

THAT YOU MAY KNOW

Seeking Jesus
John 12:20-36
November 20, 2022

“Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” -John 12:21

I. ISRAEL BLESSING THE NATIONS

- Greek “God-fearers” come to Jerusalem to worship for Passover week. They seek an audience with Jesus, and choose Philip as their intermediary (Vs. 20; Matt. 15:25-27; Luke 17:11-19).
- Philip passes the news on to Andrew, another disciple (along with Peter) who are from the bilingual town of Bethsaida in Galilee (John 1:43-44).
- The prophecies are being fulfilled, the world is coming to Jesus the Jewish Messiah. Israel is blessing the nations (John 12:19; Gen. 12:3; Isa. 49:6).

II. THE HOUR HAS COME

- The “hour” that commenced at the wedding feast at Cana has now arrived for Jesus. The glory that was revealed in his seven signs will now be manifested fully in his death and resurrection (Matt. 26:45; Mark 14:41; John 7:6-8, 30, 17:1).
- As the seed gives itself for the life of the plant, so Jesus will give of himself for the life of the body (the church). Death produces life in the Kingdom of God (Vs. 25).

III. LIFTED UP

- Jesus despises death, but submits to it for the Father’s glory. The Father responds with a vocal word of assurance and encouragement...for the crowds’ sake, not Jesus’ (Vss. 27-30; Phil. 2:1-11).
- Satan will be driven out by the death of Jesus. He holds no power by right over followers of the Lord Jesus any longer (1 John 3:19-20, 4:4).
- Jesus’ “lifting up” draws all people to himself, including both his death on the cross and his ascension to the Father.

IV. WHO IS THIS SON OF MAN?

- He is the Light of the world. We must seek that Light while we can, and walk in it. (Vss. 35-36; John 12:25-26).

KNOW: Jesus is revealing himself to people, and some are seeking him as a result. Genuine seekers find Jesus, and those who find him, follow him. In following him, they find life.

DO: Seek Jesus while he may be found. When you find him, follow him.

Suggested Reading:

Basic Christianity by John R.W. Stott (Available in the LifePoint Library)

For younger children: *I Need to Trust in God* by Joel & Mary Beeke (Available in the LifePoint Library)

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read John 12:20-36

1. What seems to be the main theme of Jesus’ words in this passage of Scripture? What is happening? What is he calling us to?
2. What “hour” has come for Jesus and the world?
3. How can we “hate” our life? What does that mean?
4. Why is Jesus’ soul troubled?
5. What does Jesus mean by being “lifted up?”
6. What must we do about the Light that is in the world? What happens if we do not walk in that light?
7. In what ways, if any, does Jesus challenge you with his words recorded in this passage?