

A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and white head coverings walking away from the camera on a dirt path. They are positioned in front of a large, rustic stone wall made of irregular, light-colored stones. The man on the left is wearing a dark green robe and has a light-colored satchel slung over his shoulder. The man on the right is wearing a dark purple or brown robe. The background shows some greenery, including a tree trunk on the left and some bushes on the right. The overall scene is outdoors and appears to be in a rural or historical setting.

“Watch Yourselfs”
Luke 17:1-19

Curtis Deming
Melbourne Community Church
February 2, 2020



What will we learn?

- ❖ Reflecting the love of Christ calls us to be bridges, not barriers, between him and others.
- ❖ Between salvation and heaven, we all have a calling.
- ❖ We respond to that calling by saying “Yes, Lord,” and serving gratefully.



The Gospel of Luke

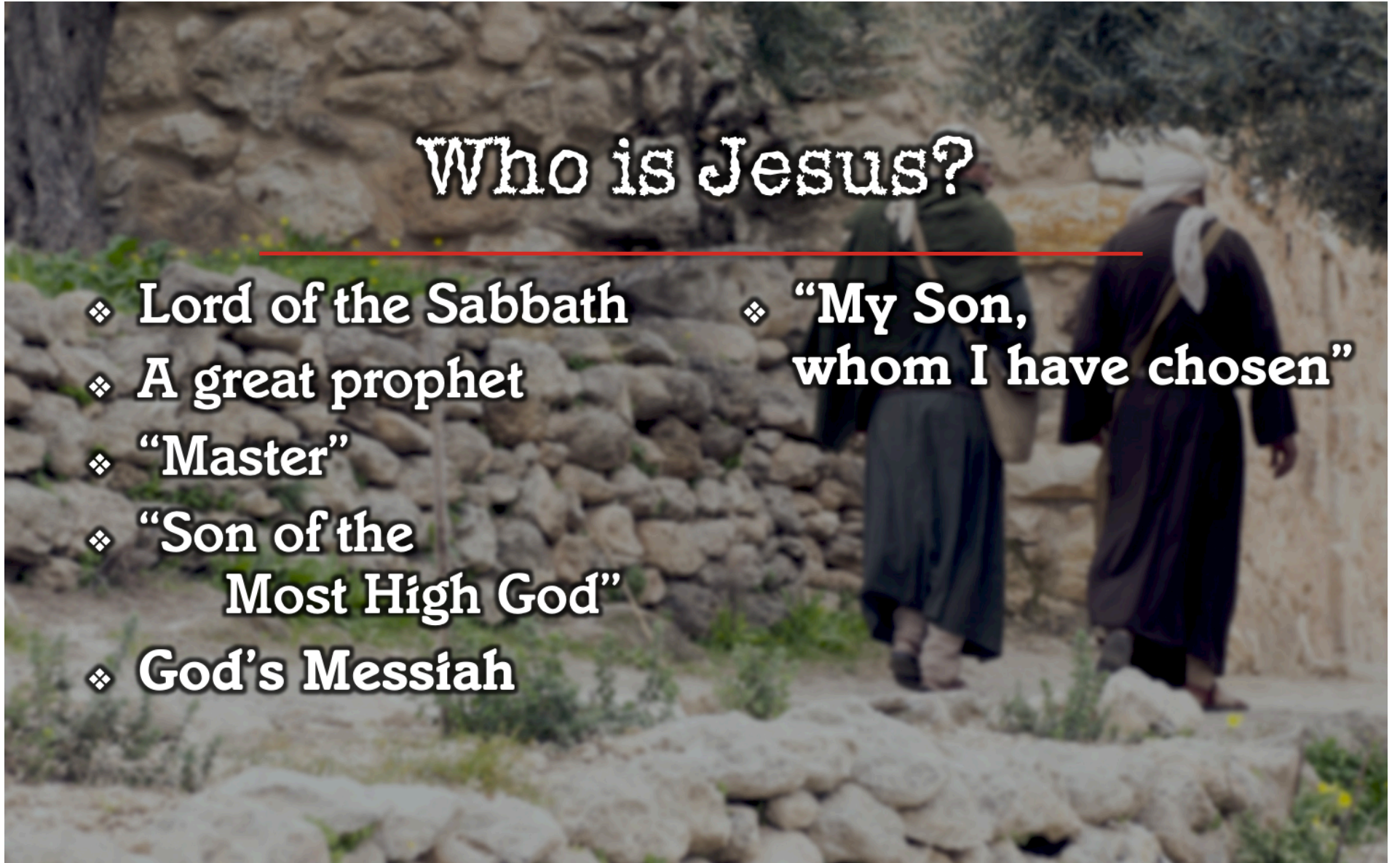
- ❖ I – The Launch (1:1-9:50)
 - ❖ November, 2018 – June, 2019
- ❖ II – The Teachings (9:51- 19:27)
 - ❖ October, 2019 – Spring, 2020
- ❖ III – Jerusalem (19:28 – 24:53)
 - ❖ Fall, 2020 or Spring, 2021

Who is Jesus?

- ❖ 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?

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



Northern Israel

in the time of Christ

GREAT SEA
(The Mediterranean)

Ashkelon

Phoenicia

PTOLEMAIS

CAPERNAUM

BETHSAIDA

CANA

SEA OF GALILEE

Galilee

NAZARETH

CAESAREA

Decapolis

Samaría

JOPPA

Judea

JORDAN RIVER

BETHEL

JERICO

JERUSALEM

BETHANY

BETHLEHEM

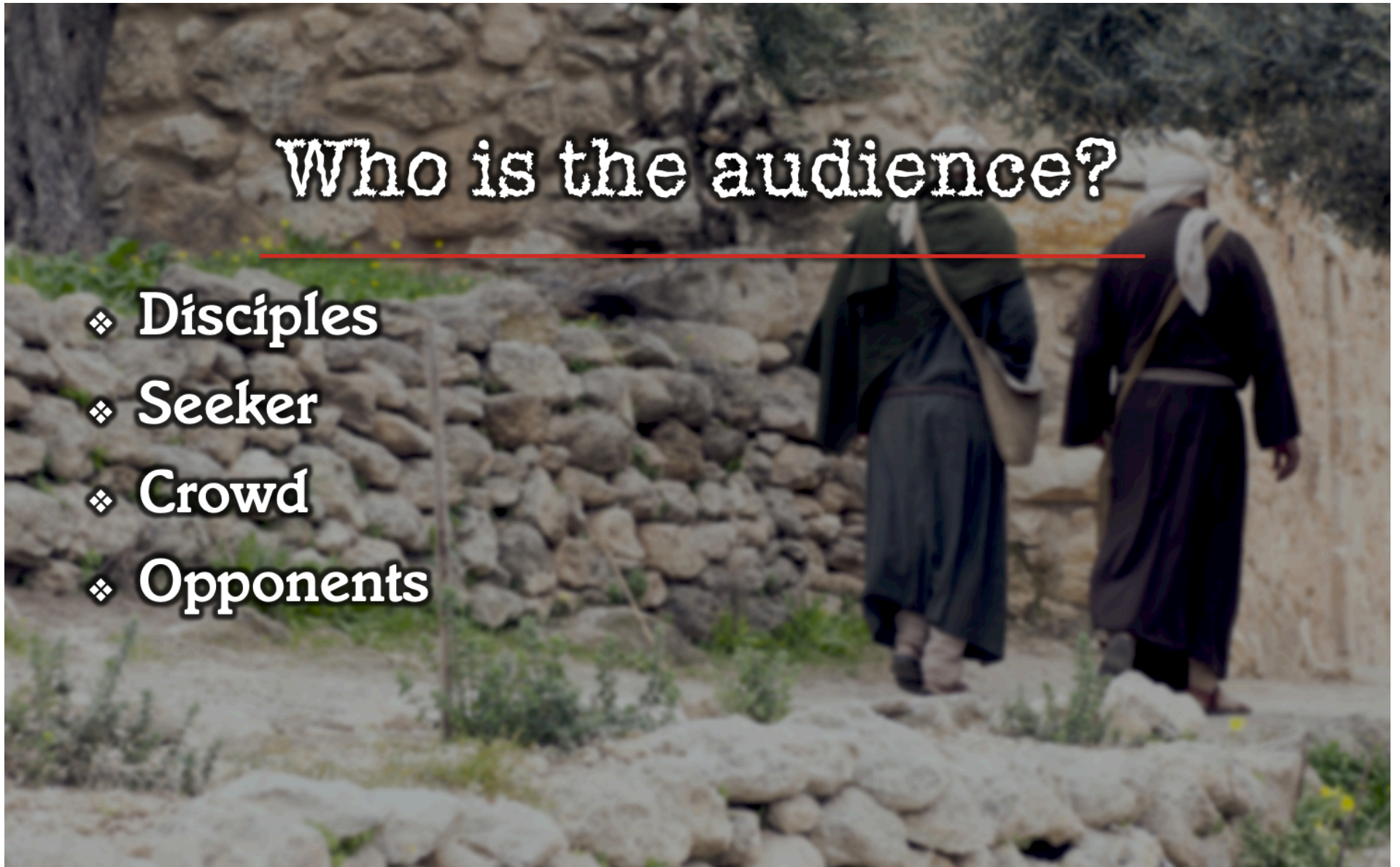
SALT SEA

Arabia



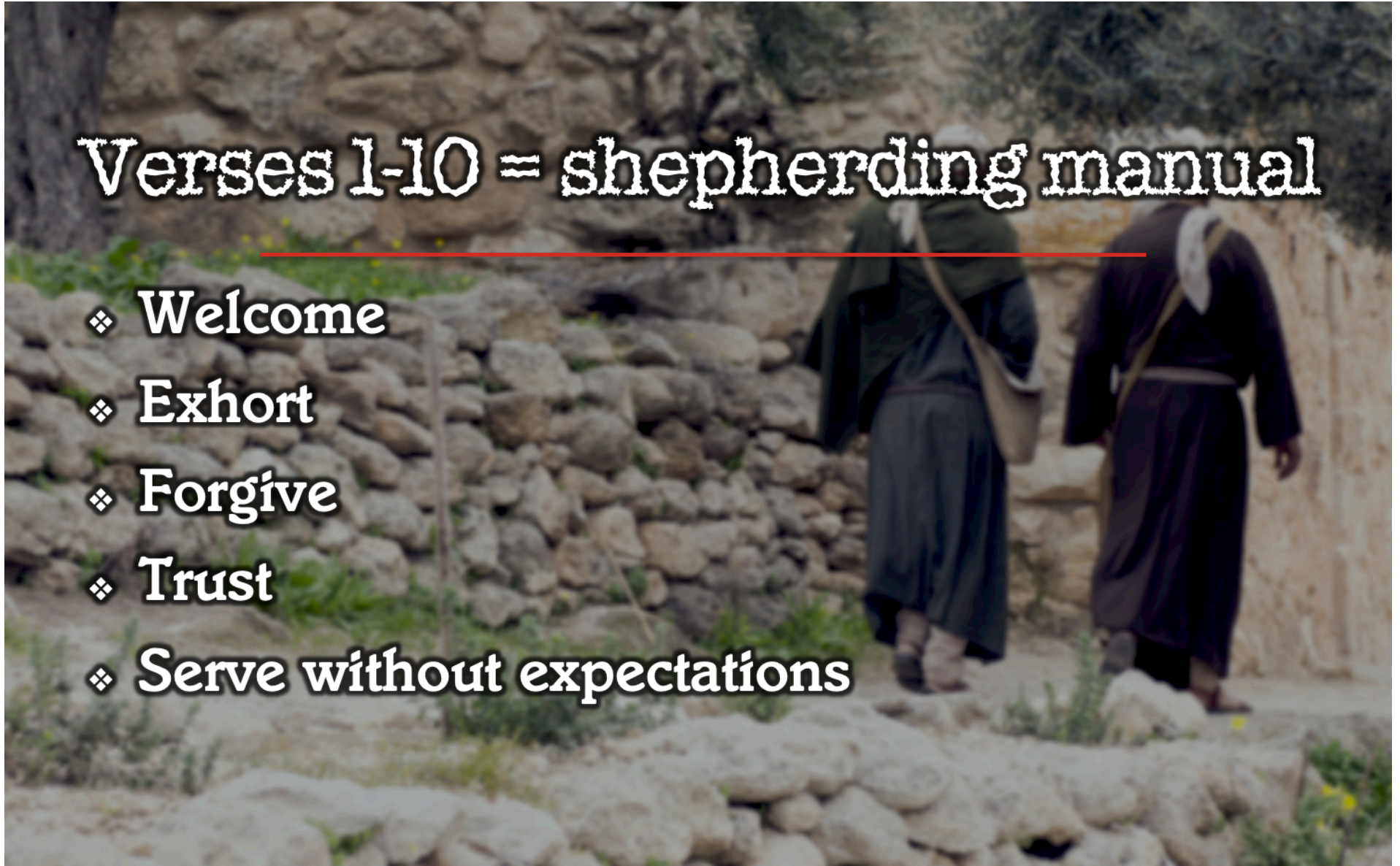
Who is the audience?

- ❖ Disciples
- ❖ Seeker
- ❖ Crowd
- ❖ Opponents



Verses 1-10 = shepherding manual

- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ Exhort
- ❖ Forgive
- ❖ Trust
- ❖ Serve without expectations



Luke 17:1-3

Jesus said to his disciples: “Things that cause people to stumble are bound to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come. It would be better for them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to cause one of these little ones to stumble. So watch yourselves.

Luke 17:3-4

“If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying ‘I repent,’ you must forgive them.”

Matthew 18:22

Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times,
but seventy-seven times.

[or seventy times seven]

A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The path is bordered by a low stone wall on the left and a taller, more substantial stone wall on the right. The background shows more of the stone wall and some greenery. The overall scene is outdoors and appears to be in a rural or historical setting.

Luke 17:5-6

The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” He replied, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it will obey you.”

Luke 17:7-8

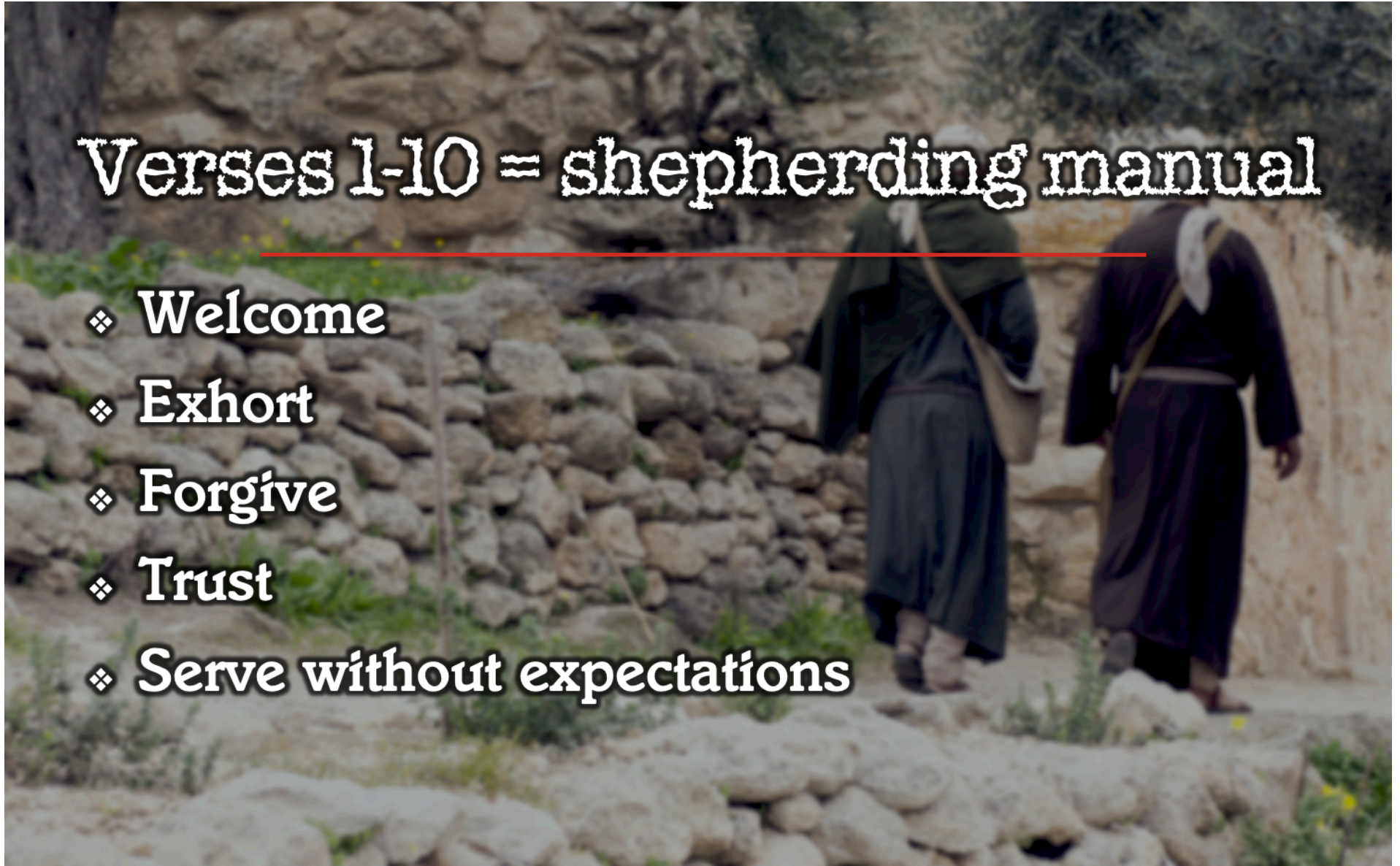
“Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, ‘Come along now and sit down to eat’? Won’t he rather say, ‘Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink’?

Luke 17:9-10

“Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’”

Verses 1-10 = shepherding manual

- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ Exhort
- ❖ Forgive
- ❖ Trust
- ❖ Serve without expectations



A photograph of two individuals in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The path is bordered by a low stone wall on the left and a taller, more substantial stone wall on the right. The background shows a rocky hillside with some sparse green vegetation. The text 'Trick question:' is overlaid in a white, serif font with a black outline, positioned above a thin red horizontal line.

Trick question:

- ❖ Does vital faith yield a life of grateful service?
- ❖ Or does a life of grateful service yield a vital faith?

A photograph of two individuals in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The path is bordered by a low stone wall on the left and a taller, more solid stone wall on the right. The background shows more of the stone wall and some greenery. The overall scene is outdoors and appears to be in a rural or historical setting.

Craig S. Keener:

“Faith grows as you use it in service.”



David A. Garland:

“Faith is not a form of magic that enables us to control nature or to get God to do our bidding. Faith is a response to God’s initiative that trusts that we are empowered to do what God requires ... Doing what is required results in growing faith.”

Luke 17:11-13

Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"

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in the time of Christ

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Ashkelon

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CANA

SEA OF GALILEE

Galilee

NAZARETH

CAESAREA

Decapolis

Samaría

JOPPA

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JORDAN RIVER

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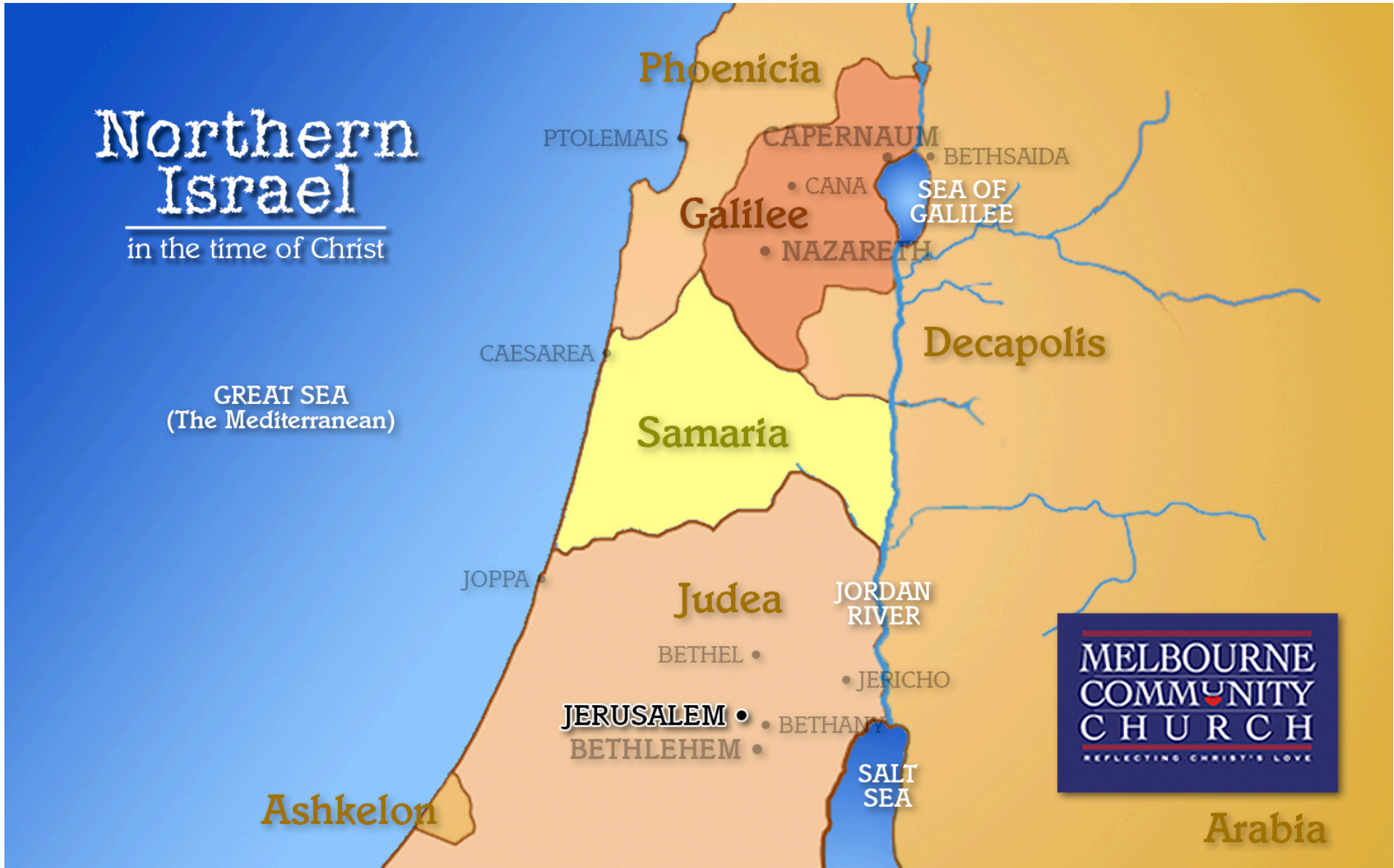
BETHANY

BETHLEHEM

SALT SEA

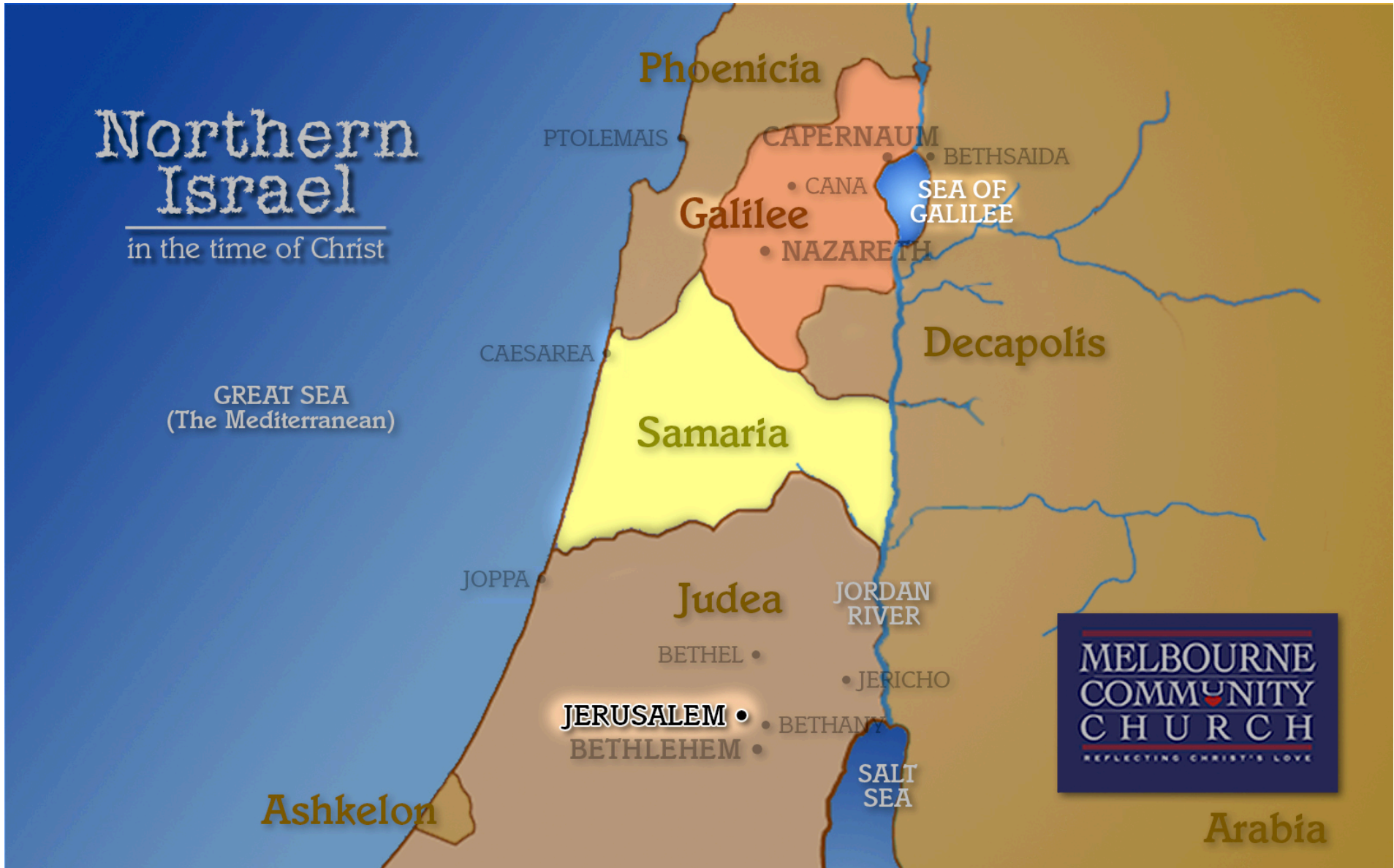
Arabia

MELBOURNE
COMMUNITY
CHURCH
REFLECTING CHRIST'S LOVE



Northern Israel

in the time of Christ



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Luke 17:14-16

When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him — and he was a Samaritan.

Double outcast:

- ❖ Leper
- ❖ Samaritan

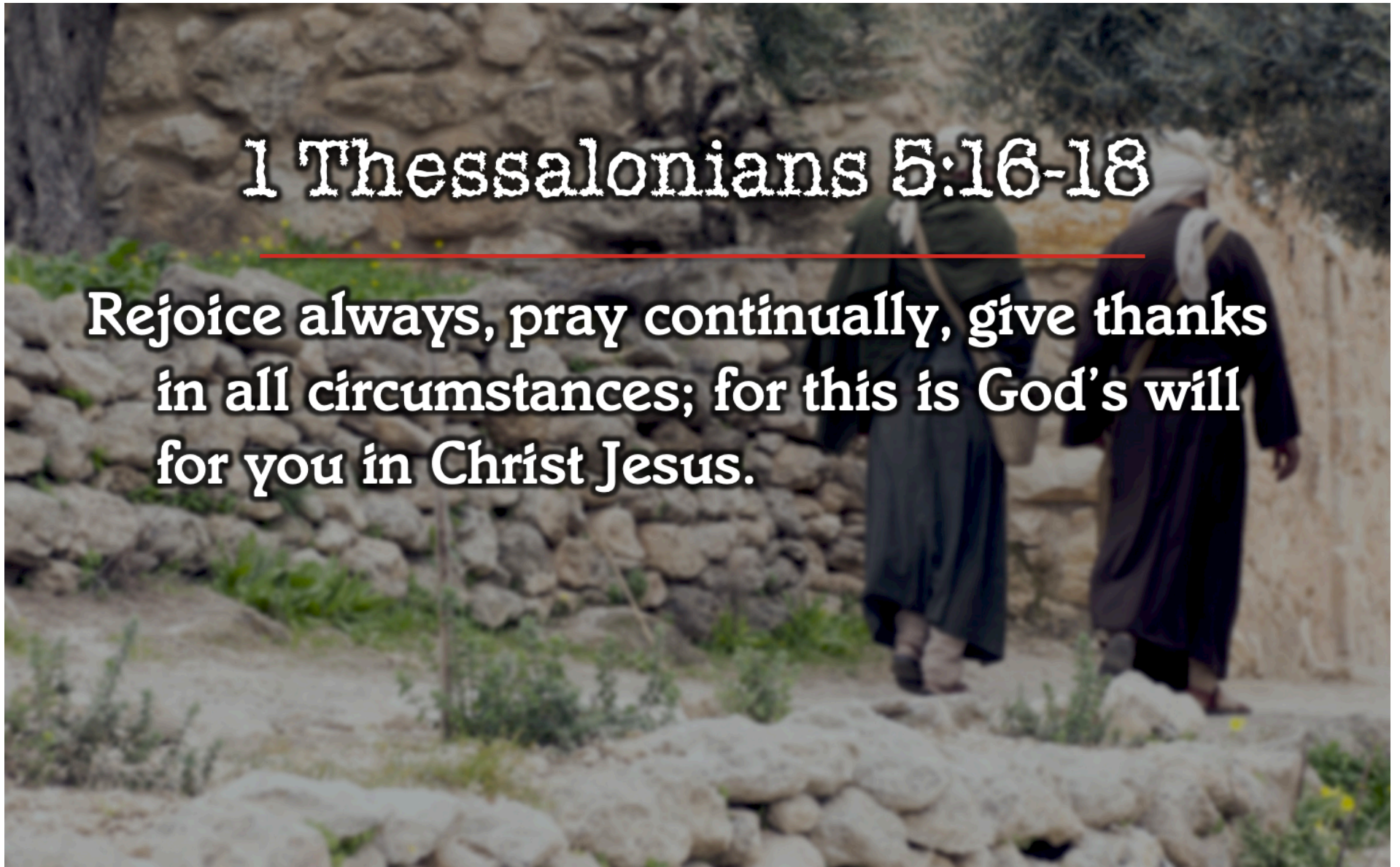


Luke 17:17-19

Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed?
Where are the other nine? Has no one returned
to give praise to God except this foreigner?”
Then he said to him, “Rise and go;
your faith has made you well.”

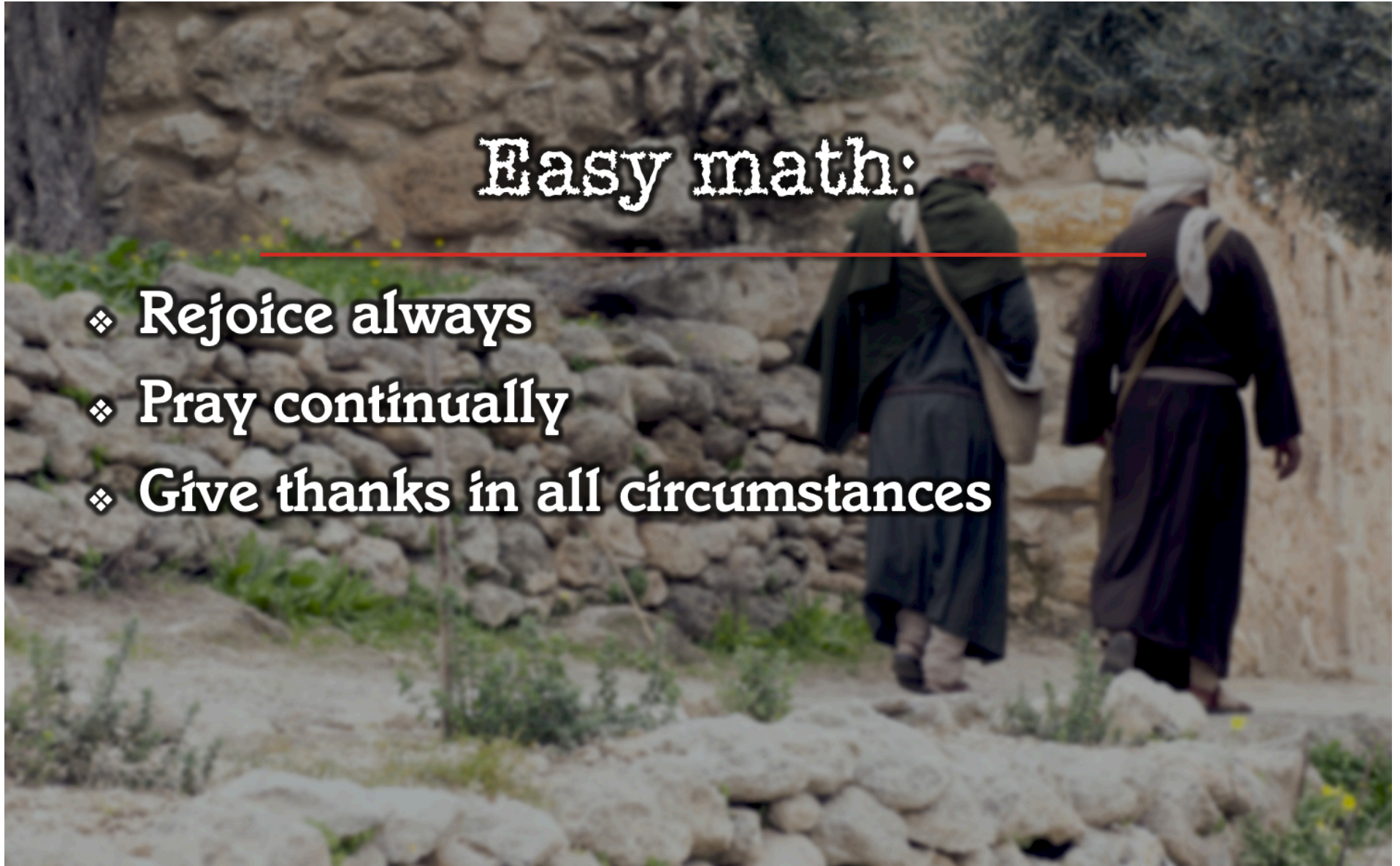
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks
in all circumstances; for this is God's will
for you in Christ Jesus.



Easy math:

- ❖ Rejoice always
- ❖ Pray continually
- ❖ Give thanks in all circumstances





David A. Garland:

“Christians therefore experience God’s grace intensely and allow their gratitude for what God has done for them in Christ to shape their whole lives.”

What have we learned?

- ❖ Reflecting the love of Christ calls us to be bridges, not barriers, between him and others.
- ❖ Between salvation and heaven, we all have a calling.
- ❖ We respond to that calling by saying “Yes, Lord,” and serving gratefully.



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Are you being called?

- ❖ 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