

The Final Provocation

Icebreaker Question

- Have you ever made a difficult decision because you knew it was the right thing to do, even though you also knew it would cost you something? What happened?
- **The Miracle That Changed Everything**
- Read John 11:43–57
- Before discussing the questions, take a moment for everyone to share one thing that stood out from the passage.
- Why do you think the raising of Lazarus became the turning point that convinced the religious leaders to kill Jesus?
- Jesus knew exactly what this miracle would cost Him. Can you share a time when you chose to do the right thing even though you knew it would make life harder?
- Have you ever experienced opposition because of your faith or because you stood for what you believed was right?

A Love That Holds Nothing Back

- Read John 12:1–11
- Before discussing the questions, take a moment for everyone to share one thing that stood out from the passage.
- Why do you think Mary's act of worship was so meaningful to Jesus?
- Have you ever done something for God that others didn't understand or even criticized?
- What does sacrificial love or worship look like in your life today?

The Hour Has Come

- Read John 12:20–33
- Before discussing the questions, take a moment for everyone to share one thing that stood out from the passage.
- Jesus compared His death to a grain of wheat that must die to produce much fruit. What do you think He meant by this illustration?
- Jesus admitted, "Now My soul is troubled," yet He continued toward the cross. What does this teach you about courage and faith?
- Looking back on your life, has God ever used a painful season to produce something good? What did you learn from that experience?
- Jesus said He would draw all people to Himself through the cross. How has Christ's sacrifice personally drawn you closer to Him?

Takeaway

- Jesus never stumbled into the cross by accident. Every step after Lazarus walked out of the tomb brought Him closer to Calvary, and He knew it. He could have turned back, but love compelled Him to keep moving forward. His willingness to embrace suffering reminds us that God's greatest victories often come through sacrifice, trust, and obedience. Because Jesus did not turn away from the cross, we can trust Him when He asks us to follow Him through difficult seasons.

Prayer

- Pray in pairs, thanking Jesus for His sacrificial love and asking for courage to follow Him even when obedience is difficult.