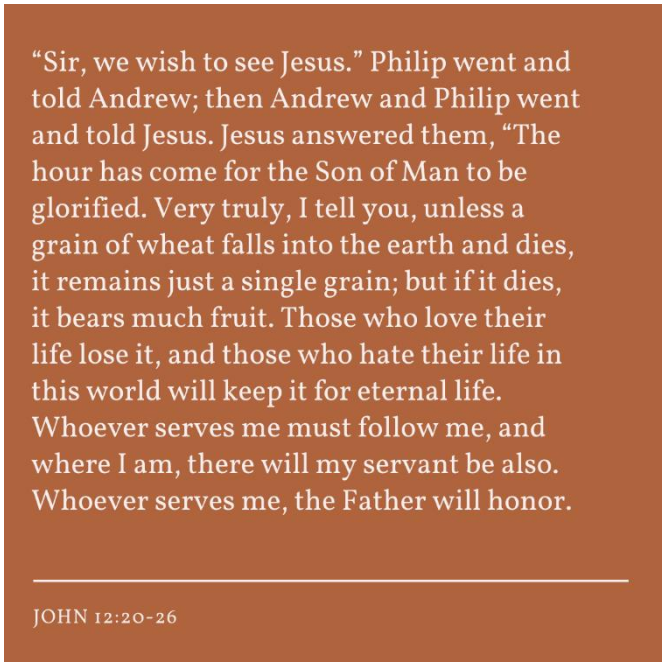
March 30, 2021 Lenten Devotional
John 12:20-26 - "We wish to see Jesus"
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Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

-John 12:20-26



Reflection

This verse in the Book of John discusses Jesus' death and how one might continue to pass along the legacy of his life and teachings. Throughout his life and teachings, Jesus emphasized the importance of serving others, which is briefly highlighted in this verse. Jesus compares the life of his followers to that of a kernel. He says that when kernels die and fall to the ground, they will bear much fruit. However, Jesus later says that this will only happen to someone who "hates their life". This does not translate literally.

In my interpretation, he is saying that one who will always put their life before others, and ultimately die because of this, will inspire others to serve the people around them. Anybody that is passionate about fighting for social justice will make an important decision at some point in their life. They must decide whether they love their life and selfishly fulfill their own desires or passionately fight for a cause they care so deeply about. Followers of Jesus understand that their lives are no more important than others. Therefore, if they sacrifice their life to spread Jesus' love, then they will be honored by the Father. Anybody who is a follower of Jesus, must understand Jesus' way of dying as a means of loving. These words are another reminder that God loves us, His creation and that He gave up His son for us.