

The Gospel According to John 12:23 – 37

New American Standard Version

1 23 And Jesus *answered them, saying, “The hour has come
2 for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Truly, truly, I say to
3 you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it
4 remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25 He who
5 loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world
6 will keep it to life eternal. 26 If anyone serves Me, he must
7 follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if
8 anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him. 27 Now My
9 soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, ‘Father,
10 save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this
11 hour. 28 Father, glorify Your name.” Then a voice came out
12 of heaven: “I have both glorified it, and will glorify it
13 again.” 29 So the crowd of people who stood by and heard it
14 were saying that it had thundered; others were saying, “An
15 angel has spoken to Him.” 30 Jesus answered and said,
16 “This voice has not come for My sake, but for your sakes.
17 31 Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this
18 world will be cast out. 32 And I, if I am lifted up from the
19 earth, will draw all men to Myself.” 33 But He was saying
20 this to indicate the kind of death by which He was to die.
21 34 The crowd then answered Him, “We have heard out of the
22 Law that the Christ is to remain forever; and how can You
23 say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up’? Who is this Son
24 of Man?” 35 So Jesus said to them, “For a little while longer
25 the Light is among you. Walk while you have the Light, so
26 that darkness will not overtake you; he who walks in the
27 darkness does not know where he goes. 36 While you have
28 the Light, believe in the Light, so that you may become sons
29 of Light.” These things Jesus spoke, and He went away and
30 hid Himself from them. 37 But though He had performed so
31 many signs before them, yet they were not believing in Him.

Use the suggestions on the back page as a starting point for your own **Observation, Interpretation, and Application**.

Observation (What does it say?):

Connect cause and effect links in the passage.

Circle words or ideas are mentioned repeatedly in this passage?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

How do the various cause and effect connections relate to each other? Do they explain each other? Is there a progression? Do they get clearer or more confusing?

Jesus says the voice was for the benefit of the crowd, but they don't seem to understand what it says. How does Jesus explain the voice to them? What is the connection between what the Father says to Jesus and what Jesus says to the crowd?

How does Jesus respond to the questions about the dying Son of Man? What does His response have to do with their question?

Application (What does it mean for me?):

How does the end of the passage relate to the beginning? How is our belief affected by what it costs us? Where do you see that affect in your life?

Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

Observation

(What does it say?)

What facts do you **observe** about the passage (repetition, comparisons, contrasts, cause and effect, unusual words, etc.)? Mark the passage (underline, circles, etc.) to help bring out the writer's thought process.

- Who are the people involved?
- What is the action taking place?
- What type of literature is the passage (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are there any unusual words used?
- Is there any symbolic or figurative language used?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Is there any repetition of words or ideas?
- Are there comparisons or contrasts?
- Are there indications of cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose (“in order that...”)?
- Are there conclusions (“Therefore...”)?
- Does the passage contain any explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good “headline” for the passage?

Interpretation

(What does it mean?)

What questions come to mind about the facts of the passage that would help you **interpret** the writer's meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer's thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

Application

(What does it mean for me?)

How does the writer's meaning relate to your life? What specific application might the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

Read nothing into the Scriptures, but draw everything from them, and suffer nothing to remain hidden that is really in them. – J.A. Bengel