**Dying to Bear Fruit**

**Sermon Based Discussion (November 20, 2016)**

**Reaching the Unreached (Missions Emphasis 2016)**

**WARM UP**

1. Share at least one thing you’ve learned from the past two Sundays of Missions Emphasis at BCEC.

*As we wrap up our annual Missions Emphasis, we consider what it involves to bear fruit for the sake of the gospel.*

**INTO THE BIBLE (John 12:20-26)**

1. What do we know about these Greeks from the passage? Try to come up with at least 3 observations. (Knowing who these people are can help us better understand Jesus’ teaching later on in the passage.)
2. Whose death was Jesus talking about in this passage? His own or his followers? Explain your answer.

**UNDERSTANDING**

1. What does Jesus mean by hating one’s life in this world?
2. Why does one have to “die” in order to “bear fruit”? (see also Luke 9:23-25)

**DIFFERENCE**

1. What do you think of the stories of missionaries (like Ruby Kendrick or John & Betty Stam) dying on the missions field? Do you find these stories inspiring, dreadful, or something else?
2. How does Jesus’ dying and bearing fruit challenge you to live for him in your own life?

**APPLICATION**

1. What is something in this world that competes with Jesus for your desires and dreams? What would Jesus have you do about that in order to bear fruit for Him?
2. If you have not yet filled out a BCEC Missions Pledge Form, will you do so right now? Share your commitments among your small group so we can pray for each other and encourage each other in them.