



## EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 2: If It Dies

Suggested Week of Use: March 12, 2023

Core Passage: John 12:20-33

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### News Story Summary

In January, Delivontae Johnson went to Walmart to get some new tires. While walking through the parking lot, though, he spotted a wallet in a shopping cart. Instead of walking past it, he looked inside the wallet to see if he could identify the owner. Through a Facebook search, he was able to locate Dee Harkrider, a 61-year-old grandmother of seven. When she didn't respond to his message, he reached out to her friends. He shared that he had found the wallet and wanted to return it to its owner. Eventually, Delivontae was able to get in touch with Dee and personally return her wallet. When Delivontae arrived at Dee's home, she gave him a hug, and they immediately became friends. What had been lost was found. And, along with the returned wallet, came a new friend.

For more about this story, search "Arkansas teen returns lost wallet."

### Focus Attention

To supplement **FOCUS ATTENTION**, encourage adults to share a time when they lost something that caused them frustration or distress. Ask: *What is the most valuable thing you have ever lost?* Discuss the real crisis that follows some losses. Share the story of the teenager who found and returned a wallet to its rightful owner. Ask: *Aside from money, what are some important things we keep in our wallets?* Highlight things like a driver's license, debit/credit card, and family photos. Say: *Just as loss preceded gain in the wallet story, today's passage reveals how we often have to deal with loss before experiencing spiritual gain.* Explain that Jesus used the illustration of a seed in the ground to show how great victories follow great sacrifice.

### Summarize and Challenge

To supplement **SUMMARIZE AND CHALLENGE**, refer to the story of the young man who found the lost wallet. Emphasize that trusting God in the midst of loss can seem virtually impossible, but our needs can only be met fully when something is lost. Ask: *What might God be calling you to surrender as you pursue a deeper relationship with Him?* Draw attention to the Plan of Salvation on the inside front cover of the Personal Study Guide (PSG). Share that you are available to talk with anyone who might want to learn more about what it means to have a personal relationship with Jesus. Close in prayer, asking God to strengthen each adult in their relationship with Him. Pray that those who do not yet know Jesus as Savior will consider starting a relationship with Him today.