John 12 Walk in the Light

Welcome back and here we go! Boy, it is so wonderful knowing God will always provide a lesson for His children, myself included.

Today we will talk about dying to ourselves and walking in the light. Seriously though, when does dying to ourselves actually happen? Let's hope we can discover that truth.

John 12

This chapter has several topics, the first being the anointing of Jesus with costly oil.

1) Why do some people think giving to the church is a waste?

Certainly, some people don't agree with how some church finances are spent. Others don't know and really don't think much about it. Mostly, it is greed and fear. Greed, in that they can't spare 2%, 5% --- certainly not 10%! Fear, in that they really are struggling. Either way, the more you give, the less you have for yourself. Actually, the bible teaches that you will prosper.....

John 12:8 "For the poor you have with you always..."

2) How does this help alleviate guilt?

The best solution truly is --- give God what is His and trust He will meet their needs.

Interestingly, *Luke 10:38-42* shows two mental attitudes: serving and worshipping, as compared to *John 12:1-3*.

3) Which is better --- serving or devotion?

John 12:12-15

Jesus came in riding on a donkey. Talk about humility! Most of us are embarrassed if we appear less than in the eyes of others. We will look at this deeper in *Chapter 13*.

John 12:24-26

4) Explain this passage and how it applies to you.

I often say, to understand this, we must define life. What parts of your life are you unwilling to lose for Christ? It is there that you remain alone. If you want a fruitful life, you must become a servant.

I am a volunteer here. Not on payroll. No medical benefits, no overtime pay, yet my life flourishes. Why? I have laid down my life. I have died. The trick is to remain in that state. It is the giving of your time, talents, and treasure. <u>Especially time!</u>

John 12:35-36

5) What does it mean "walk in the light"?

This is the title of our study today --- "Walk in the Light". How do we tie it together?

Devotion, dying to self and walking in the light?

Would you wash the feet of Jesus? The truth is --- when we die to ourselves, the rest comes easy. It is the giving up of personal rights, of worldly desires, and the putting on of grace and forgiveness and service.

6) Where in life do you serve others and is it enough?

Martha --- busy serving. Mary --- busy being devoted.

Is one better than the other? Both are needed. Maybe serving seems to be frowned on. The truth is --- it is not. Both are needed, but, in order to serve properly, we must first be devoted to Jesus.

Matthew 26:6-13

- A) Mary memorialized
- B) This was Jesus' last message at the temple.

Die to yourself and walk in the light.

Next week John 13.