

# SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Winter 2026:  
week 5

In John 12:20–36, some Greeks come seeking Jesus, signaling that His mission is expanding to the whole world. Jesus responds by announcing that His “hour” has come — the time for His death and glorification. Using the image of a grain of wheat that must die to produce many seeds, He explains that His death will bring life to many, and that anyone who follows Him must be willing to surrender their own life as well. Though deeply troubled, Jesus chooses obedience to the Father, and a voice from heaven affirms that God will be glorified through what is about to happen.

Jesus then declares that His crucifixion will bring judgment on the world, defeat Satan, and draw all people to Himself. While some in the crowd are confused and struggle to believe, Jesus urges them to trust in Him while they still have the light, so they can become “children of light” before darkness overtakes them. The passage highlights both the cost of following Jesus and the universal invitation to believe in Him.

## Getting To Know You

*Ice-breakers are designed to establish common ground, help you get to know other people and share a little bit about your life.*

- 1. What’s one goal or dream you had as a kid that makes you laugh now?**
- 2. If money and time weren’t an issue, where would you go for a month?**
- 3. Who is currently having a big positive influence on your life? How are they helping you?**

## Digging Deeper

*These questions are designed to help you dig deeper into the sermon topic, relevant scriptures, and provide deeper opportunities for reflection.*

### **1. Pastor Steve's sermon began with the topic of Destination Sickness.**

(believing happiness, fulfillment, or peace exists only in some future achievement, season, or circumstance.) **Have you ever caught yourself thinking, "I'll be happy when..." — when life slows down, finances improve, kids grow up, you reach a goal, or circumstances change?**

- **What "future destination" do you most often look to for fulfillment?**
- **How has that mindset affected your joy, contentment, or relationships today?**
- **Do you find yourself overlooking God's presence and blessings in the present?**
- **Read Philippians 4:11–13. What would it look like to experience contentment right now?**

### **2. Read the following verses. 1 John 3:4, James 4:17, and Romans 3:23.**

**How has your understanding of sin changed over time? Do you tend to see sin as a mistake, a weakness, or deliberate disobedience to God?**

- **Why do you think we sometimes minimize sin or rename it?**
- **How does seeing sin accurately change our need for Jesus?**

- **What difference does repentance make compared to just feeling bad?**

**3. Read John 12:24–26 and Luke 9:23-25. Jesus teaches that following Him often requires sacrifice. Can you share a time when obedience to Jesus cost you something?**

- **What did you gain spiritually, even if you lost something temporarily?**

- **Is there an area right now where you sense God asking for costly obedience?**

**4. Read Proverbs 3:5–6, Matthew 6:25–34, and Psalm 37:3–5. Jesus doesn't just want to save us — He wants to lead every area of our lives. What is one area where you struggle to trust God or release control and why is this area hard to surrender?**

- **What do you fear might happen if you fully trusted God?**

- **What practical step could you take this week to trust Him more?**

## Application

*The goal is life transformation, not simple discussion. Application is how we live differently because of this week's teachings and discussions.*

### **1. Read John 12:35–36. Jesus invites people to believe in Him and become “children of light.”**

- **Who is your “one” — the person God has placed in your life who needs Jesus?**
- **What opportunities has God already given you to influence them?**
- **What fears or barriers hold you back from sharing your faith?**
- **How can this group support you in loving and reaching them?**

## Prayer Requests

*Take time to record prayer requests here. Confidentiality is an important part of a healthy small group.*

**Spend some time praying by name for your “one,” asking God to open their heart and give you courage, wisdom, and love.**