

A Cautionary Tale
How Do You Recognize a Christian?
Life in Light of 1 John
June 27, 2021

Three Reasons to Hate the World:

1. Because of who we are.
2. Because of what the world does to us.
3. Because of where the world is going.

Questions for Personal Reflection & Group Discussion

1. Read 1 John 2:12-14.

According to these verses, who does John say he is writing to?
What is the spiritual condition of each group?

Consider your own spiritual journey. Which group would you say you belong to?

No matter where we are in our walk with Christ, there is always room for growth. Where is God nudging you to take a step of growth in your life right now?

2. Read 1 John 2:15-16.

Consider the “world” (Satan’s system) and all it offers. What promises does the world make that it cannot fulfill?

What are the three areas of temptation that John identifies in these verses?

What legitimate, God-given desire or need are you tempted to satisfy in a way that dishonors God? What step of obedience do you need to take in this area?

It can sometimes be difficult to determine what your next right step of obedience might be. In that case, the next best step would be to reach out for help. If that is where you are, will you choose to reach out this week? Who will you contact?

3. Read 1 John 2:17.

Think about John’s words regarding this world. What does he say is happening to it?

What thoughts or emotions does it stir up within you to think of this world passing away? What things of this world are you tempted to cling to?

What does John say will happen to you if you do the will of God?

What do you believe is God’s will for you this week? Will you do it?