

# SEEDS

COST

DEC. 7, 2025

## WORSHIP (15 MINS)

**Venue:** Home gatherings

Sing one or two songs or play a song from You Tube.

**Venue:** Public place (school, café, park, etc.) or **Via Online**,

Testimonies: "What is your "high" or "your "low" this past week?"

Ask someone to do the opening prayer.

## WELCOME (10 MINS)

Welcome guests/first-time visitors.

**Ice-breaker:** Why are we followers of Christ? Because we prayed the Sinner's Prayer? Church attendance? Bible Reading? Following a set of doctrines? No longer going to hell? Are those all the things that make us a Christian?

## WORD (30-45 MINS)

**Main Text:** Read John 12: 20-26 NLT

**Intro:** Instead of performing a spectacular miracle, Jesus revealed His mission to the people. The Lord came with a clear purpose: **to be sown in death for the penalty of our sins, in order to bring many sons and daughters to God.** To explain this, He used an agricultural metaphor that beautifully captured His mission. Just as a kernel of wheat must be planted in the ground to produce many new grains, Jesus needed to die so that through His death, many could be brought to God.

### 1. Salvation is a free gift but following Jesus is costly.

Jesus' death and resurrection has already earned our salvation. But following Jesus demands that we count the cost and surrender our entire lives, not just our sins. It means giving up everything, our own desires, plans, and even our livestock to follow His will. We must be humble and willing to give up control of our lives. It is not a one-time surrender but it requires a daily cost of self-denial and a commitment to live for Christ, not for ourselves.

**Q:** What personal desire, plan, or habit might Jesus be asking you to lay down so you can follow Him more fully?

**Q:** Would you share a time when our personal desires creates conflict with what God is asking of us to do? How did you

**Q:** What area of your daily life do you notice yourself holding tightly to control, and what would it look like to surrender that area of your life to Jesus?

### 2. Dying to Self

- is a difficult concept to be grasped in the current "soil" we live in because the culture we live in pushes strongly on the other direction! Self wants us to indulge in an immoral relationships, or in relationships with unbelievers. Dying to self" is when you say yes to God and are willing to experience a broken heart trusting that He knows what is best for you. Saving money for a car, but you felt the nudge of God to give a generous amount to a missionary. You die to self when you prioritize others over you.

**Q:** Can you think about a recent decision where you wanted to do one thing, but sensed God telling you to do something else? What did you choose, and why?

**Q:** What does "dying to self" mean to you personally?

**Q:** Who in your life do you consider to help you stay accountable when you're tempted to do your what you want over to doing what God wants?

"What is "dying to self"? For me, dying to self could be equated to being fully surrendered to the will of God."

**"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."** - Luke 6:46 NLT

### 3. The Cost of Following Jesus - Read Luke 9:56-62 NLT

Jesus was basically telling the men who wanted to follow Him that it would not be easy for them.

**1. Priority:** Following Jesus is far more important than our personal earthly comfort, responsibilities and family traditions. Jesus was not saying that family is not a priority. Jesus was revealing that true discipleship requires putting Him first, even when it means discomfort, sacrifice, or stepping away from what feels familiar.

**Q:** What are your top three priorities in life?

**2. Treasure:** Jesus was testing our sincerity which reveals the high price of following Him. He wanted to make sure that He was not just another option, but their greatest treasure. Jesus knows the idols in our hearts - *An idol is anything that competes for the affection that belongs to God alone.*" It tries to take the place of God in our hearts. It pulls our love, devotion, or trust away from God.

**Q:** What is something in your life that easily becomes an idol, something that competes with God? (ex. Social Media, Phone, work, someone, etc.)

**3. Commitment** - Jesus is expecting total Lordship not just membership in a church. It's either we follow Him all the way or leave Him. There's no middle ground. Following Him means moving forward without constantly looking back at old habits, or old ways of living. He wasn't demanding perfection but He's calling for an undivided heart that chooses Him even through fear, doubt, or difficulty.

**Q:** What "old life" habits or mindsets still try to pull you back, and how do you fight that pull?

**Conclusion:** If we desire to be true followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, we must surrender to Him all that competes with our devotion to Him.

## WORK (15 MINS)

**Application**

1. Find a partner. Ask what you can pray for him/her then pray for each other.
2. Pray and prepare a Hit List (max. of 5-10 names of family, relatives, friends, schoolmates, workmates, neighbors, etc.) of possible people you desire to invite in the next life group gathering.