

## Bury Me a Seed

### Merchantville Small Group Guide

#### Warm Up Questions

1. If you could plant one seed today that would grow into something amazing, what would it be and why?
2. What's one thing you've had to give up or let go of in the past that ended up leading to something better?

#### Key Passage: John 12:17-26 NLT

Pastor Adrian shared a powerful message about the cost of following Jesus, centered on the theme of “burying a seed.” When Jesus gained large followings, He often challenged His listeners with difficult truths to distinguish between those chasing miracles and those genuinely committed to following Him. In John 12:17-26, Jesus declares, “Anyone who wants to serve me must follow me, because my servants must be where I am.”

Pastor Adrian emphasized that true discipleship requires surrendering our hopes, dreams, passions, and cares to God, allowing them to be “buried” so that new life can grow. This act of surrender positions us to fully align with God’s purposes and participate in the transformative work He is doing in the world. The challenge is clear: Are you willing to bury a seed in faith, trusting that God’s plans are far greater than our own?

#### Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. Reflecting on John 12:24, where Jesus speaks about a seed dying to produce a harvest, what does “burying a seed” look like in your own life? Are there specific hopes or dreams you feel God is asking you to surrender?
2. Has there ever been a dream or passion in your life that you stopped pursuing? What would it look like to revisit and pursue that dream if you believe it’s something the Lord has placed in your heart?
3. Pastor Adrian mentioned that God is more of a “green light God” than a “red light God.” However, we often view Him as someone who takes away opportunities rather than provides more. How would your perspective and actions change if you saw God as a “green light God” in your life?
4. Most of our lives are spent either sleeping or working. Our careers are one of the most influential places we have to make an impact for the Kingdom of God. What would it look like for you to see your workplace as a ministry opportunity rather than just a job? How might that perspective shift the way you approach your work?
5. Jesus often used challenging teachings to reveal the hearts of His followers. Can you think of any difficult teachings of Jesus that have shaped or stretched your faith? How did you respond to those challenges?
6. Surrendering to God can sometimes feel risky or even painful. Have you experienced God’s faithfulness after letting go of something you cared deeply about? If so, how did it impact your faith?

7. As you reflect on Jesus' call to "follow me," what practical steps can you take this week to align more fully with His purposes and to "be where He is"?

**Pray**