

THE PRICE TAG: Professional Ministers

LUKE 9:51-56

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■ Central Church

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Professional Ministers

Release Self-Preoccupation

1. Prioritize a Persevering **Mission** (51-53).

2. Perceive a Perilous **Malpractice** (54-55).

3. Practice a Patient **Mercy** (56).

Luke 9:51-56

"When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for him. ⁵³But the people did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem.

⁵⁴And when his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" ⁵⁵But he turned and rebuked them.

⁵⁶And they went on to another village.

(ESV).

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APPLICATION QUESTIONS

These questions are for further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help your fight for life change. One of the best ways to grow in the body is discussing the answers to these questions in a small group. Find one here: www.centralchurch.com/groups

1. How can we know if we've "swerved" from our calling or mission? Jesus shows steadfastness in performing a ministry of mercy. What would it look like for you to recapture the steadfastness He models?
2. **Read Revelation 3:19.** Jesus sees that the disciples are in danger of "ministry malpractice," and he deals with the root of their hate. He rebukes them, corrects their attitude, forces them to stop twisting scripture to excuse it, and redeploys them for more potential objects of mercy. Is there hate you feel towards someone or a group of people the Lord is calling you to release? How do the "sons of thunder" offer correction for our ministry?
3. This passage ends on a note of hope. They "went on to another village." This example of hope reminds us there will be future times and locations of hope. What relationship or situation does this passage encourage?

Quote for the Week. . . by Mark Dever



"In this past century, Christians have all but ignored biblical teaching on the corporate nature of following Christ. Our churches anew awash in self-centered narcissism, hyper-individualism... Jesus never intended us to be Christians alone, and that our love for others who aren't just like us is taken to be indicative of whether we truly love God."

Mark Dever, *Nine Marks of a Healthy Church*, Crossway, 2000, p. 16, 17.