



Learning, Living, and Giving the Good News of Jesus

## Week 8: The “F” Word!

- SCRIPTURE TEXT: **John 12:20-33**
- MEMORY VERSE: **Ephesians 2:8-10**
- (RE)UNION CHAPTER: 12 (Next week Epilogue: So What?)
- HOMEWORK: Study Buddy Chat + Bruxy.com.

### APPETIZER: Salvation’s Two-Sided Coins

COIN #1: Repentance (*metanoia*) + Faith (*pistis*)

**Mark 1:15**

COIN #2: Faith (*pistis*) + Faithfulness (*pistis*)

**Romans 3:3; James 2:14-18**

COIN #3: Life (*psyche*) + Life (*zoe*)

### DINE IN: The “L” Word

**John 12:20-33**

Anyone who loves their life [psyche] will lose it, while anyone who hates their life [psyche] in this world will keep it for eternal life [zoe].  
~ Jesus (John 12:25)

#### PSYCHE LIFE

The Weather  
The Surface of the Sea  
A Picture of a Sunset  
A Portrait  
The Music  
Zero

#### ZOE LIFE

The Sky  
The Depths of the Sea  
The Sun  
The Person  
The Musician  
One

**Matthew 6:33; Exodus 20:3**

### TAKE OUT: Putting Your Life In Order (100 VS 001)

Jesus is calling us all to give up our *psyche* life to embrace his *zoe* life.

**But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness,  
and all these things will be given to you as well.  
~ Jesus (Matthew 6:33)**

**You shall have no other gods before me.  
~ The First Commandment (Exodus 20:3)**

*Some zeros I need to intentionally place AFTER the One...*

### STUDY BUDDY MESSAGE SUMMARY:

- God offers us salvation as a free gift – and that is called “grace.”
- He asks us to simply change our way of thinking about him (that’s called “repentance”) and receive this gift with gratitude – that is called “faith.”
- If we truly trust Jesus, we will want to follow his teaching because we trust it is for our good and our growth here and now, not because we have to do specific things to be saved.
- Some initial things that Jesus says are for our good and growth include committing to learning more as part of a community of Christ-followers (church), publically declaring our commitment to Christ (baptism), regularly remembering what Jesus has done for us (communion/Eucharist), and talking with God regularly (prayer). These things don’t save us, but they do help a saved person grow.
- If the most amazing person in the world told you they wanted to marry you, that would be *grace*. If you said “I do” at the altar, that would be *faith*. And as you continue to trust them every day, that would be more than a *wedding* – it would be a *marriage* and a life altering, sometimes challenging, always rewarding privilege. The Bible says we are invited to be “the Bride of Christ.”
- What do you think about that?
- That’s it! This is our last session! Congratulations and thank you for sticking with it!
- If you want to learn more, I know a good church and/or a good book that could help. ☺

### NEXT WEEK: *An Addendum*

Next week we’re looking at one of the most powerful gospel passages in the Bible, responding to questions, and having communion together.

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## Home Church Questions

### HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic – in one Large Group]

1. Have you been tracking with the blog posts for this series at **bruxy.com**? Have they been helpful? Unhelpful? Something else? Let Bruxy know!
2. Review Sunday's message. Talk about something that stood out to you as an encouragement, challenge, disagreement, or question. (Take your time with this – there's lots to cover!)

### HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture – in Discussion Groups]

3. Read **John 12:12-33**
  - a. What verse or idea stands out to you?
  - b. Jesus intentionally chose a donkey as his "war horse" for riding into Jerusalem. What are some implications of this choice? (What "animal" do you tend to ride on through life?)
  - c. In **verse 15**, John doesn't quote the prophecy in Zechariah word-for-word, but he gets the gist right on. Does this have any implications for how we use Scripture today?
  - d. What Jesus says in **verse 24** is definitely about himself, but it is also a model for all his disciples (as **verse 25** emphasizes). What are some ways that you have "died" to follow Jesus? Or ways that you might still need to die?
  - e. Theologians call **verse 27** "John's Gethsemane" and **verse 28** "John's Transfiguration" (since John's Gospel does not include either of those stories). Talk about the similarities between these verses and the parallels in the synoptic gospels.
  - f. Through his death, Jesus says that he draws everyone to himself. When we talk with someone, anyone and everyone, we can know that in some way Jesus has already been pulling them toward himself. Have you ever seen evidence of this in conversations you've had?
  - g. The enthusiastic crowd (**verse 13**) starts to waiver in their excitement in **verse 34**. Why? Can you relate to them in any way?

### HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together – in Huddles]

4. Talk about your answer to #3-d above.
5. Use your regular huddle questions. Also pray for your Study Buddies, and for yourselves, that you might continue grow in your understanding of and ability to communicate the gospel.

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## Quotes

Welcome to part 8 in our series about Learning, Living, & Giving the Good News of Jesus. Today's message is about our response to the gospel, and the life that Jesus gives.

Here are some Bible passages that emphasize how we can receive and participate in the good news of Jesus...

The time has come. The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!  
~ Jesus

Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.  
~ Paul & Silas

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast.  
~ The Apostle Paul

Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.  
~ Jesus

Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.  
~ The Apostle Peter

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.  
~ Jesus

To all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.  
~ The Apostle John

Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.  
~ Jesus

Faith without deeds is dead.  
~ James the brother of Jesus

Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.  
~ Jesus