

# Jesus Hints at His Crucifixion

*John 12:20-36*

**Introduction:** Some of Jesus' most difficult sayings were spoken in the days before His death on the cross. Today's message is a case in point. As Jesus prepared to die on the cross and give His life as a ransom for our sins He called His disciples to follow Him by dying to self. The message of self-sacrifice runs counter to the prevailing attitude of our times. So as we take another step into a deeper understanding of our Lord and Savior's call to discipleship, we will run head-on into one of the most difficult paradoxes of the Christian life. We cannot find life until we lose our life. We cannot be fruitful until we die.

## **Why were Greeks seeking Jesus and why did they approach Philip? (vs. 20-22)**

## **Jesus answered these Greek Gentiles with a message of salvation for all nations. (vs. 23-26)**

### **Six pivotal truths define Jesus' message about His "hour" (vs. 23-26)**

1. God's clock indicated that it was time for Him, the Son of Man, to be glorified.
2. Jesus identifies Himself as the Son of Man from *Daniel 7:13-14*.
3. Jesus said that His path to glory and eternal fruitfulness is comparable to planting a seed...seeds must die before they can bear fruit.
4. Jesus' path to glory is the same path He calls His disciples to follow. (vs. 25)
  1. We can experience Jesus most personally and powerfully on this self-sacrificial path to glory. (vs. 26)
  2. Self-sacrificial service is the ultimate path of eternal honor.

## **The conflict within Jesus (vs. 27-30)**

## **The outcome of the plan (vs. 31-33)**

1. All sin is judged through Jesus' death and Satan is defeated and ultimately vanquished through Christ's finished work on the cross.
2. Sinners from all nations will be drawn to Jesus through His death on the cross.
3. The message of the cross is the power of salvation to everyone who believes. (*Romans 1:16*)

## **The confused crowd (vs. 34)**

## **Jesus calls us to walk in the Light and become sons of light. (vs. 35-36)**

## **What can we learn from this passage?**

1. God's ultimate aim is to glorify His Son.
2. The Cross revealed God's glory in Christ.
3. The Cross calls us to live for something bigger than ourselves.