

Sermon Listening Guide (October 11, 2026)

Scripture: John 12:23-26

Sermon Title: “A Kernel of Wheat”

First Thoughts

Is our church more like a cruise ship or a battleship?

Are you a consumer or a contributor at FIFBC?

In John 12:23-26, Jesus uses his impending crucifixion as a teachable moment.

Hold On

We are tempted to “hold on” to many things in life that do not help us.

In Luke 12:13-21, the rich man in this parable is seen as a fool who “holds on” to many things.

How does it look in a family context when we are a “me first” people?

What does it look like in church when we are living for ourselves?

How do these attitudes damage the church or our homes?

Falling and Dying

In his agricultural illustration, Jesus says a seed that dies and is buried produces a treasure.

In verse 26, Jesus says that those who love him will serve and follow him.

How do we “die to self?”

What is God asking you to release in your life?

The Inspiration

Jesus spoke in such a way (John 12:23-26) because his death and burial were very close.

As Jesus gave all, we should ask ourselves if we are giving him everything we have.

Conclusion

Many see prayer as an opportunity to empty ourselves before God.

If we empty our hand/lives for Him, God will fill our hands/lives.

We cannot receive the good stuff if we are already full of the worldly stuff.

What do you need to let go of to follow Jesus?