

the Venues

Go Deep

Sermons from Superheroes Series

“X-Men, The Island of Misfit Toys, Christmas and Us”

December 11, 2016

What is your favorite Christmas ornament on your tree? Why? Does it have special meaning to you?

What do these three groups have in common - X-Men, Misfit Toys, Shepherds?

Whether it's Native Americans, Jews, blacks, women, LGBT, the poor - the list goes on - there has always been some group that has been deemed “less than human” or “misfits” and, as a result, has not been invited to the table.

Magneto, a character in X-Men says that people have been destroyed, “simply because they are born different from those in power.”

How do we address the issues of prejudice and oppression? How about when they are aimed at us?

What incidences of prejudice and oppression can you think of in history? Have you ever been a victim of prejudice or oppression? If yes, how? How did you handle it?

What groups of people in our society may feel the burden of oppression or prejudice today?

Read Deuteronomy 10:19, Exodus 22:21, Leviticus 19:34, Deuteronomy 23:7.

*What do these passages tell you about God and his attitude towards those who are oppressed?
What does it do to you and your faith to see his heart on this issue?*

Read Acts 10:1-36 - I know it's long. But it's really good:)

What strikes you about this story?

Why do you think this story is in the Bible?

What does this say to you about following Christ?

What kind of walls are there between yourself and others?

Read John 4:9 and 4:27

When you were growing up, who were the people you were told to avoid?

What ethnic, racial, religious barriers have you overcome?

Jesus came for this reason: That everyone who has ever felt like they're on the outside might be able to find a place on the inside.

How are we living out Jesus' purpose?