

Home Group Notes
Week of February 13, 2022
John 15:18-27



ABOUT HOME GROUPS

This is a good week to go on our website and apply to be in a Home Group. Let us try to find a good fit for you.

IT'S HARD TO BE HATED

Can you remember a time when someone said they 'hated' you?

LEARN FROM GOD'S WORD

Jesus began the evening (John 13) by affirming His love for and service to His disciples. In chapter 15, He promised that He would abide in them, repeated the importance of loving one another, and said that He considers them "friends." Thus, the believer's relationship with God and one another is one of love. In this week's passage, Jesus addressed their relationship with "the world" (i.e. those who do not believe in Jesus and His message, those who live in rebellion against God).

Read John 15:18-27 and consider the following questions.

What do you see and feel as you read this passage?

What different words are used about how "the world" will treat Jesus' followers?

According to this passage, why does "the world" hate Jesus? (see also John 7:7)

In what ways did Jesus make the world "guilty of sin?" (15:22-25) How is this guilt expressed by the world?

What did Jesus do so that we don't feel this same guilt? What changed our status with God? (see 13:10; 15:3)

How did Jesus prepare the disciples and us for the hatred to come?

In the context of being hated by the world, Jesus commanded us / His disciples to “testify” about Him. What help is promised? How does this fit with Jesus’ subject matter of chapter 15?

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO US THIS WEEK?

“Hate” is a common word in our culture. We will hear and read it this week. How should we respond as we experience or hear about hatred toward Jesus followers (and or what they believe)? What have we learned that we can apply as we encounter “the world?”

DISCUSS TOGETHER

What are some of the ways that we are seeing more hatred for those who follow Jesus? How does this passage help us understand and cope with this?

How will we personally respond when we are treated with hatred, rejection, disdain? How can we empathize and even love those of “the world?”

Americans haven’t experienced hatred and persecution like much of the world has throughout history. However, we see it coming on in America. What do you feel or want to do when you read Jesus’ command, “And you also must testify . . . ?” (27)

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for the following families who are experiencing serious disease or loss: Mantonyas who lost Ruth’s dad, Giffords who lost Don, Luevanos who lost Carlos, Thompsons because Don was diagnosed with bone cancer, Maxwell family because John is in hospital with pneumonia, Cavarnos who lost her mom
- Pray for Pastor Todd, Elders, Pastors, and Directors as they pray and shepherd
- Pray for The Hospitality teams as they welcome and connect with new people coming to Trinity