

I. Jesus Corrects Our Natural Tribalism (49-50)

- A. A need to retain the big picture (49a) - “John answered, “Master, we saw someone casting out demons in Your name...”
- B. A need to refrain from our impulse (49b) - “...and we tried to stop him, because he does not follow with us.”
- C. A need to remain committed to humility (50) - “But Jesus said to him, “Do not stop him, for the one who is not against you is for you.”

II. Jesus Exemplifies Our Need To Take Risks (51-52)

- A. Intentionally stepping into sacrifice (51) - “When the days drew near for Him to be taken up, He set His face to go to Jerusalem.”
- B. Purposefully pushing cultural boundaries (52) - “And He sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for Him.”

III. Jesus Challenges Our Judgmental Tendencies (53-56)

- A. The sting of rejection arises (53) - “But the people did not receive Him, because His face was set toward Jerusalem.”
- B. The impulse for vengeance is stirred (54) - “And 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?”
- C. The correction via mercy is released (55) - “But He turned and rebuked them.”

If we will not show mercy, we should not expect mercy.

- D. The need to keep moving forward is clear (56) - “And they went on to another village.”