

That You May Have LIFE

Week 25 Discussion Questions

Text: John 15:18-16:15

Icebreaker: If your connection to Christ was measured in cell phone service bars, how many bars did you have this week? What made your connection feel stronger or weaker?

1. Read this week's passage. What stands out from the text or sermon?
2. Recap: Look back through these verses in John (5:18; 7:25-31; 10:33; 11:45-57). What claims and actions of Jesus caused the world to hate him, arrest him, and eventually kill him?
3. Being "of" something has to do with identity and allegiance. Why do Jesus' claims of equality with God bring hatred on him from those whose allegiance and identity are "of the world" and what does this tell us about their allegiance?
4. What role do "expectations" play in all relationships? Describe a time in a relationship (parent, friend, spouse, child, family, co-worker, etc) when you had specific expectations of someone and they did not meet those expectations. How did that affect your relationship with them?
5. What expectations do you have of God as you navigate your life with him? How does this passage shape or change those expectations and what impact does it have on your relationship with him?
6. Jesus tells his disciples that their identity is *not of this world*. Our understanding of what it means to be "not of this world" is based not only on the rejection of the world's identity, but even more so on the acceptance of the identity Jesus offers. How does Jesus describe the identity the disciples should accept and embrace?
7. How does Jesus tell his disciples to respond to those who hate them?
8. Have you ever experienced persecution because of your faith? How did you respond?

9. Why is it an advantage that Jesus would go away?