

Series: Life to the Full; Sermon: **Life to the Full Gloriously**
Delivered by: **Dr. Josh Moody**, senior pastor; Date: **November 11, 2018**

Bible text explored: John 12:27–36

²⁷“Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour?’ But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. ³⁴So the crowd answered him, “We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” ³⁵So Jesus said to them, “The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. ³⁶While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.”

When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. [ESV]

Review and application:

1. Each of us look at life in their own way, through a particular conceptual framework. A persuasive influence or dramatic event can alter that outlook so that a “paradigm shift” is experienced. What (v. 34) was the crowd’s paradigm about the promised Messiah?
2. Jesus now (v. 27) candidly acknowledged his anguish over becoming a sin offering (2 Cor. 5:21). But what commitment supported his courageous stand? (See John 8:29 and 14:31.)
How (v. 28a) does Jesus’ prayer point the way for us to recover the heroism of Christian suffering?
What resources and prospect will sustain us? (See 2 Cor. 4:16-17.)
How is suffering an opportunity for witness?
3. God’s voice (v. 28b) dramatically validated Jesus’ claims to the crowd. But in what two ways (v. 29) did the crowd avoid making the logical paradigm shift?
God speaks to us today through the Bible. How often do we evade its calls by applying them to others rather than to ourselves?
Can you point to ways reading God’s Word prayerfully has modified your own life paradigm?
4. Who (v. 30) according to Jesus though was the voice *for*? How could you look at the Bible as *for you*?
5. How (vv. 31-34) was the cross actually Satan’s defeat?
One sense of the Greek word for “lifted up” is *exalted*. But the crowd apparently picked up on Jesus’ intended use of it to suggest crucifixion. What is the answer to the crowd’s question about the name Jesus used to identify himself? (See Dan. 7:13-14.)
How did this title make room for the overlooked messianic role of suffering servant?
In what sense will a crucified Messiah draw *all* people to himself? In what way, then, can we keep the cross central to our lives and to our ministries?

6. What alternate self-identifier did Jesus use (vv. 35-36) in his response?
(See *John 8:12 and 9:5*.)
7. Hearing the gospel explained for years is a great thing. But what makes a delayed response to it dangerous?
What is there in your life that Jesus is asking you to repent from or trust him for?
Have you put your trust in Jesus? How could you now walk in the light while you still have the light?