

## **LIFE Group Sermon Questions**

The Center of Everything: The Rebuke

Pastor Josh Parsons

September 20, 2026

Luke 9:51-56



**THE ORCHARD**

### **Sermon Outline**

I. The resolve of Jesus (Luke 9:51, 53)

II. The rejection of Jesus (Luke 9:52-53, 56)

III. The rebuke of Jesus (Luke 9:54-55)

### **Discussion Questions**

1. What did you learn today from the Scripture passage(s) that you didn't know before? What is something that hit you in a fresh way?

2. How would you summarize the first nine chapters in Luke? What are some highlights and/or things you remember?

3. Luke 9:51 and 9:53 tell us that Jesus' face was set to go to Jerusalem. What do you think might have been some temptations or distractions that could have *kept* him from doing that? What are some temptations and distractions that keep *you* from following him?

4. In what areas do you need prayer for *resolve*?

5. In Luke 9:51, Luke says that it was when the days drew near for Jesus to be "taken up" that he set his face toward Jerusalem. What gave Jesus the resolve to march toward his own death was knowing that death wasn't going to be the end for him. How might that promise be a help to you in what you're facing today? How do we hold onto that promise without answering every hardship with, "Well, at least it will be better in Heaven"?

6. Read Isaiah 50:5-9. This chapter is voiced by the Suffering Servant (Jesus!). What similarities are there between it and our passage in Luke 9? Do you see references to Jesus' suffering *and* post-death hope?

7. What if Jesus *hadn't* set his face toward Jerusalem? What if he'd bypassed the cross and was "taken up" before his death? What would that mean for us?

8. What are some other reasons people reject Jesus?

9. How might we *discover* the reasons why those we know reject Jesus? How might that be helpful to us in our conversations with them?

10. What does it mean practically to *receive* Jesus?

11. Would you say you're *zealous* for Jesus? Why or why not?

12. Give an example(s) of good and godly zeal that's been either misplaced or misused. What are some guardrails that would help keep *us* from going beyond what God wants?

13. Which aspect of the Gospel do you tend to emphasize (or downplay): God's judgment or God's grace? What would it look like for you to hold onto *both*?

14. How might remembering what *we* deserve help soften our hearts for those who've rejected Jesus?

15. Take some time skimming through the book of 1 John. What differences do you see in what John writes there vs. what he says in Luke 9:54?