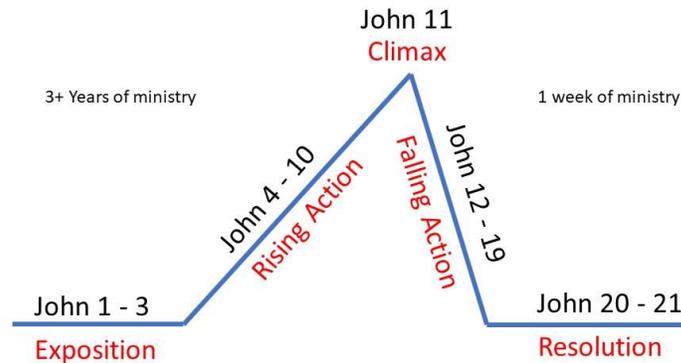


## Life Group Discussion Material - Sunday, July 5th Message

### The Beginning of the End (John 12) *21 Weeks with Jesus*

1. Look at the diagram below. Briefly discuss the plot line of John's gospel so far and what the next few weeks look like. What are some things that you notice about the gospel that you didn't before? What has John focused a lot of his time on in the gospel?



### The Plotline of John's Gospel

2. Why is section I, verses 1-19, of this message titled "Marching toward Death?" (see John 10:31, 39, & 11:8 for more context)
3. One of the points of application from section one is: "Patriotism may have to be sacrificed to follow Jesus." How should the Jewish people have sacrificed patriotism and how would that have helped them see Jesus for who He really was? How might we have to make a patriotic sacrifice in the future in order to follow Jesus?
4. What is one of the primary signs in John 12 that pointed to "the hour" being at hand and what does it mean? *\*Leader's note: See 12:20-21*

5. Discuss verse 31 among yourselves. Who was Jesus referring to as the “ruler of this world?” What does it mean that he will be cast out? What is the “judgment” of this world?

6. Read the following quote and discuss it in reference to question #5:

*This “now” of John does not mean...that “no future can bring anything new” or that “all apocalyptic pictures of the future are empty dreams.” It means that in the “lifting up” of Jesus, the decisive event in the history of faith can be identified. Moreover, it means that everyone has been and will be judged in light of that event.<sup>1</sup>*

7. The apostle John quotes the prophet Isaiah in verses 38 & 40. What reason does Isaiah give for the unbelief of the Jews and why do you suppose John uses a quote from Isaiah?

8. The final point of application is, “If Jesus is not your savior, then God is your judge.” What is the significance of this in light of what Jesus says in his last public speech in verses 44-50? Key in on verses 47 & 48.

9. Jesus continues to create two groups of people, believers and unbelievers. Why are there no other options such as “uncertain” or “undecided?”

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<sup>1</sup> Gerald L. Borchert, [John 12-21](#), vol. 25B, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2002), 59.