

# THAT YOU MAY KNOW

*A Commandment: Eternal Life*  
John 12:44-50  
January 15, 2023

And I know that his commandment is eternal life. - John 12:50

## I. A FINAL APPEAL

- John's final recorded words of Jesus to the crowds are a cry to come to the light. Jesus (and John) desired the salvation of their hearers (Matt. 11:27-30; John 20:31).
- In Jesus, humankind meets God, and God meets humankind (John 10:30; 17:21).
- To believe in Jesus is, *ipso facto*, placing one's belief and hope in the Father. They are tied inextricably together (vss. 44-45).
- What is the cry of Jesus? Come to the light. Do not remain in the darkness (vs. 46).

## II. THE WORKING WORD

- Jesus' task in his first Advent was not to pass judgment on people (vs. 47; John 3:17).
- Jesus' primary task in his second Advent will be to sum all things up, and to judge the world (Matt. 25:31-32; John 5:22, 27-30).
- Jesus came to save the world by sharing the gospel, and to allow that word of truth from the Father to save or condemn men and women (vs. 48; John 3:18-19).
- The word of God is a living word. It is an active word (Heb. 4:12-13).
- The word Jesus speaks is the Father's word. That word is the word of life, and thus the Father's commandment to Jesus is the commandment of eternal life (vss. 49-50).

**KNOW:** Jesus came with a mandate from the Father. Preach words that lead to eternal life. The words are words of life. Follow them, and know life. Reject them, and reject life.

**DO:** Receive the words of Jesus. They lead to life.

### Suggested Reading:

*Words of Life: Scripture as the Living and Active Word of God* by Timothy Ward (Available in the LifePoint Library)

### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

**Please Read John 12:44-50.**

1. What does John's main point seem to be in verses 44-50?
2. Is there a difference in Jesus' relationship to the Father in the incarnation than his relationship to the Father in his glory?
3. According to Jesus, are his words his or his Father's? What's the difference, if anything?
4. What was the Father's commandment to Jesus in the incarnation according to our text?
5. According to verse 47, why did Jesus come? What does that mean?
6. We probe the mysteries of the Trinity in these words of Jesus, and of the incarnation. What questions do you have?