
A SEED MUST DIE BEFORE FRUIT CAN GROW.

- Gentiles seeking to **know** Jesus and religious experts seeking to **kill** Jesus – 12:20-22

Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. ²¹ So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²² Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.

- To stay on **target** you have to stay out of the **weeds** – 12:23
And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

- A **seed** must die before fruit can **grow** – 12:24-26
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. ²⁵ Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ 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.

“Christ came into the world to preach the gospel, but he came on a greater errand than that, namely, to provide a gospel that could be preached.” – Charles Spurgeon¹

- Pressure can **fatigue** us or **focus** us on God’s glory – 12:27-33
“Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹ The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰ Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. ³¹ Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³ He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

¹ Charles H. Spurgeon, Spurgeon’s Verse Exposition Of John: The Expansive Commentary Collection, p. 226.