



Announcement

- Be in prayer for the last weekend of February as the search firm will be visiting to work with the church to finalize our search process. Consider signing up for a Focus Group.
- Challenge for the group to read over next week's text which is all of John 13 a few times before next Sunday

Conversation Starter

- Share a story of when you "wanted to die" because you were so embarrassed.

Sermon Discussion:

Read John 12:20-50 as a group. (Maybe have everyone read a few verses to keep all engaged)

- In this text, we have words that lead to phrases that we might use a lot in the church but might not all know exactly what they mean. What do you think is the deeper meaning of these phrases?
 - **"Die to self"**
 - **Read John 12:25.** We often pull the phrase "die to self" from from "hate one's life" in this verse
 - Look up these other verses with this idea: **Galatians 2:20, Luke 9:23, Luke 14:33, Philippians 1:21.**
 - What does this look like in our everyday lives? What does it not look like?
 - Is it possible to follow Christ with a focus on our own comforts?
 - How is John 12:42-43 an example of this and how do we practically wrestle with this tension in everyday life?
 - **"For God's Glory"**
 - **Read John 12: 28-29** Jesus is bringing glory to the Father in these verses. You will often hear people say "For God's Glory."

- What does that look like in everyday life? What does it not look like?
- This was Tylor's Definition of Glorifying God:

"Praise and Worship (God) - To Acknowledge and reveal the majesty and splendor of (God) by one's Actions."

- How can we imperfect humans bring glory to a Holy God?
- Is there anything else from Tylor's sermon that we have not talked about yet that you would like to discuss?

Going Deeper/Application:

- **Read John 12:24-26** again
 - What will be the positive results of dying, hating our life, serving Christ, and following Him?
- One theologian says If we only see the **hard part**, we will miss the power and the freedom. If we only see the **glorious part**, we will minimize the sacrifice.
 - Do you agree or disagree?
 - How can we live this out?

Final Challenge:

(Consider breaking up into separate genders for this part and prayer)

- In your life right now, what would following Christ through pain, uncertainty or uncomfortable situations look like?
 - Is there something that must die for your life and ministry to bear more fruit?
 - Is there something specific you feel God asking you to do? Are you willing to share with the group?

Prayer Time:

Instead of taking prayer requests, spend timing praying for each other based on what is shared in the "Final Challenge" (Either as a whole or after breaking up into genders)