



# Sermon Study

**Victory Over the Rulers of this World**  
**John 12:20-36**

## vision

Eastview  
Christian  
Church is a  
fearless church  
of Christ  
followers whose  
ridiculous love  
and dangerous  
witness are  
irresistible.

# VICTORY.

*Eastview Christian Church small groups provide the optimal environment for the life change Jesus Christ intends for every person. Our groups typically have 8-14 people who **GATHER** together (Hebrews 10:24-25), **GROW** to be more Christ-like (Romans 12:1-2; 1 Peter 1:14-16), **GIVE** of themselves in various ways (1 Corinthians 12:12-27; Ephesians 4:11-16), and **GO** on to impact the world around them (Matthew 28:19).*

**Gather** (your group getting to know each other)

1. If you knew for sure you had only one week to live, what would you do with that week?

2. Are you more likely to panic in the big personal crisis or the big crisis for someone else?

**Go**  
(your group on mission)

In Jesus' parable He notes that the kernel dies to bear fruit; otherwise, it remains alone. Discuss how you and your group may "die" in order to bring the life of Jesus to others. Pray for those walking in darkness and ask the Father to bring the glory of Jesus to them so that they can walk in His light.

**Grow** (your group growing as Christ-followers)

**Key Word Study:**

"Troubled"- Greek- tarasso- meaning "to be stirred up, unsettled"; the word or a related compound is found in the Septuagint in Davidic psalms (such as Ps. 6:3 and 42:11).

1. Read John 12:20-36.

2. What brings Greeks (Gentiles) to Jerusalem during a time of Jewish patriotism?

3. What does Jesus connect to the Greeks visit?

4. In His parable (v. 24) who is the kernel of wheat? How is this related to Jesus' statement about the hour for the Son of Man to be glorified?

5. How do Jesus' statements about His mission conflict with the crowd's Expectations? (vv. 23-28)

6. Jesus often uses contradictions to drive home a truth. Explain verse 25 in terms that apply to your life.

7. Which of the promises in verse 26 are the most encouraging to you? What do you think it will be like to have the Father honor Jesus' servants?

8. Identify and explain all the things that Jesus' death will accomplish. (verses 23-24, 28, 31-32)

9. What is your reaction to hear Jesus' transparent statement about being Troubled? (see key word study) What does Jesus do when His soul is troubled, stirred up?

10. How does the Father answer the Son of Man's prayer?

11. What is the connection between the Father and the Son being glorified and the judgment on the world that Jesus speaks of and driving out the world's ruler?

12. What does the crowd not grasp? How might they define victory? How is this part of our world's misunderstanding today?

13. According to this passage, what is the difference between walking in the light (with Jesus) and walking in darkness?

**Give**  
(your group serving each other)

Where is Jesus calling you to die so that you might live? What do you hold on to rather than follow Jesus? Are you walking in the light, darkness or trying to go back and forth? Intercede for one another so that freedom in Christ Jesus and true life in Him may be displayed.