

1. How would you describe yourself on a continuum from pessimist to optimist? Do you believe people easily or do you tend to be skeptical? Why? Are there any experiences you've had that have provoked these tendencies?
2. Read John 12:20-22. What's the setting for this passage? Why are the Greeks who wish to see Jesus significant? What about Philip and Andrew is consistent in this passage with the rest of John?
3. Read John 12:23-24. What about the presence of the Greeks signifies to Jesus that the hour has now come for the Son of Man to be glorified? What does he mean by the grain of wheat that must die to bear fruit?
4. Read John 12:25-26. What are the marks of Jesus' true disciples? How does this challenge our conviction that salvation is by grace through faith in Christ alone? Explain how both can be true.
5. Read John 12:27-36a. What are the five purposes of Jesus' hour? Which purpose most encourages you today? Why? In v36, what does Jesus expect of people in light of what he's about to do? Have you believed in Jesus? What evidence is there in your life to support your conviction?
6. Read John 12:36b-43. How do the quotes from Isaiah demonstrate that Jesus' life and ministry are sufficient to hold people accountable for their beliefs? What holds back some people, according to vv42-43, from confessing their belief in Christ? How does the love for the glory of man show up in our culture today? How does it show up for you?
7. Read John 12:44-50. How are you treating Jesus' words today? Are they authoritative in your life? Ask God to help you die to yourself today and walk with Jesus more closely. And ask him to adopt the posture of Philip and Andrew, willing to be used by him to draw the world to him in whatever capacity he has for you. How has God equipped you to draw all people to Jesus? Write it down and bring it to him in prayer.