

Home Group Leader's Notes
Week of November 14, 2021
John 12:27-36

Sermon Series: *Death & Life*

The New Testament is freighted with instructions for how to love and encourage each other. Home Groups are a great place to grow in community. Check out your options at www.trinityonline.org.

DO YOU REMEMBER A TIME WHEN. . . ?

When do you remember a time when you were facing an hour where something was going to be difficult? (e.g. physical, emotional, relational)

For example: Facing surgery, going into the military, facing an upcoming battle.

LEARN FROM GOD'S WORD

This week, we are going to focus on John 12:27-36. We have come to "The hour" . . . "for the Son of Man to be glorified." (12:23) Jesus spoke fulfilling His mission to suffer and die in our place. Several things set the stage for our passage:

- Mary anointed Jesus, which became a symbol of preparing Him to die.
- Chief priests made plans to kill Jesus and Lazarus
- Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey, initializing his entry as the Messiah/king
- The Pharisees were concerned that "the whole world has gone after him."
- Some Greeks (non-Jews) were interested in Jesus
- This triggered a response from Jesus: "Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified." Jesus spoke of His impending death and called for His followers to lose their life and follow Him.

Read John 12:27-36 and consider these questions and thoughts.

Tips:

"troubled" = Jesus "soul/heart" was stirred up or troubled at the imminent plan to take on the sins of humankind and be separated from the Father

"heart/soul" = the seat of life and affections, the inner life of a person

"this hour" = the time when Jesus would take on the suffering for the sins of people through the cross

"glorify" = to honor and make known

What do we learn about Jesus' character and His mission?

Jesus knew His mission and that it would be horribly painful – the most anyone has ever experienced. We often think of the physical pain. Yes, it was truly excruciating. But the pain that no one else has ever experienced was bearing the burden, the heartbreak of our sins. Even though He knew He would have to experience the agony of separating from His Father, He was resolved to make it possible for us to know and experience the love and glory of God.

What do you think and feel as you see Jesus facing the cross?

Matthew 26:37-38 The agony of Jesus in the garden – “sorrowful, troubled, overwhelmed with sorrow”

Mark 14:33-36 deeply distressed and troubled. My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death

Luke 22:44 So much agony that He sweat like drops of blood

John 12:27 “Now my heart is troubled”

What does Jesus desire to achieve by fulfilling His mission?

Please His Father

Die in our place

Draw all people to God

It is rare (three times) that God the Father speaks as a voice from heaven. Why do you think it would happen at this time? (28)

The other two were at Jesus’ baptism, the transfiguration. In all three, the Father is authenticating and conjoining with Jesus and His mission.

What four things did Jesus reveal that were about to happen as a result of his death? (31-32)

- 1) Judgement on the world
- 2) Glorify the Father by fulfilling His mission
- 3) The prince of this world will be driven out
- 4) Draw all people to Himself

How did the crowd react to Jesus’ announcement that He would be “lifted up?” (34)

Confused, reactive, doubtful about Him

How did Jesus respond to their questions? (35-36)

Walk in the light while you have the light. Believe/trust now.

Why might Jesus have hidden Himself at this time? (36)

He had completed His public ministry and now needed to focus on His closest disciples and preparing Himself for the hardest hours in all of history.

DISCUSS TOGETHER

This is one of those rare passages that overviews some of what Jesus would accomplish on the cross. How are each of these a gift to us and a reason to praise God? (See the question above on the four things)

The purpose of this is to focus on what Jesus accomplished and bring praise to God. You might want to stop and have a time of worship.

This passage reveals Jesus' passion and pain. What do you think and feel as you reflect on what this reveals about Jesus?

Again, this is about responding to Jesus' love, sacrifice, and accomplishments for us.