



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

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John 12:20-26 Study Hints for Discussion

[Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further](#) are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The [Class Preparation Guide](#) includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class; then, they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible lesson. And/Or, consider giving each student the [Verse-by-Verse Scripture Handout](#), which includes the Bible verses to be studied before class and other questions.

1. Who came to the Passover Festival and asked to see Jesus? Who did they ask? Who went to ask Jesus?

Some Greeks asked to see Jesus. They went to Philip. Then, Philip went to Andrew. Andrew and Philip went to see Jesus. The text does not indicate that when Andrew and Philip went to tell Jesus about the request of these Greeks that they took the Greeks with them. So, these Greeks may or may not have talked to Jesus. They may or may not have heard what Jesus said in John 12:23 and the following verses.

2. What did Jesus say when He learned of their request? What do you think He meant?

Jesus said, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.” He may have meant that Andrew and Philip would need to answer the questions of the Greeks, and because His hour had come that in the future the disciples would carry on His work.

3. What did Jesus say happens to a grain of wheat when it dies? What do you think He meant?

If it dies, it can bear much fruit. One grain of wheat can bear many grains of wheat. Jesus meant that He was going to die, and that His death and resurrection would lead to many followers going forth throughout the world spreading the good news about Him; furthermore, He would be with and the Holy Spirit would dwell within each of them. More people would be reached than He could reach alone as one solitary human being.

4. What must a servant of Jesus do? What did Jesus say was the result?

A servant of His must follow/obey Him. The one who follows Him will be where He is.

5. What did Jesus promise those who served Him? What does this mean to you?

Those who serve Him will be honored by God the Father. It means to me that when I serve Jesus my service to Jesus and others as He leads me according to the Scriptures and as the Holy Spirit empowers and enables me is noticed by God the Father as important to God and helpful to others.

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