



## CELL GUIDE

<b>TOPIC</b>	Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies - John 12:24	<b>SPEAKER</b>	Ps Daniel Wee
<b>THEME</b>	Unless	<b>DATE</b>	29 & 30 October 2022

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# MESSAGE SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

Ps Daniel Wee stated that the Gospel of John is broadly divided into two parts: John 1-11 is about who Jesus is and John 12-21 focuses on the mission of Jesus. John 12:24 is the turning point of John's Gospel in which the metaphor of a grain of wheat falling to the ground and dying is used to illustrate the sacrifice of Jesus.

## BE THE GRAIN THAT FALLS TO THE GROUND AND DIES

### 1. Fulfil God's purpose to Glorify God

In Luke 9:51 and John 12:23, Jesus knew the appointed time was near for His death. In those days, many people placed their hope and expectations on Jesus and needed Him to solve their problems. Jesus knew He had limited time left and so continued His ministry of healing, teaching and preaching to meet the needs of others with great urgency. Jesus never lost sight of His primary purpose and mission on earth which was to fulfil God's purpose through His death and thereby glorify God. Likewise, we should not lose sight of our calling and glorify God through fulfilling it.

### 2. Die to self

A grain of wheat grows from the ground and is typically harvested as food for many. However, in John 12:24, the sacrificial grain of wheat that falls to the ground and dies represents Jesus who took on the unconventional path of pain and suffering. Although this grain does not become food that satisfies a person's hunger immediately, it multiplies into more grains that will benefit even more people. Jesus died so that all who believe can enter the kingdom of heaven.

Maslow's hierarchy of needs is a theory explaining human motivation and behaviour based on the pursuit of a hierarchical order of needs: from physiological, safety, belonging and love, esteem to self-actualisation/self-fulfilment. It is a human instinct to want to survive and save ourselves first. However, Jesus had self-denial at the top of the pyramid, giving up His needs and life to save others (Jn 12:25-26, Mark 8:35, Mark 10:21). Jesus dreaded His death and yet denied himself and gave His life for us, in order to obey and glorify God (Jn 12:27-28).

Jesus expects His disciples to follow Him and do likewise - to follow the way of the cross (Matt 16:24), forsake one's self (Luke 14:33) and lay down one's life for others (Exo 32:32, Jn 15:13).

## CONCLUSION

Unless a grain of wheat dies, there will not be more grains. Jesus laid down His life at the cross to atone for the sins of the world and glorify God. He bore much fruit. The goal of discipleship is to become like Jesus, to be that grain that dies and bears fruit to glorify God. Can we be like Jesus, to willingly surrender our hearts, lay down all that our life entails and die to self so that we may bear eternal fruit for God's kingdom?

# QUESTIONS

1. Share about a time when you took an unconventional or unexpected path. What happened as a result?

2. A. What does it mean for you to die to one's self?  
B. Share a time when you have experienced the fruits and joy from dying to self in your walk with God.

3. Is there a grain that God is calling you to release to the ground to die today, so that you can glorify Him? List some practical steps to allow this process to happen.