

Sermon Notes

“Openly Expressing Allegiance to Jesus”

John 12

September 11, 2016

5. a. What do you learn about Jesus' death from his illustration about the grain of wheat (12:24)? How did His death bear much fruit? (See Romans 5:15-19; 1 Peter 2:24.)

b. In the subsequent verses, Jesus extends this principle of death as a prerequisite of fruitfulness to us as well. How do you understand this?

6. Read 12:37-50. In what personal circumstance do you want to seek God's acceptance over the praise and acceptance of others?

Introduction:

1. Misplaced _____ (12:42-43)

2. Unashamed _____ (12:1-5)

Let's Pray:

Your Identity

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Your Image

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(Sammy Rhodes, *6 Ways to Smash the Approval Idol*, August 18, 2016)

Conclusion:

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 9-11-16

Questions adapted from Karen Lee-Thorp, ed., John: Life Change Series, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1987, pp. 127-138; Jim Petersen, Living Proof, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1989, pp. 236-37; James Galvin, ed., et al., New Testament Lesson Maker, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, pp. 174-75.

Getting Started:

1. Why do people seek fame and the acceptance of others?

Digging Deeper:

2. Read John 12:1-8.
 - a. How do you interpret Mary's feelings and reasons for what she does in 12:3?
 - b. Are you inclined to feel that Mary's act was an extravagant waste of what could have been spent on the poor? Why or why not?

- c. Was this a unique situation, or does it have relevance for our priorities? Explain.
- d. Judas' pretended altruism and compassion was really selfishness (12:5-6). When have we masked our own selfishness with the appearance of concern for others?

3. Read 12:9-19. What impresses you most about this scene?

4. Read 12:20-36.

- a. John never does tell us whether the Greeks got to see Jesus. He only records Jesus' response. The coming of the Gentiles signaled to Jesus that the hour had arrived for both Jesus (12:23) and his Father (12:27-28) to be glorified. What events were going to glorify the Father and the Son (12:24, 30-33)?
- b. Why did these events, which appeared to be defeat and humiliation, actually glorify the Father and the Son?