

Life Group Homework

JOHN 12:20-36 – Jesus Hints at His Crucifixion

Getting Started:

1. What is it about this life that you enjoy the most and most desire to attain?
2. What would it take for you to be willing to lay that aside and never experience it again in this life?
3. What would it take for you to stop desiring and enjoying it altogether? (Assume it is a bad thing if that makes the discussion easier.)

Digging In:

1. In verse 24 Jesus says that if a seed does not fall to the earth and die it “remains alone,” but if it dies it bears much fruit (thus it is no longer alone). Fruit is used in Scripture to refer to different things in this life. To what is the fruit referring to in this verse?
2. How might the fruit that the death of Jesus will bear address the issue of the Greeks who seek an audience with him? (See verse 32 to help your discussion along.)
3. In verse 25 Jesus says the one who loves his life loses it (the Greek is literally “the one who loves his soul destroys it”). The word that Jesus uses for love is “phileo” thus emphasizing the endearing love for something we desire and enjoy. What would it mean then to love our life or to love our soul? What would that look like in real life?

4. In verse 27 Jesus says that his soul is troubled, but he will not allow that trouble to move him to call for the Father to save him. How does this show that Jesus is not loving his soul?

5. How does God's purpose in Jesus coming, mentioned at the end of verse 27, factor into his decision to not ask the Father to save him?

6. How is the world judged and the rulers of this world cast out by the death of Jesus on the cross (vs. 31)? (See Colossians 2:13-23 to inform your discussion.)

7. What does Jesus mean when he says, "While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light"? How does this relate back to the seed dying and becoming more seeds? How might this relate to the issue of the Greeks seeking him out? (Think of where all those 'sons of light' went, once The Light was no longer physically present.)

Living It Out:

1. How might we be sons and daughters of light in our world today?

2. What would it cost our soul, our life, if we stepped out in total faith and became children of light?

3. What prevents us from making taking that step?