



### I. The Outcast and the Marginalized

- A. Elphaba is treated like an \_\_\_\_\_ by her parents and other people.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ spends most of his time in ministry befriending and coming alongside of people who are made to feel small.
- C. This movie invites us to ask the question “who are we going to be like?”: those who \_\_\_\_\_ and humiliate others? Or Jesus?

### II. Fear of the Other

- A. People in the land of Oz believe that the wizard is \_\_\_\_\_ and powerful.
- B. Across history, our \_\_\_\_\_ have played to people’s fears in order to consolidate power.
- C. The church and Christians have the responsibility to stand up for \_\_\_\_\_ and speak out against things we know are going against the will of God.

### III. Friendship

- A. Getting to know the people we are afraid of is the \_\_\_\_\_ to take away our fear of the other.
- B. People should be \_\_\_\_\_ off for knowing you.
- C. Following Jesus makes your \_\_\_\_\_ better and it makes you better at life.

### *Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



# ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *July 7-12, 2025*

## INTRODUCTION

The movie *Wicked* is the story of Elphaba, a young woman with green skin, as she navigates life at Shiz University and forms an unlikely friendship with the popular Galinda. Their bond deepens as they encounter the Wizard of Oz, leading to a series of events that ultimately shape their destinies and transform them into the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good. So where does this movie point us toward scripture?

---

### Monday: Ruth 1:14-18; 4:11-17 (An unlikely friendship)

A key theme in the film *Wicked* is the power of friendships. The book of Ruth is also about that. People often read Ruth's words in Ruth 1:16 at weddings. Do not miss the fact that in the story she was speaking, not to a suitor, but to her mother-in-law! How do you imagine Naomi must have treated her daughter-in-law to have inspired that kind of devotion?

---

### Tuesday: Matthew 10:2-4, Luke 6:13-16 (Jesus Built Teams, Not Enemies Like the Wizard)

In *Wicked*, the Wizard said, "The best way to bring folks together is to give them a real good enemy." Matthew the tax collector and Simon the Zealot were on opposite extremes in their society's political spectrum—one working with Rome, the other violently opposing it. Yet Jesus called them both to be part of his closest group of followers. When you encounter people with very different political or social views from yours, how do you respond? What might Jesus' example teach us about bridging such divisions?

---

### Wednesday: Micah 6:6-8 (God Wants Justice More Than Burnt Offerings)

The prophet Micah spoke to the kingdom of Judah's blend of religious ritual and ruthless business dealings. History says most people in his day rejected his message. Like Elphaba in *Wicked*, his stance was, "Some things I cannot change, but 'til I try I'll never know." What do the three divine requirements Micah listed tell you about what God is like? In what ways does your lifestyle reflect your choice to be the person your God calls you to be?

---

### Thursday: 1 Corinthians 12:14-21 (Green Skin Welcome)

*Wicked* showed how we resist diversity by giving Elphaba green skin. Paul addressed our human tendency to think, "Everyone else should be like me." "If the whole body were an eye, what would happen to the hearing? And if the whole body were an ear, what would happen to the sense of smell?" How hard or easy do you find it to value people whose gifts fall in different areas from yours?

---

### Friday: Mark 10:35-45 (Power means serving others)

In *Wicked* (as in the original *Wizard of Oz*), the Wizard seemed all-powerful. But it turned out to be an illusion. "Whoever wants to be great among you will be your servant"—really? That was Jesus' model and mission. Jesus chose to serve you, to win you to God's love. How does that shape your view of his power?

---

## MOVING FORWARD

The movie *Wicked* speaks to our fear of the 'other.' Elphaba has been marginalized and made to feel less than others because of her skin color. In the gospels, Jesus befriends and comes alongside people who are made to feel small and we should too. The movie also speaks to the power that friendship has to transform us. The people we know should be better off because they know us. And the one friend who can totally transform your life is Jesus.

---

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) outcast, B) Jesus, C) mock. IIA) good, B) leaders, IIC) justice. IIIA) antidote, B) better, C) life.