

Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. John 12:23-26

If It Dies

Are you listening carefully to me? Are you allowing my words to sink deeply into your heart and mind? I think so, how can I know for sure if I'm really listening to you? **That is easy to know.** How so? **If you do what I ask then we will both know that you are really listening to me.**

What are you asking me to do right now? **I'm asking you to come to follow and serve me. I'm asking you to go to where I lead you to do what I'm asking you to do for me.** What will that require? What will following and serving you cost me? **That's a good question. I don't want you to be at all confused about what I'm asking of you.** That's good. I like clarity. **All right then, here is what I want from you. I want everything. Everything? Yes, everything. I want you to lay your life down so that you are completely devoted to following and serving me. I don't want you to hold anything back at all. I want you to let go and die to your own thoughts and plans.** That's quite an all-encompassing request. **Yes, it is. I'm glad that you understand that there is no part of your life that is outside of my request.** You want me to give myself completely to you? **Yes, I do.**

What will happen to me when I give myself completely to you? **You will join me in the work that I am doing. Where I am, there you will also be, right along side of me. Instead of the barren life that you were living, you will begin to bear abundant fruit for me. Your life will reap a rich harvest because I will be working in and through you. I'd like that. Yes, I know that you will.**

It feels a little scary to give up everything and to die. **Yes, it does. I know exactly how it feels.** You do? **Yes, that's exactly what I did for you. I died so that you could be born again to a new life in me.** Yes, you did. **Do you want this new life that I am offering you?** Yes, I do very much. **So then you must turn away from your old life. You must die to it and give yourself completely to me. Do you trust me?** Yes Lord, I do. **Do you believe all that I am saying to you right now?** Yes Lord, I do. **Then will you die to your old life so that you can live a new life in me?** Yes Lord, I will. **When will you?** Right now Lord, I lay myself at your feet. My life is at your disposal. Use me however you see fit. I am ready to follow and serve you without hesitation at a moment's notice. **Very good, follow me now to where I'm guiding you to serve me.** Yes Lord, I am.

Lord, you have my full attention. This life and the things of the world have lost their grip on me. My eyes and ears are open to you. I am ready to respond to your call at a moments notice. Show me how you want to use me today. Amen

Parables*Kernel Of Wheat*

Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

NIV

John 12:23-26

Parables*Kernel Of Wheat*

And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

ESV

John 12:23-26

Parables*Kernel Of Wheat*

Jesus replied, "Now the time has come for the Son of Man to enter into his glory. I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives. Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity. Anyone who wants to be my disciple must follow me, because my servants must be where I am. And the Father will honor anyone who serves me.

NLT

John 12:23-26

Parables*Kernel Of Wheat*

But Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.

NKJV

John 12:23-26

Parables*Kernel Of Wheat*

Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

NRSV

John 12:23-26

Parables*Kernel Of Wheat*

Jesus answered, "Time's up. The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. "Listen carefully: Unless a grain of wheat is buried in the ground, dead to the world, it is never any more than a grain of wheat. But if it is buried, it sprouts and reproduces itself many times over. In the same way, anyone who holds on to life just as it is destroys that life. But if you let it go, reckless in your love, you'll have it forever, real and eternal. "If any of you wants to serve me, then follow me. Then you'll be where I am, ready to serve at a moment's notice. The Father will honor and reward anyone who serves me.

MSG

John 12:23-26

Parables*Kernel Of Wheat*

And Jesus answered them, The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified and exalted. I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains [just one grain; it never becomes more but lives] by itself alone. But if it dies, it produces many others and yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it, but anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal. [Whoever has no love for, no concern for, no regard for his life here on earth, but despises it, preserves his life forever and ever.] If anyone serves Me, he must continue to follow Me [to cleave steadfastly to Me, conform wholly to My example in living and, if need be, in dying] and wherever I am, there will My servant be also. If anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

AMP

John 12:23-26

Parables*Kernel Of Wheat*

Jesus replied that the time had come for him to return to his glory in heaven, and that "I must fall and die like a kernel of wheat that falls into the furrows of the earth. Unless I die I will be alone—a single seed. But my death will produce many new wheat kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives. If you love your life down here—you will lose it. If you despise your life down here—you will exchange it for eternal glory. "If these Greeks want to be my disciples, tell them to come and follow me, for my servants must be where I am. And if they follow me, the Father will honor them.

TLB

John 12:23-26

Parables*Kernel Of Wheat*

And Jesus *answered them, saying, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. "He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal. "If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

NASB

John 12:23-26

Parables*Kernel Of Wheat*

Jesus said to them, "The time has come for the Son of Man to receive his glory. I tell you the truth, a grain of wheat must fall to the ground and die to make many seeds. But if it never dies, it remains only a single seed. Those who love their lives will lose them, but those who hate their lives in this world will keep true life forever. Whoever serves me must follow me. Then my servant will be with me everywhere I am. My Father will honor anyone who serves me.

NCV

John 12:23-26

Kernel Of Wheat

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Parables – John 12:23-26

In Context: *Read John 12*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Jesus replied, | "The hour | has come | for the | Son of Man | to be glorified. | I tell you | the truth, | unless a kernel | of wheat | falls to the ground | and dies, | it remains | only a | single seed. | But if it dies, | it produces | many seeds. | The man | who loves | his life | will lose it, | while the man | who hates | his life | in this world | will keep it | for eternal life. | Whoever | serves me | must follow me; | and where | I am, | my servant | also will be. | My Father | will honor | the one | who | serves me. John 12:23-26

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, you have my full attention. This life and the things of the world have lost their grip on me. My eyes and ears are open to you. I am ready to respond to your call at a moments notice. Show me how you want to use me today. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How are you attentive to the Lord and ready to serve Him at a moments notice?

When have you set aside something you wanted to do so that you could take on what the Lord had given you to do?

How are you dead to the world and alive to loving, following, and serving the Lord?

How are you following the Lord to where He leads you to do what He asks of you?

Where has the Lord led you to serve Him in a work that He is doing?

Why will loving this life and the things of the world make you unfruitful for Christ?

What fruit has the Lord been able to bear through your life as you have followed and served Him?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Set aside and die to your worldly desires so that you can follow and serve the Lord by doing what He asks of you.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will bear fruit through your life as you die to the world and live for Him.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group what you have set aside so that you could serve the Lord.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

