

Be Glorified

Word

Scripture Reference

John 12:20-28

Discussion Questions

1. If you are on Facebook or other social media apps, are you affected by how many “likes” you get on your posts? Why?
2. During His years of ministry on earth, Jesus became really famous. The Pharisees who hated Him recognized that the whole world has gone after Him (v. 12:19). Even Greeks who were not Jewish wanted to see Him (v. 12:20). Did Jesus ever think of Himself as famous/popular? Did He think of being glorified for Himself? Read John 12:20-28. What “hour” was Jesus talking about (v. 23)? What did Jesus fulfill in obedience to His Father?
3. For Jesus, His glory comes not for gaining glory for Himself (by being well-known), but by fulfilling the will of the Father. Jesus shows us in this passage what it means to give God the glory. Firstly, to give God the glory is an act of obedience to the Father’s will. Jesus’ act of obedience would give glory to His Father. What did Jesus mean about a kernel of wheat? How does a seed grow and produce many more seeds? Why is Jesus’ death not a defeat but an accomplishment of the will of God? How did His death produce many “seeds?”
4. As Jesus’ follower, the purpose of your life is to honor God in obedience, to obey God’s commands based on His Word. It is to take refuge in Christ for the forgiveness of sin. It is to know Christ based on scripture. It is to serve Him with a loving heart, to do good works out of gratitude for God’s goodness. It is to exercise self-denial and a total surrender to His will. As Jesus’ follower, how do you live in obedience to Him? Where do you base your obedience to Him? What are the things in your life that you can let go in obedience to God?
5. Secondly, to give glory to God means to have the attitude of saying to Him, “Not my will, but Your will be done” (v. 27-28). As the scripture

states, the agony of facing His death was not easy for Jesus, yet He said to the Father, “Glorify Your Name!” Jesus was saying to the Father, “Not my will, but Your will be done.” In your Christian life, how do you seek God’s will? Discuss the times when you find it difficult to sincerely say, “Not my will Lord, but Your will be accomplished in my life.” Where should your focus be when you are going through challenges in life? How can hardships be an opportunity to glorify God in your life?

Walk

“My heart I give you Lord promptly and sincerely.” This is the life motto of John Calvin, one of the Fathers of the Reformation. Does this describe your heart? Examine yourself and see if you can honestly say, “Lord, here is my heart. I give it to you now to use as you will.” Evaluate your daily thoughts, actions, and decisions:

- Are you less concerned for how others see you and more for how they see Christ?
- Are you less focused on what you deserve and more on what you owe Christ?
- Are you less preoccupied with your rights and more on what it means to be a servant of God?

Glory for yourself will not give you the joy and fulfillment you seek in your life. Only Jesus can do that. Here are some ways on how you can glorify God this week:

- Find your identity and worth in Christ, instead of your achievements or possessions. You are a sinner condemned, but you were saved by grace through Jesus Christ. God is your Father. You are His child.
- Surrender your will to Christ (Galatians 2:20).
- Fill up on Christ’s thoughts, not yours (Romans 12:2). What you focus your mind on will determine whether there’s more of Jesus or more of you.
- Order your behavior like and for Christ. Be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger (James 1:19)

Worship & Prayer

Heavenly Father, I am in awe of how Jesus has glorified Your Name by His obedience in doing Your will. By His obedience, I am saved and have eternal life. Lord, as Your child, I must admit that many times, I am guilty of not glorifying you in my life. There are times that I am more concerned about how others see me, instead of them seeing You in me. Forgive me Lord. Help me to surrender my will to You and to fill my thoughts with You. Help me to live a life that is pleasing to you and will give glory to Your Name. In Jesus Name. Amen.