

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

*Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.*

Jan 2016

## *John: Jesus is the Christ*

### **Lesson #14: The Hour**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

What would you do if you knew that you were going to die soon?

#### **OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION**

##### **Read John 12:20-36, 13:1**

*Note: There were many “non-Jews” who believed in the true God and followed the moral teachings, but didn’t completely convert to Judaism with acts such as circumcision. The businesswoman Lydia (Acts 16:4) and the Roman soldier Cornelius (Lk 10:2) are examples of these “worshippers of God.”*

1. Why were some Greeks in Jerusalem for the Jewish holiday – the Feast of Unleavened Bread?
2. Why did Philip have to get approval for the Greeks to meet with Jesus?
3. What did Jesus say that revealed a change? Jn 2:4 How does he feel about his mission?
4. What is Jesus concerned about? 2 Cor 5:21
5. What can we learn from Jesus about how to handle anxiety? Mt 26:38-39
6. How did the Father feel about Jesus’ mission? Mt 3:17
7. Who is the prince of this world? (v. 31) 1 Jn 4:4
8. Who is the “Son of Man?” Jn 3:14-15
9. What does Jesus mean that he will be “lifted up?” Acts 2:31-33

*Note: While judgement can be viewed as eschatological, the cross, John sees the cross as the dividing point of the history of the world. He seems to be saying that everyone has been and will be judged by this event.*

10. Why doesn’t the crowd grasp Jesus’ mission? (v. 34)

#### **APPLICATION**

When did you recognize and accept Jesus’ mission (hour)? Why?

*In his book, Reaching the Invisible God, author Philip Yancey tells the story about his wife, Janet, who lead a weekly “Christian Circle” at a local nursing home. After a few weeks, Janet realized that an Alzheimer’s patient named Betsy had retained the ability to read but had no comprehension of what she was reading. One Friday the senior citizens selected “The Old Rugged Cross” for Betsy to read. “On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of suff’ring and shame,” she began, and stopped. She suddenly got agitated. “I can’t go on. It’s too sad. Too sad.” she said. Some of the seniors gasped. In years of living at the nursing home, not once had Betsy shown the ability to put words together meaningfully. After a pause she started reading again, and stopped at the same place. A tear made a trail down each cheek. “I can’t go on. It’s so sad.” she said, unaware she had said the same thing two minutes ago. Finally, when Betsy seemed tranquil, Janet led her to her room. Betsy began singing the hymn from memory! On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross The emblem of suff’ring and shame. Somewhere in that tattered mind, damaged neurons had tapped into a network of old connections to resurrect a pattern of meaning for Betsy. In her confusion, two things stood out: suffering and shame. Those two words summarize the human condition, the condition she lives in every day of her sad life. Who knows more suffering and shame than Betsy? For her, the hymn answered that question: Jesus does.*

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