

"Much Fruit"

- Opening Announcements
- Opening Prayer

Q: What kind of "fruit" would you like to see in your life?

Q: What does a "fruitful life" indicate?

Q: Have you ever wondered what God would like to see from your life?

Table Time: at your table, read and discuss the following

John 12:20-36 "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. ²⁷ "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."

Q: What do "Greeks" going up to worship indicate?

HINT: 1 Kings 8:41-43 "Likewise, when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a far country for your name's sake ⁴² (for they shall hear of your great name and your mighty hand, and of your outstretched arm), when he comes and prays toward this house, ⁴³ hear in heaven your dwelling place and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to you, in order that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and that they may know that this house that I have built is called by your name."

Q: What does THAT tell you about God?

Q: What does Jesus' seeming "non-answer" to the Greeks in 23-26 mean?

Q: What does verse 27 indicate? WHAT was Jesus' "purpose" AND, how does that relate to the "Greeks"?

Q: According to verses 25-26, what does THAT mean?

BIG GROUP RECAP...

READ: John 12: 28-36 "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. **34** So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" **35** So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. **36** While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light."

Q: Jesus switches to a prayer in verse 28. Then what happens? Why is THIS significant?

Q: According to verse 29, what did the crowd think happened?

Q: According to verse 30, how did Jesus interpret it for the people?

Q: According to verse 31, what's going on the "heavenly realm"?

Q: According to verse 32, what does THIS refer too? What will be it's effect on "all people"? How does that happen?

Q: According to verse 34, what's the people's response? Why was their confusion over Jesus? How is there STILL confusion over Jesus today?

Q: According to verses 35-36, what figure of speech does Jesus use to answer their questions?

Q: How does what Jesus say, help us understand Jesus, His mission and His desire for us?