

“Unless a Kernel of Wheat...”

John 12:20-50

Key Verse: 24, “Very truly I tell you, 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.”

1. Who came to Jesus and why (20-22)? What was on Jesus’ mind at this time (23)? How did Jesus illustrate the meaning of his upcoming death (24)? How did his death produce many seeds?
2. What discipleship teaching did Jesus give (25-26)? How do these teachings follow the kernel of wheat principle? How do they apply to you?
3. Why was Jesus troubled and what did he do about it (27)? What was his earnest prayer topic (28a)? How did God respond and why (28b-30)? What does this interaction reveal about the relationship between the Father and the Son?
4. Who is the prince of this world and how does Jesus’ death affect him (31; 14:30; 16:11)? What did Jesus mean by “lifted up” (or, “exalted”) and how would this draw all people to himself (32-33; 3:14)? What questions did the crowd ask (34)? What did Jesus want them to do (35-36)?
5. How did the author understand the people’s rebellious unbelief (37-38)? What is the scary result of rebellious unbelief (39-41; Isa 6:10)? What was some secret believers’ real problem (42-43)?
6. How was Jesus’ final public cry a summary of his public ministry (44-50)? What two paths does Jesus present? What words of Jesus have you accepted from this study?