

THE LIFE OF
JESUS

Message 28
Finding Life

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► **Outline**

Today's Message based on *The Life of Jesus* – Reading 159
(John 12:20-50)

The one who loves his life will lose it, and the one who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

John 12:25 (HCSB)

Life is found through:

1. _____ **Jesus.**
(John 12:20-23. C/R: John 17:3; Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)

2. _____ **my life to Christ.**
(John 12:24-26; 32-33; 42-43. C/R: Luke 14:26;
John 15:5)

3. _____ **God's voice.**
(John 12:49-50. C/R: John 6:63; 11:25; 20:31;
Ephesians 3:19)

Answers: 1. Seeking 2. Submitting 3. Sensing

Resource Information: Unless otherwise noted, outline and onscreen verses are from HCSB version (Holman Christian Standard Bible) of *The Holy Bible*. Our resource book for this series is *The Life of Jesus, A Simplified Harmony of the Gospels*, which is available in the Bookstore. C/R, if noted, refers to a 'cross reference' of Scripture verse(s). Today's outline and discussion guide are available to mobile device users through the Brookwood Church app available through your favorite app store.

► Discussion Guide

Use this guide to help you draw closer to God. Take your time as you step through these questions. Ask God to speak to you in His Word. Find a Small Group at brookwoodchurch.org/smallgroups.

Conversation Starter

Name and briefly describe someone you know personally who lived a truly successful life. What made that person so successful?

Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

Read [John 12:20-26](#) (The beginning of Reading #159 in *The Life of Jesus*).

1. Why were the Greeks at the festival? Does that part of the story surprise you? *Why or why not?*
2. Jesus told His mother in [John 2:4](#) that His time had *not yet come*. Similar statements can be found in [John 7:6, 8, 30; 8:20](#). Now, in [John 12:23](#), He says the time *has come*. What is the time that has come and how does that connect to Jesus' comments about a grain of wheat falling into the ground and dying ([vs. 24](#))?
3. In [vs. 25](#), what does it mean to *love your life*? What does it mean to *hate your life*? What is Jesus trying to get us to understand? If you were to live this out, what would that look like?
4. How would you summarize the meaning of [John 12:23-26](#) to someone who is not a follower of Christ?
5. Have you ever had to suffer in order to make something better for someone else? What sacrifices can you make to enrich the lives of others around you?

Read [John 12:44-50](#) (the end of Reading #159 in *The Life of Jesus*).

6. Jesus wants us to *walk in the light*. In what area of your life do you have a difficult time experiencing God or seeing Him at work?

7. Why did Jesus repeatedly emphasize that He did not speak on His own initiative, but only spoke what the Father commanded? What point was He making here?
8. What can we learn about *sensing God's voice* from the following passages?
 - a. [Jeremiah 33:3](#)
 - b. [Proverbs 2:1-5](#)
 - c. [Mark 4:24-25](#)
 - d. [John 6:63](#)
 - e. [James 1:22-25](#)

Soul Training

Write down one truth from this week's teaching that is most important to you. Put this somewhere you'll see it often. Do this to help you practice *walking in the truth*. (See [Psalm 86:11](#); [3 John 1:4](#))

Memory Verse

The one who loves his life will lose it, and the one who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.
[John 12:25 \(HCSB\)](#)

Daily Reading

Day	<i>The Life of Jesus</i> Reading #	or	Bible Reference
July 31	156		John 11:55-12:1, 9-11
August 1	157		Matthew 21:1-11 ; Mark 11:1-11 ; Luke 19:28-44 ; John 12:12-19
August 2	158		Matthew 21:12-19 ; Mark 11:12-19 ; Luke 19:45-48
August 3	159		John 12:20-50
August 4	160		Matthew 21:19-22 ; Mark 11:20-26

Prepare for Next Sunday

On Sunday, August 6, we'll study *The Parable of the Wedding Banquet*. Prayerfully read [Matthew 22:1-14](#) (Reading# 164 in *The Life of Jesus*).