SMITH FOR CHRIST · TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN · LEADER'S SHEET · THURSDAY FEB 4

John **12** · week 12 of 21

The Hour Has Come · Answers and notes for Thursday

READ MONDAY – WEDNESDAY · MEET THURSDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 4

Answers to every worksheet question, with the exact NASB key-word counts. Personal questions are marked "Personal."

THE WEEK

Monday	Read John 12 straight through, then again with a pen and mark it · Mon, Feb 1
Tuesday	Read the study notes; answer the Observe questions and count the key words · Tue, Feb 2
Wednesday	Interpret, Weigh the Teachers, the Word study and Apply · Wed, Feb 3
Thursday evening	Together: watch the John 12 part of the film, go through the worksheet, pray · Thu, Feb 4

KEY VERSE

> **JOHN 12:24 · NASB**
>
> *"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."*

Jesus' last public chapter in John. A costly gift at supper, a King on a donkey, Greeks who want to see Him, a troubled soul, a voice from heaven, and a crowd that will not believe.

John 12 *The Hour Has Come*

KEY VERSE 12:24

Theme of the chapter. The hour has come for the Son to be glorified, and His glory is the cross: a grain of wheat that dies to bear much fruit. Mary's extravagant love, the crowd's hosannas and the Greeks' request all point to Him, yet many will not believe. He came not to judge the world but to save it.

KEY WORD COUNTS (NASB)

hour	**3**	vv. 23, 27 (×2)
glory / glorify / glorified	**6**	vv. 16, 23, 28 (×3), 41
Light	**6**	vv. 35 (×2), 36 (×3), 46
believe / believed / believes	**7**	vv. 36, 38, 39, 42, 44 (×2), 46
world	**7**	vv. 19, 25, 31 (×2), 46, 47 (×2)
judge / judgment	**4**	vv. 31, 47 (×2), 48

JOHN 12:1–11 The Supper at Bethany

1 OBSERVE *What did Mary do, and what happened to the house (12:3)?*

> She took a pound of very costly pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. "The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume" (12:3).

2 OBSERVE *What did Judas object, and what does John say was the real reason (12:5–6)?*

> "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and given to poor people?" He said it "not because he was concerned about the poor, but because he was a thief" (12:6).

3 WEIGH THE TEACHERS *Sproul sets Mary beside Caiaphas: the council calculated, Mary worshiped, "a reckless manifestation of extravagant love and worship." Guzik: "Judas successfully hid the darkness of his heart from everyone except Jesus." Which heart is closer to yours?*

> Personal. Three hundred denarii was about a year's wages. Jesus said she kept it "for the day of My burial" (12:7).

4 INTERPRET *Does "you always have the poor with you" (12:8) excuse neglecting them? Read Deuteronomy 15:11.*

> No. Deuteronomy 15:11 goes on to command open-handed giving. His point was timing: "you do not always have Me" (12:8).

JOHN 12:12–19 The Entry

5 OBSERVE *What did the crowd carry and shout, and what did Jesus ride (12:13–14)?*

> Palm branches. "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel" (12:13). He found a young donkey and sat on it (12:14).

6 INTERPRET *Read Zechariah 9:9 and 14:4, 9. What kind of King came on the donkey, and what kind will come again?*

> A humble King, coming to save. Guzik: the crowd saw a political savior more than a spiritual one. The same prophet saw Him standing on the Mount of Olives as King over all the earth. The first coming was on a colt; the second will be in glory.

JOHN 12:20–26 The Greeks and the Grain

7 OBSERVE *Who comes asking for Jesus, what do they say, and what is Jesus' answer (12:20–23)?*

> Some Greeks: "Sir, we wish to see Jesus" (12:21). Jesus answers, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified" (12:23).

8 OBSERVE *What happens to a grain of wheat that does not die, and to one that dies (12:24)?*

> Unless it falls into the earth and dies, "it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit" (12:24).

9 WEIGH THE TEACHERS *Spurgeon: "Death precedes growth." Guzik, quoting Spurgeon: "We are not saved by service, but we are saved to service." How does 12:24 apply first to Jesus, and then to you (12:25–26)?*

> First to His death, which bears the harvest. Then to us: the self-protected life remains alone. "If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me" (12:26).

10 APPLY *What part of your life are you protecting that needs to fall into the ground?*

> Personal.

JOHN 12:27–36 The Troubled Soul

11 OBSERVE *What does Jesus say about His soul, and what does He pray instead of "save Me" (12:27–28)? How does heaven answer?*

> "Now My soul has become troubled." He refuses "Father, save Me from this hour," for "for this purpose I came to this hour." He prays, "Father, glorify Your name." A voice: "I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again" (12:28).

12 INTERPRET *Guzik: "Jesus received this crucial hour, yet it troubled Him." Is being troubled a sin?*

> No. Being troubled is not sin; refusing the Father's will would be. Jesus was troubled and still prayed, "glorify Your name."

13 OBSERVE *What does Jesus say will happen when He is lifted up (12:31–32), and what did He mean (12:33)?*

> "Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself" (12:31–32). He was showing "the kind of death by which He was to die" (12:33).

JOHN 12:37–43 John's Verdict on Unbelief

14 OBSERVE *Despite so many signs, how did the people respond (12:37)? Which prophet does John quote twice (12:38–40)?*

> "They were not believing in Him" (12:37). Isaiah, from Isaiah 53:1 and 6:10.

15 INTERPRET *John says, "These things Isaiah said because he saw His glory" (12:41). Read Isaiah 6:1. Whom did Isaiah see on the throne?*

> Jesus. Sproul: "Isaiah saw Christ on the throne in His glory before Christ was even born." The Lord on the throne and the Servant of Isaiah 53 are one Person.

16 OBSERVE *Why did some of the rulers who believed not confess Him (12:42–43)?*

> Because of the Pharisees, so they would not be put out of the synagogue, "for they loved the approval of men rather than the approval of God" (12:43).

17 APPLY *Whose approval are you living for? Where has that kept you quiet about Jesus?*

> Personal. The study's confession: loving the approval of men. Nicodemus and Joseph (19:38–39) show secret believers can come into the open.

JOHN 12:44–50 The Last Public Cry

18 OBSERVE *What did Jesus come to do and not do (12:46–47)? What will judge the one who rejects Him (12:48)?*

> "I have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness" (12:46). He did not come to judge the world but to save the world (12:47). "The word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day" (12:48).

WORD STUDY

19 WORD *kokkos (G2848), a single seed, a grain. Jesus says the seed "remains alone" unless it dies (12:24). What would Jesus have been left alone without, and what harvest came from His death?*

> Without the cross He would have no redeemed people. His death bears much fruit, people from every nation.

20 WORD *tarassō (G5015), to stir up, to trouble. Jesus' soul was troubled (12:27). Two chapters later He says, "Do not let your heart be troubled" (14:1). How does His trouble make that command possible?*

> He took the trouble of the cross on Himself, so His people can rest in Him.

ACTS 17:11 The Chosen check

> ACTS 17:11 · NASB
> *"...examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so."*

WATCH THIS WEEK
Season 4, Episode 8, "Humble" (12:1–8) and Season 5, Episode 1, "Entry" (12:12–36)

Answers and notes for the Chosen check. Let the group find the differences in the text before you give them.

C1 OBSERVE

Read 12:20–22. Who are the Greeks who ask to see Jesus? Who does the show make them?

> John says only "some Greeks" who came up to worship at the feast. The show makes them Gentiles from the Decapolis whom it introduced in Season 3.

C2 OBSERVE

Read 12:4–6. What does John say was Judas's real motive? How does the show portray Judas's motives?

> He was a thief and stole from the money box. Discuss whether the show's more sympathetic Judas matches John's plain statement.

C3 INTERPRET

What did the episode add that John 12 does not say? Does the addition help you see the text, or does it change what the text means?

> Additions are not automatically wrong; they are not Scripture. The test is whether an addition changes what the text says about Jesus.

C4 APPLY

The Bereans received the word eagerly and examined the Scriptures daily (Acts 17:11). Where are you most tempted to let a picture, a sermon or a feeling stand in for the text?

> Personal. Press for one concrete habit: reading the chapter before watching, and checking every scene against it.

The Chosen is a drama, not Scripture. God's Word is the truth; where the film differs, the Word wins.