

Discussion / Reflection Guide -- “Light and Dark” Week of March 25, 2018

Read John 12:12-36

- Jesus received a lot of glory from people on Palm Sunday (vs. 12-15). That was a wonderful day, but as we read further, it sounds like that was not the glory Jesus was really wanting to receive. See vs. 23-24.
- Jesus spoke about being glorified and then immediately begins talking about a kernel of wheat producing many seeds if it dies (vs. 23-24). What is he talking about? What’s the connection between Jesus being glorified and a seed dying? How can that give Jesus glory?
- Jesus has talked in other places about not “loving” this life and following Him (see Mat. 16:24; Luke 9:23). Those other passages speak about dying (take up our cross) as part of the process of becoming His disciple. What does it mean for us to “hate” our lives and “die” to selves? Why is that necessary in order to be a follower of Jesus?
- Not only is Jesus to be honored by dying (vs. 23), but in a way, so are we (vs. 26). In what way does God “honor” us when we make the decision to “hate” our lives and “die” to selves as a part of following Jesus? Will that happen in this life, in heaven, or both?
- Jesus talks about turning away from the dark and “trusting in the light” and becoming “children of the light” (vs. 35-36). Who or what is the light (see John 1:4-5; 8:12)? What does it mean to walk / trust in the light? What does it mean to become children of light? How can we know we are children of light who will not receive judgment?