



Life Group Discussion Guide
“Count Down to the Cross” – John 11:55-12:36
Scott Paulson – March 10, 2024

Main thought:

As the countdown to the cross continues, there are various responses to Jesus. The question we need to ask is what group best describes us and what are the implications of the position we find ourselves in?

Outline:

The **curious** (John 11:55-57)
The **committed** (John 12:1-3)
The **counterfeit** (John 12:4-6)

Ice-Breaker

- If you could have dinner with any historical figure who would it be and why?

Digging In

Read John 11:55-12:8 and discuss the following questions.

- How have you been encouraged by the different ways people in your group demonstrate their commitment to Christ?
- What stands out to you regarding Mary’s worship and gift to Jesus?
- What caution(s) stand out to you in terms of Judas’ response to Mary and to his counterfeit orientation in general?

Read John 12:9-36 and discuss the following questions.

- Reflecting on the scene of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, what was the crowd thinking and feeling? What does their perspective teach or reveal for us today?
- What stands out to you in terms of the illustration Jesus gives regarding the grain of wheat? What does this teach us about Jesus and about how we should respond as his followers?
- Discuss the significance of Jesus' words in John 12:27-28, where he expresses distress about his impending death but submits to God's will. How can we learn from Jesus' example of surrender and obedience in difficult times?
- What message do you take from John 12:35-36?

Application

- Which truths from this passage will you apply this week?

Praying as a group

- How can we be praying for each other this week?