of this I rejoice.**



## David Garland:

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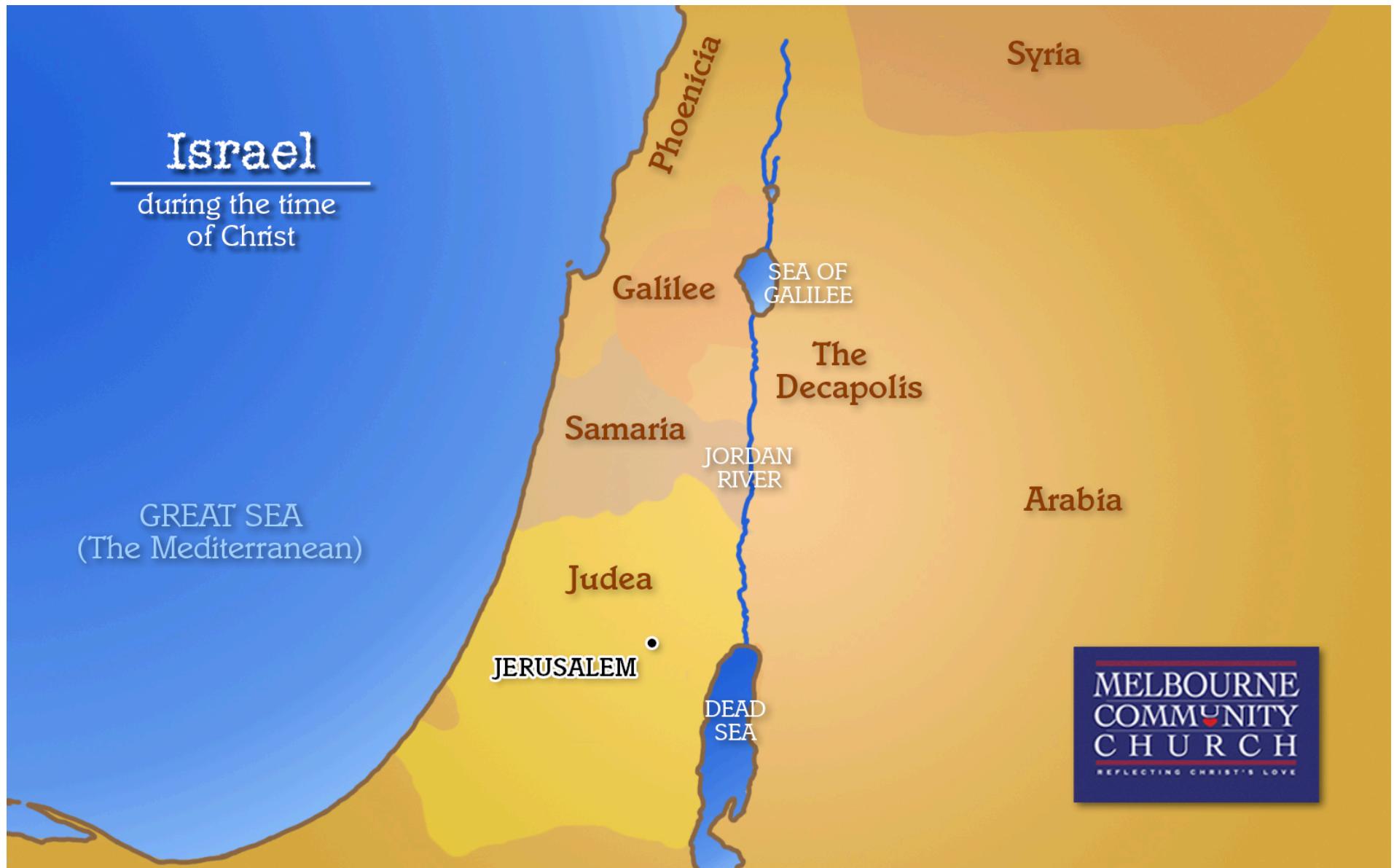
**“Disciples must recognize who the real enemy is and not start fruitless fights with presumed competitors. Fighting the battle against Satan will be lonely enough without skirmishing with other saints.”**



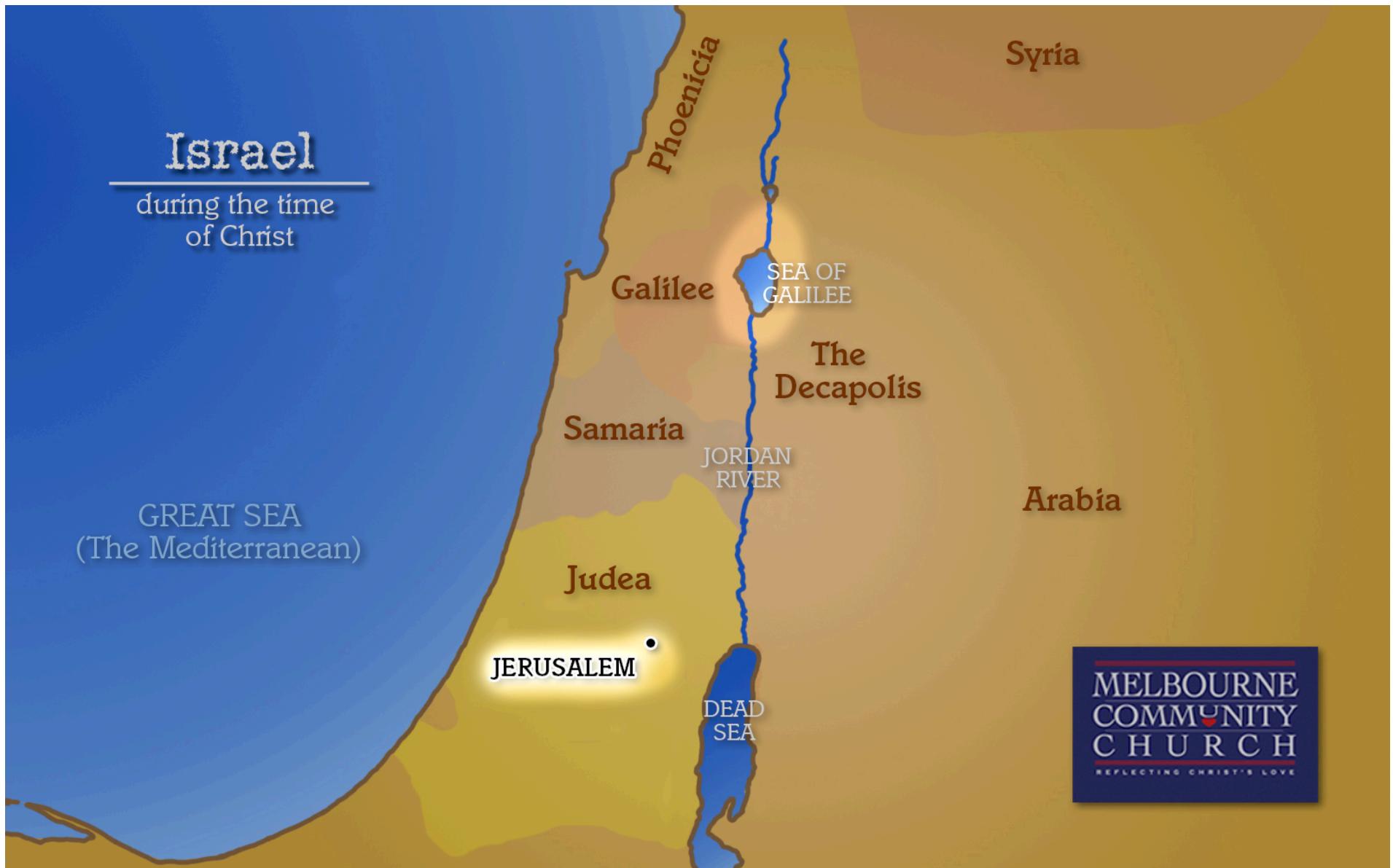
Luke 9:51

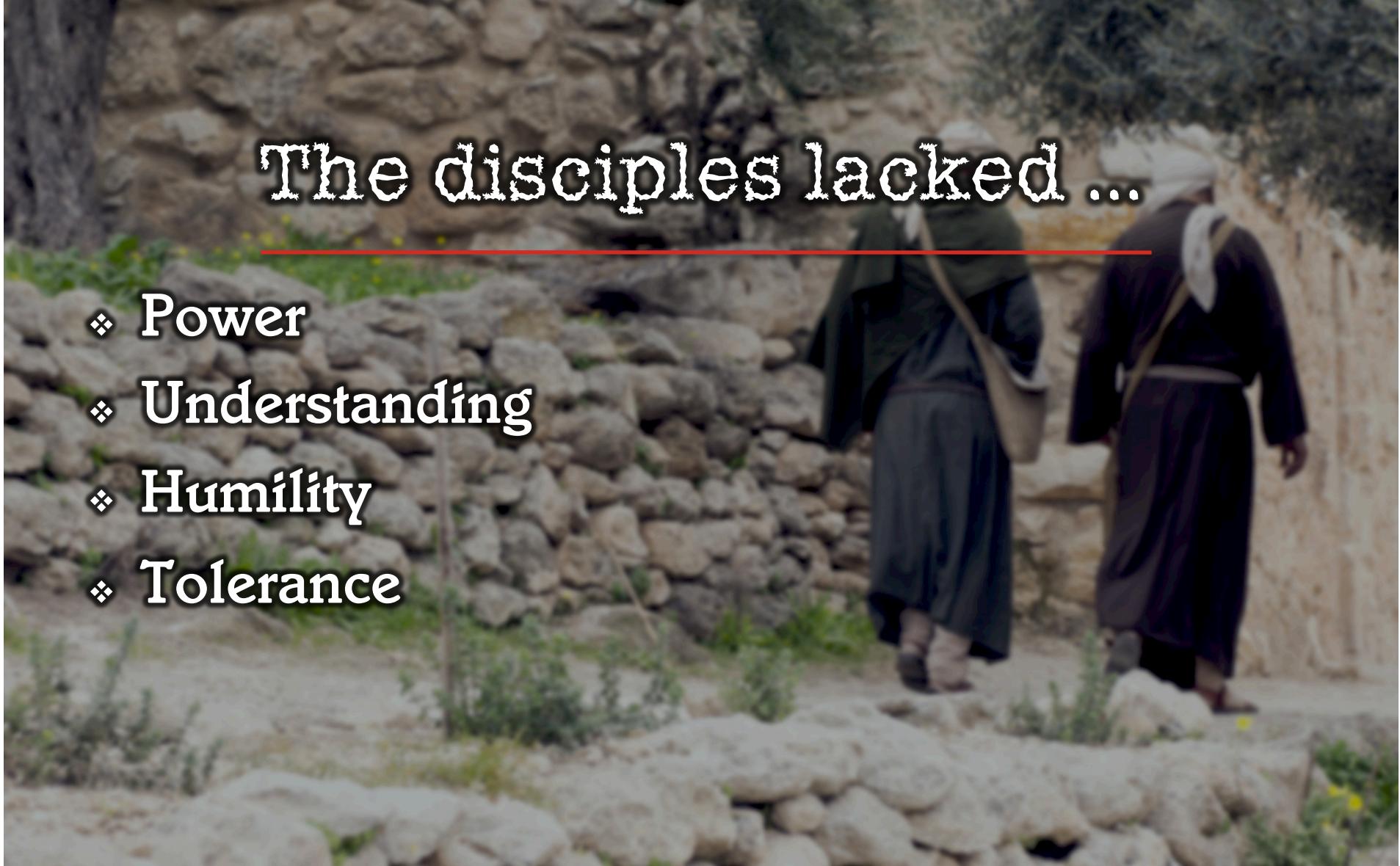
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As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.



MELBOURNE  
COMMUNITY  
C H U R C H  
REFLECTING CHRIST'S LOVE

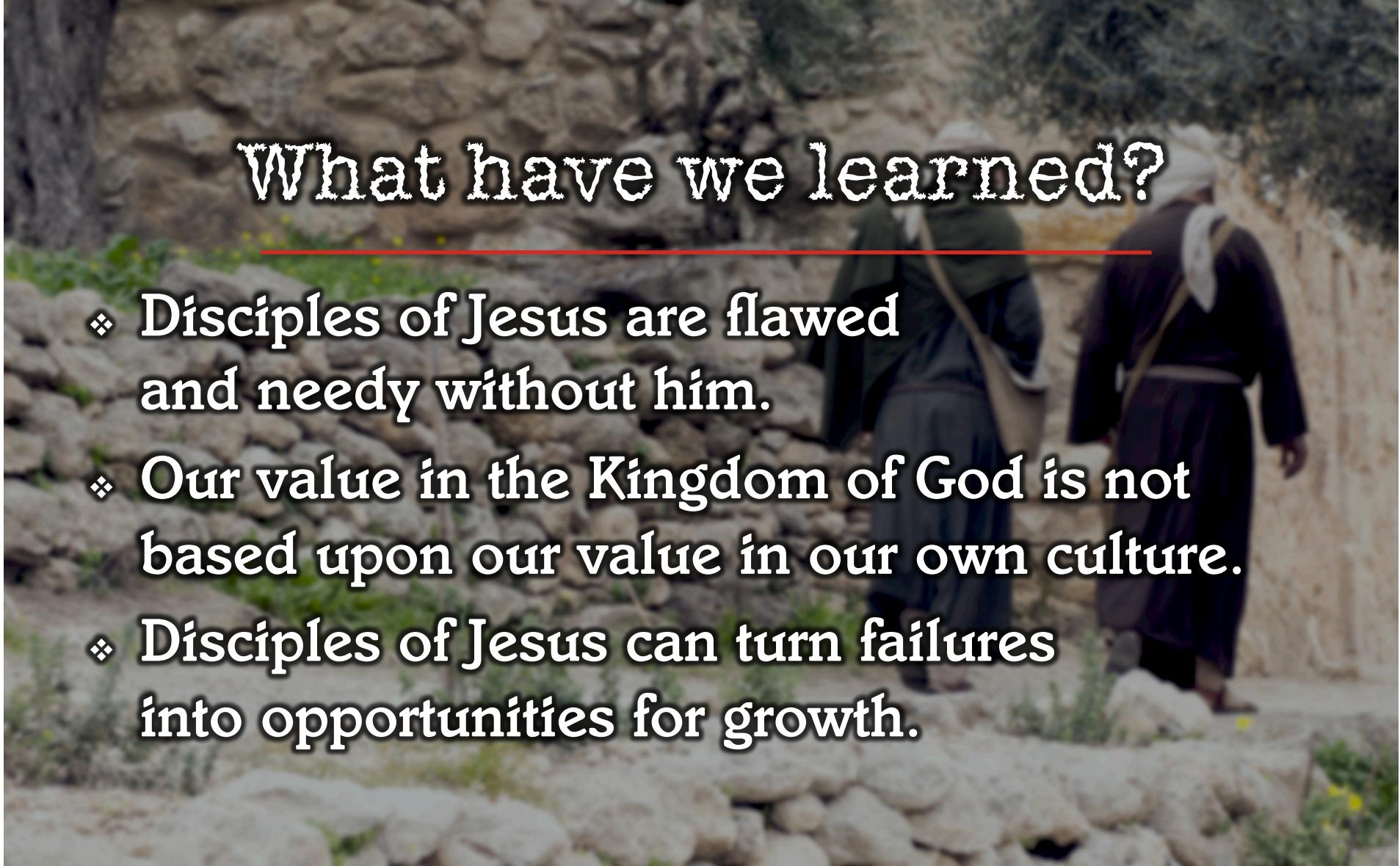




# The disciples lacked ...

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- ❖ Power
- ❖ Understanding
- ❖ Humility
- ❖ Tolerance

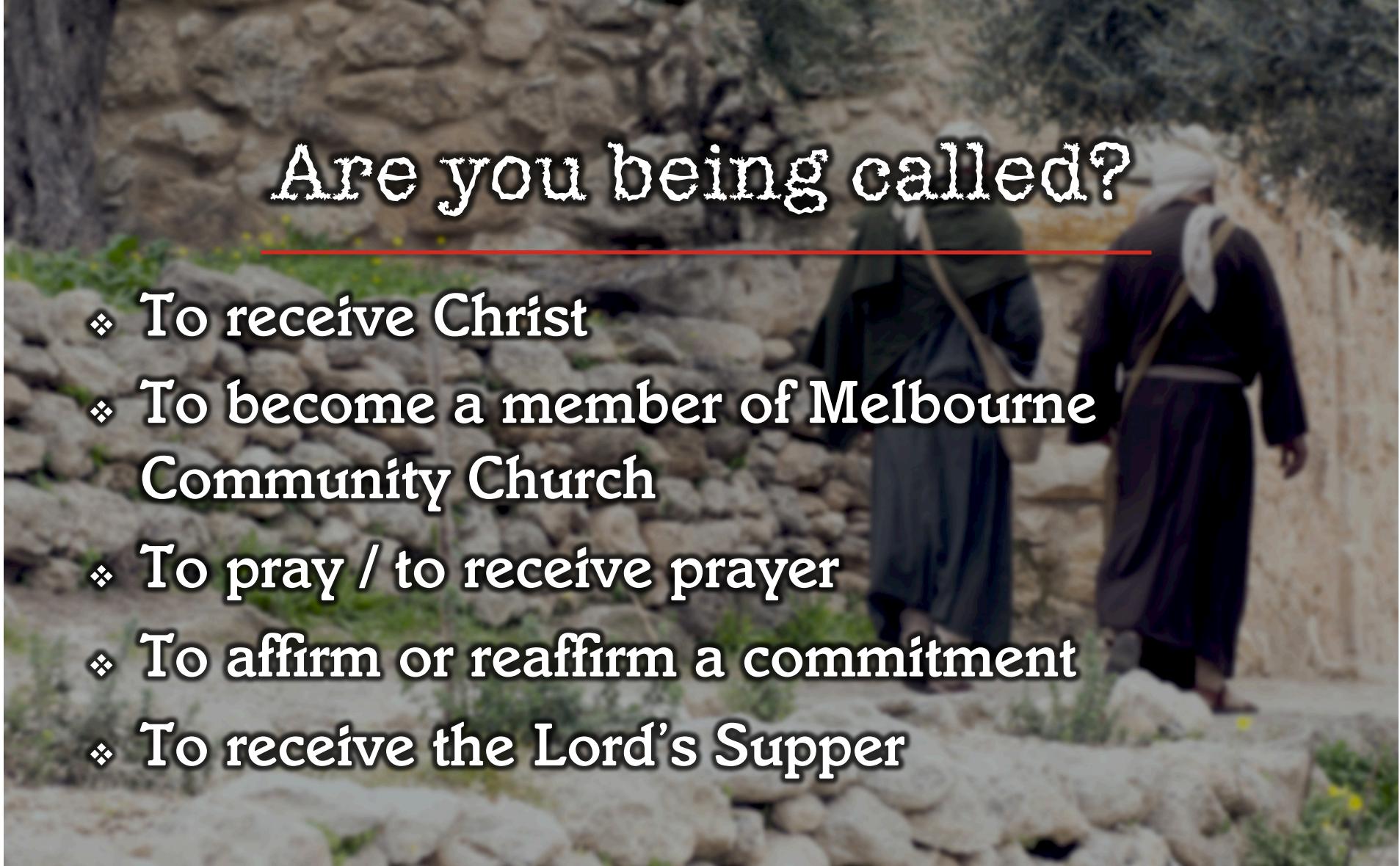


## What have we learned?

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- ❖ Disciples of Jesus are flawed and needy without him.
- ❖ Our value in the Kingdom of God is not based upon our value in our own culture.
- ❖ Disciples of Jesus can turn failures into opportunities for growth.

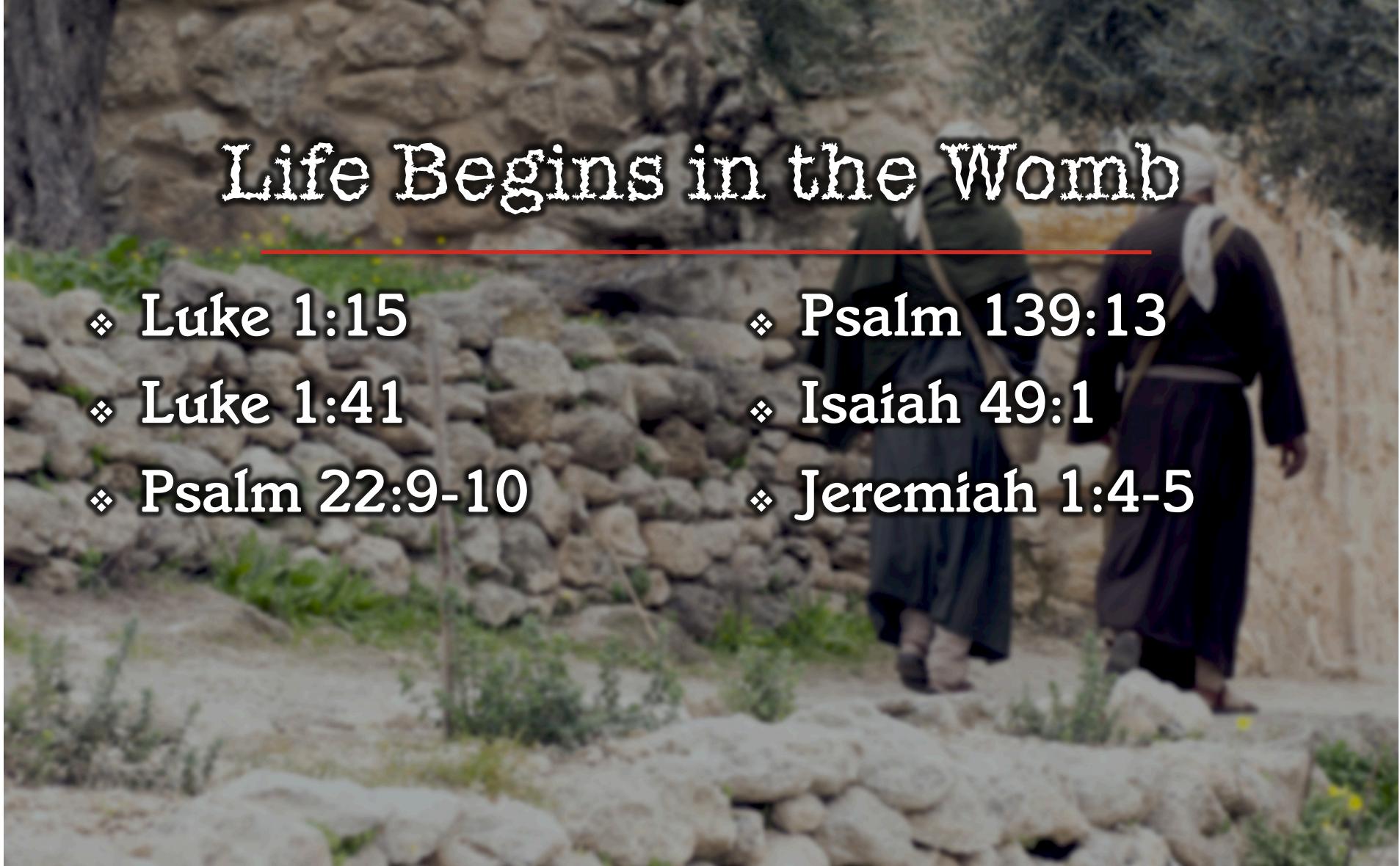




# Are you being called?

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- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the Lord's Supper



# Life Begins in the Womb

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- ❖ Luke 1:15
- ❖ Luke 1:41
- ❖ Psalm 22:9-10
- ❖ Psalm 139:13
- ❖ Isaiah 49:1
- ❖ Jeremiah 1:4-5