

SERMON OUTLINE John 15:17-25

The World Hates You, Love One Another

IF AND WHEN THE WORLD HATES YOU (18-19)

The World and Hate

If the World Hates You...

...If You Were of the World, the World Would Love You as its Own...

...But Because You are Not of the World...

...But I Chose You Out of the World...

...Therefore the World Hates You.

THE ULTIMATE CAUSES OF THE WORLD'S HATRED FOR CHRISTIANS (18, 20, 21, 23, 25)

Hatred for Jesus (18, 20)

Misunderstanding of Jesus' True Nature (21, 23)

Ultimately, Without Cause (25)

Jesus' Ministry and Mankind's Responsibility (22, 24)

CHRISTIAN LOVE AS PROTECTION AGAINST AND HEALING FROM PERSECUTION (17)

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

The big idea of the passage is that since the world hated Jesus, it will also hate all who truly follow Him. And the big takeaways from the passage are to (1) follow Jesus in such a way that those who hate Him will also hate us and (2) to love one another in such a way that will protect and heal us from the world's attacks.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. Have you ever experienced anything like hatred or persecution from an unbeliever? What was it like?
3. Have you ever experienced "whiplash" in your faith (moving from the persecution of an unbeliever to the love of a Christian)?
4. Can you think of a time in which you were tempted to compromise on biblical truth to appear more acceptable to the world?
5. What does it look like to live in a distinctly "not of the world" way in your context?
6. Do you feel like you've been chosen out of the world?
7. Had you ever heard of the idea of positive, neutral, and negative worlds? Which one do you feel like you are in?
8. Which aspect of Jesus' character in you has been most disliked by the people in your life?
9. What have you found to be helpful in dealing with the world's hatred and persecution?
10. How often do you consciously try to obey the "one another" commands?
11. In what ways did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

12. Find one specific aspect of Jesus' character to live more in line with this week. Ask the Spirit to help you do so.
13. Identify an area in which you've been compromising godliness in order to be more acceptable to the world. Turn from that.
14. Read over the one-another commands from Pastor Dave's manuscript and pick three to obey this week.
15. Live in such a way that makes it easy for the people of Grace Church to love you as God's Word calls them to—be present in the various ministries of the church, invite people over to your house, pray often, be quick to listen and forgive.
16. Seek to love in such a way as to protect others from the world's attacks and heal past wounds.
17. Commit to growing in your understanding of Christian worldview in some specific way.
18. Ask two different people in your family or DG (1) One thing they got from this sermon, and (2) How you can pray for them.
19. Ask God to show you one specific thing you ought to do differently as a result of this text or sermon? Share that and pray about it with someone in your DG. Continue praying for and checking in with each other until you've both done it.

PRAYER POINTS

20. Adoration. Praise God that He is love, friend, protector, healer, savior, and righteous. Praise God that He is triune.
21. Confess. Confess any ways you've valued the world's approval more than following Jesus. Confess any ways you've been apathetic to or selfish about loving other Christians as God commands. Confess any failure to live in a way the world hates.
22. Thanksgiving. Thank God for choosing you out of the world, for providing help for the world's hatred and persecution, thank God for loving you in Christ. Thank Jesus for remaining perfectly faithful to the Father through the very end and the example that is for us. Thank God for the Christians in your life that have loved you in a protecting and healing way.
23. Supplication. Ask God to heal the wounds of the world in the lives of the people you love. Ask God to help us live like Jesus no matter the cost. Ask God to help us love one another well. Ask God to help us see His glory more clearly and fully. Ask God to help us love the world in such a way that demonstrates God's mercy and grace.