

JOHN 12:12:20-36 - DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

THE HOUR HAS COME - ([SERMON MP3](#))

1. **Take time to read the account of the crucifixion this week in John 19:16-30.** The cross, comprised of wooden timbers and iron spikes was the gas chamber or electric chair of the first century. It originated as a means of maximum torture. We might wonder how such a despicable, horrible death could proclaim Jesus' deity and majesty. Yet John makes it clear that Jesus was glorified in the midst of horror.

- *On one hand we want to avoid a morbid preoccupation with the gore of the cross, but how do we avoid the opposite problem of becoming desensitized to it?*
- *What impact has the story of Jesus' crucifixion had on your life? What impact would you like it to have?*
- *The New Testament apostles explain what Jesus' death accomplished. Read 2Cor. 5:20-21; Gal. 2:20 and share with your group how these passages impact you.*
- *Do you wear a cross as a necklace, ring, pin, or tattoo? If so, what is its significance for you?*

2. **As we reflect on the cross this week, think about the following ironies of the crucifixion highlighted by a New Testament scholar named D.A. Carson.** What do each one of the statements below mean in the context of the crucifixion story and what are the associated theological implications?

- *The one who is mocked as king is King.*
- *The one who is utterly powerless is transcendentally powerful.*
- *The one who "can't save himself" saves others.*
- *The one who cries out in despair trusts God.*

3. **Jesus reviewed his purpose in this last public discourse (John 12:20-36).** What did he say concerning the following:

- *Belief*
- *Light*
- *Judgment*
- *The Father*

