



SMALL GROUP GUIDE

Dying to Find Life (John 12:20-26)

Key Takeaways:

1. Following Jesus requires death to self but results in fullness of life.
2. Growth and maturity in Christ can only happen when we die to ourselves.
3. Our lives are meant to bring glory to Christ, not ourselves.
4. Dying to self is an ongoing, daily process that is challenging but ultimately rewarding.

Discussion Questions:

1. What does Jesus mean when He says, "unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit" (John 12:24)? How does this relate to our spiritual lives?
2. Pastor Nick mentions that we are "glory thieves" in our sin nature. In what ways do you see this tendency in your own life? How can we redirect our desire for glory towards God?
3. Discuss the paradox Jesus presents in John 12:25: "Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life." What does this mean practically in our daily lives?
4. How does our culture's message of "living your best life now" contrast with Jesus' call to die to self? What challenges does this present for Christians today?
5. The sermon states, "Our lives were meant to be rung out for Jesus." What might this look like in different areas of life (e.g., family, work, relationships, leisure time)?
6. Reflect on Galatians 2:20. What does it mean to be "crucified with Christ" and to have Christ living in you? How can we cultivate this mindset?

Practical Applications:

1. Self-Reflection: Take time this week to identify areas in your life where you're holding onto control or seeking personal glory. Write these down and pray for God's help in surrendering them.
2. Serving Others: Choose one way to intentionally serve someone else this week, putting their needs before your own. Reflect on how this experience impacts your understanding of dying to self.
3. Daily Surrender: Each morning this week, start your day with a prayer of surrender, offering yourself as a "living sacrifice" (Romans 12:1-2).
4. Accountability: Share with a trusted friend or group member one specific area where you want to grow in dying to self. Ask them to check in with you and pray for you in this area.
5. Eternal Perspective: When faced with decisions this week, pause and consider the eternal impact rather than just the immediate gratification. How might this change your choices?