

MEDITATION 4:

GLORY FROM GOD - OR PEOPLE?

At the same time that Jesus did those signs, many of the Jewish leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees, they would not openly admit they believed. They were afraid they would be thrown out of the synagogue. They loved the glory that comes from people more than the glory that comes from God. - JOHN 12:42-43

If you think people disagree about Jesus today, you have a good idea of how people reacted to him during his time on earth. The things he was doing and saying were impossible to ignore, and everyone had an opinion.

In John 12, we find something interesting: **many people believed in Jesus but wouldn't admit it.** These were real people who believed in Jesus, but loved human glory more than God's glory.

John is telling us that there are things in this world that look or feel like glory or greatness: Comfort. Money. Popularity. Beauty. Awards.

But this appearance of glory isn't the kind of glory Jesus modeled for us. He had followers and influence—more influence than anyone understood! Yet he avoided using any of that to gain fame or fancy things for himself. He continually pointed to God as the only source of genuine, lasting glory.

Jesus shows us that glory can look like **humility** (putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve). It can look like **obedience**, like **serving others**...it can even look like **suffering**. It can sound like giving praise to God rather than accepting it for ourselves.

Today: Think about what you want in life. Do the things you want only look like glory—or do you crave real, lasting things from God? Praise from people can feel good, but only God gives glory that lasts.



WORD SCRAMBLE

SUJES	_____	GHLIT	_____
TRAESE	_____	NEIV	_____
MBTO	_____	ACRGE	_____
DERAB	_____	LEBIB	_____
FELI	_____	SROCS	_____
SBAKTE	_____	HSEPE	_____
GEG	_____	FRGONVIE	_____
NELT	_____	APLM	_____
YGORL	_____	OCOHLCTAE	_____
POHE	_____	RUTTH	_____

IN JOHN 10:9 JESUS SAID:

I am the (OROD) _____. If anyone enters by me, he will be (ADEVS) _____ and will go in and out and find pasture.

