

<b>Theme &amp; Passages</b>	Losing & Finding 6: Unless a seed falls into the ground and dies... <b>John 12:20-27</b>	Notes prepared by Stephen Elmes & Neil Casey
<b>Welcome (10 mins)</b>	What might it mean for you to 'let go and let God' at this time in your life?	
<b>Worship (20 mins)</b>	Spend some time with the worship song 'No longer slaves' – filmed in an unexpected but fitting location (link below): <a href="#">No longer slaves</a>	
<b>Working with God (20 mins):</b> Evangelism Discipleship Compassion Justice Creation Care	<p>This week we had the privilege of Dave Whitman, one of BBC's long standing mission partners, join us live via Zoom from Krasnoyarsk where Dave leads a church. He shared family news and news from the church; in particular the work the church is doing with recovering drug addicts, and also reaching the wider community through the clothes swap initiative. This is evangelism and compassion in action, two of the five marks of God's mission.</p> <p>Dave told the story of Noelina, a mother trying to care for seven children, living in a small apartment, who struggles to put food on the table and pay the rent. Dave and the church are helping her out by providing for her basic needs.</p> <p>Take some time to reflect on Noelina's story and how the church is responding. If Noelina was your neighbour, what would you be prepared to do to help her? Ask God to prompt you to help someone who is struggling like Noelina this week.</p> <p>Please pray for Dave and the church In Krasnoyarsk particularly as they face the challenges of working with recovering drug addicts, and as they extend hospitality to a community that rarely comes into the church.</p>	
<b>Word (20-25 mins)</b>	<p><b>Read</b> John 12:20–27</p> <p><b><i>'Unless a kernel of wheat falls into the ground and dies...'</i></b></p> <p>How does this horticultural truth speak of Jesus' mission?</p> <p>How does it speak to us as his followers?</p> <p>What do you think it means to 'hate our lives' (v. 25)?</p> <p>Take a look at the ideas I came up with when I thought about the life to be hated or lost:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">       My life seeking pleasure, status, admiration or notoriety        My life saving myself (DIY salvation)        My life saving others        My need to be in control        Self-righteousness        My shiny outer self        My denial of my sin        The me I want others to know (and be impressed by)        My Facebook profile (or TikTok persona)        The 'coping' me (I've got this)        The angry or bitter self that leaks out     </p>	

Which of these can you relate to (go on! – be honest)?

What might you need to **let go of** to live the life that God created you for?

What do you think Jesus meant by 'where I am, my servant also will be' (v. 26)?