

# BELPRES CHURCH

## Sermon Title: The Lord Is My Banner

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**Scripture:** Exodus 17:8-16

<sup>8</sup>The Amalekites came and attacked the Israelites at Rephidim. <sup>9</sup>Moses said to Joshua, “Choose some of our men and go out to fight the Amalekites. Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hands.”

<sup>10</sup>So Joshua fought the Amalekites as Moses had ordered, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill. <sup>11</sup>As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. <sup>12</sup>When Moses’ hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset. <sup>13</sup>So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword.

<sup>14</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, “Write this on a scroll as something to be remembered and make sure that Joshua hears it, because I will completely blot out the name of Amalek from under heaven.”

<sup>15</sup>Moses built an altar and called it The LORD is my Banner. <sup>16</sup>He said, “Because hands were lifted up against<sup>h</sup> the throne of the LORD,<sup>h</sup> the LORD will be at war against the Amalekites from generation to generation.”

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**Discussion Questions:** Read Exodus 17:8-16

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**Opening Questions:**

- Icebreaker: What is the weirdest job you’ve ever had?
- Looking back, were you able to apply any of the things we talked about last time to your life this week? What did you do? How did it go?

**Scripture Reflection Questions** -- Read this week’s scripture together and discuss the following:

- What do we learn about God (e.g., traits, personality, what matters, priorities) in this passage and sermon?
- What do we learn about people, and ourselves in particular, this week?

**Sermon Reflection Questions** – Reflecting on this week's sermon, discuss the following:

- The Amalekites were repeated adversaries of the Israelites throughout scripture. Their intent was to wipe the Israelites out completely which is why God says he opposes them. They represent those things that come against God's purposes for our lives and for our world. What are the "Amalekites" you are facing right now and how is God showing up in that battle?
- In scripture armies used banners to indicate whose army they were and what authority they marched under. From the evidence of your life and how you live, what would other people say are the banners you are under?
- What would be the characteristics you would see in a person who lived completely under Jesus' banner?

**Closing Question and Application:**

- Given what we've discussed together today, how might God want you apply these learnings to your life or in the life of your community this next week?
- Who might you share this with?