



# Grace Life Church *of Dallas*

The doctrines of grace, the life of the Spirit, to the glory of God



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# **Gospel of John**

## **John 12:20-26**

### **The Glory of Christ**

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## John 12:20-26

*20 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. 23 And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 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.*

### 3 Main points of focus:

- The Glory of Christ Displayed (v23)
- The Glory of Christ Illustrated (v24)
- The Glory of Christ Applied (v25-26)

*20 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.*

***23 And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.***

- The glory of Jesus Christ will not come through self-exaltation, but through self-humiliation. The humbling of himself to the point of death, even death on a cross.
- It is the cross of Jesus Christ on Calvary that will display the glory of Jesus Christ
  - **1 Cor 2:2** *For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.*
- Spurgeon- “Christ’s death is his glory and it ought to also be ours....To spiritual eyes, the Christ of God was never more glorious than when he was nailed to the cross of Calvary...A glory, never equaled, shone around the Conqueror of death and hell when he bowed his head, and said, “*It is finished.*”

*24 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.*

- JC Ryle comments here “This sentence was primarily meant to teach the wondering Greeks the true nature of Messiah’s kingdom...Our Lord would have them know that He came to carry a cross, and not to wear a crown. He came not to live a life of honor, ease, and magnificence, but to die a shameful and dishonored death. The kingdom He came to set up was to begin with a crucifixion, and not with a coronation. Its glory was to take rise not from victories won by the sword, and from accumulated treasures of gold and silver, but from the death of its King.”
- **Romans 11:33** *Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!*

***25 Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.***

- The path for the glory of Jesus was through self-denial and the cross of Calvary.
- The path for the glory of Jesus in our lives is through self-denial and our own daily cross.
- Whoever tries to find his/her life in this world, and the things this world can offer, will lose it.
- But whoever has found life in Christ and not in this world, will keep it forever.
- What is your consuming thought? What do I stand to lose in self-denial, or what do I stand to gain in self-denial?
- **Luke 9:23** *And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.*
- **Matt 16:26** *For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul?*

***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.***

- Christians by definition are followers of Jesus Christ. Jesus is Lord and Savior or nothing at all
- If we are serving Christ then we are dying daily, taking up our cross and following Him
- *Where I am, there will my servant be also*
  - This is not a command but a promise. Followers of Jesus experience His presence
  - A.M. Hunter noted “It has been said that *follow me* is the whole of a Christians duty, as to be where Christ is is the whole of his reward.”



- **Ps 86:10-12** *For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness. 11 For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly. 12 O Lord of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you!*
- *If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.*
  - Why would we seek the approval of the world when the honor of the Father awaits those who serve Christ?
- **Luke 16:13** *No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”*
- **Heb 11:24-26** *By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, <sup>25</sup> choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. <sup>26</sup> He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.*

To you who boast tomorrow's gain  
Tell me what is your life  
A mist that vanishes at dawn  
All glory be to Christ!