“UNLESS A KERNEL OF WHEAT”

John 12:1–50

Key Verse 12:24

1. Describe the setting of the first event in this chapter (1,2). What did Mary do, and why? (3) In contrast, who objected, and why? (4–6) What did Jesus say, and what did he mean? (7,8) How are the crowd and the chief priests described? (9–11)
2. What happened next, and what did the crowd’s words about Jesus mean? (12,13) What did Jesus do, and why? (14,15) When did the disciples understand? (16; cf. 2:22) How are the crowd and the Pharisees described? (17–19)
3. Who came to see Jesus, and what is the significance of this? (20–22) How did he respond, and what did he mean? (23) Read verse 24. What does it mean to remain as a single seed? To “fall to the ground and die”? To produce many seeds? Why did Jesus say this?
4. Read verse 25. What does it mean to love/hate one’s life, and what is promised in each case? Read verse 26. What does it mean to follow and serve Jesus, what promise does he give, and why? What was his personal struggle, and how did he overcome it? (27–28a) How and why did God confirm this? (28b–30)
5. How did Jesus explain what was going to happen, and what do his words mean? (31–33) How did the crowd react, what did Jesus tell them, and how does it apply to us? (34–36)
6. How and why does John describe people’s unbelief? (37–43) What does Jesus cry out? (44–46) What is the importance of Jesus’ words, and why do we need to know this? (47–50)